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The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

VOL. XCIII. No. 3849. [REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.] LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1905. [With Two Supplements.] PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS. (Founded June 1894.)

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY INSTITUTED 1769

Patron:
H.M. THE KING.

President:
The Right Hon.
THE EARL OF
SEFTON.

By the invitation of the Lord Mayor and City Council, the Society's next

EXHIBITION

will be held at

LIVERPOOL,

AUGUST 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th, 1905.

£4,529 IN PRIZES.

(the largest amount in the Society's history).

Entries Finally close July 10th.

Applications for Prize Lists should state the section, and be made to

EDWARD BOHANE, Secretary,
Miller Arcade, Preston;
and Show Yard, Liverpool.

Telegrams: "Bohane, Preston."

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW,
At HULL,
AUGUST 9th, 10th, & 11th, 1905.
£2,180 OFFERED IN PRIZES.
Entries close July 1st.
Late Entries July 8th.
For Prize Schedules & Forms of Entry apply
JOHN MAUGHAN, Secy.,
Blake Street, York.
Telegrams, "Yas, York."

ROYAL DUBLIN SOCIETY.

HORSE AND SHEEP SHOW.

AUGUST 22, 23, 24, 25.

For Prize Lists and Entry Forms apply to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

(By Order)
RICHARD J. MOSS,
Registrar.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

TRING AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING. President: THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROTHSCHILD.
SHOW DAY, AUGUST 10th, 1905.
£240 SHIRES, 4 Cups, 1 Medal.
£136 HUNTERS and NAGS, 1 Cup, 3 Medals.
£190 JUMPING, DRIVING, and PONIES, 2 Cups, 7 Medals.
£110 SHORTHORNS, 1 Cup.
£160 JERSEYS (one cow can win £80), 2 Medals.
£224 MILK and BUTTER TESTS.
£282 SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, BUTTER, —— SHEEPDOG TRIALS, &c., 2 Cups, £1,342 1 Medal.
Entries close July 7th. For Schedules, apply to F. J. BROWN, Secretary, Tring.

CAMBS AND ISLE OF ELY.
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
42nd ANNUAL SHOW, at CAMBRIDGE, JULY 27th, 1905.
SEVERAL PRIZES open to ALL ENGLAND.
Entries close July 3rd, 1905.
For Schedules and Forms of Entry apply to:—
R. PETERS, Secretary,
7, Downing Street,
Cambridge.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
At GUILDFORD,
AUGUST 30th, 1905.
E. H. ELLIS, Secretary,
Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY,
At THORNEY,
JULY 25th, 1905.
HARRY HORRELL, Secretary,
Thorney, Peterborough.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE, (Between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks. On THURSDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1905.

Entries close July 25th, or with double fees August 1st.

Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary,

C. H. W. DIXON,
4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
ANNUAL SHOW.

In the Bents Recreation Ground (with a magnificent view of the sea and Public Parks), South Shields.

WEDNESDAY, 26th JULY, 1905.

Upwards of £1,000 given in Prizes for CATTLE, SHEEP, HORSES, LEAPING (1st Prize £12), MILKING DEMONSTRATION, IMPLEMENTS and HARNESS, DOGS, PIDGEONS, POULTRY, BUTTER, EGGS.

Entries close Monday, 10th July, 1905.

Prize Schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, etc., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Procter, Esq., Flass House, Durham. Prize Schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, etc., on application to the Secretary,

WM. CHRYSTAL, Houghton-le-Spring.

COMPTON STUD SHOW AND SALE,
At TEMPLECOMBE,
SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries close August 20th.
THE MANAGER,
Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE of REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS.

Notice is hereby given that the Ninth Annual Show and Sale of Registered Kent or Romney Marsh Rams will take place in the Cattle Market, Ashford, Kent, on Friday, September 29th, next. Sale commencing at 10 a.m. precisely

The entry will be comprised of upwards of 400 Yearling and other Rams, consigned from the leading flocks.

Full particulars of the Show and Sale, together with catalogues, can be obtained from W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary of the of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-Breeders Association, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C., England.

WHITCHURCH (Salop) and DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SHOW at WHITCHURCH will be held on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd.
£500 in PRIZES. Entries close July 22nd.
For Shedules apply to
G. C. WYCHERLEY, } Hon. Secs.
COLIN S. SMITH. }

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW
At COLESHILL.
Jumping, Driving, and Hunting Classes.
SEPTEMBER 11th, 1905.
Entries close 14 days before.
W. H. M. BARTON, Secretary,
High St., Coleshill, near Birmingham

WALTHAM CROSS AND THREE COUNTIES HORSE AND FOAL SOCIETY,
At WALTHAM CROSS,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 7th.
J. CRAWTER, Secretary,
Cheshunt

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At KEELE PARK, KEELE,
AUGUST 10th, 1905.
Entries close: Dogs, August 3rd; Others, July 29th.
For Schedules—W. A. BENSON, Secretary, Silverdale, Staffs.

BISHOP AUCKLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At BISHOP AUCKLAND,
JULY 11th, 1905.
Entries close July 4th.
G. TIPLADY, Secretary,
Newgate Street, Bishop Auckland.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
AT HEANOR,
AUGUST 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
J. COVEL, Secretary.
Market Street, Heanor

LUDLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At LUDLOW,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 24th.
E. H. WOOD, Secretary,
50, Broad Street, Ludlow.

Continued on page 2.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES

(continued from front page).

MARCH SHIRE & HACKNEY HORSE AND FOAL SHOW SOCIETY, At MARCH, JULY 18th, 1905.
Entries close July 4; (double) entries July 11.
R. J. TRUMAN, High St., March, B. BENNETT, Station Rd., March } Secs.

WEST GLOSTER FARMERS' CLUB, At WESTBURY-ON-TRYM, AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 13th.
H. NICHOLS, Secretary, Iron Acton, Bristol.

BERKELEY HUNT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, At BERKELEY, AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 15th.
G. CLARK, Secretary, Severn Lodge, Berkeley, Glos.

CHEPSTOW AGRICULTURAL SHOW, AUGUST 8th, 1905.
OPEN CLASSES, DRIVING & JUMPING.
ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 17th.
CLAY & THOMAS, Hon. Secs.

UPHOLLAND AND DISTRICT HORSE SHOW, At UPHOLLAND, JULY 19th, 1905.
Entries close July 15th.
G. H. SCRIVENER, Secretary. Glenfield, Upholland, near Wigan.

DENBIGHSHIRE & FLINTSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW At MOLD, JULY 20th, 1905.
Entries close: Implements, Stock, and Produce, July 6th; Poultry, Dogs, &c., July 13th.
T. WELSBY, Secretary, Rhyl.

WHALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, At WHALLEY, JULY 27th, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
J. M. RAWCLIFFE, Secretary, Whalley, near Blackburn.

HARROGATE and DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW, THURSDAY, JULY 27th, 1905.
President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., Moor Park
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Four-in-hands, Jumping, etc.
ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 20th.
G. SAVILLE, Secretary.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY, AUGUST 22nd, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary, Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, At MALTON, JULY 26th, 1905.
Entries close July 8th; late entries July 15th.
T. MITCHELL, Secretary, Malton.

BOSTON SHOW SOCIETY, At BOSTON, JULY 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries close July 12th.
Messrs. J. G. KILLINGWORTH & SON, Secretaries, Auctioneers, Boston, Lincs.

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Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

RICK CLOTHS! RICK CLOTHS!!—Russell's chemically-dressed Covers are the best value in the Kingdom; 8 by 6 yds., 4s.; 8 by 8 yds., 6s.; 10 by 8 yds., 8s.; 10 by 10 yds., 10s.; 12 by 10 yds., 12s.; all carriage paid; thousands in use.—A. M. RUSSELL, Maker, Grassmarket, Edinburgh.

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GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS—New Sheets, perfect and sound, but slightly soiled by sea water, 3 ft. 6d., 4 ft. 9d., 5 ft. 1s., 6 ft. 1s. 2d., 7 ft. 1s. 4d., 8 ft. 1s. 6d., 9 ft. 1s. 9d., 10 ft. 2s. each; extra strong sheets, 24 w.g., 10s. cwt.; Best New Sheets, 24 w.g., 11s., 26 w.g., 12s. 6d. cwt.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

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FACTORY TO FARM.—Mowing season, 1905. Best Reaper Knife Files 4s. 6d. doz; Sections 2s. doz., Rivets 7d. lb., Fingers 12s. doz. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—JOHN PEACE & SONS, Algoma Works, Sheffield.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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THURSDAY next, JULY 6.—Mr. Henry Dudding's SHORTHORNS and LINCOLN RAMS at Riby, Great Grimsby.

FRIDAY next, JULY 7.—Mr. Jonas Webb's SHORTHORNS and SHEARLING SOUTHDOWN EWES at Melton Ross, Barnetby Junction, Lincolnshire.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.—Messrs. Robertson's DEXTERS and KERRIES, at Park Royal, London.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.—Mr. A. G. Scorer's and Mr. F. J. Mann's RED-POLLS, at Flaxmoor, Caston, Norfolk.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.—Lord Rothschild's JERSEYS, at Tring Park,

FRIDAY, JULY 14.—About 50 JERSEYS from the first-class herds belonging to C. W. Armitage, Esq., and A. Miller-Hallett, Esq., at Woodlands, Northaw, Potter's Bar, Herts.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.—Fifty SHORTHORNS belonging to Mr. F. J. Steward, at White Hall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3.—The entire Whitlingham Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (about 1,000 head), at Trowse, Norwich.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.—Col. A. F. Walter's SOUTHDOWNS, at Bearwood, Wokingham.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sir N. W. Throckmorton's SOUTHDOWN Flock, at Buckland Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux's SHORTHORNS, at Brougham, Penrith.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Mr. Henry Williams' SHORTHORNS, at Moor Park, Harrogate.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Third and final portion, about 120 head, of the Whitlingham RED-POLLED herd, at Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.—The Late Mr. W. J. Buckley's SHORTHORNS at Penyfai, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Mr. Evan Jones' SHORTHORNS, at Manoravon, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's SHORTHORNS, at Tring Park, Hertfordshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. Rowland Wood's SHORTHORNS, at Clapton, Thrapston.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Sir Alexander Henderson's Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Buscot Lodge, Faringdon.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Sherborne's SHORTHORNS, at Sherborne, Northleach, Glos.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.—Mr. W. Bateman's SHORTHORNS, at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. Vickers' SHORTHORNS, at Churchfield, Tunstall, Kirkby Lonsdale.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. T. E. Clarke's and Mr. T. Adamson's SHORTHORNS, at Ainsworth Lodge, Bolton, Lancs.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, who will execute commissions.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

TRING PARK FLOCK.

SALE DAY, FRIDAY, JULY 21st.

70 GRAND RAM LAMBS.

120 EWES AND EWE LAMBS.

This year's selection from the Right Hon. Lord Rothschild's Flock of Registered Sheep will be found one of the best yet offered. The continual selection of the best Lambs procurable from other leading breeders has so stamped the Flock that the Sale now presents one of the best opportunities to secure a perfect combination of the improved Hampshire Down Sheep.
Arrangements made for Foreign buyers' accommodation.
For further particulars apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Tring, Herts (L. & N. W. R., 30 miles from Euston), who will show the whole Flock, or to Messrs.

W. BROWN & CO., Auctioneers, Tring.

TUCKER BROTHERS (Abergavenny) LTD.

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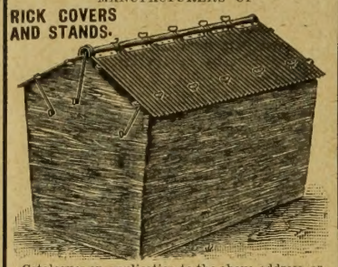

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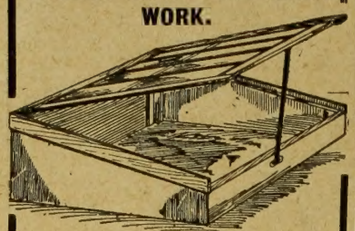

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Agricultural Journal.
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
JULY 3, 1905.

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THE ROYAL SHOW—AND AFTER.

Visitors to Park Royal last week may have been assisting at what will prove to be the last of the shows of the Royal Agricultural Society held in the permanent showyard between Willesden and Ealing. The result of the show has been a sad blow to the optimistic feelings that reigned in some quarters that the fixture that has just come to a conclusion would show that the tide was on the turn, and that better times were in store.

The gate has been a deplorable failure, only 23,913 people paid for admission, and last year the loss to the Society on the show was nearly £7,000, when the number of persons admitted amounted to 52,030, a considerable number of them, it may be added, at 5s. per head. Therefore, the loss on the 1905 show is bound to be commensurately greater. It is impossible to say yet what the amount will be, but probably £10,000 would not be an extravagant figure.

It is difficult to forecast what the new Council, which comes into power on August 1 next, will decide to do, but one thing is perfectly certain, and that is that great changes will have to be made if the show is to be placed upon a financially sound basis. At the annual meeting on Wednesday it was very evident that the President (Lord Middleton) spoke somewhat despondingly of the future prospects of the Society.

Varied opinions are to be expected among such a large number of members of the Society, coming as they do from different parts of the country. It is difficult, therefore, to form an accurate idea as to the real views held at large, but as far as our experience went, there seemed to be a feeling in favour of the reversion to the migratory system. This tendency to go back to the old arrangements is a very strong one in the minds of many of the supporters of the Society, but nevertheless, they should seriously consider whether a simple return to the conditions of a few years ago will solve the difficulty, and whether the alternative solutions of curtailment of the showyard and rigidly cutting down expenses in various directions would not be advisable.

It is with a feeling of sadness that we record the evil times upon which the Royal Agricultural Society have fallen, and we can only hope that the new Council which will soon take office will remedy affairs. It would be a disaster of unparalleled severity if the Royal Show was allowed to drop.

Seasonable Topics.

As a rule, the cutting of the clover marks the advent of the haymaking season, and during the past few weeks we have witnessed operations amongst the above crop in various places. On the whole, there is, perhaps, a fair average of clover, but the farmers who pastured it late have to be contented with light crops, as the rains in May were too few and far between to set the grass going. We fail to see any wisdom in leaving the cutting of clover till late, because if rain comes after it is removed, a good start is given for a second crop. This can, of course, be made into hay, which is always useful, if only for topping up ricks, or it may be mown green for the horses or horned stock. The farmer, by the way, who has lambs which need a little juicy food at the end of the summer will do well to make provision for a second crop of clover, as nothing is more valuable for lambs at that period. Further, a good cut of clover in September is an extremely useful commodity if the summer happens to be dry and pastures are bare.

Points about Clover.

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It is curious to observe what a tremendous lot parliamentary candidates belonging to both parties intend to do for agriculture, just when a General Election is pending, and how very few of the proposals are really carried out when the political fight is over and the successful candidate is safe in his seat. Amongst the topics now under discussion in agricultural politics, that of tenure is most important. As a matter of fact, the farmer is not satisfied with the present system, which certainly does not afford him sufficient security. It is not easy to find an excuse for a landlord getting rid of a good tenant, yet such things do occur, and when a man has farmed well and has improved his holding, it is absolutely unfair that he should be called upon to quit on a short notice, without having the right of appeal to a court of arbitration or something of the kind. Of course, the farmer can obtain some compensation under the above circumstances, but not sufficient to repay him just at the time when he has pulled a place round and is just commencing to reap some material profit from his labour. Particularly in the neighbourhood of towns do farmers need greater security of tenure, because if a landlord wishes to dispose of his land by sale or lease for building purposes, he gets good value for it, while the tenant farmer receives the usual notice to quit, but without being entitled to compensation in proportion to the loss and inconvenience. Of course, there are two sides to the question, and whatever is done to give the tenant more security of tenure, which is certainly needed, landlords must also be protected against bad farmers. How much a landlord may stand to lose through having a bad tenant is a matter which he can only learn by experience, but the chances of getting compensation from a man who has nothing is somewhat parallel to the drawing of blood out of a stone. In view of the two distinct sides to the question, it is obvious that any reform in land tenure should be of a character that mutually protects both parties.

The Question of Tenure.

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It may have come within the notice of some of our readers what a tremendous thirst comes over the British labourer at hay harvest time. Not that haymaking is a more laborious task than some other operations on the farm, but by right of custom it is an "allowance job," and the labourer is not the man to let old customs die out in this respect. Just exactly what shall be consumed in the way of liquid refreshment during harvest time is largely a question of local custom, but the labourer must have a big drink of some kind. Many brewers cater for the demand by supplying a liquor known as harvest beer, which, perhaps fortunately, is not famous for its strength, and just exactly how much malt and hops are used in its manufacture is happily a matter that the consumer does not inquire into. In the West of England cider is the recognised harvest drink, and the labourer regales himself with the juice of the apple, plus varying proportions of water, first, according to the strength of the cider to begin with or the quantity of apples there may be for grinding up. Trifles about quality do not worry the labourer at harvest time. He takes a big drink, sweats it out of himself, and is ready for another. Could he work as well on anything else besides beer or cider? Perhaps if you asked him he would reply in the negative, but this is largely a matter of opinion. The writer was once connected with an establishment where beer was stopped one harvest time and extra money was paid instead, yet it was curious to observe that very little of the latter was spent in beer. Lemonade, meal and water, and tea, both hot and cold, were drunk by the haymakers, but far less beer was consumed than in any previous season. Indeed, it was observed that the thirst was not nearly so great as when beer was provided ad lib. Evidently the men preferred the money.

Harvest Thirst.

❦ ❦ ❦

In modern agriculture we are not quite sure whether there is so much of that help one another feeling which used to be so general amongst the members of the agricultural fraternity in the old days. We do not think people are necessarily more selfish, but the struggle for individual existence is so keen that men have little time to consider the wants of their neighbours. Still there are times, particularly during harvest, when one man may lend a hand to another without being in any way the loser, and this neighbourly spirit cannot fail to establish a feeling of good fellowship between men whose interests are mutual. We confess to a spirit of sympathy with the little men, the small holders, who are struggling without much capital to make their little places show a profit. Hay harvest is a serious time for the man with a few acres and a cow, and much depends on getting the crop in well. He cannot afford to pay much out in labour, and it is a real help to a man of this class if a neighbouring farmer sees well to send a machine and pair of horses to knock off his bit of grass for him. It must be said that we find more sentiment amongst the agricultural fraternity than in most other walks of life, and it would be unfortunate if that spirit of neighbourliness, which has been characteristic of farmers for generations past, should become extinct.

Lending a Hand.

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We are much interested in a remark by a correspondent in the last issue to the effect that he soaked the seed of his swede turnips in turpentine and not a flea came near them. We hope that some of our readers will accept the invitation of our correspondent and give their experience of the remedy, which is by no means new, as it was given to us in the first place some years ago as a quiet tip by a cottage gardener, who always succeeded in getting good turnips when the flea devoured those belonging to his neighbours. We tried the remedy on a small scale, and, like our correspondent, we found it answer; but we should like to hear the views of others on the matter. Everyone knows what a source of trouble the flea is to turnip growers, and if it can be checked by such a simple remedy as soaking the seed in turpentine the information ought to be widespread. At the same time, any experiment with turpentine should be conducted quite fairly. We know that when a good seed-bed is prepared and the weather is warm and showery turnips will grow away freely and flea does not injure, and in such cases it would be unfair to attribute the non-attack to turpentine. On the other hand, when seedling turnips are endeavouring to struggle to maturity on a parched soil and under burning sunshine the flea does its worst, and to see the rows disappearing like magic is disappointing, to say the least of it. Will soaking the seed in turpentine keep flea at bay under these circumstances? We should like to hear the experiences of all who have tried it.

Turpentine and Turnip Flea.

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We have heard a good deal of late about the prospects of the apple crop being affected by blight; but blight is a comprehensive term, and is applied to insect pests of various descriptions. As a matter of fact, the pest, which has played considerable havoc amongst apples this season, is the apple sucker (Psylla mali), which resembles an Aphis, and is frequently confounded with the latter pest. The dry weather throughout the month of May was just to the liking of the apple sucker, as the insects and the sticky honeydew which they exude, instead of being washed out by rain, remained in the trusses of buds. The insect in question is correctly named, as its depredations consist of sucking the juices out of the infant fruits, with the result that they shrivel up and fall off. There is only one way of dealing with the apple sucker, namely, spraying, and a useful wash is recommended by the Board of Agriculture. It consists of 6 lb. soft soap dissolved in 100 gallons of water, with the bitter extract of 8 lb. of quassia chips to the above. The trees should be sprayed as soon as the pest is observed in the fruit trusses, and if the insecticide is applied lukewarm it is all the more effective.

The Apple Sucker.

87814

By a Lobbyist.

The report of the Departmental Committee on Market Gardens is significant by reason of the fact that it undeniably provides evidence of the growth of opinion in reference to matters of agrarian economy. Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes has not echoed the very determined sentiments which possess his predecessor, the Earl of Onslow in regard to Governmental action and aid. Lord Onslow would have the Board of Agriculture in matters in which financial aid is of the utmost moment, matters like the creation of a co-operative system of distribution, play the part of the sympathetic observer who is lavish with encouraging phrases, rather than of the paterfamilian associate who does not mind occasionally opening his purse. The present report shows plainly that there is a growing conviction that after all gracious words do not butter parsnips. The demands for the establishment of an experimental fruit farm, for the teaching of horticulture in elementary schools, and for the creation of a bettered system of distribution, even to the coercion of railway authorities, are all indications of the trend of agrarian opinion. Even the apathetic agrarian world moves; even the market gardeners can be selfish enough to seek their own interest. And what the market-gardeners demand to-day will be demanded by the general body of farmers to-morrow.

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Of course, the moment of the proposals of the Committee—on which, mind you, the conservative element in our economy and politics was largely represented—lies in the suggestions it makes concerning tenure and compensation. The advice that valuers should be appointed for the purpose of estimating and assessing the amount of compensation to be paid the outgoing tenant under the Agricultural Holdings Act on the basis of the value to the incoming tenant would, half a score years ago, have been thought to be revolutionary to the extent of sans-culottism. It would have been declared against with reverberating vehemence, whereas now it is regarded as as a mere prosaic necessity it were foolish to resist. The suggestion that the State should have power to lend money to landowners having fruit on their estates for the purpose of supplying the ready money for the payment of compensation on the determination of a tenancy is a little remarkable because of the specific selection of the landlord for the financial assistance. The landlord should, of course, be assisted should he need it and desire to compensate; but why should not the State assistance be also extended to an incoming tenant able to give adequate security? However, there need be no cavilling with the report. It means, I apprehend, that what we know as the Evesham custom will in the end be embodied in a formal enactment, and the tenant have the right to sell his improvements to the highest bidder (who may, of course, be the landlord), provided he be accepted as a tenant.

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The report of this Committee is a justification of every position the MARK LANE EXPRESS has adopted. It is a justification not merely of the men whose heart refuses to be chilled by the suggestion of State aid in fostering agricultural prosperity and convenience, but also of those who demand that tenure-law should more definitely recognise the rights and interests of the tenant, and be able to defend him against possible cupidity and caprice. Believe me, the agricultural reformer is at last abroad. It is astonishing in what avenues you now find him—avenues from which he was once relentlessly banished. This report of the Market Gardeners' Committee means a distinct step forward.

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Whatever character the movement may take whose purpose is the development of inland waterways—whether it be a definite agitation in favour of nationalisation or not—a practical importance should be associated with the demand that the principle of one gauge must be adopted. I am glad to see that so keen-eyed a man as Sir John Brunner, who is a pioneer in the matter, lays this down as a primal necessity of any scheme. Without this principle being adopted, it would be hopeless to anticipate success. Continuity of traffic, safety of traffic, speed, and economy all depend upon the acceptance of the principle. The politicians whom I have spoken to on the subject do not, I regret, quite appreciate the significance of the matter. They, of course, all the same, regard the apathy which has resulted in our great natural and artificial waterways being rendered derelict as a sin and a stupidity. It thus must be for those interests like agriculture which will use the canals—which should be a chief influence in relieving British industry of the present extravagant cost of carriage—to so instruct the Parliamentary mind that the newly begotten enthusiasm may be characterised by intelligence. I see that Sir John Brunner provides in his new Bill for the Board of Agriculture having the same authority on the trust which will be empowered to acquire and control the canals as the Treasury and the Board of Trade. Agriculture must raise the prefatory demand—one gauge for all canals.

• • •

The Bill to amend the Motor-Car Act by which Mr. Soares, M.P., would confer on magistrates the power to imprison owners or drivers for a first offence, is not of so much significance as is the evidence which the introduction of the Bill has provided of the temper of the House of Commons. I will not say the House is anti-motoristic in its sympathies; I will say that it does not intend to be a party to penalising the community in the interest of a selfish and wealthy class who have, as a sequel to the undue privileges they have been allowed on the King's highway, developed an arrogance of demand that would deprive the ordinary citizen of almost all roadway rights. The majority with which the House rebuked the attempt to obstruct the introduction of this Bill—and, in the current phrase of the "oi polloi," "a majority of 164 is enough to go on with"—is a reflection of the resolve of Parliament to rebuke this demand, and to restore to ordinary humanity its rights and privileges. My object in emphasising this is to seek to induce the varied interests affected, and in particular the urban interests, to discipline the movement with a view to making motorists bear their fair share of the increased cost of the maintenance of roads. If a little of the energy at this moment expended in vituperating the motorist were diverted to the practical channel of organisation, the result would be, if not quite so entertaining, at least much more profitable.

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We are a long way off the nationalisation of the cost of the maintenance of main roads. How, then, can the motorists—the scurrying gentlemen who hail from Throgmorton Street and Houndsditch—be made to bear the cost of repairing the local roads they tear and rip and remedy the discomfort and damage caused by their hideous, stifling, corroding dust? We do not want an anti-motor agitation. Motors are now an integral part of our domestic life. We do want an effort whose purpose shall be to throw upon motorists that responsibility and expense they now jauntily call upon local areas to meet in order that they may generally play the nuisance. I have, of course, heard of organisations being called into existence for this purpose. What have they accomplished? Are they still in active operation? If they neglect the opportunity provided by the present Parliamentary temper, they will be guilty of a recreance to their own ambition. The motorist must not only be regulated, but must pay for his luxury. This is a dictum to which Parliament would readily subscribe. But how? These organisations should indicate to Parliamentarians the method to be pursued.

• • •

Mr. Lancelot Saunderson is a King's Counsel, and the Conservative candidate for Carlisle. In the coming days, when pressure will be sought to be placed on railway companies to reduce their railway rates, we must not expect much help from him. He believes in the operation of the holy law of competition, without comprehending that in this case competition is practically non-existent. "I should have thought," said he, in reply to an interrogation, "there was enough competition to ensure that railway rates are cut down to a reasonable sum." Well, Mr. Lancelot Saunderson, K.C., think again! If this is your only excuse for respecting State interference in the interest of British trade and agriculture, abandon it. Better far adopt the rigid position that the State—whose legislative act is the authority for running the railway—has no more right to insist upon a moderate cost of carriage than it has upon the moderate cost of butter! This is at least a logical, if mistaken, position. The other attitude is a distortion of fact and of experience.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended June 24th, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	13,645	8,516	Wheat ...	2,112,100	1,693,800
Sheep.....	5,105	1,886	Flour.....	194,800	218,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	106,500	208,300
Horses ...	211	167	Oats	192,600	614,700
			Peas	42,230	38,797
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	3,160	6,090
Beef	64,655	111,501	Maize ...	528,500	735,900
Mutton...	95,911	115,889	Apples ...	26,587	8,755
Pork	4,257	4,259	Apricots &Peaches	945	608
Bacon ...	112,016	103,662		Bunches	Bunches
Beef, salt	2,372	2,456	Bananas	105,240	147,442
Hams.....	38,251	22,839		Cwt.	Cwt.
Pork, salt	5,952	5,035	Cherries	43,990	34,546
Meat, salt & Fresh	10,823	17,172	Currants	7,301	3,812
Do. pres.	11,072	11,559	Gooseb'r's	10,248	3,775
Butter ...	86,132	78,495	Grapes ..	247	157
M'rg'rine	18,375	20,194	Lemons...	17,424	23,616
Cheese ...	53,214	64,735	Oranges	68,220	24,541
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Pears.....	66	2
			Strawb'r's	7,412	5,807
			Oth'r Fr't	5,826	2,444
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	4,169	3,069
Milk, Cream	195	130	Straw ...	3,375	1,881
			MossLitt'r	—	1,746
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,265	18,858	Hops	803	710
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds...	101	3	Locust Beans	30	12,240
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	109,242	65,701
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Eggs	379,155	476,373	Potatoes	424,470	428,162
			Tomatoes	46,692	38,167
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £6,241	Value. £6,333	Veg'bles	£11,379	£13,557
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,742	2,036
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	248	3,127	by canning ..	1,400	1,825
Lard	46,745	56,736			

Spalding June Cattle Fair, held on Tuesday, was largely attended, and there was a large show of horned stock. Some of the best beasts made up to £24, and others £20 to £22. There was an unusually large show of stores. Young cattle, £8 to £12; two-year-old beasts, £12 to £15; and three-year-olds, £15 to £19. Milking cows were in demand, and fetched up to £20 and £22. In the sheep market there was a brisk trade, yearlings making 55s. each. A few horses were on offer, but only those of the best description were inquired for.

Potato Disease in Cheshire.—A mysterious and destructive disease has broken out among the new potatoes in Cheshire, where they are most extensively grown. The disease attacks the stalk close to the root, and rots it completely through, and at the same time kills the young potatoes. In an advanced stage of the disease, the tubers become dry and almost powdery.

Attendance at the Royal Show.

SIR,—With regard to the poor attendance at "Park Royal," exhibitors have complained ever since the Society has held its shows at Park Royal that the shows are not sufficiently advertised, and I would suggest, if another show is held, that posters be sent to every member for distribution to every farmer of standing in his district, and for placing at the railway stations also. Sandwich men, in and around London, is a capital idea, but it must be carried out on a larger scale. It might also be of advantage to charge a higher price for admission on the last day than on the other days, so as to induce visitors to attend to save the higher entrance fee.

I have had a good deal of experience at shows, and know that when the old attractions fall off new ones must be found. Everyone should know the theory of agriculture, its necessity and usefulness, particularly in time of a great European war with us. Rome lost the art, and failed. She fell, never to rise again. Let England beware.—I am, etc.,

J. THORNTON.

Turnham Green, London, W., June 28.

S. Devons at Nottingham.

SIR,—The letter by "Writer of the Report" in your paper of June 19 quite confirms my former impression that his information was obtained from a prejudiced source, and it would have been more in accord with your usual discretion had he exercised reasonable care in gleaning his information, instead of condemning the judge, "or I may say judges," whose awards in the old bull class S. Devon breeders well-nigh unanimously approve.

Had Good Gift been successfully exhibited as a two-y ar-old I should not have been anxious to procure him to compete in the old class, as it is a well-known fact that such animals do not attain the size so much in request by S. Devon breeders, and when five or six years old are rarely if ever winners. Shorthorn, Hereford, and North Devon breeders may prefer a smaller type and different standard of excellence, but we prefer a large, good animal to a smaller specimen with the same qualifications; and, with all respect to the standard adopted by other breeds, S. Devon judges are quite competent to fix their own

I should have been delighted, "had he been eligible," to send Good Gift to the Royal, and am quite confident that the third judge would have endorsed the awards of his predecessors.

Your reporter should know, if he does not, that Good Gift is not eligible at the Royal, having been calved previous to 1901.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

W. J. CROSSING.

South Devons at Nottingham.

SIR,—I am sorry to again intrude on your space, but I feel that I owe your correspondent an apology for having accused him of obtaining his information from a defeated exhibitor, and I much regret having made such an inference; but permit me to say, however, that in so doing I was actuated by the kindest motives, as I did not wish to totally attribute such an erratic report to the writer's ignorance of the breed; but this, I find, from his further remarks, is what I ought to have done, as his latest attempt to describe Good Gift is more fatal than the first.

He endeavours to point out that, if I am correct, in declaring his loins to be perfect, the fault must be in the ribs, etc. This, indeed, is a very weak argument. He then goes on to say that his worst defect is want of fulness over the fore ribs and behind shoulders, where, I assert, without fear of contradiction from any practical judge, he is exceptionally good, far excelling any of his competitors.

I have yet to learn that a very arched rib is a necessary qualification for a prize winner; what is far more essential is depth in the sides, uniformity of flesh and general character, all of which Good Gift possesses.

Your reporter adds in his postscript that Good Gift was sent out of the ring at Totnes in 1904 unnoticed; but that fact, surely, should not deprive him from his well earned honours in 1905. My experience has been that those animals which are placed in the prize list when yearlings and two-year olds seldom win later in life; and I venture to think that Mr. Wroth's Star Duke might have developed into a larger beast had he not been brought to such early maturity.

I have the highest opinion of my opponent's literary ability, in which, no doubt, he is a past master; but he must pardon me for saying that he has yet to gain much practical knowledge before he can attempt to correctly criticise the merits and faults of South Devons

I have no desire to prolong this controversy, and am willing to leave the verdict with your readers. Again thanking you for the impartial publicity you have given to the respective letters.—I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

June 15, 1904. J. STRANGER FORD.

A Long Drought in Munster.

SIR,—From the first week of May to the present time, with the exception of one day's rain, we have had one long, continual drought, with the usual result that the crops are completely stunted, or in many cases entirely destroyed. Grass on the pastures is very poor, and the supply of milk is decreasing, and store stock, instead of improving, are barely holding their own.

The seed meadows are now being cut, and show very poor returns; the other hay crops will not be cut for some time, but no amount of rain can possibly work any improvement, as the late growth is scarcely noticed when saved, and can add little to the general bulk.

Green crops, too, are a failure; in many cases the mangels never sprouted, and the ground has been, in most cases, resown with turnips. These latter are doing fairly well, and if they get moisture to pu\ them beyond the ravages of the fly, may yet make a fair crop.

The apple crop shows no prospect of any return. Strawberries and gooseberries were fairly successful, but prices were low. Wheat looks well, and promises to be the best crop of the season; as for the oats, they cannot possibly amount to anything either in straw or grain; barley also will be a poor crop. Potatoes are doing well, and if the blight does not put in an early appearance will make good returns. Wool paid a good price this season, having paid 13d. per lb., a price which has not been seen for a quarter of a century.

Cattle, considering the season, are doing well, but prices have dropped, and very poor payment for summer grazing appears in view.

Sheep are doing better, and prices are not so bad, and, with the help from the rise in wool, ought to leave some profit.

Pork is paying a good price now, but the bulk of the farmers feed no pigs at this season of the year.

On the whole, I am afraid this year must be considered an unprofitable year from a farmer's point of view. P. FROST.

June 27, 1905.

Drought in Durham.

SIR,—The long-continued drought has become somewhat serious. Prospects for hay are poor, more particularly old land, which cannot now be other than a very light crop. Pastures, too, are very bare. Turnips, except on the very best land, have not germinated, and where resown are sadly in need of rain.

Wheat, however, still looks promising. Barley fairly so; but oats are very short, and, in some districts, going back. Potatoes, on the other hand, hold their own. Cattle markets are very quiet, and prices generally easier.

E. AND F. R.

June 28, 1905.

Good Prospects in Cambridgeshire

SIR,—The prospects at the present time are very good, the rains of the last few weeks have brought on the crops of corn and hay almost beyond recognition, with the exception of some of the gravelly land; the hay and clover crop is a good one. I should say an average one. Corn looks very healthy, and stands up strong; has put forth a good ear, and looks like yielding. Roots are grand, especially wurzels and potatoes. I think the prospect much better than the last two years. Stock healthy and doing well.

A. W. R.

June 28, 1905.

Outlook in South-West Kent.

SIR, Haymaking has been in progress in this district fully a fortnight, and the fine dry weather that followed the heavy rains in the early part of the month has enabled a large breadth to be got up in fine condition. The crop is not a heavy one, but, except on poor dry soils, it has proved beyond expectation, and, speaking generally, may be described as fair, though far below the abundant crop of last year. There is a good deal of old hay in stack yet, so there need be no fear of a scarcity.

To-day (Thursday, 29th) there has been a nice steady rain for several hours, which will be of immense benefit to all growing crops, which may be expected to make rapid progress under the influence of the warm atmosphere now prevailing.

Hops have grown very quickly during the past week, or two, and, notwithstanding reports of fly in many places, are generally looking healthy and strong. Indeed, some growers consider the bine too strong to hold out hopes of a plentiful yield, but it is yet too early to speak confidently.

All kinds of fruit are deficient, and of nothing (except perhaps raspberries and gooseberries) can we expect more than half a crop of some kinds considerably less. Pears will be very scarce, and for apples the prospect is by no means good. On the whole it looks like a bad season for fruit-growers; but for ordinary farm crops the outlook is better than last year.

Hay Crop in Somerset.

SIR,—With the exception of a thunder shower the weather during the past week was favourable for haymaking, and many stacks of hay have been secured in good condition. This being a dairy farming district but little hay is secured, but from the pasture land and the occupiers of the land often allow their cattle to graze on the land considerably longer than it is safe to do in such a season as we are now passing through, and those who adopt that system now find after the cold dry spring we have recently experienced that the crop of hay is a light one.

The little corn grown here is short in straw, but yet sufficient for a good crop of grain. Grass in the pastures is not abundant, but yet sufficient for the requirements of the live stock.

Cattle and sheep are doing well, but the milk from the dairy herds has not continued to flow so freely as usual.

Many plots of potatoes were cut by the frost, consequently the sample grown from such will not be so good, more small tubers being present.

Apples and other fruit on the trees also suffered considerably from the cold nights, and will not be good crops.—Yours, etc.,

CHEDDAR.

June 30, 1905.

Fair Hay Crop in East Suffolk.

SIR,—We have had plenty of rain in this district lately, and there will be a fair hay crop after all. Clovers as a rule are not good; very patchy, and little growth, due to foreign seed, perhaps.

Corn looks well on good farmed land; winter beans and early barleys especially. Oats are short in the straw, and can hardly be a heavy crop. Some good pieces of early-sown mangel about; but many are a poor plant, and grow slowly.

I do not find, as your Gloucester correspondent does, that soaking swede seed in turpentine is effectual in keeping the fly off. It is a pity they do not attack the thistles, there would be plenty of feed for them this year. H. P. T.

June 30, 1905.

Telegrams at the Royal Show.

SIR,—As showing the total lack of administrative grip, let me add a word to what others have recently written regarding this Society.

I am a member, and visit the Show year by year. Being a commercial man, and having connections all over the kingdom, I notified by business friends that telegrams could be sent to me at the Show-yard addressed on the lines laid down in the Society's programme, page 12:—

> Members of the Society who may desire to receive telegrams without the trouble of going for them to the Post Office are requested to have them specifically addressed to them, care of "Royalagso, London."

Judge of my disgust at getting no messages till nearly six p.m. on the first day of the show, and then only when they had been re-addressed and repeated, the postal authorities having informed senders that "Royalagso" is not now registered.

The loss of money to the senders, in my case, is a bagatelle, but what of the hundreds of other members who had their messages turned back in the same way?

What is annoying is the loss of time and temper through a lack of organisation which would discredit a schoolboy, and would certainly and deservedly ensure the instant dismissal of the official in a commercial establishment if one could be found so grossly negligent as to permit such a blunder to escape his notice. Yours truly,

June 30, 1905. O. P. Q.

Judging the Aberdeen Angus Bulls at Park Royal.

The Royal Society's Show at Park Royal.

The third show of the Royal Agricultural Society to be held on their permanent ground between Willesden and Ealing has resulted in a disaster greater than either of its predecessors. The show of stock, as will be seen from the critical report which follows, was the finest ever got together by the Society, but the attendance of the general public was exceedingly small and disappointing.

The opening day (Tuesday) was favoured with beautiful weather, and although the entrance fee was reduced from 5s. to 2s. 6d. there was nothing like a proportionate increase in the attendance, the total for the day being 2,769. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales visited the yard in the afternoon, journeying from Paddington via the Great Western Railway to Park Royal. He was met at the latter station by the president of the society, Lord Middleton, and the secretary, Sir Ernest Clarke. The Royal visitor reached the show ground a few minutes before three o'clock, and in his carriage were accommodated Lord Middleton, Sir Ernest Clarke, and the Equerry in attendance, Lieutenant Godfrey Faussett, R.N. The Prince was received at the Royal Pavilion by H.R.H. Prince Christian, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Sir John Thorold, Bart., the Earl of Feversham, the Earl of Coventry, Sir Jacob Wilson (honorary director), Mr. P. Crutchley, and the Hon. Cecil Parker. Later the Prince of Wales made a tour of the show, the principal features being pointed out by the honorary director, Sir Jacob Wilson.

Wednesday was another fine day, but the attendance was again disappointing, amounting to only 7,684 persons. His Majesty the King, accompanied by the Queen, drove up to the principal entrance of the exhibition just before three o'clock, and they received an enthusiastic reception. Prince Christian, the Earl of Middleton, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Sir Jacob Wilson (hon. director), Sir Ernest Clarke, and others associated with the Council, received their Majesties. The Royal visitors did the round of the show, inspecting the live-stock very closely, and conversing with several of the better known breeders quite freely. They afterwards proceeded to the Royal box in the grand stand and witnessed the judging of one of the ornamental competitions.

Thursday was a most dull and depressing day, rain setting in about noon and continuing almost incessantly until the show closed, its effect is reflected in the number of visitors, which was only 7,706. The Society's chief guests were the Prince and Princess Arisugawa, who arrived at the ground with their suite in three Royal carriages about four o'clock. They were received by the president, Lord Middleton, and the Council, and with Sir Jacob Wilson riding at their head, were conducted to the Royal stands, from which they watched the tour in hand competition in progress. They also subsequently completed a tour of the ground, and though rain was falling during the whole of the time, they frequently left their carriage to more closely inspect the stands, and expressed themselves extremely pleased with what they saw.

Friday began most depressingly, but a later on the weather improved, but the show ground throughout the day had a most deserted and dreary look, the 5,705 visitors making no impression in such a large area.

The following table gives the attendances during each day, and also the figures of the four previous meetings. :—

	London. 1905.	Lond'n. 1904.	Lond'n. 1903.	Carlisle. 1902.	Cardiff. 1901.
First Day	2,769	2,021	2,685	2,321	2,155
Second Day	7,684	9,375	12,057	7,550	23,745
Third Day	7,754	10,912	11,463	15,398	25,033
Fourth Day	5,706	11,175	20,569	46,292	69,133
Fifth Day	—	16,417	18,299	19,304	46,327
Total	23,913	52,930	65,913	*33,387	167,123

* The total at Carlisle includes 2,672 admissions to the Implement Yard only.

The financial result is most distressing, last year the loss was £6,920, in 1903 £9,681, and at Carlisle in 1902 £2,898. In the light of these figures, therefore, the deficit on last week's exhibition cannot be far short of, if it does not actually exceed £10,000. The gate-money is shown approximately in the table below :—

Tuesday	...	2,769 visitors at 2s. 6d.	=	£346 2 6
Wednesday	...	7,684 visitors at 2s. 6d.	=	£960 10 0
Thursday	...	3,457 visitors at 2s. 6d.	=	£432 2 6
Thursday	...	4,297 visitors at 1s. 0d.	=	£214 17 0
Friday	...	5,706 visitors at 1s. 0d.	=	£285 6 0
Total	...	23,913 visitors	..	= £2,238 18 0

Various opinions are rife as to what this crowning disaster will lead to, and in the course of an interview Sir Jacob Wilson, the honorary director of the show, expressed the opinion that the old plan of "travelling" the annual show might be profitably revived, Park Royal having its turn once in three years, and various large provincial centres taking the two others. The Council will have to consider very earnestly whether in this way they could not rely upon tapping a fresh local public in each of the two years, while at the triennial intervals Cockney curiosity might be stimulated. On Friday, Sir Jacob, we may add, received many cordial congratulations on the honour bestowed upon him by the King in making him a Knight Commander of the Victorian Order—a fitting recognition of Sir Jacob's eminent services to agriculture and the Royal Agricultural Society.

The entries in the various sections are shown in the appended statement :

Entries of Live Stock, Poultry & Produce.

	Park Royal. 1905.	Park Royal 1904.	Park Royal. 1903.	Carlisle. 1902.	Cardiff. 1901.
Horses ...	*372 ...	467 ...	422 ...	521 ...	395
Cattle ...	898 ...	867 ...	944 ...	667 ...	553
Sheep ...	591 ...	525 ...	520 ...	515 ...	519
Pigs ...	252 ...	297 ...	222 ...	178 ...	148
Total	2,113	1,984	2,108	1,911	1,575
Poultry	871 ...	603 ...	704 ...	653 ...	701
Produce	493 ...	544 ...	669 ...	461 ...	521

Exclusive of Draught Horses and the Harness Classes.

Horses.

The equine section as a whole was not at all well filled, several of the classes, particularly in the light-horse division, and also in the Clydesdale and Suffolk portion of the heavy horses. Shires, though not as liberally represented as at many district shows in the Midlands, were decidedly the best and most attractive classes. There are many reasons nowadays that have tended to influence the exhibition of horses at these large summer shows. In the first place, the season of the year is not suitable for stallions, and, likewise, brood mares and foals cannot be kept in close boxes for a week together without considerable risk. Then there is the further fact that horses can go and win prizes at two or three local shows at less cost than the one Royal and in the same time. Last of all, there is the very all-important reason that the three leading English breeds all hold their own shows in the spring of the year, when the honours of winning are much greater than even at the Royal, owing to the very keen competition. With all these things taken into consideration, it is quite probable that we shall never see such large displays of horses at these great summer shows, as were seen in the days gone by, before the breed societies had become so firmly rooted in the Agricultural Hall.

Hunters.

The catalogue of the Royal always gives precedence to the hunter breed, which is seldom very numerous at English shows during the summer. This year the quality was generally very creditable, and several really first-class horses were shown in this section. Hunter mares with foal at foot came first, and in these Mr. F B. Wilkinson's Glasspore, a daughter of Glasshampton, that has been winning upon several occasions lately, and a mare of very nice brood character, took the first prize over Sir Walter Gilbey's well-known mare The Witch, of unknown breeding, but one of the hardest nuts to crack in this section. Lord Middleton's Mercy, well moulded upon hunter lines, with quality, and sired by Red Eagle, took the first honour in the three-year-old filly class—a rather small one, the second place being taken by Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's The Duchess by Florismart, a filly likely to maintain the standard of hunter mares in the future.

Two-year-old fillies, like the previous class, were not numerous, the prizes going to Mr. C. Kelway-Bamber's Columbine, by Pantomime, who looks like getting into a weight-carrier, and Mr. Mark Burns-Lindow's Sunshine, by Hale, a highly-bred filly of the right type, and full of promise. Yearlings were a kind of rule-of-three business. The first of these was Mr. Nickisson's Success by Enterprise. Messrs. Cheney's Lady Madcap was the other winner; she was got by Field Marshal. Both fillies are of capital breeding and quality. The four-year-old class to be ridden was open to both sexes, and half-a-dozen very useful horses faced the judge. The post of honour in this instance was accorded to Messrs. Cheney's Casual, who has run up to good size, and, with Castlenock blood in her sire's side, is pretty sure to end well. Mr. J. H. Stokes's well-known hunters, Kitchener and Artist, were the next best in the order named. Mares and geldings up to 14 st., and foaled in or before 1900, was the next class, and was not by any means a strong one. Both first and second prizes again went to Mr. J. H. Stokes's stud for the London and Richmond winner, Gold Reef, who was in very good form, and Lady Emily, by Braggadocia, a young mare of fine breeding, and full of quality. In the light-weight class Messrs. Brown's Huntsman, bred in Ireland and well known in the showyards, was placed first. Mr. J. H. Stokes's Rosebud, another hunter-like mare, carrying off the second prize, and Mr. A. Cory Wright's Grandee, who has so often been at the front in the past was given the third place.

Cleveland Bay.

These classes are seldom well filled numerically, even at their own shows, and at the Royal they have always been somewhat smaller. There were, however, a lot of stylish and fine-moving colts and fillies included in the entries, and few horses were more admired by the visitors. In the first class of stallions, Mr. George Scoby's Beadlam Fred, a son of King Fred, a slashing strong colt and great mover, came to the front, followed by Mr. F. H. Stericker's Radium and Mr. John Letts's Rillington Reliance, any of which were quite good enough for a first place. Mares with foal at foot had but four entries. Mr. Wilson Horsfall's beautiful and roomy, broody class Lady Salton, Mr. G. Grandage's Lady Toft, and Mr. F. Bateman's Queen of Beadlam were the winners in the order named. The two entries of fillies foaled in 1902 or 1903 were Mr. George Grandage's Woodland Briar, by King of the East, and Mr. Charles Butter's Cholderton Farndale, bred by Mr. Stephens in the South, a smart filly, were placed in the order written.

Coach Horses.

These horses, a more substantial type of the Clevelands, brought out a few animals with good action and great power, as well as dash and speed about them. The entire colt class two and three-year-olds—drew forth half-a-dozen entries, of2 which Mr. John Letts's Special Delight was the most successful. This well-known and grand colt retains his form well, and should prove a great acquisition as a sire to the coaching breed. He was sired by Speciality. Mr. Bert Kitching's Young Mischief and Mr. F. H. Stericker's Aneroid were the other winners. Brood mares with foal at foot were three in number. Mr. John Webster's Bell of Harum, who stands on short legs and with room and scope about her, was the best of these. Mr. G. Elder's Aislaby Beauty, another rare type of mare to breed from, was placed second, and Mr. F. W. Horsfall's Perseveran e third. Fillies, like the mares, were three in number, and were well-known show frequenters, and always successful at their own shows. The first of them was Mr. G. Grandage's Woodland Beauty, bred by Mr. Silvester Leaf; second, Mr. John Letts's Madeline; and third, Mr. George Grandage's Mayflower.

Hackneys.

This breed made a great deal better display than we have sometimes seen, and there was little in the equine sections that created as great attraction to the visitors. Some very good hackneys, too, were seen in the harness classes. In the breeding classes, stallions, foaled in 1902, were first, and Mr. R. P. Evans's Evanthius and Sir Walter Gilbey's Kirkburn Sensation were placed first and second as named, and the contest for positions must have been very keen. Evanthius, who was later awarded the Hackney Horse Society's gold medal for the best Hackney stallion, made an excellent show when on parade, and he is well built; but with the general public Kirkburn Sensation seemed to be quite as great a favourite. He is a grand type of hackney. The former is by Polonius, the latter by Rosader. Mrs. F. E. Cobran's All Serene, another very nice colt, was third. Two-year-old stallions were a very large entry. Mr. A. A. Haley's Hiawatha, who has been very successful at several shows, and has quality and substance, was first; Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Duke second; and Mr. Alfred Benson's Copper Duke third. There were only three yearlings: Sir Walter Gilbey's Bouncing Danegelt, who made a very good show and looks like finishing big; Mr. R. P. Evans's colt by Polonius; and Mr. Alfred Lewis's Heacham Dignity, which were placed for honours in the order named. Mares with foal at foot were also a small entry. Mr W. B. Tubbs's grand mare Rosaform took the first prize and gold medal, and Mr. Walter Briggs's Lady Millie, by Agility, second. Fillies, three years old, were in great evidence. Sir Walter Gilbey's Mitre, Mr. H. Le Marchant's Green Girl, and Mr. Cliff's Crayke Czarina, three fine young mares, carried off the prizes in the order named; and in two-year-old fillies three well-known animals took the money—Mr. R. P. Evans's Pollinaris, Mr. W. R. Lysaght's Wyeland Mary, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Princess

Ponies.

The show of these was a great attraction so far as it went, but there were very few exhibited. The hackney ponies Pindersfields Horace and Boydie took prizes first and second for Mr. T. Smith and the Rev. George Cruddas; Messrs. Carr and Co., the Duchess of Newcastle, and Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale being successful in the smaller class; and with mares and foals and fillies (the classes very small), Mrs. T. S. Hall, Mr. O. T. Price, Mrs. F. Jagger, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, Mr. G. C. Waud, and Mr. Hussey took the prizes in the various classes. The Ladies Hope and Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie carried off all the prizes in the three classes of Shetlands with marvellous little ponies, the championship going to the ladies for Haldor, Mr. Mackenzie's Gold Flower being reserve. Mountain and moorland ponies had an invincible representative in Mr. Evan Jones's Greylight, who moved beautifully and is an all-round charming pony. Mr. Harry Dyson and the Radnorshire Co., as well as Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, Mr. Hollingworth, and Mr. Greaves, were also successful in carrying off a share of the prizes. Polo and riding ponies were better represented than several of the other classes of this division, and in one or two instances competition was very keen. The Radnorshire Co.'s Gownboy was in capital form, and secured first and stallion medal. Mr. John Barker carried off no less than six prizes in the section, including the gold medal for the best polo and riding pony mare; and Miss Standish, the Rev. D. B. Montefiore, Colonel E. N. Henriques, and the Earl of Leitrim were the other prize winners, each exhibiting very showy and useful ponies.

Harness Classes.

Amongst the competitors in these classes were quite a number of the leading show animals of the year; several of the recent Richmond winners being well in evidence and taking their accustomed positions, except in one or two cases, where rather important changes have taken place since a year ago. Mr. Inman's Silver Ness beat Miss Ross's Rowton Blackthorn in the 15.2 and upward class; and under that height Mrs. Hartley Batt's Heathfield Squire, who championed the Richmond Show, was first and Mr. Cunard's Wild Lucy second. In ponies, Mr. Cunard's Queen Go-Bang and Miss Clarke's Berkeley Bobbs were first and second as named, these awards being made on the first day of the show. Other noticeable horses and ponies in the honours were Mr. John Kerr's Forest Fireaway, Mr. C. H. Gobd's Lord Pick-'em-Up, and Mr. Walter Lloyd's Moonhill Model.

Shires.

These classes formed one of the features of the show of horses, owing to their improving good quality and the fact that though rather short numerically they were more numerous than any other breed. Stallions foaled in 1902 were eight in number, and a very good level class. Lord Rothschild's Delamere Chorister was placed first and given the gold medal for the best male; a colt with size, good legs and joints as well as weight and quality, he looked well on parade, and so did Mr. Sutton-Nelthorpe's Souldern Scylax, who was placed second, thus losing a place from last year's show. He, too, is still a good colt, and followed the winner very closely, as did also Lord Egerton's Eastoft Royal Lad, who is of more really Shire character than the two previous colts, and would by some have been placed higher. Sir P. A. Muntz had also a weighty good moving colt in Dunsmore Hydrometer, reserved, and a winner of several firsts this season. Lord Rothschild and Mr. Gould were placed first and second in the two-year-old class with Childwick Champion, by Childwick Majestic, and Lymm Champion, by Lymm Lion, respectively. Again the competition was very close, and these two were placed in the same positions at Islington last February. Since then both have improved marvellously, the winner having gained size, and the second colt has finished on beautiful lines, and moves in quite exceptional style; both are also weighty and their quality good. Sir P. A. Muntz was third with one and reserve with another, good colts in this class.

In yearling colts the class was fairly good, but the first and second colts stood out conspicuously from the others, and the first one seemed also to take the lead somewhat readily; this was Mr. Farnsworth's London winner by Lockinge Forest King, who has grown very fast, and as his quality and limbs are good and he moves well he had a right to be thought of first. The second colt is Mr. Leopold Solomon's Norbury Menestral, by Birdsall Menestrial, and a well balanced, weighty, and good quality colt. The next best colts were Mr. Charles Bell's Norley Prince and Mr. Max Michaelis' Redlynch M.P. Mares with foal at foot consisted of four entries, of which Sir E. D. Stern's Ladysmith 2nd may be called an outstanding winner, as she has developed into a very high-class brood mare, her quality, build, and style being as good as could be wished. Lord Egerton provided the second winner in May Flower, a young mare of first-rate stamp to breed from, a wonderful mover and a good breeder evidently. The third mare, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Tatton Tapestry, looked well worth more than the third place; she is very good in quality and shape, and has great scope and room about her. The Duke of Westminster carried off the reserve with The Nun, a mare that was at one time at the head of affairs at many of the leading shows, and is still a specimen for anyone to be proud of. Three-year-old fillies were a very good lot, the leader of these especially so; this was Mr. John Bradley's Halstead Duchess 3rd, a grand filly in shape, quality, weight, and general character and movement; indeed it is not often that a better filly comes out; she was later on reserved for the gold medal. Sir P. A. Muntz's Bonnie Blue and Lord Middleton's Birdsall Coralline, two very correct and fine fillies, were placed second and third, with Mr. W. Greenwell's Hendre Favourite as reserve.

Two-year-old fillies were also very strongly represented, Sir P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Fuchsia, who championed the London Show, was quite an outstanding mare, and with her weight, quality, and Shire character combined is likely to remain at the head for some time; the gold medal eventually fell to her lot. Mr. Max Michaelis' Pailton Sorais, H.M. the King's Facsonia, and Mr. T. Simpson Jay's Wimbledon Fuchsia were the next in order, and all of them quite fillies of the best type. Yearling fillies were strong too, Lord Egerton's London winner Tatton May Flower being at the top; she was sired by Lockinge Forest King, and is growing on well upon the best cart horse lines, having weight and quality. Mr. Bradley's Halstead Duchess 4th, Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Desford Future Queen, and Messrs. Fletcher and Andrew's Maori Sunbeam, very promising and high-class fillies by Dunsmore Jameson and Dunsmore Combination, followed.

Shire geldings were not a large class in numbers, but the quality of these was quite outstanding. Mr. A. C. Sparks, with Oldfield Duke and Oldfield Prince, very big and valuable horses, took the first and third prizes, the two being divided by Mr. Joseph Park's Blackbird, and Mr. Peter Coats was reserved for Clifford Victor, a rather smaller gelding, though of beautiful cast. Lady Wantage also exhibited a very good gelding in the class that obtained a card.

Clydesdales.

These classes were very weak in every respect. Three-year-old stallions were headed by Sir John Gilmour's Montrave Magnus, a quality sire all over, and Messrs. Montgomery came second and third with Earl of Angus and

H.M. the King's Fire King, Champion Hereford Bull, at the Royal Show last week.
Born Feb. 20, 1901; sire Earlsfield 19387, dam Firefly, by Lollipop, and bred by His Majesty at the Royal Farms, Windsor.

Baron Airies. In two-year-old colts the last mentioned exhibitors were first with Baron Fyvie, a wonderfully nice colt that reqiures time to finish a real good one, and who was also awarded the champion prize of the Clydesdale Horse Society. The Seaham Harbour Stud Co. were second. Messrs. Montgomery and Mr. T. Smith were awarded first and reserve for yearling colts. The mare in foal class was better than some of the others, two or three very good mares coming in. Mr. Ernest Kerr's Lady Garnett, Sir John Gilmour's Montrave Rena, and the Seaham Harbour Co.'s Scotch Mist were the best of them as named. Mr. J. Ernest Kerr was at the top of both the three and two-year old filly classes with Ambrosine and Lady Rotha, and Sir John Gilmour's Montrave Marion and the Seaham Harbour Co.'s Silver Princess were second; Mr. Herbert Webster taking a third in the three-year-olds; all these fillies require time to finish, as is usual with their breed.

Suffolks.

The entry of these was much of an average of past years; the horses were brought out remarkably fat, and fit; their general quality, however, was thought by some to be scarcely as good as in one or two previous years. Three-year-old stallions brought out a number of good colts, Mr. A. J. Smith's well tried and good quality colt Rendlesham Sorcerer being at the head, followed by Mr. E. F. Quilter's Bentley Bashful Warrior, the reserve going to the same exhibitor's Sudbourne Highness. The two-year-old colts were well grown and good, both in their joints and build, Mr. C. F. Quilter's Bentley Kaiser was first in these, second and third prizes going to Mr. C. H. Berners's Prince Edward and Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Braggadocio. In yearlings Mr. Quilter's Bentley Grist was first, and Mr. Robert Edgar's Cheerful Prince second, Sudbourne Arabi winning third for Mr. K. M. Clark. Mares with foal at foot are always amongst the most attractive of the Suffolk bred and Mr. K. M. Clark's Sudbourne Arabella, who came first, is a real good specimen; her stable companion Queen of Diamonds also follows her closely, and Mr. Eaton White's Boulge Maid, a very nice shaped and good stamp of mare, was placed third. Three-year-old fillies had at their head Sir Cuthbert Quilter's splendid filly Bawdsey Daisy 2nd, Mr. Kenneth Clark's Sudbourne Susan and Mr. John Symond's Diamond as written, the two-year-old prizes going to Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Bawdsey China Aster, Mr. Kenneth Clark's Sudbourne Beauty, and Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendlesham Tola. Mr. C. H. Berners and Sir Cuthbert Quilter were also successful with very good geldings. The Suffolk Horse Society's challenge cup was awarded to Rendlesham Sorcerer.

Cattle.

Shorthorns.

This breed had no fewer than 262 entries, and although there were a good number of absentees, the classes were largely filled. In that for bulls calved in 1901 and 1902, His Majesty the King's exhibit, Royal Carlisle, only obtained h.c., his grand top and admirable rotund character probably deserving higher distinction, especially as the quality of the animals was far from perfection. It was, however, really a grand collection of bulls, as many as eight getting barren honours, after the three prizes had been allotted. No fault could possibly be found with Mr. R. Taylor's Royal Emblem, which received first premium, and afterwards champion prize, except that his head was rather feminine. Mr. A. J. Marshall's Roan Conqueror, the second bull, has a very good saddle, but is not quite perfect either in front or behind; and Mr. A. F. Nichol's Baron Butterfly, the third prize-winner, has a shrewdly light front. Many onlookers preferred Mr R. Stratton's Great Mogul, the reserve bull, to either, but it is impossible to know on what point the decision rested, and there can be no question about all of them having been very fine good bulls of the right type. In the class for two-year-old bulls, Mr. J. D. Willis's Downton Brace Arthur came to the front being preferred to Mr. Cooper's Master after a severe contest. Both animals are very good, but the ruling appeared to be well approved. Mr P. L. Mills's King Christian of Denmark obtained the third premium, and Mr. F. Miller's Lincoln Champion the reserve ticket. There appeared to be a good distribution of commendations, which were all well deserved and indeed there might have been a more liberal distribution of them. The first winner in the yearling bull class was Lord Polwarth's British Baron, bred by Mr. Richard Booth, which has a grand level top and is very even in its proportions. Second to it was placed Mr J. D. Willis's Orphan Chief, which having already won at several shows is better known than the third winner, Mr. A. T. Gordon's Fascinator. Both are well-shaped and likely to be heard of again, unless purchased for exportation. In this class, again, the judge might have been much more liberal in his distribution of barren honours. Mr. George Harrison was reserve with Royal Ensign, of Mr. Duthie's breeding, a very shapely white bull. H.M. the King was h.c. with Crystal Talisman, and Mr. C. A. Hirst had the same honour, about half a dozen others being c. Mr. J. D. Willis came to the front again in the cow class with his far-famed White Heather, which still shows bloom, and is difficult to surpass. Mr. Roskruge's Lobelia made a good second, and was preferred to Mr. J. Colman's Hawthorn Flower and Mr. G. Harrison's Ursula Raglan, which had the third prize and reserve tickets.

The Shorthorn Society's prize, with second and third premiums added, brought a small class of three-year-old heifers in milk. Mr. L. de Rothschild's Lady's Slipper taking the first premium, Mr. W. Bell's Ratcheugh Witch the second, and Mr. H. F. Leon's Roseleaf the third. The two-year-old heifers formed a good class, in which Mr. F. Miller's Lady Amy VII., bred by the Earl of Powis, made an admirable first winner, Sir A. Henderson's Lady Buscot Graace coming next, and the Earl of Northbrook's Clorinda third. Mr. R. Taylor's Pitlivie Carnation obtained reserve, and H.M. the King's Datura and Mr. J. Harris's Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 36th being h.c., with three others c. In a very large class of yearling heifers His Majesty the King's Receptim was worthily first, this heifer being almost faultless in chaaste moulding, with really a nice character. Second to her was placed Mr. A. S. Bassett's Tehidy Queen of Brilliants, also very uniform and of shapely character. The Earl of Powis's Welsh Maid coming third, and Mr. F. Miller reserve with Lady Hermione, bred by the Earl of Powis. In this large class there were several barren honours, yet there were many deserving heifers which received no notice.

What may be termed supplementary classes followed—for pedigree shorthorn dairy cows in milk. In the class for those calved in 1900 or previously, Mr. Jas. T. Hobbs was first with Orange Blossom 13th, a fine, young cow, with a capacious udder. Lord Rothschild's Tulip Leaf came next, of nice character, and also displaying undoubted milking character, while Mr. R. W. Hobbs's Betty 7th seemed a thoroughly general-purpose cow. Mr. C. E. Wodehouse had three of undoubted high merit in the competition, Veronica 2nd displaying rare quality, with good shape, and Lady Rae 3rd depth and full-shaped deportment, such as should not have escaped the judge's eye, but only Clematis 2nd was c., apparently the least deserving of the trio. Mr. Adeane's Lucretia was reserve, and Mr. G. Taylor's Melody h.c., both very deserving. In the class for pedigree cows in milk calved after 1901, Mr. G. W. Tyser, Messrs. Little, and Mr. W. J. Hosken won the prizes with nice animals, Lord Rothschild being reserve.

The Lincolnshire Red shorthorns came out better than they had ever done before at a Royal show, and excited much admiration. In the senior bull class, Mr. T. B. Freshney's Saltfleet Bonus was first, a very grand animal of uniform proportion and massive character. The only other two in the class deservedly received second and third prizes, which were Mr. E. S. Cartwright's Stenigot Bloom Boy and Mr. S. Crawley's Weston Monarch 2nd. The class for bulls calved in 1903 also had three animals, Mr. J. Cartwright's Sharpshooter getting the first premium, but was followed close with Captain Portman's Healing Blucher and Mr. John Langham's Brandon Champion. One of the yearling bulls that had been entered was an absentee, leaving the two exhibited by Messrs. Chatterton to receive first and second prizes with Stenigot Gwynne and Stenigot Primate.

In the cow class, five very fine milkers appeared, headed by Mr. John Evens's Saltfleet Favourite, with Mr. T. B. Freshney's Ruby 12th second, Mr. Carnley's Norbury Duchess third, and the two others h.c. Three very good two-yearold heifers also won the prizes, which were Mr. J. Todd's Kirkby Nonpareil, Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Ruby 14th, and Captain Grantham's Keal Nancy. The yearling heifers were scarcely less deserving, carrying very level forms, with nice character. Mr. Langham was first with Brandon Red Rose, Mr Marriott second, with Cromwell Belle 2nd, and Messrs. Chatterton's Stenigot Daisy 14th third.

Herefords.

Although the whitefaces were not so large in number as last year it was a very adequate representation. The decline in numbers is said to be entirely attributable to so many of the young animals being purchased for export. In the senior bull class only two appeared, one being H.M. the King's Fire King, which kept his accustomed place, the other, Mr. C. D. Faber's Prime Minister, which deservedly received second prize. Fire King was later awarded the championship of the section. In the class for two-year-old bulls, Mr. A. P. Turner's Marquis repeated the victories he won at Nottingham and Malvern, and was also r. for the championship, but there was a reversal of the Bath and West decision in H.M. the King's Admiral only obtaining reserve, below Lord Coventry's Llama and Sir R. G. Cotterell's Priam; Admiral was previously placed above the latter two. Bulls calved in 1904 were more numerous, but there were several absentees. Mr. A. E. Hughes resumed his former position with Premier, to which Mr. A. P. Turner's Antonio made an excellent second, but a fine well-shaped young bull belonging to Mr. R. W. Hall was selected for the third premium in preference to Mr. C. T. Pulley's Eaton King.

The cow class was of a very high order of merit. Seldom have five been selected superior to those which remained together for some time before the judge could place them to his own satisfaction. At length Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton's Lady Betty was placed first, Mr. T. R. Thompson's Bonnie Mary making an excellent second to her, and Mr. Faber's Ivy Lass, bred by the late Mr. R. Green, getting the third premium. The remaining two of the famous quintette were Mr. R. Phipps' well-known Nonsuch and Furious, which as a matter of course were h.c. The two-year-old heifers were also of considerable merit, headed by Mr. A. E. Hughes' Ivington Plum, to which Mr. J. R. Hill's Western Star, Mr. Peter Coats' Dewy May and the Earl of Coventry's Golden Fairy were placed next in the order named, two others being c. The yearling heifers would have been a large class if all that had been entered had appeared, but there were several absentees; Mr. C. F. Pulley's Ashleaf 3rd made an admirable first winner, and Mr. W. H. Davies' Counter and Mr. P. Coats' Pearl fully deserved the other premiums, to which the Earl of Coventry's British Fortune stood reserve.

Devons.

The Devon Cattle Breeders' Society evidently did its best to promote an attendance of the choicest specimens of the breed at Park Royal, as they offered two substantial champion prizes of 10 gs. each for the best male and best female respectively, and with Mr. S. Kidner as judge, the breeders in these classes were well content. As the Devon breed is practically restricted to half a dozen shows, the exhibition animals are not quite so large in number as in those breeds where monetary inducements are offered more frequently. In the class for old bulls there was an entry of three only, but three of the best animals that have been seen in one class for a long time, inasmuch so that the judge recommended that three prizes be given. Mr. J. C. Williams was an easy first with that superb bull, Drosera; he is simply perfect with his top and bottom lines, and squares up largely to the eye, whilst the turn of his middle piece is nearly perfection, the sirloin being exceptionally good; such quality made this bull an easy champion. Second to him was another good bull from the same herd, Ficus. This is a nice bull when seen by itself, but its merits were outshadowed by those of the other. Ficus has a capital back and dewlap, and is set close to the ground; third prize was given to Mr. T. S. Morgan's Pound Mayor, a very nice bull to meet the eye and good at the rump, but its length rather slackened its middle, else it would have had even a stronger run for second.

The entry was slightly larger in the two-years-old class, Mr. J. C. Williams again supplying the premier bull, this time with Dianthus, a nice, deep, grand quality bull, very kindly to the touch, possessor of a rare loin; but if it was a trifle fuller on the rump it would be none the worse for it, but its merits were such as to entitle it to the reserve championship. Second prize went to Mr. C. L. Hancock's Rufus, very level and even, with a good loin, but hardly so big by reason of its age. Mr. Edward C. Norrish was placed third with his Level Best, a very useful bull, with a strong back and good sirloin, but hardly finished enough at the stern. Mr. J. C. Williams was reserve with Mistletoe, that has not come on so well as some of his other exhibits, and is a bit slacker and more uneven, and scarcely fulfils the promise it made last year. There were only four yearling bulls, but they were a smart lot. Here Mr. Alfred Skinner's Pound Royal 2nd continued his unbeaten career, and walked even more gaily than it did on the occasion of the first show of the season, and in the meanwhile it has become the gentleman. Second to it was placed Pound Pink Un, sent by the Hon. E. W. B. Portman, a bull that did not impress one favourably when it first came out, but recently it has smartened considerably, and is well worthy of the position that it now holds. Mr. Edward C. Norrish's Master True Type, and the same exhibitor's Fancy Free 5th have alike had their ups and downs this season, they having experienced changes. Master True Type, now third,

was second at the Royal Counties and Devon County Show, and third at the Somerset County; whereas Fancy Free was second at Somerset and third at Exeter and reserve at Park Royal. They are, however, a very useful pair of bulls, and their merits are very equal.

The class for Devon cow or heifer in milk came out unexpectedly strong, there being an entry of eight, but the contest resolved itself into a battle between two competitors. Mr. Alfred Skinner was placed first with his grand old cow Curly 2nd of Pound, that despite her duty to the herd and to the pail, carries herself with all the lightness and grace of a heifer, and she pens such a beautiful udder that no judge could resist her claims to the female championship. Second to her was placed Mr. B. C. Shepherd's big fine heifer, Hestercombe Myrtle, which was first at the Bath and West. She is a big one, and, with age in her favour, would have been a warm competitor for the other had her udder been as perfect, but, as it was not, second was her place; but she was reserve champion of her section. Third prize went to Mr. Skinner's Pound Curly 5th, a very useful cow, evidently useful as regards the pail; Mr. Shepherd coming in as reserve with Hestercombe Leaf, that scarcely showed so much for milk as the others. His Majesty the King has a useful at-home heifer in Ruby; this heifer was commended, as was also Mr. T. S. Morgan's Beauty 2nd.

Hackney Mare, Crayke Czarina, winner of Third Prize at Park Royal last week, but was Champion of the Young Mares and Reserve Champion Female at the Hackney Society's Show this year.

Exhibited by Mr. S. Cliff, Western Flatts, Wortley, Leeds, and bred by Mr. T. Hodgson Whin Hill, Ottringham, its sire being Corn Factor 6313, and its dam Halsham Topsy 13533.

The two-year-olds made a rattling good class, Mr. J. C. Williams being first with his Blooming Cow 19th. She is a smart one, and runs back well on her ancestral lines; she is neat, even, and was shown at her best; she was neatly modelled on the true lines. Second to her came his Majesty the King's Dewdrop, which attracted such attention at Bournemouth. She was splendidly brought out, she meets the eye well in front, and the judge could not pass over her claim for precedence before Mr. Shepherd's Hestercombe Rubric. She is a big, upstanding heifer, and should produce some weight carriers. Mr. T. S. Morgan was reserved with Whimple Beauty 3rd, that had this set back after her sojourn at the South Coast watering place. She is a nice heifer, and may, another season, regain a higher position.

It was one of the smartest classes of young heifers that has yet been seen at Park Royal. The judge confirmed the Royal Cornwall decision by putting Mr. Eland Clatworthy's Cutsey Zenobia 2nd to the fore. It is a pity that this heifer did not come out at some of the earlier shows; she is of the big Somerset type, but graceful with it, very level, even, and showing well for a good bag when the time comes, and she carries her flesh well here. Second in Cornwall, Violetta has gone off very considerably since, and she was fortunate in getting into the reserve; the second prize went to his Majesty the King's Lucy, not over large, but very shapely and heavily fleshed. She was first in her class at the Bath and West. Another heifer from the Royal farms, Nosegay, very small, with pride showing where it should not, was highly commended. The third prize went to Mr. T. S. Morgan's Whimple Beauty 5th, a nice, curly coated heifer, not quite so evenly made on first sight, but greatly improving on closer acquaintance, was placed third. The Hon. E. W. B. Portman was highly commended with Favourite 2nd, a good heifer, but needing expansion behind. Mr. J. C. Williams was highly commended with a small heifer by Drosera, which, like the previous animal, was a trifle narrow behind.

South Devons.

Only two bulls and two cows of this breed appeared, which seems strange after the formidable display made at Nottingham. The bulls were Mr. J. S. Wroth's Star's Duke and Mr. F. W. Rowe's Merry Boy, which was wrongly placed before the younger competitor at the Exeter and Royal Cornwall Show, the same judge being at both. Star's Duke walked like a nobleman, Merry Boy seemed lame, as the two entered the ring. However, apart from this, Star's Duke has the more level form, and is of superior quality in flesh, and as the Royal is deemed a court of appeal, there was a satisfactory reversal of the former decisions. The cows made a good representation of the excellent dairy character of the Devons. Mr. B. Rutland's Handsome and Buttercup, which were the second and third winners at Nottingham, were worthily placed first and second here, the Nottingham first-winner not having been entered. The judge also awarded third prize to Mr. T. R. C. Cundy's Myrtle, but apparently the stewards would only allow reserve to be recorded. But precedents for it have been abundant in previous Shows, and after the liberality of Sir Walter Gilbey and his friends in bringing the prize-list to such a liberal standard the niggardly rule should in this case not have been brought into action.

Sussex.

This breed did not bring forward numbers so large as might have been expected; but those which appeared were of a high order of merit. The two bulls which were in the senior class were of truly grand character. The Earl of Derby's Mayor, which was first at the Bath and West and Royal Counties shows, had only a second here, being easily beaten by Prince Confidence 2nd, belonging to Mr. A. J. Thomas, a lengthy animal of very even depth, good width and substance, bred by the Hon. R. T. Neville. In the class for bulls calved in 1903 there was more competition. Mr. C. J. Lucas came first with Lord Eric, which was placed second to the Earl of Derby's Mayor at Bournemouth, a young bull of the full-shaped level conformation and carrying grand flesh. The other premium awarded fell to the Hon. R. P. Nevill's Bonfire Prince 2nd, of wealthy character. Mr. Aungier's Lynwick Prince, of good form and flesh, receiving reserve, and Mr. Thomas's son of his first prize bull c. Earl Winterton's Shillinglee Bewbush maintained the position accorded him at Bournemouth, even though having a formidable competitor in Mr. Gerald Warde's Gallant Statesman, of very level composition. Hon R. P. Nevill's Birling Lord had reserve. Only first prize was awarded in the cow class, viz., to Mr. W. F. Winch for Warden Lady, of nice and shapely character, which was preferred to the Earl of Derby's Fancy, of more substance, which received first prize both at Nottingham and Bournemouth. Earl Winterton's Sunlight 5th topped the two-year-old heifers, as at the Royal Counties. With the exception of being rather plain in rumps, she is very perfect. Mr. P. Saillard's Bewbush Wind 4th, the second winner, ran her, however, a severe contest, being shapely and of nice character. Mr. Gerald Warde's Tutsham Pearl, the reserve heifer, also displayed well, especially in full chines and loin. The yearling heifers formed the largest class, in which Earl Winterton was again to the front with Simla 4th, which was also first winner at Bournemouth. Indeed, her shapely form and lovely character would make her difficult to beat anywhere. The same exhibitor was also third with Sunlight 7th, which is perhaps more wealthy, but not so symmetrical or nice as the first winner. Mr. Aungier's Gwendolen of Lynwick divided the two for second prize, a heifer with a grand back and even form, which was also second at Bournemouth, his Consolation 2nd receiving also barren honours, as she did there; but Mr. Thomas's Prebble Smeeth Twin 2nd, a fine heifer, not sent to Bournemouth, had reserve.

Welsh.

Seldom, if ever, have the Welsh blacks been brought out so creditably, with scarcely a single inferior animal among them. Four bulls appeared in the senior class, the only one not taking a prize being reserve. Mr. J. Scourfield's Lloffwr, the first-prize winner, combines large scale to quality admirably, being of even depth and substance underneath as well as above. The Czar, belonging to Mr. Greaves, which won second position, is of good length and of excellent quality. Mr. Robert's Madoc Bach, the third winner, and Lord Harlech's Tudor, which was reserve, were also deserving. The seven junior bulls were commended entire. Mr. J. Owen's Derw Boy carried good form, with excellent flesh, having more substance than the two nice, shapely exhibits from the University herd, which received second and third premiums. Mr. R. M. Greaves could only obtain reserve with his shapely Wern Delight, of rare quality, and the others deserved their barren honours. In the class for cow or heifer calved previously to or in 1902, Mr. Greaves came to the front with his deep, compactly-shaped Pyrites 2nd, which has a good calf at foot. The University College again won second and third premiums with Madryn Sally, bred by Mr. Greaves, and Madryn Kate, both of excellent quality. The reserve went to a compactly-built three-year heifer in milk, of nice character. In the heifer class the University College had two nice exhibits, one of which, Madryn Beryl, a fine, well-fleshed one, was selected for first prize; the second being worthily awarded to Mr. J. W. Griffiths's shapely Penally Primrose, and the third to Mr. R. Thomas's Beauty 2nd, which had a broad, level top. Madryn Mair, the University College's reserve, also appeared deserving.

Red Polls.

Scarcely any breed had a larger proportion of animals of high merit to number than this one. In the senior bull class five specimens appeared to be generally commended. Mr. John Hammond came first and champion with Davison 244th. Whose grand top, rotund, well-covered form, and high character would be difficult to surpass. Lord Amherst was second with Recruit, also of grand form and full-shaped confirmation. Mr. A. J. Smith's Rendiesham Sidar made an excellent reserve, and was well deserving third prize. The two-year-old bulls likewise made an admirable display. Mr. R. P. Cooper came to the front with Ashlyns Major, of undoubted quality; Lord Amherst being again second with Defender, compactly built and level; Mr. A. J. Smith's third winner being also very uniform. Two others were h.c. The yearling bulls formed quite a large class, and no fewer than nine either had prizes or barren honours. No slight honour was it for Sir W. Corbet to top such a nice lot with Acton Rufus, his Acton Garnet coming third. These well-shaped specimens were divided by Mr. R. P. Cooper's Ashlyns Ben, of rotundity and good quality. Mr. Fellowes had two in the swim very deserving, as also were the exhibits of Lords Amherst and Radnor, all of which were h.c.

The cows were fine animals, most of them displaying admirable dairy character. Lord Amherst's Popsey 6th had pride of place, after a sharp contest with Mr. Hammond's Davy 204th, both broad and full in conformation. Alba, the third winner, shown by Mr. Fellowes, M.P., would be equal to either but for plainness at rumps. His Ardent, which was reserve, has likewise considerable merit, and, indeed, the same might be stated of two others which were h.c., belonging to Sir W. Corbett and to Sir T. V. S. Gooch. Mr. Fel-

lowes won first and second prizes in the class for heifers calved in 1903, with Angelus and Avon 2nd, both full-shaped and of nice quality. Mr. Cooper's Ashlyns Gravel had the other premium, a small but very shapely specimen. The reserve heifer of Sir T. V. S. Gooch and Sir W. Corbet's two, which were deservedly h.c., also seemed of high promise. Sir W. Corbet headed the yearling heifers with Acton Primrose, a remarkably chastely-moulded, nice heifer; Mr. J. Hainmond's Davy 283rd and Mr. Scorer's Flaxmoor Geisha, the second and third winners having very shapely character, while Mr. Cooper's Ashlyns Flirt and two or three others fully deserved their barren honours.

Aberdeen-Angus.

The Aberdeen-Angus is a breed which of late years has been introduced with considerable success into England, where they have established themselves well in favour, seeing the credit they do to their adopters. Mr. R. W. Hudson, of Danesfield, Marlow, won in the old bulls with Danesfield Jester; and in this class Mr. J. J. Cridlan was reserve with Wizard of Maisemoor. There was a strong class for 1903 bulls, in which Mr. Charles Wills, of Clifton, Bristol, was commended for his entry Esmond of Wilts, bred by the exhibitor, sire Esmond of Danesfield. All the entries mentioned in the class for yearling bulls were exhibited by owners this side of the Tweed, and herein Admiral Togo II., shown by Mr. C. Wills, was highly commended. For in-milk entries, Mr. J. J. Cridlan, of Maisemoor Park, Gloucestershire, was third, with his three-year-old Mabel 8th. Mr. Charles Hunter, of Darlington, was awarded female championship honours for Ruritania, which won the 1903 heifer class. The Rev. C. Bolden, who was second in the class to the champion, was also reserve for the latter honour.

Guernseys.

The only class of this breed not well filled was that for bulls calved in 1901 and 1902. There were only two entries, and the single prize awarded was to Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Golden Jewel, a very fine animal with a good head, nice skin, and the character usually appreciated. Mr. Plumptre's His Grace 2nd only received reserve, but seemed well worthy of the second premium. There were nine in the class for bulls calved in 1903, in which Mr. Plumptre's Roland of Sea View 10th was placed first after an apparently severe contest with Mr. Hambro's Charleston, both having nice character in skin and colourings. Colonel H. W. Shakerley's third winner, an Island-bred one, was also of the right type and character, and he had a second bull which was h.c., of good form and merit, the reserve bull. Fair Lad, belonging to Mr. Hogg, being likewise a good one. There were seven yearling bulls, and as the class was commended entire the judge must have deemed them a good lot. The prizes went to Mr. J. P. Morgan's Coronation King 3rd, Mr. F. Hargreaves' Merton Signet, and to Colonel Shakerley's Burgate Holden 3rd.

The cow class was a large one, and contained several good milkers. Mr. Hambro brought to the ring three very good ones, his Queen of the Roses being selected for the front; while his Golden Cherry was reserve and Express h.c. Mr. Ozanne brought from the Island Lady Roberts to take second prize, which had a spacious udder, as well as nice character. His Noble Lady was also h.c. Mr. H. C. Stephens' Itchen Claudia, which won third prize, had a nice silky skin. Another large class was that for heifers calved in 1903, in which Mr. H. C. Stephen's was at the top with Itchen Belle 5th, a very shapely nice heifer with indications of dairy character. Mr. Hambro was second with Hayes Imperiale, a heifer of considerable promise and with rich secret colourings. Mr. Plumptre's Cleopatra of Goodnestone 2nd, the third winner, and Sir H. Lennard's Wickham Buttercup 2nd seemed both of considerable promise. Still more deserving seemed the yearling heifers, in which Mr. Ozanne's Sensitive 6th from the Island was deemed the best. Mr. Hambro's second prize, Hayes Olive 2nd, carried excellent form and seemed of rich character, and Mr. Frank Hargreaves's Fairy Footsteps in compactness of build as well as nice character, seemed very deserving. Among the others which received notice were two belonging to Mr. Plumptre, a second exhibit of Mr. Hambro, and a fine heifer shown by Colonel Shakerley.

Jerseys.

The classes of this breed were, as usual, well filled and a considerable proportion of the animals were of sterling merit. The judging in the senior bull class gave tolerably good satisfaction, Captain Gisborne's Glorious Lad making an excellent first winner, with his broad, level top and nice character; while Jolly Peter, belonging to Mr. Miller-Hallett, and Mr. Joseph Brutton's Shy Lad, were considered by outsiders to be in their proper places. At one previous shows neither had been appreciated sufficiently. Lady de Rothschild's Gallant made an excellent reserve, and two or three of the others contributed to the merit of the class. The bulls calved in 1903 were a larger muster. Mr. T. B. Miller's Cricketer was selected for the front, with Mr. Julius C. Drew's Black Pearl second, both of considerable merit; but it seemed questionable whether Captain Fraser's Reminder's Bud and Lady Smyth's Wyllard should not have exchanged places. The latter seemed of very nice character, and Lord Rothschild's Priority, which was h.c., had rich colourings. Several were c. in the yearling bull class after the prizes were awarded, they being of merit as well as in tolerably large force. Mrs. Macintosh owned two of them, and Jolly Jim, of handsome style and nice character, was selected for the front; Mona's Warder obtaining h.c. Both were bred on the Island. Second premium was obtained by Mr. R. B. Ward's Silken Fop, which also was of nice character; Captain Gisborne's Tommy, the third winner, being very shapely and nice. Mr. A. Pocock's Barrister got reserve, which was no slight honour, as about half a dozen others received notice.

The special prize of 10 gs. offered by the Royal Jersey Agricultural Society for the best Jersey bull exhibited in Classes 133 to 135, provided its dam has won a prize or certificate of merit in any butter test competition recognised by the English Jersey Cattle Society, was won by Mr. Alexander Miller-Hallett with Rover of Oaklands; reserve going to Mr. James Joicey for Netina's Dairy Lad.

The cow class was very large, and of rare merit. The first winner was Mr. Miller-Hallett's Lottie, which was bred on the Island, and is apparently a very deep milker. Lord Rothschild exhibited three, two of which, Daystar and Syren 3rd, won the other two premiums; Marseilla being h.c. The Bishop of Ipswich's Oxford Dewdrop, and Mr. Jas. Joyce's Electric Flash, both carried capacious udders, and were deservedly h.c.; Mr. Joseph Brutton's two also winning barren honours, which were Benita 2nd and Benita 4th. The third is a three-year-old heifer, which was the second Royal winner last year. Lord Rothschild was quite to the front in the two-year-old heifer class, Oxford Snowdrop being first and Venecia second. Both are very good, although the first winner is scarcely so refined as some of the Tring Park celebrities. Mrs. Macintosh's Glorissa 5th well deserved her third premium, but Mr. Joseph Carson's Leda's Snowdrop, h.c., scarcely had her deserts, opinions being rife that there was no better heifer in the class. The yearling heifers were certainly very good, about a dozen of them being honoured after the three prizes had been awarded. Mr. Jas. Joicey's Glorinda was selected for the front, which, if not a trifle too coarse, will make a fine cow. Mr. Joseph Brutton's Pretty Princess ran her a close contest. The latter was first at Exeter and second at Bath. Lord Rothschild obtained third prize with Sweet Pansy, of very nice character, several of the others being of good promise.

Longhorns.

Longhorns mustered eighteen, and a useful lot they were. Mr. W. L. Riley, Coventry, led the way in the old bull class with Wychnor Prince, a smart specimen, which beat Bentley Chieftain, a handsome brindle belonging to Mrs. M. M. Cheape, Bentley Manor, Redditch. The Hon. E. A. Fitzroy, West Haddon, was first for yearling bulls, and Mrs. Cheape was first and third for cows with two capital specimens, the second honour going to Mr. W. Hanson Sale, Atherstone. The honours for heifers were divided by Lord Gerard, Ashford, Kent, and Mrs. Cheape.

Kerries and Dexter.

The Duchess of Newcastle, Worksop, as usual, was the most successful exhibitor of Kerries. She won the championship with a four-year-old bull, and the Duchess of Devonshire, Eastbourne, was well up in the prize list for Dexters; the champion honour, however, went to a Yorkshire exhibitor.

Other Breeds

A couple of classes each of Galloways and Highland well maintained the reputation of the breed, while the display of Ayrshires was on a much larger scale.

SHEEP.

This year's entry was one of the most even in its merit we have seen for some time. Further, it may be remarked that the large entry made by the flock masters show they at any rate have done their best to promote the continuance of the Royal Show. The system of single judging worked thoroughly well, and but small complaint could be urged against the result. Of course, there were cases in which mistakes were made, but speaking from an experience of more than a quarter of a century, we are confident that these were far and away less than in the old days of two judges, or the still older days of three judges. The omission of the two shear ram class is one that is a blot upon the section as a whole, and every effort ought to be made to secure this class for every breed in the show. The two new classes this year are valuable ones, another success each has secured renders their inclusion in the schedules of future years a necessity. The two classes referred to are the class for three yearling rams in the Southdown, and the selling class for Shropshire yearling rams.

Taking the catalogue in its order we have to comment first of all upon the Oxford Downs, but before so doing we may remark that as a full list of the awards is given elsewhere it is not felt to be needful to refer in detail to all the sheep with minor honours.

Oxford Downs.

This breed made an excellent entry in all the classes, somewhat larger than the average of the past seven years. In the yearling ram class Mr. A. Brassey, M.P., was well to the fore. The winning ram from this flock was one of fine scale, grand flesh, and typical head, its flockmate that came in for second honours was very close up, but hardly so good a ram in its twist and hind quarter. Third and fourth honours went to Mr. J. T. Hobbs, for a couple of typical rams, hardly so masculine in appearance as some might prefer, but having a great wealth of flesh of the right description. Mr. H. W. Stilgoe's pair were r.n. and c., the former ram has the making of a sire in him, being very level in touton, and even in its skin; Mr. James Horlick's h.c. ram was of good merit. The ram lamb class was a strong one and very excellent in merit. Here Mr. R. W. Hobbs led the way. This pen were of the right type, very masculine in appearance, with plenty of substance and good flesh, the same breeder also won fourth prize with another evenly drawn and good pen. Mr. W. A. Treweeke's two entries were brought in excellent style, they won second honours and h.c. The leading pen were all good lambs with nice heads and plenty of bone, one was better than the rest, and this, which made the pen not quite so even as some others may have been, the cause for second place instead of first, to which they were pretty nearly going. Mr. J. T. Hobbs won third, no objection could be taken to the type or flesh of this pen of lambs but the lack of masculine character was fatal to their success. The last named breeder came in also for r. a very nice even and well fed pen. Mr. James Horlick was h.c. for two typical pens of fine character.

The shearling ewe class was an excellent one. Mr. A. Brassey won here with a particularly fine pen. These ewes were of great scale and merit, they handled well and had a great wealth of first-class flesh. Two pens which are particularly suited for the export trade won second and third honours for Mr. J. T. Hobbs, pens of superior merit, and brought out in excellent condition. These handled well. Mr. G. Hankies, a fresh exhibitor, took fourth honours with a very even pen, not so heavily fed as the leading pens but of nice type. Mr. J. Horlick's pen were h.c.; here we found real good quality. Mr. J. T. Hobbs was fully entitled to his first in the ewe lamb class, the pen he won with being of high merit, they handled well and were very even in the fleece. The second prize went to a beautiful and very typical pen of lambs sent forward from Mr. J. Horlick's flock, this pen was of high average merit. The third and fourth pens from Mr. W. A. Treweeke's flock were of superior quality, several of these lambs were much admired, and it is quite probable some judges would have placed them higher up in the award list. Mr. R. W. Hobbs had the r.n., a pen which need more time to reach perfection, but they had very fine type, and the h.c.'s Mr. A. Brassey and Mr. H. W. Stilgoe won were well deserved.

Shropshires.

All through these classes the grand flock or breed likeness was most noticeable; in no other breed does this great quality take a more prominent place. The two-shear ram class here just shows how valuable such classes are, for here we found six stud rams of notable merit, and real good types of their breed. This was particularly so in the case of Mr. R. P. Cooper's grand sheep, who now, for the third successive year, heads its class at the Royal, having won first as a lamb and then as a yearling. Mr. T. Fenn's entry, lacking somewhat the spread of the winner, had, however, very choice quality and superior merit; whilst in Mr. Berry's r.n. was found a ram whose grand top and level back rendered him a very valuable ram. The yearling rams were not quite so even as we have sometimes seen. Here the destination of the leading award was not in real doubt, for there was no ram equal, either in scale, quality, or merit, to Mr. M. Williams' grand unbeaten yearling ram; the flesh and touch of this sheep

(*Continued on page 27*).

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Home Notes.

From the Plantations.

the reports upon the condition and prospects of the growing crop continue to be satisfactory and promising. The threatened attack of blight has practically been defeated by the favourable climatic influences now prevailing the bine making rapid and healthy progress in every parish. The only possible hindrance to a full crop appears to be the tendency towards the redundance of foliage leaving an insufficient reserve of strength for the fruiting. There are some experts who confidently predict this result, and others who anticipate a return of fly in the course of the next week or so; and all will admit that there is yet a sufficient interval of time before commencement of picking for the present favourable aspect to be changed. "Sufficient," however, "for the day is the evil thereof" and we are bound to accept to-day's outlook as generally indicative of at least a good average yield.

The Borough

Trade is therefore affected by the circumstances immediately surrounding us. Consequently it is not surprising that buyers are pressing for lower prices. But I do not find that their efforts are successful, as the very limited supplies now available outside the Syndicate still induce firmness on the part of holders. Reports that hops are to be bought as low as £5 5s. are only applicable to inferior qualities, the values of sound samples remaining steady at not less than £5 15s., and ranging therefrom to £6 5s. The quotations for Syndicate hops are, of course, much higher, the Committee being confident that they will yet be able to realise the figures for the attainment of which they have combined.

Park Royal.

My visit to the Agricultural Show this week, looking for usual hop exhibits, was disappointing, as there were none on view. I could not ascertain the cause of their absence, and can only regret that our important industry was not represented. Even in the educational department there was no sign of anything referring to hops, as Wye College did not put in an appearance this year. I am extremely sorry to note that, although exhibitors in all other sections supported the show liberally, and that it was assisted by the presence of our good King and Queen, with other Royalties, the general public responded so feebly that the financial results must be disappointing; and the prospects of the Society are very far from satisfactory.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

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Foreign Notes.

America.

I have before me the *Morning Oregonian* of June 13, the *Sacramento Union* of June 14 and 16, and private letters from Oregon and Washington of about same date, and I must confess that I find it somewhat difficult to reconcile the various reports of the market position contained therein. Indignation is freely expressed in forcible language by the supporters of the growers' combines in answering the statements of "bear" buyers, who declare that the strength of the market is rapidly disappearing. The poolers, headed by Mr. Durst, a large Californian grower, and Mr. Krebs, the President of the Oregon Association, are apparently determined to stand by their agreement, and to hold out sturdily for 30 cents, but there is evidence that outsiders are unloading at 20 cents to 22 cents, although it seems that only limited quantities can be bought at such prices. An important element in estimating the possibilities of the future is found in the fact that the Oregon pool, launched with such a loud flourish of trumpets, is not legally constituted, and has for its basis only the promises of its members, which can be repudiated at the will of each individual. Mr. Durst is very strong in his faith in the honour of his colleagues, and has backed his confidence by a bet of 5,000 dollars (£1,000) with one of his opponents. The final issue of the present crisis is almost impossible to forecast. At the moment, it is clear that the market has very little real strength. The future hangs upon events that the most experienced cannot decide upon. The fight is hard and stubborn, and just now it seems as if "bears" and "bulls" are pretty equally matched. I cannot tell which will win, but my best wishes are with those who are battling for their freedom from the oppression of the schemers who have so long controlled the hop market solely for their own advantage.

The New Crop.

is variously reported upon. The desires of the reporters doubtless influence their views, but I am inclined to accept as correct the following extract from a letter of a reliable correspondent, who says, under date June 16, "The crop conditions of the U.S.A. are excellent, and every indication promises a bounteous yield. While some of our yards looked poorly earlier in the season, at the present time the weather is all that can be desired, and the backward vines are coming forward wonderfully."

Nuremberg.

The market continues to be generally as firm as when last reported. But, with a slight falling off of the volume of business, it is hardly surprising that we hear of occasional instances of small concessions being offered to induce buyers to act. These cases do not, however, affect the normal condition, which is satisfactory to holders, especially when the advancement of medium qualities into the first rank is taken into consideration. This is affected by the absolute exhaustion of all the choice parcels. Exportation is practically suspended by the maintenance by local demand of the high range of prices, which are further supported by occasional orders from Bohemian buyers.

Plantation Reports.

are generally favourable, particularly in some parts of Bavaria. In the colder regions of Wurtemberg, Bohemia, etc., the progress and condition of the plants are not quite so favourable, and vermin is heard of in certain districts. Nevertheless, the crop prospects are, as a whole, sufficiently satisfactory to encourage planters to expect a full harvest, unless unforeseen hindrances should arise.

Belgium.

Consequent upon the excellent reports received from the country, the speculative market for 1905 crop has been flattened. For October-November delivery Alosts are now quoted as low as 75 francs, and Poperinghes 67½ francs. But the demand for spot hops is active, and inquiries are being again sent to England for supplies, the local stocks being practically exhausted. Therefore holders maintain their position very firmly, and are easily able to realise the prices demanded, that range from 127½ to 147½ francs. Evidence of the trend of affairs is found in the increased imports of hops into Belgium during May last. The total was 2,100 cwt., as compared with 1,150 cwt. in May, 1904. The returns of exports for five months ending May 31 also provide similar evidence. In 1904, Belgium shipped to various countries (principally to England) 33,300 cwt., this year her shipments have not exceeded 6,000 cwt. Another significant fact is notable: shipments to England in May last were less than 150 cwt., while our shipments to Belgium amounted to about 570 cwt.

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EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Thunder storms, accompanied with quite tropical downpours of rain, have been frequent during the week in the Eastern Counties, the heaviest occurring in Lincolnshire and North-West Norfolk, and although considerable damage has been done by the lightning to houses and farm buildings, as well as valuable lives lost and stock killed, the earth was most grateful for the rain, the thirsty soil drinking it up most greedily, so that in a short time all signs of the storm have vanished from the land, except that cereals and other crops seemed to stand forth more boldly, and on examination of the wheat ears one could not but notice how the moisture had helped to develop the "fecundated ovary" to the form of a kernel or grain. For the wheat and other cereals the rain has come most opportune, and the prospects for a good harvest are most promising.

The all-absorbing topic in East Anglia to-day is the hay harvest, and although the rain has somewhat hindered the work this past week, a great deal of hay is now cut. As regards grass, it is only here and there in the Eastern Counties a meadow can be seen with tall and dense bottom growth, so that the general yield of hay will be light this season, as the moisture came too close on the flowering season of the grasses to allow of the thickening up. However, the clovers and sainfoins are particularly heavy in some districts, and scarcely anywhere is a really bad crop to be seen. In speaking of the hay-making season, the writer heard, while travelling through Essex and Suffolk this week, many complaints by farmers, who were debarred from visiting the Royal Agricultural Society's show at Park Royal because the time unfortunately was chosen at a period of the year when they were compelled to remain on their farms to see that not a day or hour was lost in securing their hay. These farmers state that they would much appreciate a run up to London with their wives and daughters, not only to see the show, but secure a holiday "between times"; but for some years now this premier show has been held at the most inconvenient time of the farmers' year.

The Parliamentary Committee of the County Council report that they received a deputation from the Essex Education Committee with reference to the joint report by Dr. Dyer, Dr. Thrush, and Mr. Dymond as to the effect of the weather upon the quality of milk and the use of preservatives. The deputation alleged that the report was unfair to dairy farmers, and called attention to a circular recently issued by the Board of Agriculture.

British Possessions

beyond the Seas

AND THEIR

London Representatives.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, MR. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Doncaster Show.

The weather was not altogether kind to the Doncaster Agricultural Society's show at Doncaster last week, rain falling during a part of the proceedings; and though the attendance did not seem to be greatly affected, we are afraid the wet kept several likely visitors away. This was a pity, for a really splendid show was on view on the famous racecourse, which makes an ideal showyard. The entries did not, so far as numbers are concerned, come up to last year's total, being 882 as against 911, but there was no doubt but that the quality all round was the best ever seen here, and did credit to the exhibitors, and, of course, the society.

The following officiated as judges:—Shorthorn cattle and sheep: Mr. J. J. Stamper, Nunnington, York, and Mr. H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop; Channel Island cattle: Mr W. Nuttall, Uttoxeter; hunters: Mr. A. Goodman, Oakham, Rutland, and Mr. A. Knapton, Haldenby Park, Doncaster; hackneys: Mr. Jno. Atkinson, Garton, Driffield, and Mr. S. B. Carnley, Alford, Lincolnshire; agricultural horses: Mr. W. Boast, Holme House, York, and Mr. T. Freshney, South Somercoates, Louth; butter and eggs: Mrs. Demaine, Catgill House, Bolton Abbey.

Good as have been previous displays of Shire horses, this year's was generally ascribed the best. The entries were numerous, and the quality was high. In the class for stallions foaled in 1903, the judges selected Messrs. Forshaw's Albion Magnate, a massive stallion, with length and depth of build, whilst the ten brood mares were of such uniformly excellent quality that the judges felt compelled to increase the number of prizes. Here Mr. Jackson led with his well-known seven-year-old brown mare Enfield Poppy. Mr. Kearns's Knottingley Fuchsia, first-prize winner at the Shire show this year, having to be content with second prize, whilst Summer Queen, with which Mr. Jowett came third, was first at the Bath and West at Nottingham. Amongst the agricultural foals, Mr. Jackson was a good winner with his bay filly by Knottingley Regent, the second to her being Messrs. Forshaw's black colt foal by Lincoln Lion. They are both of good substance and quality, and stand very correct on the ground. The class for yearling agricultural colts was a most meritorious one, and was headed by Sir W. H. Cooke's Redlynch Forest, a colt of large proportions, with a beautiful appearance. Second to him was another promising colt belonging to Mr. Welch, which, though at present somewhat backward in condition, is sure to be heard of again, its dam being Beauty's Queen. Yearling fillies had a very easy winner in Mr. Jackson's bay, a daughter of the first-prize brood mare Enfield Poppy, and, like her mother, full of quality. She was also awarded the Shire Horse Society's medal. The two-year-old competition brought to the front Sir W. H. Cooke's Folville Model, second to her being Mr. Jackson's bay filly, a very useful, nice foal, and, though as well balanced on her feet as her rival, is not quite so massive in build. Messrs. Forshaw took first prize in the three-year-old filly class with a winner at the Shire horse show. Mr. Jackson's bay filly was second this year, whilst the hackneys were not numerous, but the quality was very high. Mr. T. Brigham's three-year-old Golden Duke and Mr. Fewson's Hedon Comedian, both sires of an extremely useful type, were the only two exhibits in the stallion class, the only hackney stallions shown, in fact. Brood mares, with foals, received a better representation, and the chief winner was found in Mr. Wrightit's Londesborough May Queen, with a foal by Polonius. A brood mare of the right sort, too, was Paddock Queen, a London winner, here placed second, though she has the honour of being reserved for the Hackney Society's silver medal, the actual trophy going to Mr. R. W. Jay's Knowle Halma, a six-year-old possessed of His Majesty's blood, and placed third in the riding class. A nice little group of yearlings had Mr. Thomas Hall's Garton Duke filly, Copmanthorpe Duchess, at their head, she thus repeating her London and local victories; and a very good second was Camblesforth Swell, a Bawtry-bred son of Camblesforth Rosador. A filly also took the lead in the two-year-old class of three exhibits namely, Mr. Stephen's Otley and Selby winner, Empress Maud, whilst the sole prize-taker in the three-yearold class was Mr. Thomas Hall's Copmanthorpe Princess. Mr. S. R. Tennant's fine-actioned bay Authority, bred on the Yorkshire Wolds, came out top of the riding class, while Morning Glory, a seven-year-old, which won at Nottingham recently, and brought all the way from London, took second rank in no mean fashion, as befits one got by Rosador and bred by Mr. J. Harrison, of Driffield. In harness, however, Authority has had to give place to Mr. R. W. Jay's Towthorpe Performer, whose performance between the shafts impressed the judges more. Mr. James Jepson's six-year-old Fashion, another nice mover, was the pick of both the "under 15 hands" driving class and the pony riding class under 14.2. The hunter section, like that of hackneys, suffered to some extent by the absence, at the Royal Show, of animals which otherwise might have been seen at Doncaster. It was disappointing to find but two exhibits placed before the judges in the tenant farmer class, as though, in the hunting countries sacred to the Badsworth, Lord Fitzwilliam's, and Lord Galway's hounds, the interest were actually so limited. True, the class contained four more entries, but they did not come into the ring for judgment. The two and three-year-olds come near to being the best of the collection, the winners in each case having plenty of character and quality. A huge proportion of the credit belongs to Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, exhibitor of a first and second prize-taker, as well as breeder of the winning two-year-old, Ready-Made, sired by Squadron Leader, and shown by Mr. Oliver Quibell. Second to Mr. Wilkinson's Johnny Morgan three-year-old gelding (to which was awarded the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal) stood Mr. Wickham-Boynton's well-known Fisherman. The filly silver medal went to Mr. Quibell's yearling chestnut filly Barbe 2nd, a daughter of Rollcall, bred by Mr. Briggs, the winning yearling in the class, like the winning foal, being another of Squadron Leader's progeny, shown by Mr. Wilkinson, and the second prize-taker one of Red Eagle's stock, bred by and belonging to Mr. W. B. Swallow, of Ulceby, Lincolnshire, who has also second place for his bay Wales foal.

The cream of the hunters, in most respects, however, were in the five-year-old class—all well-built, stylish-looking specimens of the breed, with powerful limbs suitable for getting across country in the proper style. Mr. Joseph Watson, of Woodhall, Wetherby, was the owner of the winning brood mare, and also secured the gold medal.

Some well-known cattle breeders who usually support Doncaster were exhibiting at the Royal, and consequently the section was hardly so good as usual. Such well-known breeders of shorthorns as Lord Middleton and Mr. George Harrison, for instance, were at Park Royal, and consequently they were not this year represented at Doncaster. The two bulls that were victorious in the aged class were both typical shorthorns. The first came from beyond the Borders, but the second belonged to Mr. Revitt, of Rotherham, and was bred by Earl Fitzwilliam. The best of the two-year-olds also came from Scotland, and belonged to the same owner, Mr. Gordon, while Lancashire supplied the second. The judges marked their appreciation of the merit of this class by a lavish distribution of decorations. The yearlings were led by Earl Manvers's shapely roan Mikado, followed by Merry Prince, a promising son of Merryman, and belonging to Mr. Sowerby, of Cumberland. Between the two same exhibitors and in the same order were divided the honours in the aged cow class. So uniform in quality were they that the judges could not agree on their merits. The referee who was called in gave his verdict in favour of Lord Manvers' red and white three-year-old, Lady Dorothy 39th, by the well-known sire Scotch Thistle. She is full of shorthorn character, and beautifully moulded. Mr. Sowerby's five-year-old roan Peggy Sowerby, which was second, also possesses shape and depth, but is rather patchy, a defect which judges are making a strong effort to have remedied. Lady Isabella Battie Wrightson took first honours amongst the three-year-olds with the beautiful roan St Leger, whilst the pick of the two-year-old heifers was Mr. Sowerby's Fasthorpe Gem. She is a sweet heifer, standing and walking well, and quite the best female shorthorn on the ground.

Sheep are never strong at Doncaster, although She is a sweet heifer, standing and walking well, the case a year ago, and the display was a fairly good one.

Presentation to Mr. John Thornton.

A noteworthy gathering of Shorthorn breeders from all parts of the world assembled on Tuesday evening to honour Mr. John Thornton, the well known auctioneer, and present him with a portrait in oils of himself. The Wharncliffe Rooms of the Great Central Hotel had been engaged for the occasion, and Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote presided over an eminent company, which included the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Northbrook, the Earl of Feversham, Lord Middleton, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Burnham, Lord Barrymore, Sir Walter Gilbey, Sir Ernest Clarke, Sir H. F. De Trafford, Sir Jacob Wilson, Sir John Gilmour, Mr. F. J. S. Foljambe, Hon. William McCulloch (Australia), Colonel Henry, Colonel Scoby, Captain Duncombe, Captain Harrison, the Hon. Leslie Combs (Kentucky), Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentina), Mr. Walpole Greenwell, Mr. P. L. Mills, Mr. Martin J. Sutton, and Mr. J. P. Cross.

After the loyal toasts had been honoured in a hearty fashion, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, before formally unveiling the painting, proposed the health of Mr. Thornton, and, in doing so, briefly traced the career of the guest of the evening. Sir Nigel took the opportunity of reading the following letter from Sir Dighton Probyn:—

> I have shown your letter to the King, and I am commanded by his Majesty to say he hopes you will make a point, when presenting the testimonial to Mr. Thornton on the 27th, to let him know how thoroughly satisfied his Majesty has been with the way Mr. Thornton has always conducted the many sales he has had charge of both at Sandringham and Windsor for many years past. The King was very glad indeed to hear of the testimonial having been got up, and of the large number of subscribers to it, this proving beyond any doubt the esteem in which Mr. Thornton is generally held and how highly his services are appreciated in the agricultural world.

Sir Nigel then referred to the career of their guest, and paid a tribute to Mr. Thornton's life work, which had given so much encouragement to agriculturists. The gentleman they were met to honour was known all over the world, and his conduct in business had been very much to the advantage of breeders of animals everywhere. The gift, Sir Nigel said, took the form of a fine portrait of Mr. Thornton, by Mr. A. S. Cope, A.R.A., to which there were over nine hundred subscribers. The toast was received with acclamation and musical honours.

Mr. Thornton replied with deep emotion, his voice frequently faltering as he thanked his friends for this generous gift. He traced the progress of breeding during the last thirty or forty years, as proved by the prices resulting from the sales in which he had been called upon to take an active part. He thanked his friends for their generous recognition of the labours of a patient, honest, and upright life. Far beyond title or wealth was the appreciation of one's fellow men, and he was happy to discover that he enjoyed that. (Cheers.)

The Earl of Jersey, in proposing "The Visitors," declared that he could not imagine a prouder position than that which Mr. Thornton filled at that moment, with many friends and admirers from at home and abroad gathered around him, and having just received a meed of honour from the King of England. Mr. Thornton, too, deserved recognition outside agricultural circles, for he had been the means of attracting a great many visitors to this country, and of enabling those visitors to take away with them some specimens which perhaps we were sorry to lose.

The Hon. Leslie Combs, the Hon. W. McCulloch, and Mr. E. N. Casares responded, and there were several other speeches of marked interest. Other toasts followed, but the remarkable feature of the proceedings was the enthusiasm which prevailed throughout the evening, clearly showing the high position to which Mr. Thornton has attained in agricultural circles, and the esteem he enjoys of his fellow men.

In connection with an outbreak of typhoid at the village of Great Horwood, Bucks, an analysis of samples of water has called forth the comment from the analyst that "the water is a very bad specimen of drinking water; but, by reason of the nitrates it contains, it would be of some value as liquid manure."

By a fire which occurred on Sunday morning on the farm of Mr. Thornton Foster, at Crosby-le-Moor, near Scunthorpe, four straw stacks, one hay, and part of a clover stack were destroyed. The farm is on the Trent side estate of Sir Berkeley Sheffield, Bart., and his steam fire engine at Normanby Park succeeded in saving the buildings and house.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1, Essex Street, Strand, 12 Noon, Monday, July 3rd, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general pressure distribution and movements are favouring a fairly normal July Westerly type of winds and weather over the British area, with occasional short spells of rain and cloud over local areas. The general sequence is:—At first, fair or fine, and mild with Westerly to South-Westerly breezes; some local showers. Later, fair and warm in the centre, South and East; fair and mild to cloudy, and some showers chiefly in the North and West. Finally, some passing showers over most parts to fairer. The wind will be mostly W. to S., S.W., and N.W., and moderate.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first mostly fair; later fair to cloudy and some showers chiefly in the West and North; finally, some local showers, more generally distributed to fairer; temperature mild to locally warm.

,, 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire (N. & E. Ridings).—**Similiar to No. 1, omitting the showers in the West and North.**

,, 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**Fair to cloudy with some local showers; then fair and warm; finally fair to cloudy; some local thunder or passing showers to fairer; wind, W. to variable and S. to S.W. and W.**

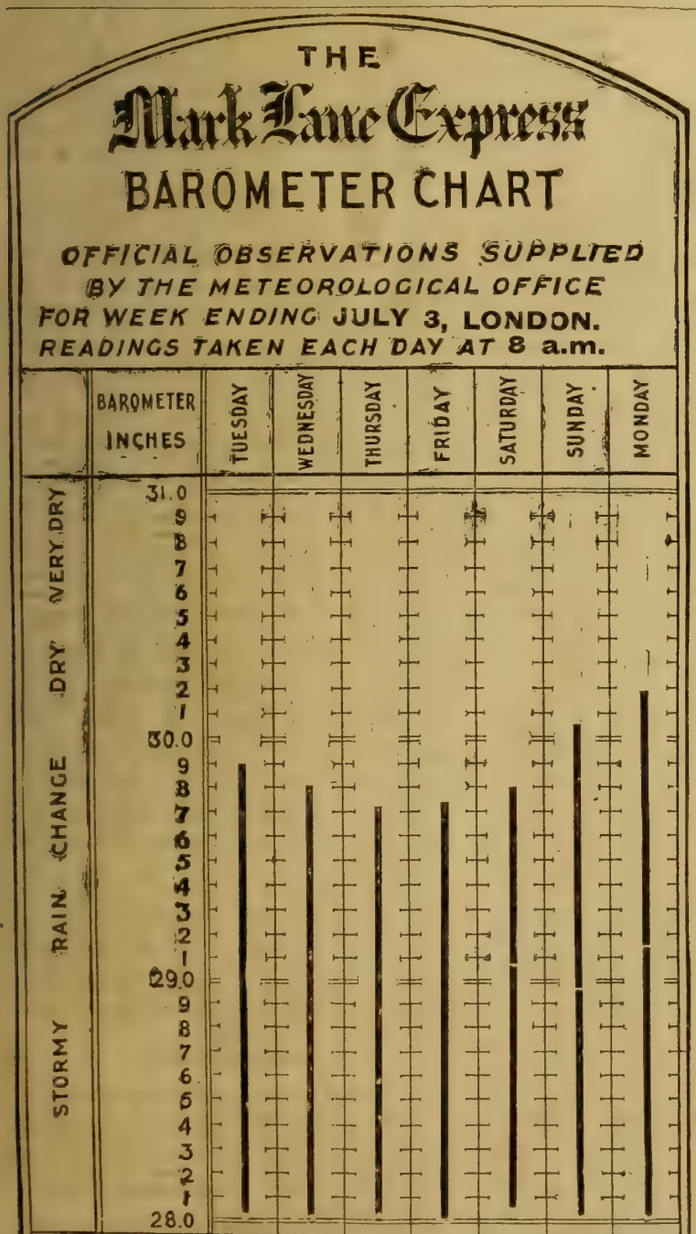
,, 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West Riding).—**Similar to No. 3.**

No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—**Similar to No. 3.**

,, 6.—Ireland.—Fair to cloudy and some showers; later freshening winds and showery to fairer; finally, fair to cloudy; wind, W. to S. then S.W. to N.W.; temperature mostly mild.

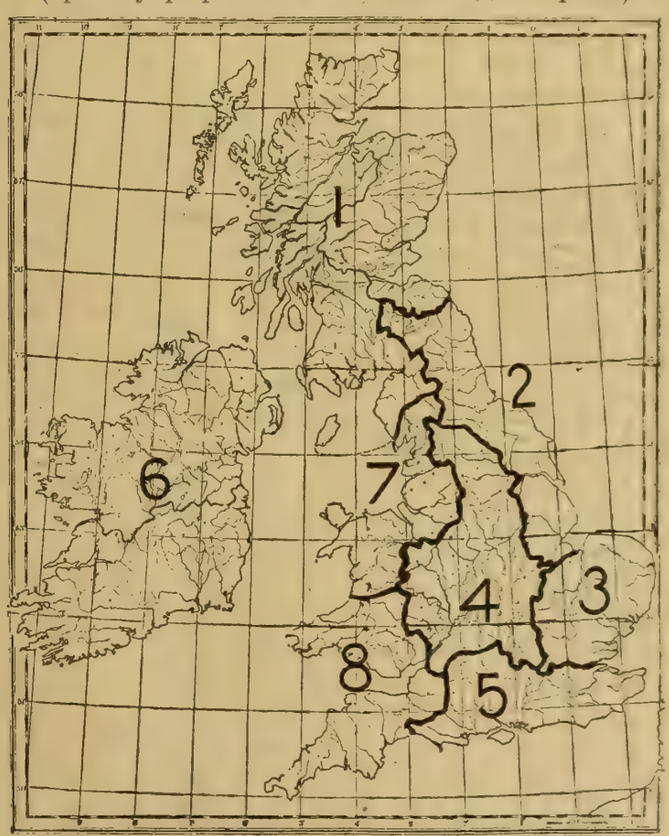
,, 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**Fairer and mild; later fair to cloudy and warm; finally some passing showers to fairer; wind, W. and N.W. to S. S. W. and W.; moderate to fresh.**

,, 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**Fair to cloudy and mild with some local showers; later, fair to cloudy and warm; finally some showers to fairer; winds as in No. 3.**



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)



Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (June 27)	...	29·90
Wednesday (,, 28)	...	29·81
Thursday (,, 29)	...	29·72
Friday (,, 30)	...	29·73
Saturday (July 1)	...	29·80
Sunday (,, 2)	...	30·06
Monday (,, 3)	...	30·20

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	3.50 a.m.
,, Sets	...	8.18 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	4.47 a.m.
,, Sets	...	8.36 p.m.

Age of Moon—Two days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 3rd.

GENERAL INFERENCE. The high pressure system in the South-West appears to be moving slowly on an easterly course. During the ensuing 24 hours the conditions over our Islands generally will be mainly under its influence, but the slight irregularities of pressure over England and the backing wind in the West of Ireland point to locally unsettled weather.

SCOTLAND, N. and E. and ENGLAND, N.E.—Light to moderate breezes, mainly Westerly; generally fair or fine; mild.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and LONDON AND CHANNEL.—Light to moderate South-Westerly and North-Westerly breezes; generally fair or fine, but local thunder showers; mild.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland N.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales) and ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Same as Midland Counties.

IRELAND, N. and S.—Light to moderate Westerly to Southerly breezes; fair, cloudy weather, occasional showers; mild.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—English wheat firm but quiet through scarcity. Foreign held at Monday's rates, but demand small. South Russian quoted at 31s 6d to 36s; Persian, 30s to 31s 6d; Plata, 32s 6d to 34s; No. 2 hard winter, ex ship, at 34s 9d; red Kurrachee, at 30s 6d; new No. 2 Club Calcutta, ex ship, to arrive, at 32s 3d. Flour steady, quiet, at late rates. Hungarians quoted at 31; Iron Dukes, ex ship, to arrive, at 20s 9d, landed at 21s 3d. Maize firm. Fair demand, at 3d to 6d advance over Monday. Mixed American, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 24s to 24s 6d; and River Plate, at 23s 6d to 24s, and landed at 25s. Barley dull and in limited demand, at prices rather favouring buyers; Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 19s 6d, and landed at 19s 9d. Oats: Sellers ask Monday's rates, but demand not large enough to test values. Common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheat supplies exhausted. Foreign, through the Russian scare, sellers hold for 3d to 6d more money, but buyers do not follow except in limited quantities. South Russian quoted at 32s, 36s 6d; No. 2 Club Calcutta at 32s 6d to 32s 9d. Flour firmly held, but quiet. Hungarian quoted at 31s; Pittsburg best at 30s 9d to 31s; Australians at 23s 6d to 24s. Maize firm, with a moderate business passing at fully late rates. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 23s 9d, and La Plata, ex ship at 23s 9d to 24s. Barley firmer, but not much business passing. Odessa ex ship to arrive quoted at 19s 6d to 19s 9d. Oats: Sellers ask more money, which checks the demand. Common sorts quoted at 14s 9d to 15s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade very quiet, and attendance small. Wheat, 33s to 35s; English feeding barley, 27s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 21s; mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; new flat maize, 26s; round maize, 26s to 28s; black oats, 20s to 23s; white oats, 21s to 24s per qr. Flour: Whites, 31s; seconds, 28s; scaling, 26s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 32s to 33s per quarter; barley, 25s to 28s; beans (new), 30s to 31s; (old), 32s to 34s; oats, 19s to 23s; peas, 27s to 30s; flour, 26s to 30s per sack.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance, with little grain of any description on offer. Prices unchanged. Barley, 25s to 26s 6d; oats, 21s to 23s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A very small attendance at market, and only a small and quiet trade, sellers being very firm in prices. Scarcely any English wheat offering, and value of same may be quoted at about 13s per bag (106). Foreign wheat quotations: Plate wheat, 32s to 33s per quarter (496lb.); Russian, 32s 6d to 35s per quarter; Indian, 31s 6d to 32s 9d per quarter, all at Sharpness. Plate maize is 3d dearer at 24s per 480lb. at Bristol; flat maize, 24s per quarter, also at Bristol. Grinding barley is unchanged at 19s 9d per 400lb. at Sharpness. Oats very firm at 21s 6d per 312lb. Beans, 13s 3d per bag (196lb.), delivered Birmingham.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. Wheat trade over for the season; only one or two samples offering. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; English oats, 19s to 22s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 33s to 34s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was rather a smaller attendance on our market to-day; no English wheat offering. Foreign firm and unchanged. Maize 3d dearer. Barley and oats unchanged. Flour quiet but firm.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—An indifferent attendance, farmers being anxious to make the most of the brilliant weather for securing the hay crop. Wheat offering only in moderate supply, maintained late prices of 33s to 34s per qr. Cakes quiet trade, at full prices, with little inquiry. Millers' offals in good demand. Maize firm. Flour unaltered.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a thin attendance, and a few samples of wheat on offer, for which farmers ask extreme prices. Red wheat, 32s to 34s, and white up to 34s per 504lb. Spring corn scarce, and quite as dear.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade slow, but prices well maintained. Wheat, 34s to 36s; oats, 20s to 22s; grey peas, 32s to 33s; tick beans, 32s 6d to 34s; mazagans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Chelmsford, Friday.—Only a few samples on offer, which sold at from 33s to 34s 6d into mills.

Chester, Saturday.—Poor attendance, and trade quiet. No change in price to note for English grain. Egyptian beans 6d per qr. dearer on the week. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; Egyptian beans, 32s 6d to 33s per 480lb.; oats, new, 2s 9d to 2s 11d; ditto old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indian corn, new, 13s to 13s 3d; ditto old, 13s 3d to 13s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—White wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; English oats, 18s to 23s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 27s to 28s. A very thin attendance, practically no samples on offer, and less trade than usual even for this time of the year.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was hardly anything offering in the way of wheat here to-day, and values were nominally unchanged. Beans and oats steady.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON.

Coventry, Friday. The attendance at market was but a moderate one. Prices ruled as last week. English oats scarcely obtainable. Prices: Wheat, 12s to 13s 6d per 186lb.; barley, 29s to 33s 6d per 448lb; oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday. Wheat was in scanty supply, and there was only a quiet trade at last week's prices. No change in spring corn. Quotations: New white wheat, 34s to 35s; red, 33s to 35s; malting barley, 25s to 28s; beans, 32s to 33s; oats, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday. The market to-day was practically nil. Only two samples were on offer, and neither here nor at Salisbury on Tuesday was a single fresh sack brought in, a circumstance without parallel within the memory of the present generation. Prices for all descriptions of corn were generally about the same as last week, except oats, which were getting dearer. Black oats, 4s per quarter. The following were the quotations: New wheat, 10s 6d to 12s 6d; secondary, 13s to 16s; old barley, 24s to 25s, secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; white ditto, 19s to 20s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30.

Doncaster Saturday. Only a moderate attendance, and supplies small, but a firm market. English wheat scarce and difficult to buy, last week's prices being fully maintained. Foreign wheat made an advance of 6d to 1s per qr., and the demand was chiefly for Indian. Beans and maize were also dearer. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Not very large attendance today, and, for a second week in succession, there was nothing in the way of home-grown wheat offering, and holders of foreign declined to do business except an advance was given, which buyers had to concede. Barley also realised more money to the extent of 3d to 6d per quarter. Maize was also a very firm trade at prices tending upwards. Feeding stuffs generally held for full values, despite the fall, there being by no means a large demand just at present.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 18s to 20s; barley, grinding, 10s to 12s; malting, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 11s to 14s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s 6d to 13s; oats, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow; English wheat scarce and unchanged; foreign firm. Russian sorts rather dearer. Barley, 3d to 6d dearer. Maize firm. Oats unchanged. Flour steady. English wheat, 4s to 4s 3d; superfine flour, 26s to 28s; fine, 23s 6d to 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat 3d dearer and flour firm, with no alteration in prices. Indian corn, beans, and oats unchanged. Canadian per sac 3d dearer on the week. Oatmeal 6d higher on the week.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market generally quiet. Wheat steady but slow. Flour dull, yet held for full rates. American mixed corn, 14s per 280lb. Maize unchanged. Oats quiet, but prices not quotably lower. All feeding stuffs quiet, and prices unaltered. Oatmeal steady.

Grantham, Saturday.—An average attendance, but the market was extremely quiet. There were a few inquiries for wheat, and best samples changed hands at 33s to 34s per qr. Practically no business was transacted in any other department.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A holiday tone pervaded at the market, in consequence of the hay harvest. There were no samples of English grain on offer, and values remained nominally unchanged. Maize was 6d per qr. dearer on the week. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 4s per 56lb.; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 46lb.; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 65½lb.; maize, 3s to 3s 3d per 60lb.; vetches, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A few samples of wheat were offering, for which the demand was quiet at last week's prices of 33s 6d to 34s per qr. Feeding corns and stuffs were a quiet trade, but prices are fully maintained. Oats at 21s to 23s, maize at 25s 6d to 26s, and grinding barley at 24s to 27s per qr. Beans, peas, and Indian corns firm. Oil cakes: Linseed steady, at £8 to £8 5s, and cotton at £5 5s per ton. Middlings firm. Bran quiet, at £4 10s per ton.

Gloucester, Saturday.—There was a stronger tone in the trade owing to Russian news. English wheat unquotable, as there is practically nothing offering. Foreign in moderate demand at 6d advance. Barley and maize strong, and 3d to 6d dearer. Oats rather firmer.—WAIT, JAMES, AND CO.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather since last Tuesday has been fine and hot, and more rain is desired in many districts. Large world's shipments keep the trade in check, few people caring to increase stocks on the eve of harvest in American and many parts of Europe; nevertheless, holders of wheat are very tenacious and the business doing to-day is at full prices. Maize, beans, and oats rather firmer.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English and foreign wheat firmly held at Tuesday's full prices, best American descriptions being the turn dearer. No change in barley, beans, peas, oats, maize, flour, or other articles.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average attendance of buyers and dealers, with restricted supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a slow sale. Red wheat, 32s to 34s; white wheat, 33s to 35s per 36 stones; grinding barley unaltered; beans, 32s per 38 stones; fine oats, 22s to 24s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A quiet market, few samples of grain of any description being on offer. Of English wheats there are insufficient to test values. No barley was shown. Oats were a trifle easier. Beans slow at unaltered rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There has been a moderate attendance at the market, but wheat meets a very fair trade, and values are generally ½d dearer. Plate sorts are becoming scarce. Flour, foreign and local milled sorts are firm, with a moderate inquiry for the former, but no change is made in values. Maize, mixed, is firm, unchanged, owing to scarcity, but there is only a small inquiry. Plate is also firm at 1d advance, with a moderate inquiry. European sorts are quiet, but the turn dearer. Barley, malting, quiet, unchanged. Feeding firm, with less offering. Beans are occasionally 3d dearer for Saidis, owing to few offers from Alexandria, but quiet. Peas are quiet, without change. Oats rule quiet, and are occasionally ½d in buyers' favour. Oatmeal is very firm owing to scarcity, with a small demand.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday. — Not much home-grown wheat displayed at the market to-day, and the cost of it from last week, no change. Barley is a fair trade, as maize is dear. Oats are very firm for English, especially black, foreign as before. Beans and peas are dull, as demand is slack. In rye, hemps, tares, sergo, and millet no variation discernible.

Manchester, Thursday. — Market steady. English and foreign wheat unchanged. Flour fairly steady. Maize rather dearer. Beans very slow, and lower. Peas unchanged. Oats remain at the same level as last week for English, but Russian are lower. Barley and other cereals unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—About an average attendance. The market was very quiet, and there was hardly a sample of corn showing, certainly not enough to test values. Quotations: White wheat, 32s to 33s; red, 33s to 34s; malting barley, 25s; white oats, 20s to 21s; black, 19s to 20s; old beans, 35s; new, 34s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At our to-day's market we had a fair demand for wheats of all descriptions at the full prices of last week. Maize again firmly held at 3d to 6d per quarter advance on last week's prices. Beans firmly held. Peas unaltered. A steady demand for oats, and late rates were maintained.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday. Fair attendance, but trade slow. Wheat remained firm at late rates, 31s to 33s; barley, 24s to 32s; oats, 19s to 21s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 24s to 28s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat is still in small supply at our market to-day at late rates. Showery weather has prevailed during the past week, with severe thunderstorm on Tuesday, which did some damage. Temperature now higher, and hay harvest progressing favourably. Wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s per quarter, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending June 26, 1905: Wheat, 203, 31s 5d to 35s 4d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday. English wheats appear cleared; holders of foreign under the influence of the political horizon ask higher prices. Grinding barley steady sale at full rates. Oats and beans in poor supply, and prices rule in sellers' favour.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The two or three samples of wheat at to-day's market made 3d to 6d more money. Spring corn all firm, though demand not active. Weather stormy and unsettled.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a small attendance on our market to-day. Wheat firm; maize 6d dearer; oats remained same, with barley 6d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Small attendance and scanty supply; trade quiet at the following prices:—Wheat, 35s to 36s; grinding barley, 24s to 27s; oats, 20s to 23s; beans, 32s to 36s; peas, 28s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday.—A thin attendance, and a short supply of grain. Very few samples of wheat on offer, for which the demand was sluggish, without any quotable change in prices, which remained at 31s to 32s per qr.; Indian corn, 27s; flat maize, 26s per 34 stones delivered Retford; grinding barley, 24s; black oats, 18s to 19s; white ditto, 20s; English beans, 32s per qr. The growing crops are reported to be in excellent condition.

Ripon, Thursday.—English wheat firm at late rates. Grinding barley advanced 6d per quarter. A good attendance and a fair trade. English wheat, 32s to 33s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 26s to 29s; oats, 18s 6d to 21s; maize, round, 26s to 27s 6d; maize, flat, 26s to 27s per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The following were the quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb.; oats, old, white, 16s to 17s per 225lb; new white, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225lb.; beans, 15s to 16s per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A very thin attendance, and hardly any business doing. Wheat, 32s 6d to 33s; oats, 22s to 24s; beans, 32s to 34s. Maize firm at late rates. Feeding stuffs unaltered.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Limited supply of grain at this day's market, and there is no change to note in the prices of wheat, barley, or oats. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Nil; foreign, 11,311 quarters.—E. AND R. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—White wheat, 33s to 34s; red ditto, 32s to 33s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; English oats, 19s to 22s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 22s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Great scarcity of all English grain, and little change in price. Feeding stuffs rather dearer.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat practically exhausted in this district. Foreign firm, with upward tendency. Oats and barley quiet, and unaltered in values. Flour steady; demand at last week's full prices.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Small attendance at market. Very little English grain offering. Red, 33s to 34s. Oats firm; 20s to 22s. No change in other articles.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance and little business was transacted. Quotations: Wheat, 13s to 14s per 206lb.; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb.; oats, 13s 6d per 198lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and very little grain on offer, farmers being busy with the hay harvest. White wheat, 32s to 33s; red wheat, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; secondary barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 18s 6d to 21s 6d; black oats, 18s 6d to 20s 6d; flat maize, 24s to 26s; round maize, 26s to 28s per qr.

Yeovil, Saturday.—Home grown wheat of best quality, 31s 6d to 33s; secondary, 28s 6d to 38s; foreign wheat, 33s to 34s 6d; best barley, 26s to 30s; secondary, 22s 6d to 25s; oats, white, 16s to 22s; black, 18s to 21s; Irish black, 17s 6d to 19s; round maize, 24s 6d flat, 23s to 24s. Flour, quiet trade, superfine making 26s 6d to 28s; finer, 23s 6d to 26s. Meal and offal unchanged rates.

York, Saturday.—A very poorly attended market, and little wheat on offer. Prices remained unchanged. Fine white, 32s to 33s; red and mixed, 31s to 32s per qr. of 36 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per qr. of 32 stones. Oats firm withotu change in price. White Tartary, 18s to 19s; black, 18s 6d to 19s 6d; white Garton, 19s to 20s per qr. of 24 stones; rye, 7½d per stone; beans, 10d to 11d.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—Prospects of the coming crop remain satisfactory in every respect, especially on heavy soil, whilst on light land more rain is needed. From the Saale and other barley districts in Germany, the reports are encouraging, and also from Austria and Hungary the outlook is most satisfactory. In the latter country cutting will commence about the middle of this month, and, with fine harvest weather, quality is expected to become very fine.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday. — With a continuance of fine weather the growing crops of grain are making satisfactory progress, and a good average harvest is in view. The hay crop, and particularly clover hay, in many places turns out rather deficient. Market quiet for wheat and rye, but firm for feeding stuff. Fine German wheat is getting very scarce; Saale and Mecklenburg is held at 33s to 33s 6d per 504lb. f.o.b. 80 Ko. River Plate on the spot costs 30s to 30s 6d; North and South Russian, July August, 28s 3d to 29s 6d; Australian near at hand 32s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye not much inquired after; 9 15-20 South Russian afloat is offering at 24s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a good demand for feeding barley, particularly for autumn delivery; and 60-61 Ko South Russian is selling at 16s 9d to 17s; parcels afloat are selling at 18s 3d to 18s 9d; 59-60 Ko Danubian, August-September, is offered at 16s 9d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize in demand, with scanty sellers. River Plate on the spot and afloat is selling at 23s to 23s 6d; mixed American, August-September, 22s 6d to 23s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—The tone of the country markets is weak, with unaltered prices. At the Bourse de Commerce wheat prices made a good show, and have gained from 5s to 10c. The price of flour continues to fall, and is now below prime cost. Rye: Nothing doing, prices nominal. Oats in good demand, tendency steady, due to the dry weather. Prices denote a slight recovery.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes were dull on June 29 and 30, but firm on Saturday. The news from Russia has, for the first time this year, sensibly hardened the market. Prices realised include 35s. per 492 lb. for fine Azima, 34s. per 492 lb. for Odessa Ghirka, 30s. 9d. per 480 lb. for Rosario, 31s. 3d.

per 480 lb. for Bahia Blanca, 31s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Australian, 31s. 6d. per 492 lb. for White Calcutta, 33s. 6d. per 480 lb. for No. 2 Northern Manitoba, and 33s. 6d. per 480 lb. for August shipment of new American red winter wheat.

Maize cargoes, after a good trade had been done in Argentine on passage at 23s. 6d. per 480 lb., come 3d. lower for that type. American are held for 22s. 6d. per 480 lb. on passage.

Barley cargoes on passage from Russia are held for 20s. per 400 lb., but Kustendje offers to ship in August at 18s., and it is doubtful if the Russian price is being paid. Oats have made 14s. 9d. per 304 lb. for a cargo of Vologda, and beans have realised 32s. 6d. per 480 lb. for a cargo on passage from Syria (Sidon).

The London Corn Trade Association c. f. and i. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta, 32s. 6d.; Soft Red Calcutta, 31s. 6d.; Bombay Soft White Delhi, 32s. 6d.; Karachi Soft White Delhi, 32s. 6d.; Soft White Karachi, 31s.; Choice White Karachi, 31s. 6d.; Soft Red Karachi, 30s. 6d.—all per 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Buenos Ayres, 1 Melbourne, 1 Port Pirie, 1 Sydney)—Total 5.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 29 wheat (2 Antwerp, 1 Belfast, 6 Birkenhead, 2 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 3 Dublin, 2 Fleetwood, 1 Galway, 1 Great Yarmouth, 1 Hamburg, 1 Leith, 3 Limerick, 2 London, 1 Lowestoft, 2 Rotterdam), 1 barley (secret), 4 linseed (1 Dunkirk, 1 Greenock, 1 London, 1 Rochester)—Total 34.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 211 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 28 linseed—Total 276.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 109 wheat, 30 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 4 maize, 2 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 14 linseed and 1 canaryseed—Total 179.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 1, 1905:—

Wheat	1,831,000	cwts.
Wheat-flour	113,700	,,
Barley	144,400	,,
Oats	582,100	,,
Maize	694,900	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,079,000	2,323,215	1,278,538	1,646,100
Wheat-flour	279,400	604,337	421,305	465,600
Barley	477,800	341,597	141,971	215,200
Oats	240,000	386,404	178,048	409,700
Maize	1,106,800	811,992	895,388	1,539,600

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 1, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	34,344⅞	27	10	486⅜	22	10	4,391½	19	5
1901	19,564½	27	8	140½	21	9	1,800⅜	19	10
1902	12,017½	30	8	104½	25	5	868	23	5
1903	32,340½	27	9	630½	20	7	8,946⅜	18	6
1904	21,475⅜	26	4	527⅞	18	8	5,699½	17	1

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	32	0
May 31 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	[illegible]	16 9

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 8	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9			
July	27 7	19 2	17 5			
August	28 8	21 3	17 1			
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	29 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0
March	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0
July			25	5	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6
August			26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6
Sept.			27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5
Oct.			27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1
Nov.			26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2	23	4	29	6½		

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7
Feb.	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4
March	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1
April	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3
May	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0
June	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6
July			29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0
August			30	0	30	0	27	5	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6
Sept.			31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0
Oct.			31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6
Nov.			32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3
Dec.			31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0
Yrly. Avrg.			30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 2	21,475⅜	26	4	527⅞	18	8	5,699½	17	1
,, 9	12,895	26	6	648⅜	19	8	5,454½	17	1
,, 16	14,160½	26	10	665½	18	9	6,320½	17	6
,, 23	15,648½	27	7	581⅜	18	10	6,711⅜	17	6
,, 30	21,778⅜	28	0	509½	19	9	8,046⅜	17	10
Aug. 6	22,575½	28	3	591½	19	9	8,891½	17	10
,, 13	16,784⅜	28	4	468½	19	9	8,117½	17	7
,, 20	19,200⅜	28	8	1,646⅜	22	5	19,032⅜	16	5
,, 27	31,432⅜	29	5	4,701½	23	2	26,042⅜	16	7
Sept. 3	32,921⅜	30	2	12,370½	25	3	31,507	16	3
,, 10	46,116⅜	30	0	22,400½	24	10	31,336	16	1
,, 17	51,889½	29	7	45,918⅜	24	9	37,554½	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	59,597⅜	25	10	42,524⅜	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,553½	25	5	44,706⅜	15	8
,, 8	54,607⅜	30	2	153,280⅜	25	6	43,575⅜	15	9
,, 15	45,462½	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,509½	15	8
,, 22	45,960½	30	4	213,190⅜	25	5	31,445⅜	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044½	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅜	25	0	35,146½	16	0
,, 12	43,740½	30	3	204,446½	24	6	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅞	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,267½	24	4	36,639⅜	16	2
,, 17	44,745½	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997⅜	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,617½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	7
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	7
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662⅜	16	8
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486½	16	9
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅜	16	0
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	0
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,627½	16	15
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957⅜	16	13
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,448⅜	25	2	24,396½	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,442⅞	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,428⅜	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703⅜	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	9
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	0
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,186½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,188⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	53,446½	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,370⅜	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	6
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017⅜	18	5
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	6	5,972⅜	19	8
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247⅜	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,992⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574½	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579½	31	4	289½	23	2	3,488½	19	7

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 1, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	9,579½	qrs.	31s. 0d.
Barley	289½	qrs.	23s. 2d.
Oats	3,488½	qrs.	19s. 7d.

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON,
June 21 to 28, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs	150	56,000	56,150
Barley	1,700	140	1,840
Malt	13,265	...	13,265
Oats	150	61,000	61,150
Beans	147	340	487
Peas	71	1,430	1,501
Maize	...	11,955	11,955
Tares	...	32	32
Linseed	...	6,201	6,201
Rapeseed	...	1,671	1,671
Buckwheat	...	1,313	1,313
Lentils	...	3,000	3,000
Dari	...	474	474
Cottonseed	...	6,400	6,400
Flour sacks	24,110	24,070	48,180
Maizemeal	...	625	625
Ricemeal	...	3,000	3,000
Ryeflour	...	200	200

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, June 27, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	735	7	1,183	9	11	1	12	2
Barley	Nil.							
Oats	23	7	27	3	9	1	0	3

EGGS.

(Price at 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11 or 12. Boston: 14 or 15. Colne: 1s 6d per score. Dorchester: 9½d to 1s per dozen. Goole: 12 & 13. Hereford: 14 to 16. Holsworthy: 14. Keighley: 12 & 13. Kirbymoorside: 13 or 14. Knaresborough: 12 or 13. Louth: 16. Market Drayton: 13 to 15. Market Weighton: 15 to 16. Newton Abbot: 9d to 10d per doz. Northallerton: 13 or 14. Stockton: 11 and 12. Truro: 10d. to 1s per doz. Uttoxeter: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per score. Worksop: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score.

Thursday. Axminster: 8d to 9d per dozen. Birmingham: 12 to 13. Brigg: 13 or 14. Driffield: 15 or 16. Devizes: 16 to 18. Evesham: 10½d to 11d per dozen. Kidderminster: 18. North Tawton: 16. Penistone: 15. Plymouth: 1s per dozen. Penzance: 9d to 10d per dozen. Ripon: 13 or 14. Scarborough: 12. Wellington (Salop): 1 5to 16. Wetherby: 12 or 13.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10. Ashburton: 9d to 10d per dozen. Barnstaple: 16 to 18. Camelford: 8½d to 9½d per dozen. Chester: 12. Congleton: 12. Crewe: 12. Derby: 13. Helmsley: 15. Knutsford: 12. Leyburn: 14. Lincoln: 14 and 15. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 11 and 12. Nantwich: 13 and 14. Northwich: 12 and 13. Redruth: 9d per dozen. Runcorn: 10 and 11. St. Austell: 14. Stockport: 11. Tavistock: 14. Totnes: 10d per dozen. Otley: 12.

Saturday.—Appleby: 24 to 27 for 2s. Berwick: 9d to 10d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 14. Carlisle: 12 and 13. Doncaster: 12 and 13. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 14. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Lancaster: 11 and 12. Malton: 13 and 14. Pontefract: 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 12. Shrewsbury: 13. Skipton: 12 and 13. Stokesley: 13 and 14. Whitby: 13 and 14. Worcester: 12. York: 12 and 13.

MILK.

London, Saturday.—Week ending June 30. The supply of milk somewhat diminished, and, there being an increased demand, good prices were obtainable—viz., 7½d to 8½d per imperial gallon.—THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

BUTTER.

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s to 1s 1d. Boston: 11d to 1s. Colne: 1s 0½d to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 9½d to 1s. Goole: 11d to 1s. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Holsworthy: 11d. Keighley: 10d to 1s. Kirbymoorside: 9d to 10d. Knaresborough: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24oz. roll. Louth: 8d. Market Drayton: 11d to 1s. Market Weighton: 8d to 9d. Newton Abbott: 1s to 1s 1d. Northallerton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 11d to 1s 0½d. Truro: 8d to 10d. Uttoxeter: 11d to 1s. Worksop: 1s to 1s 2d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s to 1s 2d. Brigg: 10d to 1s. Driffield: 9d to 10d. Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Evesham: 10½d to 1s. Kidderminster: 1s. North Tawton: 9d. Penistone: 11d. Plymouth: 11d to 1s. Penzance: 8d to 10d. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 11d to 1s. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Wetherby: 11d to 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 9d to 10d. Barnstaple: 10d to 1s 1d. Camelford: 10d to 11d. Chester 1s. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s. Derby: 1s and 1s 1d. Helmsley: 8d to 9d. Knutsford: 1s 2d. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 11d to 1s. Lostwithiel: 10d. Northwich: 1s 1d. Otley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. per 24 ounce roll. Redruth: 9d. Runcorn: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s and 1s 2d. St. Austell: 11d. Tavistock: 10d to 1s. Totnes: 9d to 10d. Macclesfield: 11d to 1s 1d. Nantwich: 1s 1d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 8½d to 10d. Berwick: 6d to 9d. Bridgnorth: 1s to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 10d to 11d. Doncaster: 11d. Grantham: 1s to 1s 1d. Howden: 9d to 10d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 11d to 1s. Malton: 9d to 10d. Pontefract: 11d. Retford: 10d. Richmond (Yorks): 10d. Shrewsbury: 11d to 1s. Skipton: 10d to 1s. Stokesley: 9d to 10d. Whitby: 9d to 10d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 1s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies abundant, and owing to excessive heat, business curtailed. For anything outstanding 1s above top quotations asked. Cheddars, 44s to 48s; Dunlops, 42s to 48s per cwt. A few new Canadians are now reaching the market.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply; about ten tons pitched. A fair attendance and a good demand. Quotations: Cerphillies, 56s to 62s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 43s to 46s; truckles, 56s to 60s; doubles, 42s; Derbys, 56s to 58s.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Agriculturists up for the Royal Show at Ealing were agreed as to the over-average promise of the wheat and winter-sown beans and oats, but were not at all agreed as to the promise of spring-sown oats. Barley, if sown early, seems to have done well, but late-sown leaves a good deal to desire. Spring beans are not likely to be an average, and it is to be feared that this is the general opinion of spring oats also. The still close air has been wonderfully favourable for the blooming of the wheat, and a hot July should now give us a really fine crop of that cereal. The week has been very stormy in France, and vast acres of corn have been lodged by the heavy thunder rains.

The latest cabled estimate of the growing crops in America is as follows:—

	Bushels.
Winter wheat	428,011,000
Spring wheat	299,421,000
Total	727,432,000

The harvesting of winter wheat is in active progress, and about half the crop is probably secured. The spring wheat, on the other hand, has still to pass through a very critical period, and estimates of its eventual yield are liable to be very much out. The reports of the growing crops of oats in America are of a highly favourable description, but we have no fresh advices concerning barley or maize.

A telegram from Argentina, dated 1st inst., states that the area sown to wheat during May and June was 30 per cent. above that of the preceding season. The growth of wheat culture in La Plata is unquestionably a great fact, and the extension of the area goes on steadily from year to year.

The final report of the Indian wheat crop was published on June 26. A large area, 28,223,000 acres, was returned as devoted to the crop, but the yield, which is 35,250,000 qr. of 480 lb., is not at all good, to the acre that is to say. The Indian Government, in returning it as above an average, are speaking of the average yield for the past ten years, and not of the average yield per acre. An average yield per acre on the large area sown would have been about 42,334,000 qr.

Indian exports of wheat for the Indian shipping year ended March 31 are thus officially returned:—

	Tons.
1904-5	2,150,025
1903-4	1,295,566
1902-3	514,607
1901-2	366,091

The shipments for the new season, which began on April 1, are not expected to exceed a million tons, but as we are in considerable ignorance of the surplus left from 1904, any predictions are liable to be falsified. The shipments since April 1 have been on a rather liberal scale.

Supplies on passage on July 1 included the following quantities of wheat:—

	Quarters.
American	75,000
Indian	856,000
Russian	295,000
Argentine	650,000
Australasian	750,000
Various	50,000
Total	2,676,000

Last week's arrivals included 200,000 qr. from Australia. Of flour, 140,000 sacks are on passage.

Expectations of barley are as follows:—

	Quarters.
Californian	35,000
Russian	165,000
Smyrna	15,000
Various	20,000
Total	235,000

Of oats 370,000 qr., a good supply, is on passage. The expectations of maize rather exceed an average:—

	Quarters.
American	350,000
Argentine	500,000
Russian	20,000
Total	870,000

Other expectations embrace 251,000 qr. of linseed, 23,500 tons of cottonseed, and 27,500 tons of rice.

London returns for British produce are curious:—

	Deliveries. Quarters.	Sales. Quarters.
Wheat	437	736
Barley	1,655	none.
Oats	166	27

The demand for English wheat is so far in excess of supply that the warehouses and railway depots are being swept of their few remaining stores. The trade in heavy English oats is just now at an ebb, as indicated in the returns, but we must decline to believe that of 1,655 qr. of English barley arrived in town no sales took place. Perhaps the firms that have omitted to send in returns will supply them next week; or is it, as some allege, that so much business is now done by telephone that the averages are not the guide they used to be? Firms admittedly do more trade in their Mark Lane offices than they were wont to do, and these transactions are not within the authority of the market inspection.

The stocks of wheat in the U.K. on July 1, are thus estimated:—

	Quarters.
In farmers' hands	729,000
In merchants' hands	2,906,000
Total	3,635,000

These are very moderate holdings for the time of year.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been below the average, and they are now at a very low summer ebb:—

This season, 1,576,000 quarters at 30s 7d per quarter.
Last season, 1,954,000 quarters at 27s 1d per quarter.

The improvement in price is gratifying. It is as much due to finer quality as to smaller offerings.

The sales of British barley have been liberal, and the price averaged, though not at all high, is fair, considering the increased competition among producers:—

This season, 1,117,000 quarters at 16s 10d per quarter.
Last season, 1,038,000 quarters at 16s 2d per quarter.

The sales of British oats have been as follows:

This season, 3,132,000 quarter at 24s 10d per quarter.
Last season, 2,71,000 quarters at 22s 1d per quarter.

The sales of oats have, of course, been much in excess of these market totals, this cereal is for the most part "placed" without market aid.

Of other British staples, beans, peas, and buckwheat command a fair price.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 396,000 quarters; a good suppld.
Flour, 88,600 sacks; a small supply.
Barley, 87,000 quarters; small arrivals.
Oats, 227,000 quarters; heavy imports.
Maize, 172,000 quarters; a moderate arrival.

Shipments last week from Russia were very heavy, including 495,000 qr. of wheat, 181,000 qr. of barley, 385,000 qr. of oats, and 11,000 qr. of maize. June shipments from Russia of rye were 280.000 qr., and of linseed were 15,000 qr. The news of the spreading of disaffection in the Russian army and navy has influenced trade to some little degree, it being seemingly inferred that grain shipments may be interrupted. The shipments from Roumania last week were 106,000 qr. of wheat and 11,000 qr. of barley.

India last week shipped 284,000 qr. of wheat, 10,000 qr. of linseed, and 30,000 qr. of rapeseed. The total of wheat exceeded anticipations. Australasia shipped 18,000 qr. of wheat and 12,000 sacks of flour. Argentina sent off 235,000 qr. of wheat, 350,000 qr. of maize, 54,000 qr. of linseed, and 15,000 sacks of flour. The American shipments, other than of breadstuffs, last week were 30,000 qr. of oats, 26,000 qr. of barley, 3,000 qr. of peas, and 15,000 qr. of linseed.

The remarkably small exports of breadstuffs from America continue to be much remarked:—

AMERICAN BREADSTUFFS SHIPMENTS.

	Qrs.
1890	13,450,000
1891	18,727,000
1892	21,951,000
1893	21,950,000
1894	17,000,000
1895	15,950,000
1896	17,516,000
1897	20,928,000
1898	25,757,000
1899	21,716,000
1900	19,000,000
1901	22,200,000
1902	19,651,000
1903	11,939,000
1904	4,047,000
1905 (half year)	800,000

(Being at the rate of 1,800,000 qrs. for the year).

It is likely that after this month, however, exports will be much augmented, for the new crop of winter wheat, at all events, is ascertained to be considerable.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies, but a bad demand. Prices: Goslings, 4s to 4s 6d; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Surrey fowls, 3s to 4s; Essex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 5d; Russian fowls, 1s 9d to 2s; quails, 1s to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 6d to 7d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 8s per dozen; venison, haunches, 9d; forequarters, 3d per lb.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The plantations have a very promising appearance at present, but the bine is growing quite freely enough. A quiet trade in the market at from 95s to 97 per cwt.

Worcester, Saturday.—A few small sales are made, including some from growers who will take current rates. The reports from the plantations say hops go on satisfactorily, and no blight to hurt is noticed.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 3.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was a firm tone at to-day's market for English, Russian, and Indian wheat, for Russian and Turkish barley, for English and Russian oats, for all sorts of maize, for Indian peas, for most sorts of beans, and for all sorts of buckwheat. Prices realised included 35s. for English white wheat (63 lb.), 36s. (64 lb.); 35s. to 36s. for Saxonka, 33s. to 34s. for Odessa Ghirka, 20s. for sound Russian feeding barley, 15s. for light Russian oats, 31s. to 32s. for Indian white peas, 27s. to 28s. for Indian dun peas, 24s. to 25s. for gram, 30s. to 31s. for French buckwheat, 29s. for Canadian buckwheat, and 17s. 6d. for Sorghum. Demand at former prices was rather improved for Australian and Argentine wheat. Almost the only articles which showed greater weakness from the close of June were oilseeds and oilseed cakes. There was scarcely any business doing, however, in English barley or oats, in Californian or Smyrna barley, or in lentils, millet, and Indian small pulse. Business on the new market was much interfered with by alterations and repainting.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	34	— 36
Red	,,	33	— 35
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	29	— 31
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	nominal	
Brewing	,,	nominal	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	nominal	
,,	(per 400 lb.)	19	— 22
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 38
Brown	,,	25	— 30
Black	,,	30	— 32
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	22	— 23
Old Black Winter	,,	20	— 21
Old Grey Winter	,,	20	— 21
Old Black Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, ,,	(per 320 lb.)	19	— 20
New Winter	(per 336 lb.)	19	— 21
,, Black Tartary	,,	19	— 20
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	18	— 19
,, ,,	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	23	— 24
RYE	(per 480 lb.)	37	— 39
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	25	— 37
Tick	,,	33	— 34
Winter	,,	32	— 33
Spring	,,	51	— 71
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	41	— 61
New Unpicked ,,	,,	44	— 45
Partridge	,,	29	— 30
Dun	,,	33	— 35
Maple	,,	72	— 82
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	56	— 64
(English ,,)	,,	48	— 52
(Winter)	,,	40	— 44
(Spring)	,,	28	— 30
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)		

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Mitoba Best White	36	— 3
,, Red	35	— 3
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
American Red Winter	34	— 34
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 34
Australian	32	— 34
Saxonka	35	— 36
Azima	34	— 35
Ghirka	33	— 34
Taganrog	32	— 33
Bombay	none	
Calcutta	32	— 34
Kurrachee	31	— 3
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	27	— 28
Bavarian (448 lb.)	none	
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Kustendje (416 lb.)	22	— 23
Smyrna (448 lb.)	29	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	26	— 22
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
French	23	— 24
Russian	22	— 23
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	28	— 29
Turkish	27	— 28
Morocco	25	— 26
Indian	25	— 26
American	24	— 25
Argentine	24	— 25

	s.	s.
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16	— 17
Revel (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Turkish (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb.)	16	— 17
,, (304 lbs)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	30	— 31
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	30	— 31
Syrian	31	— 32
New Zealand	32	— 34
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	46	— 48
Canadian	40	— 42
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	39	— 40
Red	21	— 25
Yellow	18	— 19
Sorghum	17	— 18
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	26	— 27
Indian	22	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	30	— 31
Russian	28	— 29
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	54	— 58
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FIRMLY FOR ALL STAPLES, BUT SALES WERE AT A SUMMER LEVEL ONLY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 3.

Some sellers of Town Households to-day accepted 25s. 3d., but the usual price was 25s. 6d. Country flour sold fairly well, and 26s. 6d. was paid for special samples from East Anglia. American at 30s. 6d. for best was dull and steady. Supply is very meagre. Kansas Patents were offered for August shipment at 24s. 6d. c.f.i. Australian, Argentine, and Hungarian sorts sold steadily at June's closing quotations. Pollard met with some inquiry at £4 per ton, but holders wanted £4 4s. Finest middlings touched £6 2s. 6d. per ton, there being very little foreign competition this summer. Other sales included paste flour at 21s. 6d. per sack, Cascadia at 25s. per sack, secondary grade whole meal at 190s. per ton, and Indian flour at 24s. per sack.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31	0
Town Whites	,,	28	6
,, Households	,,	25	6
No. 2	,,	22	6

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 — 31
,, Second Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	29 — 31
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32 — 33
,, 1	,,	31 — 32
,, 2	,,	30 — 31
,, 3	,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27 — 28
,, 1st Grade	,,	26 — 27
,, 2nd Grade	,,	25 — 26
,, Common	,,	20 — 21
,, "Saturno"	,,	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Whole Meal	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 27
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Bran, London Broad	,,	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Barley Meal	,,	14	— 15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	— 35
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	— 14
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	— 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/£	— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 22
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20
Ground Rice	,,	22	— 23
Feeding Rice	,,	17	— 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 1 American	7s. 2d.	July delivery.
No. 2 Red Winter	6s. 11d.	,, ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Sept. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Dec. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	July delivery.
,,	4s. 8d.	Aug. ,,
,,	4s. 7d.	Sept. ,,

These are not official prices, but will, we believe, be found practically correct. Official quotations, we hear, are likely to be resumed very shortly.

The last three days of June trade showed decided firmness.

American wheat futures to-day are firm at 6s. 11d. per cental; those of maize at 4s. 10d. per cental. Maize finds a few speculative buyers, but the price asked for wheat futures practically stops forward business.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The demand continues slow without further change to report in prices.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals. Bran unchanged; tendency easier.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour. There is a better demand, with buyers showing some interest in New Crop American Winters, which are now held at 6d. per sack advance. Grain. Indian corn more plentiful, but firm at 14s. per 280 lb. Oats are inactive and rather easier. Barley and pease are scarce and 3d. per boll dearer. Beans are in small demand at full prices. Mill Stuffs. Bran unchanged, but Thirds are rather easier.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

We have liberal arrivals of wheat. The trade is firm and prices are 6d. per quarter higher. Flour unchanged. Maize a slow sale at late prices. Barley and oats 3d. per quarter dearer.—COVENTRY AND CO.

Flour met an improved demand to-day at an advance of 3d. to 6d. over this day week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling offals. There is an improved demand for middlings both fine and coarse. Bran and pollard unchanged.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: As is usual at this period, trade is very dull, but without any indications of prices easing for either now or future requirements. Undecorticated cotton cake: Demand is slow, and values barely maintained. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: The inquiry is very good for time of year, and prices tend upwards. Linseed: Market steady.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7	12	6 to 7	15 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay				
,, Western ,,	ex quay	7	7	6	
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay				
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	5	0 to 7	12 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	10	0 to 6	17 0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	10	0	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	10	0	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	8	9 to 4	10 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton		4	17	6	
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs. ex warehouse		2	8	0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs. ex warehouse		2	4	0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	2	0 to 2	7 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs. ex warehouse					
Larniea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.					
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)					
Bombay ,, ,, ,,					
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.					

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Russian, Indian, and American wheat cargoes are held for 6d. more money and 3d. is paid. Argentine cargoes are firm but not dearer. Maize cargoes are the turn cheaper both for Argentine and American. Russian cargoes of barley and oats are irregular, some firms expect a decided advance but there is no general admission of the situation calling for higher prices for spring corn.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Hard Taganrog, 31s 9d per 492lb., on passage; Good Baltic, 35s per 492lb., July shipment; New South Wales, 31s 6d per 480lb., on passage; Victorian, 31s 9d per 480lb., on passage; Barletta, 30s 9d per 480lb., on passage; White Calcutta, 32s 3d per 492lb., on passage; White Calcutta, 31s 9d per 492lb., July shipment; White Kurrachee, 30s 9d per 492lb., July shipment; Red Kurrachee, 30s per 492lb., July shipment; White Delhi, 31s 9d per 492lb., July shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 6d per 480lb., August shipment; American, 22s 3d per 480lb., July shipment.

BARLEY.—Kustendje, 17s 9d per 400lb., September shipment; Californian, 24s per 448lb., September shipment.

OATS.—Roumanian, 13s 9d per 304lb., September shipment; White American, 15s 6d per 304lb., July shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 31s 6d per 480lb., July shipment.

PEAS.—White Calcutta, 28s 9d per 504lb., July shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 42s per 410lb., on passage.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 12s 6d per 2,240lb., arrived; Egyptian, £5 16s 3d per 2,240lb., July shipment.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—The holiday season being now on, business on the market is practically at a standstill. There is an inquiry for rape and mustard. Prices unchanged.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report: There is still a quiet consumptive trade going on, consumers buying only from hand to mouth. Crop prospects are generally favourable. The bine grows well.

HAY AND STRAW.

Bristol, Friday.—Old clover hay, 70s to 75s; old meadow hay, 65s to 72s 6d; wheaten straw, 65s to 67s 6d per ton.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 5½d; clover hay, 6d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — Fair supplies were marketed this morning, and a fair demand was experienced at last prices. Best clover, 75s to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 80s; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 75s; straw, 30s to 42s per load.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 3, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, July 4, 1904.
Beasts	1,070	1,070	1,020
Sheep and Lambs	5,000	5,000	8,520
Calves	20	20	10
Milch Cows	60	60	50

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 0d	3s 4d	4s 10d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 6d
Lambs	5s 2d	5s 10d	6s 4d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, 10; Eastern Counties, 205; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 754; Devon, 5; Ireland, 139.

We note to-day a decrease of 120 head in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day, compared with Monday last, the supply as usual at this season of the year consisting principally of grass-fed cattle from the Midland Counties. Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality was of a slow nature, rates being in favour of the buyer, in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8lbs. Irish were in full supply, and consisted of 85 Dublins (10 of which were Black Polled Cattle), 26 Waterfords, and 28 Store Cattle, for which latter there was no demand. The few Scotch on offer cleared early. Fat butchering cows and bulls met a slow, but firm trade at late currencies.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.			Monday, July 4, 1904.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 10d	...		—
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 8d	...	4s 8d ex	4s 10d
Norfolks	4s 2d to 4s 4d	...	4s 6d to	4s 8d
Runts	4s 4d to 4s 6d	...	4s 2d to	4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	...	4s 4d ex	4s 6d
Irish	4s 0d to 4s 3d	...		—
Black Polled Dublins	4s 4d to 4s 6d	...		—
Fat Cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	...	3s 6d ex	3s 8d

There was a decrease of 1,160 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for wethers was of a slow but firm nature; ewes, on the other hand, were slow of sale at a decline of 2d. per 8 lbs. in value. Scotch and Yorkshire descriptions were in average numbers, and met a slow but steady trade. Lambs met with more enquiry, and fully made last Thursday's currencies. A clearance in this part of the market is confidently expected. The supply included 500 Scotch, 700 Yorkshires, and 1,703 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.			Monday, July 4, 1904.
8 st Scotch	5s 6d to 5s 8d	...		—
17½ to 8 st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	...	5s 4d to	5s 6d
9 st Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	...	5s 2d to	5s 4d
10 st Half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	...	5s 0d to	5s 2d
10 st Yorkshires	4s 4d to 4s 6d	...	5s 0d to	5s 2d
12 st Lincolns	4s 4d to 4s 6d	...		—
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	...	4s 0d to	4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	...	3s 10d to	4s 0d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	...	6s 6d to	6s 8d
6st Half-bred Lambs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	...	6s 0d to	6s 2d

Calves met with little demand, consequently quotations are not worth recording.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Good supplies, moderate demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; English, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; American, 3s 5d to 3s 9d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 3s. Lamb: English, 5s 6d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal: 2s 8d to 4s. Pork: 3s 5d to 3s 10d per 8 lbs.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 471, sheep and lambs 1,609, pigs 423. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; lamb, 8d to 10d; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat and store cattle, slow trade; fat and store sheep and pigs, fair; milch cows, fair show and trade, prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 676. To-day's supply of beasts was a fair average one, no market being held last Monday, no comparison can be shown. The supply consisted of 228 from the United States and 448 from Canada. Trade was of a firm and steady nature, the best States being quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d; seconds, 4s; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s; seconds 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8 lbs (offal given in). Besides the above 487 more were withheld for Wednesday. On Saturday 1,866 beasts from the United States and 274 from Canada were offered for sale, and with a slow trade were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d for the former and from 3s 10d to 4s for the latter. Besides the above, 400 more States were held back for Monday.

Liverpool, Monday.—Rather smaller supply of cattle to-day met with fair demand at prices slightly lower than last week, and for largely increased number of sheep and lambs there was no appreciable difference in values. Quotations:—Beef, 4½d to 6½d; mutton, 6d to 8½d; lamb, 8d to 9d. At market—577 cattle, 10,442 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were, from Ireland 1,847 bales, and from foreign ports 11,752. There was a great depression in the bacon market last week, and although prices were not officially altered, they were considerably lower on the week for all classes of bacon:—Irish, 56s to 62s up to 71s; Danish, 48s to 56s up to 64s; Canadian, 44s to 53s up to 58s. Butter: The butter market was firm, with advanced prices for most descriptions:—French, 80s to 98s up to 104s; Danish, 109s to 111s; Russian, 88s to 96s; Irish, 90s to 104s; Canadian, 94s to 102s; Colonials, 88s to 102s; Argentine, 96s to 98s. Lard: The lard market was quiet:—Irish, 39s to 50s; Danish, 46s to 48s; American, 35s 9d to 39s 9d.

POTATOES

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Trade proved of a quiet character, arrivals being more than ample for requirements. Scottish Magnums, 75s; Dunbar Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; Dundee, ditto, 60s per ton. New Canary, 10s; Jersey, 7s 6d to 8s; St. Malo, 7s 6d to 8s; Cherbourgs, 6s 6d to 7s per cwt.; Lisbon, 4s per box.

York, Saturday.—Old potatoes are practically finished. A good supply of new home-grown sorts from South Lincolnshire, Cheshire, and Scotland, and prices ruled at about 6s per hamper of four score lb. The supply of Jerseys has ceased with the ready supply of home-grown tubers.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week there was an increase in the number of beasts offered for sale, the majority of the supply consisting of grass-fed cattle from the Midland Counties, the season for this being now fully established, consequently a falling-off in the supplies from the Eastern Counties was noticeable. Trade for all descriptions of both prime and second second quality fat beasts was of an extremely slow nature, and was a disappointing one, so far as consignors were concerned, the tendency in value being a downward one, in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. The Irish arrivals consisted of eighteen black polled Dublins, sixty-six Shorthorn Dublins, and thirty Waterfords. Trade for this class was firm, though slow, last week's currencies being well maintained. A small consignment of polled Aberdeens were also offered for sale, and cleared early to good advantage. On Thursday trade, as usual, was principally confined to fat butchering cows and rough cattle. These, on both market days, met with a slow trade, but nevertheless no decline in value was noticeable. Sixty store cattle were on the market, but met with no inquiry.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, on Wednesday and Saturday (no boats arriving in time for Monday) trade was of a dull and heavy nature, at from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. less money. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,513, as against 4,241 during the previous week, and 3,303 foreign, consisting of 2,480 from the United States and 823 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 8d.; 80 to 90 stone Black polled Dublins, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 4s. 4d.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. ex.

The sheep trade at Islington, with a considerable increase in the supply on both market days, was of a dull and heavy nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. Both Scotch and Yorkshire descriptions were in average numbers, and met a slow but steady trade at late currencies. Ewes met with a very steady demand. On the other hand, lambs met with a limited inquiry, only choice small breeds selling well; heavy descriptions were quite unsaleable. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number penned was 12,340, as against 10,620 during the previous week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d; 6 to 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 8d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 9 stone Yorkshires, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 4 to 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s

The calf trade, with a fair average supply (120), was of a slow nature, the best making from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

No pigs on offer.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer this week has been rather smaller. In the price of heavy-weighted cattle there was no advance, but for moderate weights 1s. per cwt. more on an average was realised. Sheep were shown in moderate numbers. These have met rather a quiet trade at prices just the turn lower. Heavy-weighted ewes are exceedingly bad to sell. There was a large supply of lambs, and anything of good quality sold well at full prices. A very large and good show of calves, which were cheaper. Pigs in moderate numbers, and previous prices obtained. Owing to the great scarcity of grass, and the uncertainty regarding the turnip crop, the demand for store cattle has been exceedingly limited, and, considering the numbers shown, few sales were effected, at prices favouring the buyers. A small supply of store sheep. These also met a very dragging market, and a part were left over. Milch cows a fair show, and they met a slightly better demand at rather better prices. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., 37s. 7d.; current, from 34s. 6d. to 36s. Mutton, from 7½d. to 8d. per lb. John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a fair attendance of buyers, but they were chiefly home buchers and dealers, the Englishmen being conspicuous by their absence. The reason of the absence of the latter is attributed to the heavy arrivals of foreign meat, and to the close hot weather which has prevailed lately. Any shippers that were present were very cautious in their dealings, taking only just what exactly filled their commission, as might be expected. There was a drop of from 10s. to 20s. per head in cattle, which more than accounted for any improvement in rates effected last week. Fat cows and the coarser classes of bullocks suffered most, and a number of very fair beasts did not clear in consequence of their owners refusing to accept the prices offered. The cattle, generally, were of rather a poor class, the drought and hot weather appearing to have affected their condition. Good qualities of Hereford and Aberdeen crosses made about the prices ruling at previous market, but there was an all round "slump" on all other sorts. Choice ox and heifer beef sold at from 52s. to 55s., and, in a few cases, up to 58s. per cwt; good second-class beef from 46s. to 50s.; and inferior from 44s.

In the sheep department the rates of previous market were obtained for choice Cheviots and mountain sheep; but heavy coarse sheep were neglected, and ewes especially were hard to get rid of. All round, it might be taken that there was a reduction of about 2s. per head. The lamb trade was very slack too, owing to demand being chiefly for those of medium size and weight. Prime wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7½d.; ewe, 6d. to 7d.; and inferior at from 5d. per lb. Large fat lambs were not much looked for, but made from 38s. to 40s. each. Medium weight lambs from 28s. to 30s. Prime fed veal moved off readily at 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; but coarse very hard to sell at from 5d. upwards. Dairy cattle of average quality were in fair supply, but changed hands slowly at from £10 to £14; choice cows making up to £19 and £21.

Store cattle of the right sort are selling well, but for the general run trade is not good owing to the dry weather still continuing, the late rain quickly drying up on the parched pastures. The pig market was very quiet, and the little done was at a concession of from 1s. to 2s. per cwt on previous week's rates. A small home trade was done at more satisfactory figures. Choice lightweight pigs from 50s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt.; inferior from 30s. upwards.

Trade in the West.

We have very little alteration to note in the store stock trade since our last report, business still keeping disappointingly dull, and prices very low, and this, too, despite the fact of only fair average supplies coming to hand. The best selling things at present are both two and three-year-old in-calvers, which are meeting a good demand at from £8 10s. to £10 10s. for the former, and from £11 to £15 5s. for the latter. In the absence of any active enquiry for heifers and calves, even the best meet a very slow sale; whilst for plainer descriptions, or cows, there is a great difficulty in finding buyers at almost any price. Barreners are also still very dull, which is all the more surprising seeing there is no lack of keep, only the best class of young beasts changing hands, these making from £10 to £14 each. The prospects for store sheep are generally good, owing to the prevailing scarcity throughout the country and the great decrease in the crop of lambs in recent years, the effects of which are still felt. The chief sales now in progress are those of draft ewes, which are making a good price, the best classes bringing 47s. to about 53s. apiece, which was the top figure at Blandford great Down fair on Thursday; whilst for early drafts of Down wether lambs prices range from 34s. to 38s. Trade generally keeps firm. But only very moderate numbers are yet available at any of the markets, most flockmasters, with more keep than they often have to depend upon at this time of the year, in all probability holding their stocks over to sell later on in the season.

As regards fat stock, a few grass-fed beasts of very fair quality are now being brought out; but the market undoubtedly lacks anything of special finish, there being apparently a disposition on the part of graziers to get rid of the more ordinary runs first, reserving their better-class animals for later markets. Just now the trade is by no means fast for anything in the way of beef, but good steers make up to £1 11s. 6d. per score (or £23 to £24 apiece), and heifers 10s. 6d. to 11s. for the best (or £19 to £22); but cows are a very poor trade at not more than 9s. to 10s., even if so much, the hot weather at the same time exercising an adverse influence on sales. In mutton the market is being kept fairly well supported in point of supply with wethers, which are bringing from 46s. to 55s. apiece for the best (or 7½d. to 8¼d. out of the wool); but the ewe trade is greatly neglected at prices ranging from 5½d. to 6½d. per lb., even the very primest not bringing over 6¾d. Lamb keeps fairly firm for young cross-bred sucklers just being brought out, the best qualities bringing 10d. per lb. and over, and others a trifle over 9½d. Calves are easier for big weights, 8½d. per lb. being the top price now for the very choicest animals, coarse vealers only making 7d. to 7½d. In pigs, attention is confined almost entirely to the lightest weights in baconers and small-size porkers, the former making 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d., and baconers 8s. 9d. to 9s.; anything coarse is most difficult to cash at 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—The few transactions recorded in the beast market were confined to sales of butchering cows and bulls, rates for which were governed by late currencies. Top value, fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; fat bulls, 3s to 3s 3d. Decrease of 40 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting chiefly of consignments from Midland Counties. Sheep trade ruled generally slow, with downward tendency in value. Lambs were slow of sale, but late rates were maintained. Best pens made per 8lb as follows:—7½st to 8st Down sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 9st ditto, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10st half-breds, 5s to 5s 2d; 10st Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 11st half-bred ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; 8st fat Down lambs, 6s 6d to 6s 8d; 6st half-bred ditto, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves in fully supply, the best being quoted at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 6d; calves, 3s 8d to 5s 4d; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 8d. Total supply; Beasts 20, sheep and lambs 3,090, calves 80.

London Central, Friday.—Supplies were of large extent this morning, for which a very slow demand again was experienced, values, however, being firm. Arrivals of beef included 100 tons Scotch, 550 Liverpool sides, 2,400 hindquarters, and 1,700 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,700 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; exceptionally, 4s 8d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; extreme, 4s 2d; English, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; American Deptford killed, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Liverpool sides, 3s 5d to 3s 8d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; River Plate hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 7d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s. Mutton, Scotch wethers, light, 5s to 5s 4d; extreme, 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 3s; Dutch wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb: English, 5s to 6s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s. Pork: English, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch, 3s 5d to 3s 8d per 8lbs.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold very well, and best beasts commanded 4s 10d to 5s per stone; secondary, up to 4s 8d; and cows, 4s 2d. Mutton rather cheaper; best Down wethers, 5s 4d to 5s 10d; small neat Kents, up to 5s 4d; barrens, 4s to 4s 4d. Veal fell 2d a stone, and pork was exceedingly cheap, best small roasters going at 3s 6d to 3s 8d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 43 fat beasts, 71 calves, 525 fat sheep and lambs, 201 fat and store pigs, and 55 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Shorthorn stores made up to £22 15s, heifers £20 5s, cows £20, Devon steers £21, fat calves 80s to £5 10s, small 20s to 30s, fat porkers 26s to 49s, store pigs 10s 6d to 27s 6d, dairy cows £10 to £20, best Down wethers and young ewes 50s to 55s, small ditto 44s to 48s, old Down ewes 32s to 42s, Dorset ewes 28s, young cross-bred ewes 42s, cross-bred wethers up to 49s 6d, six months old Down lambs 38s to 46s 6d, small 32s to 36s, three months' old sucking lambs, Downs, 30s to 36s Southdowns 28s to 32s, cross-breds 35s to 37s 6d, etc. The how of fat beasts included some quality shorthorns and Devons, which were mostly cleared at last week's figures. Prime quality sheep of moderate weights and shorn lambs had the best of the trade; not much demand for heavy over-fed sheep, and ewes were lower in price. Milch cows and heifers of good class found buyers at late rates. Store cattle a short entry with a quiet trade. Fat calves, with a small entry, sold well at late quotations. The pig trade, owing to the hot weather, continues a slow business. Store pigs also met a dull trade. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 7d to 7½d, secondary ditto 6½d to 7d, bulls, cows, and inferior 5d to 6d per lb. Best fat sheep 8½d to 9d, secondary ditto 7½d to 8d, old ewes, rams, and inferior 6d to 6½d, choice fat sucking lambs 9d to 10d per lb, fat calves 7d to 8½d per lb, fat porkers 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade slow. Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; a few Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lambs, 8d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 2d to 9s 3d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 3d per score; sows, 7s to 7s 3d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a falling-off of about 100 cattle. Calves, £6 10s; heifers, £9; stirks, £7 15s to £9 15s; two-year-olds, £12; three-year-olds, £13; shorthorn bulls, £12 10s.

Bristol, Thursday.—Moderate supply of beef, and trade steady at 60s per cwt. for best qualities, and 57s for secondary sorts. Fair number of sheep. Light Down wethers, 8d per lb.; best wethers, 7½d; heavy, 7d; ewes, 6d; lambs, 9d to 9½d. Short supply of pigs; baconers, 9s 6d per score; porkers, 10s 6d. About 1,000 store cattle on order, and trade very quiet, at about late rates.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	3
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9	3
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	8	9
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	3

C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Carlisle, Saturday. The number of Irish store cattle on the Sands was small; buyers were scarce, and trade ruled dull. Small heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; medium sorts, £10 10s to £12 10s; best descriptions to £14 10s each.

Canterbury, Saturday. Good yearling cattle are making up to £9; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £12; cows and calves, up to £18. Sheep rather scarce just now. A good run of shorn ewes averaged 35s, and lambs 21s to 24s per head.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were fully up to average, and the quality generally was good. Quotations: Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10; and sheep, 16s to 33s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a short supply of beef and mutton, but a fairly good supply of lamb and pork. Beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone of 8lb; mutton, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; lamb, 6s to 6s 8d; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—An exceedingly small show of cattle and poor attendance. Trade very slow and except in the case of milch beasts, which were easier, prices were unchanged. Milch beasts, £15 to £22 ;bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £16; stirks, £7 to £9; youngsters, £4 to £6 each. About an average supply of sheep and hoggs, 38s to 48s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday. To-day's market well supplied throughout, but trade was quieter. Calves scarcely so saleable, 8½d per lb. for the best; heavier animals, 7d to 8d. Wether mutton in very few cases exceeded 7½d to 7¾d, and heavy coarse sheep 6½d to 7d. Fat lambs, 9½d to 10d, and coarser breeds 9d. Small weight pigs made 9s to 10s per score; heavy, 8s to 8s 6d.

Dorchester, Saturday.—There was not what might be called a full market at Messrs. T. Ensor and Son's repository sale to-day; still, there a fair supply, and a good business was done, though prices generally ruled rather low, especially for mutton, which made a very poor price. In stores, barreners sold up to £15 17s 6d in one case, though a more general range was from £9 10s (for cows) to £12 10s, milch beasts £14 10s to £20, store bulls £11 10s to £13 10s. In fat beef the range was from £10 to £10 10s each (or 10s to 11s per score). Fat ewes out of the wool sold from 37s to 42s, and lambs (which are back a good bit) 25s 6d to 35s, anything but a good price.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,761, increase 458; sheep, 10,648, increase 1,572; calevs, 39, increase 16.—In sympathy with cross-Channel markets, and assisted by the heavy increase in numbers on offer, trade for beef was of much quieter description, and prices for all classes decidedly in favour of buyers. With a much larger market of sheep and lambs, trade ruled slow and dragging throughout at prices favouring buyers. Cattle, live weight (best), 31s to 33s per cwt.; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 30s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—The market was small and dull owing to the prolonged drought, and there was a slow selling trade. Polled bullocks realised £13 10s, horned £10 15s, stirks £8 10s to £10, half-breds hoggs 35s to 38s, Cheviot ditto to 38s, half-bred sheep 36s to 40s, cross sheep to 43s, shorthorned cows £25 10s, and Ayrshires to £18 per head.

Exeter, Friday.—About the usual supply of fat beasts, among them being a good many of first-class quality. Quiet trade throughout at late prices; best steers and maiden heifers, 11s 6d; cows, 10s to 10s 6d; some unsold. Rather more sheep than last week, but very quiet trade, only best choice wethers making 8d, large size 7¾d. A few sheep unsold. Ewes made 6d. Lambs in good demand at 10d for best quality; 9d second-class. Calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market easier for both cattle and sheep. Butchers limited their purchases owing to excessive heat. Heavy class bullocks were difficult to cash at £1 per head reduction. Top Scotch, 62s to 63s; secondary, 58s to 60s; States and Canadians, 56s to 58s per cwt.; best home sheep, 8½d; secondary, 8¼d; lambs, 9½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—A very short supply of both cows and calves and store cattle, with a total clearance.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Large supplies all round. In the beef trade there was not much of the best ox and heifer purchased, the demand being limited. Hardly anything reached 6½d per lb, the best going at 6d to 6½d; fat cows, 5d; bull beef, 4½d. The sheep trade fluctuated. The choicest wethers did not reach higher than 7½d to 8d per lb. Fat ewes 6d. The lamb trade was not very brisk, about 8d to 9d per lb. Veal was in limited demand, the price being 7d and upwards. The pig trade was fairly good, porks selling at 5d to 6d per lb, bacons 4½d, and stores being in good demand.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a heavy supply of fat cattle at market, and an average attendance of buyers. The trade may be quoted much on the lines of last week, the best qualities up to 8s, but secondary animals were rather cheaper. Fat sheep in moderate supply, the trade for which was slightly in buyers' favour. Not so many store cattle penned, and a slow sale was experienced. Milking cows were in good demand. For fat swine of all descriptions a lower trade had to be met. The monthly sale of horses was held at the Drill-hall, when 95 animals were catalogued. All the best cart horses and hackneys were in fair demand, the former to 38 guineas. Numbers at sales and market: 610 cattle, 2,528 sheep, 1,022 swine, and 125 horses.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers were moderately represented and with the copious rainfall trade ruled brisker at £20 to £21; secondary descriptions, £15 to £18; shorthorn bullocks, £13 to £16; choice Irish cattle, £20; secondary, £13 to £14 10s; Welsh runts, £10 to £14; heifers, £6 to £9; calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Poor consignment of horned stock, which met with a slow sale. Young beasts, £8 to £10; cows, £18. No sheep.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d per lb. Mutton: First class, Cheviots and Scotch, 8d; others, 7¼d; second class, 6¼d to 7d; third class, 5¼d to 6d per lb. Veal: First class, 6¼d; second class, 5¼d to 5¾d; third class, 4¼d to 4¾d per lb. Lamb: First class, 8d; second class, 7¾d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat beasts in limited supply, and barely more than equal to home demands; prices fetched from 7s 3d to 7s 9d per 14lb. Small show of store cattle met with quiet trade at £6 to £17 per head, beasts being mostly of second-class quality. Dull trade for sheep and lambs, which were in smaller supply; lambs fetched 15s to 32s per head; breeding ewes, 33s to 35s. Better demand for fat pigs, which met with an easier trade, at 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone. Small supply of stores met with good demand.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Short supply of stock all round. In-calf cows made £15 to £23, and in-calf heifers from £17; strong steers, to £21 10s; and yearling steers and heifers, £7 to £8 10s. Calves fetched anything from 30s to 60s.

Retford, Saturday.—The store stock on offer was limited, and the attendance of farmers and dealers rather worse than usual. In no kind of stock was there any quotable change in values, and trade generally was quite stationary.

Romford, Wednesday.—Large supply of fat beasts; trade slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in large supply; trade lower at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade slow. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs in short supply; trade a little better at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. A few store beasts offered; slow demand. Pig trade slow.

Thame, Tuesday. It is seldom a choicer selection of stock is seen in this market than was the case last Tuesday. There was again an excellent attendance of buyers, the riverside towns being particularly well represented, no doubt on account of the needs of Henley Regatta. Beef trade was fully up to late markets, finishing particularly good. Sheep and best lambs were again in great demand, showing considerable advance on late markets, practically every lot being disposed of. A choice bunch of store lambs sold readily. No change in bacon, pork, or veal. Messrs. Bond and Burrowe' sale comprised 97 fat beasts, 414 fat sheep, 52 fat and weaning calves, and 98 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £22 17s 6d, fat heifers £16 15s to £21, fat ewes 40s to 50s, fat lambs 30s to 42s, fat wethers 45s to 64s, fat calves £4 5s to £5, weaning cow calves 30s to 66s, bull calves 20s to 50s, bacon hogs £3 5s to £4, porkets 26s to 42s, store pigs 0s to 20s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £17 each; rearing calves, 30s to 45s; wethers, 7½d per lb.; ewes, 6d.; lamb, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 10s to 30s each.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply, and slow trade all round. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8½d perlb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair show of beef and smaller supply of mutton than usual, with trade somewhat slow. Best beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; secondary qualities, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 7½d to 8d; other sorts, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8½d to 9d; veal, 8d to 9d per lb.

FOREIGN

Yorkhill, Tuesday. Small supplies of cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held at the Foreign Cattle Wharf to-day, only 200 head being penned in the lairages. There was a small attendance ofbuyers present, and business was very quiet throughout the day, little disposition being shown by buyers to deal beyond immediate requirements, the heat wave having a dulling tedency upon all branches of the trade, and in consequence there was a slight easing of prices as compared with recent markets. The consignment consisted solely of American bullocks, among which were many animals of really choice quality, and beasts of useful sizes and weights, suitable for all trade requirements, made from 56s to 58s per cwt. dead weight; while secondary, middling, and inferior qualities were cashed down to 54s per cwt.

Yorkhill, Wednesday.—Five sales o fAmerican and Canadian cattle were held to-day, 700 head being on offer. There was a fair attendance of buyers present, but business was generally quiet, and prices, owing to dull trade caused by the heat wave, were slightly easier than of late. Bullocks of handy size and weight sold from 55s to 56s per cwt. dead weight, with a few superior animals touching 58s per cwt., while secondary, middling, and inferior qualities were cashed down to 53s per cwt. Bulls met a poor trade, and prime beasts changed hands at about 47s per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are dull, and likewise feeding stuffs, a characteristic of the summer months. Prices in some instances are easier; but, on the whole, values are firm. 1,000 bags Brazalian cottonseed meal sold ex quay at £5 7s 6d per ton. To-day's quotations are as follows:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s to £2 5s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £7 18s 9d to £8 7s 6d; ditto foreign rounds, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 1s 3d; ditto English decorticated, new (soft), prime, new (soft)i n bags, £7 5s; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 7s 6d to £4 12s 6d; ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £5 superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags; £4 12s 6d to £4 15s—per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 7s 6d per quarter (416lb); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime,in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags; superphosphate of lime, guaranted 35 to 36 sol., in bags; basid slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags; ditto, prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags; finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 60 per cent. phos., in bags—per ton, nominal.

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday.—Buyers are still offering 12½d for Kent fleeces, and have done a good business with lamb wool at 8d.

Glasgow and Leith.—The month of June has been an active one in the wool trade. The first sale of the season took place in Leith on June 6, and, with an unusually large number of buyers present, the bulk of the wools changed hands under strong competition at prices about 1d per lb on unwashed and 2d per lb on washed whitefaced wools above last season's opening prices. Only small quantity of early clipped hogg wool was forward in the blackfaced class. During the month values of finer classes hardened still further, and at Glacgow on June 28 whitefaced wools were cleared out at a further advance of fully ½d per lb. Blackfaced of which there was a capital show, consisting almost entirely of newly-clipped wool, was not quite in such request as whitefaced wools, but prices were firmly maintained.—J. AND W. GREIG.

London, Saturday.—English—per pkge. of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £11 10s to £13; half-bred hoggs, £11 10s to £12 10s; ditto wethers, £11 10s to £12 5s; Kent fleeces, £11 to £12; South Down ewes and wethers, £11 10s to £13; Leicester ditto, £11 10s to £12. Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d. N.S.W., second average, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d. S. Aus., greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. N.Z., scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d. Cape, scoured super, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece average, 9½d to 10d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d. Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic., good to super, 1s 2d to 1s 3d. New Zealand, fine, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; ditto medium, 1s to 1s 1d; ditto coarse, 9d to 10d.

Halifax, Saturday.—The excitement which has characterised the last month in the wool trade still continues. It is certain that a large part of the business done in home-grown wool has been of a speculative character, or for export, America having been a free buyer. To these circumstances is largely attributed some of the recent advance, which is well maintained. Business for home requirements, however, is very limited, and full rates are difficult to obtain.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday. Linseed. The feature of the week has been the disappearance of the discount on Calcutta spot seed, which we now quote 41s 3d against June-July at 41s. Calcutta-London, spot 41s 3d, June-July 41s, July-August 41s 3d. La Plata, May-June 40s. Hull has remained inactive, with prices a shade lower. La Plata spot 39s, passage 39s to 39s 6d, June-July 40s, Bombays, May-June 41s 6d. Rapeseed continues exceedingly quiet. Quotations are more or less nominal. Brown Cawnpore, June-July 36s 6d, brown Calcutta, June-July 36s. To the Continent, yellow Guzerat 42s. Yellow Cawnpore 41s 9d, brown Cawnpore 36s 6d, brown Calcutta 36s sellers. Cottonseed: Egypt has continued firm, but prices there are so far in excess of those ruling here that business has been much restricted. London, spot £5 17s 6d, July £5 15s 6d sellers, August £5 18s 9d, September (old), £6 1s 3d, November-January £6. Hull, spot £5 12s 6d, June £5 19s, November-January £5 18s 9d. Linseed oil weak, the demand being very limited. We quote spot in pipes £19 7s 6d, barrels £19 12s 6d, July-August £19 15s, September-December £20 5s, Hull naked spot £18 5s, July-August £18 7s 6d, September-December £19. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm London made £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Cotton cakes steady. London made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Hull, Tuesday. Cottonseed: There has been little variation in values during the week, and spot Egyptian has remained steady without activity at £5 12s 6d, June shipment being quote d £5 13s 9d to £5 15s, at which latter there are sellers to-day. July-September Fayoumi £6, and a little November-January sold at £5 18s 9d. Bombay, July-August done at £4 17s 9d to £4 18s. Linseed: The arrivals are 250 quarters Libau, 14,451 Rosaria; total, 14,701 quarters. Shipments week ending June 28 were as follows: Plate: 2,500 London, 8,000 Hull, 4,000 orders, 16,000 Continent. Calcutta: 4,000 London, 8,000 Continent. Bombay: 41,000 Continent. Total, 83,500 quarters. Linseed dull and inactive. Plate, spot 39s nearest value, June-July 40s 3d, July-August 40s 9d quoted. There is no business doing in forward positions to test values. Oilseed cakes.—Linseed: Firm at previous rates, but the demand is quiet. Cotton: Considering their very low relative price the demand is poor, but the market is very firm, rather inclining better.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade during the past week has been of the smallest possible character, the only business passing being a retail consumptive inquiry, in spite of which, however, prices are firmly held up in consequence of short shipments of foreign and limited home productions. Russian command most attention, being relatively good value, at last week's prices. American are unchanged. East India seed pures are also without alteration. London made meet very little response in response to crushers' demands, which are unchanged. Cotton cakes: Egyptian remain fairly plentiful in warehouse, although most of the mills have now shut down, and consequently arrivals will in al probability be extremely light for the next two or three months; prices rule quiet. English and Bombay se ll slowly, and are without change. Decorticated: London made move off rather more freely at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand offers at £6 17s 6d, "Ley" brand at £6 8s 9d, and meal at £6 7s 6d. Rape cakes: Scarce and dear; East India and Ravison unaltered. Maize germ meal: A limited quantity of white American on the quay may now be bought at £5 7s 6d; but English makes are again held for rather more money. Maize gluten meal is in good request at £5 10s per ton. Rice meal: Landed lots of Rangoon are still available at £4 5s, but shippers ask the prohibitive prices of £4 7s 6d to £4 10s for steamer parcels to arrive. Nitrate of soda is without alteration at £11 2s 6d per ton ex quay. Locust beans attract more attention, being comparatively low in value at £5 per ton for whole and £5 10s per ton for kibbled.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15 0
Russian, in bags	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
in mats	7 3 9	to 7 5 0
Calcutta ..... ex ship	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 6 3	to 4 8 9
" ..... Nov./April	4 10 0	
English	4 8 9	to 4 10 0
Bombay	3 17 6	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....		
" " " Meal.....	6 17 6	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17 6	to 6 8 9
" Meal "	6 7 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
East India	5 0 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 2 6	to 5 5 0
American	5 7 6	
Maize Gluten Meal..... June/Dec.	5 10 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
" .....ex warehouse	4 6 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	11 2 6	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 0 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 80, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—The market was supplied to a good extent this morning, and a generally good demand prevailed. Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s per ton. New: Jersey, 8s; St. Malo, 7s 6d to 9s; Cherbourgs, 7s; and Teneriffe, 7s to 9s per cwt.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire Warps, 7s 6d to 9s 6d; Sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire New, 5s 6d to 8s 6d; Kidneys, 5s to 6s; Lincoln, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; Scotch New, 8s to 10s; Irish new, 8s to 10s per 18 stone; Jersey, 7s 6d to 8s per cwt.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the trade for old potatoes has been limited, with prices weaker. The supplies of new have been more plentiful, with prices lower. To-day's prices are as follows:—Old Scotch Up-to-Dates and Langworthies, 55s to per ton; new Jersey Flukes and Kidneys, 8s 6d to 9s per cwt.; St. Malo Flukes and Kidneys, 8s to 8s 6d; Cherbourg Rounds and Kidneys, 7s 3d to 7s 6d.

Cattle Stock Sales at the Royal Shows.

Messrs. J. T. Thornton and Co. sold a very fine lot of Shorthorn cattle at this sale, and the demand was particularly good. Many notable prices were made, including 1,000 gs. for Mr. J. D. Willis' Doynton Brave Archer, a bull just over two years old, which, like most of the higher priced animals, was purchased for the Argentine. The forty bulls sold averaged £106 4s. 1d., and the twenty cows £91 16s. 5d., making a general average for the sixty head sold of £101 8s. 3d. The demand for the other breeds of cattle was a poor one, and very few were sold. These are included in our detailed list given below:—

BULLS.

	Gs.
Mr. T. Atkinson's Captain Moonlight, c. May 13, 1901 Mr. J. Webb	31
Lord Barrymore's Chewton Victor 5th, c. June 19, 1901 ....Mr. C. E. Woodhouse	68
Mr. D. Beynon's Prince of Cranes 38th, c. April 14, 1902 ....Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	27
Mr. J. Cresswell's Fairy Knight, c. March 31, 1902 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	52
Captain Duncombe's Dainty Star, c. April 8, 1902 Mr. Kenyon	51
Messrs. S. Spencer and Son's Silver Cup, c. March 7, 1902 ....Mr. G. Lahnsen (Argentine)	150
Mr. T. Winter's Lord of Wartle, c. Feb. 4, 1901 Mr. Kenyon	105
Mr. T. Winter's Spade Guinea, c. Dec. 1, 1902 Mr. C. James	120
Mr. T. Atkinson's Moonstone, c. Feb. 28, 1903 Mr. Kenyon	60
Messrs. F. A. and E. H. M. Denny's Swinnie Duke, c. Jan. 10, 1903 ....Mr. C. James	150
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Armada, c. Sept. 23, 1903 Mr. C. James	305
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Armistice, c. Sept. 2, 1903 Mr. Kenyon	51
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Herald, c. Oct. 20, 1903 Mr. Lyons	60
Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Pride, c. March 17, 1903 ....Mr. Lyons	50
Mr. T. F. Roskruge's Royal Red, c. April 30, 1903 Mr. Kenyon	41
Sir A. C. Stepney's Grouse, c. Aug. 12, 1903 Mr. C. David	96
Mr. J. D. Willis's Doynton Brave Archer, c. May 10, 1903 ....Mr. F. Miller (Argentine)	1000
Mr. A. F. Basset's Tehidy Irish Dick, c. March 26, 1904 ....Mr. Kenyon	53
Mr. A. F. Basset's Tehidy Irish Guard, c. May 30, 1904 ....Mr. Lyons	50
Mr. V. C. W. Cavendish's Hooker Oxford Duke 14th, c. Jan. 19, 1904 ....Mr. Tadgen (Argentine)	45
Mr. J. Colman's Gatton Victor, c. Jan. 29, 1904 Mr. A. Mitchell	73
Messrs. F. A. and E. H. M. Denny's Chiddingstone Captain, c. May 18, 1904 ....Mr. Kenyon	31
Messrs. F. A. and E. H. M. Denny's Chiddingstone King, c. April 13, 1904 ....Mr. Lyons	31
Mr. L. de Rothschild's Ascott Mainstay, c. Feb. 9, 1904 ....Mr. G. Lahnsen (Argentine)	120
Captain W. H. O. Duncombe's Warcsley Coral Leaf, c. June 1, 1904 ....Mr. Perry	14
Mr. J. A. K. Falconer's Crown Favourite, c. Feb. 3, 1904 ....Mr. Tadgen (Argentine)	70
Mr. J. C. Holford's Blithfield Beau, c. July 19, 1904 Mr. J. H. Taylor	30
Mr. W. J. Hosken's Hayle King, c. May 22, 1904 Mr. Kenyon	70
Mr. W. J. Hosken's Hayle Sportsman, c. May 29, 1904 ....Mr. Lyons	50
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Arcadian, c. June 28, 1904 Mr. Kenyon	36
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Arminius, c. Aug. 15, 1904 Mr. Gaton	40
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Artless, c. Jan. 4, 1904 Mr. Nuding (export)	410
Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Complexion, c. Jan. 31, 1904 ....Mr. Lahnsen (Argentine)	105
Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Regulation, c. April 3, 1904 ....Mr Lockett	47
Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Regulator, c. March 28, 1904 ....Mr. Lockyer	50
Mr. C. Murless's Plaspower Pride, c. April 28, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	100
Lord George Pratt's Crystal Duke, c. Feb. 7, 1904 Mr. Dickens	32
Messrs. S. Spencer and Son's Silver Star, c. Jan. 16, 1904 ....Mr. Kenyon	100
Mr. M. E. Thornton's Farewell's Sceptre, c. June 2, 1904 ....Mr. J. T. Smith	30
Mr. T. Winter's Barrington, c. March 22, 1904 Mr. Lyons	36

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Mr. T. F. Roskruge's Lobelia, c. May 13, 1900 Hon. W. M. McCulloch (Australia)	100
Earl of Northbrook's Clorinda, c. Feb. 21, 1903 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	170
Mr. F. J. Steward's Scotch Maid, c. Sept. 4, 1903 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	190
Mr. E. Walsh's Winsome Lady, c. Sept. 5, 1903 Mr. Lyons	32
Mr. A. F. Basset's Tehidy Queen of Brilliants Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	200
Lord Calthorpe's Lauretta, c. Jan. 26, 1904 Mr. Lyons	30
Messrs. A. Cameron and Son's Lady Margaret Broadhooks 2nd, c. March 26, 1904 ....Mr. C. J. Hall	60
Messrs. A. Cameron and Son's Mina Gem, c. Feb. 5, 1904 ....Mrs. Ellis	63
Mr. C. A. Hirst's Allerston Mary, c. Feb. 8, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	42
Lord Lovat's Luxury, c. Feb. 21, 1904 Mr. C. O. Hall	60
Lord Lovat's Vanity, c. Feb. 20, 1904 Mr. C. O. Hall	55
Lord Middleton's Birdsall Empress, c. Aug. 12, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	35
Earl of Northbrook's Persis 6th, c. April 4, 1904 Hon. W. McCulloch (Australia)	150
Earl of Northbrook's Phryne 3rd, c. Jan. 30, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	145
Mr. F. F. Rootham's Benacre Jewel, c. Jan. 23, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	30
Mr. T. F. Roskruge's Ada Gwynne, c. Feb. 10, 1904 Mr. Kirkconnel	105
Mrs. M. E. Thornton's Rosie Farewell, c. Jan. 20, 1904 ....Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	32
Mrs. E. Walsh's Augusta 106th, c. Feb. 25, 1904 Mr. Kirkconnel	150
Mrs. E. Walsh's Princess Johanna, c. Jan. 2, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	80
Mrs. E. Walsh's Welcome Rose, c. Jan. 1, 1904 Mr. E. N. Casares (Argentine)	40

LINCOLN RED SHORTHORNS.

The Hon. G. B. Portman's Healing Blutcher, c. Sept., 1903 ....Mr. J. Evans	20

HEREFORDS.

Sir C. H. Rouse-Boughton's Titterstone, c. March, 1903 ....Mr. Poels	30
Mr. E. W. Caddick's Edith, c. Jan. 7, 1903 Mr. O. Hard	23

RED POLLS.

Sir T. V. S. Gooch's Benacre Abbot, c. May 18, 1904 Mr. G. Hawkins	20
Sir T. V. S. Gooch's Priestess, c. April, 1903 Mr. O. Hard	21

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Sir James Duke's Ribstone, c. Feb. 15, 1904 Mr. Youghall	23

JERSEYS.

Mr. G. M. Smith's Lorna's Lad, c. Feb., 1904 Lady Wantage	£2

GUERNSEYS.

Mr. James Hull's Mount Lion, c. May 27, 1903 Mr. Fisher	13
Mr. James Hull's Lady Durant 2nd, c. July, 1900 Mr. Wright	14

LONG-HORN.

The Hon. E. A. Fitzroy's Impious, c. March 7, 1905 Mr. Pirkins	20

DEXTERS.

Mr. F. L. Bulley's Marston Tom Thumb, c. Sept., 1903 ....Mr. Symes (Australia)	56
Mr. H. M. Gibb's Barrow Bluebeard, c. May, 1903 Mr. Fletcher	13
Mr. D. M. Rattray's Gort Susan, c. 1901 Mr. Youghall	17½

The Sheep Auction.

Messrs. Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, who were appointed this year by the Royal Agricultural Society as the official auctioneers for the sheep section of the show, are to be congratulated upon the success that attended their first sale. Leaving out of consideration for the moment the special selling class of Shropshire yearling rams, there were a considerable number more sold in the other classes than has been the case in previous years. The first breed offered were the Oxford Downs, only three were sold, i.e., Mr. J. Horlick's r.n. pen of yearling ewes, these made 5 gs. each. The same breeder's second-prize pen of ewe lambs made a similar price, and his unnoticed pen of this age made 3½ gs.

The Shropshires were well competed for, and a large proportion of those offered were sold at capital prices. The two-shear ram owned by Mr. B. Wall opened the proceedings in this breed, and he was sold for 5 gs. to Mr. Poels. Then commenced the yearling ram sale, and we have put the whole of these together, namely, those exhibited either as single, or pens of five, or in the selling class, so that each breeders sheep are all given together. Mr. R. P. Cooper claims first place here on many grounds, for his was a very excellent lot of sheep The ten offered, all of which were sold, averaged exactly £50 each. His first-prize pen of five went at the following prices, 90 gs. to P. L. Mills, 82 gs. to V. Cavendish, 56 gs. to Mr. La Husen for the Argentine, 51 gs. to Mr. C. T. Pulley, and 55 gs. to Lord Barrymore. The average of these five was £70 2s. 9d. The first-prize ram in the selling class went to Mr. La Husen at 51 gs., and the other four were sold to Mr. W. Sellar, New South Wales, at 45 gs., Lord Falmouth at 18 gs., Mr. C. G. Wheeler at 16 gs., and Mr. Fitzroy at 16 gs.

Mr. E. Nock's consignment, numbering six, also made a capital average, i.e., £31 13s. 4d. Mr. V. Cavendish taking the top-price one at 60 gs.; Mr. H. L. Wardell took two for the United States at 50 gs. and 35 gs. Mr. La Husen took two at 16 gs. and 15 gs., and Mr. Poels the other one at 5 gs. Mr. A. T. Buttar sold two rams, for which he received 72 gs. The first one offered went to Lord Falmouth at 50 gs., and the others to Mr. La Husen at 22 gs., the latter buyer taking one of Mr. Victor Cavendish's at 23 gs. Mr. John Harding sold four, at an average of £21 10s. 6d., M. Cottard taking two for France at 34 gs. and 16 gs., Mr. F. Harding one to the United States at 17 gs., and the Earl of Macclesfield one at 15 gs. Mr. A. S. Berry sold six at just over £13 per head. The Earl of Macclesfield taking one at 16 gs. and one at 12 gs., and Mr. La Husen two at 16 gs.; Mr. Cooper giving 9½ gs. for another, and Mr. Poels 5 gs. for the other. Four of Mr. B. Wall's were sold; the best one making 16 gs., and the others 5 and 5½ gs. Mr. Victor Cavendish sold two at 6½ gs.; Mr. B. A. Mander one at 15 gs.; Mr. P. L. Mills two at 9 gs. and 7½ gs.; and Mr. R. Morgan one at 6 gs. Two of Mr. E. Nock's third-prize pen of ewe lambs were sold, Mr. F. Harding purchasing both for the United States at 15½ gs. and 12 gs. No Southdowns were sold.

The Hampshire Downs were in better request than we have ever seen them at this sale. Five two-shear rams were offered, and all five were sold, making the excellent average of 15 gs. Mr. Carey Coles' first prize went to Mr. La Husen at 22 gs., and the same buyer took Mr. T. F. Buxton's third-prize sheep and Mr. B. Hanbury's commended sheep at 16 gs. and 10 gs. Mr. H. C. Stephens' two rams making 20 gs. for the second-prize sheep, and 12 gs. for the commended sheep. There were four yearling rams offered; three from Mr. J. A. Keith Faulkner. Two of these were purchased by Mr. A. J. Cotton for Queensland. The highly-commended ram making the particularly high price of 37 gs., and the other one 17 gs. For the third ram of this flock Mr. La Husen gave 15 gs., and for Mr. H. L. Ovey's ram 10 gs. was realised to Mr. Poels.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

ANNUAL SALE OF RAMS.

BRANDESBURTON BARFF.

MESSRS. HORNBY & WILBERFOSS are favoured with instructions from Mr. T. C. B. Dixon to SELL BY AUCTION,

On FRIDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1905, about

80 LONG-WOOL SHEARLING RAMS (Flock Book No. 69),

when they will be glad to see their friends and breeders of sheep.

Luncheon One o'clock.

Conveyances meet Beverley and Driffield morning trains

Brandesburton Barff, near Beverley, Yorkshire. June, 1905.

CHESTERFIELD AND EAST DERBYSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

AT CHESTERFIELD, JULY 19th, 1905.

Entries close July 3rd.

T. WARDLE, Secretary, Central Pavement, Chesterfield.

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ESSEX.

BRADWELL-ON-SEA, near Southminster Station, G.E.R.

FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE.—"Orplands," Gentleman's Residence, picturesque grounds, stabling for five horses, two cottages, farm buildings, and about 240 acres of most productive land (principally grass).

FREEHOLD ESTATE.—"Goodgrooms and High Barn," adjoining above. Farmhouse and Buildings, eight cottages, small country residence, stables and garden, and about 90 acres market-garden land. Over a mile of frontage to main road, eminently adapted for building sites.

TILLINGHAM.—Freehold Dairy Farm, "Midlands." Good house, cottage, excellent premises, and about 250 acres productive land (principally grass); 1½ mile frontage to high road; suitable for a building estate.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH. Freehold Farm, "Holliwell." Good house and buildings and about 110 acres of fine old grazing and rich arable land.

ERNEST J. GALE will SELL the above by AUCTION, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, E.C., on MONDAY, JULY 17th, 1905.

Particulars of the Auctioneer, Southminster Essex.

Live Stock Record.

HOW STOCK-BREEDERS HAVE FARED AT THE ROYAL SHOW.

Few, unless closely connected with the stud stock interests, have any conception of the large volume of business transacted at the Royal Show. The demand this year has been fully an average one, and many an exhibitor has left the Show-yard considerably better off than when he went there. The larger proportion of the money expended for these purchases comes from abroad, and hence the profitableness of the transactions needs no further comment.

Were it possible to secure a full list of all transactions it would, we believe, be found that but a very small section of the Show was not included therein. However, the compilation of such a record is out of the question, and certainly not within the power of any single representative to compile, nor is the summary given below with reference to the sheep section by any means a complete one, but the transactions there recorded are amply sufficient to show the value and volume of the export demand, not taking into consideration any of that other excellent demand received from the home breeder, many of whom were good customers for stud sires.

Elsewhere is given a full report of the auction sale, and these, taken together with the transactions concluded privately show once again, without question, that so far as regards the selling of pedigree stock, the present site of the Show is probably better than any other. What is wanted to make the Show a success in its present location is not so much a larger attendance of buyers, but of the general public.

During the past half-century there has been upon more than one occasion, periods of keen demand for particular breeds of stock. In the early seventies it was the Shorthorn, a breed that at the present time looks like having a repetition of notable prices being made, and so on at different periods, other breeds of cattle and sheep, etc., have been in greater or less request. At the present time, amongst the sheep section, there is no breed in so keen demand as the Lincoln. Probably no other breed of sheep, at any rate in England, have ever experienced the same excellent demand as that now being enjoyed by the Lincoln breeders. We are unable to give anything like a full report of all the sales transacted in connection with this breed at the Show, nor can we give the full details of all the prices made, but we can say that the range of prices this year, for all the best sheep, is higher than ever before. Hitherto Mr. Henry Dudding, who has not sold any sheep or cattle at the Show, because he has declined to part with any of his leading animals until his auction sale next Thursday, has had the honour of being the only English sheep-breeder to make a thousand guineas of a ram. This he has done twice, and now he is joined by the Messrs. Wright, who sold their first-prize yearling ram for 1,000 gs. to Mr. F. Miller, the well-known export agent, who has thus purchased all three of the 1,000gs. yearling rams. Mr. F. Miller also purchased from Messrs. Wright their first-prize pen of five yearling rams, at 1,500 gs. Mr. E. N. Casares purchased Mr. Tom Casswell's champion two-shear ram, at a very high figure indeed, this ram being one of the finest specimens of the breed seen out this season. Six other yearling rams, all that Mr. Casswell had present at the Royal Show, were also purchased by Mr. Casares. This export buyer took all that Mr. T. C. B. Dixon had present—i.e., six. Messrs. Dean sold a very large selection of their exhibition sheep for export to the Argentine, together with about forty-five more yearling rams sent direct from home. Mr. C. File sold, for the Argentine, to Mr. H. Harding, his first-prize Kent or Romney Marsh yearling ram, and the same buyer took from Mr. H. Rigden a very choice ram lamb out of his first-prize pen at the Show. Mr. A. Amos reports the sale of two yearling rams, and three yearling ewes, from his Romney Marsh flock, at home, to go to Australia.

The demand experienced in the Hampshire Down classes was a large one, particularly for the Argentine. Mr. H. Harding through Messrs. Mansell and Co., secured a very grand sheep indeed for that country—i.e., Mr. James Flower's first-prize yearling ram, and from the same flock he also took six other rams of the same age. Mr. H. L. Cripps sold that particularly fine ram of his "Shifford No. 42" for export to the same country, and Mr. W. W. Chapman sold, on behalf of Mr. H. C. Stephens, to Mr. E. N Casares, the first-prize single ram lamb at the Wiltshire County Show, to go to the Argentine, at the highest price ever paid for a ram lamb of this breed for export to that country.

Mr. Cary Cole's third-prize yearling ram, a very fine sheep, goes to Chili, through Messrs. Cooper. Mr. W. W. Chapman, on behalf of Mr. E. Ellis, sold to Messrs. Mansell and Co., for export to Australia, the second-prize pen of yearling Southdown ewes, together with a fourth ewe from the same owner's h.c. pen, and that very specially fine two-shear ram, the r.n. in its class.

Messrs. Mansell also report the purchase of Mr. C. Adeane's ram that won first prize at the Nottingham Show, also for export to Australia. This well-known firm of export agents secured for export to America that particularly fine lot of Cotswold ram and ewe lambs exhibited by Mr. W. T. Garne, and with these go a selection of some thirty or forty other sheep of the same breed. From Mr. T. S. Minton Messrs. Mansell secured the first-prize pen of ewe lambs, and they also secured a selection of ramlambs from Mr. J. Harding for Canada. In addition to which several other large and important transactions were concluded by this well-known firm.

Mr. D. Maclennan secured for the Argentine a very notable lot of Oxford Down sheep. These included Mr. A. Brassey's unbeaten champion sheep this year—i.e., first, second, and third prize winners at the Oxford County Show, together with two other rams of the same age. Mr. J. T. Hobbs reports the sale of a very choice selection of ewes and ram lambs from his flock, four of the former and two of the latter, for export to Chili. Mr. W. A. Treweeke, whose fine and typical sheep were generally admired at the Show, has sold a commended pen of ram lambs for export to the United States, which are being accompanied by four ewe lambs of very superior merit, and the same breeder reports the sale, to Mr. J. P. Case, who judged this class,

Shorthorn Heifer Lady Amy 7th, winner of the Championship for female Shorthorns at the Royal Show last week.

Born January 24, 1903, sire Cornish Knight, 78641, dam Lady Amy 5th; breeder, the Earl of Powis, Powis Castle, Welshpool; Exhibitor, Mr. F. Miller, La Belen, Clifton Road, Birkenhead.

of the pick ram lamb from his second-prize pen.

Mr. D. W. Philip reports the sale of three sows and a boar of the Tamworth breed, to go to Russia, and since the above was written we have received information to the effect that Lord Verulam has sold, for export to the Argentine, his third-prize pen of ewe lambs, and some more of the same age, direct from the flock at home.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The tenth annual show of the Upholland and District Agricultural Society will take place on July 19, at Abbey Lakes Pleasure Grounds, close to Orrell Station. A liberal prize schedule has been drawn up, including classes for horses, cattle, dogs, poultry, and pigeons. The Society is a member of the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies so that the arrangements for the closing of entries will be strictly adhered to, viz.; dogs, 10 a.m., Friday, July 14; other exhibits, 10 a.m., Saturday, July 15. Prize schedules etc., can be had on application to the hon. secretary, Mr. G. H. Scrivener, Glenfield, Upholland, Wigan.

The East Berks Horse Show will be held on Hawthorn Hill Racecourse (between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks), on Thursday, August 17, when the usual attractive classes will again be provided. Entries close July 25; or with double fees August 1. Schedules, etc., may be obtained of the hon. secretary, Mr. C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London W.C.

August 22 is the date of this year's show of the Barnsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society and it will be held at Queen's Grounds, Barnsley. Entries close August 9 with Mr. F. C. Browne, secretary, Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

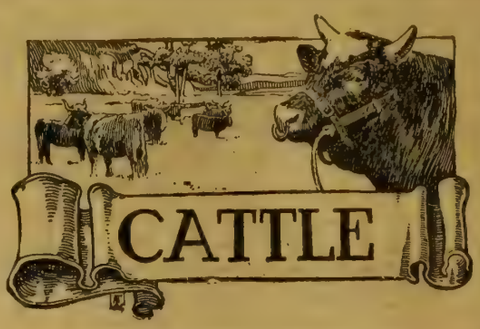
There is I hear, to be no sale of the famous Arab horses bred by Mr. Wilfrid S. Blunt, at Crabbet Park, Three Bridges, this year, Mr. Blunt having sold many of the horses to the Indian Government and private buyers. The sale has not been held at Crabbet now for two years and has always been a fashionable and interesting event.

The Whalley Agricultural Society's show will be held at Whalley, on Thursday, the 27th inst., and for it a good prize schedule has been drawn up. Entries close July 22 with Mr. J. M. Rawcliffe, secretary, Whalley, near Blackburn.

Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show and jumping and driving competition will take place in Beach House Park, Worthing, on Wednesday, August 9, and gives promise of being as successful as in other years. Entries close July 26. Prize schedules and entry forms can be had of the secretary, Mr. Walter Paine, Sumner House, Worthing.

More attention is being paid to pig breeding by our Colonial cousins. A Mr. James Lang from near Melbourne is in England after Shorthorns, Clydesdales, and pigs. Some few weeks since he journeyed to Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hants, and selected a most promising Middle White boar whose parents are well-known Royal winners, and for its mate he bought a sow whose dam has been a wonderful brood sow, no fewer than twelve of her produce having won at the various Royal shows. The pigs were shipped by Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Sons from Liverpool by the White Star Line s.s. "Tropic."

At Selby June Horse Fair, held on Monday, there was a poor display, and trade was limited. One carting mare made £25, and other specimens sold from £5 to £15 each.



Notes and Jottings.

The chief feature in the past week with all breeders of live stock was the holding of the annual show of the Royal Agricultural Society of England at Park Royal, and at least one of the chief features of that exhibition was the magnificent collection of cattle, which was not only of great interest to spectators, but was also amongst the most remunerative from a business point of view. Cattle were most in request by breeders of practically any section of the show, and a great number of foreign buyers were present from America, including Canada, the States, Buenos Ayres, etc., as well as Australia and New Zealand and the continent of Europe. All parts of the British Islands were also well represented.

As has been the case for some time past, the Shorthorn breed was most in demand, both to view and also to purchase. As the judging was proceeding the ring side was thickly attended, and on the third day of the show, when the auction was held, the sale was equally well patronised, and good prices prevailed throughout these, culminating in a thousand guineas for the first prize two-year-old bull Doynton Brave Archer, whose destination appears to be the Argentine. It was a long figure at a public auction, but the bull is a grand one, handling well, and with even and good flesh in abundance; he has size too, and carries himself well. High prices were offered privately also for many animals that were not submitted to auction.

The Lincolnshire Red branch of this family was also well represented, some capital cows of this class being shown, cows that have size and abundance of flesh, some of them also showing satisfactory signs of milk. The milking element, however, does not commend itself to spectators on such an occasion. To stand at the ring side and watch the parade of the whole of the prize winners, the beef section of this great breed are more attractive than the milkers, the latter being generally plainer in symmetry, the flesh, which hides such faults very much in the beef animals being in a measure absent, or at least not as prominent, in the milk division. Milk, however, has its value and cannot be ignored.

Herefords made an excellent display. Milk forms but a very small item with this breed, but its quality is evidently very good, or the calves which were accompanying their dams would not look as well as they did. Their growth, too, for age is very satisfactory. The young stock (yearlings) of both sexes displayed extra development, and the breed always commands admiration for the pronounced white of the face and other markings, contrasting so pleasantly with their deep red bodies. From the rent paying point of view, too, these cattle are said and generally known to be raised and maintained at considerably less expense than many others.

Devons were well shown, though not in a superior degree, we thought, to some previous years; still there were some beautiful animals of the North Devon breed of both sexes, and they were like all the other breeds, in very fine condition, quite fat enough one might say for breeding stock. South Devons are of a totally different type, apparently having been raised in the far distant past from Guernsey blood grafted upon native stock, at least the shape and colour of them as well as the milky character of some of the cows induces this thought. The bulls and cows, too, of this breed were, some of them, of great size, and apparently good beefers.

Aberdeen Angus were a grand lot. The aged bulls, massive and symmetrical to a degree, filling the eye to perfection as they paraded the large ring, and their flesh is so evenly laid on. Several of the cows, too, contrary to general belief, carried very neat and good udders under them, and were also well covered with beef of the best quality. The young stock of these, like some of the others, were very heavy and well developed for age, and all of them appeared to be very quiet to handle and lead round the parade ring. Their jet black shiny coats, too, are not by any means a small item in their beauty.

Galloways and Highlanders were not as numerous as some of the other breeds; neither were the former quite as pleasing as we have sometimes seen them. The latter breed had several fine representatives, well-grown ones, with quality and good hair quite characteristic of their race. Both bulls and cows created a good deal of comment from the ring side as to their picturesque appearance generally, and it is well known that their beef, when fattened, is the most juicy and best of all beef.

Welsh cattle were not a strong section numerically, and these seemed rather to have a tendency to look upon milk production as being beneath their notice. Their udders were not by any means of very milky appearance. Where calves were with the dams, however, they would rather lead one to think that they had not fared badly. From a beef point of view, these cattle were mostly very good in their roasting parts.

Ayrshires were a very highly-bred and choice-looking lot, the cows having beautifully shaped bags and well filled. The teats, however, were in nearly every instance very small, which makes milking a tedious and difficult work, and often has a tendency to make the milker leave his task before all the milk has been drawn from the udder. Longhorns were very good in quality, and some very big animals of this breed were shown. They too, however, as far as the females were concerned, were very short of milk appearance.

Sussex were grand massive cattle, devoted entirely to beef, their backs and ribs well covered, and many of them of great weight and also shapely in build. Red Polls were one of the best displays in the yard. These made an admirable show. The judge here, we thought, went quite enough for the all-beef type, as several of the first-prize animals were exceedingly beefy; cows with large bags and milky appearance not being apparently as favourably entertained. Some of

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
July			
4	Jersey Cattle and Ponies	Dr. Watney	Buckhold, Pangbourne, Berks.
4	Hackneys and Harness Horses	Various	Peterborough Repository.
5	Large White Pigs	Messrs. Dodd & Sons ...	Mollington, near Chester.
5, 6, and 7	Horses	Various	Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
6	Sussex Cattle	Mr. A. J. Thomas ..	Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne.
6	Shorthorn Cattle and Lincoln Sheep	Mr. H. Dudding	Riby, Great Grimsby.
7	Polo Ponies...	Mr. J. Barker	The Paddocks, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.
7	Shorthorn Cattle and Southdown Sheep ...	Mr. J. Webb	Melton Ross, Barnetby Junction, Lincolnshire.
10	Sheep	Various	Haverhill.
11	Dexter and Kerry Cattle...	Messrs. Robertson	Park Royal.
13	Red Polled Cattle .	Mr. A. G. Scorer	Flaxmoor, Caston, Norfolk.
13	Jersey Cattle	Lord Rothschild	Tring Park.
13	Sussex Cattle	Captain Somerset	Woodchurch, near Ashford.
14	Jersey Cattle	Messrs. C. W. Armitage and A. Miller-Hallett	Woodlands, Northaw, Potters Bar, Herts.
14	Suffolk Sheep	Various	Sutton, near Woodbridge.

these, however, were rather high at the setting on of the tail, a failing rather common with great milkers of any breed.

Channel Island cattle of both the Jersey and Guernsey breeds were a good representation, milk being very conspicuous in many of the cows and heifers of this breed, and richness was also pretty well apparent, as it should be in these cattle, whose chief feature is richness of quality in the milk, cream, and butter they produce.

Kerry and Dexter cattle were also a very creditable and useful display. These cattle may be considered dual-purpose breeds of a small size. The shape of the udder in the cows is one of their weakest points at present, and requires great attention from breeders. The Dexter cows were an especially good class, both in symmetry, breeding, and milk appearance; and the bulls of this breed were also very neat.

The question of temper and treatment of animals demands careful attention. One of the bulls of the Channel Island breed turned upon his attendant whilst on parade, and was with difficulty taken away from the ring to his stall. Kindness and firmness are very necessary with these animals, and a good nerve is indispensable; to have them well secured in their stalls, and when taken out to have them so secure with a good leading staff fastened to their nose ring so that they can be managed without resorting to whipping or otherwise abusing them is one of the great essentials and preventives of danger and trouble. Once you have to illtreat a bull he never forgets it, and will invariably seize his opportunity for revenge at some unexpected moment, which often results very seriously. It is not wise to breed from a bull that is naturally savage and vicious.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending June 24, 1905 :—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	93	88	1,879	3,695	
				353		3,956	
				150		3,984	
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	34	390	762	
				57		840	
				33		886	
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	...	6	643	1,055	
				8		1,154	
				4		1,080	
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. O.h'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	
				...		...	
				...		...	
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	
				...		...	
				...		2	
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	34	43	1,047	1,392	
				54		1,078	
				30		993	
	Outbreaks.	No.	29	30	595	722	
				31		655	
				24		538	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	
				...		...	
				...		120	
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	
				...		...	
				...		1	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	21	18	755	897	
				25		619	
				13		112	
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	12	520	516	
				12		115	
				12		370	
Period.				Week ended June 24 1905	Total for 25 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904	
				Corresponding week in 1904	Corresponding period in 1903		
				" 1903			

Notes.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

The first hay hirings at Kirkby Stephen were held on Monday, when labourers attended in good numbers, but, owing to the backward condition of the grass crops, only occasional bargains were arrived at. A few engagements took place at £6 to £7 for the month, plus board and lodgings, and second-rate men and youths in proportion.

A Lincolnshire estate, known as the Laughton Manor Farm, within a mile of Folkingham, and comprising 569 acres, with residence and farm buildings, has been offered for sale by auction, and withdrawn at £10,250. Twenty-seven years ago the property cost upwards of £30,000, whilst the present tenant has occupied the farm for many years, and pays a rent of £630 per annum.

The usual June hiring fair for the hay harvest at Clitheroe was held on Monday, and was very largely attended, but the continued fine and hot weather, together with the unusually light hay crop, caused hiring to be very slow, except at lower wages. English labourers secured £4 to £7 for the month, youths £2 10s. to £4 10s., Irish labourers £3 to £6, and youths £2 to £4.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

The visitor to the Royal Show last week must have been very much struck with two things. First he must have noticed how thoroughly representative the show was of our English breeds. In this column I have nothing to do with anything but horses, and to the representative character of the horse show I wish to bear tribute. At no other show is there to be seen so many British breeds got together, and this shows that in one sense of the word the Royal Agricultural Society's Show stands upon a different platform to any other show in the kingdom. There are, of course, at the Royal classes for jumping and other attractions to draw the public; but the fact that every breed that is acknowledged as a separate one finds some sort of recognition in the programme of the Royal Agricultural Society shows that its main object is encouraging British breeds, whether they be what for want of a better word I must call fashionable, or not.

This very fact goes to prove that the resources of the Royal Agricultural Society cannot be expected to depend to a very large extent upon the gate. The general public know and care nothing much about Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach Horses. It does not know the difference between them—it does not want to know the difference. As was the case with Peter Bell, to whom a primrose on the river's brim was a primrose and nothing more, so to the public a pony is a pony, and a moorland or mountain pony to them is only a sort of inferior hackney pony which would be, so far as they are concerned, as well at home. But it is the duty of everyone who takes an interest in our agriculture to do all in his power to support the national society so that it can continue its career of usefulness without having to depend upon the gate so much as it has done.

The other thing which was very much in evidence was the great number of buyers, foreign and colonial, who were present. The writer's experience of the Royal Show goes back to 1883, and never does he remember seeing anything like so many buyers at a show. From this it is pretty clear that the site, though not the most convenient in the world, is not such an awkward one after all, and if every convenience is given to would-be vendors and purchasers, as there seems every reason to believe there will be, Park Royal will become one of the greatest live stock markets in the world.

It is some years since the Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach Horses have been shown in separate sections, except at the Yorkshire Show, the Royal when it was near Yorkshire, and at district shows in the county of many acres. The policy, however, is much to be commended, for there is a difference, and a great difference, between the Cleveland Bay and the Yorkshire Coach Horse, though in appearance they are very similar, and the Cleveland Bays that are on the light side—hanging more to quality than to substance—are frequently found winning in Coach Horse classes.

The Cleveland Bay is the older and the purer breed, and in these days, when it is the fashion to insist in some quarters that a new breed can be formed by an elaborate system of crossing, it is perhaps necessary to point out that the purity of the older breed should be maintained at whatever cost. It is really a matter of serious importance, and there is not the least doubt that English horse breeding has suffered to a serious extent by the neglect of the Cleveland Bay.

I am told that it was only by pertinacity on the part of the admirers of the breed that a section was devoted to it at the recent show, but I think everyone who was present at Park Royal and saw what excellent specimens of the breed were shown, could not fail to be satisfied that the policy adopted by the Council was a correct one.

What I would particularly wish to draw attention to in the Cleveland Bays is the improvement which has taken place in quality and action during the last few years. And this improvement has not been like some so-called improvements in stock, which are really changes rather than improvement. The modern Cleveland Bay has preserved the character and substance of his ancestor, and two finer classes of horses than the Cleveland Bay stallions and brood mares it would be difficult to find. As the four brood mares stood in the centre of the ring, as like each other as peas in a pod, one great enthusiast in horse breeding said, "What a beautiful lot! It is a pity there are not forty of them instead of four."

It is a pity there are not more of them than there are. There would be if it were not for the fact that the good Cleveland Bay mare will breed something that comes to money more readily than a pure-bred animal if crossed with either the Hackney or the thoroughbred, and in consequence of this many good mares have been kept breeding cross bred animals, with the result that pure bred animals are now fewer in number than they should be. The Cleveland Bay, however, is such a good worker on the farm that there is no need to apologise for his appearance on any farm, and one or two may well be kept to advantage in many places where they are unknown. A very little effort in this direction would soon increase the stock of Cleveland Bays, a circumstance which would tend to our advantage as a horse-breeding nation.

One feature of the shows I have recently visited—and I have been at a considerable number this year—has been the excellent classes of brood mares, and the number of young, or comparatively young, mares which have been exhibited in them. It has become the fashion to depreciate our modern horse, especially the light breeds, such as hunters and Hackneys; but a careful inspection of the brood mare classes shows that there is, after all, no falling off in quality or type. Increasing numbers in the brood mare classes means an improvement in horse breeding, for one thing which does not need insisting upon is that there are many excellent brood mares which it would be the height of folly to show at all. And when the brood mare classes are better filled it is pretty plain and the quality and character, and perhaps, though not necessarily, the numbers of our brood mares are increasing.

A friend remarked the other day what a lot of handsome women were going about, if they only went to the best dressmakers and milliners and were taught deportment by the best descendants of Mr. Turveydrop that could be found. Obviously this is a truism, and it is equally a truism when it is applied to horses, as my friend did. We were speaking of the success that a certain exhibitor had at a show we both of us attended when he used the above as an illustration of his argument that we do not make the best use of our horses. We are, or we were, a nation of horsemen, though I rather fear we are now beginning to live on our reputation; yet how seldom do we a see a horse with manners, or that is properly balanced and taught to do his work not only in the easiest way to himself, but in the way which looks the best? The two are synonymous, whatever some utilitarians may say.

Even in the show ring, what exhibitions do we not see? Hacks that cannot or will not walk; harness horses that lean upon their driver's hand in a way which should exclude them from all chance of winning a prize; hunters that pull and throw themselves about without the slightest attempt at balancing themselves; cart horses that slouch from side to side as if it did not matter how they take their feet up or where they put them down again.

And if this is the case in the show ring, how much more is it the case in the roads, in the fields, and on the streets. Yet a very little pains would improve matters; for a horse has a good memory, and if he easily learns bad habits he is quite as ready in learning good ones. And when a horse has manners he does his work with ease. Just watch a couple of teams at plough, one driven by a good horseman who loves his horses and loves to see them going together as they ought to do, and the other driven by a man whose sole object is getting to the other end of the field and back again, and that not in a very great hurry. The one team not only looks a picture, but it does its work more easily, it does it better, and it does more of it. It is certainly one of those things which are not easily explained that we, a professed nation of horsemen, should allow so much of our riding and drawing to be done by "rule of thumb."

THE LOOKER-ON.

Notes and Jottings.

The difficulty that meets the writer this week is not where to find notes of interest, but what to select from the many interesting and important matters concerning the sheep industry. The great annual international live stock gathering—as the Royal Show could so well be termed—brings together flock-masters from all over the world. Naturally, at such gatherings matters of great interest are spoken of and discussed.

Amongst these subjects one may be fittingly referred to here, namely, the long period of quarantine which all British sheep have to undergo when shipped to the Australasian colonies. This subject was some nine or ten years back thoroughly discussed and ventilated by the National Sheep-Breeders Association. Unfortunately, no satisfactory result was secured. There are, however, indications that were representations of the same character made again, it is probable a more favourable reception will be accorded them.

It was pointed out by the sheep-breeders at Park Royal to whom the question was mentioned, that the additional cost the lengthened period of quarantine imposed entails, was, after all, a matter for the importer rather than the vendor. With this opinion I cannot agree, because even if the whole of the cost incurred is paid by the importer, it follows that, owing to this fact alone, he is able to buy less sheep, and, more than this, owing to the fact of the long period the sheep are kept in quarantine, it very often happens that the sheep miss at least one season of service. It may also be contended, and rightly so, that if there were no hindrance and less costs incurred, more sheep would be taken out to these colonies. That this would be so we believe is correct, because from not only information received from the Colony, but from actual experience, there are many indications of a growing demand for the English mutton breeds.

At the Royal Show several good sales were made of the Down breeds for Australia, and many other inquiries were made for the same countries, and thus we have here good evidence of the existence of a demand. Under these circumstances, this is a matter that is well worthy the consideration of the National Sheep-Breeders' Association.

The great and wide interest taken in the sheep industry in Australasia and New Zealand is well known, but a glance at the attendance list of the Guildhall meeting, held on Monday last at the Guildhall, London, shows how practical such interest is. No less than twelve visitors from the Australasian Colonies were present. This fact brings home to the English breeder that his Colonial confreres fully realise the importance of unity of action on the part of all sheep-breeders.

The sheep sales, both public and private, which are recorded in detail elsewhere, all tend to prove what a calamity it would be were the Royal Show to cease holding its annual meeting. The attendance of the Argentine buyers was quite as full as usual, whilst the Colonials present were in excess of the average of former years, and what is quite as satisfactory is that the number of sheep purchased for these countries was larger than usual.

The arrangements at the Royal Show, so far as the sheep section were concerned, call for no criticism, save that it is inconceivable why so large and important a breed as the South Devon or South Hampshire sheep is that it should be omitted from the schedule. This point proves how necessary it is to have a full local representative on the council of the Royal. Such will be the case in the new council if the spirit and letter of the new rules, etc., be fully carried out, which we trust may be the case.

A feature of the Royal Show last week was the extraordinary demand for Lincoln sheep for the Argentine; nearly every flockmaster was talking of those notable sales made in connection with this breed. It is, however, not only the Lincoln breed that was in request for the Argentine, but the Kent or Romney Marsh breed, and the Hampshires also. It is quite sure that more sheep of both these breeds have either been purchased or arranged for during the past week than at any previous Royal show. Then, again, quite a good number of sales have been effected for Chili.

The North American demand has, however, been a very small one, and the attendance of visitors from both the States and Canada was the smallest in number for very many years.

The increased price of wool has put the flockmaster into better spirits, and far more note has been taken of the quality of the fleeces than was the case even a couple years or so back. As an indication of the large increase in the price of wool, we may mention that a large Lincoln wool-grower stated that he had just disposed of two years' clip at 30s., which was exactly double the price he made at his last sale, equalling a rise of just 100 per cent.—a remarkable increase in value.

An interesting and instructive bit of information is available to all who care to compare the results secured by the different breeders competing at the Royal Show. For instance, we find that Mr. Henry Dudding, whose sale of fifty grand Lincoln yearling rams takes place at Riby next Thursday, made of twelve pens at the Royal Show. Of these, no less than eleven were either winners of prizes or in the award list. Messrs. Dean and Sons did even better than this, for the whole of their dozen entries were all noticed by the judge. These two examples of an idea were selected at random, and clearly shows the marked uniformity of the merit of their particular flocks. Equally satisfactory results could doubtless be quoted for other breeders, but those two quotations just show how the careful breed could apply a test to the merit of any flock without any great trouble. If such awards were made for several years' bulk, still more interesting and valuable would the information become. This is perhaps a novel use to put the result of showyard contests to, but, if carefully thought out, there is no doubt many will appreciate the suggestion, and adopt it.

An examination of showyard award lists is an easy matter, and as these are available for many years past, it would not be a matter of insuperable difficulty to very soon compile a record of any breed for many years past, and thus have placed at command information the importance of which has not yet been fully realised.

Sheep breeders' Conference.

The principal business at the sixth International Conference of Sheep-breeders, held under the auspices of the National Sheep-breeders' Association, was the reading of a paper by Professor Cave on the diseases of lambs. The Conference, which took place in the Guildhall, London, on Monday, was presided over by Earl Cadogan, K.G., and in attendance were a large number of British breeders, with representatives from Australia, New Zealand, United States, and the Argentine.

Professor Cave's address dealt generally with the diseases of lambs, and referred to them in the order in which they might occur from birth to the age of twelve months. Navel-ill and joint-ill, he said, were frequently met with during the lambing season, a few cases only occurring in a flock; but in some cases heavy losses might be caused. Treatment, he thought, was of very little use in such outbreaks, but every care should be taken to prevent newly born lambs from being contaminated by ewes affected with septic metritis. Where the lambing pen had been contaminated, its use should be discontinued until it had received a thorough cleansing and disinfection. As to preventive measures in the case of lambs affected with tetanus, the writer of the paper laid stress on the necessity of extra precautions in performing the necessary operations of docking and castration, and advocated the use of the hot iron in each operation, it being a powerful anti-septic, also sealing the surface of the wound and forming a protective coating which would prevent the entrance of dangerous microbes.

The tape worm disease in lambs was described as sometimes causing very serious losses in certain seasons, and especially on marsh lands. By giving dry, nourishing food as early as possible, the lambs are better able to withstand the debilitating effect of the invasion when it occurred. Salt and sulphate of iron were given as tonics, but it was possible that some good effect might be derived from the vermicidal action of drugs. The symptom of parasitic bronchitis of lambs, commonly known as husk or hoose, was stated to be a troublesome spasmodic cough. One of the preventive measures Professor Cave suggested was the daily administration of common salt with the dry food, for if, as nearly all authorities agreed, the young thread worms reached the lungs by way of the stomach, the presence of a small amount of salt in the food would be sufficient to destroy the worms, and so prevent them reaching the lungs. Other diseases mentioned by the writer of the paper were gid, sturdy, blobwhirl, or pothery. The symptoms of these, he said, were due to the pressure of the hyatid upon the brain of the sheep.

The concluding section of the address dealt with parasitic gastro enteritis in lambs. In the autumn of 1895 a serious outbreak of disease in lambs occurred in Lincolnshire and several other counties. The lambs, when seven or eight months old, suffered from diarrhœa associated with a rapid loss of condition. In many flocks the rate of mortality was very high. In the following autumn a similar outbreak took place, and Professor McFadyean found the disease, which was again causing a heavy mortality, was due to the presence of parasites in the fourth stomach and duodenum. In all the cases examined by Professor McFadyean large numbers of small nematode worms were discovered. These worms were described by him as belonging to a new species, for which he suggested the name—Strongylus cervicornis. The small, delicate, round worms were only detected by a careful examination of the stomach contents, or by a microscopical examination of a scraping of the mucous membrane. When mixed with the contents of the stomach and duodenum the worms escaped notice, but they were easily seen when a small portion of the ingesta was examined microscopically. Since this discovery was made of the true cause of the Lincolnshire lamb disease, much attention has been given to the presence of nematode worms in the fourth stomach, and outbreaks of disease in lambs, sheep, and cattle have been found to be due to parasitic invasion of the true digestive stomach. I have recently been engaged in investigating a disastrous outbreak in a flock of ewes, in which the cause of death was found to be an enormous invasion of the abomasum by another nematode worm—Strongylus contortus. From my own experience I may say that the chief factor in the successful treatment of these cases of parasitic gastritis seems to be the early detection of the parasites, and the commencement of the treatment *before* the animals become markedly emaciated. The various parasites which are found in the fourth stomach do not appear to cause trouble to the host except when they are present in enormous numbers. As Professor McFadyean has pointed out, land which is constantly heavily stocked with sheep gradually becomes saturated with the parasites which are peculiar to sheep, and so in time extensive outbreaks of disease are sure to occur. He suggests a change of stock for a year or two, in order to allow the dangerous parasites in the soil to die off. Whether dressing the land with salt and lime, as has been suggested in other diseases, will prove effective in destroying the larval forms of the parasites of the fourth stomach is yet unknown. It is certain, however, that these parasites do not increase in number in the soil, but they only breed while inhabiting the bodies of their hosts, and if anything can be done which will prevent them from reaching the stomachs of their proper hosts, then they must ultimately die out, and the land will again become safe for sheep.

A discussion on the paper was opened by Mr. Geo. Street, and was continued by Mr. Cassares, of Argentina; Mr. A. Mansell, of Shrewsbury; Mr. A. E. Russell, of New Zealand; Mr. J. W. Anderson, Australia, and others, all of whom expressed themselves indebted to Professor Cave for his suggestions. The meeting passed a vote of thanks giving effect to this sentiment, and then adjourned.

Blandford Sheep Fair.

Blandford (Dorset) great prize sheep fair was held on Thursday, when there was an unusually large number of sheep, some 10,000 being penned, and there was also a very full attendance of buyers. The customary large sales were held by Messrs. Ensor and Son (Dorchester and Wimborne), Senior, Godwin, and Young (Sturminster and Sherborne), and Roberts, Son, and Tory (Dorchester and Yeovil), two of the firms offering prizes for the best drafts penned. The sheep, as a rule, came to hand in excellent condition, and, though the want of rain for the roots made buyers somewhat cautious, the scarcity of sheep told in an opposite direction, and a very good business was done at prices showing an improvement on last year's rules, all being readily cleared.

The sheep penned were confined very largely to draft Down ewes, with a few lots of wether lambs and couples, a general run for best ewes being from 48s. to 55s., and from 38s. to 47s. for others; grazing Down ewes, 32s. to 38s.; couples from about 58s. to 64s.; wether lambs, 32s. to 38s.

Lamb Sale at Sudbury.

The annual lamb sale at Sudbury, the first of the season in the district, was held on Monday, and attracted a more than usually numerous company. Two thousand sheep and lambs were penned, including Southdown, Suffolk, and half-bred. Some very choice Southdown ewe and wether lambs from the Executors of the late Mr. Henry Meeking (by whom the dispersal was for a good many years carried out), fetched as high as 70s. 6d.; first cross ewe lambs from Colonel Burke 35s., Suffolk ewe lambs from Mr. W. Pinhey 34s. 6d., half-bred lambs from Mr. W. Rolfe 50s. and 40 fat half-bred lambs from Earl Howe's Cavendish farm averaging 35s. 3d. Trade was not so sharp as had been anticipated, but late market rates were fully maintained.

Wool Sales and Fairs.

Huntingdon.

There was a good attendance of buyers, chiefly from Bradford, at this fair on Wednesday, but trade was slow from the buyer's standpoint, farmers holding out for higher prices, but all the wool was sold. The pitch was 5,578 fleeces, weighing 1,279 tods 15 lb., slightly less than last year. Prices ruled from 28s. to 31s. per tod, the top figure last year being 26s. per tod.

Guildford.

At the wool sale held at Guildford on Thursday, over 10,000 fleeces were pitched, and Mr. Ellis sold 3,500, and Messrs. Hewitt and Lee about 7,000. More buyers were present than usual, all the principal woollen centres being represented, whilst prices showed a considerable advance on last year's, washed fleeces fetching 13d. to 14d. per lb., and unwashed made 8½d. to 13d. per lb.

Northampton.

The pitch at this fair on Thursday numbered upwards of 18,000 fleeces, or about 1,000 less than last year. There was a good attendance of buyers, and a brisk trade was done at prices which showed an advance on those of twelve months ago. Fifteen thousand fleeces were sold, the best price given being 32s. per tod, which was 5s. better than top price last year. The general run of prices was from 28s. to 30s.

Sheep Scab Regulations.

Two questions dealing with the above were addressed to the President of the Board of Agriculture in the House of Commons last week by Mr. Allan Bright. In the first he asked for an explanation why sheep, from areas infected with sheep scab in Scotland are allowed to come into England without being under inspection, while sheep from infected areas in England and Wales cannot be moved without such inspection. Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, in a written reply, says: The formulation of arrangements for the control of the movement of sheep from the northern counties of Scotland has been attended with considerable difficulty, and has been the subject of prolonged negotiations with the local authorities concerned. An order has now been passed which prescribes the compulsory dipping of sheep in those counties between July 15 and September 1 next, and imposes restrictions on the movement of sheep out of the dipping area. The new order will, it is believed, afford adequate security against the spread of the disease from the county in question.

In his second enquiry Mr. Bright directed attention to the difficulties caused by the various sheep scab regulations, and asked whether the President of the Board of Agriculture was prepared to substitute for the present rule the system of proclaiming an area immediately round the infected place, and of applying more stringent measures with regard to the movement of sheep to and from that area. Mr. Fellowes, in his reply, says "Under the Sheep Scab Order of 1905 provision is made for the detention of sheep believed to have been in contact with sheep affected with sheep scab, and under the Sheep Scab (Compulsory Dipping Areas) Order of 1905 the compulsory dipping of all sheep in a particular area may also be required. In addition, however, it is also necessary to take measures to prevent the spread of the disease from districts in which it is generally prevalent, and it is under this head that some difficulties have arisen in connection with the measures we are taking to stamp it out. I am hopeful that the modifications we have been able to make in our orders on this subject will remove any serious cause of complaint respecting them. I do not think we could with any advantage increase the stringency of the measures taken on the spot when the disease is reported or discovered."

THE ROYAL SHOW.

(*Continued from page 12.*)

Among Shropshire yearings, Mr. R. P. Cooper's being pretty nearly complete. Mr. R. P. Cooper's thick and good quality ram was placed second; here it would probably have been more nearly correct to have put Sir P. A. Muntz's ram, that had to be content with h.c. honours. This ram had much to admire, and will probably be in request if sold. Mr. E. Nock took third honours with a very evenly-fleshed ram, not quite so wide and deep as the leading rams, but, still, one of first-rate merit. A second entry from Mr. R. P. Cooper's flock was given r.n.; this was a ram of very choice quality. Five others were h.c.

The pens of five yearling rams were, taken all through, a capital lot. Many of the pens were very superior in type and character. Mr. R. P. Cooper won here with a beautiful pen of the right stamp, having, coupled with great substance and width, the finest of quality and fleece. They were full worthy of being at the head of this particularly strong class. Mr. M. Williams came in for second honours with another grand lot of rams; these were, perhaps, not quite so even as the winning pen, but the quality and type were undeniable. Sir P. A. Muntz, who has not had the best of luck this season, had a pen that have all the attributes of real stud sheep, coupled with a fine and even fleece and excellent flesh; they were third. Mr. E. Nock, who has Mr. A. E. Mansell's old farm at Shifnal, is keeping up the renown of that holding for typical Shropshires, and his pen of five, the r.n., were of a very superior character, handling well and moving equally as good. Four pens were h.c, one of which is deserving of notice, at any rate, namely, that beautiful pen sent from Scotland by Mr. T. A. Buttar, the quality and type of which was very good indeed.

find so good a lot of lambs present. Mr. E. Nock won with a beautifully matched and even trio of high merit, when viewed either from the breed point of view or by reason of their flesh and fleece. Mr. R. P. Cooper's good handling pen were square and deep in the carcase, with real good skins and flesh, moving well, and having a good masculine character. Another pen of more than average merit was that very choice pen of good fleshed lambs which came from Mr. J. Harding's flock. Mr. T. S. Minton took the r.n. with a particularly good and even pen, which walked well, with capital merit and substance. The yearling ewe class was a grand one all through, better than we have seen for several years. Here, again, Mr. R. P. Cooper's flock took the premier position with a pen of wide-spread, good-backed ewes, with flesh and fleece of the finest description; these ewes are likewise grand specimens of their breed. Next them came another pen from the same flock, which were practically as good, but not quite so firm to the hand. Third honours went to Sir P. A. Muntz for a pen, the like of which are seldom seen. True, they did not win, but despite this fact they were a pen which is not often beaten. The scale and quality of these ewes, coupled with their fine flesh, rendered them dangerous competitors for top honours. Mr. P. L. Mills' r.n. pen were hardly so even in size, nor quite so nicely matched; and those two superior pens from Sir W. O. Corbet and Mr. T. Fenn were well deserving of the h.c.s they obtained.

The ewe lambs were a very choice lot indeed, particularly that real good pen from Mr. T. S. Minton, which were beautifully matched and well fed. These went first, but Mr. John Harding, with his excellent pen, ran them a very

Peel Champion, the Champion Berkshire Pig, at last week's Royal Show.
Bred and Exhibited by Mr. J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester.
It was born Jan. 10, 1903, sire Peel Swansea, 2nd 8748, dam Peel Rosebud, 2nd 7506.

The new class of yearling rams entered to be sold got a very large entry indeed; and not only was it large in number, but its average merit and quality left but little to be desired. The value of the prizes was the reason for this keen competition, because these were four in number, £20, £15, £10, and £5. In this class the special merit of Mr. R. P. Cooper's flock was emphatically shown, for not only were the first three prizes won, but the r.n. and two h.c.s also, an achievement upon which their owner can be justly proud. Individually, the merit of these rams was excellent, as a reference to our sale record will show. Mr. B. Wall sent several rams to this class, one of which, a particularly choice one, secured fourth honours; this was not a large ram, but a small one of very superior merit and grand character. Amongst the h.c.s were two from Mr. P. L. Mills that were greatly admired; three from Mr. J. Harding, that were recipients of the same honours; and one from Mr. T. A. Buttar, whose fine conformation and level character made him in great request when sold by auction.

The three ram lambs class was one of the best we have seen of this breed for some time. Taken as a whole, it was satisfactory to close second; here we found very first-class type. The remarks in respect to the last-mentioned pen are equally applicable to that which won third honours for Mr. E. Nock, whilst in Mr. A. Tanner's pen, the r.n., were found three lambs of more than average merit and quality. Mr. R. P. Cooper, with a pen that only need time to develop into an excellent trio, was h.c.

Southdowns.

This breed made the largest entry of any in the show, and a larger one than has represented the breed for many years past. There were, of course, more entries of ordinary merit, but we consider that, as a rule, the average quality all through the section was an excellent one. The value of the two shear ram class was distinctly seen in this breed, for the class secured an entry of eighteen—i.e., eighteen rams that had been adjudged worthy by many of the leading flock masters to use in their flocks for breeding purposes. Surely no higher recommendation than this could be desired. The competition was keen, but the winner was somewhat easily selected, being a square and deep-bodied ram of large scale and grand flesh from the Duke of Northumberland's flock, and bred by the Earl of

Cadogan. Next to this ram came one from Goodwood, that for quality of flesh and fleece was clean ahead of the winner, and was a ram that with many judges would have gone to the first place. His Majesty the King had a ram of very superior merit, a well-balanced and very even-fleshed ram indeed, that handled well and true. Two rams from Mr. E. Ellis's flock were h.c., either of which could well have gone also in the running. These were made r.n. and higher up in their class, for the merit of both flesh and wool in them was very good indeed.

Twenty-seven entries made up a very fine and large class of yearling rams. The selection for the leading honour was a very fine ram of great merit from the King's flock. This ram, to which more objection was raised on account of want of width and fuller development of the leg, was a true-topped ram, with first-class fleece and skin, and as such was well worthy of being made champion of its breed, this being the second year in succession the King has won this honour. His Majesty was also third with another ram of useful character, with very excellent flesh, but not so good in the fleece as the winner. Between these two high-class sheep came one from the Goodwood flock, a ram of exceptional quality and merit, and, had its type been more masculine, would have readily been the winner—in fact, some would, despite this defect, have given him this position. Mr. C. H. Berners took the r.n. with a ram of nice scale and type, and very good in its flesh. Five others were h.c., those coming from Mr. C. Adeane's, Mr. E. Ellis's, and the Earl of Cadogan's flocks were well deserving this distinction.

Twelve entries were secured for the new class of three yearling rams, and, taking the entry all through, we consider it a most creditable one. The destination of the first prize was soon decided, because there was no other pen which, taken from every point of view, equalled that owned by his Majesty the King. After these came a pen of average merit, but lacking the uniformity a pen of three should have. Two were good enough, but the third not so, and preference ought here to have been given to Mr. E. Ellis's pen, which were well matched and fully as good in other points as the second pen. Mr. E. Henty's trio were of high quality, a pen of grand type and very even flesh, whilst the preference shown by the award of r.n. to the Duke of Northumberland's pen over that most typical pen of Mr. C. Adeane's, is a matter we cannot understand, for the latter were preferable, both for touch and quality of flesh and evenness of fleece. The ram lamb class for pens of three secured a grand entry, and in the winning pen, that came from Mr. E. Ellis's, were found a pen of the right type, quality, and character, with fine flesh and good fleeces. Mr. C. Adeane, whose double entry was second and third, sent forward six very excellent lambs indeed. His Majesty the King was r.n. with a choice pen of first-class lambs, well matched, and the h.c.'s that went to the Earl of Ellesmere, Colonel A. F. Walter, and the Pagham Harbour Company were well deserved.

The yearling ewe class was an excellent one, but here the judge let depth of flesh gain the upper hand of true breed, point, and character, for the champion female pen that came from Sandringham were not of that type and character generally considered to be typical of the best specimens of the breed. Next them came a pen that would have done honour to any class of this age, whether type, quality of flesh, or character of the fleece were considered either singly or collectively. These came from Mr. E. Ellis. Next them, in the third place, but which should have been second, came a very choice and well-matched pen from the Duke of Devonshire's flock, whose prominent position in so strong a class is a matter of gratification. The Earl of Cadogan was r.n. This pen were hardly so good to handle, nor were they quite as true in conformation.

As in the class for ram lambs, so it was in the one for ewe lambs. Mr. E. Ellis won with a grand pen, quite one of the best seen out for some time. Mr. C. Adeane was quite close up in the second place, with a wonderfully good fleshed pen, very even in their flesh and fleece. Third honours went to a very neat and even fleshed pen from Sandringham that came well to the hand and were very true in formation. The r.n. pen were from Mr. E. Henty's flock, and here again, as in the previous pens, we found merit well deserving of the honour conferred. The Duke of Northumberland's pen, as well as that owned by Mr. C. Adeane, were both well deserving the h.c. they won.

Hampshires.

This breed hardly ever made a better display than at the present show, and the exhibits were notably uniform in type and very true in character all through each of the classes. Five two-shear rams made up a class of very superior sheep. The winner here, that came from Mr. Cary Coles's flock, was a superior ram from nearly every point of view, and had very fine flesh and touch. The second honours went to Mr. H. C. Stephens for a ram of great scale coupled with very fine quality, both of type and flesh. This ram handled well and was well brought out. The second entry from this flock was one of those to which the commendations were given, a suitable acknowledgment of its merit. Mr. T. F. Buxton took r.n. honours with a ram of very first-class quality, very true to type, and good in its flesh. The yearling ram class was a fine one, of large number, and here the difficulty was not in the selection of the winner, but in those that came after. The winner was Mr. James Flower's excellent ram that has been first all through the leading shows this year, save at Somerset Show, where the judge at the Royal put him second, an oversight, we are pleased to note he did not hesitate to repair on this occasion. Mr. T. F. Buxton was second and c. with a pair of very fine rams of excellent quality, scale, and type. Some exception has been urged against the former ram, but we have closely examined him and agree with the award. Mr. Cary Coles's third winner has a particularly fine back and loin, well covered with a wealth of flesh, and of fine character; whilst in the third ram from Mr. H. L. Cripps's flock we found a ram of particular excellent quality with very fine scale and first-class type. Mr. J. A. Keith Falconer's h.c. ram was another of real quality and merit, as was also the grand ram, the second string from Chilmark.

The Hampshire ram lambs have been a larger class in some former years, but we question if ever a better or more typical pen was ever selected for the first prize and champion honours than the one which won first honours this year for Mr. James Flower. This pen's quality of flesh and trueness of type and character was most noticeable. Sir W. G. Pearce's young flock secured the second place. This pen did not match so well as we have seen winning pens, nor were they quite so uniform as some other pens, but they had very fine merit and touch. Mr. H. C. Stephens's pen were very close up for second honours; some would probably have given them this place, and had it been so, a pen of very superior merit would have won the prize. Mr. Cary Coles's pen was one sometimes seen—i.e., a pen of three particularly fine and first-class lambs, but which, when viewed as a whole, was unable to take any higher place than r.n., an award which we thoroughly agree with. Mr. T. F. Buxton's h.c. pen was a very choice one indeed.

The yearling ewe class was not a large one, but its merit all through was undeniable, particularly so in respect to those six grand ewes that won first and second honours for Mr. James Flower. These ewes by this victory practically complete the showyard season of the present year with an unbeaten record, an achievement Mr. J. Flower has accomplished for several years in succession. Mr. T. F. Buxton's choice pen of great merit came third, with the second entry of almost as good ewes h.c., leaving the barren honour of r.n. to acknowledge the high merit and fine type of Mr. H. L. Cripps's pen of very first-class ewes. The winning pen in the ewe lamb class was that which has won all through, save at the Wiltshire, for Mr. H. C. Stephens. The quality, scale, and evenness of the merit of this pen ought to have carried them ahead all the season, for they were quite the best pen of their age seen out this year. Sir W. G. Pearce took second honours with a pen that has great merit coupled with very good quality. These were followed by Mr. Cary Coles's pen that pretty nearly went second, a place they would have worthily filled, for their merit, etc., was very good indeed. Mr. James Flower took the r.n. with a pen of excellent merit, but not so forward as the winners. Three other pens were h.c.; these included a particularly fine and typical pen from Mr. T. F. Buxton's flock.

Suffolks.

The quality of this section was not so good as we have seen it at recent Royal Shows, and neither were its entries so numerous. Four two-shear rams were entered, but Mr. R. Barclay's pair had no difficulty in taking both first and second honours. The leading ram was a typical one. The yearling ram class produced a keener competition, and Mr. G. Hale won first honours with one bred by the late Colonel H. McCalmont. This was a lengthy and good fleshed ram; but preference, had it been given to Mr. H. E. Smith's ram, would have recognised more quality with fully equal substance and good flesh. The latter ram was also very good in its flesh, and rather more even than the winner. A choice ram from Mr. S. R. Sherwood's flock took third honours. This was a real good type of its breed. Mr. R. Barclay came in for r.n. The single ram lamb class was a weak one. The better lambs were unquestionably that pair that won first and third honours for Mr. H. E. Smith. Messrs. Traylen, with a very useful and good fleshed lamb, came in second; Mr. S. R. Sherwood r.n. The pens of ram lambs were better in quality. Here, again, the leading honours went to Mr. H. E. Smith. We admired these lambs much, for there was found fine flesh and even fleeces in them. Messrs. Traylen's pen again came in for second honours. Mr. S. R. Sherwood was third, and Mr. M. G. Hale r.n. The yearling ewe class was one of more than average merit, the winning pen that came from the Earl of Cadogan's flock was of specially high merit, having fine flesh and type, and well able to move. Mr. R. Barclay's two pens, like the winning pen, had merit, and were of fine type, with real good flesh and symmetry. The ewe lamb class was practically a repetition of that for ram lambs, with rather better merit. Mr. Sherwood took the first award, and second prize went to the pen from Mr. H. E. Smith's flock.

Lincolns.

The great interest taken in this breed at the present time was clearly indicated by the closeness with which the work of the judge was watched all through. Probably no one acting as a sheep judge had ever greater responsibility placed in his hands, because upon the awards made it really depended whether or not a ram made a thousand or half that price. However, we must digress no further because if we do we shall trespass upon the work of another far better and more competent to deal with the sale reports that ourselves. The two shear ram class came first, and here Mr. Tom Caswell with the Nottingham champion ram won again the same honours, namely, first in its class and champion of its breed. This award was one not questioned for the ram was easily first; next him came a very typical ram bred by Messrs. Wright, and exhibited by Mr. H. Dudding, of it is needless to say very superior merit, for none without this would be used for stud purposes at Riby. The same exhibitor came in for r.n. with another grand and typical ram, very level and uniform in its fleece. The yearling ram class was a thoroughly good one all through, the contest here was by no means a one-sided one, for until the award was given it was open to question which of the two at the top would be preferred. The preference was given to Messrs. R. and W. Wright's ram, and this, when examined, was found to be of a very superior type, having excellent flesh, great spread, and good loin, but somewhat deficient in masculine type. However, so greatly are the best rams of this breed in request that Messrs. Wright sold him without difficulty for the record showyard sale price of 1,000 gns. The next ram in the award list came from Mr. Henry Dudding's flock. Here we found an exceptionally good ram, having in addition to a grand and timely formed carcase, that fine masculine type not seen in the winner, and a fleece of that description that is one of the most valuable characteristics of the Riby flock, as is proved once again at this show by notable success in the wool section of the show, in which both first and second honours were won. Mr. Tom Casswell, with a couple of very typical rams came in third and c.; the former ram was eagerly looked for by the Argentine buyer because of its even fleece, which was of the character so highly appreciated in that country. Mr. H. Dudding secured also the r.n. for another ram of special merit, whose quality of flesh and touch was much appreciated by those that examined it. Two from Messrs. S. E. Dean were h.c., both being rams of superior type and character.

The class for pens of five yearling rams was another one of special quality and merit. The winning pen here was another from Nocton, and Messrs. Wright are certainly deserving of hearty congratulations upon this further evidence of the merit of their flock. The pen were beautifully matched, and well brought out, winning with ease in a thoroughly good class. Second honours went to Mr. T. Casswell's pen that were well matched, but not quite so satisfactory when under hand; Mr. H. Dudding's third prize pen were preferable from many points of view, but they were hardly square enough behind, and not quite so even when taken as a whole. Mr. J. E. Casswell's reserve pen were of fine quality, and were admired; they matched well and were clothed with fleeces of the description so well appreciated in the Argentine. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Mr. T. C. B. Dixon were again h.c. The ram lamb class was a small one of high merit, and in those two very superior pens with which Mr. Henry Dudding won first and second honours, high merit and grand type were found, as well as fleeces of a superior quality. Messrs. S. E. Dean Bros. had two pens in this class and these were respectively third and r.n., honours fully deserved.

The yearling ewe class was not a large one, but its merit undeniable, particularly in respect to the two first pens that came from Messrs. Wright's flock. These grand ewes, most typical of their breed, were probably two of the best pens that have won these honours during the past two or three years. Mr. H. Dudding's pen were not quite so good a match as should

have been the case, nor did they handle so well, but when the fleece was examined here in each case was found superior quality. The ewe lamb class was another of high average of merit, small it is true, in regard to number, but a good one all through. Messrs. S. E. Dean Bros. won leading honours with a couple of pens of nice type and superior merit, they handle well and were well matched in the fleece. Mr. H. Dudding's two pens were third and r.n., and very choice indeed is the quality found in them.

The most important class however, in connection with this breed is that which comes last in the schedule, i.e., that one for the best three ewe hoggets in full fleece. This class had special merit and most superior quality, and in it, better than in any other class, those two great qualities of the Lincoln sheep were seen in full prominence, namely, ability to produce a wealth of both wool and mutton. Once again the Messrs. Dean won leading honours here, their prize pen was a notable one, full of true character and having fleeces of the highest merit; the second prize went to another pen of the same flock, of practically as good merit. Mr. H. Dudding's entry came third, these were hardly so wide as the winners, and lacked a wee bit of the spread, hence the position they secured in the class.

Leicesters.

A thoroughly typical and first-class entry was found of this breed, whose value for crossing purposes is much more highly appreciated in the Colonies than at home at the present time. The entry, though good, was not a large one, but about the same in number as in the two preceding years. The yearling ram class had for its winner a deep-fleshed good ram from Mr. Jordan's flock that handled first class; the r.n. was another excellent ram from the same flock, showing very true type and excellent character. Mr. G. Harrison's grand old flock, represented by three entries, received full recognition of its merit by the award of second, third, and c. Mr. E. F. Jordan repeated his success in the yearling ewe class again, for he won here both first and second honours, the leading pen being of excellent scale and fine quality; but the second pen were hardly as even in the fleece and touch as were the third-prize pen, which came from Mr. G. Harrison's flock, this was a fine and good pen. Mrs. S. Perry-Herrick had a couple of typical pens, to which were given the r.n. and c. In the lamb classes, Mr. G. Harrison was first and third in each case, these were all very typical lambs, and each of the trios were well matured. Mr. E. F. Jordan was second and r.n. in each class with well-grown and evenly matured lambs.

Cotswolds.

This breed once more made its appearance in the showyard and though the entry was a small one, the merit was of a very high degree of excellence all through. Mr. W. P. Garne, with a grand ram—one of the best we have seen for some time—was first in the yearling class, and Mr. W. Houlton came in for second and r.n. with a deep-fleshed and very even pair of well grown rams. The latter exhibitor, too, won first honours in the yearling ewe class with a nicely brought out pen of even quality and good fleeces. Mr. W. P. Garne's entry here having to take the second place, an event that has not often been the lot of the yearling ewes from this flock. Mr. Garne's lambs were a grand lot, and he won first and r.n. honours for both ram and ewe lambs.

Border Leicesters.

This breed was not represented at the Royal Show last year, but its entry, though small, upon the present occasion, fully justified its inclusion again in the prize schedule. The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour won in all four classes with sheep of special merit. The winning sheep in the yearling classes were notably good, and typical of their breed. Mr. P. Winter was second all through the section, his entries, though of high merit, had not the same scale which was found in the winning entries, coupled with a quality of very high order.

Kent or Romney Marsh.

Never before do we remember finding at the Royal Show so fine and good an entry of this breed. As year succeeds year the great improvement effected in this breed since the formation of its Flock Book nineteen years back, becomes more and more noticeable. The transformation that has taken place in the merit of the entries now as compared with ten years ago is simply astounding, and, further, the great increase in the demand form is an equally striking fact. This breed, thanks to its Breed Society, is one that has a two-shear ram class to show to its customers from across the sea the true type and character of the mature sire. In this eight entries were made, and the winner was a particularly fine and good-fleshed ram, the property of Mr. H. Rigden, whose fine scale, even type, and good fleece made it a ram of high merit. Mr. F. Neame took second honours with another very superior ram indeed, particularly good in its fleece and scale. Mr. G. Farmer's ram was one of fine character, being masculine in type, with a first-class fleece and plenty of substance. This came third, but was closely pressed for its position by Mr. C. File's thickset, good-carcased ram, having fine legs and good fleece.

The yearling ram class was another of very superior merit. Here Mr. C. File, with the Royal Counties winner, took precedence, an award that was fully in accord with the merit of the exhibit. Next him came one with rather more height, but hardly so compact, from Mr. H. Rigden's flock, but a very good-fleshed ram indeed. For third honours one from Mr. W. Miller's flock was selected; some questioned this award, but when run out of its pen the award was fully confirmed, because we found in this ram high merit, excellent wool, and plenty of substance and bone. Mr. F. Neame's ram, that came r.n., was another particularly good ram, which handled well and was of nice type; and the h.c. which went to Mr. W. Miller's second entry was well deserved.

The ram lamb class was a large one, and, at the same time, of great merit. A better, more evenly matched, and truer pen have seldom taken the first prize, which went to Mr. H. Rigden's excellent pen; next came Mr. F. Neame's pen, these were somewhat wider and thicker lambs, but had hardly so much height as the winners. A third prize recognised the specially good merit and fine type of Mr. J. D. Blount's well brought out pen of very masculine lambs, showing real good merit and quality; whilst the r.n. that went to the Earl of Verulum was given to a pen of three most typical lambs, with grand flesh and substance.

The yearling ewe class of seven entries was one of the best we have seen out for some years, and its winning pen that came from Mr C. File were no question, now they were looked at, of the highest merit; quite one of the best pens that have been seen from this flock for some time. The second entry from the Elham flock secured Mr. C. File the third prize; this pen were pretty nearly as good in quality as the winners, but did not match quite so evenly, hence their place in the class. The pen selected to divide Mr. File's entries came from Mr. F. Neame's flock; here, again, merit was very prominent, and the pen, as a whole, were real good ewes. Mr. G. Farmer's pen, that took the r.n., were of good merit, with very excellent scale, but hardly so well brought out as the winning pens. The ewe lamb class was another most excellent lot as a whole, the winners here were a thick set, well-made pen of good-fleshed lambs of a very superior type, with very even fleeces. Mr. H. Rigden's pen was again representative of very special merit, and they won the second prize, being beaten by Mr. Neame's pen, but they in turn beat, by but a very narrow margin indeed, a particularly fine and good-fleshed pen that came from Lord Verulum's flock, which were thoroughly typical of their breed, although bred in Hertfordshire. The r.n. pen was owned by Mr. J. E. Quested, an even and level pen.

Royal Emblem, the Champion Shorthorn Bull at the Royal Show last week.
Born March 4, 1901; sire Lord Lynedoch, 74900, dam Rose of Elbe; Breeder, Mr. J. Durno, Jackston, Rothie-Norman; Exhibitor, Mr. R. Taylor, Pithvie Farm, Carnoustie.

Wensleydales.

Another capital entry was found in this class, the pluck of those who are interested in this breed in making so large an entry at this show is deserving of high commendation. The yearling ram class had for its winner one from Lord Henry Bentinck's flock, a ram of nice type with plenty of masculine character and scale, accompanied by a very even and typical fleece. Second and third honours went to two real good rams from that well-known flock owned by the Exors. of Mr. T. Willis. The flesh, fleece, and character of both these rams were of very high merit indeed. Mr. E. K. Cleasby was owner of a very typical ram that came in for h.c. In the yearling ewe class the Exors. of Mr. T. Willis went clearly to the fore with a particularly well matched pen of high class ewes, which were excellent in respect to both fleece and flesh when under hand. Mr. John Hargrave, who came in for second honours, had a very good pen of typical ewes that were most creditable to his flock. The third place in this good class had Lord Henry Bentinck's pen for its occupant, another pen of high-class merit, Mr. E. Horseman taking the h.c. The classes for ram lambs and ewe lambs were very typical; the winning ram lambs owned by the Exors. of Mr. T. Willis were greatly admired, as were also that fine pen of ewe lambs which went to the front in this class owned by Lord Henry Bentinck.

Dorset Horns.

The entry of these sheep was one of the best we have seen at this show for several years. All through the classes merits and quality was found. In the yearling ram class Mr. E. A. Hambro was fortunate enough to get first place, which, however, would have been occupied by Mr. James Attrill's entry had the best ram in the class been selected, as it was this very true ram has to be content with second honours, being followed in its class by one of Mr. W. R. Flower's, a very nice ram indeed, but one that should not have been preferred to Mr. S. Kidner's unnoticed ram. Mr. F. J. Merson took the r.n. In the ram lamb class two pens of very grand merit and superior quality from that excellent flock owned by Mr. W. R. Flower, first and second honours were secured. These awards were not only correct but generally approved of. The second pen was followed by a capital pen of good-fleshed lambs from Mr. F. J. Merson's flock, and Mr. E. A. Hambro had to be content with r.n. The yearling ewe class was a strong one, the winning pen being of special merit and type. Mr. W. R. Flower owned them, and he won in addition to the class prize the special champion prize for the best exhibit in the section. Mr. E. A. Hambro took second honours. This pen had more scale than the winners, but did not handle so evenly, nor were they as a whole so well matched. Third honours went to Mr. F. J. Merson, whose pen were very typical of their breed, and Mr. James Attrill's very choice pen took the r.n. First and r.n. honours were won in the ewe lamb class by Mr. W. R. Flower with two real good pens of ewe lambs; these being well matched and very true to type. The second place in this excellent class had for its occupants Mr. F. J.

Merson's very even and fully typical pen. Mr. E. A. Hambro's pen came in third, but the following pen might have exchanged places with them.

Ryelands.

The increased activity amongst those who are breeding these sheep was shown in the larger numbers found at the show this year. The older ram class had its winner and r.n. in two very excellent rams owned by Mr. W. T. Barneby, which were fine masculine and typical rams of their breed. Second honours went to a very choice and good ram owned by Mr. F. E. Gough, whilst in the third prize ram from Mr. Davies' flock was found a fine masculine ram of typical character. In the yearling ram class Mr. W. T. Barneby took first and third honours; the former ram was a clear first, excellent in touch, with grand top and even fleece; he is a valuable ram. The second entry here, which was third in the award list, had hard luck, because the ram from Mr. W. H. Davies, that came in second, had not the same even fleece as the third ram. Mr. F. E. Gough came in for r.n. The last-named exhibitor was first prize winner in the next class with a real good pen of ewes full of fine merit. Mr. W. T. Barneby came in second and r.n., leaving Mr. W. H. Davies the third place for a very useful pen of ewes.

The Minor Breeds.

The award list furnishes full information as to the winners in the several breeds included under this heading, amongst which it may be said, with the exception of the Dartmoor classes, excellent merit was found. One matter that needs being put right is the omission of the South Devon Longwool breed from the Royal schedule, because when any breed society numbers over two hundred members, as this one does, such a breed is surely worthy of being included in its schedule.

Pigs.

The pig section was undoubtedly equal to anything yet seen at Park Royal, the exhibits being fine indeed, the numbers good, and the competition keen. This is, in a great measure, due to the slackening of the swine-fever regulations and the now nearly certainty that the show will be open, and that it will include pig classes. But this could not be adduced as the explanation of the numerous empty pens and withdrawals. It is pretty well known that some exhibitors made a slacker entry in order to have a pen in which the herdsman can store his box, utensils, etc. This is an anomaly that should be abolished, as it causes a break upon the continuation of the class, and it would be better if a few pens were set aside for the herdsmen of each breed close to the classes. This would also prevent misapprehension on the part of the foreigner. We overheard a party of them going through this section, and the invariable remark made at each pen was "pig sick," and a mark against the breeder's name went down in the catalogue.

Large Whites.

These made some superb classes. In the old boar class the Earl of Ellesmere was first with Worsley Duke 4th; he is a rare pig, very level, with deep sides and plenty of development in the hams. Second to him was Mr. Sanders Spencer's Holywell Czech, a rather long pig, well shown; third went to Mr. Richard A. Ayre, that, though looking nearly equal in the pen, was not so even beneath when out in the open. Mr. Rothwell's reserve, Fulwood Duke, was a big one, but it scarcely showed the quality of the others. The first-prize pig in this class was subsequently placed reserve champion. There was a much larger entry of pens of three boar pigs farrowed in 1905. The Earl of Ellesmere continued his Nottingham success with three very even-matching ones sired by Roger, and he was also reserve with another pen not quite so matching. The second prize went to Mr. T. Simpson Jay for a nice pen with plenty of activity, and which had fleshed themselves much more heavily since Nottingham; in consequence of this, Mr. R. Daybell had to take up the unusual position of third, for him. They were lengthy pigs, and another judge might have placed them otherwise. There was a magnificent class of Large White breeding sows; at one time these showed length without depth, but now they have been moulded, and, many of them approached, in carcase weight, that of some of the horned stock. The Earl of Ellesmere determined to win, and so he took first with Worsley Sunbeam 1st, Borrowfield Rose 70th, and Dame Worsley 35th; it was certainly a clean sweep, but the sows were worthy of the position they held. Sunbeam was subsequently awarded the championship. Sir Gilbert Greenall had a capital sow in his Royal Counties winner Lindsey A.

There was a good class of three-sow pigs, and in came the Earl of Ellesmere again with another new broom, and made a clean sweep of the money; and not all the produce of one sire. The Earl evidently thinks that there is nothing like having a double strain and both of them good ones. The reserve card went to Mr. R. Daybell, whose pigs were well up to their usual merit, but they were evidently outclassed on this occasion.

Middle Whites.

Though not so many in number, there was very little indeed to complain of as regards the quality of the Middle Whites. The majority of them were much more typical than have been seen on some previous occasions; in fact, they must be considered the best lot of Middles seen out for a long time. In the old boar class, Sir Gilbert Greenall was placed first, and given the gold champion medal of the breed for that very fine boar Walton Turret 7th; it has a genial look of well content, denoting its feeding qualities, and has a very level, even top; and he carries this evenness down where the streaky bacon comes from as well. Second to him was placed Mr. Sanders Spencer's Holywell Rosario and the same exhibitor's Holywell Royal Viscount; both of them are smart, good pigs, the youngest of which has a future. Sir Gilbert Greenall was also reserved with Walton Turret 8th. The class for three young boars was small, the difficulty with smaller breeders being to obtain a matching trio of the same age. First went to Mr. T. Simpson Jay with a very fleshy lot that walked out evenly and well, they being of lovely quality. Second to him, as well as reserve, were the two pens sent by Mr. Sanders Spencer; these pigs were well shown. Sandwiched between them was that of Sir Gilbert Greenall, individually smart, but scarcely matching as a whole; the Hon. D. P. Bouverie being commended. The sow class was indeed a grand one, and the best of these was Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Jewel 2nd, that was placed reserve for the gold medal; as she stood, she formed a perfect picture, so even, so well finished, and yet having plenty of activity. Second to her was Holywell Barbara, exhibited by Mr. Leopold C. Paget, but of Mr. Sanders Spencer's breeding. Mr. Spencer was placed third for Holywell Carlisle, though it was somewhat of a consideration whether Sir Gilbert Greenall's Walton Rose 13th, a nice, well-made sow, would not have ascended higher than reserve.

The class for three sow pigs was rather small, but here the Hon. D. P. Bouverie drew to the fore with a pen of very lengthy pigs full of quality. Second to him came a pen from Mr. T. Simpson Jay that were also lengthy, but scarcely showed the depth of the others. There was very little to choose in point of merit between Mr. Sanders Spencer's pen by Holywell Middleton, which was third, and Sir Gilbert Greenall's pen by Offley John.

There were but two classes for Small Whites, and these brought but one exhibitor, the Hon. D. P. Bouverie, who sent some of his fine Coleshill stock, and these, being so full of merit, the judge gave them four prizes. In the boars, Coleshill Marquis 3rd was first, and Coleshill Marquis 4th second. In the sow class he exhibited two young sows by Coleshill Marquis 2nd out of Coleshill Graceful and Coleshill Ely respectively.

Berkshires.

It is perhaps as well that sometimes we have a judge who has the courage of his convictions, and who, knowing what a type should be, has the courage to keep breeders running away from it, and this may account for some alterations in the decisions of the Berkshires. As a whole, too many were small and short, heads and faces not showing character enough, and ears too pricky; and, besides, there is now a tendency to introduce too much white in the markings. In the old boar class the first prize went to Mr. J. Jefferson's Peel Champion, and a rare grand pig it is, but it was a decided uplifting of the Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Dollar was low down in the ranks at the Bath and West. Another step up was Sir Alexander Henderson's Buscot Reliance, a good, substantial sort of pig, not too big or too fat; the reserve going to an unnamed pig sent by Mr. J. A. Fricker. The champion prize was subsequently given to Peel Champion. The young boar class was a difficult one for any one to judge, as it was very difficult indeed to pick out three matching pens in the whole lot; they were either two big and one small, or vice versâ. Some were leggy, others had an insufficiency of bone to carry weight, and some were not perfect in their marking. The first prize went to a smart pen sent by Mr. Julius A. Fricker, by Hightide F. B., but even here one pig stood out above the others. Mr. G. Talford Inman was second, but there was hardly enough of them in comparison with the first. In the Duchess of Devonshire's third prize pen, the last of one being out above the rest was most marked, and her Grace was reserved with another pen, where, on the other hand there was one a little smaller than the others; it was so throughout the class. On the other hand, in the sow class, it was indeed difficult to tell which was best, so many were there that half a dozen might be turned out before the untrained eye, and it would not detect which was which. Here the first and reserve championship went to the Duchess of Devonshire's Polegate Dahlia; a very fine sow of good length, depth, and quality, but rather inclined to be long in the snout for a Berkshire. Previously, this sow was only highly commended at Nottingham, to rise to reserve at Bournemouth, and to be top winner of the class here. Then comes another twist with Lord Calthorpe's Compton Dolly, which walks well up from third at Bournemouth, over the back of Mr. Hudson's Pretty Polly, which was champion at Bournemouth; whilst perhaps as keen a lesson as any is that imparted by the position taken by Mr. G. T. Inman's Compton Rose, who found her hitherto untarnished laurels placed in the reserve.

The young sow class filled very well, and here there were about half a dozen top pens, after which there was a big falling off. Mr. Julius A. Fricker was well to the fore with an even-growing matching pen; these were of Hightide get. Second to them in the prize list, but scarcely discernable otherwise, was Mr. G. T. Inman's fine pen of the get of Supremes Boy. Third prize went to Mr. R. W. Hudson's pen, but they would not have had it had Mr. James Laurence, who was reserved, had a third hilt to have put with that pretty pair, but two, however good, with one not so good, could not hope to win.

The Tamworths made very fair classes, their breeders being fairly consistent as to the number of pens that they occupy. If anything, the breed showed up better than it did at the Bath and West, from which the prize positions were very considerably reversed. Thus Mr. Ibbotson's Knowle Bounder, which was reserved at Nottingham, goes up to first at Park Royal; whilst Knowle King Rupert descends from first at Nottingham to third prize here. Whereas Mr. D. W. P. Philip's Whitacre Radium holds his own as second at both places, and it is an open question, with its good back loin and hams, as to whether it should not have been placed higher than it was. There was a very small entry of young boars, only three, Mr. Ibbotson most rightly maintaining his lead from the Midlands; it is a nice pen with nice coats, good size, and well modelled, with even top and bottom lines. The second pen of Mr. H. C. Stephens is well balanced, the reserve lot of Mr. D. W. Philips, though matching, being scarcely large enough. The sow class was undoubtedly the best of the Tamworths, Mr. E. J. Merant bringing in a fine big sow of good length and more level than usual, and very deep in the sides. Second went to Mr. H. C. Stephen's Childerton Favourite 5th, a very useful lengthy sow, Mr. Philip being reserve with Whitacre Cactus, one of the right sort, a typical Tamworth that was second at Nottingham; the reserve going to Mr. Robert Ibbotson's Childerton Buzzer. It was a small class of young sows, only three threes being present; Mr. H. C. Stephens was first here with a pen that had plenty of quality, which, combined with their length and excellent hams, made them attractive. The second prize went to a pen sent by Mr. Robert Ibbotson, Mr. D. W. Philip being third with a pen that did not disclose size enough.

Large Blacks.

The exponents of the Large Blacks are evidently determined to keep them well to the fore by judicious selection; they have bred out the coarse points, and now have the best of quality, grown so that the flesh can hang all round them; the thick shoulders have been reduced. Perhaps there is no class in which the interest increases as much as in these, as here the Black Suffolks and Cornish Blacks meet to fight it out under the now well-recognised designation of Large Blacks. There was a big class of big-weights in the Large Black boar class, Mr. G. F. Marriner coming in well to the fore with his grand two-year-old boar, Bodminson 1st; it has substance and size combined with evenness. Sir Robert Wilmot was placed second with Harketon Lord 1st, another fine pig, also bred by Mr. Marriner. The third went to Mr. Richard O. Olver for Trescames Pride, which was third at Nottingham; whilst the reserve went to Mr. John Warne's Trenegler Darkey Jim, which was first in its class at Nottingham, a big, shifting round of positions. Mr. K. Clark's Sudbourne Steward 2nd, which was second at Nottingham, was now only highly commended. Mr. Marriner also secured the championship of the Large Blacks with Badminton 1st. Instead of having a pen of Large Blacks, the class is for bacon pig farrowed in 1905. Why this distinction should be made in favour of the Large Blacks is unknown, as it certainly places them at an advantage as compared with the others. Here Mr. John Warne was placed first and reserve for the championship with Trevesquite Victor, a very smart growing youngster, very choice, fine in the bone, and no coarseness. Second to him was placed Mr. H. J. Kingwell's Brent Excelsior, that did not get noticed at Nottingham; Mr. Arthur S. Mann being a capital third. The sow class was undoubtedly the best of the lot, some tremendous specimens being shown, but they were somewhat marred in appearance by the excessive oiling to

which they had been subjected. Mr. Marriner came to the fore with that big, deep-framed, heavily fleshed sow with tremendous hams, Harketon Long Bess 3rd. Second to her was Mr. Ephraim Gimblett's Davidstow Model, another big one of great scale. These two sows were placed first and reserve for the twenty-guinea challenge cup. The third prize went to Mr. Olver's Trescame Beauty 10th. Some of the other sows were just a trifle inclined to coarseness. The classs for pen of three young sows brought a capital entry. Mr. J. Kingwell was first with his Nottingham pen, very typical, good length, and capital coats. The second went to Mr. Thomas Warne, with a very matching trio, rather thin in the coat, but hardy. Third went to Mr. R. R. Rothwell, which shows how the breed is spreading northward these pigs were rather smaller, but they looked well when out. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark's exhibit was commend.

Butter.

It is evident that if the Royal has to carry on a show elsewhere more attention must be paid to the produce department, more especially the butter. As it is at present, butter, cheese, cider, and meal are all exhibited under one shed, and neither of them is seen to the best advantage. At the Bath and West, and other shows, it is not found necessary to hedge in the butter and cheese exhibits with netting and thus render them unattractive to the visitors. The butter had either arrived in a very bad condition, or else it got like it on Monday and Tuesday. The butter is kept in what is supposed to be a refrigerator, the general construction of which appears to be to consume as much ice as possible with correspondingly little benefit. The ice melts in a sort of derelict whale backbone arrangement, which allows the ice water to drip right down into a trench, thus it takes a lot of ice to reduce the temperature of the air in the jeweller's case arrangement in which the butter is exhibited. The salt butter class gets rather less interesting year by year, or the need for it decreases; but this year interest revived because competitors from England, Wales, and Ireland entered into a friendly rivalry, and Ireland won. The Urney Co-operative Dairy sending a splendid butter neatly packed in a square box. The Lisbellam Co-operative Agricultural Society, who were second, also sent their produce in a box. There was a rather large class of butter, slightly salted, made up in pounds without restriction of breed of cows from which made. The first prize went to a well-known Somerset exhibitor, Mrs. George Adlam Wackey, Hale Wells.

[Pressure on our space compels us to hold over our comments on the cheese and cream and perry sections.]

JUDGES.

HORSES.

Hunters.—T. H. Hutchinson, The Manor House, Catterick.

Hunters.—J. M. Richardson, Edmondthorpe Hall, Oakham.

Cleveland Bays.—F. P. Baker, Ingmanthorpe Grange, near Wetherby.

Coach Horses.—Richard Foxton, Manor Farm, Dringhouses, York.

Hackneys.—Robert Whitworth, Southwood End Halifax.

Ponies.—Tom Mitchell, Upwood, Bingley, Yorkshire.

Shetland, Mountain, and Moorland Ponies.—John M. Martin, Murleston House, Mid-Calder, N.B.

Polo and Riding Ponies.—Edward Mucklow, jun., Wood Hill, Bury, Lancs.

Shires.—Joseph Morton, Stow, Downham Market.

Clydesdales.—John McCaig, Challock, Leswalt, Stranraer.

Suffolks.—Cordy S. Wolton, Ixworth, Bury St. Edmunds.

CATTLE.

Shorthorn Bulls.—John C. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, Skelton, Penrith. Cows and Heifers.—Harry Butler, Badminton, Chippenham.

Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns.—C. W. Tindall, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire.

Herefords.—Christopher Williams, Glenthorne, Holmer, Hereford.

Devons.—Samuel Kidner, Bickley, Milverton, Somerset.

South Devons.—William P. Vosper, Merafield, Plympton, Devon.

Sussex.—Alfred Heasman, Court Wick, Littlehampton.

Welsh.—J. W. Harris, Pilshoth, Llanstephan Road, Carmarthen.

Red Polled.—D. F. Smith, Steward's Office, Easton Park, Wickham Market.

Aberdeen-Angus.—Robert Bruce, Leinster House, Dublin.

Galloways.—Samuel Thomson, Buxley, Duns.

Highland.—Duncan McDiarmid, Camusericht, Rannoch Station.

Ayrshires.—John Murray, Carston, Ochiltree, Ayrshire.

Jersey Bulls.—W. P. Arkwright, Sutton Scarsdale, Chesterfield.

Jersey Cows and Heifers.—W. Ashcroft, 13, The Waldrons, Croydon.

Guernseys.—Dav. Michie, Tichborne Park Estate Office, Alresford.

Longhorn.—A. S. Berry, Church Farm, Whittington, Lichfield.

Kerry and Dexter.—F. A. Hordern, Buxted, Sussex.

SHEEP.

Oxford Downs.—James P. Case, Binham Abbey, Wighton, R.S.O., Norfolk.

Shropshores.—J. E. Farmer, Felton, Ludlow.

Southdowns.—George F. Hempson, Good Hall, Ardleigh, Essex.

Hampshire Downs.—Joseph Dean, Chitterne, Codford, Wilts.

Suffolks.—Charles T. A. Robertson, Little Horringer Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

Lincolns.—Charles Clarke, Brookside, Scopwick, Lincoln.

Leicesters.—Benjamin Painter, Cow Close Farm, Burley-on-the-Hill, Oakham.

Cotswolds.—Robert Jacobs, Eynsham, Oxford.

Border Leicesters.—Joseph Lee, Congalton, Drem.

Kent or Romney Marsh.—Francis de B. Collard, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate.

Wensleydales.—Metcalfe Spensley, Castle Bank, Leyburn, R.S.O., Yorks.

Dorset Horn.—John Chick, Compton Valence, Dorchester.

Devon Long-wool.—E. R. Berry-Torr, Instow, North Devon.

Dartmoor and Exmoor.—William P. Vosper, Merafield, Plympton, Devon.

Cheviots.—John Elliot, Hindhope, Jedburgh.

Black-faced Mountain.—C. Howatson, Glenbuck, Scotland.

Lonks.—George Dewhurst, 222, Portland Street, Southport.

Herdwicks.—John Hawell, Armboth House, Thirlmere, Grasmere, Cumberland.

Welsh Mountain.—David Price, Bulwark House, Brecon.

Ryeland.—Francis Hawkins, Sugwas, Swainshill, R.S.O., Herefordshire.

PIGS.

Large Whites.—John Angus, Whitefield, Morpeth.

Middle and Small Whites.—Anthony F. Nichol, Bradford, Belford, Northumberland.

Berkshires.—John Watts, Fair Green, Sarsden, Chipping Norton.

Tamworths.—W. H. Mitchell, Elmdene, Kenilworth.

Large Blacks.—Robert Beaumont Bond, The Red House, Sproughton, Ipswich.

PRODUCE.

Butter.—Professor H. J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock.

Cheese.—J. Hudson, jun., 50, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

Cider and Perry.—John H. Wootton, Byford, Hereford.

Wool.—Charles Willey, 3, Eldon Terrace, Bradford.

PRIZE LIST.

Horses.

HUNTERS.

Class 1.—Mare (with foal at foot), up to 13 stone and upwards: 1, F. B. Wilkinson (Glosspore); 2, Sir Walter Gilbey (The Witch); 3, E. W. Robinson (Golden Leaf); r. and h.c., Sir M. R. Burrell; h.c. and c., J. A. Mullens (2) (Gaiety Girl and Glowworm).

Class 2.—Filly, foaled in 1902: 1, Lord Middleton (Mercy); 2, F. B. Wilkinson (The Duchess); r. and h.c., J. L. Nickisson (Limelight).

Class 3.—Filly, foaled in 1903: 1, C. Kelway-Bamber (Columbine); 2, M. B. Lindow (Sunshine); r. and h.c., C. H. Dixon (The Squaw).

Class 4.—Filly, foaled in 1904: 1, J. L. Nickisson (Success); 2, W. and J. A. Cheney (Lady Madcap).

Class 4a.—Mare or gelding, foaled in 1901: 1, W. and J. A. Cheney (Casual); 2, J. H. Stokes (Kitchener); 3, J. H. Stokes (Artist); r. and h.c., J. H. Stokes (Knicknack); h.c., Lord Middleton (Scruple); C. J. Robinson (The Rector).

Class 5.—Mare or gelding, up to 14 stone and upwards, foaled in or before 1901: 1 and 2, J. H. Stokes (Gold Leaf and Lady Emily); 3, F. G. Colman (Chance); r. and h.c., A. J. Brown (Ireland); h.c., F. G. Colman (Android); c., J. P. Hornung (Draco).

Class 6.—Mare or gelding, under 14 stone, foaled in or before 1900: 1, A. J. Brown (Huntsman); 2, J. H. Stokes (Rosebud); 3, A. Cory-Wright (Grandee); r. and h.c., P. B. Rondocanachi (Princethorpe).

Best hunter mare; gold medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society: W. and J. A. Cheney (Casual); r., J. H. Stokes (Rosebud).

Best hunter filly; gold medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society: Lord Middleton (Mercy); r., J. L. Nickisson (Success).

CLEVELAND BAYS.

Class 7.—Stallion, foaled in 1902 or 1903: 1, G. Scoby (Beadlam Fred); 2, F. H. Stericker (Radium); 3, J. Lett (Rillington Reliance); r. and h.c., T. Naggs (Saltburn Favourite).

Class 8.—Mare (with foal at foot): 1, F. W. Horsfall (Lady Salton); 2, G. Grandage (Lady Toft); 3, F. Bateman (Queen of Beadlam).

Class 9.—Filly, foaled in 1902 or 1903: 1, G. Grandage (Woodland Briar); 2, C. Butters (Cholderton Farndale).

COACH HORSES.

Class 10.—Stallion, foaled in 1902 or 1903: 1, John Lett (Special Delight); 2, Bert Kitching (Young Mischief); 3, F. H. Stericker (Aneroid); r. and h.c., G. Scoby (Walwin); c., J. Lett (Special Brand).

Class 11.—Mare (with foal at foot): 1, J. Webster (Bell of Harum); 2, G. Elders (Aislaby Beauty); 3, F. W. Horsfall (Perseverance).

Class 12.—Filly, foaled in 1902 or 1903: 1, G. Grandage (Woodland Beauty); 2, J. Lett (Madeline); 3, G. Grandage (Mayflower).

HACKNEYS.

Class 13.—Stallion, foaled in 1902, 15 hands 1 in. and upwards: 1, R. P. Evans (Evanthius); 2, Sir Walter Gilbey (Kirkburn Sensation); 3, Mrs. Frederick E. Colman (All Serene); r. and h.c., F. J. Batchelor (Hopwood Admiral); h.c., A. A. Haley (Dumbarton) and F. Smith (Viscount Hopwood).

Class 14.—Stallion, foaled in 1903: A. A. Haley (Hiawatha); 2, Sir Walter Gilbey (Dashing Duke); 3, Alfred Benson (Copper Duke); r. and h.c., Mrs. E. Fletcher (Angram King); h.c., F. J. Batchelor (Hopwood Legislator) and J. Beal (Blanche Surprise).

Class 15.—Stallion, foaled in 1904: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey (Bouncing Danegelt); 2, R. P. Evans; r. and h.c., A. Lewis (Heacham Dignity).

Class 16.—Mare (with foal at foot), 15 hands and upwards: 1, W. B. Tubbs (Rosadora); 2, Walter Briggs (Lady Millie).

Class 17.—Filly, foaled in 1902: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey (Mitre); 2, H. Le Marchant (Green Girl); 3, Stephen Cliff (Crayke Czarina); r. and h.c., John Kerr, M.P. (Coldspring Evaline); h.c., Dr. A. Bowie (Middleton Polly) and Sir Walter Gilbey (Bold Clara).

Class 18.—Filly, foaled in 1903: 1, R. P. Evans (Pollinaris); 2, W. R. Lysaght (Wyelands Mary); 3, Sir Walter Gilbey (Dashing Princess); r. and h.c., Mrs. F. E. Colman (Prudence of Nork); c., H. Albenhausen (Dashing Dunham) and R. Hussey (Songstress).

Hackney stallion; gold medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society: R. P. Evans (Evanthius); r., Sir Walter Gilbey (Bouncing Danegelt).

Hackney mare or filly; gold medal offered by the Hackney Horse Society: W. B. Tubbs (Rosadora); r., Sir Walter Gilbey (Mitre).

PONIES.

Class 19.—Stallion, above 12.2, and not exceeding 14 hands: 1, T. Smith (Pindersfield Horace); 2, Rev. George Cruddas (Boydie).

Class 20.—Stallion, not exceeding 12.2: 1, Carr and Co., (Torchfire); 2, Duchess of Newcastle (Linnel Don); 3, J. M. Dugdale (Llwyn Prince of Wales).

Class 21.—Mare (with foal at foot), above 12.2, and not exceeding 14 hands: 1, Mrs. T. S. Hall (Berry Hill Sniff); 2, O. T. Price (Gold Fleece).

Class 22.—Mare (with foal at foot), not exceeding 12.2: 1, Mrs. F. Jagger (Only a Midget); 2 and 3, J. M. Dugdale (Llwyn Nell) and Llwyn Jessie).

Class 23.—Mare, foaled in 1902 or 1903, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, G. C. Wand (Fernehurst Fortuna); 2, Robert Hussey (Minnow); 3, O. T. Price (Adbolton Dearest).

SHETLAND PONIES.

Class 24.—Stallion, not exceeding 10½ hands, foaled previously to or in 1902: 1, Ladies E. and D. Hope (Haldor); 2 and 3, R. W. R. Mackenzie (Marquis and Monkshood); r. and h.c., Mrs. J. Beale (Northern Light); c., W. Fawcett (Ramoth).

Class 25.—Mare, not exceeding 10½ hands, foaled previously to or in 1901: 1 and ½, R. W. R. Mackenzie (Good Flower and Strawberry); 2, Ladies E. and D. Hope (Freesia); r. and h.c., William Fawcett (Ruby); h.c., Mrs J. Beale (Temerity).

Class 26.—Filly, foaled in 1902 or 1903: 1 and r. and h.c., R. W. R. Mackenzie (Bellwort and Brilliant); 2 and 3, Ladies E. and D. Hope (Viola and Patti).

Silver Medal offered by the Shetland Pony Stud Book Society: Ladies E. and D. Hope (Haldor); r., R. W. R. Mackenzie (Gold Flower).

MOUNTAIN AND MOORLAND PONIES.

Class 27.—Stallion, foaled previously to or in 1901, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, Evan Jones (Greylight); 2, Harry Dyson (Twilight); 3, Radnorshire Company, Limited (His Lordship); r. and h.c., R. M. Greaves (Wern Crocus).

Class 28.—Mare, foaled previously to or in 1901, not exceeding 13 hands: 1, J. M. Dugdale (Llwyn Snowdrop); 2 and r. and h.c., E. Hollingworth (Yffran Ddu and Titw); 3, W. Greaves; h.c., R. M. Greaves (Wern Rainy).

POLO AND RIDING PONIES.

Class 30.—Stallion, not exceeding 14.2: 1, Radnorshire Company (Gownboy); 2, John Barker (Antre); 3, S. H. Moorhouse (Rudheath); r. and h.c., C. W. Wilson (Holidon).

Class 31.—Mare, above 13.2, and not exceeding 14.2 (with foal at foot, or in foal): 1, and 3, John Barker (Sapphire and Black Bella); 2 and r., Miss L. C. Standish (The Pheasant and Silver Star); c., T. Gilbey (Early Dawn); c., Rev. D. B. Montefiore (Grey Wings); c., Radnorshire Company (Modest Maiden).

Class 32.—Mare, not exceeding 13.2 (with foal at foot, or in foal): 1, Rev. D. B. Montefiore (Kathleen); 2, Colonel E. N. Henriques (Aristocrat); 3, Radnorshire Company (Kitty Owen)

Class 33.—Gelding or filly, foaled in 1902, not exceeding 14.1½: 1 and 3, John Barker (Marquis and Spring Lightning); 2, Earl of Leitrim (May Flower); r. and h.c., Tresham Gilbey (Tortoiseshell); c., Tresham Gilbey (Rosy Dawn).

Class 34.—Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1903, not exceeding 14.0½: 1 and 2, John Barker (Rachel and Nimbler); 3, Colonel E. N. Henriques (Columbine); r. and h.c., Radnorshire Company (Oh My 3rd); c., Sir R. Wilmot (Dieudonné).

Class 35.—Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1904: 1 and 2, John Barker (Flash Lightning and Meddling); 3, Rev. D. B. Montefiore (Delightful); r. and h.c., Tresham Gilbey (Quicksand); c., J. Barker (Silvian); c., W. St. A. R. Boughton (May Boy); c., Radnorshire Company (Senior Wrangler).

Best polo and riding pony stallion in Class 30: 1, Radnorshire Company (Gownboy); r., John Barker (Antre).

Best polo and riding pony mare in Classes 31 and 32: 1, John Barker (Sapphire); r., Miss L. C. Standish (The Pheasant).

HARNESS HORSES.

Class 36.—Mare or gelding, 15.2 and upwards: 1, W. E. Inman (Silver Ness); 2, Miss E. S. Ross (Rowton Blackthorn); 3, J. Kerr, M.P. (Forest Fireaway); r. and h.c., J. R. Dixon (Merrion Royal Dane); h.c., H. H. Konig (Madge Kendal).

Class 37.—Mares or geldings under 15.2: 1, Mrs. Hartley Batt (Heathfield Squire); 2, W. S. Cunard (Wild Lucy); 3, E. H. Goad (Lord Pick-em-up); r. and h.c., H. H. Konig (Gay Girl and Hendric); c., H. Le Marchant (The Only Way)

Class 38.—Pony mares or geldings, not exceeding 14 hands: 1, W. S. Cunard (Queen Go-Bang); 2, Miss G. Clarke (Berkeley Bobs); 3, W. Lloyd (Moonhill Model); r. and h.c., T. Smith (Shirley Dasher); h.c., H. Frank (Tissington Kit Cat) and T. P. Robinson (Pinderfields Ruby); c., E. H. Goad (Jersey Lily).

Class 39.—Pair of mares or geldings, 15.2 and upwards: 1, J. Kerr, M.P. (Advertisement and Paddock Wildfire); 2, Miss E. S. Ross (Rowton Vinca and Rowton Blackthorn); 3 and r., Miss E. K. Cunliffe (Sam Weller and Beckingham Gentleman, and Rowton Merrylegs and Rowton Vitalba).

Class 40.—Pair of mares or geldings, under 15.2: 1, W. S. Cunard (Jenny Lind and Wild Lucy); 2, H. Le Marchant (The Only Way and Chieftain); 3, E. H. Goad (Lord and Lady Pick-em-up); r., Hon. Mrs. Ward (Prince of Naples and Amphray).

Best mare or gelding in classes 36 to 38: Mrs. Hartley Batt (Heathfield Squire); r., W. E. Inman (Silver Ness).

Hackney Horse Society's prize, as above.

Class 41.—Mares or geldings, of any height, to be driven tandem: 1, Miss Ella Ross Rowton (Vinca and Rowton Blackthorn); 2, John Kerr, M.P. (Advertisement and Paddock Wildfire); 3, W. S. Cunard (Jenny Lind and Wild Lucy).

Class 42.—Mares or geldings, to be shown in harness with coach: 1, Mr. Walter Winans; 2, Miss Ella Ross; 3, Sir Edward Stern; r., Mrs. Marshall Roberts.

TROTTING HORSES.

Class 43.—Mare or gelding, of any age or height, bred in the United Kingdom, to be driven in a buggy or sulky against time: 1, William Sampson (Solomon).

Class 44.—Mare or gelding, of any age or height, to be driven in a buggy or sulky against time: 1, 2, and 3, Louis W. Winans.

SHIRES.

Class 45.—Stallion, foaled in 1902: 1, Lord Rothschild (Delamere Chorister); 2, R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe (Souldern Scylax); 3, Earl Egerton (Eastoft Royal Lad); r. and h.c., Sir P. A. Muntz (Dunsmore Hydrometer); h.c., Captain W. H. O. Duncombe (Duke Albert of Waresley); c., C. Bell (Norley Advance).

Class 46.—Stallion, foaled in 1903: 1, Lord Rothschild (Childwick Champion); 2, J. Gould (Lymm Champion); 3 and r. and h.c., Sir P. A. Muntz (Dunsmore Albert Victor and Dunsmore Regent); h.c., M. Michaelis (Rokeby Pretender); Leopold Salomons (Norbury Wizard).

Class 47.—Stallion, foaled in 1904: 1, F. artsworth (Ratcliffe Forest King); 2, L. Salomons (Norbury Menestrel); 3, Charles Bell (Norley Prince); r. and h.c., Max Michaelis (Redlynch M.P.); h.c., Sir O. Mosley (Rodeston King); c., A. T. Umfreville (Hempstead Rival).

Class 48.—Mare, with foal at foot: 1, Sir E. D. Stern (Ladysmith 2nd); 2, Earl Egerton (May Flower); 3, R. W. Hudson (Tatton Tapestry); r. and h.c. the Duke of Westminster (The Nun).

Class 49.—Filly, foaled in 1902: 1, John Bradley (Halstead Duchess 3rd); 2, Sir P. A. Muntz (Bonny Blue); 3, Lord Middleton (Birdsall Coraline); r. and h.c., Walpole Greenwell (Hendre Favourite); h.c., Sir A. Henderson (Ivy Fashion).

Class 50.—Filly, foaled in 1903: 1, Sir P. A. Muntz (Dunsmore Fuchsia); 2, Max Michaelis (Pailton Sorais); 3, H.M. the King (Facsonia); r. and h.c., T. Simpson Jay (Wimbledon Fuchsia); h.c., T. Simpson Jay (Johnson Fairyq Queen); c., Walpole Greenwell (Marden Queen); c., Lord Middleton (Birdsall Candy and Birdsall Coral).

Class 51.—Filly, foaled in 1904: 1, Earl Egerton (Tatton May Queen); 2, John Bradley (Halstead Duchess 4th); 3, W. and J. Thompson (Desford Future Queen); r. and h.c., Fletcher and Andrews (Maori Sunbeam); h.c., Sir A. Henderson (Buscot Fantasy); h.c., M. Michaelis (Catthorpe Floral); c., Sir O. Mosley.

Class 52.—Gelding, foaled in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1 and 3, A. C. Sparks (Oldfield Duke and Oldfield Prince); 2, Joseph Park (Blackbird); r. and h.c., Peter Coats (Clifford Victor); h.c., Lady Wantage (Lockinge William); c., M White (Gallant's Prince).

Best Shire stallion in Classes 45 to 47: 1, Lord Rothschild (Dclamere Chorister); r., Lord Rothschild (Childwick Champion).

Best Shire mare or filly in Classes 48 to 51: 1, Sir P. A. Muntz (Dunsmore Fuchsia); r., John Bradley (Halstead Duchess 3rd).

CLYDESDALES.

Class 53.—Stallion, foaled in 1902: 1, Sir John Gilmour (Montrave Magnus); 2 and 3, A. and W. Montgomery (Earl of Angus and Baron Airies).

Class 54.—Stallion, foaled in 1903: 1, A and W. Montgomery (Baron Fyvie); 2, Seaham Harbour Stud (Pearl Diver).

Class 55.—Stallion, foaled in 1904: 1, A. and W. Montgomery; 2, T. Smith (Admiral Togo).

Class 56.—Mare, with foal at foot: 1, J. E. Kerr (Lady Garnet); 2, Sir John Gilmour (Montrave Rena); 3, Seaham Harbour Stud (Scotch Mist).

Class 57.—Filly, foaled in 1902: 1, J. E. Kerr (Ambrosine); 2 and r. and h.c., Sir John Gilmour (Montrave Marion and Montrave Rosalind); 3, Herbert Webster (Lady Alexandria); h.c., Seaham Harbour Stud (Baroness).

Class 58.—Filly, foaled in 1903: 1, J. E. Kerr (Lady Rotha); 2, Seaham Harbour Stud (Silver Princess).

Class 59.—Gelding foaled in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, A. and W. Montgomery; 2, George Hodgson (King Harry).

Best Clydesdale stallion in Classes 53 to 55: 1 and r., A. and W. Montgomery (Baron Fyvie).

Best Clydesdale mare or filly in Classes 56 to 58: 1 and r., J. E. Kerr (Lady Garnet and Ambrosine).

SUFFOLKS.

Class 60.—Stallion, foaled in or before 1901: 1, K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Count); 2, R. E. White (Boulge Monarch).

Class 61—Stallion, foaled in 1902: 1, A. J. Smith (Rendlesham Sorcerer); 2, E. F. Quilter (Bentley Bashful Warrior); 3 and r. and h.c., K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Royal and Sudbourne Higness); h.c., Sir Cuthbert Quilter (Bawdsey Harvester); c., Sir Cuthbert Quilter (Bawdsey Squire).

Class 62.—Stallion, foaled in 1903: 1, E. F. Quilter (Bentley Kaiser); 2, Charles H. Berners (Prince Edward); 3, Alfred J. Smith (Rendlesham Braggadocio); r. and h.c., K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Conqueror); h.c., E. F. Quilter (Bentley Glory).

Class 63.—Stallion, foaled in 1904: 1, E. F. Quilter (Bentley Grist); 2, Robert Edgar (Cheerful Prince); 3, K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Arabi); r. and h.c., E. A. Cook (Ormond).

Class 64.—Mare, with foal at foot: 1 and 2, K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Arabella and Sudbourne Queen of Diamonds); 3, R. Eaton White (Boulge Maid); r. and h.c., E. F. Quilter (Bentley Belle); h.c., A. J. Smith (Stella).

Class 65 Filly, foaled in 1902: 1, Sir Cuthbert Quilter (Bawdsey Daisy 2nd); 2, K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Susan); 3, John Symonds (Diamond); r. and h.c., E. F. Quilter (Bentley Perfect).

Class 66.—Filly, foaled in 1903: 1, Sir Cuthbert Quilter (Bawdsey China Aster); 2 and r. and h.c., K. M. Clark Sudbourne Beauty and Sudbourne Midget); 3, Alfred J. Smith (Rendlesham Tola); h.c., A. J Smith (Rendlesham Katherine).

Class 67 Gelding, foaled in 1899, 1900, or 1901: 1, C. H. Berners (Jolly); 2 and 3, Sir Cuthbert Quilter (Bowler and Prince); r. and h.c., E. F. Quilter (Proctor); h.c., E. F Quilter (Duke).

Best Suffolk stallion in Classes 60 to 63: 1, A. J. Smith (Rendlesham Sorcerer); r., K. M. Clark (Sudbourne Count).

Cattle.

SHORTHORNS

Class 68.—Shorthorn bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, Robert Taylor (Royal Emblem); 2, A. J. Marshall (Roan Conqueror); 3, A. F. Nichol (Baron Butterfly); r. and h.c., Richard Stratton (Great Mogul); h.c., His Majesty the King (Royal Carlisle); J. Deane Willis (Matchless Diamond); c., Lord Barrymore (Chewton Victor 5th); William Bell (Baron Hopeful); W. Graham (Ingram's Stamp); J. Harris (Royal Emperor Oxford 13th); A. J. Marshall (Primrose Knight).

Class 69.—Shorthorn bull, calved in 1903: 1, J. Deane Willis (Doynton Brave Archer); 2, R. P. Cooper (Meteor); 3, Philo L. Mills (King Christian of Denmark); r. and h.c., F. Miller (Limepark Champion); h.c., S. E. Dean and Sons (Imperial Favourite); George Harrison (Pioneer); Robert Taylor (Pitlivie General 2nd); c., His Majesty the King (Pride of Sunshine); A. D. Acland (Sharpshooter); F. A. and E. H. M. Denny (Swinnie Duke); the Duke of Northumberland (2) (Famous Leader and Northumbrian).

Class 70.—Shorthorn bull, calved in 1904: 1, Lord Polwarth (British Renown); 2, J. Deane Willis (Orphan Chief); 3, A. T. Gordon (Fascinator); r. and h.c., G. Harrison (Royal Ensign); h.c., His Majesty the King (Crystal Talisman); C. A. Hirst (Golden Spur); c., A. F. Basset (Tehidy Irish Guard); Leopold de Rothschild (Ascott Mainstay); Sir A. C. Stepney (Prince of Latton 8th).

Class 71.—Shorthorn cow, in milk, calved previously to or in 1901: 1, J. Deane Willis (White Heather); 2, T. F. Roskruge (Lobelia); 3, J. Colman (Hawthorn Flower); r. and h.c., G. Harrison (Ursula Raglan); h.c., Leopold de Rothschild (Grove Ursula); c., J. Colman (Adeline); R. Silcock and Sons (Clementine).

Class 72.—Shorthorn heifer, in milk, calved in 1902: 1, Leopold de Rothschild ((Lady's Slipper); 2, W. Bell (Ratcheugh Witch); 3, H. S. Leon (Roseleaf); r. and h.c., Sir Oswald Mosley (Yours Faithfully); h.c., A. B. and W. G. Little (Rosemary 4th).

Class 73.—Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1903: 1, F. Miller (Lady Amy 7th); 2, Sir A. Henderson (Lady Buscot Grace); 3, the Earl of Northbrook (Clorinda); r. and h.c., R. Taylor (Pitlivie Carnation); h.c., His Majesty the King (Datura); J. Harris (Oxford Duchess of Calthwaite 36th)) c., J. Harris (Duchess 138th); Sir O. Mosley (Rolleston Elderflower); F. J. Stewart (Scotch Maid 2nd).

Class 74.—Shorthorn heifer, calved in 1904: 1, His Majesty the King (Receptim); 2, A. F. Basset (Tehidy, Queen of Brilliants); 3, the Earl of Powis (Welsh Maid); r and h.c., F. Miller (Lady Hermoine); h.c., A. A. Haley (Bright Jewel 6th); A. A. Haley (Queen of Ankness); the Duke of Northumberland (Rose of Kent); c., His Majesty the King (Sybil); Lord Calthorpe (Aldsworth Beryl); H. S. Leon (Princess Mary); the Earl of Northbrook (Persis 6th); Rowland Parker (Musical 110th); T. F. Roskruge (Ada Gwynne).

Class 75.—Shorthorn dairy cow, in milk, calved previously to or in 1900: 1, J. T. Hobbs (Orange Blossom 13th); 2, Lord Rothschild (Tulip Leaf); 3, R. W. Hobbs (Betty 7th); r. and h.c., C. R. W. Adeane (Lucretia); h.c., G. Taylor (Melody); c., C. E. Wodehouse (Clematis 2nd).

Class 76.—Shorthorn dairy cow, in milk, calved in or after 1901: 1, G. W. Tyser (Darlington Cran); 2, A. B. and W. G. Little (Roseleaf 2nd); 3, W. J. Hosken (Gwynne J 2nd); r. and h.c., Lord Rothschild (Llynclys Actress).

Best Shorthorn bull in Classes 68 to 70: 1, Robert Taylor (Royal Emblem); r., A. J. Marshall (Roan Conqueror).

Best Shorthorn cow or heifer in Classes 71 to 74: 1, F. Miller (Lady Amy 7th); r., H.M. the King (Reception).

LINCOLNSHIRE RED SHORTHORN.

Class 78.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, Thomas B. Freshney (Saltfleet Bonus); 2, Edward H. Cartwright (Stenigot Bloom Boy); 3, S. Crawley (Weston Monarch 2nd).

Class 79.—Bull, calved in 1903: 1, James Cartwright (Sharpshooter); 2, Hon. Gerald B. Portman (Healing Blucher); 3, John Langham (Brandon Champion).

Class 80.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1 and 2, R. and R. Chatterton.

Class 81.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, John Evens (Saltfleet Favourite); 2, T. B. Freshney (Ruby 12th); 3, S. B. Carnley (Norbury Duchess); r. and h.c., J. Langham (Brandon Satellite); h.c., J. Evens (Burton Primrose II.).

Class 82.—Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, John Todd (Kirkby Nonpareil); 2, W. J. Atkinson (Ruby 14th); 3, Captain E. M. Grantham (Keal Nancy).

Class 83 Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, John Langham (Brandon Red Rose); 2, John Marriott (Cropwell Belle 2nd); 3, R. and R. Chatterton (Stenigot Daisy 14th); r. and h.c., W. J. Atkinson (Red Rosette 6th).

HEREFORDS.

Class 85 Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, H.M. the King (Fire King); 2, George D. Faber (Prime Minister).

Class 86.—Bull, calved in 1903: 1, A. P. Turner (Marquis); 2, Earl of Coventry (Lama); 3, Sir J. R. G. Cotterell (Priam); r. and h.c., H.M. the King (Admiral).

Class 87.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1, Allan E. Hughes (Premier); 2, A. P. Turner (Antonio); 3, R. W. Hall (Gaffer); r. and h.c., C. T. Pulley (Eaton King); c., H.M. the King (Emperor); c., Sir J. R. G. Cotterell (Rameses II.).

Class 88.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton (Lady Betty); 2, Thomas R. Thompson (Bonnie Mary) 3, George D. Faber (Ivy Lass); r. and h.c., Richard Phipps (Nonsuch); h.c., R. Phipps (Furious).

Class 89.—Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, Allen E. Hughes (Ivington Plum); 2, John R. Hill (Western Star); 3, Peter Coats (Dewy Maid); r. and h.c., Earl of Coventry (Golden Fairy); c., H.M. the King (Sophia), c., E. W. Caddick (Edith).

Class 90.—Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, C. T. Pulley (Ashleaf 3rd); 2, W. H. Davies (Counter); 3, Peter Coats (Pearl); r. and h.c., Earl of Coventry (British Fortune); c., Rees Keene (Gem).

Best Hereford bull in Classes 85 to 87: 1, H.M. the King (Fire King); r., A. P. Turner (Marquis).

Best Hereford cow or heifer in Classes 88 to 90: 1, Sir C. H. Rouse Boughton (Lady Betty); r., T. R. Thompson (Bonnie Mary).

DEVONS.

Class 91.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1 and 2, J. C. Williams (Drosera and Ficus); 3, T. S. Morgan (Pound Mayor).

Class 92.—Bull calved in 1903: 1 and r. and h.c., J. C. Williams (Dianthus and Mistletoe); 2, C. L. Hancock (Rufus); 3, Edward C. Norrish (Level Best).

Class 93.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1, Alfred C. Skinner (Pound Royal 2nd); 2, Hon. E. W. B. Portman (Pound Pink 'Un); 3 and r. and h.c., Edward C. Norrish (Master True Type and Fancy Free).

Class 94.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1 and 3, Alfred C. Skinner (Curly 2nd of Pound and Pound Curly 5th); 2 and r. and h.c., B. C. Shepherd (Hestercombe Myrtle and Hestercombe Leaf); c., H.M. the King (Ruby); c., T. S. Morgan (Whimple Beauty II.).

Class 95.—Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, J. C. Williams (Blooming Cow 19th); 2, H.M. the King (Dewdrop); 3, B. C. Shepherd (Hestercombe Rubric); r. and h.c., T. S. Morgan (Whimple Beauty 3rd).

Class 96.—Heifer, calved in 1904: 1 and r. and h.c., Eland Clatworthy (Cutsey Zenobia 2nd and Violetta); 2, H.M. the King (Lucy); 3, T. S. Morgan (Whimple Beauty 5th); h.c., H.M. the King (Nosegay); h.c., Hon. W. E. B. Portman (Favourite II.); h.c., J. C. Williams.

Best Devon bull in Classes 91 to 93: 1, J. C. Williams (Drosera); r., J. C. Williams (Dianthus).

Best Devon cow or heifer in Classes 94 to 96: 1, Alfred C. Skinner (Curly 2nd of Pound); r., B. C. Shepherd (Hestercombe Myrtle).

SOUTH DEVONS.

Class 97.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, J. Sparrow Wroth (Star's Duke); 2, Fred W. Rowe (Merry Boy).

Class 98.—Cow or heifer in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1 and 2, Benjamin Butland (Handsome and Buttercup); r. and h.c., Thomas R. C. Cundy (Myrtle).

SUSSEX.

Class 100.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, A. J. Thomas (Prince Confidence); 2, Earl of Derby (Mayor).

Class 101.—Bull calved in 1903: 1, C. J. Lucas (Lord Eric); 2, Hon. Ralph P. Nevill (Bonfire Prince 2nd); r. and h.c., J. Aungier (Lynwick Prince); c., A. J. Thomas (Pebble Prince Confidence).

Class 102.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1, Earl Winterton (Shillinglee Bewbush); 2, Gerald Warde (Gallant Statesman); r. and h.c., Hon. Ralph P. Nevill (Birling Lord)

Class 103.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, W. F. Finch (Warden Lady); r. and h.c., Earl of Derby (Fancy).

Class 104.—Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, Earl Winterton (Sunlight 5th); 2, Philip Saillard (Bewbush Wind 4th); r. and h.c., Gerald Warde (Tutsham Pearl); c., Earl of Derby (Metre).

Class 105.—Heifer, calved in 1904: 1 and 3, Earl Winterton (Simla 4th and Sunlight 7th); 2, John Aungier (Gwendoline of Lynwick); r. and h.c., A. J. Thomas (Prebble Smeath Twin 2nd); h.c., J. Aungier (Consolation II.); c., P. Saillard (Bewbush Bonnett).

WELSH.

Class 106.—Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903; 1, J. Scourfield (Lloffur); 2, R. M. Greaves (The Czar); 3, R. Roberts (Madoc Bach); r. and h.c., Lord Harlech (Tudor).

Class 107.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1, J. Owen (Derw Boy); 2 and 3, University College of North Wales (Madryn Hvfwr and Madryn Shon); r. and h.c., R. M. Greaves (Wern Delight); h.c., R. Roberts (Dick); c., J. M. Evans (Syfnau Satisfaction); Lord Harlech (Rhodes).

Class 108.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, R. M. Greaves (Pyrites 2nd); 2 and 3, University College of North Wales (Madryn Sally and Madryn Kate); r. and h.c., Coed Coch Trustees (Upstart II.).

Class 109.—Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1 and r. and h.c., University College of North Wales (Madryn Beryl and Madryn Mair); 2, J. W. Griffiths (Penally Primrose); 3, R. Thomas (Beauty 2nd).

RED POLLED.

Class 110.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, J. Hammond (Davyson 244th); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Recruit); r. and h.c., A. J. Smith (Rendlesham Sirdar); c., R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Victor); G. D. Smith (Redfern).

Class 111.—Bull, calved in 1903: 1, R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Major); 2, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Defender); 3, A. J. Smith (Rendlesham Knockin); r. and h.c., A. G. Scorer (Flaxmoor Firebrand); h.c., B. Prescott-Westcar (Chartist).

Class 112.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1 and 3, Sir Walter Corbet (Acton Rufus and Acton Garnet); 2, R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Ben); r. and h.c., Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P. (Alake); h.c., Lord Amherst of Hackney (Royal Jewel); Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Adjutant); c., R. P. Cooper; Earl of Radnor (Coronet).

Class 113.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, Lord Amherst of Hackney (Popsy 6th); 2, J. Hammond (Davy 204th); 3 and r. and h.c., Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Alba and Ardent); h.c., Sir Walter Corbet (Desirée of Johnstown); Sir T. V. Gooch (Royal Jane); c., Lord Amherst of Hackney (Nelly 6th); M. J. Sutton (Gay Maid).

Class 114.—Heifer, calved in 1903: 1 and 2, Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P. (Angelus and Avon 2nd); 3, R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Gravel); r. and h.c., Sir Thomas V. S. Gooch (Priestess); h.c., Sir Walter Corbet (2) (Acton Cowslip and Acton Twilight).

Class 115. Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, Sir Walter Corbet (Acton Primrose); 2, J. Hammond (Davy 283rd); 3, A. G. Scorer (Flaxmoor Geisha); r. and h.c., R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Flirt); h.c., Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Aunty); G. D. Smith (Stensham Duchess); c., Lord Amherst of Hackney (Embden 4th); Earl of Radnor (Ornament).

Best Red Polled bull in Classes 110 to 112: J. Hammond (Davyson 244th); r., Lord Amherst of Hackney (Recruit).

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Class 117.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, R. W. Hudson (Dancefield Jester); 2, G. Cyan (Jeshurun); 3, Rev. C. Bol-

Large Black Boar, Treveglos Darky Jim, 1199, Winner of First Prize at the Bath and West and Royal Counties Shows; and Reserve and Highly Commended at the Royal Show, 1905.

Bred and Exhibited by Mr. J. Warne, Treveglos, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

It was farrowed Jan. 28, 1904, and is by Trevisquite Conqueror, 679, out of Treveglos Hopeful, 2580.

den (Publican of Preston); r. and h.c., J. J. Cridlan (Wizard of Maisemore); h.c., J. H. Bridges (Dianthus 5th).

Class 118.—Bull, calved in 1903: 1 and 2, Rev. C. Bolden (Proud Hope and Veneration of Preston); 3, C. E. Hunter (Velasquez); r. and h.c., H. T. Birdsey (Ameer of Goodwood); h.c., J. McIntyre (Jim of Auchterarder); c., Sir Robert Dashwood (Prince Foremost); Charles Wills (Esmond of Wilts).

Class 119.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1 and r. and h.c., Sir James Duke (Jasper and Ribstone); 2, H. T. Birdsey (Gambler of Southcourt); 3, J. H. Bridges (Judge of Hursley); h.c., C. Wills (Admiral Togo 2nd); c., W. S. James (Rhombus of Danesfield).

Class 120.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, Mrs. Macpherson (Corskie 4th of Wyrley); 2, C. E. Hunter (Estimation); 3 and r. and h.c., J. J. Cridlan (Mabel 8th and 7th of Knapperna); c., C. Keevie (Julia of Powrie).

Class 121. Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, C. E. Hunter (Ruritania); 2, Rev. C. Bolden (Verona of Preston); r. and h.c., G. A. Cooper (Enamel of Dalvey); c., Sir Robert Dashwood (Princess Spot).

Class 122.—Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, Rev. C. Bolden (Election of Preston); 2, J. H. Bridges (Laurel of Langshott 5th); 3, C. E. Hunter (Evelid); r. and h.c., Sir James Duke (Elba); h.c., J. H. Bridges (Parthia of Langshott II.); c., J. J. Cridlan (2) (Blackbird II. of Maisemore and Proud Maisie); Sir J. Duke (Eolanthe); J. McIntyre (Abbess of Theakstone); Mrs. Macpherson (Tipsey of Wyrley II.).

Best Aberdeen-Angus animal in Classes 117 to 122: R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jester); r., C. E. Hunter (Ruritania).

Best Aberdeen-Angus animal of the opposite sex to that of the animal above: C. E. Hunter (Ruritania); r., Rev. C. Bolden (Verona of Preston).

GALLOWAYS.

Class 123.—Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903: 1, J. Cunningham (Chancellor of Ballyboley); 2, A. H. Fox-Brockbank (Defiance of Kirkconnel); 3, Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine (Black Douglas 4th of Castlemilk).

Class 124.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1, Andrew Montgomery (Captain 2nd of Tarbreoch); 2, Robert Graham (Black Pearl); 3, H. C. Stephens (Archer of Castlemilk).

Class 125.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine (Alice 2nd of Castlemilk); 2, J. Cunningham (Doris of Kilquhanity); 3, A. Palmer (Maggie of Castlemilk); r. and h.c., R. Graham (Violet 3rd of Cally).

Class 126.—Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1 and 2, J. Cunningham (Netty 32nd of Tarbreoch and Miss Sally 7th of Tarbreoch); 3, Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine (Alice 4th of Castlemilk); r. and h.c., R. Graham (Fairy Queen).

Best animal in Classes 123 to 126: Sir R. W. Buchanan Jardine (Alice II. of Castlemilk); r., J. Cunningham (Doris of Kilquhanity).

HIGHLAND.

Class 127.—Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, W. Sopper (King Alario); 2, W. D. Mackenzie (Calum Bann of Farr); 3, H. C. Stephens (Loch Tay).

Class 128.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, W. Sopper (Cattadale); 2 and 3, H. C. Stephens (Odstock 4th of Cholderton and Learaig 3rd of Cholderton).

AYRSHIRE.

Class 129.—Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904: 1 and 3, J. Howie (Morton Mains Waynflete and Howie's Give and Take); 2, A. Mitchell (McQuittiston Secretary); c., A. Mitchell.

Class 130.—Cow or heifer, in milk or in calf, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, A. Cross (Lady Jane of Knockdon); 2, A. Mitchell (Gay Lass); 3 and r. and h.c., Lieut.-Col. G. J. Fergusson-Buchanan (Auchentorlie Marguerite and Auchentorlie Susy 2nd); c., R. Wilson (Harvey 6th of Manswrae).

Class 131.—Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1 and 3, A. Mitchell (Handsome Nell and Sweet Briar); 2, J. Howie (Howie's Snow-wreath); c., J. Howie (Eldorado).

JERSEYS.

Class 133.—Jersey bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, Captain L. G. Gisborne (Glorious Lad); 2, A. Miller-Hallett (Jolly Peter); 3, J. Brutton (Shy Lad); r. and h.c., Lady de Rothschild (Gallant); c., A. F. Perkins (Dort).

Class 134.—Jersey bull, calved in 1903: 1, T. Butt Miller (Cricketer); 2, J. C. Drew (Black Pearl); 3, Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Reminder's Bud); r. and h.c., Lady Smyth (Wyllard); h.c., (Lord Rothschild (Priority); c., Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Topper); C. A. Scott-Murray (Orange Boy).

Class 135.—Jersey bull, calved in 1904: 1, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Jolly Jim); 2, R. Bruce Ward (Silken Fop); 3, Captain L. G. Gisborne (Tommy); r. band h.c., Arthur Pocock (Barrister); h.c., Mrs. C. McIntosh (Mona's Warder); the Duke of Northumberland, K.G. (Malory's Golden Jolly); c., Frank Bateman (Golden Jolly's Champion); Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Brighton Reminder); A. F. Perkins (Golden Wawona); Lord Rothschild (St. Amant); G. Murray Smith (Smiler).

Class 136.—Jersey cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, A. Miller-Hallett (Lottie); 2, Lord Rothschild (Daystar); 3, Lord Rothschild (Syren 3rd); r. and h.c., A. Miller-Hallett (Longueville Brownie 5th); h.c., the Bishop of Ipswich (Oxford Dewdrop); J. Joicey (Electric Flash); Lord Rothschild (Marseilla); c., J. Brutton (Benita 2nd); J. Brutton (Benita 4th).

Class 137.—Jersey heifer, in milk, calved in 1903: 1, Lord Rothschild (Oxford Snowdrop); 2, Lord Rothschild (Venecia); 3, Mrs. C. McIntosh (Havering Gloriasa 5th); r. and h.c., W. C. Cooper (Fern's Twylish 3rd); h.c., J. Carson (Leda's Snowdrop); J. C. Drew (Dawn); J. Joicey (Golden Lilian); A. Miller-Hallett (Goddington Pipkin 2nd); A. F. Perkins (Corona 2nd); c., Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Cora).

Class 138.—Jersey heifer, calved in 1904: 1, J. Joicey (Glorinda); 2, J. Brutton (Pretty Princess); 3, Lord Rothschild (Sweet Pansy); r. and h.c., Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Nebraska); h.c., J. Carson (Crystalbrook Maitland 2nd); Lady de Rothschild (Treasure); H. P. Sturgis (Woodbine); c., L. Currie (Melody); J. C. Drew (Little Queen); Captain A. B. S. Fraser (Martagon); Captain L. G. Gisborne (Lady Day); T. Butt Miller (My Fancy); A. F. Perkins (Brookwood Beresford); J. H. Smith-Barry (Castenet).

GUERNSEYS.

Class 140.—Guernsey bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, H. M. Ozanne (Golden Jewel); r. and h.c., H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (His Grace 2nd).

Class 141.—Guernsey bull, calved in 1903: 1, H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (Roland of Seaview 10th); 2, E. A. Hambro (Charleston); 3, Col. H. W. Shakerley (Picton); r. and h.c., C. E. Hogg (Fair Lad of the Barras); h.c., G. J. Shakerley (Paradox 8th); c., F. Hargreaves (Andover).

Class 142.—Guernsey bull, calved in 1904: 1, J. Pierpont Morgan (Coronation King 3rd); 2, F. Hargreaves (Merton Signet); 3, Col. H. W. Shakerley (Burgate Holden 3rd); r. and h.c., E. A. Hambro (Hayes Truro); h.c., H. M. Ozanne (St. Amant); c., F. Hargreaves (Hero of the Capelles); Sir H. Lennard, Bart. (Lord Express).

Class 143.—Guernsey cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, E. A. Hambro (Queen of Roses); 2, H. M. Ozanne (Lady Roberts); 3, H. C. Stephens (Itchen Claudia); r. and h.c., E. A. Hambro (Golden Cherry); c., H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (Muriel 12th); H. C. Stephens (Itchen Royal Rose).

Class 144.—Guernsey heifer, calved in 1903: 1, H. C. Stephens (Itchen Belle 5th); 2, E. A. Hambro (Hayes Imperiale); 3, H. Fitwalter Plumptre (Cleopatra of Goodnestone 2nd); r. and h.c., Sir H. Lennard, Bart. (Wickham Buttercup 2nd); h.c., Frank Hargreaves (Merton Rose).

Class 145. Guernsey heifer, calved in 1904: 1, Henry M. Ozanne (Sensitive 6th); 2, E. A. Hambro (Hayes Olive 2nd); 3, Frank Hargreaves (Fairy Footsteps); r. and h.c., H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (Muriel 15th); h.c., E. A. Hambro (Hayes Sultana); c., H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (Gulnare 17th); c., Colonel Henry W. Shakerley (Maid of Calais 4th).

Best Jersey bull, in Classes 133 to 135: 1, Alex. Miller-Hallett (Rover of Oaklands); r., James Joicey (Nelina's Dairy Lad).

LONGHORNS.

Class 147.—Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903: 1, W. L. Riley (Wychnor Prince); 2, Mrs. M. M. Cheape (Bentley Chieftain); r. and h.c., Hon. E. A. FitzRoy (Duke Lollo).

Class 148.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1, Hon. E. A. Fitzroy (Impious); 2, Lord Gerard (Eastwell Earl); r. and h.c., W. Hanson Sale (Arden Model).

Class 149.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1 and 3, Mrs. M. M. Cheape (Polly 2nd and Phœbe); 2 and r. and h.c. W. Hanson Sale (Perfection and Fradley Queen); h.c., Hon. E. A. Fitzroy (Rosebud); c., W. H. Sale (Miriam).

Class 150. — Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1, Lord Gerard (Lady Emily); 2, Mrs. M. M. Cheape (Bentley Phœbe); r. and h.c., W. Hanson Sale (Arden Pansy 3rd).

KERRY.

Class 152.—Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903: 1, Duchess of Newcastle (La Mancha Gordon); 2, David M. Rattray (Gort Conn); 3, Lady Greenall (Marquis 8th of Carton); r. and h.c., Clifford J. Cory (Llantarnam Libertine).

Class 153.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1, Duchess of Newcastle (Hardwick Flora); 2 and r. and h.c., Clifford J. Cory (Patricia an Caethramhadh and Attington Pet); 3, R. Tait Robertson (La Mancha Mary Ann); h.c., Countess De La Warr (La Mancha Vesta); c., C. J. Cory (La Mancha Turtle Dove).

Class 154.—Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1, David M. Rattray (Gort Raven); 2, R. Tait Robertson (La Mancha Twilight); 3, Colonel V. W. B. Van-de-Weyer (Pearl); r. and h.c., George L. Palmer (Lackham Shamrock); h.c., C. J. Cory (Llantarnam Lezette); c., Lady Greenall (Walton Eve and Walton Greeting).

Best Kerry animal in Classes 152 to 154: Duchess of Newcastle (Hardwick Flora); r., Duchess of Newcastle (La Mancha Gordon).

DEXTER.

Class 156.—Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903): 1, G. J. B. Chetwynd (Don Gentian); 2, Frederic P. Bulley (Marston Tom Thumb); 3, R. Tait Robertson (La Mancha Little Jim); r. and h.c., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dido); h.c., B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Cupid); h.c., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Daily Male); h.c., H. M. Gibbs (Barrow Rama); c., H. M. Gibbs (Barrow Bluebeard).

Class 157.—Cow or heifer, in milk, calved previously to or in 1902: 1 and r. and h.c., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dot and Compton Dorcas); 2, H. Martin Gibbs (Barrow Gunga); 3, B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Lorna); h.c., G. J. B. Chetwynd (Don Galania); h.c., A. W. Foster (Starlight); h.c., H. M. Gibbs (Barrow Begum); h.c., Martin J. Sutton (Buckhurst Briar Rose).

Class 158.—Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1, Countess of Sefton (Gort My Queen); 2, G. J. B. Chetwynd (Don Grevillia); 3, Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dorothy); r. and h.c., H. Martin Gibbs (Barrow Brunette); h.c., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dolly Varden); h.c., H. M. Gibbs (Barrow Bluebell); h.c., R. T. Robertson (La Mancha Biddy); c., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Delightful Girl).

Best Dexter animal in Classes 156 to 158: Godfrey J. B. Chetwynd (Don Gentian); r., Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Dot).

SHEEP.

OXFORD DOWNS.

Class 162. — Shearling ram: 1 and 2, Albert Brassey, M.P.; 3 and 4, James T. Hobbs; r. and h.c., Hugh W. Stilgoe; h.c., James Horlick; c., Hugh W. Stilgoe, George Hankins.

Class 163.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1, Robert W. Hobbs; 2, W. Alfred Treweeke; 3, James T. Hobbs; 4, Robert W. Hobbs; r. and h.c., James T. Hobbs; h.c., Albert Brassey, M.P.; James Horlic (twice); Hugh W. Stilgoe; W. Alfred Treweeke.

Class 164.—Pen of three shearling ewes, of the same flock: 1, Albert Brassey, M.P.; 2 and 3, James T. Hobbs; 4, George Hankins; r. and h.c., James Horlick; h.c., James Horlick.

Class 165.—Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, James T. Hobbs; 2, James Horlick; 3 and 4, W. Alfred Treweeke; r. and h.c., Robert W. Hobbs; h.c., Albert Brassey, M.P., Hugh W. Stilgoe.

SHROPSHIRES.

Class 166.—Two-shear ram: 1, R. P. Cooper; 2, Thomas Fenn; r. and h.c., A. S. Berry.

Class 167.—Shearling ram: 1, Matthew Williams; 2, R. P. Cooper; 3, Edward Nock; r. and h.c., R. P. Cooper; h.c., John Harding, T. S. Minton, Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P., Alfred Tanner; h.c., Alfred Tanner.

Class 168.—Pen of five shearling rams, of the same flock: 1, R. P. Cooper; 2, Matthew Williams; 3, Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P.; r. and h.c., Edward Nock; h.c., Thomas A. Buttar, John Harding, Philo L. Mills, T. S. Minton.

Class 169.—Special selling (auction) shearling ram: 1 2, and 3, and r. and h.c., R. P. Cooper; 4, Bernard Wall; h.c., John Harding, Thomas A. Buttar, Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Philo L. Mills, Edward Nock, Bernard Wall.

Class 170.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1, Edward Nock; 2, R. P. Cooper; 3, John Harding; r. and h.c., T. S. Minton; h.c., Alfred Tanner; c., Philo L. Mills, Bernard Wall.

Class 171.—Pen of three shearling ewes of the same flock: 1 and 2, R. P. Cooper; 3, Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P.; r. and h.c., Philo L. Mills; h.c., Sir Walter Corbet, Bart., Thomas Fenn.

Class 172.—Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, T. S. Minton; 2, John Harding; 3, Edward Nock; r. and h.c., Alfred Tanner; h.c., R. P. Cooper; c., Philo L. Mills.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Class 173.—Two-shear ram: 1, The Duke of Northumberland, K.G.; the Duke of Richmond and Gordon; 3, His Majesty the King; r. and h.c., Edwin Ellis; h.c., His Majesty the King, C. R. W. Adeane, Earl Cadogan, K.G., Edwin Ellis.

Class 174.—Shearling ram: 1, His Majesty the King; 2, Duke of Richmond and Gordon; 3, His Majesty the King; r. and h.c., C. H. Berners; h.c., C. R. W. Adeane, Earl Cadogan, Jeremiah Colman, Edwin Ellis (twice); c., Edwin Henty.

Class 175. Pen of three shearling rams of the same flock: 1, His Majesty the King; 2, Duke of Devonshire, K.G.; 3, Edwin Ellis; r. and h.c., Duke of Northumberland, K.G.; h.c., Duke of Richmond and Gordon, C. R. W. Adeane.

Class 176.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1, Edwin Ellis; 2 and 3, C. R. W. Adeane; r. and h.c., His Majesty the King; h.c., Earl of Ellesmere, Edwin Henty, Ingram Harbour Company, Colonel A. F. Walter.

Class 177. Pen of three Shearling ewes of the same flock: 1, H.M. the King; 2, Edwin Ellis; 3, the Duke of Devonshire, K.G.; r. and h.c., Earl Cadogan, K.G.; h.c., Jeremiah Colman; c., Edwin Ellis and the Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

Class 178.—Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, Edwin Ellis; 2, C. R. W. Adeane; 3, His Majesty the King; r. and h.c., Edwin Henty; h.c., C. R. W. Adeane and the Duke of Northumberland, K.G.; c., C. H. Berners and the Earl of Ellesmere.

Best ram in classes 173 and 174: H.M. the King; r., Duke of Northumberland.

Best pen of ewes or ewe lambs in classes 177 and 178: H.M. the King; r., Edwin Ellis.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

Class 179.—Two shear ram: 1, Cary Coles; 2, H. C. Stephens; r. and h.c., Thomas F. Buxton; c., Basil Hanbury and H. C. Stephens.

Class 180.—Shearling ram: 1, James Flower; 2, Thomas F. Buxton; 3, Cary Coles; r. and h.c., H. L. Cripps; h.c., J. A. Keith Falconer and James Flower; c., Thomas F. Buxton and Cary Coles.

Class 181.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1, James Flower; 2, Sir William G. Pearce, Bart.; 3, H. C. Stephens; r. and h.c., Cary Coles; h.c., Thomas F. Buxton; c., H. L. Cripps, W. Shatford James, and T. Simpson Jay.

Class 182.—Pen of three Shearling ewes, of the same flock: 1 and 2, James Flower; 3, Thomas F. Buxton; r. and h.c., H. L. Cripps; h.c., Thomas F. Buxton.

Class 183.—Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, H. C. Stephens; 2, Sir William G. Pearce, Bart.; 3, Cary Coles; r. and h.c., James Flower; h.c., Thomas F. Buxton, H. L. Cripps, W. Shatford James, and Richard L. Ovey; c., Alfred Apperly and T. Simpson Jay.

Best pen of lambs in classes 181 and 183: James Flower; r., H. C. Stephens.

SUFFOLKS.

Class 184.—Two shear ram: 1 and 2, Robert Barclay.

Class 185.—Shearling ram: 1, M. G. Hale; 2, Herbert E. Smith; 3, S. R. Sherwood; r. and h.c., Robert Barclay; c., Herbert E. Smith.

Class 186.—Ram lamb: 1, Herbert E. Smith; 2, S. and F. Traylen; 3, Herbert E. Smith; r. and h.c., S. R. Sherwood; c. M. G. Hale.

Class 187.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1, Herbert E. Smith; 2, S. and F. Traylen; 3, S. R. Sherwood; r. and h.c., M. G. Hale.

Class 188.—Pen of three Shearling ewes, of the same flock: 1, Earl Cadogan; 2 and 3, Robert Barclay.

Class 189.—Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, S. R. Sherwood; 2, Herbert E. Smith; 3, S. and F. Traylen; r. and h.c., Robert Barclay; c., M. G. Hale.

LINCOLNS.

Class 190.—Two shear ram: 1, Tom Casswell; 2 and r. and h.c., Henry Dudding; h.c. (twice), S. E. Dean and Sons.

Class 191.—Shearling ram: 1, Robert and William Wright; 2, Henry Dudding; 3, Tom Casswell; r. and h.c., Henry Dudding; h.c. (twice), S. E. Dean and Sons and Robert and William Wright; c., J. E. Casswell and Tom Casswell.

Class 192.—Pen of five Shearling rams, of the same flock: 1, Robert and William Wright; 2, Tom Casswell; 3, Henry Dudding; r. and h.c., J. E. Casswell; h.c., S. E. Dean and Sons and Thomas Carter Bainton Dixon.

Class 193.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1 and 2, Henry Dudding; 3 and r. and h.c., S. E. Dean and Sons.

Class 194.—Pen of three shearling ewes, of the same flock: 1 and 2, Robert and William Wright; 3, Henry Dudding; r. and h.c., S. E. Dean and Sons.

Class 195.—Three ewe lambs, dropped in 1905: 1 and 2, S. E. Dean and Sons; 3 and r. and h.c., Henry Dudding.

Class 196.—Three ewe hoggets, in wool.—1 and 2, S. E. Dean and Sons; 3, Henry Dudding.

Best ram in classes 190 and 191: Tom Casswell (Ayan); r., R. and W. Wright.

LEICESTER.

Class 197.—Shearling ram: 1 and r. and h.c., E. F. Jordan; 2 and 3, G. Harrison; c., E. Harrison.

Class 198.—Three ram lambs, dropped in 1905: 1 and 3, George Harrison; 2 and r. and h.c., E. F. Jordan; c., Mrs. Perry-Herrick.

Class 199.—Three Shearling ewes, of same flock: 1 and 2, E. F. Jordan; 3, George Harrison; r., h.c., and c., Mrs. Perry-Herrick.

Class 200.—Three ewe lambs, dropped in 1905: 1 and 3, George Harrison; 2 and r. and h.c., E. F. Jordan; c., Mrs. Perry-Herrick.

COTSWOLD.

Class 201.—Shearling ram: 1, W. T. Garne; 2 and r. and h.c., Wm. Houlton; c., W. T. Garne (twice).

Class 202.—Three ram lambs, dropped in 1905: 1 and r. and h.c., W. T. Garne.

Class 203.—Three Shearling ewes, of same flock: 1 and r. and h.c., Wm. Houlton; 2, W. T. Garne.

Class 204.—Three ewe lambs, dropped in 1905: 1 and r. and h.c., W. T. Garne.

BORDER LEICESTER.

Class 205.—Shearling ram: 1 and 3, Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.; 2, Thos. Winter; c., T. Winter.

Class 206.—Three ram lambs, dropped in 1905: 1, Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.; 2, Thos. Winter.

Class 207.—Three shearling ewes, of same flock: 1, Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.; 2, Thos. Winter.

Class 208.—Three ewe lambs, dropped in 1905: 1, Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P.; 2, Thos. Winter.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH.

Class 209.—Two shear ram: 1, H. Rigden; 2, F. Neame; 3, G. Farmer; r. and h.c., Charles File; c., H. Rigden.

Class 210.—Marsh Shearling ram: 1, C. File; 2, H. Rigden; 3, W. Millen; r. and h.c., J. Neame; h.c., W. Millen; c., F. Neame, J. Egerton Quested, and H. Rigden.

Class 211.—Pen of three ram lambs: 1, H. Rigden; 2, F. Neame; 3, J. Darrell Blount; r. and h.c., the Earl of Verulam; h.c., C. File, J. Egerton Quested; c., C. File.

Class 212.—Pen of Shearling ewes of the same flock:

1 and 3, C. File; 2, F. Neame; r. and h.c., G. Farmer; h.c., F. Neame; c., W. Millen (2).

Class 213.—Pen of ewe lambs: 1, F. Neame; 2, H. Rigden; 3, the Earl of Verulam; r. and h.c., J. Egerton Quested; h.c., C. File; c., J. Darrell Blount.

WENSLEYDALES.

Class 214.—Shearling rams: 1, Lord H. Bentinck, M.P.; 2 and 3, the Executors of the late Thomas Willis; h.c., E. K. Cleasby, Executors of T. Willis.

Class 215.—Three ram lambs, dropped in 1905: 1, Executors of the late T. Willis; 2, Lord H. Bentinck, M.P.; 3, E. Horseman.

Class 216.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, the Executors of the late T. Willis; 2, J. Hargrave; 3 and r. and h.c., Lord H. Bentinck, M.P.; h.c., E. Horseman.

Class 217.—Three ewe lambs, dropped in 1905: 1, Lord H. Bentinck, M.P.; 2 and 3, E. Horseman.

DORSET HORN.

Class 218.—Shearling ram, dropped after November 1, 1903: 1, E. A. Hambro; 2, J. Attrill; 3, W. R. Flower; r. and h.c., F. J. Merson.

Class 219.—Three ram lambs, dropped after November 1, 1904: 1 and 2, W. R. Flower; 3, F. J. Merson; r. and h.c., E. A. Hambro.

Class 220.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock, dropped after November 1, 1903: 1, W. R. Flower; 2, E. A. Hambro; 3, F. J. Merson; r. and h.c., J. Attrill; h.c., W. R. Flower; c., E. A. Hambro.

Class 221.—Three ewe lambs, dropped after November 1, 1904: 1 and r. and h.c., W. R. Flower; 2, F. J. Merson; 3, E. A. Hambro; h.c., J. Attrill, E. A. Hambro.

Best pen of lambs, shearling ewes, or ewe lambs in classes 219 to 221: W. R. Flower; r., W. R. Flower.

DEVON LONG-WOOL.

Class 222.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1, 2, and r. and h.c., F. White; 3, E. C. Norrish.

Class 223.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, 2, and r. and h.c., F. White.

DARTMOOR.

Class 224.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1, 2, and r. and h.c., J. R. T. Kingwell.

Class 225.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, 2, and r. and h.c., J. R. T. Kingwell.

EXMOOR.

Class 226.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1, 2, and r. and h.c., C. N. Skinner.

Class 227.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, 2, and r. and h.c., C. N. Skinner.

CHEVIOT.

Class 228.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1 and 3, John Robson; 2 and r. and h.c., Jacob Robson.

Class 229.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1 and 3, Jacob Robson; 2 and r. and h.c., John Robson.

BLACK-FACED MOUNTAIN.

Class 230.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1, J. Dargue; 2, John Robson, jun., 3 and r. and h.c., John Robson; c., J. Dargue.

Class 231.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, John Robson; 2, J. Dargue; 3, John Robson, jun.

LONK.

Class 232.—Ram, Shearling and upwards.—1, D. Hague; 2, J. Blackburn.

Class 233.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, J. Blackburn; 2, D. Hague.

HERDWICK.

Class 234.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1, W. J. Crossley; 2, the Earl of Lonsdale; r. and h.c., S. D. Stanley-Dodgson; c., W. J. Crossley.

Class 235.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, W. J. Crossley; 2, the Earl of Lonsdale.

WELSH MOUNTAIN.

Class 236.—Ram, Shearling and upwards: 1, J. L. Gratton; 2, Owen Price; 3 and r. and h.c., W. Conwy Bell.

Class 237.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, J. Marshall Dugdale; 2 and r. and h.c., J. L. Gratton; 3, Owen Price; h.c., W. Conwy Bell.

RYELAND.

Class 238.—Ram, two shear and upwards: 1 and r. and h.c., W. T. Barneby; 2, F. E. Gough; 3, W. H. Davies.

Class 239.—Shearling ram: 1 and 3, W. T Barneby; 2, W. H. Davies; r. and h.c., F. E. Gough.

Class 240.—Three Shearling ewes of same flock: 1, F. E. Gough; 2 and r. and h.c., W. T. Barneby; 3, W. H. Davies; c., W. H. Davies and H. W. Taylor.

Pigs.

LARGE WHITE.

Class 241.—Boar, farrowed in 1903 or 1904: 1, Earl of Ellesmere; 2, Sanders Spencer and Son; 3, Richard A. Ayre; r. and h.c., R. R. Rothwell.

Class 242.—Three boar pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, r., and h.c., Earl of Ellesmere; 2, T. Simpson Jay; 3, D. R. Daybell; c., Sanders Spencer and Son.

Class 243.—Breeding sow, farrowed in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904.—1, 2, and 3, Earl of Ellesmere; r. and h.c., Sir Gilbert Greenall; h.c., R. R. Rothwell; c., R. M. Knowles.

Class 244.—Three sow pigs, farrowed in 1905, 1904, or 1903: 1, 2, and 3, Earl of Ellesmere; r. and h.c., D. R. Daybell; c., Sanders Spencer and Son.

Best Large White boar or sow in classes 241 and 243: Earl of Ellesmere (Worsley Sunbeam I.); r., Earl of Ellesmere (Worsley Duke 4th).

MIDDLE WHITE.

Class 245.—Boar, farrowed in 1903 or 1904: 1, r., and h.c., Sir Gilbert Greenall; 2 and 3, Sanders Spencer and Son; c., Sir G. Greenall.

Class 246.—Three boar pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, T. Simpson Jay; 2, r., and h.c., Sanders Spencer and Son; 3, Sir Gilbert Greenall; h.c., Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

Class 247.—Breeding sow, farrowed in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904: 1, r., and h.c., Sir Gilbert Greenall; 2, Leopold C. Paget; 3, Sanders Spencer and Son; h.c., T. Simpson Jay; c., Sir G. Greenall.

Class 248.—Three sow pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, Hon. D. P. Bouverie; 2, T. Simpson Jay; 3, Sanders Spencer and Son; r. and h.c., Sir Gilbert Greenall; h.c., Sanders Spencer and Son.

Best boar or sow in classes 245 and 247: Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Turret 7th); r., Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Jewel II.).

SMALL WHITE.

Class 249.—Boar, farrowed in 1903 or 1904: 1 and 2, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

Class 250.—Breeding sow, farrowed in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904: 1 and 2, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

BERKSHIRE.

Class 251—Boar, farrowed in 1905 or 1904: 1, J. Jefferson; 2, Duchess of Devonshire; 3, Sir Alex. Henderson; r. and h.c., Julius A. Fricker; c., G. T. Inman.

Class 252.—Three boar pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, Julius A. Fricker; 2, G. T. Inman; 3, r., and h.c., Duchess of Devonshire; h.c., Lord Calthorpe.

Class 255. Breeding sow, farrowed in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904: 1, Duchess of Devonshire; 2, Lord Calthorpe; 3, R. W. Hudson, Danesfield, Marlow; r. and h.c., G. T. Inman; h.c., Sir A Henderson and J Jefferson.

Class 254 Three sows, farrowed in 1905: 1, J A. Fricker; 2, G. T. Inman; 3, R. W. Hudson; r. and h.c., J Lawrence; h.c., Lord Calthorpe.

Best boar or sow in classes 251 and 253: J Jefferson (Peel Champion); r., Duchess of Devonshire (Polegate Dahlia).

TAMWORTH.

Class 255.—Boar, farrowed in 1903 or 1904: 1 and 3, Robert Ibbotson; 2, D. W. Philip; r. and h.c., H. C. Stephens; h.c., Sir O. Moseley.

Class 256.—Three boar pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, Robert Ibbotson; 2, H. C. Stephens; r. and h.c., D. W. Philip.

Class 257.—Breeding sow, farrowed in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904: 1, Edward J. Morant; 2, H. C. Stephens; 3, D. W. Philip; r. and h.c., Robert Ibbotson; h.c., D. W. Philip.

Class 258.—Three sow pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, H. C. Stephens; 2, Robert Ibbotson; r. and h.c., D. W. Philip; c., Sir Oswald Moseley.

Best boar or sow in classes 255 and 257: E. J. Morant; r., H. C. Stephens (Cholderton Favourite 5th).

LARGE BLACK.

Class 259.—Boar, farrowed in 1903 or 1904: 1, C. F. Marriner; 2, Sir R. Wilmot; 3, R. S. Olver; r. and h.c., John Warne; h.c., K. M. Clark; c., N. Stephens.

Class 260.—Boar pig, farrowed in 1905: 1, Thomas Warne; 2, Henry J. Kingwell; 3, Arthur S. Mann, Little Bentley Hall, Colchester; r. and h.c., Kenneth M. Clark; h.c., R. R. Rothwell; c., John Warne.

Class 261—Breeding sow, farrowed in 1901, 1902, 1903, or 1904: 1, C. F. Marriner; 2, E. Grimblett; 3, r., and h.c., R. S. Olver; h.c., H. G. Regnart; c., Thomas Warne.

Class 262.—Three sow pigs, farrowed in 1905: 1, Henry J. Kingwell; 2, T. Warne; 3, R. R. Rothwell; r. and h.c., Kenneth M. Clark; h.c., J. Robinson; c., John Warne.

Best boar in classes 259 and 260: C. F. Marriner (Bodmenson 1st); r., Thos. Warne (Trevisquite Victor).

Best sow in class 261: C. F. Marriner (Hasketon Long Ben III.); r., E. Grimblett (Daystow Model).

Produce.

BUTTER.

Class 374.—One keg or other package of butter, not less than 14 lbs. and under 40 lbs. in weight, delivered on or before Saturday, May 13, 1905: 1, Urney Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; 2, Lisbellaw Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd.

Class 375.—Box of twelve two-pound rolls of butter, made with not more than 1 per cent. of salt: 1, Solohead Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd.; 2, the Earl of Leitrim; 3, Irish Co-operative Agency Society (Rathduff Dairy); r. and h.c., Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.

Class 376.—Two pounds of fresh butter, slightly salted, made up in pounds: 1, Mrs. G. Adlam, Mrs. A. A. Bere, John Gwynne, and Lord Rothschild; 2, George Herbert Morrell, M.P., Mrs. E. Dickson Park, Hon. Mrs. Portman, and Mrs. Smith-Neill; 3, Mrs. R. Lawrence, Lady Smyth, H. P. Sturges, and Mrs. Williams; h.c., Mrs. L. R. Mildon and the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe.

Class 377.—Two pounds of fresh butter, slightly salted, made up in pounds, from milk that has been drawn from cows other than Channel Islands, and cows crossed with Channel Islands breeds: 1, Mrs. George Adlam, Miss M. K. Harris, Mrs. L. R. Mildon, and Alfred Palmer; 2, Mrs. Smith-Neill, Solohead Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd., William G. M. Townley, and Mrs. Frank Ward; 3, Mrs. A. A. Bere, the Earl of Leitrim, Mrs. E. Lewis, and the Hon. E. W. B. Portman; r. and h.c., Alfred Palmer.

CHEESE.

Class 378.—Three Cheddar cheeses, of not less than 50 lbs. each: 1, Mrs. C. Candy; 2, Frank Portch; 3, Harry Travers; 4, Francis Osborne; r. and h.c., W. C. Spencer; h.c., Cary and Portch, Edmund T. Green, C. T. Parrett, and A. Stone and Son; c., John Ashby, William Hunter, C. S. Perry, N. J. Sims, Tom Tucker, Robert Henry White, Thomas Wither, and Walter S. Green.

Class 379.—Three Cheshire cheeses, of not less than 40 lbs. each: 1, Thomas Nunnerley, 2, Mrs. C. Simpson, 3, Richard Mullock; 4, Thomas Batho; r. and h.c., Samuel Dutton; c., William Dutton.

Class 380.—Three Stilton Cheeses: 1, John Smith; 2, Belvoir Vale Dairy Co.; 3, Albert Hull; r. and h.c., Andrew W. Hurst.

Class 381.—Three Wensleydale cheeses (Stilton shape): 1, William Mason; 2, Mrs. Willis; r. and h.c., John Stubbs; h.c., Alfred Rowntree.

Class 382.—Three double Gloucester cheeses: 1, Hiscock and Co.; 2, C. T. Parrett; 3, Edmund T. Green.

Class 383.—Three Wiltshire cheeses (loaf or flat), not exceeding 16 lbs. each: 1, Hiscock and Co., 2, John Ashby.

Class 384.—Three Cheddar truckle cheeses: 1, W. C. Spencer; 2, J. B. Wayman; 3, Herbert Pickford; r. and h.c., William Hunter; h.c., Cary and Portch, F. W. J. Crocker, Hiscock and Co., and Harry Travers; c., John Ashby and C. T. Parrett.

CIDER AND PERRY.

Class 385.—Cask of not less than 18 and not more than 30 gallons of cider, made in the autumn of 1904: 1, Herbert J. Davis; 2, W. T. S. and H. A. Tilley; 3, John Bazley; r. and h.c., Swanley Cider Company, Ltd.; c., Herbert J. Davis.

Class 386.—One dozen bottles of cider, made in the autumn of 1904: 1, 2, and 3, W. T. S. and H. A. Tilley; r. and h.c., Richard Bach; h.c., John Bazley; c., George Ballard.

Class 387.—One dozen bottles of cider, made in any year before 1904: 1, 2, and 3, John Bazley; r. and h.c., James Slatter and Co.; c., Daniel Phelps.

Class 388.—One dozen bottles of perry: 1, George Ballard; 2, Ridler and Son; 3, Swanley Cider Co., Ltd.

WOOL.

Class 389.—Three fleeces of Leicester or Border Leicester wool: 1, Mrs. S. Perry-Herrick; 2, George Harrison; 3, William Leathes.

Class 390.—Three fleeces of Lincoln wool: 1 and 2, Henry Dudding; 3, Sir John H. Thorold, Bart.

Class 391.—Three fleeces of Kent or Romney Marsh wool: 1, Charles File; 2, Frederick Neame; 3, Henry Rigden.

Class 392.—Three fleeces of any other Long Wool: 1, the Exors. of the late Thomas Willis; 2, Alfred C. Skinner; 3, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.

Class 393.—Three fleeces of Southdown wool: 1, Lord Calthorpe; 2, W. Dockeray; 3, Lord Calthorpe.

Class 394.—Three fleeces of Shropshire wool: 1, Richard Bach; 2, William Leathes; 3, Philo L. Mills.

Class 395.—Three fleeces of any other short wool: 1, William Henry Davies; 2, Henry W. Taylor; 3, E. A. Hambro; h.c., David John Thomas.

Class 396.—Three fleeces of Welsh wool: 1 and 2, William Leathes; 3, Joseph L. Gratton.

Class 397.—Three fleeces of Scotch wool: 1, Jacob Robson; 2, William Leathes; 3, John Dargue.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of members was held in the big tent in the showyard on Wednesday, just after noon, when there was a fair attendance, although not so large as on many previous occasions. Lord Middleton (the President), who was accompanied by Lady Middleton, took the chair, and there were also present H.R.H. Prince Christian, the Earl of Feversham, the Earl of Jersey, the Earl of Northbrook, Lord Onslow, and many members of the Council.

The President, in his introductory speech to the members, said there was no need to remind them of the conditions under which this year's show was being held, and he voiced a fervent hope that the results would be as satisfactory as the public-spirited subscribers to the guarantee fund could wish. (Hear, hear.) We shall know better in a few days where we stand, continued his Lordship, and there will be a further meeting of the society in a little more than a month's time at Hanover Square, to discuss the future. By that time, too, they would know the result of the various elections to the Council, which process would be carried out in accordance with the supplemental charter granted by the King. Whatever may be the financial result of this show, we can say with confidence that it cannot be excelled in quality by any in the world. (Hear, hear.) The showyard was visited on the previous day by his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and that day they looked forward with pleasureable anticipation to a visit from their illustrious patron, his Majesty the King. (Cheers.) It was an additional gratification to know that he would be accompanied by her Majesty the Queen. (Cheers.) Proceeding, Lord Middleton said that during the past years there had been times of anxiety and uncertainty as to the future. He should only claim for himself and his colleagues on that Council that they had tried to do their best under exceptionally difficult and somewhat disappointing conditions. (Hear, hear.)

Lord Feversham, in proposing a vote of thanks to Lord Middleton, remarked upon his public spirit and patriotism in coming forward at a time when some declined to accept the office, and working with zeal, energy, and success to advance the interests of the society. That his efforts had met with success was undoubted. (Hear, hear.) Lord Middleton had the great advantage of being a practical agriculturist. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. George Adams (Faringdon) seconded the resolution, and it was cordially adopted.

The President, in response, said he felt that his efforts had met with a measure of success. He thanked the members of the staff for the unceasing manner in which they had worked for the society.

Sir John Thorold proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Jacob Wilson, the hon. director of the showyard, for the efficient way in which he had performed his duties.

Mr. Henry Webb seconded the vote, and it was enthusiastically endorsed.

Sir Jacob Wilson, who was touched by the goodwill with which the resolution had been passed, feelingly expressed his thanks.

On the motion of the Earl of Jersey, seconded by Sir Walter Gilbey, a vote of thanks was passed to the railway companies for the facilities which they offered in connection with the show, especially to country members.

Suggestions being invited from the members,

Mr. Machen, of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture, adverted in an ironical vein to the subject of "railway facilities," and said that privileges ought to be extended to first and second, as well as to third class passengers. Would it be believed, he said, that the Great Western Railway Company had advertised a special train to leave Gloucester at 6.30 p.m. on the last day of the show. (Laughter.) The train could not possibly reach Paddington until after the showyard was closed. (Renewed laughter.)

Dr. Gillespie (Dumfries) said his countrymen had better facilities offered them for attending this show than had the English public. "Keep at them" was his advice in the society's dealings with the railway companies. "Give them no rest until they give you the same facilities as we have north of the Tweed." (Hear, hear, and laughter.)

Mr. Rd. Brown, without casting any reflection upon the judging of this or past Royal shows, advised that dual judging should be introduced. The responsibility of distributing the awards was too great to be left in the hands of any man. The alteration would entail an extra cost of perhaps £300 or £400, but this could be met by reducing the salary of the secretary by £500. No injustice would be wrought, because the work of the office was less now than it was in the itinerant days.

Mr. Fred. Street (St. Ives, Hunts) urged that the railway rates for trussed straw should be altered, but a member reminded him that this was a matter for the Board of Agriculture to deal with.

Mr. Eldred Walker (Bristol) voiced a grievance felt by the cider exhibitors, and others, at the manner in which their produce had to be exhibited. It was a fact, though almost incredible, that the cider casks were fitted with brass taps. ("Oh.") The metallic influence upon the cider was most injurious, and tasters were disgusted with it. Moreover, the butter in the tents was melting, and a prominent exhibitor of cheese has declared that he would never show again because his goods were so puffed by the heat.

The President said the suggestions would receive the attention of the Council.

The meeting was then adjourned to August 1.

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SHEEP (cont.)

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PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

APPERLY, ALFRED, J.P., Rodborough Court, Stroud, Glos. Hyde Herd of Pedigree Berkshire Pigs, noted for length and depth of side, strong constitutions; bred on Hyde Farm, nearly 700 ft. above sea level. Boars and Gilts for sale, prices moderate. See advt. Sheep.

CRIBB, ARTHUR LEWIS, Well End Lodge, Shenley, Barnet, Breeder of PEDIGREE BERKSHIRE PIGS. Young stock from noted strains, and eligible for Herd Book, for sale at moderate prices.

J. JEFFERSON, Peel Hall, Chester, Breeder of PURE-BRED BERKSHIRE PIGS of the choicest quality. Young Boars and Gilts on sale, all eligible for the Herd Book. The Herd has been represented at all the principal Shows in Great Britain during the last eight years, and has taken over 800 awards, 670 Champion, First, and Second Prizes. Inspection invited. Station and Telegrams: Mouldsworth (1 mile

LEIGH, S. AUSTEN, Frog Firle, Berwick Station, Sussex. Pedigree Berks Pigs, young boars and sows for sale, of high-class; herd established 40 years. Also pedigree Jerseys; herd established 28 years.

STALL PITTS HERD OF PEDIGREE BERKSHIRES. One of the Oldest Herds. Unsurpassed for true character, size, and quality. Choice selection of Boars and Sows on offer at moderate prices.—J. LAWRENCE, Stall Pitts, Shrivenham, Berks.

SUSSEX.

SUSSEX PIGS, LARGE BLACK.—Pure bred and of finest quality, with very small bone and fine hair. Not to be equalled for prime meat. FRANCIS N HORGEN, Manor House, Appledram, Chichester.

TAMWORTHS.

MOSLEY, SIR OSWALD.—Healthy Herd of carefully bred Pedigree Tamworth Pigs at the Home Farm Rolleston Hall. Good in type, colour, and size. Apply to GEO. T KNOWLES, Estate Office, Rolleston, Burton-on-Trent.

PIGS (cont.)

LARGE BLACKS.

HASKETON PIGEE HERD of Pedigree Large Blacks, registered, reared hardily, splendid graziers. Record R.A.S.E. Champion Prize for best pig of the breed, 20 First, 24 Second, 6 Third Prizes. Gilts and Boars on sale from prize winners at most reasonable prices for best quality. Stud Boar Royal Bedmin, winner of five Firsts and Champion.—Apply, C. F. MARRINER, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

ROBINSON, JOHN, Rings Hill Farm, Borstal, Rochester, two miles from station, where trap will meet customers by appointment. Pedigree Large Black Pigs of best strains of blood. Choice young boars and gelts for sale at reasonable prices. First Prize and Champion for Boar at R.A.S.E., 1904.

TREVEGLOS Herd of Pedigree Large Black Pigs.—Record of prizes won in 1904 at the R.A.S.E., Bath & West and other county shows, &c.; with 17 entries, 9 firsts, 4 seconds, 3 thirds. Boars and Gelts for sale of the right type, with size and quality. 1 mile from station.—Apply, JOHN WARNE, Treveglos, St. Mabyn, R.S.O., Cornwall.

MIDDLE WHITES.

DEWHIRST, A., Ryecroft Farm, Dudley Hill, Bradford — Pedigree Large and Middle White Pigs, also a few Berkshires of the choicest breeding. The following prizes have been won in 1902 by Pigs bred by myself, 2 champion prizes for the best Pig in the show, 36 firsts, 25 seconds, and 6 thirds, with numerous reserves and V.H.C. Send 2 stamps for Illustrated Book

LARGE WHITES.

APPERLY, ALFRED, J.P., Rodborough Court, Stroud, Glos. Hyde Herd of Pedigree Large White Yorkshire Pigs, noted for length and depth of side, strong constitutions; bred on Hyde Farm, nearly 700 ft. above sea level. Boars & Gilts for sale, prices moderate. See advt. Sheep.

ARMITAGE, Albert, Cotgrave Place, Nottingham. LARGE WHITES only kept. Good young Boars and Gelts on sale. Inspection solicited. Trains met at Radcliffe-on-Trent or Nottingham by appointment.

ASHFORTH, JOSEPH, Dronfield, Sheffield.—Large and Middle Whites from Royal Winners; unrivalled type, flesh, size, soundness.

"COLSTON BASSETT HERD," property of R. Millington Knowles, Colston Bassett Hall. The success of this herd in 1904 is unequalled by any herd of Large Whites in the country; nine first, nine second and six thirds, prizes gained at the most important shows, including first, second and third at the Royal from three exhibits, first and third Bath and West, President's Medal at Highland for best pig in Show (won 2 years in succession), also medal for best pig in extra stock, six medals ACTUALLY won, and for large white pigs only; over 150 pigs to select from.—Apply, GILBERT H. ELLIOT, Agent, Colston Bassett, Notts.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size, and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, nr. Norwich, 2m. from Trowse station, G.E.R.

MR. SANDERS SPENCER, Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, offers Large and Middle White Breeding Pigs from his large herd, established in 1863, which has again this season beaten every record, besides winning more N.P.B.A. Gold and Silver Medals than all the other herds combined.

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OWTRAM, HERBERT H. Newland Herd Pedigree Large White Yorkshires, winners many prizes, champion cup and medal; Boars, Gilts, in-pig Sows, for sale.—FARM BAILIFF, Newland Hall, Bay Horse Station, Lancaster.

THE NEWNHAM HALL HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pigs is one of the largest and oldest herds of pure-bred pigs in the United Kingdom. Prices moderate. Inspection invited.—NEVILLE J. HINE, Newnham Hall, Baldock, Herts.

THE WATFORD HERD of Large White Yorkshire Pedigree Pigs, of the choicest breeding. 150 to choose from. Send for Illustrated Catalogue. Grand young breeding stock always on Sale.—Apply, R. AYRE, Bushey Lodge Farm, Watford, Herts (17 miles from London).

WALTON HERD of Pedigree PIGS, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington. Large, and Middle White Yorkshires, unsurpassed for purity of breed, size, and general excellence, as proved by the numerous Championship and Class Prizes won at all the leading shows. A choice selection of Boars and Sows for sale; stock carefully shipped. — For particulars apply to the Manager, J. HALLAS, Higher Walton, Warrington.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

VOL. XCIII. No. 3850. [REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.] LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 10, 1905. [With Two Supplements.] PRICE 3D.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.
GENERAL OBJECTS.
To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.
To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.
To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.
To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.
Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
ANNUAL SHOW.
In the Bents Recreation Ground (with a magnificent view of the sea and Public Parks), South Shields.
WEDNESDAY, 26th JULY, 1905.
Upwards of £1,000 given in Prizes for CATTLE, SHEEP, HORSES, LEAPING (1st Prize £12), MILKING DEMONSTRATION, IMPLEMENTS and HARNESS, DOGS, PIDGEONS, POULTRY, BUTTER, EGGS.
Entries close Monday, 10th July, 1905.
Prize Schedules for Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, etc., on application to the Hon. Secretary, G. H. Procter, Esq., Flass House, Durham.
Prize Schedules for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, etc., on application to the Secretary,
WM. CHRYSTAL, Houghton-le-Spring.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE, (Between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks. On THURSDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1905.
Entries close July 25th, or with double fees August 1st.
Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary,
C. H. W. DIXON,
4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.

ARUNDEL AND DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND POULTRY SHOW, At ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK, AUGUST 23rd, 1905.
Entries close August 15th.
C. BARTLETT, Secretary, Tulchan, Arundel.

COMPTON STUD SHOW AND SALE.
At TEMPLECOMBE, SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries close August 20th.
THE MANAGER, Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset

WHITCHURCH (Salop) and DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SHOW at WHITCHURCH will be held on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd.
£500 in PRIZES. Entries close July 22nd.
For Schedules apply to
G. C. WYCHERLEY, COLIN S. SMITH, } Hon. Secs.

WEST GLOSTER FARMERS' CLUB,
At WESTBURY-ON-TRYM, AUGUST 7th, 1905
Entries close July 13th.
H. NICHOLS, Secretary, Iron Acton, Bristol.

BERKELEY HUNT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At BERKELEY, AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 15th.
G. CLARK, Secretary, Severn Lodge, Berkeley, Glos.

CHEPSTOW AGRICULTURAL SHOW,
AUGUST 8th, 1905.
OPEN CLASSES, DRIVING & JUMPING.
ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 17th.
CLAY & THOMAS, Hon. Secs.

WALTHAM CROSS AND THREE COUNTIES HORSE AND FOAL SOCIETY,
At WALTHAM CROSS, AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 7th.
J. CRAWTER, Secretary, Cheshunt

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At KEELE PARK, KEELE, AUGUST 10th, 1905.
Entries close: Dogs, August 3rd; Others, July 29th.
For Schedules—W. A. BENSON, Secretary, Silverdale, Staffs.

DENBIGHSHIRE & FLINTSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW At MOLD, JULY 20th, 1905.
Entries finally close for Implements, Stock, Produce, Poultry, Dogs, &c., July 12th, post; Poultry, Dogs, &c., July 13th.
T. WELSBY, Secretary, Rhyl.

WHALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At WHALLEY, JULY 27th, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
J. M. RAWCLIFFE, Secretary, Whalley, near Blackburn.

HARROGATE and DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW, THURSDAY, JULY 27th, 1905.
President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., Moor Park
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Four-in-hands, Jumping, etc.
ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 20th.
G. SAVILLE, Secretary.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY,
AUGUST 22nd, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary, Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At MALTON, JULY 26th, 1905.
Late entries to July 15th, 5s. ex ra.
T. MITCHELL, Secretary, Malton.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

BOSTON SHOW SOCIETY,
At BOSTON, JULY 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries close July 12th.
Messrs. J. G. KILLINGWORTH & SON, Secretaries, Auctioneers, Boston, Lincs.

UPHOLLAND AND DISTRICT HORSE SHOW,
At UPHOLLAND, JULY 19th, 1905.
Entries close July 15th.
G. H. SCRIVENER, Secretary, Glenfield, Upholland, near Wigan.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
ANNUAL SHOW, AUGUST 19th, not 25th.
Entries close August 12th to
FRED. W. PIRIE, Solicitor, Barrow-in-Furness.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
At GUILDFORD, AUGUST 30th, 1905,
E. H. ELLIS, Secretary, Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

CENTRAL BANFFSHIRE FARMERS' CLUB,
At KEITH, AUGUST 8TH, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
G. DONALD, Secretary, Ladyhill Grange, Keith.

SOUTH BRENT, DARTMOOR PONY, &c., SHOW,
AUGUST 9th, 1905. Entries received until July 26th. Schedules and Entry Forms from Secretary, W. HULL, South Brent, Devon.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
AT HEANOR.
AUGUST 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
J. COVEL, Secretary, Market Street, Heanor

LUDLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At LUDLOW, AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 24th.
E. H. WOOD, Secretary, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow

THORNEY SHIRE FOAL SOCIETY.
At THORNEY.
JULY 25th, 1905.
HARRY HORRELL, Secretary, Thorney, Peterborough.

CLIVIGER AGRICULTURAL SHOW, near BURNLEY.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1905.
Show Field adjoins Holme Ll. & Y. Ry. Station
Schedules from J. CROSSLEY, Secretary, Cliviger, Burnley

FELTON AND WARKWORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At WARKWORTH, AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
J. BARKER, Secretary, High Stanners, Morpeth

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

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COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ESTATE MANAGEMENT and FORESTRY,
DOWNTON, SALISBURY.
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Prospectus and full information on application to Professor Wrightson, at above address.
NEXT TERM commences October 2nd.

LEGAL NOTICE.

Re ROBERT MARR, deceased.

Pursuant to Act of Parliament, 22nd and 23rd Vic., cap. 35, intituled "An Act to further amend the law of property, and to relieve Trustees."

NOTICE is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any debts, claims or demands against the estate of Robert Marr, late of 21, Corn Exchange Chambers, Seething Lane, in the City of London, and of Toronto House, Brockley Park, Forest Hill, in the county of Kent, Flour Merchant deceased (who died on the 25th day of May, 1905), and whose will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justice on the 28th day of June, 1905, by Carl Lagemann, the Executor therein named are required to send the particulars in writing of their claims or demands to us the undersigned, Irvine, Borrowman, and Browne, of 25, Crutched Friars, Mark Lane, London, E.C., as Solicitors for the said Executor, on or before the 10th day of August, 1905, and notice is hereby further given that after that date the said Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice and that they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased, or any part thereof so distributed, to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this fifth day of July, 1905.
IRVINE, BORROWMAN, and BROWNE,
25, Crutched Friars, Mark Lane,
London, E.C.
Solicitors for the said Executor.

SITUATION, AGENCIES, WANTED AND VACANT.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

MANURES &c.—AGENTS wanted by Manufacturers, who se Products are used by Government. Handsome income can be made by men having good farming connections. Address, "F," MARK LANE EXPRESS, London.

MALTSTER WANTED, for a position in Ireland, a first-class man who thoroughly understands his business; must be highly recommended. Apply, enclosing copies of testimonials, stating age and salary expected, to "MALTSTER," Care Easons, Ltd., Advertising Agents, Dublin.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuers and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARMS to be LET in Sussex and numerous other counties. Dairy, Flock and Poultry Farms. 2 to 900 acres. Send 2d. stamps for list, and state requirements to GLADDING & CO., Farm Specialists and Valuers, Hove, Sussex.

SURREY.—Eleven miles by road from Charing Cross, within easy reach of three railway stations, and well roaded. To be let from Michaelmas, Lower Morden Farm, an excellent mixed holding affording exceptional advantages of accomodation to large London Firms, and comprising farm house with commodious homestead, five cottages, and some 265 acres of arable and pasture land.—Apply to Messrs. WALTON & LEE, Estate Agents, 10, Mount Street, London, W.

INVESTIGATE these States of North America traversed by the Southern Railway:—Virginia, North & South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee—368,000 square miles of country comprising the richest mineral, timber and farming sections. Lands produce every staple crop suited to the country at large and many others restricted to this section by superior climatic conditions. Descriptive pamphlets and maps sent free.—Address, M. V. RICHARDS, Land & Industrial Agent, Southern Railway, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

FOR immediate disposal, old-established Wholesale HAY, STRAW, AND CHAFF MERCHANT'S BUSINESS in large hay, clover, and straw growing district, with extensive premises from which large retail business could be developed."—Apply, "G," office of this paper.

TO DAIRYMEN FARMERS AND OTHERS. Farm, mixed soil, about 400 acres, half grass, modern house for 50 cows, wharf on farm. Two-and-a-half miles from two Railway Stations, one in important Seaside town, 40 miles from London. Good buildings and capital Farm house.—Address J. COOK, c/o. Messrs. Deacon & Co., 154, Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.

AUCTIONEERS AND LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS. — To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers. — JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE. — Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP — Border Leicester, Cheviot Blackfaced and Crosses, and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

P. HYSLOP, Sandhills, Annan, Scotland, supplies CATTLE, SHEEP, and LAMBS, on moderate terms. Order forms on application.

HIGHLAND CATTLE and other Live Stock supplied by William MacBean, Cradlehall, Inverness, who attends all important markets in North of Scotland.

H. & E. M'GRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

POULTRY.

EGGS.—Champion winners of White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks, White, also Brown, Leghorns; 2s. 6d., sitting.—POULTRYMAN, Nafferton Hall, near Hull.

HENS.—Now making 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. each, of LARGE FAT, LIVE, OLD HENS, small 1s. 6d. Established 100 years.—WALLER & CO., The Live Poultry Commission Salesmen, Central Market, Smithfield, London.

CATTLE.

WEST HIGHLAND HEIFERS for sale.—Good colours. Year-olds, £5 17s. 6d., to £6 12s. 6d.; 2 year-olds £6 17s. 6d., to £7 15s.; 3 year-olds £8 5s., to £8 15s.; Price of Bullocks on application. All delivered free Midland Counties, England. NEWALL, Stornoway, N.B.

PUBLICATION.

"PAYING POULTRY": A Handbook for all interested in the keeping and Rearing of Poultry. Illustrated. Price One Shilling (by post 1/2½).—WILLIAM A. MAY, "Farm Field and Fireside, 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C

AUCTION SALES.

HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEP SALES

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE'S FIXTURES FOR 1905.

MONDAY, 24th JULY.—WATERS PLACE FARM, WARE, HERTS.

Annual Sale and Letting by Auction, on the Premises, of RAM LAMBS, RAMS AND EWES, the property of Mr. T. F. Buxton.

THURSDAY, 27th JULY.—ALRESFORD FAIR, HANTS.

A Selection of RAM LAMBS, from the Registered Flock of Mr. J. A. K. Falconer, Long Sutton House.

FRIDAY, 28th JULY.—WEYHILL FAIR.

Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS, the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, Cholderton.

WEYHILL FAIR.—**Friday, 28th July.**

A Selection of RAM LAMBS, from the highly-bred Flock of the Most Hon. the Marquis of Winchester, Amport, Hants.

WEYHILL FAIR.—**Friday, 28th July.**

A Selection of RAM LAMBS, From the Dunley Manor Flock of Mr. F. A. Holman.

TUESDAY, 1st AUGUST.—ILSLEY FAIR, BERKS.

Selections of RAM LAMBS AND RAMS, from the Flocks of Mr. R. L. Ovey, Hernes, Henley-on-Thames, and Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Hungerford.

TUESDAY, 1st AUGUST. — MARKET HOUSE SALISBURY.

The Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS and RAMS, the property of Mr. Joseph Dean, Chitterne, and Mr. G. L. Dean, Homington.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd AUGUST.—CHITTERNE CODFORD, WILTS.

The choicest portion of the grand extensive Registered Hampshire Down Flock of Mr. Joseph Dean, on account of the Estate being sold, comprising

1,000 EWES and EWE LAMBS, and 70 RAM LAMBS.

FRIDAY, 4th AUGUST. MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STORE.

Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS and RAMS, the property of Mr. Cary Coles, on the Premises.

TUESDAY, 8th AUGUST.—MARKET HOUSE SALISBURY.

The Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS and RAMS, from Mr. Dibben's Bishopstone Flock.

SATURDAY, 12th AUGUST. — BRITFORD FAIR (One Mile from Salisbury).

The Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS and RAMS, from Mr. James Flower, Chilmark.

BRITFORD FAIR.—**12th August.**

Annual Sale of RAM LAMBS, from the Breamore Flock of Mr. Hamilton J. Hulse.

BRITFORD FAIR.—**12th August.**

Annual Sale and Letting of RAM LAMBS and RAMS, from the well-known Flock of Mr. A. F. T. Drake, Dogdean.

BRITFORD FAIR.—**12th August.**

The Annual Sale and Letting by Auction of RAM LAMBS and RAMS, the property of Mr. W. C. Young, Stratford-sub-Castle.

Catalogues of the above Sales will be issued in due course, and may, when ready, be obtained of the Auctioneers, at the Registered Office of the HAMPSHIRE DOWN SHEEPBREEDERS' ASSOCIATION, Canal, Salisbury.

GAZELEY, SUFFOLK,
Two-and-and-a-half miles from Higham Station, six from Newmarket, and nine from Bury St. Edmund's.

THE ROLLER FLOUR MILL

Recently fitted up at great cost with the most approved Roller machinery, driven by a 12 h.p. Turner Engine, with Cornish Boiler; also Sail Mill driving two pairs of French Burr Stones, fixed in an Iron Auxiliary Building for Grist Purposes.

THE MILL RESIDENCE AND BAKERY
FOUR MODERN ORNAMENTAL COTTAGES.
ORCHARD AND GARDEN.
24 ACRES OF ACCOMMODATION LAND (Lying in the midst of the famous Dalham Sporting Estate),
SET OF FARM PREMISES, STABLING ETC.

MESSRS. BIDDELL & BLENCOWE are instructed to Sell the above Valuable Mercantile Property by Auction, at the Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmund's, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 19th, 1905, at 4 p.m. in One Lot (or, if not sold, in Two Lots).

An old-established and excellent Flour and Bread Trade has for many years been carried on by the Proprietor, Mr. R. J. Harvey, who is relinquishing the Business at Michaelmas next, when possession of the property will be given.

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be had of Messrs. D'ALBANI and ELLIS, Vendor's Solicitors, Newmarket, and 9, Petty Cury, Cambridge, and of the Auctioneers, Bury St. Edmunds, and Newmarket on Tuesday.

CHICHESTER.

GREAT ANNUAL SALE AND LETTING of SOUTHDOWN RAMS TUESDAY JULY 25th, 1905, and of SOUTHDOWN RAMS, EWES, and EWE & WETHER LAMBS on the following day WEDNESDAY JULY 26th.

The above Sale will be held by

HOBGEN BROS., at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market (quarter of a mile from Chichester Railway Station) commencing each day at one o'clock precisely, when a Grand Selection of Sheep will be offered from the well-known and celebrated SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS of:—

His Grace The Duke of Richmond & Gordon, His Grace The Duke of Devonshire, K.G., His Grace The Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Edwin Henty, Esq., Jeremiah Colman, D.L., J.P., Edwin Ellis, Esq., H. Cosmo Bonsor, Esq., A. Heasman, Esq., J. Edward Allen, Esq., Herbert Padwick, Esq., The Pagham Harbour Co., Messrs. F. N. & E. Hobgen, and others.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Hall.

Catalogues may be had of HOBGEN BROS., East Street, Chichester, who will execute commissions.

WEST WITTERING, SUSSEX.
NUNNINGTON, BUCKETS AND CACKHAM GREEN FARMS.

About six miles from Chichester Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway, and about three miles from Sidlesham Station, on the Chichester and Selsey Light Railway.

Highly important Sale of very valuable FREEHOLD ESTATE, consisting of about 238 ACRES of exceedingly fertile and productive Land, a comfortable and convenient Farmhouse, suitable Farm Buildings and Four Cottages; in SIX LOTS, which

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON are in receipt of instructions from the Exors of the late Mr. John Andrews, to SELL by AUCTION at their Sale Rooms, 63, East Street, Chichester, on WEDNESDAY, JULY 19th, 1905, at three o'clock precisely.

The whole of the land contained in the respective Lots is of the most fertile and productive description, and comprises some of the very best, in a district generally considered, from an agricultural point of view, to be second to none in England.

It has been well farmed, is perfectly level, abuts on to Main Roads, several of the Lots having long frontages to the same, is well supplied with pure water, and possession can be obtained (if desired) on completion. Close to the Sea, in a good centre for Yachting, Boating, Fishing and Shooting.

Particulars with plan and conditions of sale of Messrs. RAPER, FREELAND & TYACKE, Solicitors, West Street, Chichester; or of the Auctioneers, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

TRING PARK FLOCK.

SALE DAY, FRIDAY, JULY 21st.

70 GRAND RAM LAMBS.

120 EWES AND EWE LAMBS.

This year's selection from the Right Hon. Lord Rothschild's Flock of Registered Sheep will be found one of the best yet offered. The continual selection of the best Lambs procurable from other leading breeders has so stamped the Flock that the Sale now presents one of the best opportunities to secure a perfect combination of the improved Hampshire Down Sheep.

Arrangements made for Foreign buyers' accommodation.

For further particulars apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Tring, Herts (L. & N. W. R., 30 miles from Euston), who will show the whole Flock, or to Messrs.

W. BROWN & CO.,
Auctioneers, Tring.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:

THURSDAY, JULY 13.—Mr. A. G. Soames's and Mr. F. J. Mann's RED-POLLS, at Flaxmoor, Caston, Norfolk.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.—Lord Rothschild's JERSEYS, at Tring Park,

FRIDAY, JULY 14.—About 50 JERSEYS from the first-class herds belonging to C. W. Armitage, Esq. and A. Miller-Hallett, Esq., at Woodlands, Northaw, Potter's Bar, Herts.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26. Fifty SHORTHORNS belonging to Mr. F. J. Steward, at White Hall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3. The entire Whittingham Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (about 1,000 head), at Trowse, Norwich.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.—Col. A. F. Walter's SOUTHDOWNS, at Bearwood, Wokingham.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sir N. W. Throckmorton's SOUTHDOWN Flock, at Buckland, Faringdon.

TUCKER BROTHERS (Abergavenny) LTD.

MESSRS. TOMKINS & CAPPER will offer for SALE by AUCTION at the ANGEL HOTEL, ABERGAVENNY, on TUESDAY, 18th JULY, 1905, at 3 o'clock, the following VALUABLE PROPERTY:

The FREEHOLD SHOP, PREMISES and DWELLING HOUSE, situate No. 5, Frogmore Street, Abergavenny. The ABERGAVENNY STEAM CORN MILLS, WAREHOUSES and STORES, situate in Lion Street. The LEASEHOLD STABLES situate in King Street.

For particulars and plans, and further information, apply to the Auctioneers at their offices, Frogmore Chambers, Abergavenny, or to MESSRS. CAMERON KEMM & Co. Solicitors, Gresham House, 24, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

MACKINDER'S
LAMB FOOD
The Best and Most Wholesome Diet for all Stock.

Delivered, Carriage Paid, to all Stations.

See Pamphlet on "Good Food & Good Blood."

MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL,
Rears Calves splendidly and cheaply.
Try it. Price 11s. per cwt.

E. MACKINDER,
Inventor and Sole Manufacturer of
LAMB FOOD AND PORRIDGE MEAL,
LINCOLN.

IT SAVES TROUBLE
and annoyance many times to have

ABSORBINE (YOUNG'S)
handy in case of a Bruise or Strain. This remedy is rapid to cure, pleasant to use, and you can work the horse. No blister, no hair gone.

ABSORBINE cures Lameness, allays pain, removes any soft bunch quickly. 5s. 3d. per bottle, delivered or of regular dealers. Book 6-B free.

ABSORBINE, JR., for mankind, 4s. 6d. bottle. Cures Badly Strained Joints or Ligaments. Kills Pain.

Made only by
W. F. YOUNG, P.D.F., Springfield, Mass, U.S.A.
Sole Agents for United Kingdom:
Tho. Christy & Co., 4, Old Swan Lane, London.

RHEUMATISM.

BLAIR'S GOUT PILLS.

The only remedy that relieves and cures all Rheumatic complaints. Sure, safe, and effectual. All Chemists and Stores.
1/1½ and 2/9 per Box.

FOOT-ROT.

STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual - Speedy Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock masters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist, or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor, G. STRAWSON Chemist Bishop's Castle.

WHITEWAY'S
Devonshire CYDERS
Guaranteed pure. Highly recommended by the medical profession. In cask and bottle. Special "Harvest" Brand, 11 gal. cask 12/-, 28 gal. cask 22/6 (for cash) carriage paid, cask returnable. Price list and testimonials from **WHITEWAY'S, The Orchards Whimple, Devon.**

SUCCESSFUL CHICKEN REARING.

GEORGE SMITH'S
SPECIAL CHICKEN MEAL and GRANULATED DRY CHICKEN FOOD
Rears Chickens, Turkeys, and all kinds of Poultry with the greatest success, direct from the shell.
Chicken Meal, 16/- per cwt.; Dry Chicken Food, 18/- per cwt. Cwt. parcels and upwards carriage paid to any station in England for cash. Sample 3½ lbs. of each by post, 2/-.

Specimen Letters.

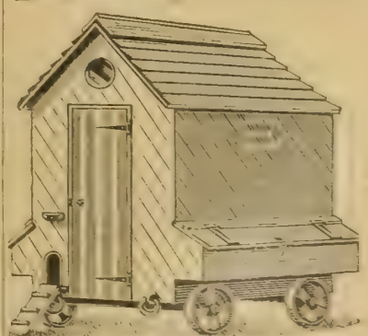
Mr. ALF. ANDREWS, of Campsea Ash, writes: "Since using your Chicken Meal I have had great success in rearing fowls."
"Thorpe Hall, March 4th, 1905.
"Mr. George Smith.
"Dear Sir,—The Chicken Meal and Granulated Dry Chicken Food I had from you last season gave me every satisfaction.—Yours truly, "H. M. SHARDELOW."

New Descriptive List of Game, Poultry & Dog Foods, with numerous testimonials, post free
GEO. SMITH's Poultry & Game Food Factory, NORWICH.

DELICIOUS **COFFEE**

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner.



This is what I guarantee: Strength, Quality, and Workmanship, or money returned.
Patronised by H.M. the King. Six Prize Medals awarded.

SPECIAL OFFER.—Poultry Houses 7ft. by 3ft., now ready for Immediate Delivery. Planed for Painting, **80/-** each, carriage paid. Catalogues Free.

R. MALLON,
Station Works, SWAFFHAM, NORFOLK.

WHY ???

ROYAL SHOW, 1905

Total Prizes 229

Every Prize-Winner

except 2

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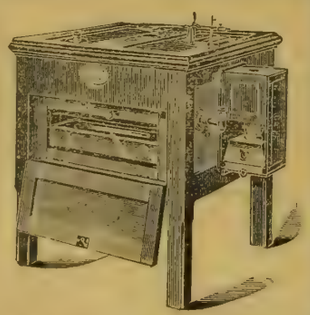
Cooper's Dip

CHRISTY INCUBATORS AND POULTRY APPLIANCES.



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EDWARD SPENCER & CO.,
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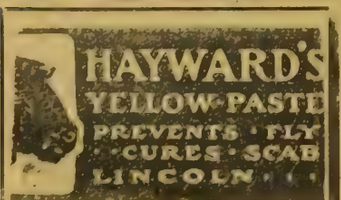
The OLDEST Incubator Manufacturers.
ESTABLISHED 150 YEARS.

Visitors will be welcomed at any time at our SHOW ROOMS, 5, Aldgate, London, E.

From 5/- Monthly Sample £10 10 Cycle for Cash. £4-15. Dunlop Tyre, Free Wheels, Brake, Carriage paid. Cycles from £2-10 Sample £12 Motor Cycle £20 List free. Dereham Rd. Cycle Co. Norwich



No New Experiment.

THE

"YELLOW PASTE"

is the Improved Sulphur Dip. Mixes with Cold Water. Tubs, directions, and all particulars from Agents or Makers. No Fly.

APPROVED BY BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

PRIZE MEDAL.

PETTIFER'S HERBAL

The World-Renowned

TONIC MIXTURE

For eradicating Tape Worm, and preventing Scour in Lambs; also a never-failing remedy for Husk and Hoose in Lambs, Cattle, and Calves; and for Scour in Calves it is matchless.

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIALS

from Noblemen s Agents and the largest Stock-keepers throughout the country; and a'so the highest testimony from abroad.

Sold in Bottles 5s. each; sufficient to drench 30 Lambs.

DOSE-BOTTLES GRATIS.

PREPARED ONLY BY

THOMAS PETTIFER & CO.
The ORIGINAL Firm,
EYDON, BANBURY
Estab. nearly 70 years.

PRIZE MEDAL.

LEARNER'S PATENT FOOT-ROT CURE

Guaranteed to cure & leave the Hoof soft & pliable.

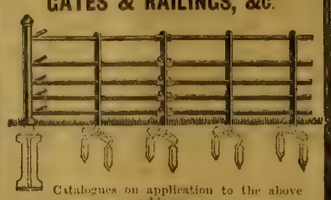
TINS 3/- & 1/6 EACH. POST FREE.

ALFRED J. LEARNER. REDHILL, SURREY.

HILL & SMITH BRIERLEY HILL IRONWORKS, Staffs.

MANUFACTURERS OF

IRON & WIRE FENCING, HURDLES, GATES & RAILINGS, &c.



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118, QUEEN VICTORIA ST., E.C.

IN HOT WEATHER USE

SPECIAL SDC BRAND

PRESERVER.

SPECIAL SDC BRAND

No. 1. For Cream. 1/8 per lb.
No. 2. For Butter. 1/4 per lb.
Post paid.

DAIRY SUPPLY CO. LTD.
MUSEUM ST., LONDON, W.C.

NO CURE! NO PAY!!

G. F. DAWES'

IS THE ONLY GUARANTEED CURE FOR FOOT ROT,

leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep. Trial Pot free from the Manufactory.

C.F. DAWES, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK

VESTA CAKES and MEALS.

In order to enable us to supply clean Cotton Seed and a Cotton Cake of good quality we have taken over a mill lately fitted up with the very best modern machinery, which enables us to sell at the lowest possible and at the same time turn out an Undecorticated Cotton Cake practically free from LINT, DIRT, and SAND.

The Cakes are branded "VESTA" PURE.

Buyers of the "VESTA" FEED CAKES can have the Cottons shipped at same time, thus saving any delay.

ANALYSIS.

UNDECORTICATED COTTON SEED CAKE		MECHANICALLY CLEANED COTTON SEED.	
Moisture	11·30	Moisture	10·20
Oil	5·67	Oil	21·63
*Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	26·50	*Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	23·50
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	32·55	Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	25·11
Indigestible Woody Fibre ...	19·28	Woody Fibre	15·36
Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·70	Mineral Matters (Ash)	4·20
	100·00		100·00
*Containing Nitrogen ...	4·24	*Containing Nitrogen ...	3.76
Sand	·10		

LIVERPOOL VESTA CAKE CO.

Blackstock Street, LIVERPOOL.

THREE UNRIVALLED CALF MEALS

THE

LANCASTER CALF FOOD

13/- per cwt., or in 4 cwt. lots 12/6 per cwt.

This Meal does not swell out so far as the "Milk Equivalent," but is much easier to prepare, and is recommended to those who do not personally see to proper preparation.

BIBBY'S

MILK EQUIVALENT

12/6 per cwt., or in 5 cwt. lots 12/- per cwt.

This Meal swells out splendidly, but needs careful preparation. It is, however, a first-class Meal, and probably the most economic in use of all the Calf Meals in the Market.

BIBBY'S

CREAM EQUIVALENT

The most popular Calf Food ever produced, 15/- per cwt.

Is the latest and most popular of our foods; **we believe it is the nearest approach to the ideal that has yet been reached in preparations of this kind.**

CARRIAGE PAID to BUYER'S NEAREST STATION.

Sole Manufacturers,

J. Bibby & Sons

EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL

By Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

HAYMAKING MACHINERY

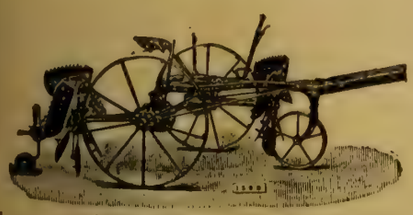
INCLUDING

SWATH TURNERS

(Jarmain's Patent)

FOR DEALING QUICKLY AND EFFECTIVELY WITH THE HAY AND CLOVER CROPS.

No Farmer should be without one.



"Fore and Aft" Swath Turner. New Pattern for 1905

HORSE RAKES.

The "Star," "Through-Axle," "Self-Acting," & "Manual."

EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE.

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Agricultural Journal
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Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

JULY 10, 1905.

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HAYMAKING.

Crops of meadow hay are somewhat light this year, it is generally reported; but there has been very little difficulty to secure them, such as they are, in good condition, during the past fortnight. "Make hay when the sun shines" is a very old proverb, and the monarch of day has so rapidly extracted verdure and sap from the mown grass that in all probability a great many go-ahead farmers who were well equipped in hay-harvesting machinery have already stacked the whole of the hay they intended to make this year. The weather in the Royal Show week brought sufficient rain to some districts to cause delay, but those who suffered therefrom were few indeed compared to those who regarded the cloud-droppings as pre-eminently beneficient.

No kind of field work has undergone such revolutionary transformations during the past half-century as haymaking. Horse-drawn machines now perform the work which formerly gave incessant, severe toil to numerous troops of men, women, and children. The horse-mowers, if kept continuously in action, effects the cutting of a hundred acres of meadow-grass in a very short space of time; and only such weather as we have recently been experiencing is required for the grass to be converted to hay with equal celerity by the aid of swath-turners, tedders, rakes, etc. The farmer who has these machines is far more independent of the weather than those were who had the work to do in the first half of the last century. By using utmost dexterity, their processes could only have very slow action, so that it was impossible to make the best of the sunshine when it came, and too often they were caught with stormy, atmospheric tribulations when in the very midst of the mowing season. The farmer of to-day can almost choose his own time, and, if caught similarly, can stack for silage what he has lying about, and stop the horse-mower until the clouds have rolled by. He can make more hay in a day when fine weather comes than in the pre-machinery times could be performed in a week.

When we consider the matter as to whether hay is made any better nowadays than in olden times no very confident reply can be made. There were immense quantities of badly-weathered and spoilt hay in the old times; but when the sun shone, and there were several continuous fine days in succession, the hay that in making had been kept continually on the pick or hand-fork was often of a very superior quality indeed. The statement may be affirmed confidently that the bulk of it secured in fine weather was far superior to what is at present stacked after being made by the system of Mr. McConnell, who not long since stated in the *Journal* of the Board of Agriculture that the best method of haymaking was "to let the hay make itself." But the actually spoilt hay of modern times belongs to small farmers having little or no machinery, and those who endeavour to make hay out of season. There was ample proof of this two years ago when, after Midsummer Day, there were three sunshiny weeks during which nearly all the farmers possessed of ample machinery secured their hay in very prime condition. But there were large numbers of the non-systematic, indolent class who were found haymaking after the wretched weather of the last ten days of July and nearly the whole of August came. And these men had not the wit or sagacity to make silage of their weathered fodder instead of labouring for its thorough spoliation.

There is another admirable modern invention besides haymaking machinery which saves enormous waste, no less than unnecessary labour. This is the lofty, light, open shed, with a roof of corrugated iron, of which so many are to be found in different parts of the kingdom. They are so decidedly economical both for hay and corn, especially on farms devoid of material for making thatch, that few farmsteads can be considered properly equipped without one of them.

Two valuable draught horses, the property of the Duke of Northumberland, have died from the effects of eating some branches of yew trees in Alnwick Park.

Sale of Poisonous Agricultural Compounds.

The President of the Board of Agriculture, received in his room at the House of Commons on Monday, a deputation from the Pharmaceutical Society who urged reasons against the proposed legislation to extend to others than chemists the right of selling poisonous products used in agriculture and horticulture.

Mr. Fellowes in reply, said there was influential evidence of a strong desire for the proposed extension, especially in rural districts where chemists were few or distant, but if the Bill in contemplation were proceeded with this session strict precautions would be taken for the safety of the public. The regulations to be made under the Bill would provide, inter alia, that no poisonous substance should be kept in any shop or premises where articles of food were stored or kept for sale, that all poisons must be kept in a separate cupboard from other goods, be sold in an enclosed vessel labelled with the word "poison," that all liquid poisons should be sold only in bottles or tins easily distinguishable by touch from ordinary bottles or tins, and that, in granting licences to sell agricultural poisons, the local authority should have regard to the facilities already existing in the neighbourhood for the purchase of poisonous compounds.

The Small Holdings Committee.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to inquire into the subject of small holdings held a meeting on the 6th inst.

The following members were present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G. (Chairman), the Right Hon. the Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., Sir R. Anstruther, Bart., Major P. G. Craigie, C.B., Mr. C. Bidwell, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., Mr. Jas. Long, Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund, Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., and the Secretary (Mr. T. H. Sutton).

Evidence was given by Mr. James Long, a member of the Committee, and Mr. R. Winfrey, Sutton House, Peterborough.

Chester Cattle Fair took place on Wednesday, when both supply and demand were smaller, but quite as much business was done as could be expected. Prices were about the same as at the last fair, but with a firmer tendency. Milch cows, £16 to £22; calvers, £15 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 18s. to 37s.

Castle-Douglas Fair.—The horse and hiring fair was held on Monday. Good useful harness horses were in demand from £25 to £38. The trade, except for the best class of animals, was very poor. The hiring fair for harvesters was also held, turnip hoeing and hay-making being in full swing. There was only a moderate supply of harvesters. Engagements were made at from £4 10s. to £5 10s., with board for men; £3 to £4 for lads.

The principal haytime hirings at Kirkby Stephen were held on Monday, when labourers were present in large numbers. That the supply considerably exceeded the demand was shown by the reduced wages prevailing, engagements being entered into at £1 to £2 less than last year for the month. The best-known men accepted service, with rare exceptions, at £6 to £7, plus board and lodgings; and second-rate hands, £1 per week.

Seasonable Topics.

Perhaps of all the topics which are now seasonable that of the weather is the most important, for are we not in the swing of the hay harvest, and the expense and trouble of getting in this essential crop is increased or lessened according to the vagaries of the clerk of the weather. In most districts there are what are known as early mowers and late mowers. The former invariably commence their haymaking operations in June, and the latter usually wait till July. Neither are in the habit of breaking their rules, except by force of circumstances, but this season many of the early mowers have been persuaded to do so on account of the scantiness of herbage and the hope that the rains in June would help on the growth a little. There is no longer any hesitation about beginning, for that stage is past, and the anxiety is rather to finish. We have had rain enough of late to soak everything which needs moisture, and the general desire is for continued fine weather to get the haymaking finished. This anxiety is only natural, for when the weather is unsettled in July and the hay hangs about a long time, it is not to be wondered at if the farmer grows irritable as he sees money going out that might be saved if only the sun would shine. Not that good harvest weather is always an unqualified blessing, because when everything is favourable some men are so anxious to get the hay in before a change comes that they do not leave it long enough to make properly, and stack fires are often more general after a good haymaking time than when the weather is unsettled. In districts where hay is the chief crop the farmer shows how very human he is when the last load is in, for he rests on his oars, so to speak, looks satisfied with himself and the world in general, and, not infrequently (but tell it not in Gath) treats himself to a week at the seaside. Fancy a farmer lolling on a pier, listening to the band! Yet he does it, and enjoys it. What would his grandfather think if he could come back and see how times have changed?

July Weather.

Some pieces of potatoes are looking very well just now, and promise a good yield, but in others a deplorable patchiness may be observed. There are gaps in the rows, and here and there plants which are dwarf, weak, and spindling, instead of producing strong haulm. Why this weakness on the part of some plants, and the failure of certain tubers to send up growth at all? There is something wrong. What is it? Dig up one of the tubers which are behaving unseemly, and behold, it is as hard and firm as the day when it was planted. Cut the tuber open and there find a dark ring underneath the skin. A disease, no doubt, of some kind; but what, and how can it be prevented or cured? Scientific men have had it under notice for some time, and have attached a long and almost unpronounceable name to it; but that is about as far as we appear to have got at present. Curiously enough, too, the seriousness of the trouble does not appear to be realised. People notice that their potatoes fail in the above way and wonder what is the reason—perhaps blaming the ground, the seed, the variety of the weather—but this peculiar disease, which causes spindling growth, curled leaves, and no crop, has been responsible during the past few years for a very serious reduction in potato returns. Growers will awake to the necessity of getting to the bottom of the trouble some day; but, in the meantime, information is generally wanted as to what this peculiar disease is, what causes it, how it can be prevented, and is there a cure? Here is a chance for some investigations on the part of the Board of Agriculture, and a leaflet on the subject would be read with greater interest than some that are published.

Potato Troubles.

Opinions continue to differ as to the actual benefits to be derived from spraying potatoes with Bordeaux mixture, as a preventive of potato blight (Phytophthora infestans). Many people spray their potatoes, but more do not; though possibly some of the latter might be disposed to do so if they had a proper apparatus for the purpose. The man who grows perhaps hundreds of acres of potatoes may look upon a spraying machine as being part of the necessary equipment, but the small grower, not having the same needs, does not see his way to spending money on a machine, and his potatoes go unsprayed. It may be urged, however, that a knapsack sprayer would serve the purpose of many growers, and this is a most useful apparatus to have in any establishment where there is a garden, orchard, and potato ground. No one claims for Bordeaux mixture that it is an infallible remedy for potato disease, and, as a matter of fact, it is not a remedy at all, but a preventive, and the best known up to the present. This is just the point. It is no good spraying potatoes when the foliage is covered with the fatal black patches, which denote the presence of the disease, but the fungicide should be applied before in order to prevent the above. As a rule, first early potatoes do not need spraying, but in the case of maincrops, a dressing at the end of June, another about the middle of July, and a third in August, if necessary, are advised.

Spraying Potatoes.

No one need be prevented from spraying potatoes on the grounds of the cost of the mixture, which can be easily prepared at home. In the first place, dissolve 1 lb. of bluestone in 10 gallons of water; secondly, boil 1 lb. of lime with the same weight of soft soap, or treacle, in water till they are dissolved, strain the latter, and pour it into the bluestone mixture. Stir the solution, and it is ready for use. Generally speaking, for the prevention of disease, it is sufficient if the upper surface of the leaf is sprayed, but if there are signs that the blight has got a hold, then the under as well as the upper side of the foliage should be sprayed. To give an idea of the time spent over the operation, it may be added that with a knapsack sprayer it is not difficult to get over three-quarters of an acre in the course of a day.

Bordeaux Mixture.

In these days of so many hay barns, the building of ricks and the thatching of the same are not such important farm operations as they used to be, but, nevertheless, haystacks are by no means gone out of fashion, and a disorderly rickyard is offensive to the eye of a neat and tidy farmer. Rick-building, by the way, is by no means a fine art, but everyone does not excel at it, and on most homesteads there is a man whose post of honour during haying time is on the rick, and woe unto his reputation if one of his stacks is out of shape or lopsided. This does not often happen, however, in the case of an old rick-builder, and when you see a stack devoid of shape, or one that looks as if it was about to fall over, you may come to the conclusion that a young hand or a novice has had the building of it. We are not quite sure whether there is as much pride taken in thatching as there used to be, or even whether the work is so well done, despite the fact that thatching is part of the agricultural instruction given under the direction of the Education Committees of County Councils. We may perhaps blame the introduction of hay barns, useful though they are, for the decrease of interest and skill in thatching; but we should be sorry to see farm hands cease altogether to take a pride in such operations as ricking and thatching. If a thing is worth doing at all it is certainly worth doing well, and whereas nothing looks better than a stackyard, with the ricks evenly placed and the latter well-built and neatly thatched, we can conjure up a no more slovely picture on a farm than an untidy rickyard with loose hay kicking about; stacks giving the appearance of having been thrown together rather than built, and thatch put on in a careless manner. And if the good thatcher likes to ornament the top of his stack with a game cock made of straw, it need not necessarily be condemned as a waste of time, for it shows that the man takes an interest in his work. We fear that this is just what many farm hands of to-day are disposed to lack—a pride in doing work well, not altogether for the wages received for it, but for the sake of the personal reputation of the individual who performs the task. In the old days it would have been a slur on the reputation of the rick-builder to erect a lobsided or misshapen stack. Let that spirit remain by all means.

Rick-Building and Thatching.

Agriculturists, perhaps above all men, are subject to disappointments, and were it not that a kindly nature has endowed them with a hopeful disposition, they would often, we fear, be in a state of abject despondency. At the same time there is a bitterness about blighted hopes, which would affect the nature of any but a veritable Mark Tapley, and, as it happens, there are not many of these characters about. Last week we had a dismal story to tell in connection with the financial failure of the Royal Agricultural Show, and it was with despondent feelings that we wrote, because we, in common with agriculturists in general, hoped that the big effort made this year would end as everybody wished—successfully. Unfortunately, however, this was not to be, and all the regrets in the world will not alter matters. We have had opportunities of discussing the position with farmers and others since the disastrous figures were published, and the one question asked is: What will be done now? We can only re-echo the question. What, indeed, for the time has not come for giving an answer. Hope, however, will not be suddenly and absolutely quenched, as long as there is a vestige of a chance left; and, with his inborn tenacity of nature, the agriculturist is now centring his hopes partly on the new Council, which comes into power next month, and partly in his belief that the agricultural interest in this country is too powerful to prevent the Royal Show from dropping out of existence. It is said that the right men are always to be found when a crisis comes. We hope it will be so in this case, for there is no denying the deplorable fact that a crisis is reached in the affairs of the Royal Agricultural Society.

Blighted Hopes.

OBITUARY.

Mr. A. Fletcher.

The death is announced of Mr. Arthur Fletcher, of Greenbooth, near Rochdale, a member of the firm of Messrs. James Butterworth and Sons, woollen manufacturers. He was 45 years of age. He was a familiar figure at the local agricultural shows, at which he was often a judge.

Mr. E. Osmond.

The death took place at Exeter, the week before last, of Mr. Edward Osmond, formerly of Oakford House, Upton Pyne, and known throughout the West of England as a land agent and surveyor, and especially as the steward to the Earl of Iddesleigh. The stewardship has been in the family for generations, and the deceased succeeded his father in that capacity over fifty years ago. The deceased never missed a rent audit for 60 consecutive years. His advancing age compelled him about three years ago to relinquish his active interest in his business, and he resigned the stewardship in favour of his son, Mr. Henry Osmond. He was also agent for Mr. Durant for the Sharpham Estate, Totnes, and he at one time farmed largely.

Mr. Richard Chatterton.

Mr. Richard Chatterton, the well-known stock-breeder and member of an old Lincolnshire family, has recently died from pneumonia at the age of 50, at Stenigot, near Louth. Mr. Chatterton was a son of the late Mr. Robert Chatterton, of Tathwell, and his first farm was at Welton-le-Wold. In 1884 he and his brother, Mr. Robert Chatterton, purchased the estate of their late uncle, Mr. William Chatterton, at Stenigot, and the firm of Messrs. R. and R. Chatterton is now well known as exporters of live stock. The development of the Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn is due in no small measure to the efforts of Messrs. Chatterton, and in the section of the Royal Show devoted to that breed their name figures prominently as prize-winners last week. Mr. Chatterton had represented Stenigot on the Louth Board of Guardians since 1891. He resided with his brother at Stenigot, and never married.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 1st, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,172	12,383	Wheat ...	2,079,000	1,831 000
Sheep.....	3,422	1,154	Flour	279,400	113,700
Swine.....	—		Barley ...	477,800	144,400
Horses ...	231	148	Oats	210,000	582,100
			Peas	36,780	51,284
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	9,820	15,090
Beef	90,674	92,385	Maize ...	1,106,800	694,000
Mutton...	90,894	57,922	Apples ...	23,290	2,311
Pork	5,822	3 472	Apricots &Peaches	1,619	2,097
Bacon ...	103,877	112,037		Bunches	Bunches
Beef, salt	2,824	1 851	Bananas	92,829	143,511
Hams.....	35,471	36,702		Cwt.	Cwt
Pork, salt	3,519	4,771	Cherries	26,908	29,203
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,655	11 995	Currants	27,027	8,660
Do. pres.	18,732	14,5 8	Gooseb'rs	4,816	6,333
Butter ...	92,177	75,746	Grapes ..	234	214
M'rg'rine	16,752	21,451	Lemons ...	25,981	30,852
Cheese ...	56,8 5	56,036	Oranges	97 8.1	15,789
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	--	--	Plums ..	2,400	29
			Strawb'r's	3,536	3,459
			Oth'r Fr't	7,420	5,611
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	3,152	1,817
Milk, Cream	295	201	Straw	2,633	1,841
			MossLitt'r	—	1,426
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	16,150	14,550	Hops	711	44
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds...	153	9	Locust Beans	23,100 Cush.	28,971 Bush
			Onions ...	117,314 Cwt.	83,499 Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	425,714	367,269
Eggs	450,655	392,074	Tomatoes	51,023	40,912
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value £6,288	Value £1,263	Veg'bles	£9,448 Cwt.	£8,164 Cwt
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	4,029	727
			Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	260	146	by canning ..	3,904	9,787
Lard	40,280	36,857			

By a Lobbyist.

The Conservative success at Kingswinford—the Liberals, all the same, regard the reduction of the majority by nigh on a thousand as a moral victory—has a lesson associated with it. The Conservative champion was a Chamberlainite, but a Chamberlainite with a difference. He accepted the whole programme of Colonial preference; but he demanded that a bounty should be paid to the English wheat-grower out of the 10 per cent. duty imposed upon imported foreign manufactures. This is an intelligent policy and might supply some compensation to the English farmers for the encouraged rivalry and competition of Canada. But does the new M.P. represent in this matter his leader? Is Mr. Chamberlain himself in harmony with this suggestion? At all events, the proclamation of this policy served, I am assured, to relieve the Chamberlainite purpose of the danger with which it has been hitherto held to be fraught. While constituencies have been lost in Dorsetshire and in Shropshire and in Herts by men lisping the Chamberlainite shibboleth without any mitigating explanation and addition, here the Conservative candidate was enabled to carry a breath of consolation to his party leaders. The meaning of the incident should not be lost sight of by the Conservative organisers. If they do permit their men to accept Colonial preference, they should see to it that the pill is sugared. A bounty for the farmers from a 10 per cent. tax on imported manufactures is a gratifying addition to the economic menu. It is not the *pièce de résistance;* but it is an excellent savoury.

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Colonel William Woods, of Warnford Park, Bishop's Waltham, a Deputy-Lieutenant for Hampshire, and himself a very considerable farmer, has presented me with another piquant illustration of how the farmer may be unfairly penalised by the road-hoggers. "A motorist," said the Colonel, "dashes along the road at a furious pace, heedless of all but his own mad delight. He affrightens the horses attached to the waggon of the farmer, who has been compelled to maintain this very road. The unfortunate carter is knocked down and seriously hurt. The cloud of dust which the motor has raised has obscured the number-plate, and the identity of the motorist is thus rendered almost an impossibility. As a sequel, the farmer has to compensate the carter for the injury sustained by him while in his employment." "I myself," added the Colonel, "know of a case in which, as a result of a horse being thus frightened, the carter was thrown on to the hedge, and two barrels of paraffin, with which the waggon was loaded, were smashed, and their contents spilt. The carter, when he recovered from his plight, could only see the motor disappearing in the thick cloud of dust which it had itself created. Any recognition was thus out of the question." "But how," I asked the Colonel, "would you deal with these fellows, and, at the same time, make them pay towards the cost of the maintenance of the roads they outrage?" The Colonel confesses that we cannot revive the toll-gate system; but he does hold that this system did carry out the excellent principle that the cost of the maintenance of roads should be borne by those using them.

"Why not," he asked me, "let the Imperial Exchequer bear the expense of road maintenance, and recoup the State by means of an Imperial graduated wheat-tax? Why not insist that business-wheels should pay less than pleasure-wheels, an additional tax being imposed on motorists because of the fact that they do greater damage than ordinary vehicular traffic, and even impose still another responsibility by compelling the adoption of means to counteract the injurious effect of the cloud-dust? By the acceptance of some such a policy as this we should not only put a proper burden on the mere pleasure-seeker, but we should impose the responsibility now unfairly centred on local shoulders, and should wisely discriminate to the advantage of trade and industry." Well, there is much in what the Colonel says. However, even this taxation of the road-hogger would not release the farmer of the necessity of compensating the labourer who may have been injured while in his employment as a result of the rollicking buffoonery, or rattle-dash speed, or callous brutality of the scurrying motorist. The incident which the Colonel has repeated rather suggests the necessity of an improved method of identification.

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The Conservative authors of the proposed amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act have placed a pretty weapon in the hands of their political antagonists, a weapon which they will not be slow to take enthusiastic advantage of. You will hear the Bill described as a Tory device to rob the agricultural labourer of the right to compensation from his employer for injuries sustained while in his employment. The Act of 1900 conceded the right to this compensation to the labourers. This, indeed, was the specific object of Mr. Goulding, the Conservative Member for the Devizes division of Wiltshire. Now, the amending Bill has a series of discriminations by which the labourer would be deprived of this right unless he could prove continuous service. I heard a Liberal lawyer declare the other night that if this legislative proposal became law it would be sufficient for a farmer to dismiss a labourer with the intention of re-employing him at the expiration of a fortnight or so in order to evade all the responsibility of the 1900 Act. "It is not merely an attempt," said he, "to deprive the agricultural labourer of a right deliberately conceded him by the State, but it is also a provocative to bad employment and insecure employment. Instead of rendering his rural employment and life more agreeable—and this is held by all sociologists and economists to be absolutely necessary in the best interest of the State—it would render them repellent. It would, in a word, canker village labour."

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Of course, this is an exaggeration; but it reveals the pretty hyperbole which is destined to be associated with the electoral propagandas of the next few months. The Bill will not become law; and thus, in their own strategic interests, the Conservative organisers should have prevented its publication. They seem to be haunted by a weird, perplexing maladroitness on the part of men who should consult them.

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The discussion in the House of Lords upon the Rates' Act Continuance Bill was mere beating of the wind, mere make-believe. I could have outlined beforehand exactly what happened. We all knew, of course, that Lord Spencer would criticise the principle of the Bill without opposing it, that he would let-I-dare-not-wait-upon-I-would, like the cat in the adage. What, however, did he mean by saying that the principle of the Bill would benefit a class which had less claim to relief than other classes in the country? We knew, too, that Lord Lansdowne would, as Leader of the House, confess that the Act was "not a scientifically-perfect measure," and that it was originally only intended as a temporary palliative. We knew, too, that economists of the dry-as-dust school like Lord Welby would urge that urban ratepayers are as much entitled to relief as are their rural fellows. We knew that Lord Carrington would rattle out boisterous philippics after the approved Radical fashion, but that he would dexterously avoid the necessity of dividing the House. All these things we were persuaded of, just as we knew that the second reading would be finally carried without a murmuring remonstrance. The fact is that the Rates' Act is now accepted by men of all sides as an imperfect, halting preface to a great reform, and that to abandon it would mean the accentuation of the present anomalies and inflictions. The Radical attitude in the House of Commons lacked courage, lacked the grace of consistence, was without the redeeming virtue of contrition. Any Radical opposition in the House of Lords would have been grotesque. No, the Radical organisers are too wise at this juncture to permit of any independence or irrelevance such as is too often prejudicing the Conservative position in the rural constituencies. They would permit no such unnecessary blunder as the foredoomed attempt to amend the law of workmen's compensation in the direction I have indicated.

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Of course, the question which the Duke of Richmond asked on Thursday in reference to the school holidays and hay harvest—the result of which is to make it clear now that the local authority may close the school for a fortnight in time of hay harvest, providing the general summer holiday be shortened by that period—was asked by pre-arrangement. As a fact, the education executive was anxious that the rural public should be made aware in the most definite manner possible that local managers have the right to satisfy local requirements in this respect. It rightly conceived that a formal declaration by no less a personage than the Minister for Education would attach significance and an added authority to the fact.

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I am exceedingly glad that the House of Commons has added a new clause to the Compensation for Damage to Crops Bill, by which a railway company will be able to enter upon land and seek to extinguish or arrest the spread of any fire caused by sparks or cinders emitted from any locomotive engine. Of course, the insistence that the consent of the owner of a plantation, wood, or orchard affected by the cutting down or mutilation of trees, bushes, or shrubs should be obtained was very proper. It was altogether a wise concession, and an admirable evidence of the judicious temper of the authors of the Bill. It was a dignified rebuke of Banburyism and its irritating suggestions.

The annual hiring fair for hay and harvest at Newton Stewart took place on the 1st inst., and there was a good demand for workers, and many engagements were made, the average wages being:—Hay mowers, 22s.; winnowers, to 12s. per week with board; harvesters, to £5 10s. for the period of harvest, with board and lodgings.

Chesterfield Fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a good demand for milch cattle, and prices ranged from £18 to £22; in-calf cows and heifers, £14 to £18; fat cattle, £16 to £20; barren and laying-off beasts, £11 to £14; grazing beasts, two or three years old, £10 to £12; stirks, £7 to £9; and yearlings, £4 to £6. A few good Shire horses sold up to £40, and Welsh ponies at £10 to £14 each.

Mr. Rider Haggard's Report.—Mr. Lyttelton, in reply to a question put by Sir John Gorst in the House of Commons, said that the importance and difficulty of the subjects dealt with in Mr. Rider Haggard's report have induced him to propose the appointment of a Departmental Committee to consider the questions raised in the report, in the light of the large experience gained from previous schemes of colonisation.

A meeting of the committee of the Allotments and Small Holdings Association was held at Birmingham on the 6th inst. Present: Mr. F. Impey (in the chair), Howard S. Smith, Arnold Harris, J. Crouch, H. New, C. C. Smith, and C. D. Sturge. It was resolved to call the attention of the various associations connected with small holdings and land law reform to the desirability of holding a joint conference before the next Session of Parliament, in order to urge upon the Liberal leaders the need of adopting a definite line respecting land law reform, and the creation of small holdings. Public attention having been of late repeatedly called to the great size of the farms on the Crown lands, and to the loss arising from the difficulty of finding tenants for these, it was proposed to arrange for asking a question in the House of Commons as to whether the Commissioners of Woods and Forests would be prepared to arrange for dividing these large farms, as they become vacant, into small holdings, a course which has proved so successful in other cases.

NORTHERN NOTES.

Thunder showers and other falls of rain have occurred in many parts of the country, but the eastern freeboard of the northern counties is exceedingly dry and arid. In many places there has been only one slight shower during the last seven or eight weeks, and the consequences are very serious. The hay crop is an entire failure; at any rate the yield is only half what it is in an ordinary season. The pastures are burnt up, especially the clover pastures, and the spring grain is suffering severely. Oats will be very poor; even the few fields which held out against the drought for so long have now given way, and the prospect is most depressing.

The worst feature, however, is the outlook of the turnip crop. It is really surprising, considering how unfavourable all the circumstances of growth have been, that so little damage has been occasioned by the fly, but a worse enemy is now making its presence felt—the caterpillar of the diamond backed moth, and by the time these lines are in print the farmers on the east coast will realise the danger with which they have to contend. For the past week or ten days in many districts, there have been innumerable specimens of these moths flitting about the turnip fields, and even the gardens and other green fields have been visited by them. Four years ago this pest did immense harm to the turnip crop; in some places the swede crop was absolutely destroyed after the plants had been hand-hoed for the second time. At the time of writing the moths are less plentiful, but the eggs they have laid are just hatching out, and when this issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS is put on sale the crop of caterpillars will be very perceptible. Only rain can save the situation, and to preserve the crop continued rain is necessary.

Some experience has now been gained of the pests in question, but there is no royal road to their destruction. The use of "Hobbes" mixture, and of soot, applied in liberal quantities while the dew is on the plants, has been found of some service, and the scuffler kept constantly at work in the crop also helps to destroy many of the caterpillars. Bunches of furze, hay, or even straw, fastened to the front of the implement, have been found useful, and the turnip harrow with sacking hung behind it has been found to shake or brush many of the caterpillars from the leaves. But, spider-like, these fall suspended from a slender thread, and unless covered with the soil, soon find their way back to the leaves. Various devices have been used, and anything that will shake or remove the caterpillars will be beneficial. Four years ago some armed their men with brooms and sent them brushing their way along the turnip rows, following up closely with the scufflers and turnip harrows to cover up the fallen insects with earth. But the success of all these devices was very partial, and on some farms three-fourths of the crop was destroyed.

The character of the season and the advent of the diamond backed moth lead to the apprehension that the surface caterpillars or surface grubs, which eat through the roots of the plants just below the surface of the ground, and which remain hidden in the soil during the day and come up at night to feed on the leafage, may also make their appearance. There is absolutely no way of coping with these surface caterpillars, and in a dry season they continue to ravage the turnip crops far into autumn and destroy what has escaped the fly and the diamond back. Four years ago their ravages were ruinous—is history about to repeat itself? Truly the outlook for the northern farmer is at this moment as black as it can well be. At the moment of writing the skies are darkening, but there is no real promise of rain.

The late Miss Ormerod did a great work for the English farmer, and the handbook she published is still the recognised authority amongst us; but after all entomologists have a great work before them. They tell us very little about the life-history of the pests of our root crops, and the "whence" and the "whither" of these are practically unknown. How comes it that the diamond back moths most abound along the sea coast? Is the moth the original form, or has it existed as another moth of more familiar appearance during the earlier months of the present year? Some do not hesitate to aver that such is the case, and they predicted six or eight weeks ago that later in the summer there would be a plague of diamond backs when they recognised the white moths which they allege to be the progenitors of the diamond backs.

After all, how much further than the knowledge our fathers and grandfathers possessed does our science carry us in these matters? Or in the methods of dealing with anbury and with clover sickness? They knew that lime, in any of its forms, was, if applied in sufficient quantity, a pretty certain cure, and they also knew that if root crops other than cruciferous were sown in one rotation, comparative immunity from anbury was secured in the next rotation. And they knew too, when clover failed from clover sickness, that if no more clover was sown for seven or eight years, a crop could then be secured, but that if another crop were taken four or five years later, it would probably fail from a similar cause. And how much more than this do we know to-day?

In one sense the great question of the day is the future of the Royal Agricultural Society. The last exhibition at Park Royal has proved a financial failure, and there is absolutely no reason to hope for anything better so long as the present location is adhered to. Some men place stress upon its work in other departments, upon the experiments at Woburn and other places, but their glory is departed, and the results attained there are dwarfed by the operations of the various agricultural schools and colleges and experimental farms of the county councils. The work done in the North, in Yorkshire, and in Northumberland, and in Lancashire, and in Cumberland, is dwarfing the experimental work of the Royal Agricultural Society, and there are other districts, notably in Kent, where similar satisfactory work is being done. The new Council of the Royal have a serious and a difficult task before them—it is to be hoped the new members will rise to the occasion; it is to them that the rank and file look.

July 6. M. Y.

Agriculture in Holland.

V.*

Exigencies of space compelled us to break off in the middle of the rules to which control stations are subject. To resume in detail rule

(g) Provides that butter producers and butter merchants shall at all times, and without any reserve, give free access to all places referred to under (c) second paragraph, to all fully appointed persons acting under the authority of the control station or of the Government.

They are bound to furnish all information these persons may require; to allow them to inspect all lists kept by them, including those kept in conformity with the provisions of sections (e) and

(f); permit them to take samples, free of charge, of butter as well as of the raw materials of which it was made; and assist them in so doing, if required.

(h) Unless provided for in another way, the packing of butter has to be stamped with a mark approved by the Government. This mark is intended as an indication for the inspectors of the control station, and for the persons charged with the Government supervision of this control.

The merchandise itself should bear a further mark. This is a mark of guarantee, and it assures the purchaser that he receives butter the manufacture of which has taken place under control. This mark is identical for every control station under Government supervision. It consists of the arms of the Netherlands, over which the word "Nederlandsch" (Netherland), and under which the word "Botercontrole" (Butter control), and in smaller characters, "onder Rijkstoezicht" (under Government supervision) are placed. By the side of this mark some further indication has to be made of the control station concerned, and whatever the Department may further consider necessary to identify the origin of the merchandise. This mark of guarantee will be placed on paper to be obtained, on certain conditions, from the Government at the charge of the persons concerned.

Any member obtaining possession of the paper bearing this mark is responsible for its exclusive use for the butter made or sold by him.

Producers and merchants are entitled to use their own mark in addition to this general mark.

(i) The control exercised by the station—and likewise the Government supervision shall, if considered advisable by the Department, extend to other matters beyond the guarantee against fraud for which the Butter Act provides (such as the guarantee of a not excessive percentage of water).

(j) A sufficiently heavy penalty shall be fixed for such producers and merchants as act in contravention of any of the regulations sub. (e) to (g) inclusive, or the provisions in the third paragraph under (h), or for such as in the opinion of the station concerned wilfully contravene the stipulations imposed by virtue of sub (i).

Such persons, unless the Agricultural Department considers the above-mentioned penalty sufficient, shall be irrevocably struck off the roll of members, notice hereof to be given to whomsoever it may concern. If, however, any of the stipulations under (c) are contravened, no such reserve is possible, the persons offending, without exception, being in these cases always struck off the roll and their names published.

The penalty referred to in the first paragraph of this section shall also apply to such producers and merchants as do not fulfil the conditions laid down in the first and second paragraphs under (h).

(k) The chemical and further examination of samples, and everything connected therewith, shall be carried out in conformity with the rules prescribed by the Government.

(l) Any station desiring to be placed under Government supervision shall, in addition to its regulation, etc., be required to furnish a complete list of the members composing the management, of the staff, and of the affiliating members. The station shall also submit estimates of income and expenditure.

(m) Any station placed under Government supervision shall at all times furnish complete information to the Department of all projected amendments of, or additions to, its regulations, as well as of any changes of its staff and management, and of the names of all new members and of all members who may have been struck off the rolls, with a statement of the reasons for such action. All such amendments of, and additions to, its regulations, and all new appointments, shall require the sanction of the Government if the station wishes to retain Government supervision.

The station shall send every year accounts of its income and expenditure.

(n) Any publications of stations under Government supervision, intended for distribution abroad, shall require the approval of the Government.

(o) The directors of all stations under Government supervision shall communicate every month to the director of the Government dairy station at Leiden all figures obtained as a result of their analysis or inquiries.

(To be continued.)

* *Previous instalments appeared June 5, 12, 19 and 26.*

Wednesday next is Speech day at the Dauntsey Agricultural School, Devizes, and the prizes will be distributed by Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Dumfries Hiring Fair was held on Wednesday in showery weather. Stack-yardmen were receiving £5 for the period of harvest, with board; experienced harvesters, £3 15s. to £4; boys, £3.

At Sleaford on the 1st inst, before his Honour Sir G. Sherston Baker, Francis Bembridge, Billinghay, sued George Fisher, of March, for injuries sustained through being knocked down and trod upon by defendant's stallion at Sleaford Shire Horse Parade on April 10 last. His Honour held that everybody had an equal right to the King's highway, although motorists usually usurped a great deal more than they had any claim to. But when a highway was converted into a market in which bulls, horned cattle, and stallions were to be found, any one passing through ran a certain risk, and was guilty of contributory negligence. Although he deplored plaintiff's injuries, there would be a verdict for defendant with costs.

A Coroner on Motor Cars.—Dr. C. W. Iliffe, the coroner for Coventry and North-East Warwickshire, has complained to the Coventry Rural District Council, to which he is medical officer, that motor-cars are absolutely destroying the Council's roads. The hay crops on both sides of the road were very much damaged, he reports, by the dust caused by the cars, and such dust not only spoiled the crops, but did injury to horses, as the latter had to eat the hay, and its dust-laden condition caused them to lose their wind and become broken-winded. It was only necessary to go over the roads under the control of the Council to see everywhere that the highways were worn down to their foundations, because of the finer material being thrown up by the motor cars. He thought that the speed of cars within three miles of a city should be regulated to ten miles an hour. The clerk promised to look up the law as to whether motor cars would be considered as heavy traffic.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

The odour of new-made hay is predominant in the atmosphere around every homestead in East Anglia at the moment, and the traveller through the Eastern Counties cannot but notice the picturesque scene of the busy hay-makers, that at intervals gives colour to the landscape. But the writer notes with regret that fewer hands are now employed in this occupation; and there is an absence of the old-fashioned sun-bonnets that gave such colour to the scene of merry workers. Although the grass is somewhat light this season, clovers and the sainfoin crop have yielded well, and fully makes up for the deficiency of grass.

Fears of a summer drought are again beginning to agitate the farming community, and, as the character of the season determines the degree of maturity reached at harvest, it has necessarily a great influence both on the composition and quality of the cereal crops. The present warm weather suits wheat; and a fine malting barley, rich in starch, can only be produced in a fine season, although lack of moisture, it is feared, will prematurely ripen the grain and so cause it to be poor in starch and relatively rich in nitrogenous matter that is not desirable.

East Anglians are proud of the fact that Mr. Thomas B. Freshney, who has on many occasions acted as judge at agricultural shows held in the Eastern Counties, has been selected to fulfil the very important position of judge of the awards among the grade and cross-bred bullocks at the International Agricultural Show at Chicago, and to assign the championships. In making the announcement, the *Breeders' Gazette* of Chicago says:—"In pursuance of established policy, a foreign judge has again been secured to place the awards among the grade and cross-bred bullocks at the International and assign the championships. The honour of the selection for this important duty falls this year on Thomas B. Freshney, one of the most experienced and best esteemed judges in Britain, whose record at his home shows is quite sufficient to warrant the highest expectations of intelligent and discriminating decisions, the uniform favour won by foreign judges in this section of the International for the past five years, and the clever and acceptable work of Mr. Blofield among the Red Polls in the breeding classes last season suggests strongly the expansion of the policy of securing judges from abroad so as to include the leading breeds, now and again. Great Britain has acknowledged the international comity of such an exchange of judicial talent, and much of real profit and pleasure lies in drawing thus closer the bonds which unite the brotherhood of breeders on both sides of the water."

Farmers do a good deal towards keeping up the roads; it is, therefore, of interest to know what the Chief Surveyor reports to the Essex County Council about the Essex roads. In the first place, the total mileage of the main roads of Essex is 793 miles 6½ furlongs, and, after giving particulars of their condition, the Surveyor goes on to say that the principal feature in connection with this matter during the year is the increase in expenditure due entirely to locomotive traction traffic.

July 7.

The "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce announces that tenders are invited for the supply to the Italian Government of thoroughbred English stallions. Offers of sale, made out on stamped paper of 1 lira 20 cents (obtainable from the Italian Consulate-General in London, 44, Finsbury Square, E.C.) should reach the "Ministero di Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio (Direzione Generale dell' Agricoltura—Ispettorato zootecnico), Rome," by October 10. Stallions may be presented for inspection at Milan on November 1; at Pisa on November 4; or at Santa Maria Capua Vetere on November 6.

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The Fruit Industry of Great Britain.

Departmental Committees Recommendations.

The Departmental Committee appointed by Lord Onslow, when President of the Board of Agriculture, to inquire into the fruit industry of Great Britain, and to consider whether any further measures might with advantage be taken for its promotion and encouragement, has now issued its report, which is a very lengthy one, extending to close on 40 pages of close printing on foolscap-size paper. A very large number of witnesses were examined, and some most interesting details obtained; in fact, to a farmer the whole report should prove interesting reading, and well worth spending 4½d. on.

As regards the railway rates question, the committee express the opinion that a more simple and uniform system of charges for fruit transit is desirable, and that railway companies should make greater efforts for securing the prompt delivery of perishable fruit. In addition, railway companies should be urged to provide suitable ventilated goods vans for fruit traffic, similar to those recently introduced by the Midland Railway Company. All fruit should be consigned at company's risk, the so-called owner's risk rates should be abolished, and in the event of owner's risk rates being retained the liability of the railway companies should not be confined to cases where only wilful misconduct, but to those where culpable negligence, can be proved. In view of the recent tendency to combine amongst the railways, the committee submit that it would be an advantage if the Government were to appoint an official or a department to watch over the companies' actions, and to report to Parliament; and that in years of glut railway companies should be urged to lower their rates for fruit temporarily.

As to the other grounds covered by the committee, these will be seen from the following summary of the recommendations and suggestions made by the committee:—

(1) That a special sub-Department of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries be established to deal with matters connected with the fruit industry. That there be two branches of such sub-Department—(a) a bureau of information; (b) an experimental fruit farm.

(2) That after the establishment of the Government sub-Department, its attention be directed to the necessity of preventing the importation of diseases and insect pests through the importation of diseased fruit and nursery stock.

(3) That the question as to the desirability of setting up compulsory powers for the eradication of diseases and insect pests in this country be postponed until we are in possession of fuller knowledge through the work of the Government sub-Department.

(4) That horticulture be taught in elementary schools in country districts, and that such schools should have school gardens attached wherever possible. That the attention of local education authorities should be called to this, and also to the desirability of encouraging the study of practical horticulture in training colleges.

(5) That the present defective form of returns made by growers for land under fruit should be improved and amplified.

(6) That estimates of home and foreign crops should be published, together with forecasts of the probable date of arrival of imports.

(7) That the various Agricultural Holdings Acts should be consolidated into one Act.

(8) That the Market Gardeners' Compensation Acts be amended by making section 4 retrospective.

(9) It is further suggested that, in cases where a tenant gives notice to quit, he shall not be entitled to receive compensation unless he presents to the landlord a successor who is willing to take over the holding at the same rent; that in the event of his so doing, and the landlord accepting his nominee, the compensation be paid directly by the new tenant to the old tenant, but that the landlord have the right to refuse to accept the outgoer's nominee, in which case he must pay compensation to the outgoer under the provisions of the existing law.

(10) That the Board of Agriculture should appoint experts in fruit valuation, and should call them together for the purpose of formulating general rules for estimating the amount of compensation to be paid to an outgoing tenant of a holding under the Agricultural Holdings Acts on the basis of the value to an incoming tenant.

(11) That the State be empowered to lend money to landowners who have fruit on their estates, subject to suitable conditions, for the purpose of supplying the ready money required for the payment of compensation at the determination of a tenancy.

(12) That it would be to the advantage of landowners and tenants in fruit districts if, under the provisions of section 5 of the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1883, they settled the basis of compensation by the "particular agreement" therein referred to.

(13) That a Bill should be passed for facilitating the purchase of small holdings by tenants with assistance from public funds, somewhat on the lines of the measure brought in by the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P., in the session of 1904.

(14) That Rule No. 8 for the assessment for Income-tax, whereby market gardeners and nurseries are assessed for schedule B according to the rules of schedule D, be repealed so far as it applies to market gardens.

(15) That in the assessing of agricultural holdings for local rates, the assessments should not be raised by reason of the planting of fruit for a period of five years after the planting in the case of small fruit, of seven years in the case of mixed plantations, and twelve years in the case of orchards.

(16) That in the case of glass-houses the allowance of one-sixth, given to dwelling houses for repairs in the assessment for Income-tax, be increased to one-third, by making a special allowance of one-sixth for renewal in addition to the one-sixth for repairs.

(17) That the benefits of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896 be extended to glass-houses used for commercial purposes.

(18) That it is highly desirable that a more simple and uniform system of rates for fruit be introduced by the railway companies. This can be done without a statutory re-classification, with the assistance of the Board of Trade.

(19) That railway companies should make greater efforts for ensuring the prompt delivery of perishable fruit.

(20) That railway companies be urged to provide suitably ventilated goods vans for fruit traffic, similar to those recently introduced by the Midland Railway Company. That sheeted trucks without sheet supporters should never be used.

(21 That it is most desirable that all fruit be consigned at company's risk, and that the so-called owner's risk rates be abolished; the rates at company's risk being reduced to a figure approximating to those now in force at owner's risk, but providing the companies with just a sufficient margin for the extra liability incurred. That 5 per cent. would be a fair margin.

(22) That in the event of owner's risk rates being retained, the liability of the railway companies should not be confined to cases where only wilful misconduct, but to those where culpable negligence, can be proved.

(23) The committee also suggest that, in view of the recent tendency to combine among the railways, it would be an advantage if the Government were to appoint an official or a Department to watch over the companies' actions, and to report to Parliament.

(24) That in the case of all serious grievances against the railway companies, growers and merchants should at once send their complaints to the Railway Department of the Board of Trade, and ask them to exercise their powers under the conciliation clause of the Act of 1888.

(25) That in years of glut railway companies should be urged to temporarily lower their rates for fruit, just as excursion pasenger fares are lowered on special occasions, and that, if this cannot be done by agreement, it is desirable that the Railway and Canal Traffic Act of 1894 should be amended for that purpose.

(26) That jam made wholly or in part from foreign fruit be so labelled.

(27) That the Government should undertake the inspection of imported fruit and fruit pulp at the ports of entry.

(28) That it would be an advantage to fruit growers, and to the public generally, if the Local Government Board collected statistics of the fruit seized and condemned as unfit for food.

(29) That the present by-laws for building in country districts be modified so as to allow of the cheaper construction of cottages.

(30) That boys in industrial schools be allowed to stay away from such schools for the purpose of fruit-picking, subject to suitable regulations.

(31) That the provisions of the Robson Act as to "half-timers" be made generally known, and applied by local education authorities in country districts.

(32) That with regard to markets, it is desirable that more local markets, similar to that of Kew Bridge, be established in the suburbs of London. That as regards the large distributing markets in provincial centres, it is desirable that certain of these be extended and improved. That the provision of retail markets in many country towns is urgently needed, and that very good results would be likely to follow if the Councils of other towns followed the example set by Hereford in establishing a fruit market under their own authority.

(33) That the telephone should be further extended in country districts.

(34) That County Councils, in the publication of any orders made by the Home Secretary on their application under the Wild Birds' Protection Acts, should clearly state the powers be-

longing to owners and occupiers of land under these Acts.

(35) That it is desirable that an inquiry be instituted into the alleged practice of growing fruit on sewage farms, and the effect of such a practice on the public health.

(36) That fruit growers should pay more attention to the careful packing and proper grading of better-class fruit, and to the selection of the right kinds of fruit to plant according to the soil, and to the importance of cultivating fewer varieties, especially of apples.

(37) That the establishment of co-operative societies, similar to that existing at Blairgowrie, for the disposal of fruit, and for other purposes, such as the obtaining of adequate supplies of pickers, would be beneficial, particularly in districts where there are many small holdings.

(38) That it would be an advantage to fruit growers if they kept bees in connection with their fruit plantations.

(39) That the attention of landlords, especially in the West of England, should be called to the pressing need of renovating and replanting the decayed orchards on their property.

(40) The committee are also of opinion that, in connection with the proposed Government sub-Department, it might be advantageous that a large fruit farm should be established in proximity to the experimental farm, where fruit growers and lecturers could receive a practical training.

Yorkshire Agricultural Union.

A meeting of the Yorkshire Agricultural Union was held on Thursday at York, but there was only a small attendance.

The General Purposes Committee's report, which was adopted, recommended that the union should encourage the formation of co-operative societies under the auspices of the Agricultural Organisation Society. The Committee also recommended that the union should support the Highways Protection League in their endeavours "to prevent the infringement by persons using motor power of the common law rights of the public to the free and full use of the highways." Letters were also read from the Sheriff Hutton, Derwent, Craven, and Bridlington Clubs in favour of the objects of the League, and from the Howdenshire Club suggesting that imprisonment without the option of a fine should be the penalty in any case where it was proved that injury had been occasioned to any human being in an accident caused by the carelessness of any driver.

Mr. John Newton moved the adoption of the report of the Parliamentary Committee, which related to the growing of chicory in the British Isles, and detailed the steps taken by the Yorkshire Agricultural Union in conjunction with Alderman Foster, of York, in pressing the matter upon the attention of the Board of Agriculture. Section 6 of the Revenue Bill now before Parliament, they reported, proposes to enact that in future high dried chicory shall be subject to the same customs duty as roasted or green chicory, and accordingly "low dried or white dried" shall be substituted for "kiln-dried," as regards the duty on chicory in the Customs tariff of 1876, etc. The Parliamentary Committee welcome the proposed alteration as an official condemnation of the unfair conditions which growers or importers of foreign chicory have enjoyed at the expense of cultivators of the home-grown article.

A long letter was also read from Mr. L. Foster on the subject of chicory, in which he said if the Customs duty on low dried chicory could be raised to 14s. 4d., or a trifle more, to cover difference in assessment re accumulated moisture, it would induce the English grower to once more cultivate the crop.

The report was adopted.

Mr. E. Robinson moved—"That the Union is in favour of the substitution of a compulsory dipping order for the whole of the United Kingdom for the 'Compulsory Dipping Areas Orders' and the 'Movements of Sheep Order.'"

The Chairman (Major F. W. Dent) said if they had a compulsory dipping order for the whole of the kingdom the difficulties and annoyances caused would be enormously increased and intensified. When they came to consider the difference in climate and the different methods of sheep farming, they would see how difficult it would be without great restrictions and hampering of trade to have a universal compulsory order. An order simply to be carried out on the guarantee of the individual farmer was impracticable because he regretted to have to say it—there were many farmers in the country whose guarantee in the matter would be scarcely worth the paper on which it was printed. For himself, he had come to the conclusion that if farmers in the districts scheduled would loyally accept the orders and get their sheep dipped they would go a long way towards stamping out sheep scab in many districts.

No one seconding the resolution it fell through.

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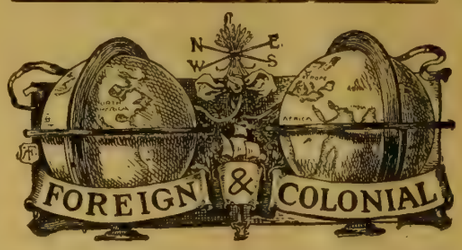

How to Fight Insect Pests.

In the last Report of the Agricultural Department of Western Australia some interesting particulars are given of the work of Mr. Geo. Compere, the travelling entomologist. His special cult is pests and their parasites. He believes that every insect pest has its parasite, as, according to the moralist, every evil has its remedy. In the pursuit of this principle Mr. Compere enjoys the unique distinction of being in the joint service of the Western Australian and Californian Governments—a form of union for commercial and agricultural purposes which cannot but commend itself to the advocates of union between the United States and the British Empire. Mr. Compere's duty takes him into many lands. He has to go, indeed, wherever he can find the original home of the insect pests whose ravages inflict such immense loss upon the farmer and the fruit grower.

According to the West Australian Report, Mr. Compere has succeeded in finding parasites of various Vine Scales, of the Cabbage Moth and Cabbage Aphis, and of the Codlin Moth, that most destructive of all insects in the orchards of the world. He has also discovered a valuable beetle (Styphalinidæ) whose avidity for maggots of every kind, particularly blow flies, is phenomenal. Whether these parasites will do all that is claimed for them the future only will tell, but certainly the progress of the work in which Mr. Compere is engaged should command the attention of all who are interested in agriculture and fruit growing.

Evidently the Western Australian Government is prepared to adopt up-to-date methods in their desire to look after the interests of those who settle on their lands—a fact that gives emphasis to the efforts the Government is making to inform the British public of the advantages offered in that country for land settlement.

The Argentine's Agricultural Exports.

Statistics now available show that the shipments of agricultural produce from Argentina have been on a remarkably heavy scale this year. The total amount of wheat exported since January was 8,112,500 quarters, as against 7,141,000 quarters last year, and 5,202,000 quarters in 1903, while the maize shipments since the beginning of the new season in May have been 2,259,000 quarters, as against 1,545,000 quarters last year, and 1,691,000 quarters in 1903. Only in linseed is there a falling off of 1,400,000 quarters, and this decrease, of course, has been compensated for by the expansion in wheat.

It is an interesting fact that according to the Board of Trade returns Argentina provided £3,989,000 worth of wheat for this country in the first five months of the current year, thus surpassing India, Russia, and, of course, the United States. Argentina in the period named, supplied 11,182,000 cwt., against Canada's 973,000 cwt.

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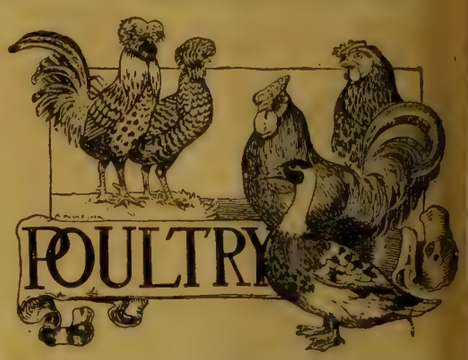


The Utility Poultry Club Twelve Months' Laying Competition.

In response to a generally expressed desire, the Utility Poultry Club has now completed arrangements for the holding of a laying competition for pure breeds over a period of twelve months, commencing on October 1, 1905, and ending on September 30, 1906.

The competition—the first held in England—will be carried through at one of our most modern and best equipped agricultural colleges, the Harper-Adams Agricultural College, Newport, Salop.

In coming to a decision as regards a site for the competition the Committee of the club was influenced by the prominent position occupied by the Harper-Adams College in agricultural matters generally, by its central, convenient, and healthy situation, and by the interest displayed in poultry matters by those in authority at the college.

The college land stands some 220 ft. above sea level, and the large field in which the competition will take place is well sheltered on the north and east by tall trees.

Accommodation will be provided for forty-two pens of pure-bred pullets hatched in 1905—six in each pen. Eighteen birds (three pens) will be housed together. For the purpose of more uniform feeding the heavier and lighter breeds will as far as possible be separately penned.

All the houses and runs will be similar in size and position. The houses, which are all being specially made for the competition, will have open wire fronts with sliding shutters and at least 15 cubic feet of air space will be allowed per bird.

Duplicate grass runs of large size will be attached to each house, and these will be used alternately. The combined area of the two runs will be about 720 square yards, or 40 yards per head. Individual laying records will be noted, and the prizes will be chiefly awarded to those pens producing eggs of the highest market value in twelve months.

Owing to the great expense of the competition the entry fee will be £2 per pen, and no person will be allowed to make more than one entry. A system of penalties, as in the four months' competitions, will be enforced in cases where the standard is very low. In order to minimise as far as possible the loss arising from the entering of inferior birds, a sub-committee will make an inspection of all birds before the competition begins. A competitor will be allowed to replace any bird rejected.

Should there be more entries than accommodation is provided for, selection will be by ballot, arrangements being made for the representation of the various breeds of poultry entered.

The club will have absolute control as to the system of housing and feeding, and it is intended to adopt such methods as the ordinary poultry-keeper could follow without pampering the birds.

Arrangements will be made for frequent inspection of the pens by the Committee of the club.

As will be understood, the Utility Poultry Club, in undertaking work of this magnitude, has to face a larger expenditure than its own resources can meet, and it is necessary, therefore, that some other assistance be forthcoming from persons who are interested in seeing the competition established. The club requires donations to meet the estimated deficit of the competition, in addition to a guarantee fund of not less than £50, and any donations or promises for the guarantee fund will be gratefully acknowledged.

A number of prizes will be given by the club, but it is hoped that they will be supplemented by specials from other sources, and any offers will be very acceptable. Donations to the management fund, and promises to the guarantee fund, and all offers of specials should be made to the Hon. Assistant Secretary, Mr. Cyril Dunkley, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, to whom all communications with regard to the competition should be addressed.

In view of the shortness of time for making the necessary arrangements, it is particularly desired that all offers of assistance may be made as soon as possible.

Particulars as to membership of the club may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. W. Richardson, 260, Nantwich Road, Crewe.

SPRAYING MACHINES
FOR
HOPS, FRUIT TREES, VINES, etc.
Royal Agricultural Society of England's Prize Winners for the best HOP-WASHER.
MAKERS OF
COMBINED OIL ENGINES AND PUMPS, TANKS, PIPING, HOSE, &c.,
For Hop and Fruit Tree Washing, Estate Work, &c.
Complete Price List of Hop-growers' Implements on application.
DRAKE & FLETCHER,
ENGINEERS,
MAIDSTONE.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough

The chief matters now occupying the minds of traders are expressed by the two words "crop" and "arsenic." Apparently antagonistic, or at least disconnected, these words are really very intimately associated, for upon decisions concerning the latter the results of the former necessarily, and to a large extent, depend. The declaration of the Government authorities with respect to arsenic in hops is manifestly absurd. It may be necessary, according to the opinion of chemical experts, to limit the presence of arsenic in articles of food or in beverages to 1-100th of a grain per pound; but as hops are only a small, though important, ingredient of beer, it seems to be altogether ridiculous to insist upon this proportion being applied to them. Supposing this limitation were increased to 1-50th of a grain per pound of hops, as this quantity is the utmost used in 18 gallons of beer, the proportion per gallon would only be 1-900th of a grain, and in a pound, or a pint of beer, would not exceed 1-7200 of a grain. I am neither a chemist nor a physician, but, as a layman, I venture to say that such an infinitesimal quantity may be considered as absolutely negligible and innocuous. The question of responsibility is, however, being seriously considered by the trade, as already there are cases of rejection of hops by brewers on the ground of the Government limitation; therefore the interests of growers are directly affected, and the results to them of the coming crop is, at the moment, a most important question. It seems to me that no time should be lost by planters in bringing before the proper authorities the urgent necessity for the modification of the present stringent rule, and I trust I may soon hear that the industry is awakened, and that steps are being taken in the desired direction.

Reports from the Plantations

are, on the whole, very favourable. Although washing is persevered in to a moderate extent in some gardens, fly and lice have practically disappeared. The bine, assisted by the high temperature and occasional showers, is generally looking exceptionally strong and healthy. Mould is certainly present here and there, but the prevailing climatic conditions, if continued, will probably be sufficient to prevent any further run of the disease. It can hardly be denied that the present outlook favours the anticipation of a full average yield, unless, indeed, the excessive luxuriance of bine and foliage should hinder the production in due proportion of burr and cones. The weather during the coming few weeks will decide this point.

In the meantime, the trade is very quiet, and buyers, encouraged by the present prospect, are lowering their offers. Holders do not, however, as yet show any readiness to give way, so that, on the whole, the market may be quoted as having remained fairly steady during the past week.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

SULPHUR FOR HOPS.
"AXE" BRAND
VENTILATED FLOWERS SULPHUR
has the merits of being CHEAP and of VERY FINE QUALITY.
"AXE" BRAND
ROLL BRIMSTONE
is the right quality for use in the kilns.
Both are guaranteed Free from Arsenic.
STOCKS KEPT AT OWN WHARF.
PLEASE ORDER EARLY.
Samples and quotations on application to Sole Proprietors of this Brand—
JESSOP & Co.,
57 & 58, Leadenhall St., E.C.

Foreign Notes.

America.

A cable message received from reliable correspondents this week indicates that the hop markets of the United States are not likely to attain at present to the stronger position that has been anticipated since we were informed of the combination of growers. Their expressed determination to hold their hops until August 1 for 30 cents has apparently been shaken by the pressure of the "Bears." It appears that no actual bond of unity existed, beyond the verbal agreement of holders, from which any individual was at liberty to free himself at any moment on his own initiative. The action of certain outsiders who pressed their hops for sale, seems to have alarmed the timid members of the combine, and the process of disintegration, once commenced, rapidly spread, until, as I am informed, the Oregon combination hops are now offered at 18 cents. Doubtless the panic has been intensified by the reports from the plantations, as I learn from the same source that it is now expected that the United States crop for 1905 will probably exceed that of last year by 20 per cent. The New York market, however still retains an appearance of firmness, choice States being quoted at 26 to 28 cents, and choice Pacifics at 26 to 27 cents. Dealers are, however, not unwilling to entertain lower offers.

Nuremberg.

Although the climatic conditions of clear sunshine, alternated with occasional rains, are generally very helpful to the growth of the plant, the presence of insect pests being very seldom reported, there are complaints from many districts that the intervention of cold nights is tending to check progress, and some of my Continental correspondents are inclined to think that on the whole the condition of the Bavarian plantations is not so promising as it was a fortnight ago. In Bohemia, drought has been persistent, and the absence of rain is being severely felt. The Nuremberg market is extremely sensitive to crop reports. It is estimated that present stocks of 1904 hops do not exceed 1,000 cwts.; it is therefore not surprising that with a fair demand for local consumption, and continued orders from Bohemia, values are maintained at previous advanced figures. It is, perhaps, possible to obtain some concessions upon medium or low qualities, but full prices are demanded and obtained for green samples that can claim any merit or quality. The probable early appearance of samples of the new crop, which may be expected in about five weeks, has induced country holders to send their small reserves to market, so that arrivals have recently been somewhat in excess of sales. It is, however, anticipated that brewers will be active buyers as soon as the new market opens, and consequently that values will not be reduced, unless the total crop should exceed the present prospect.

Belgium.

Brewers are buying with caution, and only moderate quantities, holders are therefore showing a little more inclination to induce business by slight concessions, so that the general tone of the market is rather easier, Alosts being now quoted at 145 and Pops 127½ francs. Reports from plantations continue to be favourable, the plants making good progress under the influence of the fine weather. Recent storms do not appear to have damaged the hop gardens.

Hop Report.

THE VALLEY OF THE MEDWAY (JULY 3).—"There is still a good deal of vermin hanging about, and growers cannot leave off washing; they have some time to go over by steam power, as there is a great deal of bine generally. The hops are very forward, burr can be found in the early soils. It is a great question whether they are not altogether too forward to grow a crop, and should they get anything of a check it is feared mould will do a lot of mischief. Already in places favourable to mould, spots can be found, and growers will have to watch the burr pretty closely, as when once mould seizes the burr it is very difficult to stop it.

National Pig Breeders' Association.

The general meeting of the members of the National Pig-Breeders Association was held by permission of the Council of the R.A.S.E. in the large tent on the show-ground, Park Royal, on the Wednesday, Mr. H. H. Owtram, President, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the report and balance-sheet, which had been previously sent to the members, was taken as read, the Chairman remarking that the affairs of the association were in a flourishing condition.

The Council again wish to call particular attention to Bye-Law 32, which reads thus: "It shall be incumbent on all members desirous of entering their stock, to make a return of the birth of all pigs born, alive or dead, during the month of January in each year, within one month of the date of birth of such pigs, and of all other pigs born during that year as soon as possible, but, in any case, on or before December 31, on birth forms, to be supplied by the Secretary, who will forward the same on application."

The scrutineers reported the election of Messrs. Ecob, Hall, Hiscock, Philip, and Owtram to the Council in the place of those retiring by rotation.

Mr. P. L. Mills was elected President, Hon. D. P. Bouverie President-Elect, and Mr. Henry Smith auditor for the ensuing year.

Mr. Howard Taylor moved the following resolution:—(a) "That it be recommended to the Editing Committee not to accept the names of pigs bearing prefixes other than those of the breeder, but to accept the names of pigs bearing the affixes of the owner." (b) "That it be a recommendation to the Council to decide as to the length of time which should elapse after a member (owning a prefix) resign membership, before the same prefix can be registered by another member." Considerable discussion took place, and eventually it was deferred until the next meeting.

Mr. Gibson moved "That the dams of all entries after Vol. XXII. shall be registered." He said that the registration of all the dams would help the Editing Committee, and he did not think that it would cause any hardship to members; he suggested that the question be referred to the Council for consideration. Mr. Hall seconded this proposition, and it was agreed to. Mr. Spencer then moved that an alteration be made in the 16th Article of Association, viz., "A retiring councilman shall not be eligible for re-election for the period of one year if he has not attended at least one-third of the meetings held during his term of office." The Chairman pointed out that it was necessary for the resolution to be carried by a majority of three-fourths of the members present, and that another general meeting must be called within twenty-eight days to confirm the resolution if passed. The vote was then taken, and, as the necessary majority was not forthcoming, the resolution fell through.

Mr. Elliott moved "That a person be allowed to include the ear number or letter of a pig when registering its pedigree in the Herd Book." It would be a convenience to him, and he did not think it would interfere with the numbers given to the registered animal. Upon the vote being put to the meeting, the Chairman said the numbers were equal, and he should give his vote against the resolution, remarking that it would be better to give the matter more consideration.

A vote of thanks was given to the President and the auditor for their services during the past year, and to the Council of the R.A.S.E. for the use of the tent.

At the conclusion of the annual meeting a council meeting was held, Mr. P. L. Mills taking the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Finance and Editing Committee were re-elected, and Messrs. A. S. Gibson, A. Hiscock, and C. Howard Taylor were elected the Joint Board Committee. The question of medals of 1906 was deferred until the next council meeting.

Messrs. Chas. Bathurst, jun., Wm. Drury Lowe, P. E. Hughes, and W. W. Theobald were elected members of the association.

Mr. Bathurst's application for the prefix of "Lydney" was granted. The next meeting was arranged to take place on the second day of the Smithfield Club Show in December next.

"BE WISE IN TIME."

FARMERS should take care (especially in view of the comparatively low rates of premium) to insure against loss through **STORMS** and **FIRE.**

The **HOMESTEAD, FURNITURE, OUT-BUILDINGS, LIVE STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, STACKS, AND GROWING CROPS** all represent property which can, by the present modern system of **INSURANCE**, be covered at a trifling annual outlay.

INSURANCE against death or injury through accidents should not be neglected.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE, LIFE, HAILSTORM.

Invested Funds . . £13,062,125.

HAILSTORM INSURANCE.

The Royal, besides being the largest Fire Insurance Company in the world, is one of the few offices that undertakes risk from Hailstorm. The important feature for Agriculturalists when effecting protection on their property is the opportunity afforded them of combining insurance against Hailstorm and that of Fire Insurance in one office.

Gentlemen able to influence introductions with this object are invited to make application for Agencies.

Offices, 28, Lombard Street, London, E.C.

Prospects in South Hants.

SIR,—Farmers in some other districts appear to be still crying out for rain, whereas we in this part of the country are devoutly hoping for a cessation of the rain. We have had too much already for much of the growing corn; whilst as to the outlook for haymaking, this is far from cheering, a very large proportion of the seed hay is cut, but not one-fourth of it yet carted. The crop may perhaps turn out about threefourths of an average. The quality of that carted is grand. Much of that still out must be damaged, even where it is well cocked, whilst that uncocked will be of little feeding value.

We have cut about one-third of the meadow hay and had begun carting it. The crop is heavier than was looked for a month since. On the high lands and poor clays the return will be very light and not of the finest quality.

The wheat crop is most promising, as good as we have had for some years. It is too early yet to give an opinion as to the blooming period, this does not appear to have been very satisfactory. The growing barley varies greatly, some of that which was drilled early and the late sown are not nearly as good as where it was drilled about the middle of the month of March.

Stock have done well, but, so far as one can tell, cattle are not likely to pay much for the summer's grass. At present their value is less than when they were purchased in April.

Labour is fairly plentiful, and prospects are brighter than for some years could we but get fine weather. L. T.

June 30, 1905

Highland Prospects.

SIR,—Inverness-shire and Ross and Nairnshire, and all the northern counties of Scotland were not to my experience in a more prosperous state up to this date, June 30, since the last 30 years. We have heavy crops of hay, oats, barley, wheat, beans and peas are in small acreage grown in said counties, but looks well. Potato crops are excellent, looking fresh and flourishing; we have had new potatoes daily this week in the neighbourhood of Inverness of excellent quality, and young garden vegetables are also looking everything desirable. The field swedes are well thinned and yellow, and some fields only sown this week all look fresh and good, and there are no complaints of blue destructors in turnips. We have showers almost daily, and the sun shines magnificently over our glens, mountains, and lovely valleys, so that the beauty of Nature is beyond utterance in language. The prospect of cattle is good, and there is plenty of good pasture for store sheep and cattle. Prime beef and mutton is high; eggs, 10d. per dozen; fresh butter, 1s. to 1s. 2d.; milk, 1s. per gallon, warm. I have been over these counties myself, and the aforesaid is from my own personal knowledge. Our prospect is good, and weather for growing is all that could be desired at this time. My own crop of potatoes (new varieties) Eldorado, Duchess of Cornwall, Recorder, May Queen, Gold Coin, Maid of Coil, the Prime Minister, Sutton's Discovery, and various others are all out and look a fair crop, fresh and sound apparently. J. C.

July 4, 1905.

Good Crop Prospects in Mid Essex.

SIR,—To all appearances we look like having a very good crop all round, except beans, which have not set so well as they might. The weather has been so nicely balanced between wet and dry that it has practically suited all farming operations, the mangold and roots looking well. Peas which have been picked for London markets have been a very disappointing price, and a good many acres will be cut for seed which would otherwise have been picked. The red clover crops grown from Russian seed are nothing like so good as the general stocks of English seed, and care should be taken that seed from this stock should not be sold next year as English seed. At present there is a good plant of young clover for next year. Harvest looks like coming on a bit later than the average. All live stock is not so good a price as was expected, probably on account of the shortage of money, store lambs especially being disappointing.

Haymaking is now in full swing, and is being got well and is a good medium crop.

Apples will be a short crop.

The relief under the Agricultural Rating Act on the highly rented good grass lands of the Midlands is out of all proportion to our heavily tithed corn lands of Essex, a large proportion of which will not grow good grass. If farmers would only drop Party politics and go for their own industries as trades do, then there would be some hope for agricultural legislation.

Mid Essex, July 6, 1905.

Outlook in Hants.

SIR,—The season, on the whole, I consider a favourable one, and, had there been no frosts in May, the best for some years. The wheat is good, barley and oats quite an average. The hay crop a poor one, two-thirds of which is secured in good condition, the remainder being seriously damaged by heavy rain of Friday last, June 30. Roots are coming on well. Sheep are healthy, and plenty of feed. Tares particularly good.

A. ARNOLD.

July 6.

The Season in Wilts.

SIR,—The spring corn is very light, owing to the long period of dry weather. Wheat is looking better, and, should the yield be good, promises to be an average crop. We have a good breed of lambs. Sheep, generally, are healthy, and selling at about 2s. per head above last year. The price of wool is also better than of late.

Hay is a very light crop, which we are now busy securing. It has been selling this last year for less than straw, which I have never known before.—Yours faithfully,

SIMEON RUDDBY.

Hay Harvest in Shropshire.

SIR,—We are having beautiful hay harvest weather, which is now in full swing—some have even finished.

Turnips are a failure, but as many thistles as need be; nothing seems to affect them.

The corn looks healthy, but it will never make a first-rate crop. It is thin on the ground.

Very slow markets for beef, mutton, and pork; they are a drag. E. BRIGHT.

July 7.

Lancaster Summer Fair was held on Thursday; there were only about thirty horses present. Some changed hands at prices ranging from £5 to £10 each, and one or two better animals were offered at £16 to £20.

At the Middlesbrough Police Court, Joseph Ellerton, farmer, of Mandeville, Darlington, pleaded guilty to three separate charges of selling adulterated milk. Defendant in the witness box denied that the milk was adulterated. He milked the cow himself, and personally despatched the milk. Defendant was fined 20s., 30s., and 40s., and costs.

Dairy Shorthorn (Coates Herd Book) Association.

A meeting of gentlemen, who have signified their intention of joining an association to further the interests of pure-bred dairy Shorthorns, was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, on Monday, June 26, 1905. Among those present were: The Right Hon. Lord Crewe, Messrs. C. R. W. Adeane, Richardson Carr, J. P. Cross, W. Crosland, A. C. Hall, R. W. Hobbs, R. H. Hutchinson, F. H. Jennings, J. C. Robinson, C. A. Scott-Murray, Richard Stratton, and F. N. Webb (hon. secretary). Mr. Adeane was in the chair.

Several letters were read from members regretting their inability to be present, and making suggestions as to details connected with the association; and the names of the forty-seven members who had already joined were announced.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, briefly explained the object of the meeting. He said that—"The association now being formed was not in any way antagonistic to the Shorthorn Society, of which they were all members. It was, however, necessary that something should be done to maintain the position of the Shorthorn as a dairy cow. Milk was the only monopoly which remained to the British farmer, and it was not surprising, therefore, that they should take steps to develop the source of their milk supply. The farmer required an animal which would yield a large amount of milk, and which was capable at the same time of carrying flesh; the dairy Shorthorn was the ideal animal for that purpose. The association would, by offering prizes for milk tests, by securing classes for dairy Shorthorns, and by recommending judges, do their best to sustain and popularise the Shorthorn for dairy purposes, a breed which had for many years been so justly famous for beef. There was no question of starting a separate herd book, and he believed they had the approval of the 'Shorthorn Council.'"

Mr. Richard Stratton, in proposing "That an association be formed to be called The Dairy Shorthorn (Coates Herd Book) Association," remarked "That he hoped this association would be able to assist agricultural societies, and to persuade them to provide more classes for pedigree dairy Shorthorns, and generally to give greater support to the dairying industry, which had so greatly increased of recent years that it had become of national importance."

Mr. Richardson Carr seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Lord Crewe proposed that Lord Rothschild be asked to become the first President of the association, and alluded to the great support his Lordship had always given to dairying. Mr. Geo. Taylor seconded this proposal, which met with universal approval.

A temporary council was selected to draw up the rules of the association, to be confirmed at a general meeting, and generally to manage the business of the association.

Mr. F. H. Jennings proposed, and Mr. A. C. Hall seconded, that the promoters of the association, viz., Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., the Right Hon. Lord Crewe, C. R. W. Adeane, Richardson Carr, Walter Crosland, Robt. W. Hobbs, F. Punchard, C. A. Scott-Murray, Richard Stratton, George Taylor, with the addition of Mr. J. P. Cross and Mr. F. N. Webb, form the temporary council. Mr. F. N. Webb, of Babraham, Cambridge, consented to act as hon. secretary for the time being.

The members now number fifty, and, since the meeting, Lord Rothschild has consented to accept the presidency of the association.

In the current issue of the "Bath and West Journal" there is a most interesting article on "Simple Farm Accounts," by Mr. H. Trustram Eve, F.S.I., the new secretary of the Farmers' Club, and this has now been issued in cheap pamphlet form, and in this form it will doubtless secure the larger circulation it deserves.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1 Essex Street, Strand, 12 Noon, Monday, July 10th, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general conditions are favouring seasonable warmth, with at first some spells of cloud and local rains, followed by more generally fresher and cooler westerly weather. At first some rain and thunderstorms, chiefly in the North, then local showers in many parts. Finally some showers chiefly in the West and North; fairer elsewhere. The wind, apart from local variations, will be chiefly S.W. to N.W. or W., and moderate to fresh. The temperature will be warm to cooler.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—**Scotland**:—At first some scattered local showers, and thunder. Later fairer, finally some showers in the West. Wind S. to W. and S. to variable, and then S.W. to N.W.

„ 2.—**England (N.E.) and part of Scotland**:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire (N. & E. Ridings).—At first cloudy. Some local showers, then fairer. Wind S.W. to N.W., and then S. to W. moderate to fresh.

„ 3—**England (East)**:—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—At first cloudy and mild, some local showers. Later fairer. Finally warm, with local rain and thunder to fairer and cooler. Wind S.W. to W. and S.

„ 4—**Midland Counties**:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford-Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, York, shire (West Riding).—At first cloudy, warm to mild, some local showers. Later temporarily fairer. Then fair to cloudy and warm with local rain and thunder. Finally fairer and cooler.

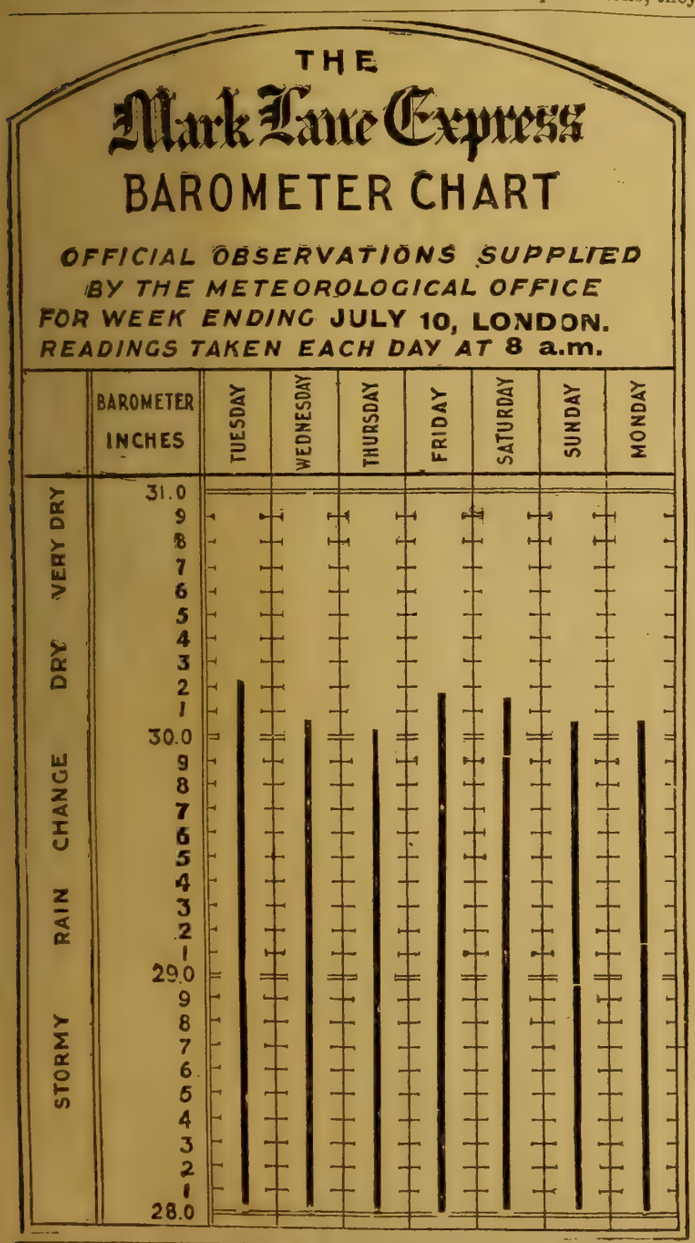
No. 5.—**England (South)**:—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—At first, cloudy, warm to mild; later, fair to cloudy and warm with some local showers to cooler; finally, fair to cloudy, warmer again; wind, S.W. to N.W., then S. to S.W.

„ 6.—**Ireland**.—At first, cloudy and showery in the West and North; moderate to fresh S.W. to W. winds; later, W. to S. winds; fair to cloudy; finally, some showers to fairer; temperature, mild to normal.

„ 7.—**England (North-West) and North Wales**. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—At first cloudy to fairer, fresh W. to S.W. winds, and cooler; later S.W. to S. winds, fair to cloudy, some showers; finally S. to W. winds, fairer and mild.

„ 8.—**England (South-West) and South Wales**:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—At first cloudy to fairer and cooler. Later fair to cloudy, warmer and local showers. Finally fairer.

Where the winds are not alluded to in the local predictions, they may be taken as similar to those given in the general prediction.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday	(July 4) ...	30·23
Wednesday	(„ 5) ...	30·04
Thursday	(„ 6) ...	30·02
Friday	(„ 7) ...	30·17
Saturday	(„ 8) ...	30·16
Sunday	(„ 9) ...	30·05
Monday	(„ 10) ...	30·07

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	3.56 a.m.
„ Sets...	...	8.14 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	1.16 p.m.
„ Sets	...	Midnight.

Age of Moon—Nine days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 10th

GENERAL INFERENCE.—The South-Eastern portion of England will probably remain under the influence of the anticyclonic system covering France. In the North and West shallow disturbances are likely to develop and give rise to close and unsettled weather, with thunderstorms in many places.

SCOTLAND, N. and E. and ENGLAND, N.E.—Light variable breezes, finally Westerly; cloudy and close, with thunderstorms locally.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and LONDON AND CHANNEL.—South-Westerly or Southerly breezes; fair or fine; very warm.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland N. & E.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales) and ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Southerly to South-Westerly winds; unsettled, fair intervals, with rain or thunderstorms locally.

IRELAND, N. and S.—Southerly to Westerly winds, moderate or light in force; cloudy or dull, rain at times.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat steady, quiet for English; supplies very limited. Foreign held at Monday's prices, but only in small request. South Russians quoted at 32s 6d to 36s 6d; No. 2 Club Calcutta, new crop, at 32s 9d; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, at 35s 6d; Australian, at 33s 6d. Flour firm, but quiet at unchanged prices; Hungarians quoted at 31s; Pillsbury's best at 30s 9d; Gilt Edged, 29s 6d. Maize rather firmer for mixed American; steady, unchanged, La Plata; mixed American quoted at 23s 9d ex ship, and 24s 6d landed; La Plata, at 24s ex ship, and 24s 9d landed. Barley: Sellers ask Monday's prices, but buyers are slow to follow; Odessa (Nico.) Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d, and landed at 20s 9d. Oats: Slow trade at about Monday's prices.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English, steady, quiet, unchanged prices; foreign slow, and 3d lower to sell, with only a very small demand; South Russians quoted at 32s 3d to 36s; No. 2 Club Calcutta, at 32s 6d; Red Kurrachee, at 30s 3d; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, at 35s 6d. Flour steady, at unchanged prices, with only a small retail business passing; Iron Dukes quoted at 20s 9d, ex ship, and 21s 3d landed; Pillsbury's best, at 30s 9d. Maize steady, quiet, at fully late rates. Mixed American quoted at 23s 9d ex ship, and 24s 6d landed; Plates, at 24s ship, and 24s 9d landed. Barley very firm, and occasionally 3d dearer. Odessa-Nico.-Kherson quoted at 21s landed. Oats dull, unchanged prices. Common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s ex quay. Arrivals, July 1-6: Foreign wheat, 78,210 qr.; oats, 120,000 qr.; maize, 44,200 qr.; flour, 26,040 sacks.

COUNTRY.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat (red), 32s to 33s per qr.; barley, 30s to 32s per qr.; beans (new), 31s to 33s per qr.; oats, 22s to 24s per qr.; peas, 28s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance, with little grain on offer. Prices all round unchanged.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A very poor market, the attendance being small and the general tone quiet. Sellers of foreign wheats were firm at late rates. No English wheat on the market. Grinding barley advanced 9d. per qr. on the week, sellers now asking 20s 6d. per qr. (400 lb.), for same at Sharpness. Plate maize 6d dearer at 24s 6d per 480 lb. at Bristol. Flat maize also 6d dearer at 24s 6d Bristol. English oats and beans unchanged.

Brighton, Thursday.—Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; English oats, 20s to 23s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s. Small attendance, and slow trade. Oats 3d to 6d dearer; grinding barley 1s 6d dearer. Wheat finished for the season.

Bristol, Thursday.—No English wheat offering at our market to-day. Foreign very firm at 6d. rise on the week. Maize 6d dearer. Barley 9d dearer. Oats unchanged. Flour, firm and unaltered.—GRACE BROTHERS. FEEDING

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday. — We had a poorly-attended market, even for the time of year, people being busy at home with the haysel. Wheat was in small supply, and met only a retail demand, at the full prices of last week—33s to 34s per qr. Feeding corns, although not in any large demand, were firm all round, grinding barley being 1s dearer, at 24s to 25s, and maize firm at 26s to 26s 6d per qr.

Cambridge, Saturday.—With perfect weather, and farmers busy with their hay, very little business is doing. The crops are making rapid progress. At this market there was a very small attendance and most limited trade. The few samples of wheat on offer made the full prices of last week, 32s to 34s per 504lb. Oats the turn against sellers.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair demand for feeding stuffs, but English supplies are practically exhausted. Oats, 20s to 22s; grey peas, 32s to 33s; tick beans, from 32s 6d to 34s 6d. English wheat tends rather higher, owing to scarcity, and 36s was paid to-day for a 63lb sample delivered.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very few samples were forward, and the demand was quiet at 8s to 8s 6d per three imperial bushels.

Chelmsford, Friday.—Very little on offer, and trade very quiet. Best wheat made from 34s to 36s into the mills.

Chester, Saturday.—The market was of a very quiet character. English grain maintained full market rates, but the demand was quiet. Egyptian beans were 1s per sack dearer, while American maize was 3d per sack dearer. New white wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75lb.; new grinding barley, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb; Egyptian beans, 33s 6d to 34s per 480lb; old oats, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; new ditto, 2s 9d to 2s 11d per 46lb.; old Egyptian corn, 10s 6d to 10s 9d; new ditto, 10s to 10s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—White wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 21s; English oats, 20s to 22s; maize, 26s; flour, 27s to 29s 6d. Fair attendance, but very little doing, and practically nothing on offer. Barley was 1s dearer.

Colchester, Saturday.—Scarcely any grain offering to-day, prices unaltered. Hot forcing weather is bringing harvest on, and should it continue so it will be here sooner than seemed likely a fortnight ago.—JOSEPH WILES AND CO., LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Attendance was small. Wheat in very small supply, and last week's prices were obtainable. Oats scarce and firm; other kinds unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, 12s 6d to 13s per 196 lb; barley, 29s to 32s per 448 lb.; oats, 22s to 25s per 352 lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196 lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196 lb.

Derby, Friday.—Scarcely any wheat offering, and prices very firm, without any alterations in value. Spring corn unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white 34s to 35s, red 32s to 33s; malting barley, 23s to 24s; beans, 34s to 35s; oats, 22s to 25s.

Devizes, Thursday.—English corn of all descriptions still very scarce. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 16s 6d to 17s 6d, secondary, 15s to 16s; best barley, 26s to 27s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; white ditto, 19s to 22s; malting barley, 26s to 27s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour 24s to 26s, extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very small attendance to-day, in consequence of Thursday's fair, and business of a trifling character. The market was again completely barren of home-grown wheat, of which there was not a sample offering; foreign on some cases brought rather more money. Barley, maize, and oats, from scarcity, brought extreme rates, and all other articles were up to old prices, though the business transacted was of the most trifling character through out.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Market very thinly attended, and supplies exceedingly small. English wheat was firm, and made 12s 3d per qr., and foreign has recovered from the decline of a few days ago. Maize showed a great degree of firmness, and was 1s per qr. dearer. Oats and beans were rather dearer.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 18s to 20s; grinding barley, 11s to 12s; malting ditto, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 11s to 14s; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s 6d to 13s; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow. English wheat scarce and somewhat dearer; foreign firm. Maize, 6d to 9d dearer; oats firm, but unchanged. Flour also firm. English wheat, 4s to 4s 3d; superfine flour, 24s to 28s; fine, 23s 6d to 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat firm, and held for 3d advance, which checked sales. Flour quiet, but steady. Maize, barley, beans, pease, and oats firmly held at unaltered prices. Oatmeal the turn dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat a slow sale at nominally late rates. Flour quiet, without change in price. Mixed American maize dull at 13s 10½d to 14s per 280 lb. Oats steady, and held for previous rates. Feeding stuffs quiet at former figures.

Grantham, Saturday.—Farmers being busy in the hay field, the attendance was very small. The supply of corn was of a limited character, and what sales were effected were at recent rates.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The fine haymaking weather kept farmers away from market, and business in English grain was at a standstill. Maize was 6d per qr. dearer, and foreign grain and barley 1s to 1s 6d per qr. dearer. No quotable change in oats. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 4s per 53lb.; oats, 2s to 2s 6d per 40lb.; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 55½lb.; vetches, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: With only a limited supply, the demand was firm, but chiefly from inland country mills, as there are other wheats of better value coming into the port; reds made from 33s 6d to 34s 6d per quarter. Oats firm at full prices—21s to 23s per quarter; Libau, 19s 6d to 20s; very fine, 20s 6d to 21s per 336lb. Grinding barley firmer at 1s advance; English screenings, 26s; Marianople, 24s to 24s 6d; fine screened, 26s per 448lb. Beans and peas and Indian corns firm all round. Maize firm at 25s to 25s 6d per quarter. Oil-cakes in quiet demand, but steady. Bran steady at £4 10s per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—We have had a week of favourable weather for the crops. Deteriorating crop accounts from America, combined with the serious news from Russia, have caused quite a flutter in the trade, and notwithstanding heavy shipments, wheat has met an improved demand, both speculative and consumptive, prices for Indans and Russians being advanced 6d to 9d per qr. on the week. Maize and beans 6d dearer. Oats unchanged. Flour has been advanced 1s per sack.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats fully maintained Tuesday's prices, with a further upward tendency for American, Russian, and Indian descriptions. Malting and feeding barleys the turn dearer; flour firm at the late advance. No change in beans, peas, oats, and other articles

Leicester, Saturday. — Limited supplies of home-grown wheats. Moderate attendance. Trade rather sluggish at steady rates. Red wheats, 33s to 34s; white wheats, 34s to 35s per 36 stones; beans steady; fine oats firm at 22s to 24s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair attendance at the Corn Exchange, but business on a limited scale. No English wheats came to hand; foreign a small show and slightly easier than at the beginning of the week. Oats quiet and unaltered. Beans firm at last week's quotations.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: The market was moderately attended. Wheat only moved in moderate quantities, but ruled firm at last market day's full rates. Flour firmly held at unchanged prices, although the demand is not brisk. Maize: Mixed corn firm at fully ½d per cental advance, and Plate 1½d to 1¾d dearer than last Tuesday, but the advance checks the demand. Barley dull for brewing, whilst feeding is in fair demand at ½d per bushel advance. Beans firm, 3d dearer owing to great scarcity. Peas in moderate demand at 1d to 2d per cental advance. Oats steadily held at late rates, but the demand is only slow. Oatmeal in retail demand, but held firmly at recent figures. Oilcake firm in tone notwithstanding the very quiet trade.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and foreign wheat were dearer. Flour sellers were very firm, and asked 5s 3d to 5s 4d; Plate, 5s 4d to 5s 5d per 100 lb. Oats —Foreign steady, and English ½d to 1d per bushel higher. Beans met with an advance. Peas were unchanged. Feeding stuffs easier. The market will be closed next Thursday.

Newark, Wednesday.—A small show of wheat at full prices of last week. Oats and beans unchanged in value. Quotations: Wheat, 32s to 34s; oats, 22s; beans, 33s to 34s per qr.

Norwich, Saturday.—Hardly any wheat on offer at our market to-day, with a firm trade at late rates. Glorious, fine weather continues, with high temperature. Wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s per quarter, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending July 3, 1905:—Wheat, 163, 32s 3d.—J. A. MILLS.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A fair demand for wheat prevailed at our to-day's market, and holders were firm at last week's quotations. Maize advanced another 6d per quarter over last week's prices. Peas firm at late rates. Beans firmly held for 6d advance. A fair demand for oats of all descriptions at last week's prices. A limited demand for barley at unchanged prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy with the hay harvest, which is proving, much better than was at first thought. Corn, prospects, too, are much brighter than for several seasons, wheat and barley being particularly healthy and promising. Wheat, 31s to 33s; barley, 24s to 32s; oats, 19 to 22s; beans, 31s to 33s; peas, 28s to 33s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday. Wheat: No English offering. Foreign held firmly. Both shop and grinding barley make full rates. Oats and beans in small supply, and held for previous values.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday. There was a very poor attendance at to-day's market, but a fair business was done at steady rates. English wheat was not offered. Feeding stuffs met a fair demand at late rates.

Peterborough, Saturday. The two or three lots of wheat offering to-day were held for very full prices, but millers were not anxious buyers. Spring corn firm at late rates. Weather fine and warm. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our market, which was very firm. Wheat was 6d, barley 6d, maize 3d. dearer, while oats remained unaltered.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Market very firm. Prices:—Wheat, 33s to 37s; grinding barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 20s to 23s; peas, 27s to 32s; beans, 32s to 35s.

Retford, Saturday.—Corn would have sold readily had the supply been adequate to the demand, but it was deficient, and the business passing was extremely limited. Prices were on the up grade at 32s to 33s per quarter. There was a scarcity of all kinds of grain for feeding purposes. Maize made 6d to 1s more money, round selling at 28s and flat 27s per 34 stones delivered here; black oats, 20s; white ditto, 21s per 24 stones; English beans, 31s to 32s per 38 stones.

Ripon, Thursday.—English wheat and round maize firm, and in some cases 6d. per qr. dearer. A fair attendance. English wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 35s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; oats, 20s to 21s; maize, round, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; maize, flat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb; old white oats, 16s to 17s per 225lb; new white oats, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d.

Stamford, Friday.—Fair attendance. Wheats 32s 6d to 33s 6d, oats 22s to 24s, beans 32s to 34s, maize 23s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Wheat held for the full prices of last week. Little doing in barley and oats. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Wheat, 700 quarters; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—White wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; red ditto, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; English oats, 19s to 22s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize 22s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—The market was poorly attended. There was not a sample of wheat on offer. Very little other grain of any kind on offer; prices may be considered normal. Feeding stuffs in good demand all round at an increased rate.

Winchester, Saturday.—Supply of English wheat almost exhausted. Foreign generally 6d dearer on the week. Barley 1s and maize 3d per quarter advance. Oats unaltered.—Flour fair consumptive trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A poor attendance at market; little or nothing offering from farmers. Red wheat, 34s; oats, 20s 6d to 22s. No chance in other articles.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was only a moderate attendance, and but little business was transacted. Quotations: Wheat, 13s to 14s per 216lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb.; oats, 13s 6d per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very poor attendance, and very little grain on offer. Wheat, white, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s; secondary barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s. Oats made more money. White oats, 21s to 22s 6d; black oats, 20s to 21s; maize, 27s to 28s, an advance of about 1s; beans, 35s to 37s, 1s per qr. more than late rates.

Yeovil, Friday.—Foreign wheat, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; home-grown wheat of best quality, 31s to 33s; secondary, 28s 6d to 30s 6d; best barley, 26s to 30s; secondary, 22s 6d to 24s 6d; oats, white, 16s 6d to 22s 6d; black, 15s to 21s 6d; Irish, black, 17s 6d to 19s; round maize, 24s 6d; flat, 23s to 24s. Flour quiet, superfine realising 26s 6d to 28s; fine, 23s 6d to 26s. Meal and offal at last week's quotations.

York, Saturday.—Very small show of wheat and practically no business done. Wheat makes 31s 6d to 32s per qr. of 36 stones; oats, 19s 6d to 20s per qr. of 24 stones. Beans, peas, and maize firm; no alteration.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—With the exception of local storms, causing damage, the weather has been favourable for the growing crops. There is a great demand for maize, while all other articles remain at unaltered prices. Fine German wheat, Mecklenburg and Saale, is offering at 33s to 33s 6d per 504lb. f.o.b.; American hard winter No. 2 July-August shipment, 30s 6d; 80 Ko River Plate afloat, 30s 9d; Australian near at hand 31s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet; the crop in this country promises a rich result; 9 15-20 South Russian on the spot and afloat is offering at 24s 9d to 25s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Crop reports on malting barley continue favourable from the Saale, Silesia, Austria, and Hungary, rainy weather having benefited the crops in right time and it now requires a few weeks more of favourable weather to secure a rich harvest. Feeding barley is held at higher prices in the growing districts than offered by secondhand; 60-61 Ko South Russian afloat, 18s 9d; Danubian prompt, 19s; Russian and Danubian September-October, 17s to 17s 3d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. River Plate maize, which arrives in fine condition, is in brisk demand, spot parcels selling at 23s 6d to 23s 9d; floating at 23s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. For mixed maize, prompt shipment, 23s 3d to 23s 6d per 480lb. has been paid.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—At the Bourse de Commerce the market has been most feverish during the whole day, the numerous cases of laying reported from all quarters causing serious apprehensions among "shorts," who, owing to their pressing inquiries, caused the tone of the market to stiffen, and prices to advance from 20c. to 45c. for wheat, and from 20c. to 50c. for flour, according to dates of delivery, sellers remaining very reserved.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are dull, but *nulla dies sine lined* is a market truth; rare, indeed, is the day on which there is no single line in the market liste recording sales. Since the 3rd sales have included sound Azima at 34s. 6d., Odessa Ghirka at 33s., Rosario at 30s., Bahia Blanca at 31s., Australian at 32s., No. 2 Calcutta Club at 32s. per qr. The Russian and Indian cargoes have weighed 492 lb., the others 480 lb. per qr.

Barley cargoes make 20s. per 400 lb. on passage, but 17s. 4½d. is accepted for September shipment of Russian new crop. Oats are rather out of favour, but a cargo of Vologda has fetched 15s. per 320 lb.

Maize has been quoted 23s. 9d. per 480 lb. for La Plata, and 23s. has been paid for American. Other cargo sales have included White Calcutta peas at 28s. 3d. per 504 lb., and Saida beans at 34s. per 480 lb.

Arrivals at ports-of-call, July 1 to 8-inclusive, were 6 wheat, 1 linseed, and 1 locust beans. The wheat was from Australia and Argentina exclusively. Since January 1 arrivals have been:—218 wheat cargoes, with 2 of flour; 23 of barley; 5 of maize; 5 of locust beans; 29 of linseed; 1 of beans; 1 of rye; and 1 of canaryseed.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	9	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS. IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 8, 1905:—

Wheat	2,385,300 cwts.
Wheat-flour	119,500 ,,
Barley	135,700 ,,
Oats	752,400 ,,
Maize	931,300 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,541,200	1,669,661	1,599,293	1,332,900
Wheat-flour	147,700	394,170	423,829	891,700
Barley	330,400	824,876	246,196	265,500
Oats	336,400	527,883	275,240	527,800
Maize	1,010,600	1,886,836	939,427	1,280,700

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 8 in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	22,009½	28	7	949½	23	2	2,911½	19	1
1901	15,231¼	27	2	19	23	10	1,675½	19	9
1902	8,921¼	30	10	111½	24	8	1,401½	22	10
1903	19,775	28	1	893½	19	11	3,657½	18	3
1904	12,895	26	6	618½	19	8	5,454½	17	1

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR. NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	32	0
May 31	,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	20	9	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	53,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	253,000
Maize	,,	30,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION. CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 31	0	(per sack)	28	0
October 10	(,,) 31	6	(,,)	28	6
,, 19	(,,) 31	0	(,,)	28	0
March 31	(,,) 30	6	(,,)	27	6
May 3	(,,) 30	3	(,,)	27	3
June 7	(,,) 30	0	(,,)	27	0

No change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES. (190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5			
August	28 8	21 3	17 1			
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	16 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	3	23	9	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0
March	26	8	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	30	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6	23	1½	25	0
July	25	6	26	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6
August			26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6
Sept.			27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5
Oct.			27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1
Nov.			26	9	24	8	22	9	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	8	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.	25	8	24	8	22	8	22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½		

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	8	25	2	29	0	38	7
Feb.	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4
March	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1
April	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3
May	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0
June	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6
July			29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0
August			30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6
Sept.			31	0	0	0	29	0	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0
Oct.			31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6
Nov.			32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4	24	8	30	3
Dec.			31	3	8	6	29	6	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0
Yrly. Avrg.	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0		

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	4

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 9	12,895	26	6	648⅜	19	8	5,454½	17	1
,, 16	14,160¼	26	10	665½	18	9	6,320¼	17	6
,, 23	15,648¼	27	7	581½	18	10	6,711½	17	6
,, 30	21,778¼	28	0	509¼	19	9	8,046⅞	17	10
Aug. 6	22,575½	28	3	591¼	19	9	8,891½	17	10
,, 13	16,784⅜	28	4	468⅜	19	9	8,117¼	17	7
,, 20	19,200¾	28	8	1,646¾	22	5	19,032½	16	5
,, 27	31,432⅜	29	5	4,701¾	23	2	26,042½	16	7
Sept. 3	32,921½	30	2	12,370¼	25	3	31,507	16	3
,, 10	46,116⅜	30	0	22,400¾	24	10	31,336	16	1
,, 17	51,889¼	29	7	45,918⅝	24	9	37,554½	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	59,597⅞	25	10	42,624⅜	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,553¾	25	5	44,796⅜	15	8
,, 8	54,607⅜	30	2	163,280⅜	25	6	43,575⅜	15	9
,, 15	45,462¼	30	5	185,031⅜	25	4	34,509½	15	8
,, 22	45,960¼	30	4	213,190½	25	5	31,445½	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044½	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816½	25	0	35,145¼	16	0
,, 12	43,740½	30	3	204,446¾	24	6	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,025¼	30	2	178,529¼	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969¼	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809¼	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257¼	24	4	36,635¼	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563¼	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	7
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469¼	25	0	32,957⅜	16	7
,, 28	48,869¼	30	6	89,495½	25	1	41,602¼	16	8
Feb. 4	49,442¼	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486½	16	9
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080¼	16	0
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	0
,, 25	42,165¼	30	10	39,509¼	25	0	30,627½	16	15
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	13
,, 11	38,118¼	30	9	23,448½	25	2	24,396¼	16	10
,, 18	31,269	30	10	18,412⅜	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30	9	17,425¾	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	9
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	0
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,876½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,186½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	53,446¼	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350⅝	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803½	18	6
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017⅜	18	5
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	5
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	20	0	3,59-⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574¾	31	7	145¼	23	9	3,031⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579¾	31	4	289¾	23	2	3,485½	19	7
,, 8	7,854⅜	32	1	373⅜	22	11	2,532½	19	6

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

June 28 to July 5, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	600	100,100	100,700
Barley	460	3,500	3,960
Malt	23,910	...	23,910
Oats	270	84,100	84,370
Beans	180	8	188
Peas	91	3,300	3,391
Maize	...	49,900	49,900
Tares	41	...	41
Linseed	...	21,671	21,671
Rapeseed	10	308	318
Cottonseed	...	910	910
Dholl	...	1,326	1,326
Sunflowerseed	...	216	216
Canary seed	...	30,000	30,000
Flour sacks	31,519	20,109	51,628
Ryeflour	...	600	600
Middlings	...	4,090	4,090
Ricemeal	...	10,900	10,900

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 8, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 15th and 16th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	7,544 qrs.	32s. 1d.
Barley	3,[illegible] qrs.	23s. 1[illegible]d.
Oats	2,632 qrs.	19s. 6d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within 20 miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 4, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	70	4	115	19	3	1	12	11
Barley	Nil.							
Oats	Nil.							

EGGS.

(Price at 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11 to 12. Boston: 14 to 15. Colne: 1s 8d per score. Dorchester: 9d to 10½d per dozen. Goole: 12 and 13. Hereford: 14 to 16. Holsworthy: 1s per dozen. Kirkby-moorside: 14 to 15. Knaresborough: 12. Louth: 15. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Weighton: 15. Newton Abbot: 11d to 1s per doz. Northallerton: 14. Stockton: 12 or 13. Truro: 9d to 10d per doz. Uttoxeter: 1s 5d to 1s 9d per score. Worksop: 1s 3d to 1s 6d per score.

Thursday.—Axminster: 9d to 2d per dozen. Birmingham: 11 to 12. Brigg: 14 to 15. Driffield: 15 to 16. Devizes: 14 to 16; Evesham: 10½d to 11½ per dozen; Kidderminster: 16; Northtawton: 15. Penistone: 15. Plymouth: 1s per dozen; Penzance: 9d to 11d per dozen. Ripon: 13 or 14. Scarborough: 12. Wellington (Salop): 15 to 16; Wetherby: 12.

Friday.—Altrincham: 10 and 11. Barnstaple: 14 to 16. Camelford: 9d. per doz. Chester: 11. Congleton: 11. Crewe: 12. Derby, 13: Helmsley: 13 or 14. Knutsford: 11. Leyburn: 14 to 15. Lincoln: 15 or 14. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 10 and 11. Nantwich: 12 and 13. Northwich: 11 and 12. Otley: 12. Redruth: 8½d per doz. Runcorn: 10. Stamford: 12 to 14. St. Austell: 14 to 16. Stockport: 10 and 11. Tavistock: 12 and 13. Totnes: 10d to 11d per doz.

Saturday.—Appleby: 12 to 13; Berwick: 9d to 10d per dozen; Bridgnorth: 14; Carlisle: 12; Doncaster: 14; Grantham: 12 and 14; Howden: 14; Ipswich: 12 to 14; Lancaster: 10 or 11; Malton: 13 and 14; Pontefract: 13 or 14; Retford: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 12 or 13; Whitby: 12 and 13; Worcester: 12; Stokesley: 12 or 13; Whitby: 12 and 13; Worcester: 12; Oswestry: 11 to 12; Shrewsbury: 12 and 13; Skipton: 12; York: 12.

MILK.

London, Saturday.—Week ending July 7:—There was a fair market for milk, with a minimum price of 6½d per imperial gallon.—THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

BUTTER.

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11d and 1s. Boston: 11d to 1s 1d. Colne: 1s 0½d to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 10d to 1s. Goole: 11d to 1s. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Holsworthy: 1s. Kirbymoorside: 9d to 10d. Knaresborough: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24oz. roll. Louth: 9d. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Weighton: 10d. Newton Abbot: 11d to 1s 3d. Northallerton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 10d to 11d. Truro: 8d to 10d. Uttoxeter: 10d to 1s. Worksop: 1s to 1s 1d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 11d; Birmingham: 1s to 1s 2d; Brigg: 11d to 1s; Driffield: 2d to 1s 1d; Devizes: 1s to 1s 3d; Evesham: 6d to 1s 2d; Kidderminster: 1s 1d; Northtawton: 9d; Penistone: 10d; Plymouth: 1s to 1s 2d; Penzance: 8½d to 10d; Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24 oz. roll; Scarborough: 1s; Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d; Wetherby: 11d to 1s.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 10d to 1s 1d. Camelford: 11d. Chester: 1s 1d. Congleton: 1s 1d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Derby: 1s to 1s 1d. Helmsley: 8d to 9d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 10d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 9d. Runcorn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s to 1s 1d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. St. Austell: 10d to 1s. Tavistock: 10d to 1s. Totnes: 1s to 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d. Nantwich: 1s 1d and 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9d to 11d; Berwick: 9d to 1s; Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d; Carlisle: 11d to 1s; Doncaster: 11d; Grantham: 1s to 1s 2d; Howden: 9d to 11d; Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d; Lancaster: 10½d to 11½d; Malton: 9d to 10d; Pontefract: 11d to 1s; Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d; Richmond (Yorks): 10d to 1s; Shrewsbury: 1s; Skipton: 11d to 1s; Stokesley: 9 to 10d; Whitby: 9 to 10d; Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d; York: 1s to 1s 2d.

CHEESE.

Chester, Wednesday.—Farmers brought in 50 tons of new season's cheese, and with a good attendance of buyers, representing the large wholesale houses of the North and Midlands, the demand was brisk, and a clearance was made at the following quotations:—Fine Cheshire 48s to 55s; medium qualities, 42s to 47s; and common, 30s per cwt. and upwards.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals were light this week, with demand still limited, especially for Cheddars. A few outstanding Dunlops commanded 1s above top prices. Trade generally holding up from buying till warm weather is over. Cheddars 46s to 48s, Dunlops 43s to 48s per cwt.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations:—Caerphillys, 35s to 43s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 44s to 45s; ordinaries, 30s to 33s; doubles, 40s to 42s; Derbys, 50s to 52s. A good supply, between ten and eleven tons, pitched. An average attendance, and a good demand.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter.—There is no change to be recorded this week in the Danish position, but values of French have advanced about 4s per cwt., notwithstanding the increased supplies from that country. Cheese: The demand for Canadian continues of sluggish, and values have advanced 1s per cwt. on the week.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The first half of 1905 had a rainfall of 12.59 inches, against a decennial average of 25.02 for a whole year. The large falls of March and June balanced very dry periods in January, February, and May. The sunshine of the half year, 690 hours, against a decennial average of 1.226 hours for a whole year, shows a gratifying excess; but the temperature of the half year, which is 47.5 degrees, is rather below the average. July is doing its best, happily, to remedy this. Our record of the six months is :—

1905.	Rainfall. Inches.	Sunshine. Hours.	Warmth. Degrees.
January	1.08	45	36.0
February ..	0.70	61	42.5
March	3.70	108	48.0
April	1.80	90	47.5
May	0.81	215	52.0
June	4.50	171	59.0

The weather since July came in has left little to be desired. All the cereals have blossomed and gone through the fertilising period under highly favourable circumstances, and there has also been a good and robust growth of straw since the June rains. It is feared by some that this year's crops may be easily laid by storms, but the wheat plant, at all events, strikes us as particularly strong in stem and stalk.

Foreign crop news is in the main favourable. Grotesque reports of an approaching famine in Russia have escaped editorial blue pencils in the leading dailies, but Russia has every prospect of fair to full yields per acre this season, and will doubtless be a liberal *exporter* if only the social disturbances permit trade to take place. The corn markets, happily, have long since become aware that Russian advices of crops and commerce are nearly always, if not political inventions, at all events, politically influenced. The Russian Statistical Bureau is of high repute for accuracy, and its publications, almost alone among documents from Russia, command the general assent of the statistical and commercial world.

The new crops in Persia show very good quality, some of the barley weighs 424 lb. and has steeping and distilling value. The supplies of wheat, barley, and dari from Persia cannot be large, but they are likely to meet with more than customary favour.

London grain stocks as returned since the new century came in have been as follows, the unit being a thousand quarters in the cases of wheat, barley, oats, and maize, a thousand sacks in that of flour. It will be seen that present wheat stores are the smallest since April, 1904, and that those of barley and maize are below the average; of oats and flour we hold rather more than had been anticipated. American flour has been held with some persistency above buyers' ideas, and now the summer has to be faced with more in warehouse than the trade supposed. There are also larger holdings than anticipated of La Plata, of Australian, and of French flour. Sorts which are really scarce are Hungarian, Californian, and the finest North-Western patents. Since July 1, and therefore not included in official returns, 4,173 sacks of flour have arrived from Canada. The produce of Canadian mills is favoured by London bakers for its excellent strength and fine bread-making capacity.

	Wheat. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.	Flour. Sacks.
Jan. 1, 1901	321	119	273	38	422
April 1, 1901	231	96	442	45	375
July 1, 1901	186	108	330	61	670
Oct. 1, 1901	254	72	506	53	580
Jan. 1, 1902	249	133	592	46	399
April 1, 1902	110	93	561	107	235
July 1, 1902	112	60	271	56	250
Oct. 1, 1902	31	46	230	64	190
Jan. 1, 1903	79	112	431	28	240
April 1, 1903	31	84	306	53	165
July 1, 1903	121	53	258	82	245
Oct. 1, 1903	109	95	356	110	166
Jan. 1, 1904	164	101	581	69	276
April 1, 1904	105	126	691	85	376
July 1, 1904	146	115	358	36	403
Oct. 1, 1904	170	130	407	62	264
Jan. 1, 1905	215	115	451	23	260
April 1, 1905	179	79	371	38	300
July 1, 1905	117	87	331	30	337

Fifteen leading ports hold 1,342,000 qr. of wheat, against 1,538,000 qr. in the same ports a year ago. Liverpool holds exactly 300,000 qr. of wheat, as compared with 420,000 qr. at this time last year.

The sales of British wheat since harvest at 190 statute markets have been small, but the price realised, without being really high, has not been unsatisfactory :—

This season, 1,586,000 qrs. at 30s. 7d. per qr.
Last season, 1,375,000 qrs. at 27s. 1d. per qr.

Sales of British barley have been liberal, but the trade was done comparatively early in the season, and latterly so little has been offered that averages have been unsteady :—

This season, 3,132,000 qrs. at 24s. 10d. per qr.
Last season, 2,771,000 qrs. at 22s. 3d. per qr.

Of British oats, the sales at the markets never bear any very large proportion to the total crop yield. Returns are as follows :—

This season, 1,121,000 qrs. at 16s. 11d. per qr.
Last season, 2,771,000 qrs. at 22s. 3d. per qr.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows :—

Wheat, 427,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Flour, 45,600 qrs.; an extremely small suuply.
Barley, 41,000 qrs.; a third of an average.
Oats, 215,000 qrs.; a very large importation.
Maize, 162,000 qrs.; less than usual.

The sales of foreign breadstuffs since harvest have been :—

Wheat	20,085,000 qrs.
Flour	3,214,000 qrs.
Total	23,299,000 qrs.

London averages for wheat are as follows :—January, 31s.; February, 31s. 10d.; March, 32s. 1d.; April, 30s. 11d.; May, 31s. 10d.; and June 32s. 3d.; the advance of 6d. on the month is satisfactory.

London averages for oats are as follows :—January, 17s. 6d.; February, 17s. 10d.; March, 17s. 10d.; April, 18s. 7d.; May, 19s. 6d.; and June, 20s. 2d. When the average is over a sovereign London attracts a choice of samples.

No average for English barley has been published in London since the end of May, but at least a thousand quarters have been sold since then. We must assume that the transactions have been put through in private offices, and not in Mark Lane.

London arrivals of grain have been as follows :—

January ..	255,000 ..	96,000 ..	224,000
February ..	284,000 ..	138,000 ..	311,000
March	345,000 ..	34,000 ..	251,000
April	401,000 ..	30,000 ..	272,000
May	299,000 ..	105,000 ..	363,000
June	285,000 ..	28,000 ..	328,000

The supplies on passage are as follows :—

Wheat	2,780,000 qrs.
Flour	132,000 sks.
Barley	200,000 qrs.
Oats	270,000 qrs.
Maize	965,000 qrs.
Rice	30,000 tons.
Linseed	240,000 qrs.
Cottonseed	21,500 tons.
Beans	5,000 qrs.
Peas	7,000 qrs.

Of these totals, wheat, oats, maize, and linseed exceed an average, while there is a marked deficiency in flour, barley, beans, and peas.

American shipments last week were 40,000 qr. of wheat, 9,000 qr. of barley, 17,000 qr. of oats, 157,000 qr. of maize, and 40,000 sacks of flour. Russia shipped 585,000 qr. of wheat, 187,000 qr. of barley, 319,000 qr. of oats, and 10,000 qr. of maize. The exports of Roumania were 160,000 qr. of wheat, and 12,000 qr. of barley. India sent off 100,000 qr. of wheat and 45,000 qr. of linseed; while 46,000 qr. of wheat were exported from Australia. The Argentine Republic continues to be a free shipper, sending off from July 1 to 8 232,000 qr. of wheat, 315,000 qr. of maize, and 27,000 qr. of linseed.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Clover, old 5½d to 6d, new 5½d; straw (oat), 3½d to 4d per stone.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is easier at £10 10s to £10 15s, per ton, but there is practically no demand for fertilisers, and, as regards feeding stuffs, they are in small consumptive request, yet the market is firm owing to the English crushers shutting down their mills and the limited supplies of foreign on offer. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 10s to £10 15s; East India bone meal, in bags £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s 6d to £2 5s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s; ditto, English, prime, in bulk, £7 18s 9d to £8 7s 6d; ditto foreign round, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 2s 6d; ditto, English decorticated, prime, new (soft), in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto, English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 7s 6d to £4 12s 6d; ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 17s 6d to £5 15s—per ton. Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s per 240lb; linseed, fine boild feeding, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 10s per quarter (416lb); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, guaranteed 30 to 34 sol., in bags; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags; basic slag, prime quality guaranteed 38 to 45 phos., in bags; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 phos., in bags, nominal.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 10.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day sold steadily at 34s. for good red and 35s. for fine white; even chicken wheat was held for 31s. Foreign was firm for all sorts, but very dull, business being small, even for July. Maize was in fair retail request, both yellow and flat kinds going steadily into use at subjoined prices of our quotation list. Barley was 6d. to 9d. dearer for Russian, but other sorts were quiet and without price change. Oats were quiet, 16s. 6d. paid for good 320 lb. Courland samples, 15s. for 320 lb. North Russian, and 13s. 6d. for 304 lb. White Sea oats. Beans advanced 1s. per qr. for all foreign sorts, English being firm, but not quotably dearer. Peas were quoted the same as on the 3rd inst. Linseed advanced 6d. per qr. for Indian and Argentine. Sowing rapeseed, useful for catch crops, made 50s. to 56s. per qr. Fine rolled oats, sent round from Edinburgh, made 14s. per cwt. Malt, fresh up from Norfolk, realised 32s. to 35s. per qr. of 336 lb.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

BRITISH GRAIN.

	s.	d.
WHEAT, White .....(per 504 lb.	34	— 36
Red ..... ,,	33	— 35
Chicken .....(per 448 lb.)	29	— 31
BARLEY, Malting.....(per 448 lb.)	nominal	
Brewing ..... ,,	nominal	
Feeding.....(per 416 lb.)	nominal	
,, ...(per 400 lb.)	19	— 22
MALT, Pale.....(per 336 lb.)	34	— 38
Brown ..... ,,	25	— 30
Black ..... ,,	30	— 32
Crystallized ..... ,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots ..... ,,	22	— 23
Old Black Winter ..... ,,	nominal	
Old Grey Winter ..... ,,	nominal	
Old Black Tartary..... ,,	nominal	
,, ...(per 320 lb.)	19	— 20
New Winter.....(per 336 lb.)	19	— 21
,, Black Tartary ..... ,,	19	— 20
.....(per 312 lb.)	18	— 19
,, New (Light).....(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE.....(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan .....(per 504 lb.)	37	— 39
Pigeon..... ,,	38	— 40
Tick ..... ,,	35	— 37
Winter ..... ,,	33	— 34
Spring..... ,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat..... ,,	51	— 71
New Unpicked ,, ... ,,	41	— 51
Partridge..... ,,	44	— 45
Dun ..... ,,	29	— 30
Maple ..... ,,	33	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)..... ,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)..... ,,	56	— 64
(Winter) ..... ,,	48	— 52
(Spring) ..... ,,	40	— 44
BUCKWHEAT, English.....(per 416 lb.)	29	— 30

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496 lb.	s.	s.
M'itoba Best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 34
Australian	32	— 34
Saxonka.....	35	— 36
Azima.....	34	— 35
Ghirka	33	— 34
Taganrog	32	— 33
Bombay.....	33	— 34
Calcutta.....	32	— 33
Kurrachee	31	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY :		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.) ...	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.) ...	24	— 26
Russian (400 lb.) ...	20	— 21
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)...	20	— 24
Smyrna (448 lb.)...	29	— 32
,, (400 lb.)...	21	— 23
Crushed (304 lb.) ...	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
French	23	— 24
Russian	22	— 23
MAIZE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	28	— 29
Turkish	27	— 28
Morocco	25	— 26
Indian	25	— 26
American	24	— 25
Argentine	24	— 25

OATS :	s.	s.
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16	— 17
Revel (304 lb.).....	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.).....	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.) ...	15	— 16
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Turkish (304 lb.) ...	15	— 16
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.).....	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna.....	30	— 31
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	30	— 31
Syrian.....	31	— 32
New Zealand	32	— 34
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt. :		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Wisconsin	46	— 48
Canadian	40	— 42
Dutch Imperials...	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chillian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun.....	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	40	— 41
Red	22	— 26
Yellow	19	— 20
Sorghum	18	— 19
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	26	— 27
Indian.....	22	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb. :		
French	30	— 31
Russian	28	— 29
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)...	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE CLOSE. HOT WEATHER WAS AGAINST TRADE, AND BREADSTUFFS CLOSED VERY DULL; MAIZE AND RUSSIAN BARLEY WERE VERY FIRM, DESPITE THE PREVAILING LETHARGY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 10.

London Town Whites and Town Households are now 6d. cheaper from the close of June, the weather having told steadily against inquiry, and stocks of foreign flour proving heavier than the trade had supposed. Country, despite a good supply, is perfectly steady in price. Bakers are consistently free buyers of this sort this season. Australasian is steady at 23s to 23s 6d landed. Fine American is held above buyers' notions, but there is some sale of first bakers' grades at a guinea cash. Bran and pollard are still tending to rise in price, but arrivals of foreign middlings have checked advance in that section of the offal trade. Linseed and cottonseed cakes are held for 2s. 6d. per ton advance. Rice meal and oat meal are unchanged.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31	0
Town Whites	"	28	0
" Households	"	25	0
No. 2	"	22	0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	"	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	"	23 — 24
Best Stone made	"	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 — 31
" Second Patents	"	29 — 30
" First Bakers'	"	21 — 22
" Second Bakers'	"	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	"	29 — 30
" Bakers'	"	21 — 22
Californian	"	26 — 27
Canadian	"	29 — 31
Russian	"	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	"	32 — 33
" 1	"	31 — 32
" 2	"	30 — 31
" 3	"	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	"	24 — 26
" Renaux	"	23 — 24
" P.S.D.	"	21 — 22
Australian	"	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	"	27 — 28
" 1st Grade	"	26 — 27
" 2nd Grade	"	25 — 26
" Common	"	20 — 21
" "Saturno"	"	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Whole Meal	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 26
Wheat Germ Meal	"	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	"	27	— 28
" Seconds	"	25	— 26
Bran, London Broad	"	12	— 13
" Country Flake Choice	"	13	— 14
" " Broad	"	11	— 12
Pollard	"	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	"	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	"	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	"	13	— 14
Barley Meal	"	14	— 15
Canadian Oatmeal	"	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	"	34	— 35
Groats	"	34	— 35
Oat Flour	"	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	"	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	"	14	— 15
Maize Flour	"	18	— 20
" Germ Meal	"	13	— 14
" Cones	"	18	— 19
" Gluten Meal	"	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	"	21	— 22
" (Konigsberg)	"	18	— 19
Rye Meal	"	17	— 18
Pea Meal	"	19	— 20
Bean Meal	"	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	"	15	— 16
Rice Meal	"	9/9	— 10
Rice Flour	"	20	— 22
Rice Cones	"	18	— 20
Ground Rice	"	22	— 23
Feeding Rice	"	17	— 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 1 American	7s. 2d.	July delivery.
No. 2 Red Winter	6s. 11d.	" "
" "	6s. 10d.	Sept. "
" "	6s. 10d.	Dec. "

MAIZE (per cental).

American	5s. 0d.	July delivery.
"	4s. 11d.	Aug. "
"	4s. 10d.	Sept. "
"	4s. 9d.	Oct. "

These are not official prices, but will, we believe, be found practically correct. Official quotations, we hear, are likely to be resumed very shortly.

Maize futures showed a decided improvement, but wheat was substantially unchanged.

There are buyers of American new crop wheat for early autumn shipment this morning at 6s. 10d. per cental, but holders stand out for 6s. 11d., thereby stopping business. Maize is rather excited for near delivery, 5s. 11d. being paid. But 4s. 11d. is accepted for remoter futures.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—Bran continues dull; tendency of prices in favour of buyers. Flour.—Prices unchanged, with a moderate demand.—GRLENSHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour is held for 6d. per sack advance, with more business passing. Grain.—Indian corn quiet at 1½d. per boll decline. Oats are in good supply, the demand is fair, with prices about unchanged. Barley and pease firm. Beans in retail demand at unchanged prices. Mill Stuffs.—There is no change in bran, but thirds, especially fine, are in active demand.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour has met a quiet demand to-day at late rates.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling offals are unchanged in value from last week, with a fair demand for middlings.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

We have liberal arrivals of wheat. Trade is steady, and prices are unchanged except for Indians, which are 6d. per qr. lower. Flour unchanged in value. Maize 3d. per qr. dearer. Barley and oats unchanged in value.—COVENTRY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade is just as quiet as last week, but with the advance in linseed, 2s 6d more money is asked for London made. Foreign makes, both spot and forward, are very firm. Cotton cake (undecorticated): Quiet and unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Some good sales are reported during last week and prices again 2s 6d dearer. Linseed: Market 1s to 1s 6d up and firm.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
" Western "	ex quay			
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay			
Russian Oil Cake "	ex quay	7 5 0	to 7 15	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 11 3	to 6 17	0
" Meal	ex quay	6 10 0		
London-made " Cake (best)	ex mill	4 10 0	to 4 11	3
Egyptian " " (in bags)	ex quay	4 8 9	to 4 10	0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail Burton		4 17 6		
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs. ex warehouse		2 8 0		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs. ex warehouse		2 3 0		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs	ex warehouse	2 0 0	to 2 7	0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs. ex warehouse				
Larniea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.				
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London				
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)				
Bombay " " "				
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.				

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes this morning open with a very quiet trade. America is very reserved, but India offers more freely than expected. Maize has taken a firmer turn, but oats are depressed. Linseed cargoes are held for a slight advance.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—White Calcutta, 32s 6d per 492lb. on passage; red Calcutta, 31s 6d per 492lb. on passage; white Delhi, 32s 6d per 492lb. on passage; white Kurrachee, 32s per 492lb. on passage; white Kurrachee, 31s 6d per 492lb. prompt shipment; white Kurrachee, 31s per 492lb. August shipment; Santa Fe, 31s per 480lb. on passage; Barletta, 30s 9d per 480lb. on passage; Roumania, 30s per 492lb. new crop, September shipment; No. 3 Northern Manitoba, 32s per 480lb. prompt shopment.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 20s per 400lb prompt shipment; Odessa, 17s per 400lb. new crop, September shipment; Persian, 18s per 400lb. new crop, prompt shipment; Californian, 24s per 448lb. new crop, September shipment.

OATS.—Viatka, 14s 3d per 304lb. prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s 9d per 480lb. nearly due; American, 23s 3d per 480lb; nearly due; American, 23s per 480lb, just sailed.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 40s 6d per 416lb, arrived; Calcutta, 41s 6d per 480lb, arrived; Bombay, 42s per 416lb, August shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Calcutta, 40s 1½d per 377lb, July shipment; Bombay, 40s 6d per 337lb, July shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, 6s per 112lb July shipment.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies of new qualities were forthcoming, and the demand proved of a fair character. Old potatoes, 60s to 70s per ton. New: Jersey, 5s 6d to 6s; St. Malo, 5s to 5s 6d; Cherbourg, 5s; and Teneriffe, 7s to 8s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance. In the retail market new potatoes were making 1d to 1½d per lb. but no old ones were on offer.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—New descriptions are arriving in larger quantities, and meet a generally fair demand. Scottish Maincrops, 70s to 75s; and Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s per ton. New: English, 5s 6d to 6s; Canary, 10s; Jersey, 6s to 6s 6d; St. Malo, 5s to 5s 6d; Cherbourg, 5s to 5s 6d per cwt.; Lisbon, 4s per box.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough High Street, London, report:—The market must be quoted weak in consequence of favourable report from the plantations. There has been again a great falling off in the imports, and an increase in the exports during the past month. The imports of hops from January 1 to June 30, 1905, were, 32,286 cwts., less foreign hops reshipped for same period, 6,102 cwts.—Total, 26,184 cwts. The imports of hops for the same period last year were, 95,776 cwts., less foreign hops reshipped, 2,660 cwts.—Total, 93,116 cwts. The exports of British and foreign hops for the month of June, 1905, were, 1,849 cwts.; for the corresponding period last year, 614 cwts.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Jul[illegible] 1905. Monday, July [illegible], 1904.

	British.	Total.	British.	Total.
Beasts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sheep and Lambs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Calves	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Milch Cows	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal) :—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second	First
Beasts	3s 0d	3[illegible]	4[illegible]
Sheep	4s 2d	5s 0d	6s 4d
Lambs	5s 4d	[illegible]	6s 4d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals included as follows: Scotland [illegible] Western Counties, 88; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 64; Devon, 15; Ireland, 104.

We note to-day a decrease of 210 head in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day, compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Midland Counties. The Irish consignments consisted of Dublin Shorthorns and Waterfords (no store cattle being on offer). The former cleared at good money. Trade for Irish cattle of both prime and second quality was of a slow nature, nevertheless late rates governed all transactions. There was a good demand by both town and country buyers for fat butchering cows and bulls, consequently late rates were well maintained.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, July 11, 1904.
Scotch	4s 6d to 4s 8d	—
Devons	—	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Runts	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 0d to 4s 3d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 6d ex 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 1,190 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a firm and steady nature at an advance of 2d. per 8lbs in value. The Irish season being now fairly well established trade ruled firm, an early clearance being made. Both Scotch and Yorkshire sheep shared in the generally better trade experienced and the rise in value. English lambs being slightly in excess of the demand favoured the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8lbs. on last Thursday's rates. A clearance will be made in this part of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned :—

	To-day.	Monday, July 11, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Scotch	5s 8d to 5s 10d	—
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d ex 5s 10d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
9 st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Yorkshires	4s 6d to 4s 8d	—
12 st Lincolns	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
9 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	6s 6d to 6s 8d
6st Half-bred Lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	6s 0d to 6s 2d

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies; trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; English, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; American, 3s 5d to 3s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, wethers, 4s 6d to 5s 8d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; English, wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 5d to 3s. English lamb, 5s to 6s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal, 2s 8d to 4s 4d. Pork, 3s 8d to 4s 2d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 272; sheep and lambs, 2,260; pigs, 70. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 7s 7d to 9s 4d; lamb, 8s to 10s; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 6d; fat and store cattle, sheep and pigs fair demand; milch cows short supply, fair demand; prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 747.—To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 71 head, and consisted of 642 from the United States and 105 from Canada. Trade was of a much slower nature, at a decline in value. The best States on offer to dress about 720 lb., made from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d; Canadians, 3s 10 to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8 lb. (sinking the offal). On Saturday, 1,026 beasts from the United States and 150 from Canada were offered for sale, and, with a firm and steady trade, were quoted at from 4s 1d to 4s 3d for the former, and from 3s 11d to 4s 1d for the latter. Besides the above, 350 more were withheld for Monday.

Liverpool, Monday.—Demand good for cattle, and prices rather better than last week. Sheep trade slow, heavy sorts in particular being difficult to sell, except at much lower prices. Handy weights, however, were not quotably lower. Lambs, good selling trade; top quotations more general. Beef, 6½d to 5d; mutton, 8½d to 6d; lamb, 9d to 8d per lb. At market, 711 cattle and 10,015 sheep.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—With good prospects in general for the growing crops there is an entire absence of speculation; business is consequently at the standstill usual at this time of the year. There is an increasing inquiry for rape and mustard; prices unchanged.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The [illegible] last week were From Ireland, 1,855 bales; and from foreign ports, [illegible]. The bacon market was steadier last week, [illegible] parcels of bacon being cleared. Prices ranging: Irish, 56s to 56s up to 71s; Danish, 50s to 56s up to 64s; Canadian, 48s to 51s up to 56s. Butter: The butter market was firm and dearer—French, 94s to 104s up to 105s; Danish, 109s to 112s; Russian, 88s to 98s; Irish, 91s to 106s; Canadian, 96s to 104s; Colonials, 96s to [illegible]; Argentine, 86s to 100s. Lard: The lard market was quiet; Irish, 34s to 50s; Danish, 46s to 48s; American, 34s 6d to 36s 6d.

WOOL.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A small [illegible] offer experienced a brisk demand at [illegible] quotations. Best clover, 75s to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 85s; good [illegible] 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 60s to 75s; straw, 35s to 42s per load.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At Islington, on the chief market day of the week, namely, Monday, trade was of a decidedly slower nature, rates ruling in favour of the buyer in some cases to the extent of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb., notwithstanding a decrease in the number offered for sale. The majority of the supply was drawn from the Midlands, consisting of grass-fed Herefords and Runts. A few Scotch cattle cleared early in the day, and commanded our top quotation. Irish were in full supply, and consisted of 85 Dublins (out of which were 10 Black Polled beasts), 26 Waterfords, and 28 store cattle; these latter, owing to their meeting with no enquiry, were quite unquotable. Fat buchering cows and bulls were in fair average number, and met with a slow but firm trade, late currencies governing all transactions. On Thursday the supply consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and rough cattle, trade for which was slow, nevertheless late rates were fairly well maintained. Trade throughout the week at Deptford was firm, prices being well upheld, with the exception of Wednesday. The total number of beasts offered for sale on both market days was 4,301, as against 4,513 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,100 British (decrease 110) and 3,201 foreign (decrease 102), these latter comprising 2,603 from the United States and 598 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Scotch 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d., 80 to 90 stone Black Polled Dublins 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., 90 to 95 stone Herefords 4s. 8d., 95 stone Runts 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d., 90 stone Norfolks 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d., 100 stone Shorthorns 3s. 10d. to 4s., 95 stone Irish 4s. to 4s. 3d., 90 stone States 4s. 1d. to 4s. 3d., 95 stone Canadians 3s. 11d. to 4s. 1d., 90 stone fat cows 3s. 8d. The sheep trade at Islington on both market days was of a slow but steady nature, rates being well upheld; ewes, on the other hand met with very little enquiry, consequently 2d. less money had to be accepted to effect sales. Both Scotch and Yorkshire descriptions sold at late currencies. The lamb trade on the first market day of the week was of a fairly steady nature; on Thursday there was a short supply, anything small and choice finding ready purchasers at an advance in value of from 2d. to 4d. per 8 lb. No sheep on offer at Deptford. The total number penned was 5,670, as against 12,340 during the previous week, showing a decrease of 6,670. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d., 7 to 8 stone Scotch 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d., 9 stone Downs 5s. 4d., 10 stone Downs 5s. 2d., 10 stone halfbreds 5s. to 5s. 2d., ewes 3s. 10d. to 4s., 12 stone Lincolns 4s. 6d., 9 stone Yorkshires 4s. 6d., 5 stone fat Down lambs 6s. 4d., 6 stone halfbred ditto 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. (offal given in).

Calves numbered 100, and met with a slow trade on both market days, the best being quoted at from 5s. to 5s. 2d. per 8 lb.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather less. For good quality, nice weighted, cattle, a better trade has been experienced at an advance of 10s. per head, heavy weighted bullocks being without change. Sheep have been shown in moderate numbers. These have met a fair trade at rather better prices than last week. No advance can, however, be quoted in the price of heavy-weighted ewes. A good supply of lambs on offer and everything of nice quality made rather more money. Calves not quite so plentiful, and prices were unchanged. A smaller show of pigs, and they met a worse inquiry at rather lower prices. There was a moderate supply of store cattle. These met a very dragging trade, and a considerable number were left unsold. Sheep also in short supply, and a clearance was effected without change in price. Milch cows a fair show, and a rather better trade was experienced at slightly higher prices. Quotations: top price of best cattle per five cwt., 38s. 9d.; current from 35s. to 36s. 6d.; mutton to 8¼d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a small decrease in the supplies of both cattle and sheep at last Thursday's Dublin market, and, with a larger company of shippers and a good attendance of home buyers, trade was firmer than the previous week, though it could not be said that there was any quotable advance in prices. The better inquiry was mainly due to the Manchester men, and to the stocks of Scotch and English beasts being pretty well exhausted, so that Irish grass-fed beef is now coming in for its turn, and it is expected that for the future it will meet with a good sale, as being preferred by the English Eastern Counties' buyers. There was an early clearance in anything good in the way of bullocks and heifers, prime ox and heifer beef making from 52s. 6d. to 55s., and extra up to 56s. and 58s. per cwt.; good second quality, from 46s. to 50s.; and other sorts, from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. Good dairy-fed cows met with a better demand, but it was difficult to find buyers for the rougher kinds. The trade for sheep showed no improvement on the previous market. There were very few really prime wethers on offer, and these went off steadily, but the buying for export hoggets was very slow and dragging. Heavy and coarse sheep met with very dull sale, and a number of pens were left over unsold at the close of the day. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d. per lb., ewe from 6d. to 7d., and inferior from 5d. per lb. Hoggets sold from 32s. for small, light, up to 56s. each for large, heavy. The demand for lambs was fairly brisk for those in good condition, which sold at from 35s. to 40s. each, but small, thin lambs were quite neglected. On the whole, however, the lamb market ruled in favour of sellers. Veal of prime quality made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb. readily, but inferior was difficult to move at from 5d. upwards.

Milch cows were in rather small supply, but quite equal to the demand, which was weak for all classes. The best springers were worth from £18 to £21 each, while other sorts could be bought from £8 to £17. Rain not having come so generally, or in such quantity, as to improve the pastures, graziers complain of the shortness of the grass throughout the country, and the store cattle trade suffers in consequence. At the Dublin market on Thursday only a few calves and stirks were offered for sale, but there was little demand for them. Messrs. Ganly, Sons, and Co. had a sale of 600 head, which were all sold at fairly satisfactory prices. At the Dublin Pig Market last Thursday there was a good supply of fat swine and a fair attendance of home buyers and shippers. Owing to cheaper English markets, the latter bid lower prices than last day, and, their lead being followed by home buyers, values underwent an all-round fall of from 1s. to 2s. per cwt., but a good clearance was effected. Choice light-weight pigs made from 49s. to 50s., and some fancy lots up to 52s. per cwt.; heavy pigs 45s. to 49s., and coarse from 30s. per cwt. upwards.

Wool has been selling, for the last month, at higher rates than across Channel, but buyers here have now reduced prices accordingly. Ordinary mixed wools sell at 12d. to 13d., and Shrop. and Down wool 13d. to 13½d. per lb.

Trade in the West.

With keep again fairly plentiful everywhere, there have been only very moderate deliveries of store cattle at most of the markets, but sheep have been much more plentifully offered. There has been a very restricted inquiry for cattle, only the most useful descriptions being wanted, and for these there has been a fair trade at prices once again approximating the old level, from £28 to £32 having been made at several of the principal centres for really good grazing beasts, ranging down to £22 for animals showing promise; but for poor quality beasts there has been practically no sale, in spite of the fact that many pasture fields, which have already been cleared now, offer far more abundant keep than is often the case, so soon after the first crop being cleared. Consequently, it is more a question of money than of keep that is now influencing trade. Business in the milch beast line is even more stagnated, except for the very best, which is the only class at all saleable at anything like a price, which only in very rare cases bring over £21 apiece, a more general average for the very best type of either heifers or cows with calves being from £16 to £20; secondary heifers, and anything showing age in cows being a very dragging business all through at widely varying prices, some making as much as £15 apiece, and anything very rough as low as £10. The inquiry for two and three-year-old heifers continues unabated, with prices still hardening, the more forward lots bringing as much as £15 to £16 apiece in extreme cases, though the more ordinary runs may be more accurately quoted as making from £10 10s. to £14 10s. apiece, and everything offering is eagerly caught up on terms given, whilst older, but still useful, dairy beasts are much neglected, if not altogether overlooked. Sheep are meeting a very good sale indeed, and, though some flock-masters in view of the favourable season and the general shortage that exists expected to make rather more money, still, with the prices now ruling, especially by those realised at Dorchester Fair on Thursday, the trade cannot by any means be considered unsatisfactory when ewes make, for good useful drafts, from 47s. to 55s. or 56s. apiece, and from 43s. to 46s. for secondary descriptions—all, however, being suitable for flock purposes. Good grazing ewes are also selling very well at from 34s. to 40s. apiece, and, with the improved keep prospects—both for grass and roots—this class of sheep, with the season continuing favourable, will possibly be dearer rather than cheaper at no very distant date, though, of course, a good deal will depend upon how the roots turn out later on. Lambs were exceptionally dear at Dorchester, making from 28s. to 38s. 6d. apiece; and wether sheep were almost dearer than anything else, making 48s. to 51s. At present, however, the prospect for store sheep is distinctly promising. The trade all round at Dorchester showed a marked improvement, a rise of from 1s. to 2s. a head being realised on all classes of sheep. The whole of the 13,000 or 14,000 sheep and lambs penned were bought up with the greatest avidity, keener competition not having been experienced for a very long time past. Store pigs still keep at their full value, and heifer calves are as difficult to obtain as ever.

Fat bullocks of a good type, grass-fed steers, and heifers, about maintained their value, but that is all, and it is only the very neatest weights that make 11s. per score and over. Secondary qualities sell anything but freely at 9s. 6d. to 10s. 3d.; whilst heavy weights and coarse contract bullocks are a great drug on the market at as low a figure as 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. per score. The beef trade is all the more disappointing in the face of the comparatively limited number of really prime beasts at present offering, the great bulk consisting of animals of very questionable quality. But the hot weather is no doubt the most adverse factor that has to be reckoned with; and this is affecting the calf trade, even more so than the beef, for coarse weights and vealers—those selling from £5 to £6 apiece ad over—have dropped back to 7d. and less, whilst the neatest weights now seldom bring over 8d. The mutton trade, if anything, is even worse than it has been all along, old ewes and overfed sheep only with difficulty making 6d. to 6½d. per lb., if as much; and buyers are cautious, even at this low price. For small wethers and neat-handling ewes there is some demand—in fact, very little else is wanted—prices ranging from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., and most is cleared on these terms. Lambs, too, met a very poor sale, prices having declined a good bit from what they were; 10d. now is the top, and plenty of good lamb only makes 9d. to 9½d. Small pigs keep up in value.

LONDON.

Central, Friday.—Large supplies were available, and met with better support at steady rates. Beef arrivals included 80 tons Scotch, 520 Liverpool sides, 2,600 hind quarters and 1,850 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,300 Argentine chilled hindquarters. Beef quotations:—Scotch short sides 4s 4d to 4s 8d, long sides 4s to 4s 2d, English 3s 10d to 3s 11d, American (Deptford killed) 3s 6d to 3s 9d, Liverpool sides 3s 5d to 3s 8d, American refrigerated hindquarters (best) 3s 10d to 4s 1d, forequarters 2s 4d to 2s 5d, New Zealand hindquarters 2s 3d to 2s 5d, forequarters 1s 7d to 1s 8d, River Plate hindquarters 2s 2d to 2s 3d, forequarters 1s 6d to 1s 7d, Argentine chilled hindquarters 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Mutton: Scotch tegs 5s 2d to 5s 6d, extreme 5s 8d, ditto wethers 4s 6d to 5s 4d, ewes 3s 6d to 3s 8d, English wethers 4s 6d to 5s, ewes 3s 4d to 3s 8d, New Zealand 2s 5d to 3s, River Plate (frozen) 2s to 2s 3d, Dutch wethers 4s 6d to 4s 10s, ewes 3s 8d. Lamb: English 5s to 5s 8d, extreme 6s 4d, New Zealand 3s 6d to 3s 10d, Dutch 4s 8d to 5s 2d. Veal: English and Dutch 3s to 4s 4d, Irish 2s 8d. Pork: Town killed 3s 8d to 4s 2d, country 3s 8d to 4s, Dutch 3s 8d to 4s per 8 lb.

Metropolitan, Thursday.—The supply of beasts consisted of fat butchering cows and bulls. Trade was slow but steady, last week's quotations being well maintained. Top value:—Fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; exceptionally fat bulls, 3s to 3s 3d per 8lb. Decrease of 670 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and half-breds, no Scotch or Yorkshire sheep being offered. Trade for both wethers and ewes was fairly steady, but Monday's money governing all sales. Lambs were in very short supply, and made from 2d to 4d per 8lb more money. Best pens made 8lb as follows:—7½st to 8st down sheep 5s 6d, extreme 5s 8d; 9st ditto, 5s 4d; 10st ditto, 5s 2d; 10st half-breds, 5s 2d; 10st down ewes, 4s; 12st Lincolns, 4s 6d; 5st fat down lambs, 6s 8d; 6st half-bred ditto, 6s to 6s 2d. Full supply of calves, which met very limited demand. Quotations for 8lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 3s to 3s 8d; sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; calves, 3s 6d to 5s 2d; lambs, 5s 4d to 6s 8d. Total supply:—Beasts, 30; sheep and lambs, 2,420; calves, 80.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Market being dull made beef cheaper all round, best making 4s 4d to 4s 8d, and cows about 4s; best mutton unchanged up to 5s 2d, but heavy Kent wethers 2d cheaper at 4s 8d to 5s 2d; barrens, 3s 8d to 4s; veal, 4d cheaper; roasting pigs almost unsaleable and down to 3s 4d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of thirty-three fat beasts, 68 calves, 515 fat sheep and lambs, 68 pigs, and 101 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, £28 15s to £30 10s; fat calves, 65s to £5; small, 30s to 50s; fat porkers, 28s to 37s; store pigs, 12s 6d to 27s; dairy cows, £11 15s to £24; fat Down wethers and ewes 50s to 56s; small, 44s to 48s; old ewes, 35s to 38s; Exmoor ewes, 35s 6d; six months old lambs, fat, 38s to 40s; small, 30s to 36s; three months old sucking lambs up to 30s. The show of fat beasts included some quality Shorthorns and Devons, which were mostly cleared at last week's figures. Lower prices had to be taken for fat sheep and fat lambs, the reduction being the most in ewes and half-fat wethers. The best class milch cows were in demand, and were easily sold at high prices; secondary sorts met a dull trade. Store cattle remain a quiet

business. Fat calves realised less money. Fat porkers a short supply, with no alteration in prices. Store pigs met a brisk trade. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6½d to 7¼d., ditto Shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5¾d per lb.; best fat sheep, 8d to 8½d; second ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, etc., 5½d to 6d; choice sucking lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb.; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb; fat porkers, 8s to 9s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—There was a very small show of cattle, only 165 beasts being penned, as against 343 the previous week. The attendance of farmers and buyers was small, quality of stock medium, and trade slow. Calves, £6 10s; heifers, £8 10s; stirks, £7 10s to £9 15s; two-year-olds, £11 15s; shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade fair for bacon pigs. Trade slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5d to 6½d; Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb.; lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 8d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 4d to 9s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 4d to 9s 6d per score; sows, 6s 10d to 7s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market to-day was quiet and prices ruled much the same as last week. There was a moderate supply of beef, and trade was dull at late rates; whilst for mutton, which was in average quantity, there was a fair demand. Best wethers advanced ½d., whilst lambs receded ½d per lb. There was a limited number of pigs, and values declined 3d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in Price per Sc. any part of Back.	s.	d.
8sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under	9	3
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9	3
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in. ...	8	9
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	8	3

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Yearlings of rough quality were offered to-day at £5 5s, and others of better quality up to £7 and £8. Two-year-olds, forward in condition, were worth from £10 10s to £13 10s; milch cows, £14 to £16.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish cattle on the Sands showed a considerable falling off, and there being very few buyers, the market was exceptionally dull, and trade dragging. Small heifers were quoted at £6 10s to £8 10s, while the best sorts made up to £12 10s each.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Fat cattle met a better trade at 2d to 4d per stone advance on last fortnight's prices, and dairy cattle sold well at fully 30s per head more money. The show of grazing cattle was not very good as regards quality, and consequently trade was rather dull. Quotations: Beef, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; Southdown mutton, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; West country mutton, 5s to 6s 2d; veal, 5s to 5s 4d; pork, 4s 2d to 4s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone of 8lbs; mutton, 5s 4d to 5s 8d per stone; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score; lamb, 6s to 6s 4d per stone. There was a poor supply all round. Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade report a short supply of fat beasts, which met a beter trade; neat quality cattle wanted. An average supply of fat sheep, for which the trade was firm. Pork trade dull on account of hot weather. Large entry of lambs, which sold fairly well.

Doncaster, Saturday—Very meagre supply of cattle owing to the continue dry weather, and trade only nominal; prices unchanged. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £4 to £6 each. Average supply of sheep, and the pastures having gone off the demand suffered, hoggs making 38s. to 46s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Full average supplies at to-day's market, but trade was quiet in several departments. Best wether mutton sold at 7½d to 8d per lb., and heavy coarse sheep 6½d to 7d. Choice lambs up to 10d, and secondary sorts 9d. Calves made 8½d for the best; heavier animals 7d to 8d. Small weight pigs made 9s to 9s 6d per score; medium baconers, 8s 6d to 9s; heavy pigs, 7s to 8s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—At the cattle market, considering the fair on Thursday and also that Blandford wool sale clashed with the fair, there were very good offers of stock and a good business was done, milch cows generally making a better sale, the day's range for the best being from £16 to £19, and for seconds, from £11 to £15. Barreners brought from £21 to £33 10s per pair in one case. Good inquiry for fat beasts, from £18 to £22 each, for heifers and steers (or 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £15 10s to £17 15s each (or 10s per score); fat bulls, £11 15s to £21 10s each (or 8s to 9s). Mutton met a fair sale at fully late rates; fat ewes selling from 46s 6d to 50s each (or 7d per lb); wethers, 49s to 52s; and lambs were a trifle more inquiry, 34s 6d to 44s 6d. To-day's market sales were conducted by Messrs. Duke and Son and by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 1,718 (decrease 43); sheep 10,168 (decrease 480); calves 27 (decrease 12). The choicer qualities of cattle met an improved demand and realised somewhat better prices. Other sorts were easier, sold at last week's rates. Sheep, slow trade at unaltered prices. Lambs easier sold; choice qualities making a shade more money. Cattle: Live weight (best), 31s to 33s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s. to 30s per cwt. Mutton: (deadweight), 5½ to 7½ per lb. Lambs, 16s to 38s.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Cheviot Dinmonts, 38s to 40s; hoggs, 32s to 34s; cross sheep, 34s to 36s; black faced, 20s to 25s; horned bullocks, £13 10s; polled cattle, £13; stirks, £8 17s 6d; Shorthorn cows, £21 to £24 10s; cross cows, £20 to £23 per head.

Exeter, Friday.—Small supply of cattle, but sufficient for the demand; tendency to lower prices; 11s to 11s 3d top price for heifers and steers; cows, 9s to 10s, some unsold. Owing to the hay harvest the supply of sheep was very small; quiet trade at late rates; hogs, 7½d; very small ones, 8d; lambs, in wool, 10d; shorn, 9d; ewes, 6d; calves, 7d to 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Demand fair and prices firm. Best hoggs, clipped, 9d; current, 8d to 8½d; best lambs, 9d per lb.; top Scotch cattle, extreme 64s, current 58s to 60s per cwt. There was a moderate demand for dead meat, and prices were steady. Best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d; best Canadian, 5½d to 5¾d; best cows, 5d per lb. At market: Cattle 694, sheep and lambs 4,562.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—A very short supply of both cows and calves and store cattle, with a small attendance of buyers and very little change in prices.

Hereford, Wednesday.—This was a July fair, but none of the Hereford fairs are now of greater importance than the weekly cattle markets, excepting October and Easter, and there was the smallest market since the new year. The beef trade was rather better, particularly for the best ox and heifer, the top price being fully 6¼d per lb; fat cows, 5d to 5½d. The sheep were quite a small supply of all sorts, compared with late markets, and trade looked up, wethers being 8d and ewes 6d to 7d per lb. Lambs were decidedly dearer, Birmingham buyers sharpening the demand for the small supply, which averaged 9d per lb. The veal trade also showed an improvement at 7d to 7½d per lb. The weather and a large supply were unfavourable to the pork trade at 5d to 5½d per lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a shorter supply of fat cattle which sold freely, prices an upward tendency, ranging from 2s 7d to 7s 5d per stone. Grazing cattle were forwarded in smaller numbers; there was a fair demand at last week's prices; Polled Steers, twenty months old, in good condition, £11 12s 6d; Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns, twenty to eighteen months, £10 15s to £9 7s 6d; Red Polls, sixteen months, £9 2s 6d to £8 17s 6d; growing steers, £7 10s to £6. At the special sale of dairy stock fifty cows and heifers were offered. There was a large attendance of buyers and better prices were realised. About twenty fresh calved Shorthorn heifers were well competed for and realised from £20 10s to £15. The best cows made from £20 15s to £17. A large entry of lambs, which sold freely at an advance of about 2s per head; Suffolk ewe lambs to 40s; wether ditto, 35s 6d; first-cross ewe lambs, 36s 6d; wethers, 32s 6d; halfbreds to 31s; Southdowns, 30s 6d to 33s 6d. Fat sheep were in fair demand at recent values. Fat swine sold freely at rather more money. Numbers at sales and market: 604 cattle, 2,766 sheep, 862 swine.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger consignments of home-bred bullocks. Trade ruled sluggish at a decline of fully 20s per head all round. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn cattle, £12 to £15; choice Irish bullocks, £18 to £19; good lots, £13 to £14 10s; Welsh cattle, £10 to £14; young stock, £5 to £7; and calves, 20s to 40s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small show of horned stock, and a slow trade. Young beasts made £8 to £10, and older ones up to £18 per head. No sheep or pigs were for sale.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade slow at 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Very few store beasts sold at £6 to £11 each. Smaller show of fat sheep, trade slow at about 8s 9d to 9s per stone. Store sheep few, prices 39s to 45s each. Store lambs 25s to 32s, fat lambs 25s to 35s each.

Norwich, Saturday.—Prices for store beasts, which were offered in small numbers, were practically unchanged, and trade dull. Fat beasts were quoted at 7s 6d to 8s; store and fat sheep averaged 9s. Store sheep in good supply, but met with slow trade, lambs fetching 20s to 36s, and shearing ewes 48s to 69s per head; trade not brisk. Good demand for fat pigs, at 5s 6d to 6s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Owing to the hay harvest there was very little shown this week, and prices were about the same as last. Very few store cattle were offered.

Retford, Saturday.—There was a demand for really first-class milch cows, which were scarce, and worth £18 to £20; secondary, £15 to £16; two-year-old, steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 40s to 45s each.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in average supply, and trade about the same. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in average supply, trade slow at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade a little better; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes a slow trade, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply, trade better at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Short supply of pigs; trade lower.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a smaller supply of stock; no doubt on account of haymaking operations. The attendance of buyers was fully up to the average, and there was a decidedly better trade for cattle, cows being in better demand. Sheep were a brisk trade throughout, being dearer than on any previous market this season, realising fully 2d per stone more money. Good supply of veal at late prices. Bacon and pork, small supply, sold freely. Store calves and pigs easier. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 65 fat beasts, 299 fat and store sheep, 54 fat and weaning calves, and 59 bacon pigs, porkets, and stores. Fat heifers made from £15 to £19 10s; fat oxen, £16 to £21 12s 6d; fat wether sheep, 45s to 64s; fat ewes, 40s to 50s; fat lambs, 31s to 40s; fat calves, £3 to £4 13s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 15s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 to £4 15s; porkets, 26s to 38s; store pigs, 10s to 19s 6d.

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £17 each; rearing calves, 25s to 45s; wethers, 7½d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 8s 6d to 50s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply all round; fair trade for best. Beef, 5½d to 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, with trade exceptionally brisk for mutton. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 9d per stone; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s; best Southdown and crossbreds, 8d to 8½d; prime hoggs, to 9d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; lamb, 10d to 11d per lb.

York, Thursday.—A very small show of Irish and English store cattle, which more than equals the demand, as the continued drought makes buyers very dubious. Only a few sales were effected, and these were at a shade less money. Quotations are impossible. A smaller show of both calving and milch cows, and of rather inferior quality, but there was a slight improvement all round in this department. Nice young fit cows sold well for £17 to £20 per head, and in a few cases up to £21 10s. A nice class of newly calved cows could be bought from £16 to £18, a general advance of about 10s. a head being recorded for in-calving cows. Only a very poor show of sheep. Twice-crossed hoggs, 40s. to 46s. each; crossbreds, 30s to 38s.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The hop plant continues to grow very satisfactorily.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our plantation reports continue favourable. Some small growers are now disposed to meet the market, and 28 pockets have been weighed this week, prices for best sorts being fairly maintained. Inferior samples are not so firm.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Sheffield, Saturday.—A fairly good demand met a good supply. Prices:—Goslings, 4s to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d: Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 4s; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 5d to 1s 9d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 1s to 1s 2d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 6d to 7d; live hens, 1s 5d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 8s per dozen.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: Two steamers are [illegible] from Buenos Ayres, 90 qr Harlingen, 1,[illegible] qr Rotterdam, 1,000 qr Libau, 1,000 qr Riga, [illegible] qr Petersburg, total, 21,945 qr. Shipments were during June 9,[illegible] as follows: Plate, 3,[illegible] qr Libau, [illegible] qr Riga, 24,000 qr Continent, Calcutta, [illegible] qr Libau, Russian, 7,[illegible] qr London, 1,000 qr Hull, [illegible] qr Continent, total, 64,000 qr. Linseed dull, and prices somewhat lower. Plate: spot and afloat, 38s 9d sellers; May-June, 38s, sellers; July-August, 38s 6d the quotation. Cottonseed: The demand has been slow during the past week, prices ruled steady. Spot, Egyptian, [illegible] £5 10s net, without further sellers under £5 13s 9d. A few hundred tons July changed hands at £5 15s, [illegible] £5 16s 3d, and £5 18s 9d remains asked for Nov-Jan. Bombay done at £4 17s 3d, £4 17s 6d June-August, and latter price accepted to-day Aug.-Sept. Oil-seed cakes: Linseed: Firm, unchanged. Cotton: Easy, unaltered. Bombay, 2s 6d per ton lower. Tea pasture: relatively low prices should soon improve the demand, maize being about £5 10s per ton, and other feeding stuffs in similar ratio.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: A decline set in last week with India offering more freely, and now, as cargoes coming from the oil trade, prices are now nominal: Egyptian Calcutta London Spot 41s 3d, June-July 41s 6d, July-August 41s 9d. La Plata, June-July 41s. Rapeseed continues exceedingly quiet. Quotations are more or less nominal. Brown Cawnpore, June-July 26s 6d. Brown Calcutta, June-July 26s. Cottonseed: Egyptian has continued firm and better prices paid. London.—Spot £5 17s 6d, July £5 18s 9d, sellers, August £6, September (old) £6 1s 3d, November-January £5 1s 3d. Hull—Spot £5 16s 3d, July £5 18s 9d, November-January £6 1s 3d paid buyers. Oil Cakes:—Linseed cakes firm. London made £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Cotton cakes steady. London made £4 7s 6d to £4 10s. THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade rules dull and inanimate, with scarcely any business passing, while present high values continue to check the consumptive demand, and for the same reason there are practically no forward contracts being made, buyers and sellers being too far apart in their ideas. Russian are relatively best value at last week's prices. American are unchanged, attracting no attention. East India seed pures to arrive may be bought at late rates. London made continue to meet a dragging trade, although crushers would be willing to shade prices somewhat to effect sales. Cotton cakes: Egyptian are fairly plentiful on spot, in spite of the small shipments, but with only a poor inquiry quotations are unchanged. English move off quietly without alteration in value. Decorticated London made are temptingly offered at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while £6 17s 6d is demanded for American "Open Handle" brand, £6 16s for "Ley," and £6 7s 6d for meal. Rape cakes: Calcutta slightly cheaper; Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal: Only a limited quantity of White American is available in warehouse and for this an advance of 2s 6d is asked, with English makes again dearer: maize gluten meal is in good request at £5 10s per ton. Rice meal: Landed lots of Rangoon make £4 6s 3d to £4 7s 6d, but shippers do not offer in forward positions, and the market has a very firm tendency. Nitrate of soda is quiet at last week's price of £11 per ton ex quay. Locust beans are relatively a cheap cattle food at £5 per ton for whole and £5 10s for kibbled.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Russian, in bags	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
in mats	7 3 9	to 7 5 0
Calcutta ..... ex ship	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 6 7	to 4 8 9
..... Nov./April	4 10 0	
English	4 8 9	to 4 10 0
Bombay	3 17 6	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....		
" " " Meal.....	6 17 6	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17 6	to 6 10 0
" Meal "	6 7 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 7 6	to 5 [illegible]
American	5 10 0	
Maize Gluten Meal..... June Dec.	5 10 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
" .....ex warehouse	4 6 3	to 4 7 6
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	11 0 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 0 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

WOOL.

London, Tuesday.—There was a large attendance of both home and foreign buyers, and animated competition. The catalogues were mainly composed of crossbreds, the coarser qualities of which were in strong demand and realised an advance of 10 per cent. on May rates. On the finer grades and on slipes the rise was about 5 per cent. Merino wools commanded also an advance which may be quoted 5 per cent. on the average; good combing qualities realising often 7½ per cent. more than in May, but inferior and faulty sorts being only slightly dearer. Cape wools remained unchanged.—HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London, Saturday.—English—per pkge. of 240lb.—Fleeces, Southdown hoggs, £1 1s to £[illegible]; half-bred hoggs, £1 1s to £15 5s; lots wethers, £11 10s to £13. Kent fleeces, £12 to £12 10s; Southdown ewes and wethers, £1[illegible] to £15 15s. Leicester lots, £[illegible] to £[illegible]. Cape—per lb. Vic., fleece super, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 4d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s greasy average to fair, 1s 1d to 1s 5d. N.S.W., scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11d to 1s 1d. S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 1s 3d. S.Z., scoured fine to 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 10d to 11d. Cape, scoured super, 1s 8d to 1s 10d. fleece [illegible] 1s 3d to 1s 4d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d. Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 1s [illegible] 2½d. Queensland—Very good to super, 1s 8d to 1s 9d. New Zealand—fine 1s 3d to 1s 5d; ditto medium, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; inferior coarse, 1s 1d to 11d.

Belfast Horse and Sheep Show.

The annual horse and sheep show, under the auspices of the Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, was held last week, and the entries in horses were slightly in excess of last year, while as regards quality the standard has in some respects been improved on.

In the class for thoroughbred stallions to get high-class hunters or harness horses there was a very good representation. The palm of merit was awarded to Spook, a dark bay belonging to Mr. John J. Gilmour, Lisboy, Omagh. The class for half-bred stallions brought out six competitors, of which Mayboy, the property of Mr. Patrick Turley, Dechomet House, Castlewellan, was declared first. The same owner took third in this class with Astrologer II., a four-year-old bay of good points. The six-year-old chestnut roan Master Blair II., belonging to Mr. R. W. Needwill, Magherafelt, took second place. A nice group of five competed in the two-year-old Hackney stallion class, the Honourable Mrs. Ward, Old Colwyn, and County Down, carrying off first. Eight competitors invited the decree of the judges in the thoroughbred brood mare class. The Louisa of Lord Dunleath, Ballywalter, County Down, was the fortunate one among the lot, though there was little to choose between her and the Patience II. of Mr. Wm. Carr, Killyleagh, County Down, which took second place. The award for best foal was deservedly carried off by Mr. Charles Dundee, Ballycarry, County Down. There was a numerous array in the class for hunter-breeding brood mares, other than thoroughbred, with foal at foot, and the chief honours went to Mr. P. Turley, Castlewellan, whose five-year-old chestnut, Nora, took first place both for herself and foal—the Deramore Challenge Cup and two gold medals. Lucy Grey, the property of Mr. R. G. Nash, Finnstown, Lucan, County Dublin, took second place. Right Honourable Frederick Wrench, Ballybrack, took premier award in the class for Hackney brood mares with Bright Gartin Duchess, a chestnut, eight years old, of much distinction, and very finely bred. The Flora of Sir H. H. Smiley, Bart., was a good second. There was a gratifyingly numerous competition for the rosette in the case of the important class of thoroughbred yearlings, a handsome lot of eight having to be inspected. Mr. H. D. M. Barton, the Bush, Antrim, won with an elegant bay colt out of Cyanine Blue by St. Aidan, and second honours were the lot of Mr. Charles Dundee, Ballycarry, for his brown colt out of Costabelle by Toison d'Or. An even more numerous group appeared in the class for yearlings other than thoroughbred, from which was selected as best the chestnut colt of Mr. Wm. Savage, Leggamaddy, County Down. Sir H. H. Smiley, Bart., again won distinction in the two-year-old Hackneys with Inver Princess, a very handsome chestnut filly. The three-year-olds were a well completed class, both in the case of those for harness and those for hunting purposes. Of the former Endora, a chestnut mare, entered by Mr. E. D. M'Naughtan, Parkside, Milnthorpe, Westmoreland, annexed the first prize. The extremely encouraging number of twenty-nine entries filled the list in the first section of the hunter class, that for four-year-olds up to 12 st. to 13 st. 7 lb., the judges selected for highest distinction an admirably set bay brown gelding Coropin, the property of Mr. J. Milling, Comber. Liscarroll, the second, belonging to the same owner, and likewise a bay-brown gelding, has many admirable points. In the heavier weight lot the palm fell to Mr. Anthony F. Maude, Hillsborough, whose Matchlock, a very pretty chestnut gelding, attracted much attention. Mr. Milling, Comber, was also to the fore in this class, winning second place with Lord Rosslea, a nice grey gelding. Of the top weights Mr. Patrick Meenan, Muckamore, produced the best in Patrician, a chestnut gelding of much fire and pace. Mr. N. Morton was second with Raratonga, a brown gelding. This owner was more successful in the light-weight five-year-olds, winning first place with Queen of the Bog, a well paced chestnut mare. In the heavier weights of same age he scored again with his bay gelding Look Out; and in the top weights of this aged class his Simplicity, a bay gelding, achieved premier distinction. The class for horses, cobs, and ponies was a good one, and well competed. The harness horses judged were an excellent lot. Miss Ella S. Ross, Beechfield, Sale, Cheshire, made a splendid turn out, and took first place in the double harness competition. Mr. Wm. M'Bride, North Street, Belfast, was a very good second. Of the single harness cobs, Colonel W. Moore, High Blantyre, N.B., was adjudged best, the same competitor taking second place.

Speaking generally the sheep were a distinct advance on last year, and this was especially the case in regard to the Border Leicester and Blackfaced sheep. There were 37 entries in the five classes reserved for the former, and one of the most successful exhibitor was Mr. Robert W. Bell, of Blackbridge, Hillsborough, who for the second time in succession carried off the challenge cup in the best group of Border Leicesters, in addition to securing first prizes for shearling ewe and ewe lamb, second for shearling lamb and ewe lamb, and third for shearling ram. Viscount Bangor's fine ram Tariff gained premier honours in his class, while Deuchrie Stamp, owned by Miss Carleton, Gilford Castle, was a good second. In the shearling ram class, which was the largest in the Border Leicester section, Major W. G. Forde, Seaforde, secured the scarlet card.

Shropshires were not so numerous, and the challenge cup for the best group was once more won by Mr. W. Lenox Naper, of Loughcrew, Oldcastle, who also bore off the special prize offered by the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association to the exhibitor winning the greatest number of points for prizes in this section. Blackfaced Mountain sheep numbered 61, nearly one-half of the total entry. The strongest class was that for shearling rams, in which there were sixteen entries, and here Mr. H. D. M. Barton, of The Bush, Antrim, one of the best known of northern exhibitors, secured the chief honours. He took the first prize with a splendid ram, which was also awarded the challenge cup, the reserve card going to Lieutenant-Colonel Lowry for his County Councillor. Mr. Barton further won the challenge cup presented by a few admirers of this breed of sheep for the best group of the shearling rams, and as he had previously gained this trophy in 1903 and 1904, it now becomes his property.

Shorthorn Society.

The annual general meeting of the Shorthorn Society was held in the Royal Agricultural Society's showyard at Park Royal, on Wednesday, June 28, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., President, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been approved and signed, the report of the Council was submitted.

In the interval between the last general meeting and the present twelve life members and twenty-one annual members have died; twenty annual members have withdrawn; twelve annual members have been removed by order of the Council, and twenty-five life members and eighty-three annual members have been elected.

The Society now consists of—

552 life members and
905 annual members,

making a total of 1,457 members on the register.

The accounts of the society for the past year have been examined and certified by the society's auditors, Messrs. Welton, Jones, and Co. An abstract of the cash account to the end of the year 1904, and a copy of the balance-sheet have recently been forwarded to the members. The balance in the hands of the society's bankers was, on the 1st inst., £745 0s. 10d. on the current account, and £1,300 on deposit, the society's reserve fund in the Consolidated Stock, valued at 85 per cent., being £7,650.

In moving the adoption of the report the President referred to the satisfactory trade in Shorthorns during the past year, the number of exportation certificates issued by the society being largely in excess of former years, and if the prices were not as high as was the case some years ago, he believed the trade was on a firmer basis. The society was in a good financial position, and they were offering this year nearly £1,000 in prizes.

Mr. W. J. Hosken had great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report, which he considered made very cheerful reading.

The report was thereupon adopted.

The scrutineers reported the election of the following gentlemen on the Council, to replace the seven gentlemen who retired and were not eligible for re-election until the expiration of one year. Mr. J. P. Cross, the Right Hon. F. J. Savile Foljambe, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. Joseph Harris, Mr. W. J. Hosken, Mr. C. H. Jolliffe, and Mr. W. Parkin-Moore.

On the motion of Mr. Henry Dudding, seconded by Mr. G. Harrison, Messrs. Welton, Jones, and Co. were re-elected auditors to the society.

Mr. A. M. Gordon, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the President, Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., for the very able discharge of his duties during the past year, said Sir Oswald had never allowed his own convenience to interfere with his duties, which he had carried out faithfully and diligently.

Mr. J. P. Cross seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Sir Oswald Mosley thanked the members for their kind vote of thanks and regretted that latterly his health had prevented his giving as much time to the society's work as he would have wished.

The meeting then terminated.

SALE OF MR. JONAS WEBB'S SHORTHORNS.

The successful sale at Riby was followed on Friday by another equally satisfactory one at Melton Ross, when a large portion of the well-known herd belonging to Mr. Jonas Webb was disposed of. Mr. John Thornton again officiated, and a splendid company of breeders had gathered round by the time the sale commenced. The stock, though not in quite so high condition as that at Riby, was brought out in capital breeding form, and met with splendid competition. The sale opened well, the old cows making good prices; but when lot 8, Duchess of Melton 3rd, came into the ring, bids came very quickly, and, at 100 gs., she became the property of Messrs. Dean and Sons, her red heifer calf, oddly enough, making exactly a similar amount to the same buyers. Messrs. Dean were frequent purchasers throughout, among their lots being a beautiful two-year-old heifer, Nancy Lea 2nd, at 85 gs., and a yearling, Melton Duchess Vittoria 3rd, at 75 gs. Mr. Henry Dudding gave the top price among the females for Melton Rose 2nd, a charming red yearling, for which he had to pay 115 gs. The bulls also made satisfactory prices. Lord Sandgrove 54th went to Mr. Kirkconnel at 85 gs. and Melton Baronet to Mr. Sanderson at 125 gs., while Mr. Wilkinson got a nice pair of young bulls at 35 gs. and 52 gs. All these, it was said, were bought for South America.

The following were the prices and buyers' names :—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Jennie 20th, red, c. January 2, 1895; s. Baron Oak 2nd 66678 ..... Mr. F. Miller	30
Lady Fawsley 22nd, red, c. October 16, 1895; s. Duke of Charmingland 78th 66932 .... Mr. F. H. Jennings	32
Melton Premium Rose, red, c. September 6, 1898; s. Wild Wilts 71879 ..... Mr. F. H. Jennings	54
Her red B.C., c. June 23, 1905; s. Lord Sandgrove 54th 83965 ..... Mr. F. H. Jennings	20
Cosford Grand Duchess 2nd, red and little white, c. December 6, 1898; s. Duke of York 15th 68547 Mr. F. H. Jennings	50
Her red B.C., c. December 10, 1904; s. Laureate 81433 Mr. F. Miller	20
Melton Duchess Vittoria 2nd, roan, c. October 7, 1899; s. Carlisle Wellington 74183 Messrs. Dean and Sons	45
Her roan B.C., c. May 22, 1905; s. Laureate 81433 Mr. J. Pears	19
Lady Margaret, red and little white, c. June 14, 1900; s. Roan Duke 75434 ..... Mr. W. Savage	24
Her r.l.w. B.C., c. April 15, 1905; s. Laureate 81433 Mr. W. Savage	13
Mona, red, c. August 17, 1900; s. Carlisle Wellington 74183 ..... Mr. F. Miller	80
Duchess of Melton 3rd, red, c. November 7, 1900; s. Carlisle Wellington 74183 .. Messrs. Dean and Sons	100
Her r.l.w. C.C., c. November 3, 1904; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	100
Melton Waterloo Belle, red, c. March 23, 1901; s. Carnoxford Knight 74184 ..... Mr. W. J. Brooks	20
Crewe Celia 3rd, red and little white, c. May 18, 1901; s. Oxford Cup 77374 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	20
Melton Vittoria, red and white, c. July 20, 1901; s. Ewerby King 76633 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	20
Lady Mary, red and little white, c. September 15, 1901; s. Jewel Star 76919.. Messrs. Dean and Sons	30
Her red C.C., c. January 27, 1905; s. Lord Sandgrove 54th 83965 ..... Mr. D. Taylor	41
Melton Vittoria 2nd, roan, c. December 15, 1901; s. Ewerby King 76633 ..... Lord Middleton	60
Melton Grand Duchess 2nd, red, c. November 3, 1902; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Mr. D. Taylor	70
Melton Surmise 2nd, red, c. March 13, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Mr. Poels	27
Melton Vittoria Belle 2nd, red roan, c. April 14, 1903; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Lady Fowler	36
Melton Vittoria Queen, red and little white, c. April 30, 1903; s. Laureate 81433... Messrs. Dean and Sons	38
Oxford Duchess of Melton 2nd, red, c. May 4, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Earl of Lathom	40
Mona's Bride, roan, c. June 15, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Mr. C. B. Firth	40
Nancy Lea 2nd, roan, c. May 20, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	85
Melton Rose 2nd, red, c. September 14, 1903; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Mr. H. Dudding	115
Melton Grand Duchess 3rd, red, c. November 19, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	37
Melton Henrietta, red roan, c. February 22, 1904; s. Count Archer 76424 ..... Mr. C. B. Firth	27
Melton Duchess Vittoria 3rd, roan, c. April 8, 1904; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	75
Melton Vittoria Belle 3rd, roan, c. July 1, 1904; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Mr. D. Taylor	29
Melton Vittoria 3rd, roan, c. August 18, 1904; s. Lord Sandgrove 54th 83965..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	40

BULLS.

Lord Sandgrove 54th 83965, red roan, c. February 7, 1902; s. Cader Idris 76279 .... Mr. H. Kirkconnel	85
Duke of Gloucester 85813, red, c. January 17, 1903; s. Lord Inverness 77067 ..... Mr. Wilkins	35
Melton Baronet 86602, red, c. April 2, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Mr. E. Sanderson	125
Melton Warden 86609, red, c. May 27, 1903; s. Oxford Duke of Melton 79517 ..... Mr. Poels	27
Melton Wild Duke, red, c. November 12, 1903; s. Waterloo Grand Duke 2nd 82596 .. Mr. Wilkinson	35
Lord Maynard, roan, c. November 27, 1903; s. Melton Victor 79409 ..... Mr. Wilkinson	52
Melton Duke of Leicester 5th, roan, c. May 27, 1904; s. Laureate 81433 ..... Mr. C. B. Firth	20
Melton Duke of Vittoria, roan, c. June 19, 1904; s. Lord Sandgrove 54th 83965 ..... Mr. J. Turner	20

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
29 Cows and heifers	55 15 6 ..	1,617 10 6
11 Bulls	42 5 9 ..	465 3 0
40 Head	52 1 4 ..	2,082 13 6

Live Stock Record.

THE WOOL TRADE.

The country wool fairs and London sales have commenced, and at market ordinaries and all promiscuous agricultural assemblies the talk runs on the generally good clip of fleeces which has been taken this year, and the gratifying fact that there is a rising tendency in market rates for wool. At the Shrewsbury annual auction over 35,000 fleeces were offered, the greater part of the Shropshire ones making from 1s. 1d to 1s. 2d. per lb. But Mr. Savage, of Woodhall, realised as much as 1s. 3¼d. per lb., or 35s. 7d. per tod. We have not as yet seen a higher rate than this reported; but at Northallerton, on the 29th ult., 15,000 fleeces were auctioned, and the best prices reached 32s. per tod, or 5s. per tod above the top rate at the corresponding auction last year.

There has been stagnant trade with Bradford manufacturers, who have been deterred from offering over 1s. per lb., because the demand which led to the recent advance came from the activity of American buyers, and they have been waiting to see whether there will be any change when this ceases. Moreover, although they expected some advance in rates at the London wool sales, they preferred to await their issue ere considering the higher level of prices to be on a settled permanent basis. Probably the high rates on Tuesday in last week at the first of the fourth series of Colonial wool sales will prove to them that, whether the American demand is speculative or justified by circumstances, it is not likely soon to cease. The better appreciation of wool at this London sale would appear to be quite equal to, if not greater than, what had been experienced at the previous English fairs. Compared with the closing rates of the previous auctions, there was a reported rise of fully 5 per cent. for fine and medium cross-breds, while for coarse cross-breds the advance was reported as fully 10 per cent.

The recent rise having brought up higher some varieties which were lagging previously, there is at present no great difference in the leading kinds of English wools as regards market rates. In the market circular of the Board of Agriculture the top rates for the chief kinds of washed wools per pound are thus given:—Lincoln, 1s. 1¼d.; Leicester, 1s. 1d.; Kent, 1s. 0¾d.; other Long-wool, 1s. 0½d.; Southdown, 1s. 2½d.; Hampshire, 1s. 1d.; Shropshire, 1s. 1¾d.; other Down, 1s. 0¾d.; half-bred, 1s. 1d.; Cheviot, 1s. 1d. But there is immense difference in the character of wools of the same denomination. All who have the slightest technical knowledge on this valuable textile commodity are well aware of this, and the fact could be readily discerned by all who had opportunity to inspect the exhibition of wools at the recent Park Royal Show. The object-lesson there disclosed was not, it is to be feared, studied so much or by so many, as it deserved to be; but there has always been proof that the wool of a flock admits of quite as much improvement by skilful breeding as its grazing property. Just as the employment of bulls from a deep-milking family generates progeny of excellent dairy character, or sires from early-maturity lineage by the law of heredity impart the same characteristic to offspring, is the Golden Fleece transmitted from one generation to another.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

A meeting of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society's Show Dates Committee was held at the Town Hall, Swindon, on Wednesday, in order to consider what would be the most suitable dates for the Society's 1906 Exhibition at Swindon. The Mayor presided, and it was unanimously resolved to recommend to the Society's Council that the exhibition be opened on Thursday, May 31, and closed on Whit Tuesday, June 5, a very strong opinion having been expressed by those well acquainted with the locality that these would be the most suitable dates for Swindon that could be selected.

The following sales were effected at the Royal Show last week from the Buscot Park herd: — One Berkshire boar, to H.R.H. Prince Christian; one boar and one gilt, to Mr. E. N. Casares, for exportation to South America; also ten shearling pedigree Hampshire Down ewes and ten ewe lambs, to Mr. C. Olivera, also for exportation to South America.

The steamship Moravian (Aberdeen Line) left London last Tuesday with some choice stock on board for Australia. Among them were three Suffolk colts, a number of Shorthorns, a Devon and a Dexter bull, as well as a thoroughbred stallion and a couple of pigs.

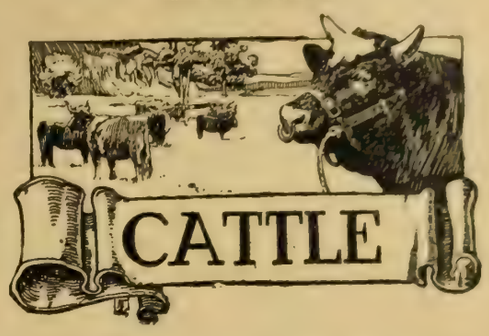
At a Council meeting of the Devon County Agricultural Association, held at Exeter, it was estimated that they would have very nearly £1,000 balance at the end of the year. So far as the late show was concerned, the total receipts were £3,431, and expenditure £2,760, leaving a profit of £671.

Mr. G. Harrison (Flock No. 42, Leicester Flock-Book) has sold three shearlings to Mr. Simonds for exportation to Tasmania. The sheep are very good specimens of Leicesters, with fine quality of wool, which is a desideratum with Tasmanian flockmasters. Mr. Harrison sold a ram three years ago for the same destination, and this is a repeat order, the previously exported sheep having given every satisfaction.

The Morsel Co., London, have purchased from Mr. Knowles, of Colston Bassett, from the Borrowfield herd, a very fine young boar for exportation to Russia. Mr. Knowles has also shipped from the Colston herd two boars and three gilts, including the prize-winning boar, Vanguard II., to Herr Wolfe, Eichenbronn-Rojairowa, Kreis, Rawitsch, Posen, Germany; also a boar to the order of Messrs. Schütt and Ahrens, of Stettin, for shipment to Russia; also two boars and three sows to the order of H. R. Hawkens, Esq., London, for shipment to Schleswig-Holstein, Germany; and the young boar, Borrowfield Duke of York V., who was first in his class at the late Suffolk Show. He was sold to a well-known breeder in Scotland.

Arrangements for the annual show in connection with the Staffordshire Agricultural Society, fixed for July 19 and 20, at Walsall, are rapidly approaching completion. This year the Society has increased its prize-list to over £1,700, and it is creditable to the local committee that the amount raised by them has been about £1,100. As regards the show itself, its success, as regards number and quality of exhibits, is already fully assured, the number of entries, which in some classes may yet be added to, being easily a record in the history of the Society. For stock the figures are as follows:—Cattle 246, last year 181; horses 318— 247; sheep 75 — 66; pigs 23—30; extra stock 4—1; total 671—525.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to investigate epizootic abortion in animals has decided not to examine witnesses at the present stage of the inquiry.



Notes and Jottings.

The weather in most parts of the country continues, on the whole, very dry. Water in some places is running very short, and feed is also very short indeed, yet in most places it retains its verdant colour, and is therefore sweet. In the best pastures, while clover is now very luxuriant, so far as its blossoms are concerned, the pastures in some cases being quite white over with these sweet and succulent flowers. Cattle have been very much affected with the warble fly; in the past two or three weeks little rest and peace have fallen to their share. This troublesome pest causes immense loss to all cattle owners during a hot summer; the very small calves, even, affect the effects of the sting of this troublesome fly. Any preventive measures at present known do not appear to be both useful and convenient.

Haymaking is now in pretty full swing throughout a very large portion of the country, and, with labour more plentiful, and the weather on the whole favourable, much first-class hay ought to be secured. The crops, it is true, are in many districts exceptionally light, not being anything like an average; but, where help to secure it is at hand, crops ought not in such a season to cost much in the manipulation, neither ought they to be much damaged by excessive working with the tedder or swathe turner. Too much machinery is not conducive to quality, or to the nutritive properties of hay. The stems and blades become broken by it, and a great deal of matter that ought to remain in the grass exudes, and leaves it of much less value.

Since permanent pasture increased to such an extent in the British Islands, many more cattle have to be fattened or wintered upon hay than was at one time the case, therefore the quality of that hay is of great moment. There is, I know, a theory that when hay is too rich, sweet, and appetising it takes the animals so much off any other food that they do not grow and thrive as much upon it as upon more inferior fodder or straw. This may be correct enough so far as it respects animals that are being wintered outside upon land that has a good deal of the previous summer's growth upon it to be cleared off. Very tempting hay, in such a case, is a superior attraction, and when the morning's foddering has been consumed the cattle hang about the place looking for more, rather than seeking to satisfy themselves with the grass.

Nevertheless, it is always wise to secure hay in the finest possible condition. Such hay is highly valuable as a food for any animals, and if a case occurs where rougher and less valuable fodder would be of advantage in helping to get the wasted summer's grass cleared off, hay of such quality can almost invariably be purchased at a price far less than the cost of growing. Really nutritive, early mown, and quickly and carefully harvested hay is of immense value to milking cattle, feeders, and even young stock. Good steers, or other cattle intended for the shambles, will get thoroughly ripe and fat upon hay of this kind and about 4 lb. of linseed cake per day. Our fattest matured cattle will often winter in very high condition upon hay only.

There is an almost incredible difference in the feeding value of hay, straw, roots (especially turnips), and many other foods in different parts of the United Kingdom. Scotland stands highest,

and behind in the nutritive value of its oats, oat straw, and yellow and swede turnips. It has many times been noticed that bullocks in Scotland will fatten more rapidly and give more weight upon turnips and oat straw than they would in the South of England upon this same diet and several pounds of cake per head per day. Ireland, too, provides green food, both grass, roots, and cabbage, of a quality much superior to English-grown produce of the subjects mentioned. Mangel appears to be of somewhat similar quality or feeding properties the world over.

The season in many parts bids fair, as already intimated, to cause a shortage of hay. In the early districts, winter-sown oats will soon be ready for the binder, and, as soon as cleared, this ground can be utilised to great advantage by being sown down with a green crop of some kind to be mown in the fall for the cattle that are housed. Black oats and common mustard, sown broadcast and harrowed or scarified in, will yield a great bulk of food for mowing green in October and November, and, with growing weather, a commencement may be made by the middle of September. This mixture is a very acceptable food, and wholesome, at that time of year, and will assist the beefing steers or the milking cows amazingly.

The time for abatement in our milking herds is now well upon us. With midsummer fairly past, and a week of July gone, we must look for a lessening supply of milk and its manipulated products. The glut is now safely over, and every effort will be required to maintain the stipulated weekly output for the dairyman. Succession cows will soon be needed, and these, in spite of bad times generally for keep, will be hard to buy. Every effort must be made to increase or, at least, maintain the measure of the existing herd supply, leaving the purchase of cows to a later period, when they will continue to influence the filling of the churns till the early winter months come.

The next few months promise to be of more than ordinary interest to all cattle-breeders. The show season is busier than ever for another two months, and, what is not usually the case, there are a great number of sales of pedigree stock advertised. Sussex cattle appear to have several notices of sales to take place. Red Polls also, and Jerseys, are still continuing to come before the public in considerable numbers. A sale of the famous and valuable old Longhorn cattle is also advertised to take place at Atherstone, on the L. and N. Western main line 100 miles from London. So far as export is concerned, Shorthorns appear to be most popular, and Herefords next in order.

It is scarcely likely, all things considered, that we shall have great outcry for store cattle this autumn, so that the American or, rather, Canadian cry for relief from the embargo will probably wax cold, as well as the cry from the handful of Scotch and Norfolk feeders who would fain see our ports once more opened. All parties may rely upon it that, as long as the present Government continue in office, there will be no relaxation of restrictions. This our worthy Minister of Agriculture expressed with no wavering when questioned as to the removal of the existing conditions. It is much easier to remove restrictions and to open the door for foreign importations than to rid the country of disease, which would be certain to make its appearance sooner or later.

By-the-by, that low lived complaint, to use the farm labourer's expression, hoose or husk in calves and young cattle, has made its appearance much earlier than usual this year, and, in some cases, with great virulence. The poor little sufferers lose flesh, and growth, and strength, in a deplorable manner. The cause of this hoose or cough is a fine, thread-like worm in the wind-pipe, which becomes very much inflamed, and if not checked at its commencement, both the inflammation and the cause of it find their way to the lungs, and the poor things end their life in the most pitiable manner. A good supply of fine, spring water is one of the best preventives, and a supply of best brand linseed cake, if the animals can eat it, will do much to keep up their strength and combat the disease.

Sale of the Riby Shorthorns and Lincoln Rams.

The first of the two great Lincolnshire sales took place last Thursday at the well-known Riby farm, when Messrs. Thornton and Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Calthrop and Briggs, sold by auction a portion of the herd of Shorthorn cattle and a number of Lincoln long wooled rams, the property of Mr. Henry Dudding.

The stock needs little description, for both the herd and flock have a great reputation, and, as the sale list shows, many of them were purchased for South America at high prices; 200 gs. being given by Mr. E. N. Casares for Waterloo Princess 22nd, winner of first prizes at several shows last year, as well as 155 gs. for the bull Royal Emperor Waterloo 10th.

Good prices were also paid for the best of the rams, 500 gs. and 420 gs. being given for the second prize and the reserve number sheep at the late Park Royal Show by Mr. Miller and Mr. Casares respectively. The cattle averaged £53 13s. 7d., and the Lincolns £89.

We give below a sale list, with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Red B.C. (out of Riby Marigold), c. October 2, 1904; s. Haycroft 3rd 83691 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	21
Lady Riby, red and little white, c. March 15, 1897; s. Prince Charming 69276 ..... Mr. G. Morris	20
Her roan B.C., c. November 15, 1904; s. Haycroft 3rd 83691 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	30
Riby Pippin 5th, red, c. June 17, 1897; s. Unicorn 69735 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	23
Her red B.C., c. April 7, 1905; s. Merry Squire 5th 86626 ..... Mr. W. Mapplethorpe	6
Riby Jennie 25th, red, c. March 15, 1898; s. Prince of Sarsden 71252 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	20
Her red C.C., c. May 3, 1905; s. Merry Squire 5th 86626 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	11
Vain Maggie, red roan, c. April 15, 1898; s. Prince of the Abbey 67663 ..... Mr. Keyworth	20
Her r.l.w. B.C., c. April 20, 1905; s. Merry Squire 5th 86626 ..... Mr. R. O Lowish	7½
Autumn Rose 3rd, red, c. January 10, 1899; s. Prince of Sarsden 71252 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	23
Rose of Leinster, roan, c. February 20, 1899; s. Riby Forester 71363 ..... Mr. G. Morris	24
Her r.l.w. C.C., c. April 3, 1905; s. Merry Squire 5th 86626 ..... Mr. F. J Steward	9
Georgia 3rd, white, c. April 3, 1900; s. Morning Star 77302 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	26
Her white B.C., c. May 3, 1905; s. Merry Squire 5th 86626 ..... Mr. Charles	6
Juliet, roan, c. August 16, 1900; s. Romeo 2nd 73447 Mr. Keyworth	30
Brigstock Princess, roan, c. March 28, 1901; s. Extraordinary 76640 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	23
Her roan B.C., c. November 10, 1904; s. Haycroft 3rd 83691 ..... Mr. R. J. Day	12
Ringdale Victoria, rich roan, c. December 2, 1901; s. Bapton Jos 78290 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	155
Riby Jessie 3rd, rich roan, c. December 2, 1901; s. Victor 82528 ..... Mr. E. G. Gahan	45
Her roan C.C., c. May 29, 1905; s. Fencote Mr. E. G. Gahan	20
Riby Pictorial, red and little white, c. May 15, 1902; s. Dowsby Waterloo Duke 66918 .... Mr. J. Beattie	41
Seraphina Belle 3rd, white, c. July 28, 1902; s. Bapton Jos 78290 ..... Dr. Evans	25
Muriel Pride, red roan, c. September 13, 1902; s. Emperor of Waterloo 32nd 74489 ..... Dr. Evans	37
Her red C.C., c. March 20, 1905; s. Scottish Daisy Duke 79916 ..... Mr. F. J. Steward	6
Clara Kilburn, roan, c. October 10, 1902; s. Lifeguard 68908 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	21
Her red roan B.C., c. February 19, 1905; s. Waterloo Baron 7th 85038 ..... Mr. W. Mapplethorpe	6
Rose of Ravensdale 2nd, red, c. January 2, 1903; s. Bellman 78380 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	22
Empress Waterloo 27th, red, c. January 15, 1903; s. Baron Bridekirk 31st 82780 ..... Lord Middleton	57
Waterloo Princess 32nd, roan, c. February 28, 1903; s. Conqueror's Crown 78630 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	200
Hyacinth Duchess, red, c. March 20, 1903; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. E. G. Gahan	70
Rosemary 3rd, red and white roan, c. March 31, 1903; s. Birthday Lord 80492 ..... Dr. Evans	26
Riby Jessie 4th, red, c. April 10, 1903; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. George	76
Riby Foggathorpe 4th, red roan, c. April 17, 1903; s. Bellman 78380 ..... Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour	39
Lady Emma 3rd, red, c. July 2, 1903; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. G. Bradley	24
May Day Mildred 3rd, roan, c. October 25, 1903; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Mr. W. Savage	71
Lavender August 2nd, dark roan, c. October 29, 1903; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Mr. J. A. Gordon	110
Lavender Augusta 3rd, light roan, c. October 29, 1903; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	30
Riby Pippin 7th, rich roan, c. January 3, 1904; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Lord Manvers	40
Riby Gwynne 3rd, red, c. January 8, 1904; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. G. Bradley	26
Bridekirk 42nd, roan, c. January 13, 1904; s. Bletchley Mint 82900 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	22
Bright Morn 2nd, roan, c. January 21, 1904; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	100
Riby Archduchess 3rd, red, c. February 7, 1904; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	45
Hyacinth Duchess 2nd, roan, c. February 9, 1904; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	70
Riby Jennie 6th, red, c. February 21, 1904; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 .... Messrs. Dean and Sons	23
Ruby 3rd, red, c. March 24, 1904; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. W. Savage	25
Phillis 4th, red, c. June 27, 1904; s. Stratton Squire 80062 ..... Messrs. Dean and Sons	34

BULLS.

Traveller 84921, roan, c. February 5, 1902; s. Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. W. Andersen	30
Riby Chieftain, rich roan, c. January 16, 1903; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Captain Mytton	42
Knapton Waterloo 5th, rich roan, c. February 26, 1903; s. Chief Grandee 80692 ..... Mr. J. Gravius	115
Lord William 2nd 86473, roan, c. March 15, 1903; s. Sittyton Fancy 80011 ..... Mr. J. Pettit	23
Pantaloon 86792, roan, c. April 13, 1903; s. Parable 81822 ..... Messrs. Dean and Son	45
Bellman 3rd, red, c. April 17, 1903; s. Bellman 78380 Mr. Wilson	33
Fidgety Phil 85966, roan, c. April 17, 1903; s. Meadow Champion 81678 ..... Mr. W. Greenwell	91
Bellman 4th, red roan, c. April 25, 1903; s. Bellman 78380 ..... Mr. Wilson	43
Marquis, roan, c. April 29, 1903; s. Soloist 77935 Mr. Wilson	28
Wanderer's King, red, c. April 30, 1903; s. Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. W. Anderson	20
Royal Emperor Waterloo 10th 87182, red, c. May 25, 1903; s. Bradford 4th 80538 .... Mr. E. N. Casares	155
Lord Sandgrove 60th 86462, roan, c. June 14, 1903; s. Buscot Imperialist 80590 .... Mr. E. N. Casares	72
Royal Marksman, roan, c. November 19, 1903; s. Royal Edward 82153 ..... Mr. F. J. Steward	150
Baron Nunthorpe, rich roan, c. March 14, 1904; s. Baron Bridekirk 31st 82780 ..... Mr. J. Thirkeld	57
Pink Lord, rich roan, c. April 30, 1904; s. Ingram's Perfection 79103 ..... Mrs. Innes	24
Major Ingram, rich roan, c. May 12, 1904; s. Ingram's Perfection 79103 ..... Mrs. Crooke	46
Riby Robin 5th, red, c. May 18, 1904; s. Riby Robin 2nd 87077 ..... Mr. Findlayson	25
Riby Robin 4th, roan, c. June 14, 1904; s. Riby Robin 2nd 87077 ..... Mr. E. G. Gahan	30

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
38 Cows averaged	50 13 6 ..	1,925 14 0
18 Bulls averaged	60 0 6 ..	1,080 9 0
56 Head averaged	53 13 7 ..	3,006 3 0
32 Rams averaged	89 0 0 ..	2,848 13 0
Total		£5,854 16 0

RAMS

Yearling ram, s. Leconfield Pilot A 6282 Mr. E. N. Casares	420
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Constitution 7800 Mr. F. Miller	500
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Constitution 7800 Mr. F. Miller	85
Yearling ram, s. Pointon Riby 5th 7994 Mr. Casares	75
Yearling ram, s. Leconfield Riby Cracker 7905 Mr. Dixon	105
Yearling ram, s. Pointon Gamecock 6402 Mr. Miller	60
Yearling ram, s. Riby Herald 7107 .... Mr. Casares	60
Yearling ram, s. Riby Herald 7107 ..... Mr. Davy	45
Yearling ram, s. Riby Herald 7107 ..... Mr. Casares	100
Yearling ram, s. Baumber Winner 5963 .... Mr. Gahan	40
Yearling ram, s. Pointon President 7989.. Mr. Miller	150
Yearling ram, s. Riby Herald 7107 .... Mr. Casares	17
Yearling ram, s. Cropwell Jubilation 6066 Mr. Gahan	42
Yearling ram, s. Baumber Winner 5963 .... Mr. Davy	85
Yearling ram, s. Pointon Riby 5th 7994.. Mr. Miller	42
Yearling ram, Baumber Winner 5963..... Mr. Davy	85
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Sunbeam 6102.... Mr. Davy	72
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Constitution 7800 Mr. R. Wright	210
Yearling ram, s. Riby Leeds 7597 .... Mr. R. Fisher	45
Yearling ram, s. Riby Herald 7107..... Mr. Miller	55
Yearling ram, s. Nocton Riby Gordon 7949 Mr. Miller	65
Yearling ram, s. Riby Leeds 7597 ..... Mr. Gahan	30
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Sunbeam 6102.... Mr. Gahan	40
Yearling ram, s. Baumber Winner 5963.. Mr. Casares	42
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Constitution 7800 Mr. Gahan	40
Yearling ram, s. Cropwell Jubilation 6066.. Mr. Foster	37
Yearling ram, s. Baumber Winner 5963 .. Mr. Gahan	24
Yearling ram, s. Riby Leeds 7597 ..... Mr. Hayles	42
Yearling ram, s. Dowsby Constitution 7800.. Mr. Smith	18
Yearling ram, s. Baumber Winner 5963.. Mr. F. Miller	50
Yearling ram, s. Pointon Gamecock 6402.. Mr. Foster	22
Two Shear ram, Riby Doncaster Perfection; s. Laughton Errant 4592 ... Mr. Gahan	45

The Bearwood Devons and Shires

The exceptionally wet morning deterred all but the most businesslike buyers from attending the sale at Bearwood on the last day of June. Though the company was small the prices were good, mainly by reason of a contingent of Devon cattle breeders from Somerset, who secured the majority of the best animals. The Hon. E. W. B. Portman, Hestercombe, Taunton, made a selection of thirteen for his recently re-established herd. Mr. B. C. Shepherd also purchased freely for his farm near Bridgwater. There were not quite so many purchasers for the Shire horses. The pigs did not realise such large prices as they might, owing to the greater portion of the company having to leave early to catch the train. The

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
July			
11	Dexter and Kerry Cattle...	Messrs. Robertson... ...	Park Royal.
13	Red Polled Cattle ...	Mr. A. G. Scorer and Mr. F. J. Mann	Flaxmoor, Caston, Norfolk.
13	Jersey Cattle	Lord Rothschild	Tring Park.
13	Sussex Cattle	Captain Somerset	Woodchurch, near Ashford.
14	Jersey Cattle	Messrs. C. W. Armitage and A. Miller-Hallett	Woodlands, Northaw, Potters Bar, Herts.
14	Suffolk Sheep	Various	Sutton, near Woodbridge.
14	Store Cattle	Various	Shrewsbury.
18	Dutch Cattle	Mr. A. Grant	Ipswich Cattle Market.
20	Devon Cattle, Hunter and Shire Horses, and Colts	Mr. T. S. Morgan	Whimple House, Whimple, Exeter.

sale was conducted by Messrs. John Risdon and Son, and the following were the chief prices:—

DEVON CATTLE.

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

Fairfield Mungold 14481, c. Sept. 22, 1893; s., Harold 2790 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — Gs. 24
Cow calf, c. March 18, 1905; s., Bear Wood Rival 4541 ..... Mr. B. C. Shepherd Bredwater — 15
Fairfield Picture 15680, c. May 20, 1897; s., Gamekeeper 3438 ..... Mr. Charles Hancock — 23
Bull Calf, c. Feb. 6, 1905; s., Bear Wood Coronation 4708 ..... Mr. Charles Hancock — 16
Belinda 5th 17694, c. May 13, 1898; s., Curly King 3862 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 42
Bull calf, c. May 11, 1905; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Mr. Reade, Weare — 14
Bear Wood Violet 18030, c. Oct. 25, 1898; s., Colly's Tregothnan 3854 ..... Mr. Morris — 34
Promise 16833, c. March 28, 1899; s., Masterpiece 2837 ..... Sir Frederick Mills — 37
Cow calf, c. April 13, 1905; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Sir F. Wills — 11½
Bear Wood Countess 18026, c. May 19, 1900; s., Councillor 3407 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 34
Calf; s., Musician 4830 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 9
Bear Wood Tulip 18539; c., July 22, 1900; s., Jonathan 3459 ..... Mr. B. C. Shepherd — 34
Cow calf, c. May 11, 1905; s., Bear Wood Coronation 4708 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 7½
Bear Wood Constance 18537, c. April 13, 1901; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... — 26
Bear Wood Annie 18535, c. June 15, 1901; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Mr. Robert Cornish — 18
Bear Wood Lily 19169, c. June 18, 1902; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Mr. Walter May — 15½
Bear Wood Sunflower 19175, c. June 18, 1902; s., Lord Pitsworthy 4440 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 25
Cow calf, c. March 31, 1905; s., Bear Wood Coronation 4708 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 11
Bear Wood Flirt 19165, c. July 24, 1902; s., Lord Pitsworthy 4440 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 35
Cow calf, c. Jan. 12, 1905; s., Bear Wood Coronation 4708 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 20
Bear Wood Ringlet 19772, c. Jan. 29, 1903; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 44
Miss Lyddon 7th 19436, c. Feb. 4, 1903; s., Favourite 4764 ..... Lord Calthorpe — 40
Bear Wood Constance 2nd, c. Feb. 6, 1904; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Mr. Walter May — 16½
Promise 3rd 19774, c. March 28, 1904; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Mr. C. Hancock — 15½
Bear Wood Countess 2nd, c. Jan. 4, 1904; s., Bear Wood Kitchener 4528 ..... Mr. Robert Cornish — 16
Bear Wood Constance 2nd, c. Feb. 6, 1904; s., Bear Wood Kitchener 4528 ..... Mr. Shepherd — 26
Belinda 6th, c. May 14, 1904; s., Bear Wood Coronation 4708 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 36

BULLS.

Bear Wood Rival 4341, c. Jan. 13, 1899; s., Lord Harwood 4059 ..... Hon. E. W. B. Portman — 41
Musician 4830, c. Jan. 1, 1902; s., Hestercombe May Day 4214 ..... Mr. C. Morris — 18
Bear Wood Coronation 4708, c. March 30, 1902; s., Bear Rival 4341 ..... Mr. Woodley — 23
Bear Wood Prince Jerome 4895, c. Feb. 27, 1903; s., Wilchampton 3968 ..... Mr. Woodley — 17
Bear Wood Pilot 4894, c. March 6, 1903; s., Bear Wood Rival 4341 ..... Mr. Woodley — 20
Bear Wood Lawyer, c. Sept. 23, 1903; s., Lord Nunnington 4623 ..... Mr. Woodley — 18½

SHIRE HORSES.

Lockinge Echo 26370, grey, f. 1897; s., Prince William 3356 ..... Mr. Comber — 40
Bear Wood Primrose 27460, bay, f. 1897; s., Blagdon Admiral 12787 ..... Mr. Lansley — 60
Bear Wood Mettle 37966, chestnut, f. 1901; s., Calculator II. 11114 ..... Mr. Gale — 25
Bear Wood Rose 30737, bay, f. 1897; s., Blagdon Admiral 12787 ..... Mr. Sturges — 27
Bear Wood Times 27461, bay, f. 1898; s., Blagdon Admiral 12787 ..... Mr. Sturges — 37
Rokeby Bona 33684, grey, f. 1898; s., Bold Harold 16006 ..... Mr. Laing — 32
Ratcliffe Heiress 36988, bay, f. 1900; s., Ratcliffe Royal Harold 16910 ..... Mr. Lionel Phillips — 61
Buckingham Mary 35246, brown, f. 1900; s., Harold's Pilot 11564 ..... Sir James Blyth — 37
Danesfield Lively II. 38600, chestnut, f. 1901; s., Danesfield Prince 17914 ..... Mr. Sturges — 41
Bear Wood Poppy 40826, black, f. 1902; s., Lockinge Sun King 18875 ..... Mr. H. Bowyer — 35
Bear Wood Resound 44052, grey, f. 1903; s., Duke of Blagdon II. 17954 ..... Mr. Dimond — 24
Bear Wood Maud 44060, brown, f. 1903; s., Buckingham Premier 17212 ..... Sir James Blyth — 33
Bear Wood Hope, roan, f. June, 1904; s., Dunsmore Jameson 17972 ..... Earl of Powis — 51
Bear Wood Rose II., chestnut, f. 1904; s., King George VI. 20611 ..... Sir James Blyth — 23
Bear Wood Heiress, chestnut, f. 1904; s., King George VI. 20611 ..... Sir Alexander Henderson — 28

Sale of the Buckhold Jerseys.

A number of Jersey cattle were offered for sale by auction on Tuesday last by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., at Buckhold, near Pangbourne, Berks.

They belonged to Dr. Watney, who has for many years been most successful in the butter tests held at the principal shows.

The cattle were brought out in beautiful condition, nearly all of them being out of cows that had won honours in the tests, and, as will be seen by the sale list, below, made good prices. The three-months-old bull calf by Sultan, dam Violette, winner of two gold medals, made 71 gs. (J. Carson), to go into Essex. An average of £25 6s. 10d. was obtained for the twenty-two head offered. Some cross-bred Exmoor ponies were also sold, and these made up to 17 gs.

We append a sale list:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Wild Thorn 3rd, whole colour, c. Nov. 22, 1898; s., Lord of the Western Isles 5869 ..... Mr. G. P. Mead — Gs. 25
Sabean 3rd, whole colour, c. Jan. 18, 1901; s., Mariette's Guenon 6325 ..... Sir J. Blyth, Bart. — 31
Guenon's Thorn 2nd, whole colour, c. Dec. 24, 1901; s., Mariette's Guenon 6325 ..... Mr. A. W. Johnson — 26
Haw, whole colour, c. Dec. 12, 1902; s., Mariette's Guenon 6325 ..... Mr. S. H. Moorhouse — 28
Sheik's Vervain, whole colour, c. May 4, 1903; s., Sheik 7996 ..... Sir J. Thornycroft — 33
Sheik's Sundew, broken colour, c. Aug. 22, 1903; s., Sheik 7996 ..... Mr. W. Fawcett — 26
Syndic's Thorn 3rd, whole colour, c. Jan. 2, 1904; s., Lord Guenon 2nd 7906 ..... Lady de Rothschild — 25
Maple's Vervain, whole colour, c. Aug. 7, 1904; s., Maple's Aurelius ..... Sir J. Blyth, Bart. — 20
Sabean's Lord, whole colour, c. Feb. 2, 1904; s., Lord Guenon 2nd 7906 ..... Mr. Graham Harris — 30
Sultan 2nd, whole colour, c. March 1, 1904; s., Sheik 7996 ..... Mr. W. F. Pepper — 30
Maple's Fancy, whole colour, c. May 10, 1904; s., Maple's Aurelius ..... Mr. W. B. Roderick — 33
Sharab's Grandson, whole colour, c. Sept. 28, 1904; s., Lord Guenon 2nd 7906 ..... Captain Spicer — 30
Czar, whole colour, c. March 26, 1905; s., Sultan ..... Mr. J. Carson — 71
Canary, whole colour, c. May 9, 1905; s., Sultan ..... Mrs. Watson Kennedy — 17

SUMMARY.

	Average. £, s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
13 Cows and heifers	22 7 6	290 17 0
9 Bulls	29 12 8	266 14 0
22 Head	25 6 10	557 11 0
22 Ponies	11 17 8	261 9 0
		819 0 0

The Buckhold ponies made up to 17 guineas.

Sale of Mr. W. Hazell's Shorthorns

The sale of Shorthorn cattle comprising nearly the entire herd belonging to W. Hazell, Esq., of Walton Grange, Aylesbury, attracted a good company, but the animals, which were brought out in ordinary condition, were not in such ready demand as might have been expected from their high-class breeding. A number of the cows were getting well into years, and many of the lots were quite small calves, so that the low average of £21 cannot be taken as a fair guide. Dr. Vaughan Harley bought the fine red cow Musical 91st at 32 gs., and her bull calf at 34 gs. The Hon. C. B. Portman made several nice purchases for his herd in Hampshire, as did Mr. Beamish for Ireland, and Mr. Savage for South America. The best price was for a Marigold heifer by Sultan; after sharp competition she fell to Mr. Fairfax Rhodes' bid at 61 gs.

The stock bull, Aldsworth Pioneer, bred by Mr. W. T. Garne, by that good sire Bapton Crown, was reserved at 200 gs.; but Mr. Savage got a very good pair of roan bulls in Royal Prince 2nd and Walton Prince, both sons of Royal Prince, for South America, at 27 gs. and 32 gs. respectively.

Messrs. Thornton and Co. were the auctioneers, and the following is a list of the prices and buyers of the best lots:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Musical 91st, red, c. Jan. 14, 1895; s., Royal Nottingham 10th 63279 ..... Dr. V. Harley — Gs. 32
Her red and white bull calf, c. Feb. 9, 1905; ..... Dr. V. Harley — 34
Walton Duchess 9th, red, c. Dec. 6, 1895; s., Rupert 66250 ..... Mr. H. Lyne — 21
Her roan cow calf, c. Jan. 6, 1905 ..... Mr. W. L. Beamish — 12½
Pomegranate 3rd, red, c. Oct. 16, 1897; s., Harold 68759 ..... Hon. C. B. Portman — 30
Her red and little white cow calf, c. Oct. 6, 1904 ..... Mr. F. T. Stanley — 17
Lavender Lady 3rd, red, c. June 23, 1898; s., Harold 68759 ..... Mr. W. Savage — 28
Her red roan bull calf, c. April 29, 1905 ..... Mr. W. Savage — 20
Apple Blossom 9th, red, c. June 19, 1900; s., Mountain Victor 67520 ..... Hon. C. B. Portman — 27
Walton Duchess 12th, roan, c. Feb. 18, 1903; s., Mountain Victor 2nd 81760 ..... Mr. W. Savage — 30
Jewel 2nd, rich roan, c. April 9, 1903; s., Mountain Victor 2nd 81760 ..... Mr. H. F. Smith — 25
Marigold 54th (twin to a heifer), red, c. Aug. 6, 1903; s., Sultan 80073 ..... Mr. F. Rhodes — 61
Baysham Phantom 4th, red, c. Aug. 1, 1903; s., Sultan 80073 ..... Mr. W. Savage — 32
Marigold 57th, red, c. March 15, 1904; s., Sultan 80073 ..... Dr. Harley — 28

BULLS.

Royal Prince 2nd, roan, c. Nov. 28, 1903; s., Royal Prince 73536 ..... Mr. W. Savage — 27
Walton Prince, roan, c. March 6, 1904; s., Royal Prince 73536 ..... Mr. W. Savage — 32
Royal Prince 3rd, red and little white, c. Jan. 12, 1904; s., Royal Prince 73536 ..... Mr. A. Sutton — 25

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
34 Cows, heifers and calves	21 6 9	725 11 0
8 Bulls	20 1 7	160 13 0
42 Head	21 2 0	886 4 0

Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club.

At the annual meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club, Mr. E. Le May (retiring president), presiding over a good attendance, the receipts were reported to have been £121, and the expenditure £97, leaving a substantial balance in hand. Mr. Le May, having given a review of the year's work, proposed Mr. F. Walters, of Mark Cross, as the new president of the club, and this was unanimously agreed to. Mr. W. Troy was elected senior vice-president. The committee were re-elected, as were also the joint hon. secretaries (Messrs. Durrant and A. H. Tester), and the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. Paine). Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring president and other officers for their services.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
— Merchant of Venice.

We might well take a lesson in horse breeding from the Arabs. There is, I think, no one who will gainsay the fact that the Arab is the purest bred horse in the world, and in the best Arab strains those which their owners designate as the "sons of mares," as distinguished from "the sons of horses"—there is not the least alloy, or has not been from time immemorial. The title "sons of mares" is synonymous with thoroughbred with Arabs, and it is significant of the way in which they have founded their best families, viz., in tail female, instead of, as our experimental breeders are trying to do, in tail male. There is, as Sir Richard Burton pointed out, not the slightest difficulty in buying stallions of the very best strains save the trifling one of price, for your Arab knows the value of his wares. But with a mare it is different. Mares are often the property of more than one owner, and the Arab objects strongly to parting with one of the best strains. Wiser than we are, he knows that in his mares lies his fortune.

The bluest of blue blood in the Arabian horse is Kohlání-al-Ajúz, or Kohlání (Kohl-eyed, so called from the darkness of the skin round the orbits, a sure sign of good breeding) of the old woman, the origin of which is accounted for by a curious legend. An Arab mare, when in flight, dropped a filly foal. Her rider was obliged to ride her on, for his enemies were hard at his heels, and on his arrival at his own camp he was surprised to see the foal arrive shortly after him. The foal was given to an old woman to rear, hence the name. The Arabs, it should be added, have always bred scientifically and with an eye to the remote future; hence their wonderful success in breeding to type. We, on the contrary, have not, as a rule, looked much farther forward than to the next cross or two. We argue, if we mate such a horse with such a mare we shall get a certain class of animal; that again crossed with another horse of quality will breed something like what we want; then we will begin to cross horses so bred and establish a breed. And so we can—on paper; and when we find that the breed, as it exists in the concrete, is very different from what we had theorised about, we begin to talk about the lottery of breeding. We begin at the wrong end, that is all. The Arab knows what he is about when he will not sell his mares, and when he establishes his families of horses in tail female.

"We confess we are not in the habit of paying much attention to the full pedigrees of half-bred stock." So wrote the Editor of the *Sporting Review* exactly sixty years ago. I fancy, if he had lived till now and had had the benefit of other sixty years' experience, he would have said something of the same sort, though there would have been less justification for it than there was when he wrote. But the fact undoubtedly remains that, notwithstanding the care with which some breeders take in preserving their pedigrees, and the useful work done by the Editing Committees of the various breed societies since the Clydesdale and Shire Horse societies were established some twenty-seven years ago, there have been, and are, a great many spurious pedigrees put forward by unscrupulous persons, and it would almost appear from what one knows of certain occurrences, as if they could carry out their fraudulent policy with impunity. The fact is the crime, for it is nothing less, has come to be looked upon as a venial one. When found out, or when a suspicious pedigree comes before a committee, it is rejected. Not much inquiry is made as to how it came about that a false pedigree was put forward for acceptance, and if an inquiry is made a more or less lame excuse passes muster, and nothing more is heard of the occurrence. Perhaps two or three people, talking it over, some one will say: "I did not think So-and-so would have done such a thing"; and if an opinion is ventured that there ought to have been a prosecution, immediately some one will reply: "But look at his family, if he is convicted it means imprisonment." And so the thing goes by without any serious notice being taken of it, and the delinquent laughs in his

sleeve and—concocts his next batch of false pedigrees more cleverly.

Things do not go quite on these lines in Bonnie Scotland. The Clydesdale Horse Society has always been very sharp in its action with the makers of pedigrees. There was a long and searching investigation into a lot of pedigrees early in the history of the Society, and the result of that investigation was published in a pamphlet which showed plainly enough the care which was exercised in keeping the early volumes of the Clydesdale Stud Book clear of false pedigrees. And recently the Society has prosecuted a horse dealer named Weir for uttering forged pedigrees. There was a long trial, and there was not the slightest doubt that the signature of a Mr. Miller had been added as the breeder, so that an export certificate might be granted, and a certain animal with an uncertain pedigree sent abroad. The jury found the prisoner guilty though they were not unanimous. Still there was a substantial majority of seven. And then, curiously enough, the jury recommended the delinquent to mercy. Why they did so it is difficult to understand. The sheriff sentenced him to a month's imprisonment, which certainly does not seem a heavy sentence. But in all probability it is severe enough, and will teach him not to tamper with pedigrees in the future.

That foreign trade in some breeds has been seriously damaged by the export of horses with false pedigrees there can be no doubt. There are some men who think that if only they get a horse out of their hands and get the money, the incident is ended. But this is not the case, and when men sell underbred and halfbred brutes with a good pedigree, and as pure bred horses, they do an injury to the trade in that breed which it takes a generation to undo. Nor have exporters been always to blame. I have met in my time with importers who were quite as blameworthy as exporters—who when the boom was on would take anything that was likely looking, and work their very hardest at pedigree-making for the sake of the profit at the far side. Like the husbandman in the fable, they killed the goose with the golden egg.

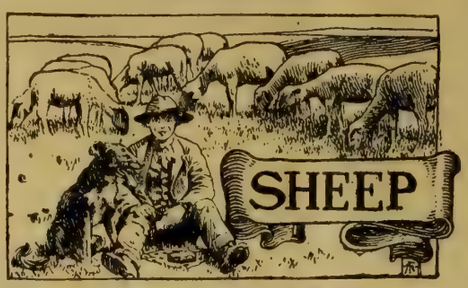
Great credit is due to the Clydesdale Horse Society for the action it has taken in this case. It cannot be too strongly impressed upon the purchasing public that the Breed Societies will leave no stone unturned to guard their interests. It is also of considerable importance to show gentlemen who look upon the manufacture of pedigrees as a harmless amusement, that it is a crime which will lead him who indulges in it to prison—and probably the next man convicted will get considerably longer than thirty days to reflect upon his wrongdoing.

It was from an article on the Norfolk Cob that I took the quotation about halfbred pedigrees. There is no mistake about the pedigree of the Norfolk Cob, who was one of the first Hackney stallions that was exported. This was not the original Norfolk Cob whose name was changed by his owner, Mr. Theobalds, of Stockwell, to Norfolk Phenomenon, but a son of his. He was bred by Mr. James Kendle, of Weasenham, near Swaffham, and in the Hackney Stud Book his dam is given as by Fireaway, but with no identifying number. The *Sporting Review* gives his dam's pedigree as by West's Fireaway, grandam by Jenkinson's Fireaway, which will be Fireaway 204 and Fireaway 201. There were, it should be added, three Fireaways owned by a West, but Fireaway 204 seems the most probable, as well on account of his colour—bright bay with black points—as that the date fits in well. Norfolk Cob was a brown bay, standing a little over 15 hands. His portrait shows him to have had a small, lean, blood-like herd, and to have had a very masculine appearance. His shoulders were long and well placed, his back short, and his ribs well sprung, and his quarters muscular and nicely turned. He had evidently been docked, but not so short as is now the prevailing fashion, and his tail, moreover, was not squared. He stood for fifteen seasons in one neighbourhood; then he was bought by Mr. Hewlett, veterinary surgeon, and stood at Bath a couple of seasons. Sir William Codrington purchased him from Mr. Hewlett and sent him to Jamaica when he was twenty years old. It would be interesting to know whether the old horse arrived safely in the West Indies, and whether his stock turned out well.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale at Carlisle.

Messrs. Harrison held a special sale of sea-soned horses of all classes at their Carlisle mart on Thursday, 160 animals being forward. Buyers attended in large numbers, and trade for the best sorts ruled brisk. Prize-winners and the chief prices:—Cart Horses: 1, Mr. Beatty, Carleton, 45gs.; 2, Mr. Rush Carlisle; others from Messrs. Graham, Appleby, to 40gs. Saddle and Harness Horses—1, Mr. Dawson, Stainton, Penrith; 2, Mr. Dawson; others, from Mr. McKie, The Red House, to 48gs. Cobs not exceeding 15.1—1, Mr. Dawson, Stainton; 2, Mr. Keiller, Beechwood House, 31gs.; others, from Mr. Tuer, Bowscar, 25gs. Ponies not exceeding 14.2—1, Mr. Davidson, Schoolcroft, Ecclefechan, 28gs.; 2, Mr. Wills, Greenspot, Kirkbride; others from Mrs. Irving, Scotby, 25½gs.



Notes and Jottings.

From every point of view the poor attendance at this year's Royal is a matter of extreme regret. It may be it is a blessing in disguise, because the point has now been settled without question—namely, that the attendance of the general public from London cannot be obtained. It therefore means that the Royal Show will have to be run without this attendance—and that it could be there is no question, provided proper and businesslike management be adopted. From whatever point of view the exhibition in the sheep section at the late show be viewed the result is the same—namely, one of the most satisfactory exhibitions we have seen for several years. The reception of the two new classes added to this year's schedule shows how thorough the support given by the flockmaster is, and proves that what he requires is but to be given the opportunity to exhibit and it will be accepted. It may be urged that this only refers to certain breeds, but be this so or not, it is hardly fair or just to say any particular breed would not do as well were opportunity given it until such has been afforded.

Looking through the different sections we find that out of forty-five entries made in the Oxford class forty-one were present; in the Shropshire classes seventy-nine entries were made and seventy-three were present. The Southdown breed secured an entry of 104 and ninety-two were present. Fifty-nine entries of the Hampshires were made and fifty-five were present; thirty-one entries of Suffolks were made and twenty-nine were present. The Lincoln breeders sent in forty-six entries, of which forty-one were present. The Leicester breed gave good support, twenty-two of the twenty-three entries facing the judges. A dozen entries of Cotswolds were made, all being present. The Border Leicesters had ten out of thirteen entries present. The Kent or Romney Marsh breed's entry was the largest since Maidstone Show, only one pen out of fifty-two entries being vacant. The Wensleydales, like the Cotswolds, sent forward all the entries made—namely, twenty one. Nineteen out of the twenty-six entries of Dorset Horns were present; eight of the Devon Long Wool entries were present out of the nine made. The Dartmoors and the Exmoors each made six entries, all being present. The Cheviots made ten entries, and the Blackfaced Mountains eight, all of which were present. Four entries of the Lonk breed were all present, as were all the seven in the Herdwick classes. The Welsh Mountain breeds sent forward ten out of its eleven entries, and the Ryelands had the whole of their seventeen entries present. Such, then, is the record of the entries of the different breeds present at the Royal Show of 1905, from which there is full evidence of the excellent support afforded by the flockmasters. That these efforts, made with their full quota of recognition and reward, the brief summary of the many sales, etc., given last week is ample evidence. Further, it is evident that without such an opportunity being afforded them, more than one of the flockmasters, who made excellent sales last week, would not have done so. Another great point well worthy of attention is the opportunity for comparison that the large and varied entry which the Royal Show affords, both to the home or export buyer. This is one of the most valuable points in connection with the Royal Show, and many, indeed, have been the sales that this opportunity between the different breeds has brought about.

The greater attention being paid to wool at the present time was clearly seen by the larger entries at the Royal, and when at the East Kent Show last week we were struck to find there not only a large entry for competition, but a full attendance of breeders to inspect it. The awards, however, were not the same as at the Royal Show, and hence it is evident there is need of instruction amongst wool buyers as to what should constitute the best quality of fleece wool.

Mr. C. File has every reason to be satisfied with the result of his exhibition of wool at the Royal Show, for it brought him a buyer for his yearling ewes that grew it. This sale of Romney ewes to go to the Argentine is worthy of note from the fact that hitherto, except in rare instances, the sales of stud sheep to that country have been of rams only. Mr. C. File's sale not to be recorded, consists of six ewes, three of which produced the winning fleeces at the Royal, and the other three those from which the winning three were selected, and five yearling lambs, including the Royal first-prize yearling ram. Mr. A. Amos has also sold this week, for export to the Argentine, ten real good, typical Kent or Romney Marsh rams of excellent merit.

Lord Verulam sold his pen of winning ewe lambs at the Royal Show, together with two others of the same age, which are accompanied by five choicely-bred yearling rams; these were also sold for export to the Argentine.

The market value of wool is most satisfactory, and those flockmasters who have sold up to now have full reason to be satisfied with the price they have made. When there is a ready sale and good demand for any article, it is surprising how much more interest is taken in it. Possibly it is only natural, but to those who have urged all through the period of depression in wool prices, the greater attention now being given to the fleece gives satisfaction, because it proves up to the hilt the need of that greater attention.

Four years, and even three years, ago it was no uncommon thing to hear: "Don't talk to me about the fleece, wool is worth next to nothing and all sells at the same price." This is not the case now, for in more than one instance this season have judges, who were very indifferent to the evenness of the fleece at the period named, actually passed over good sheep for this very reason. This is commendable. What, however, is just as necessary now as when wool was low, is for the ordinary flock-master to be convined of the necessity of improvement. The discrimination between the different qualities of fleeces is not nearly so defined in the market quotations as it ought to be; nor do we think, under the more common practice of selling the wool privately, does the careful breeder secure so good a price for his wool as would be the case at auction sales. At these fixtures it is sold on its merits, and makes its market price; but at home it is sold, more often than not, a halfpenny per lb. more than the neighbour gets, on condition that no mention is made of this extra halfpenny—a similar condition being made, if an inquiry be instituted, with probably a larger proportion of the vendors to that particular wool-buyer. No objection can be taken to the condition, which is quite fair from the purchaser's point of view, save that it just shows the rottenness of a system that might have been all very well when it was started, but which is clearly out of date now a days, with all the facilities for cheap and rapid travel and transit.

Blandford Prize Sheep Sale.

Messrs. T. Ensor and Son, of Dorchester and Wimborne, held their great prize sheep sale at Blandford on Thursday week, when they submitted a total entry of over 5,000 sheep. The auctioneers gave the usual prizes for competition, and for the best hundred draft Down ewes sold the first prize was won with a pen of ewes from the noted breeding flock of Mr. Percy Cave Tory, Shapwick; reserve, Mr. E. W. Cave, Shapwick. There was a large company present, and a very steady trade ruled throughout, which may be quoted at from 1s. to 1s. 6d. ahead in advance of last year; but buyers did not seem to want to give more than the ruling price which seemed to govern the whole fair—namely, 48s. to 52s.

A Dorset Down Dispersal.

Messrs. Duke and Son's on Monday sold the well known flock of Dorset Downs, the property of Mr. T. Spiller, of Burton. There was a large and representative gathering of Dorset Down flockmasters at the auction, the result of which may be judged from the following exceptional prices: Six-teeth ewes, 56s. 6d., 55s., 54s., 51s. 6d., and 50s., average 52s. 9d.; four teeth ewes, 73s., 64s. 5d., 60s., 58s., 56s., average 60s. 8d.; two-teeth ewes, 70s., 65s., 59s. 6d., 57s.; 56s. 6d., 56s., and 54s. 6d., average 58s 6d.; ewe lambs, 53s. 6d. to 57s., average 55s. 6d.; wether lambs, to 37s. 6d.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Burgess Hill.

This fair, on Wednesday, opened the Sussex lamb selling season. There was a good attendance. The number of lambs penned was 3,185, and tegs 144, a total of 3,329, or a shortage of about 700. This is accounted for by the lambing season, and the abundance of feed, which induced several large flockmasters to keep their lambs at home to grow and make more money at later fairs. Trade was brisk, and prices ruled firm. The lambs were quite up to the average size and condition, the bulk changing hands at from 20s. to 25s. per head. The best specimens went higher, and the leading price was 31s. 6d.

Chichester.

This fair was held on Wednesday, when Messrs. Stride and Son held their first great special sale of the season of about 2,500 Southdown and other lambs from the local flockmasters. The lambs generally were shown in good condition. There was a good company of local farmers and buyers present, as well as several gentlemen from distant counties, and with the favourable outlook for roots a good selling trade resulted, and a clearance was effected, prices in most cases being 1s. to 1s. 6d. in advance of last year's rates.

Dorchester.

An exceptionally large number of sheep and lambs—some 12,000 or 13,000 altogether—were penned and a good business for all classes of sheep ruled throughout. The demand for young Dorset horn ewes was very keen at an improvement of 1s. to 1s. 6d. a head over last year's rates, the best making 48s. to 55s. apiece, and older ewes from 45s. to 52s.; horn couples, 56s. to 62s.; horn wethers, for which there was a very ready sale, from 48s. to 50s. 6d.; horn wether lambs, 28s. to 36s. 6d. In Down sheep the trade was equally brisk, ewes bringing 46s. to 51s. 6d. Wether lambs, which were very dear, sold from 30s. to 37s.; chilver lambs, 28s. to 34s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 26s. to 29s.; cross-bred lambs, 32s. to 38s. A better trade has not been experienced for years, every lot being cleared early in the day.

Harling.

On Thursday some 18,000 sheep and lambs were disposed of at East Harling by Messrs. Salter, Simpson, and Sons. Buyers came from such distant parts of the country as Notts, Herts, and Leicestershire, and many would-be purchasers who attended from the immediate neighbourhood found trade so fast, even as compared with that at Diss a week earlier, that they held their hands for somewhat easier rates, if such are forthcoming at the later dispersals. Second-draft lambs sold for their part equally as dear as the head lambs, and prices must be written as fully 3s. a head up on the year, with, perhaps, a margin beyond that. The highest price of the day (given by Lord Cranworth) was 47s. for Suffolk ear-marked lambs from Mr. Champion's registered flock, whilst two leading pens of first-cross from Lord Iveagh and Mr. L. R. Nottidge tied at the unusually high figure of 46s.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Andover.

At Andover Wool Fair on Monday over 50,000 fleeces from the leading Hampshire Down flockmasters were pitched, and there was a representative attendance of buyers from the manufacturing centres, whilst a brisk trade prevailed. The bulk of the wool was sent in unwashed, and the top price realised was 11¾d. per lb., but general values were 10d. down to 9½d. per lb.. Washed wool fetched 13¾d. down to 13¼d. per lb. The prices are considerably in advance of last year's.

Alton.

On Tuesday, at Alton (Hants) wool fair about 15,000 fleeces were offered. The highest price was 13¾d.; average washed, 12½d.; and unwashed, 9¼d. per lb.

Basingstoke.

On Tuesday, July 4, Messrs. Raynbird and Sons held their twenty-eighth annual wool sale at the Auction Mart, Basingstoke, when there was a large and representative attendance of buyers from centres of the wool industry, including Halifax, Bradford, Winchester, Reading, Kidderminster, Athlone, Cork, and Scotland. It is satisfactory to report a better trade with an advance upon last year's prices, unwashed wool realising 8¾d. to 10d. per lb. and for washed wool 12d. to 13¾d. per lb.; Down lambs 8¾d. to 9¼d. per lb.; Scotch wool 8d. to 11¼d. per lb.

Blandford.

This important Dorset fair was held on Saturday, when staplers were present in strong force from all parts of the country, but flockmasters were not so largely represented as usual, many being detained in the hayfields. About 100,000 fleeces were on offer at sales conducted by Messrs. Ensor and Son (Dorchester), Duke and Son (Dorchester), and Senior, Godwin, and Young (Sturminster), for which there was a good, steady trade at very firm prices; greasy wools, for a very unusual thing, being almost as much in request as the better-class wools, being wanted for American purposes. The whole of the offer was quickly caught up at prices generally showing a rise of 2d. per lb. all round, the trade ruling very firm throughout. The best washed Down fleeces made from 13½d. to 14½d., Lord Wolverton, Lord Alington, Viscount Portman, and others realising this price; unwashed lots made 8½d. to 9½d.; washed lamb made 10¾d. to 12½d. These prices apply exclusively to Downs, a few lots of horns selling from 13½d. to 13¾d. for the best grades. There was very keen competition for some of the best-known wools, three or four merchants frequently bidding the same price. This will give some idea of the run of the trade, although by some considered not to be fast.

Chichester.

There was a good attendance at the wool sale on Tuesday, when bidding was brisk for 40,000 fleeces from representative Southdown, Sussex, and Hampshire flocks. Prices: Washed Southdown ewes, 12d. to 15½d., tegs, 12d. to 14d.; unwashed Southdown ewes, 9½d. to 10½d., tegs 8d. to 10½d.; West Country, 9d. to 10d.

Hemel Hempstead.

Increased interest was taken in this ancient fair, held on June 30, despite the wet weather, and about 4,000 fleeces were disposed of. Prices ranged from 21s. to 27s. 9d. per tod for washed and 17s. to 20s. 6d. for unwashed.

Huntingdon.

There was a good attendance of buyers, chiefly from Bradford, at this fair. Trade was slow from the buyers' standpoint, farmers holding out for higher prices. The pitch was 5,578 fleeces, weighing 1,279 tods 15 lb., slightly less than last year. Prices ruled from 28s. to 31s. per ton, the top figure last year being 26s. per tod. All the wool pitched got sold.

Malton.

Messrs. Boulton and Cooper, auctioneers, of Malton, opened a new wool market here. There were 10,000 fleeces pitched, and prices ranged from 7d. per lb. for locks and cots and to 1s. 0½d. per lb. for Lincoln and Leicester hogg wools.

Newport, Isle of Wight.

Forty thousand fleeces were pitched on Thursday. Bidding was keen. Prices for washed fleeces ranged from 12d. to 14d. per lb., and lamb's wool from 9¼d. to 13¼d., averaging about 2d. per lb. in advance of last year.

Reading.

Reading wool fair was held on July 1, when 15,000 fleeces were pitched. The wool was of good quality generally. A large number of buyers bidded briskly for the lots, and good prices were realised. Washed wool made 13¾d. with three exceptions, which fetched 8¼d., while unwashed made from 6½d. to 10¾d.

Stratford-on-Avon.

At this sale on Friday about 19,000 fleeces were pitched from many of the leading flocks in the neighbourhood. There was a good attendance of buyers, and prices ranged from 1s. to 1s. 2d., and greasy up to 10d. and 10½d.

Teesdale.

Owing to hot weather and sheep shearing, an enormous quantity of wool was marketed, all in first-class condition. Although moor sheep have not yet been collected for shearing, inland farmers have finished clipping, and the sheets to hand are of capital staple, clean, and of good weight. Quotations: Good bred Leicester hoggs ranged from 13s. to 13s. 6d. per stone, and half-bred wool from 12s. to 12s. 6d. Scotch wool made 6d. per lb., which is highly favourable, in a comparative sense, to heath flockmasters.

Swindon.

The wool fair was held on Thursday, about 20,000 fleeces being pitched. The wool was generally of good quality, and very satisfactory prices were realised. Washed made 1s. to 13½d., and unwashed 9¾d. downwards. The principal buyers were:—Messrs. Beaven, Holt, and Haddon, Bradford; Crow, Marlborough; Willey, Bradford; Walton, Halifax; Mahoney Cork; and Ballantyne, Walterburn.

York.

Although this season market nominally opened two or three weeks ago, little or no wool was sent until Thursday, and even then the number of new sheets pitched was only about 45. The wool shown was of various sorts, and was in very good condition, the clipping season having been an exceptionally favourable one in this district. Trade ruled firm, and there appeared to be a disposition on the part of the farmers to hold their wool in anticipation of a further advance on the present enhanced rates. The following were the quotations:—Best bred hogg, 14s. to 14s. 6d.; best bred ewe, 13s.; cross-bred hogg, 12s. 6d.; cross-bred ewe, 12s. per stone of 14¼ lb.

Eye Show.

Eye Colt Show was held on Monday and, as usual, brought some strong horse classes. The Suffolks had precedence in the catalogue. The colt foals formed a fairly good collection, Mr. James Rose, Laxfield, showing a nice Dennington Cupbearer foal, and Mr. Henry Turner one by Goldfinder. Of filly foals, however, there was a bigger entry, and the exhibits on the whole were of better quality. Mr. W. J. Packard had a specially choice Border Minstrel filly, which turned out to be the champion. Mr. Packard's exhibit carried off the 10-guinea challenge cup presented by Mr. S. Hill-Wood as the best Suffolk foal in the yard, the silver medal presented by the Suffolk Horse Society for the best animal in the first five classes eligible for registration in the Suffolk Stud Book, and Mr. Edward Peck's special for the best Suffolk foal in the yard.

The Shires and cross-breds made a good display. Mr. W. Dennis Wilson had three entries in the class for Shire foal, colt, or filly, one being a colt by Phenomenon, one a filly by Honest Regent, and the third a filly by Cretingham Harold. The colt, a very promising youngster, was not only first in the class, but carried off the 10-guinea challenge silver cup presented by the Hon. Charles Bateman Hanbury for the best cart foal other than Suffolk. The collection of Shire mares with foal at foot was only a small one. Mr. W. Dennis Wilson sent Cretingham Fuchsia, an extraordinary mare, by Blythwood Conquerer. She was, of course, first in her class, and in addition she was awarded the 10-guinea challenge silver cup, for the best Shire or cross-bred mare and foal, the silver medal offered by the Shire Horse Society.

About half a dozen good Hackneys with foal at foot, put in an appearance, the judges fixing their choice upon Celeda, by Blue Peter III., belonging to Mr. Chas. Devereux. There was a very good class of Hackney foals.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 1, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	145	108	256	111	2,024	3,863	4,194	4,084
	Outbreaks.	No.	32	46	39	32	422	798	879	868
Sheep Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	...	1	...	14	643	1,056	1,154	1,091
Rabies. Cases Confirmed.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	34	65	67	39	1,081	1,967	1,735	1,592
	Outbreaks.	No.	27	47	28	25	621	750	684	563
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	17	11	20	13	751	816	640	626
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	11	13	7	593	647	479	367
Period.	Week ended July 1, 1905			Corresponding week in	1904		Total for 26 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in	1904	
					1903				1903	
					1902				1902	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Peterborough Show.

The annual summer show of this energetic and prosperous, as well as useful, society, was held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of last week, the weather proving exceptionally favourable, and an excellent show resulted in every way. Shire horses, which are always a strong feature at these shows, were again very good indeed. Hunters were also a very creditable show, more particularly as regards quality. Hackneys and driving horses were most conspicuous in the driving competitions. Cattle were a good entry, and all the breeds (Shorthorns, Lincoln Reds, Angus, and Red Polls) represented gave a very satisfactory account of themselves. Sheep and pigs were a small entry, these sections seldom being very well filled at the shows of this society.

Hunters.

The catalogue commences with the hunters, of which, as stated, there were a number of horses, both adults and young stock, of very high cast. The first class was for weight-carrying brood mares up to fourteen stone, of which nine were entered, including several well-known winners. Mr. A. Sowler won the first prize with Victoria, by Meseaville, out of a Pathfinder mare. She had something to beat, however, in Mr. Carter's Countess, by May Boy, who stood second—an altogether admirable class of mare to breed either hunters or high-class carriage horses, according to the sire used. Sir Walter Gilbey's The Witch and Mr. Hayr's Mrs. O'Shea, third and reserve, are also well known, and first-rate brood mares. The best foals out of these mares were Mr. Sowler's, by Synadron Leader (second), Mr. Hayr's, by Barbarian (first), and Mr. Carter's, by Wise Ruler (third). In lightweight brood mares, Mr. Wilkinson's Glasspore, of quality and correct type for breeding, was first, Mr. A. J. Brown's Rosalinda, by Discord, second, and Mr. Robinson's Golden Leaf third. The best foals in this class were Mr. Mullen's, sired by Chevele d'Or, Mr. Burrell's, by Burgomaster, and Mr. Swallow's, by Wales. Mr. Carter and Mr. Rowell owned the best tenant farmers' mares, and the gold medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society was awarded to Glasspore. Amongst the young stock other than foals, the best were Mr. Nickisson's Success (first in the yearling class), Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Destruction, by Harre (first in the two-year-olds), and Mr. Wilkinson's Jupiter and The Duchess (first-prize three-year-old colt and filly) as named. Mr. Wilkinson had also one or two other winners in these classes and other exhibitors showing first-class stock, and in the honour list were Messrs. Addington and Temple, Mr. Granger, Mr. Boddington, Mr. Rickaby, and Mr. A. J. Brown, Messrs. Cheney being very successful in the tenant farmers' class with a couple of wonderfully good three-year-old geldings by Autocrat. In weight-carrying hunters, Mr. Drage's Mercedes, Mr. Gale's Rightaway, and Mr. Stokes's Ronald, all well known and high-quality horses, were amongst the best. Whiskey, who has been so prominent lately, and championed the Richmond show, also took another first for Mr. Drage; he is up to a good weight. Amongst lighter weights and four-year-olds, Mr. A. J. Brown, Mr. Drage, Mr. Gale, and the Messrs. Cheney carried off most of the money. There was rather a strong entry of hacks of the hunter type, Mrs. Nutt taking first with a very smart riding mare by Ringoal. Mr. Stokes and Mr. Palethorpe also contributed capital hacks for the second and third places.

Hackneys.

The classes for these did not fill very well at Peterborough, indeed the show of them was very small in the breeding classes, but a number of purely bred hackneys were entered in the harness classes, where they are the most impressive. Two-year-old stallions were pretty well represented. Mr. A. A. Haley's Hiawatha, a smart and level goer, by Rosador, who carries himself well, too, was given the premier position, Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Duke, a son of Bonny Danegelt, coming in second, and Mr Lewis's Beacham Mashker was third. The first colt also carried off the Hackney Shire Society's medal, and the second one was reserved. The mare and foal class was one of the best as regards the winning animals, for Mr. W. B. Tubbs' Rosadora, just the type of Hackney to breed harness horses, was first, Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Queen, a very sharp and level mover, second, and Mr. John Rowell's Bury Duchess third. Mr. J. Rowell and Mr. A. J. Rowell had the best foals in this section, both the get of Rosador, and these exhibitors also had the best of things in the tenant farmers' classes. Two-year-old fillies mustered seven entries. Mr. R. P. Evans' Pollinaris, who has made ag reat name recently at the Royal and elsewhere, and is a stylish good filly by Polonius, was the best of these. Mr. W. B. Tubb's Dashing Girl, who represents her sire, Royal Danegelt, properly, was the winner of the second prize. Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Princess was another filly well worthy of notice, and was reserve. Yearlings were a small class. Mr. W. Flanders, Mr. R. P. Evans, and Mr. A Lewis were at the front in the order named with these.

The largest entry in the hackney classes was that for mares or geldings shown in saddle, a condition that does not suit the exceptionally high-stepping portion of the Hackney world. There were some very good and well-known hackneys in this class of fourteen entries, Mr. W. B. Tubbs' Morning Glory and Mr. W. S. Cunard's Wild Lucy, two stylish movers, and grand in harness, were the best of them, such celebrities as Knowle Halma, Hopwood Spark, and Mermon Royal Dane were also in the money or honour list. The Hackney Society's medal for best mare or filly was awarded Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Queen. The harness and pony classes were well filled with many of the leading animals of the day, but as the awards of these classes takes place each day of the show, they were not available at the time of writing.

Shires.

These classes may in all justice be called the chief feature of the Peterborough Society's Shows, for though the classes are a great portion of them open to the United Kingdom, the Peterborough district itself is quite sufficiently rich in Shires to make up an excellent show of this breed, a show that would stand second but to very few others..

The first class of this breed was that for stallions foaled in 1903, of which there were eleven entries, and the whole of the awards settled down eventually in the same order upon the same animals that were decorated at Park Royal last week. Lord Rothschild's Childwick Champion and Mr. J. Gould's Lymm Champion being first and second. These colts are of considerable difference in type, hence each has his admirers, so that upon the present occasion the services of an umpire were necessary before the awards were finally settled. Sir P. A. Muntz followed for third and reserve with a couple of Dunsmore Jameson colts, and Messrs. Forshaw and Son had also a very good colt in the class h.c. Two or three gelding classes followed. In the A.H. class, Lady Wantage, Mr. Freckleton, and Mr. J. Park being the chief performers, and some capital colts and horses were shown. At the same time it is really difficult to understand why these classes are not much stronger, seeing the great number of Shire colts that are bred every year. Probably the great demand for them for working purposes prevents their exhibition, which is sometimes a costly business. There was a large entry of twenty entire yearling colts, Mr. J. Measures leading with a splendid class of colt, Dray King, by Drayman 23rd, a properly balanced and correct-limbed colt with quality and bone. Mr. J. Gould's Catterall Black Prince, placed second, is another yearling of the right stamp, and very promising colts were also shown by Mr. Morley, Sir W. H. Cooke, Lord Rothschild, Sir P. A. Muntz, etc. Tenant farmers' colts were also a very useful class, the winner in the open was also winner with three other colts with build and character about them, and in the honours list were shown by Mr. F. W. Griffin, Mr. John Rowell, and Mr. R. Crawford. The open class of yearling fillies was quite the best that has been seen since the Islington Show last February, the winner at that show still holding her position, and having grown and furnished well. This was Lord Egerton's Tatton May Queen. Mr. John Bradley, Messrs. Thompson, and H.M. the King followed in the order named with extra choice fillies, in which the famous Dunsmore and Calthorpe sires, Dunsmore Jameson and Lockinge Forest King, stood out very prominently as sires. H.M. the King's filly, Lady Constant, is a daughter of Calwick Blen. Several fillies lower down the class were nine prominent in the tenant farmers' class that followed. These were Mr. J. Bradley's, Messrs. Fletcher and Andrew's, Hurman's, and Mr. F. W. Honell's fillies, any of which, with their weight, build and quality would have been able to head the open class a few years ago.

Two-year-old fillies also made a fine display, the London champion again heading the list for Sir Albert Muntz. This is an all-round slashing filly, big and full of substance and quality, a real Shire, and very pleasing in her limbs and feet. She, we may remind readers, is a daughter of Dunsmore Jameson. Mr. T. Simpson Joy, a comparatively new exhibitor, and who evidently intends to make his way in the Shire world, carried off the second and third prizes with fillies that show good judgment and management in their selection and bringing out, and one hard to beat. H.M. the King, Lord Rothschild, and one or two other exhibitors had also fine fillies just outside the money. The tenant-farmers' class of this age was also a fine class, seven out of eleven being noticed by the judges, and very weighty high-class fillies shown by Mr. R. Crawford, Mr. A. Smith's Trustees, Mr. Dewhurst, Mr. Frier, etc. At the head of the three-year-old class stood three or four remarkable fillies, Lord Rothschild's Helker Rachel, full of style and quality, being on the top, beating Mr. Bradley's famous Halstead Duchess 3rd, a short-legged grand type to breed from, and an all-round good filly; and Messrs. Forshaw and Son had also a capital filly third. Mr. Bradley's filly naturally was the best in the tenant-farmers' class; Mr. Crawford, Mr. Lee, and Mr. F. W. Griffin following with first-class fillies.

Mares, with foal at foot, turned out to the number of twenty-five entries in the open classes, and Mr. Hamer Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia made an excellent first; her quality and splendid style are well known. Mr. R. W. Hudson's grand roomy and quality mare, Tatton Tapestry followed for second, and Lord Egerton's Mayflower third—these two having changed places from the Royal. Mr. E. R. Russell, Mr. Crawford, and Mr. F. W. Griffin had also grand mares in the class, which stood at the top of the local class, following in the order written. Earl Egerton, Sir P. A. Muntz, Mr. W. Jackson, and the Hon. N. C. Rothschild had the best foals as named, sired by Tatton Friar, Dunsmore Jameson, Knottingley Regent, and Birdsall Menestel respectively.

The interesting class for best pair of mares was headed by Mr. Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia and Eastern Daisy; Mr. R. W. Hudson's Tatton Tapestry and Blythwood Laurel being second, and Earl Egerton's Rocks Madam and Mayflower third. Sir P. A. Muntz's Dunsmore Fuchsia was the best single animal and also champion of the show, Lord Rothschild's Rickford Farewell being second and also taking the Shire Horse Society's gold medal; whilst the subscription Challenge Cup for best mare or filly (tenant farmers' local) was awarded to Mr. F. Caswell's Lady Grey, Mr. Crawford's Fomesby Graceful being second.

CATTLE.

Shorthorns.

This section of the show commenced with the Shorthorns, of which there was a very satisfactory display. Messrs. Dean and Sons carried off first prize for bulls over two years old with Imperial Favourite, who vanquished H.M. the King's Royal Carlisle. Captain J. S. Reeve had a good bull in the third place. In the younger class were such good bulls as Hon. L. de Rothschild's Dinglass Marksman, Lord Calthorpe's Elvetham Monarch, and Mr. Steward's Ascott Star, placed as named, the latter bull heading the tenant farmers' class. Mr. Rowland Wood's Red Flag was also a good second in that class. Bull calves were a very good class in every way. Lord Powis' Handicap, and Mr. T. Stokes' Royal Sovereign, capital coated calves were the best of these. Imperial Favourite was the champion bull.

Cows made a very good show also, the Earl of Powis' Lady Signal, the Hon. L. de Rothschild's Grove Ursula, in good form for their age, were first and second; Mr. Steward's Scotch Maid 2nd, and the Earl of Powis' Welsh Maid were the best of the heifers under head. Heifers in milk were more of the beef than the milk type; Mr. Bell's Ratclough Witch and Sir Oswald Mosley's Duchess of Rolleston won first and second in these. Sir Oswald Mosley and Mr. F. Platt were first and second in a former class of heifers calves, and Ratclough Witch carried off the champion female prize. There was a very big class of large Shorthorns. Mr. Stanhope's roan cow being first, several of these showed excellent bags, and were quite of the dual purpose type.

Lincoln Red Cattle.

Mr. J. Frier and Mr. S. Crawley had the only two good bulls of this breed, both level and good quality ones. Messrs. Chatterton and Mr. A. Smith's trustees were most successful in the younger class, and Mr. Cartwright and Mr. John Evans and Mr. Frier owned the best cows, these classes were not very strong numeri-

Aberdeen-Angus.

This breed was capitally represented, Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Jester repeated his Royal victory as best bull, and Mr. J. R. Johnson's Jim Crow of Preston were the best in the younger class. Those beautiful cows Mr. Greenfield's Darling of Haynes 2nd and Mr. J. J. Cudlow's Mabel 8th of Knoppense carried off

first and second in this class, whilst in a good class of heifers Mr. G. A. Cooper and Messrs. Casswell were placed first and second as named.

Red Polled.

There were classes this year for this breed, and they were very satisfactorily supported in the district. Mr. J. Hammond's Dayson 244th was awarded first prize in the aged bull class, and the younger class of bulls, with seven entries, had some excellent stock in it; Mr. R. P. Cooper, Lord Amherst of Hackney, and the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes were the chief exhibitors, the latter gentleman also headed a very good class of cows with Alba, Lord Amherst of Hackney's Popsey 6th taking second; and with a very good class of heifers (yearlings and two-year-olds) the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes carried off both first and second prizes.

Sheep.

These classes were not at all well filled numerically, Mr. F. Ward and Messrs. Dean and Sons were the only exhibitors of Longwools, and Sir W. J. Pearce and Mr. T. F. Buxton in Hampshire Downs. In both breeds the prizes were pretty equally divided.

Pigs.

The pig classes, both Whites and Blacks were very creditable; indeed, the show of pigs must be considered very satisfactory indeed. Mr. R. M. Knowles, Messrs. Duckering and Son, Sir Gilbert Greenall, and Mr. T. Henson were all exceptionally well represented with some Large Whites. Mr. P. L. Mills, Mr. Measures, Mr. Daybell, and Mr. Neaverson doing well in the younger classes, and in Berkshires Mr. Jefferson, Lord Calthorpe, Mr. R. W. Hudson, Mr. A. D. Acland, with the Duchess of Devonshire, were the principal winners. Sir G. Greenall carried off the champion prize for best sow with Walton Lady Jane, and Mr. Knowles' Vanguard was accounted the best boar.

Speech by the Minister of Agriculture.

The President of the Peterborough Agricultural Society this year is the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., Minister of Agriculture, and he presided over luncheon in the show ground. Replying to the toast of his health, proposed by Sir Albert Muntz, M.P., Mr. Fellowes said that the House of Commons was an extraordinary place at times, and no one never knew quite what was going to happen in that great assembly. He had often thought that the country would soon demand that Parliament should be more master of its own proceedings, and that there should be less waste of time and less talking (applause).

The agricultural interest suffered most, because there was no doubt that since 1885 agriculturists had not got anything like the power which they used to have in Parliament. He most heartily agreed with the remarks of Sir Albert Muntz that the agricultural industry was still—and he hoped to Heaven it always would be—the greatest in the country. He was afraid they must look more after themselves than they had done in the past. He sympathised with Sir Albert Muntz in saying that there must be more co-operation and unanimity among them all. A great body like the agriculturists of this country could, if they chose, make their voices much more heard in the House of Commons—as much heard as were the voices of the borough members.

Referring to his visit to Park Royal last week, Mr. Fellowes remarked that the Royal Show was a great failure in many respects, but a great success in others. It was a great failure in that the attendance was of the scantiest; and it was a very extraordinary thing that such a fine exhibition was seen by so few English agriculturists. He supposed the old saying was very true that when a show was held near London there were many attractions which prevented people from attending. He trusted that the new Council of the Royal which would be appointed on August 1 would be able to raise that great national Society to its proper level, and that it would have, as in years gone by, that great success which it richly deserved (applause). The recent show had been a great success first, in the quality of the stock, and then in the enormous prices that were obtained for some of the animals. There were more foreigners than our own countrymen at Park Royal, the foreigners gave very large prices for what they bought, and knowing the value of live stock to this country, he thought they would agree it was the bounden duty of the Board of Agriculture to see that we did not run the slightest risk of them importing any disease from abroad. Where would English agriculture have been during the last 25 years if it had not been for live stock, and the prices paid by foreigners for export purposes? No Government, no President of the Board of Agriculture, would be rash enough to give any encouragement to the importation of animals from a country where there was the slightest danger of any disease. The question of glanders was one which demanded earnest alteration, and he had approached the Treasury to help the Board of Agriculture to find money so that they might tackle glanders in the same way, as they had other diseases (applause).

East Kent Agricultural Show.

Ramsgate was chosen for the location of the tenth annual exhibition of this society, and the ground selected was thoroughly suitable and convenient of access. The arrangements made were well thought out, and carried out in a most satisfactory manner from start to finish.

Cattle.

The cattle section, to which we first give our attention, was a good one all through, of good merit, but not quite so large in point of numbers as we have seen at some former shows. Mr. F. H. Padwick judged the Jerseys. Here some notably fine animals were found, particularly those with which Mr. J. C. Drew won first prize in each of the three classes. For bulls he won with the well-known Black Pearl, a bull of the choicest merit; Mr. Cousins's winner was Wadhurst May Flower, whose herd mate Clarionette took r.n., and for heifers his winner was Little Queen, a heifer of high merit. Col. W. A. Huntley took second honours.

The Shorthorns, judged by Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun., were of a very superior quality all through. In the bull class Mr. J. Colman's Millhills Favourite was correctly put to the fore; here we found superior quality and excellent flesh; next came another roan bull of fine type, owned by the Marquis Camden, Farrics Chieftain. With that fine cow Ardflet Belle, Mr. J. Colman went again to the front; this is a nice even flesh cow with good milking properties. Mr. F. W. Monckton, with Frost 92nd, one of Mr. D. Arkell's breeding came in second. The heifer class was one in which there was keen competition, Mr. R. J. Balston with a beautiful heifer of choice pedigree, bred by Mr. H. L. C. Brassey, took leading honours.

The competition in the Sussex classes, judged by Mr. H. Rigden, was a limited one, although it is satisfactory to note that the merit was of a superior character. The Hon. R. P. Nevill won for bulls with Bonfire Prince 2nd, a real good type of a Sussex bull; in Mr. W. F. Winch's Lord Crumple was also found both merit and real good flesh. The last named exhibitor won in the cow class with that beautiful cow Warden Lady, fresh from the third success at the Royal Show. The competition in the heifer class was an excellent one. The Hon. R. P. Nevill won here with Birling Eleanor, and was c. for Birling Madge; Lt.-Col. Hammond and Messrs. W. F. Winch, with Mr. A. J. Horsman were the other successful competitors.

The other pure breed classes, also adjudicated upon by Mr. H. Rigden, were practically all Aberdeen Angus, and the entries from Mr. G. Drummond's grand herd at Swaylands took all the leading awards.

Horses.

The Shire horses were represented by a very first-class entry indeed. These were judged by Mr. T. B. Freshney. The winners in the stallion class were two very first-class stud horses of high merit and character. Mr. Walpole Greenwell with Marden Harold won first honours. The brood mare class was a superior one all through; the winner here was Rednall Lass, by Regent, owned by the Marquis Camden, a wide and deep mare with first-class feet. Mr. W. Greenwell took second honours with another high-class brood mare, Hendre Beryl. The foal class was well contested, the filly from the Marquis Camden's mare Rednall Lass, by WestleyRegent, taking first place by a narrow margin over Lord Hothfield's colt foal by Hutton Victor Chief out of Zoe. In the three-year-old class Mr. Walpole Greenwell's two specially fine fillies Marden Pride and Marden Queen were first and second, the former by Codnor Harold and the latter by Dunsmore Jameson. Mr. F. de B. Collard was third with Thanet Rosebud and Mr. E. Neve r.n. with Amberfield Rosamund. In the two-year-old class Lord Hothfield, with Empress, a very fine well-grown filly with real good bone and quality took first honours, Mr. E. Neve taking second honours with a taking black filly.

The competition in the tenant farmers' classes were a pleasing feature of the show, particularly on account of the excellent quality and keen competition found all through them.

The Hunter section was not a large one, but its competitors were of nice merit, most of them being bred locally. The same remarks are also applicable to the three classes for riding backs, whilst in the classes for driving, tradesmen's turnouts, and jumping, the entry was of good merit and interest very keen indeed

Sheep.

The Kent or Romney Marsh breed, in which the judges were Messrs. J. Finn Kelsey and J. H. Harvey, made an entry that will be remembered as being one of very special merit and superior quality. The yearling ram class had an entry of twenty-four, and but few of these were other than of high merit. Mr. C. File, with Elham No. 58 of 1905, took first honour; this is a very lengthy and level ram of nice type. The second entry from this flock, Elham No. 90 of 1904, first at the Royal and Royal Counties, was hardly at his best, and he came in for second honours. These are two real good rams. Next there came two from Mr. M. Millin's flock, sheep of very high merit and grand type, Snydale No. 40 of 1904 that went third is a ram with a skin much sought for, while its flock-mate, Snydale No. 99 of 1904 has fine scale, excellent substance, and notable quality. Mr. H. Rigden took an h.c. with r.n. and a.c. for two particularly even and good woolled rams. And Mr. C. File's third entry a ram of real merit with splendid flesh, came in for an h.c. The two Shear Ram class was one of superior merit, and also one in which the competition was a thoroughly keen one. Here first honours went to Mr. H. Rigden for a beautiful type of its breed, true in conformation and masculine in character, its flock-mate, an almost equally good ram, went third, and between them was placed a ram from Mr. F. Neame's flock that showed very true type and a splendid fleece of wool. Mr. G. Farmer's r.n. ram was one of good substance with plenty of bone and fully masculine in character; the h.c. that Mr. H. Waters won for a ram bred by Mr. A. Conor was equally well deserved, and the c. that Mr. C. File took for his very blocky deep-carcase sheep was hardly sufficient to fully recognise the special merit of this first class ram.

In the class for rams over three years of age, Mr. C. File won with a beautiful ram of rare good type and substance, his second entry here came in for the r.n.; and Mr. H. Rigden was commended. The champion prize offered by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association went to the winner in the Older Ram class, and the r.n. to Mr. C. File's yearling ram, which was the get of the champion ram at this show.

In that notably strong class of yearling ewes Mr. C. File again, as all through the season has been the case, went to the first place with that pen of ewes the like of which is seldom seen for either merit or quality, the second entry from the same flock were made third winners, and a real good pen they were. Mr. F. Neame took second honours with a pen that are decidedly in the improvement, they handle better than they did, and have very excellent fleeces. Mr. W. Millin came in for the r.n. honour with a pen of rare good type and merit, good in the fleece, and very even in conformation. Mr. F. Neame was h.c., and Mr. G. Farmer c. for two very well brought out pens, the latter one showing plenty of substance and good type. With an entry of eighteen the ram lamb class was of very special merit indeed. F. Neame won with a very first class pen indeed, level in size and equally good in their fleece. Mr. H. Rigden was a good second, beaten by but the narrowest of margins, these three lambs were of excellent type and good fleeces. Third honours went to Mr. C. File, whose pen were masculine in appearance, good in their flesh, and well matched. Mr. J. E. Qusted was r.n. with a pen of well grown lambs, evidently selected with care and even in their type. Mr. W. Millin's h.c. pen was another of high merit, excellent heads, and very even fleeces were noticeable points in connection with this pen of high class lambs. The Earl of Verulam was v.h.c. and Mr. C. Prescott-Westcar took a deserved commendation for a well bred and matched pen of lambs. The Ewe Lamb class was an excellent one, but the order of merit as decided by the judges is somewhat open to question. Mr. J. E. Quested won first, followed by Mr. C. File, whose pen lacked that uniformity of size generally expected in a pen of lambs, but whose individual merit was first class; then came a pen of very even type, grand fleeces, and nice quality that might have taken first honours for Mr. F. Neame. Mr. H. Rigden was r.n. with a choicely bred pen; Mr. E. Acherson, h.c.; and Mr. P. Hillman, c.

The Southdown entry, judged by Mr. H. F. Padwick, was noticeable for its number and quality. Mr. E. Ellis secured a notable success, none of his entries being defeated. In the Yearling Ram class first, second, and champion honours were won with two particularly fine and well brought out rams that came to the hand in excellent form; and in the old ram class first and second honours again went to Mr. Ellis. The Ram Lamb class was a good one all through, here Mr. E. Ellis won with a rare good pen full of quality and good flesh. Lieut.-Colonel Hammond's entry ran them close, came in the second

place; these were three grand lambs with good scale and fine quality. The contest in the Ewe Lamb class was another very keen one indeed, Mr. E. Ellis won with perfect ease, his pen being a very superior one indeed; Mr. J. Colman ran in the second place with an even and good flesh pen of typical lambs; whilst the third winners from Lieut. Colonel Hammond's flock were of great scale and superior merit. Mr .T. Miles again had to be content with r.n. In the Flock Ewe class the competition was somewhat smaller than last year, but the merit was very good indeed. Lieut. Colonel W. W. Hammond won with an excellent pen.

Pigs.

The pig classes, judged by Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., were not large, but the merit all through was good. The Duchess of Devonshire, with some very typical pigs, won all through the Berkshire classes; and in the Large White and Middle White classes Messrs. R. A. Ayre, P. Miles, the South-Eastern Agricultural College, and J. D. Maxted were the leading winners.

Produce.

The wool classes secured an excellent entry of very high merit indeed, Mr. F. de B. Collard, Messrs. Kelsey, and Mr. F. Neame were the leading winners in the three classes for Kent wool; and in the corresponding classes for South Down wool Messrs. W. Dockeray, R. W. Wood, and H. Fitzwalter Plumptre were the leading winners.

The competition for Hops, Butter, etc., was very good indeed, and the show taken as a whole was one of the best, so far as regards merit, the Society has ever held.

Highland Show.

The seventy-eighth show of the Highland and Agricultural Society, which marks the first visit of this body to the permanent showground of the Glasgow Agricultural Society, opened on Tuesday, and continued over the three following days. The show, taking it generally, is a good fair average of Highland and Agricultural Society exhibitions. There have been years when the cattle classes were better filled as regards numbers, and when there were a greater number of notable exhibits put before the judges, but of all the breeds there is an exceedingly interesting display, and in certain individual sections—the yearling Aberdeen-Angus heifer class, for example—quite a high standard is touched. Of horses, too, there is a very excellent show, as one might reasonably expect to see in the west of Scotland, where so many Clydesdales are bred.

The following were the entries compared with those at Perth last year, and at the preceding Glasgow Show in 1897:—

	Glasgow. 1905.	Perth. 1904.	Glasgow. 1897.
Cattle	3 1	848	317
Horses	470	315	250
Sheep	291	283	245
Swine	61	35	30
Poultry	531	413	275
Dairy produce	70	46	126

Cattle.

Shorthorns were fewer in numbers, the deficiency being principally traceable to lack of English support. In a good class of eight aged bulls the judges had no difficulty in awarding the first ticket to Mr. Marshall, Stranraer, for Roan Conqueror. Second place was secured by Captain C. Home Graham Stirling, of Strowan, with Strowan Champion, a roan bred by the exhibitor, by Northern Chief, and Mr. Marshall took third position with Primrose Knight. The fourth award fell to Mr. Laurence Johnston, of Sands, with Meridian, by Scottish Warrior. Among two-year-old bulls premier honours were awarded to Meteor, the white bull belonging to Mr. R. P. Cooper, Lady Cathcart, Cluny Castle, came into second place with Edgar of Cluny, and Mr. George Harrison, Darlington, stepped into third place with Pioneer. Royal Eclipse, an Uppermill-bred bull, belonging to Mr. Duncan Stewart, Millhills, received a very highly commended ticket. In a large class of yearling bulls the first prize went to Mr. J. Deane Willis for Orphan's Chief. In the second place was put the Dublin first prize and the Royal third-prize winner Fascination, belonging to Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combe Causeway, Insch. In a small class of aged cows, first place went to White Heather, Mr. Deane Willis's seven-year-old. Mr. George Harrison came second with Ursula Raglan, and third place was awarded to Sir John Gilmour, of Montrave, with his five-year-old Annie Wenlock. Of the three two-year-old heifers exhibited, Mr. James M'William won comfortably with Hilda 2nd, a roan bred by the exhibitor, by Bright Stone. Mr. Cameron, Balnakyle came second with Butterfly 39th, and Mr. W. T. Malcolm third. In an exceedingly interesting yearling heifer class, Mr Alfred Haley, with Marchioness 24th, took first place. The second was Eastthorpe Gem, shown by Mr. T. J. Sowerby, and third place went to Lord Lovat for his promising roan, Lady Teazle.

There was a keen competition for the champion medal for the best shorthorn. The judges failed to agree between Mr. Marshall's Roan Conqueror and Mr. Haley's Bright Jewel VI., and it was only after calling in the assistance of Mr. John Cran, Bunchrew, as umpire that Mr. Marshall received the award. The Tweeddale gold medal for the best shorthorn bull, the £25 prize given by the Shorthorn Society for the best shorthorn bull in the show entered or eligible for entry in Coates's herd-book, and the silver medal for the breeder of the best bull of any age in Classes 1, 2, and 3 all going to Mr. Marshall for Roan Conqueror.

Aberdeen Angus cattle were very short in numbers, being only half of those last year at Perth. In a fair class of aged bulls, Mr. White, with Jim of Delvin, showed the champion of the yard. The second in the class, Khartoum of Ballindalloch, was exhibited by Mr. Macpherson, but some around the ring would have preferred the third prize-winner, Jeshurun, shown by Mr. Cran. In the two-year-old class, Mr. M'Laren, Auchnaguie, led with Erello, where the second was Mr. J. E. Kerr's Parsee of Harviestoun, a bull of greater substance. The third winner, Perfection of Sands, was shown by Mr. Charles Calder, Ponteland. In the yearling class there was strong competition between Sir George Macpherson Grant and Mr. Calder, of Ardargie for leading place, and ultimately the winner was found in the former's England. In an average class of cows, Mr. R. Wylie Hill, Balthayock, led with Bartonia of Glamis. Second place was allotted to Mr. J. R. Findlay, of Aberlour, with Pride of Honour, and Mr. George Willsher was third. In a good class of two-year-olds, Mr. J. E. Kerr, Harviestoun Castle, was first with Juana Erica. The yearling heifers was one of the best classes in the show. In this class the judges disagreed, and Mr. Grant, Bunchrew, was called in to give the award. The decision, which was in favour of the King's Abergeldie Mains-bred Gwytch, was a popular one. The second prize went to Mr. Kerr, with Princess Kobe. The championship went to Mr. Whyte's aged bull, with Mr. R. Wylie Hill's cow, Bartonia of Glamis, reserve, the latter carrying off the Ballindalloch Challenge Cup for the best cow. Galloways are a fair display. In the first class Mr. A. H. Fox-Brockbank easily headed the group of seven with Defiance. The second award fell to Mr. John M'Cormick for Othello. The third-prize winner was found in a bull shown and bred by Mr. James Wilson, Tundergarth. There was a good, all-round class of younger bulls, the winner being found in Mr. Dudgeon's Chief III. The second place was filled by Marchfield Stanley, shown by Mr. Thomas Graham. The yearling bulls were not specially strong in numbers of merit. Mr. Robert Graham, Auchengassel, led with his Black Pearl. There were four entries of cows, two of them being animals of exceptional quality. The first is Mr. A. B. Matthews's Knockstocks, and the other cow of outstanding merit, which occupied second place, was the Castlemilk Alice II. The two-year-old heifers were not quite up to the mark of previous shows, but the yearling heifer class was more meritorious, seven being forward out of nine entered. There was an interesting competition for the championship of the breed, the preference being Mr. Matthew's splendid cow. The silver medal to the breeder of the best bull fell to Mr. Graham. Highland cattle were a more than useful lot. In a very fine class of aged bulls the Duke of Atholl led with Fear-a-Bhata. Following him came Mr. D. A. Stewart's four-year-old, Morair-nan-Eilean. In a good class of two-year-old bulls, Bullough's trustees won with the brindled Lord Clyde. He was followed by Mr. Allan Gilmour Thom's Waverley, and the third ticket was awarded to the Countess-Dowager of Seafield's King Malcolm. Yearling bulls made a very fine show, and the premier award was given to the Earl of Southesk's Saladin. Cows in milk, any age, were led by the Duke of Atholl's Te Riabhach V., while Mr. Thomas V. Smith, of Ardtornish, was second. An outstanding first was found amongst the three-year-olds in Mr. D. A. Stewart's Laochag. Two-year-old heifers made a strong muster, and a leader was found in the Earl of Southesk's Princess Almira. The best bull was judged to be Lord Clyde. The contest for the breed championship lay between Mr. Sopper's bull and the Ensay three-year-old heifer, and the judges failing to agree, Mr. James Cameron was called in, and the award was given in favour of the heifer.

Ayrshires were a large show, and in the old bull class quite a number of old opponents met, and a surprise was in store for everyone when Mr. Kennedy's "Safeguard of Glenshamrock" was placed in front of Mr. James Howie's "Wynflette." Two-year-olds were a smaller class, and the judges had less trouble in placing them. Mr. Barr's "Zomo-sal" secured the red card. The male championship was allotted to the aged bull "Safeguard of Glenshamrock," with "Zomo-sal" as reserve. Among the cows the best was "Harvey 6th of Manswrae," bred and owned by Mr. Robert Wilson. The winner was very closely followed by a pretty white cow shown by Dr. Douglas, M.P. There was keen competition in the class for cows in milk, calved after January 1. Mr. James Neill, Barleith, had the honour of carrying off the first and fourth tickets. The first was the home-bred "Topsy 2nd of Barleith." Second prize fell to "Old Graitney Sonsie," owned and bred by Messrs. Kerr. The third ticket went to Mr. Robert M'Allister. For cows of any age in calf, first prize was taken by Mr. Alexander Cross's "Lady Jane." The female championship was awarded to Mr. Robert Wilson's aged cow in milk, with Mr. Neill's three-year-old heifer as reserve, while the president's medal for the best animal also went to Mr. Wilson's aged cow.

Horses.

Light horses make a much finer show at Glasgow than they do when the show is further north. The 95 hunters that are distributed over ten classes include a number of winners at Park Royal. Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Market Harborough, a leading winner at the Royal, is well represented here, and as there is not so much competition to face he is a great deal more successful than a week ago. His four-year-old bay Artist, for instance, which had to be content with third place at the Royal, now comes right to the front. Another class of four-year-old hunters—that for light weights—is also led by a representative of Mr. Stokes' stud. This is the chestnut gelding Kitchener, by Khartoum, who stood second at the Royal. He is of fine quality and fair strength. The two best aged hunters to carry over 15 stone likewise came all the way from Market Harborough, and the same stud sends all three prize-winners in the class for lighter weight hunters. The six-year-old chestnut Gold Reef, who was first, and Lady Emily, who was second, are both well known winners. The first-named, whose pedigree is unknown, is a grand horse, and if the mare has as much quality she is just a little slack in her loin. Although there was apparently nothing to choose between them when they galloped, the gelding had the best of it when the saddles were removed. It is a tribute to the uniform standard of merit that guides judges in the north as well as in the south that these two hunters have been placed in precisely the same order at Glasgow as at the Royal. Mr. Alex. Cross, of Renfrewshire, was fourth with Feeding Box, a very nice horse, shorter coupled than the three who beat him and with less quality, but still a hunter all over to look at. The Hunters Improvement Society's medal goes to Scotch March, a nice two-year-old belonging to Mr. Saunders, of Longtown, and the reserve ticket is given to Mr. J. C. Martin, of Dumfries. The animal with which Mr. Stokes carries off the championship was bred by Mr. Coates, of Pickering.

The best of the Hackneys is Crayke Czarina, shown by Mr. Stephen Cliff, of Easingwold. This mare was among the winners at the Hackney show, and at the Bath and West at Nottingham, as well as at a great number of local shows. To-day she practically carried everything before her, being not only at the head of her class, but also securing the Hackney Horse Society's gold medal as well as the championship. The reserve for the championship is Mr. Rennie's well-known stallion The Autocrat, bred by Mr. Mitchelson, of Pickering, and sired by Garton Duke of Connaught. It is gratifying to find that the two exhibits reserved for the gold medal were also bred in the home of the hackney, although they have now found their way to North Britain. A nice trio of fillies is led by Copmanthorpe Duchess, a daughter of Garton Duke of Connaught, the property of Mr. Hall, of Copmanthorpe Grange, York; and the three-year-old stallion Dumbarton, with which Mr. Haley, of Malton, took second honours at Birkenhead, repeats his success on the Clyde.

Ponies of all kinds—polo, Highland, and Shetland—are numerous, and many of the awards go to exhibitors from around the district in which the show is held.

Clydesdales

Clydesdales make an excellent show, the number of entries being close upon 200. Among aged stallions first honours went to Mr. W. S. Park, Hatton, for the five-year-old "Royal Chattan." The next three stallions are all sons of "Baron's Pride." Mr. Wm. Dunlop's five-year-old

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"Baron of Buchlyvie," bred by Mr. M'Keich, Carse of Trowan, being second. The three-year-old colt class is large in numbers, there being twenty-two entries. Mr. James Kilpatrick was first with "Perpetual Motion," a bay "Hiawatha" colt. Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery were second with "Silver Crest." A class of twenty-seven two-year-old colts was headed by Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's "Baron Fyvie," a son of "Baron's Pride." Mr. William Clark was second with "Dunnydeer," a colt bred by Sir Frederick Dunbar; and Mr. George Ferguson third with "Allandale." There are twenty entries of yearling colts, but as regards quality they are scarcely up to the standard of the two-year-olds. Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery were first with an outstanding youngster by "Baron's Pride," which moves with great style, and is full of promise. Mr. James Kilpatrick was second with a "Baronson" colt, and the third ticket was given to Mr. James Dunlop, Barassie, for "Baron's Conqueror." In the competition for the championship in the male section all the three judges officiated, and the contest lay between Mr. Walter Park's aged stallion and Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's two-year old. After a considerable scrutiny the palm was awarded to "Royal Chattan," the reserve ticket being given to "Baron Fyvie." Brood mares are an exceptionally fine lot, and of the fourteen animals entered, eight were deemed worthy of a ticket. Mr. James Boyd had an outstanding winner in the seven-year-old "Topsy Pride," There was a fairly good class of a dozen yeld mares, and here Mr. J. Ernest Kerr, of Harviestoun Castle, was first with "Pyrene." There was an interesting competition for the female championship, which was decided by the three judges. Mr. William Park's two-year-old filly, "Rosadora," and Mr. J. Ernest Kerr's yeld mare, "Pyrene," were drawn out from the first prize-takers in the different classes, and in the end the Brunstane exhibit prevailed.

Sheep.

Blackfaced sheep commence the catalogue. The first place in the aged tup class was taken by a two-shear sheep belonging to Mr. J. Archibald, Overshiels. In a large class of thirty-two shearlings, the judging of which took a considerable time, Mr. James Clark was placed first with Heather Bell. The president's medal, and Mr. Howatson of Glenbuck's prize, also fell to him. Mr. Sinclair Scott's challenge trophy for the best group was won by Mr. James Clark's lot.

Among Cheviots the aged sheep were headed by the two-shear sheep of Mr. John Robson, which was selected for the president's champion medal and the challenge cup for the best sheep in the Cheviot classes.

Border Leicesters made a most meritorious display, the entries being large. In a large class of thirty-eight shearlings Mr. David Hume, Barrelwell, secured first honours with a ram sired by "Prime Favourite," one of the Oldhamstocks flock. This tup carried off the president's medal and the breed prize.

The display of Shropshires is small, and Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield, earned the distinction of capturing the first prizes in all four classes. Mr. James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucester, secured all the prizes in the two classes for Oxford Downs, and Mr. Alexander Anderson, Berryhills, Dundee, with two exceptions, did the same thing in the classes for Suffolks.

Judges.

Shorthorns.—Messrs. James Rodger, Keir Mains, Dunblane; and R. Stratton, The Duffryn, Newport. Aberdeen-Angus.—Messrs. Henry Lindsay, Home Farm, Glamis; and John Murray, Munnieston, Kippen Station. Galloways.—Messrs. William Barbour, Cuil Park, Castle-Douglas; and William McConchie, Mains of Penninghame, Newton Stewart. Highland. Messrs. Robert Macdiarmid, Castles, Lochawe, Argyllshire; and John McPhail, Ardura, Craignure, Isle of Mull. Ayrshires.—Messrs. A. Y. Allan, Bedholm, Woodfield Road, Newton, Ayr; and William Howie, Finnochbog, Inverkip.

Clydesdale Females.—Messrs. George Anderson, West Fingask, Old Meldrum; James M'Clean, Auchneel, Stranraer; and Alexander M'Robbie, Sunnyside, Aberdeen. Clydesdale Males.—Messrs. William Neilson, Haining Valley, Linlithgow; William Taylor, Park Mains; and James Weir, Sandilands—the last mentioned in each class being the umpire in the case of a difference of opinion between the other two judges. Hunters.—Mr. R. A. Barkley, Palgrave, Priory, Diss, Norfolk; and Lord Rathdonnell, Lismavagh, Rathvilly, Co. Carlow. Hackneys and Harness Classes.—Messrs. C. E. E. Cooke, Bygrave House, Baldock, Herts; and A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham. Polo and Riding Ponies.—Mr. T. H. Hutchinson, Manor House, Catterick. Highland Ponies.—Mr. William Logan, Inverness. Shetland Ponies.—Mr. James Duncan, Fern Villa, Inverness.

Blackfaced.—Messrs. William M. Clark, Blackhope, Heriot, and James Murray, Low Ploughland, Strathaven. Cheviot.—Messrs. David Hall, Larriston, Newcastleton, and Michael Johnstone, Alton, Moffat. Border Leicester.—Messrs. Donald Fergusson, jun., Dalcapon, Ballinluig; and James Niabet, Lambden, Greenlaw. Half-bred. Messrs. William Ballantyne, Wormiston, Eddleston; and Andrew T. Elliott, Newhall, Galashiels. Shropshire and Oxford Downs.—Mr C. Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth, Staffs. Suffolk.—Mr. J. W. Eagle, The Hall, Walton-on-Naze, Essex.

Swine.—Mr. James Weir, Woodielea Asylum, Lenzie. Poultry.—Messrs. D. Bragg, Aikton, Wigton, Cumberland; and John Cran, Keith. Dairy Produce.—Professor J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

The New Council.

Sir John Thorold, the President of the Royal Agricultural Society, has prepared a statement showing the preparations up-to-date for the election of the new council of that body:—

Unopposed Returns.

In the following thirty divisions the undermentioned candidates have been duly nominated for election as Ordinary Members of the Council in accordance with By-Law 83, and in the absence of other nominations, such candidates are, under By-Law 84, deemed duly elected:—

1. Bedfordshire.—John Howard Howard, St. Mary's House, Bedford (nominated by H. Trethewy and H. Trustram Eve).

2. Berkshire.—George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Faringdon (nominated by J. Herbert Benyon and Professor John Percival).

3. Buckinghamshire.—Ernest Mathews, Little Shardeloes, Amersham (nominated by Tonman Mosley and Captain J. W. Smith-Neill).

5. Cheshire.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington (nominated by Earl Egerton of Tatton, the Hon. Cecil T. Parker, William H. Cooke, and S. H. Moorhouse.)

7. Cumberland.—Joseph Harris, Brackenbrough Tower, Carlisle (nominated by Thomas Hartley and R. Heywood Thompson).

9. Derbyshire.—John T. C. Eadie, The Knowle, Hazelwood, Derby (nominated by Colonel Reginald Chandos-Pole and W. Cecil Salt).

11. Durham.—Christopher Middleton, Vane Terrace, Darlington (nominated by P. B. Kent and C. H. Backhouse).

14. Hampshire.—The Earl of Northbrook, Stratton Park, Micheldever (nominated by the Right Hon. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., and J. Stratton).

15. Herefordshire.—A. P. Turner, The Leen Pembridge (nominated by Sir John Cotterell, Bart., and John W. Smith).

17. Huntingdonshire.—John Rowell, Manor Farm, Bury, near Huntingdon (nominated by R. Goodliff and George J. Rust).

20. Leicestershire.—J. P. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby (nominated by W. Thompson, Captain J. Burns Hartopp, R. H. P. Hutchinson, and E. P. Headly).

21. Lincolnshire.—William Frankish, Bracebridge, Lincoln (nominated by C. W. Tindall and W. Taylor Sharpe).

23. Middlesex (two).—Ernest W. Shackle, Redleaf, Hayes, Middlesex (nominated by Geo. H. Sanday and Montagu Sharpe. George Taylor, Cranford, Middlesex (nominated by Daniel M. Grimsdale and Jason Wilshin).

24. Monmouthshire.—Richard Stratton, The Duffryn, near Newport, Mon. (nominated by Lord Tredegar and Sir H. M. Mather-Jackson, Bart.).

25. Norfolk.—Herbert Tallent, Westacre, Swaffham (nominated by the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., Garrett Taylor, Davis Brown, and W. H. Salter).

26. Northamptonshire.—Sir Charles V. Knightley, Bart., Fawsley, Daventry (nominated by Albert Pell and John Gee).

27. Northumberland. — George Gray Rea, Middleton, Wooler (nominated by Anthony Fred Nichol and William Elder).

28. Nottinghamshire.—Claude M. S. Pilkington, Wollaton, Nottingham (nominated by Philo L. Mills and C. W. Lister-Kaye).

30. Rutland.—S. N. Bankart, Hallaton Hall, Uppingham (nominated by Sir Arthur J. Fludyer, Bart., and Hubert Eaton).

31. Shropshire.—Thomas Stephen Minton, Montford, near Shrewsbury (nominated by J. Bowen-Jones and William Nunnerley).

34. Suffolk.—Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, Woodbridge (nominated by the Marquis of Bristol and Herman Biddell).

39. Wiltshire.—Henry Herbert Smith, Bowood, Calne (nominated by G. R Kendle and M. T. Baines).

40. Worcester.—E. Vincent V. Wheeler, Newnham Court, Tenbury (nominated by the Earl of Coventry and T. W. Parkes).

41. Yorkshire (East Riding).—Frederick Reynard, Sunderlandwick, Driffield (nominated by Robert Fisher and S. Copeland).

42. Yorkshire (West Riding).—E. W. Stanyforth, Kirk Hammerton Hall, York (nominated by G. Barnardiston, C. E. Cass, W. G. McLaughlin, and O. H. Wade).

43. Yorkshire (North Riding).—William Scoby, Hobground House, Sinnington, York (nominated by the Earl of Feversham and J. M. Strickland).

44. Glamorganshire.—Robert Forrest, St. Fagan's, Cardiff (nominated by Godfrey L. Clark, D. T. Alexander, Major-General T. B. Tyler, C.S.I., and D. Spencer).

45. North Wales.—R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc (nominated by Lord Harlech, Alfred Ashworth, George Bovill, J. Marshall Dugdale, Edward Green, and Colonel Henry Platt, C.B.).

47. Scotland.—Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Montrave, Leven, Fife (nominated by A. M. Gordon and the Right Rev. John Gillespie, LL.D.)

48. Ireland.—Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore, Tipperary (nominated by the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., and Colonel N. T. Everard).

Contested Elections.

For the following fifteen divisions the number of nominations exceeds the number of Ordinary Members of Council to be elected by such division, and elections will therefore take place, in accordance with By Law 85, by voting papers to be issued on Saturday, July 15, and to be returnable by Saturday July 22: Cambridgeshire, Cornwall, Devonshire, Gloucestershire, Hertfordshire, Kent (two seats), Lancashire (two seats), London (three seats), Oxfordshire, Somersetshire, Staffordshire, Surrey, Sussex (two seats), Warwickshire, Westmoreland.

No Nominations.

For the divisions of Dorset, Essex, and South Wales no nomination has been received, and the vacancies in these divisions will therefore fall to be filled up by the new Council under By-Law 90.

Press Opinions on the Royal Show Failure.

Diverse Views.

Under the circumstances, the question is asked whether the State should not lend a hand, and apply a small amount of public money in assisting an institution which has for so long a period discharged unaided what is really national and public work. The suggestion has also been made that the shows should be held alternately in the provinces and at Park Royal, or two years in the country and the third year in London. With reference to this suggestion, one objection is that the gate-money would again have to be relied upon, and its uncertainty has already been conclusively proved; while, if the exhibition were curtailed sufficiently to be profitably held in close proximity to the large towns, it would lose its national character, which the society has so far successfully preserved, although at a heavy financial loss. All these views will doubtless be fully discussed by the new council, and it is to be hoped that the result of their deliberations will be to devise a scheme by which the Royal Shows may be continued as national exhibitions to the immense benefit, as in the past, of British agriculture.—*Daily Telegraph.*

Does not Appeal to Londoners.

It is to be feared that there is nothing for it but to frankly admit that the show does not appeal to the London public. It is said that the show is insufficiently advertised, but we submit that those who tender this alleged explanation of the failure, or advance it as an excuse for the apathy of the Metropolitan public, do not fully realise what advertising on the scale they suggest would mean to the exchequer of the society. To stir London to enthusiasm over an event of the kind it would probably be necessary to post placards on every hoarding and available space in the Metropolis, and to carry out so gigantic a scheme would entail an outlay which the aggregate amount received at the turnstiles would be totally inadequate to meet. But we are not so sure that the failure is wholly or even mainly due to inadequate advertising. For instance, every other person one meets in the City complains of the paucity of information concerning the duration and attractive features of the meeting and are prompt to blame the council for their lack of enterprise, yet the very nature of their criticisms indicates that they are better informed about the particulars of the exhibition than they openly admit, and even when they are verbally made acquainted with the attractions of Park Royal and the other necessary details they seldom manifest any desire to pay it a visit. On the whole many who are well able to form an opinion are disposed to attribute the failure of Park Royal less to the want of advertising than to unwillingness on the part of the London public to appreciate the attractive capabilities of the exhibition.—*Morning Post.*

Some Alternatives.

In view of the fact that the determination of future policy rests with the Council now in course of election on a more representative basis, officials with whom I had conversations to-day, while naturally deploring the failure of the latest effort, refrained from predicting what decision

the new body is likely to come to. But without anticipating the action of the Council, it may be stated that two or three alternatives will doubtless come up for discussion. It will be open to them, of course, to try to raise another guarantee fund of, say, £10,000, and hold another show at Park Royal next year. They may also consider the expediency of reverting to the itinerary plan. Or they may entertain the suggestion of a modified form of that system—a suggestion that has found favour in some quarters, that is to say, that the country should be divided into three or four districts, with London as the centre of one of the districts, and that the show should be held in turn in these districts, so that once every three or four years the show would take place at Park Royal, and in the intervening two or three years in the provinces. Some would incline to the idea of acquiring a settled showground in each centre, utilising it to the best advantage by letting it when it is not wanted for the show; others would prefer to hold the provincial meetings in different populous centres of the particular district. Again, the Council might, if so minded, decide to drop the show at any rate for next year, if not abandon it altogether, and leave the society to devote itself to other branches of its work. It has been suggested that if the Society had 30,000 paying members—which would mean a permanent income of £30,000 a year—it might, whilst always welcoming outside support, be independent of the public, and yet carry on a successful system of shows.—*Yorkshire Post.*

Sir Walter Gilbey's Views.

Sir Walter Gilbey takes a very despondent view of the future of the Royal Agricultural Society's Shows. "Unless something unforeseen occurs," he told a *Morning Leader* representative, "we cannot count on another show. If the necessary funds are not forthcoming the society will have to be wound up. That would be nothing short of a national calamity—I think any sensible person will admit that. The Royal Agricultural Society's Show is a national show, and the only national one held in the United Kingdom." As to the failure of last week's show at Park Royal, Sir Walter said it was certain that the London public could never be interested in anything connected with agriculture. They had had three shows at Park Royal to test it. It was true that as many as 15,000 persons paid a shilling each of an evening to visit the Smithfield Show at the Agricultural Hall. But the Park Royal Show was not so well known as the Agricultural Hall exhibition. It was difficult and enormously expensive to advertise a show which only lasted four days. What they had spent in this connection could be imagined when he mentioned the fact that in 1903 the cost of advertising worked out to 10d. for each person who paid to enter the show ground. With reference to the future, Sir Walter held that the Royal Agricultural Society should be put in a position—he would not say how, whether by grant from the Department of Agriculture or otherwise—to run the show independently of gate-money. There never had been a show in England, that he knew of, either a royal or other, which had paid. They were always subsidised, either by local subscriptions, gifts of special prizes, and the like. If the unforeseen happened, and the Royal Agricultural Society were in a position to promote another show, he thought the railway companies might do themselves and agriculture good by issuing cheap tickets on their ordinary trains to bring up more people from the country districts. He would like to see it taken up as a national question by the Press.

Gloomy Portents.

After the present year's experience agriculturists will probably come to the conclusion that Park Royal is useless as a permanent home for their show. Beautiful weather prevailed on the two opening days—with Royal visitors on each—and yet the attendances were very disappointing. Personally, I am not surprised at this result. For some reason or other the management seems indifferent to popular comforts. At noon, on Wednesday, there was not a solitary chair for weary people to rest upon, and not a strain of music to be heard anywhere about the grounds. Even later, when matters improved, we had some long intervals between the harmony, as well as a deplorable lack of diversion in the ring. Towards three o'clock the stands began to fill up in readiness for the King and Queen, and horses of various breeds were paraded, but although everybody wanted to see the leaping, not a solitary steed was asked to negotiate either fence, wall, or water. For fully two hours the waiting people were kept in a state of deadly dulness, with little to see and nothing to hear. This strain proved too much for their patience, and led to a stamping of feet that must have been sadly disconcerting to the officials. Delays of this kind simply spell disaster as far as Londoners are concerned, because no mere excellence of stock can compensate for hours of boredom. Under these circumstances the Royal will have to resume its peregrinations round the country if it desires to avoid a complete collapse.—The London Correspondent of the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle.*

The Produce Classes at Park Royal.

Cheese.

The cheese classes compared more than favourably with those at Nottingham as regards quality and numbers, but it was a pity that more suitable arrangements had not been made for keeping them cool, as many of the cheese were oversweated and others opened in the texture by the heat of the Monday and Tuesday. The Cheddar cheese class was one of the finest ever seen at the Royal when away from the Western shires. There were twenty-two entries, most of them of superb quality, inasmuch so that seventeen lots received special notice from the judge. The lead was taken by Mrs. C. Candy, Shepton Mallet, with not over large cheese, but of good general appearance, tasting not being allowed. Second went to that progressive maker, Mr. Frank Portch, Cucklington, Wincanton; Mr. Harry Francis Sutton, Ditcheat, Bath, being third; the fourth just going over the borderline of Somerset to Mr. Francis Osborne, Sandford Orcas, Sherborne, Dorset, but the reserve went back to Somerset with Mr. W. C. Spencer, North Perrott, Crewkerne. The Scotch exhibitors, however, did not get further up the list than commended, their long-keeping cheese being scarcely in condition as yet.

The Cheshire class must have been good in the interior, as was evidenced by the freedom with which the judge made his awards. The first prize went to Mr. Thomas Nunnerley, Whitchurch, Salop.

The Stiltons were not quite so fully represented as they might have been as regards numbers, but they were of very excellent quality. Mr. John Smith was first with a nice exhibit made at Gaddesby; the Belvoir Vale Dairy Company, Melton Mowbray, being second. The Wensleydales only made a class of five, but the heat was evidently too much for them, as some of them wept freely. Mr. William Mason sent a very nice exhibit that was placed to the fore. The double Gloucesters certainly showed variety in their five entries as regards flavour, appearance, and colouring, and neither of the makers resided in the cricket county. Messrs. Hiscock and Co., Stourton Farm, Bath, were first with a good-looking lot; the second going to Mr. C. T. Parrett, Shipston-on-Stour. The Wiltshires were even weaker than the Gloucesters, only three lots putting in an appearance. Except for colouring these exhibits would have passed for Cheddar truckles, had they been pressed in smaller vats; the old flat shape is being evidently abandoned. The Cheddar truckle class is fast gaining in popularity, as this smaller make of cheese suits many households, and when cut does not dry like pieces from a larger cheese. Nearly all the Cheddar makers were in this class, which placed Mr. W. C. Spencer to the fore; his was a nice, very shapely cheese, and evidently a good cutter, the skin being kindly.

Cider.

Despite its non-application of up-to-date principles, the Royal gets a large entry of ciders. Cider being usually kept in fairly cool cellars cannot stand being exposed to a rather high temperature without inducing a secondary ferment or the development of acidity, as compared with the usually pleasant taste. Thus the samplers might have had quite a different cider to that which the judge a few days previous had either passed over or else given recognition to. But, as sampling was allowed, a goodly assemblage of cider makers availed themselves of this privilege on all three days, and a most valuable interchange of information ensued. The cask class, as a whole, was not a good one, there being several ciders. The first prize went to Mr. Herbert J. Davis, Sutton Montis, Somerset, for a very rich, full cider that needed more age; it was made from Royal, Chisel, and White Jersey apples and Cap of Liberty; the latter apple was scarcely pronounced enough. Second went to Messrs. Tilley, whose cider was of the usual rich Somerset character, but the heat had taken the character out of it. Third went to a Worcester exhibitor, Mr. John Bazley, a clean, nice, bright cider, but just a trifle acid. Only a couple of minor notices were given in this class. The class for cider in bottles, made in the autumn of 1904, was a very full one. Here it was noticed that some bottles had been rewired, but they did not get a prize. Messrs. Tilley Brothers, Shepton Mallet, secured all the prizes. The first was a heavily filtered cider made from New Cadbury, White Jersey, and Lady's Heart; perhaps it was the crushing of this that so appealed to the judge. The second was made from Horner, Royal Jersey, and Gin apples; whilst the third sample was made from Kingston Black, Red Jersey, and Cadbury. The general preference was for the second prize cider.

Mr. John Bazley suffered hard luck, as the exhibit from the same bin with which he took first prize at the Herefordshire Show and the championship of the Bath and West, was passed over unnoticed; whereas an exhibit unnoticed at either of these was now given a highly commended mention.

The old cider class brought out some very fine ciders indeed, but none so good as Mr. John Bazley's three-year-old Foxwhelp; it was a grand cider, brisk, clean on the tongue, and pleasantly stimulating.

Perry.

The Perry class was very fine, but opinion differed very much as to the placed and unplaced exhibits. It was evident that the judge liked an Oldfield perry, and, though it was not quite as bright as some of the others, the first prize went to Mr. George Ballard for his Oldfield exhibit; the second went to Messrs. Ridler for a rather hard perry, but bright, made from Holmer pears.

The Milk Tests.

In the Shorthorn section there were nineteen entries, and the prizes were won by Mr. George Taylor, of Cranford, Middlesex, with Melody, first; Mr. James T. Hobbs, of Fairford, Gloucester, with Orange Blossom 13th, which was second; and Mr. Charles A. Scott Murray, of Henley-on-Thames, who was third with Lady Millicent Waterloo. Both first and second prizes for Lincolnshire red Shorthorns were won by Mr. John Evans, of Burton, near Lincoln. The butter tests excited keen competition. There were two classes, according to live weight. Most of the entries were Jerseys, and in both classes the prizes went to animals of that breed.

Sale of Pigs.

The demand for these, which were sold by Mansell and Co., was a very uneven one, some making full value, and others going very cheaply. We follow the order of the classification in the catalogue. The first lot sold were two out of the second pen of Large White boar pigs, property of Mr. T. S. Jay. These made, respectively, 5 gs. and 4 gs., and were purchased by Mr. Bishop. The remainder of the white pigs were passed. The first lot in the Berkshire section was Mr. A. T. Acklands boar, which went to Mr. N. Benjafield at 5½ gs. Mr. Winterton gave 10 gs. for Mr. R. P. Cooper's boar of the same age. The r.n. boar in this class, Mr. J. A. Fricker's, went to the Hon. C. B. Portman at 25 gs. Mr. Rooth, from the Isle of Man, took five of the six young boars exhibited by Mr. A. D. Ackland at 4 gs., 3 gs., and 2 gs. each for three. He also took one from Mr. Cooper's pen at the latter price. From Mr. J. A. Fricker's first-prize pen the demand was very good. The first selection from this pen went to Mr. Noel at 30 gs., the top price realised in the pig sale. M. Cottard gave 12 gs. for another, and the third one made 11 gs. to Mr. Goodall. The Hon. A. H. Holland-Hibbert's pen went at 6½ gs. to Mr. McMonies, at 5 gs. to Mr. Booth, and 2½ gs. to Mr. Denyer. Mr. R. W. Hudson's pen went to Messrs. R. Miller (Canada) at 7½ gs., E. D. Harley at 5½ gs., and Rooth at 7 gs. The second-prize pen in this class, from Mr. G. Talfourd Inman, sold well. Sir T. Gooch took one at 10 gs., the Earl of Macclesfield one at 7 gs., and Mr. Rooth one at 7½ gs. Mr. J. W. Kimber's pen went at low prices. Two were purchased for the Middlesex County Asylum at 4½ gs. and 3½ gs., and the other one by Mr. Ashby at 2½ gs., this purchaser taking Mr. C. C. Smith's Kingstone Robena at 8½ gs.

Four of the six sow pigs exhibited by Mr. A. D. Ackland were sold at from 3 to 2 gs. each. Mr. J. A. Fricker's first-prize pen of sow pigs were in request: two were sold, one at 10 gs. to Mr. A. D. Ackland, and the other at 7 gs. to Mr. R. Miller, Canada. The second-prize pen in this class, which came from Mr. G. T. Inman, were all sold, Mr. Rooth paying 6 gs., Mr. R. P. Cooper 5 gs., and Mr. Fenwick 3 gs.

The demand for the Tamworths was very uneven, but some good prices were realised. For the third-prize boar, from Mr. R. Ibbotson, Mr. Michisson, of Rugby, gave 10 gs. Two of the first prize pen of young boars from the same herd were sold, Mr. C. Bathurst giving 10 gs. for the first one, and the Danish Bacon Agency 8 gs. for the other. Two of the r.n. pen that came from Mr. D. W. Phillips went at 6 gs. and 5 gs. respectively to Mr. H. C. Stephens and Major Sykes. One out of the second prize pen of Mr. H. C. Stephens was sold to Mr. Gibbin at 4 gs.

The champion sow of this breed, from Mr. E. J. Morant, went to Mr. Noel at 16 gs., and Mr. D. W. Philip's highly commended sow went to Mr. C. Bathurst at 20 gs. The three sow pigs from Sir. O. Mosley's herd sold badly, Mr. D. W. Philip taking one for 5 gs., and Mr. Michisson two at 2 gs. each.

The Large Black breed met with a fair demand for those that were sold. The second-prize old boar went to Mr. J. Jefferson at 5 gs. Mr. E. Gimblett's single boar pig went to Mr. Dixon at 4½ gs. Two of the same age, from Mr. H. J. Kingwell, sold as follows: 16 gs. to Mr. Robinson for the second-prize pig, and 7½ gs. to Mr. Bridgman for its mate. The third-prize pig, from Mr. A. S. Mann, made 12 gs. to Mr. Harrison. Mr. Oscar Muntz gave 5½ gs. for one of Mr. R. S. Olver's breeding. Mr. Booth took three others at 5 gs. each, bred by Messrs. R. R. Rothwell, K. M. Clarke, and E. Gimblett, and a second one from this breeder at 3 gs. Two sow pigs from Mr. R. S. Olver were sold at 4½ gs. and 5 gs. to Messrs. Oscar Muntz, and Sewell.

Winterton.

The thirty-third show of the Winterton Agricultural Society was held on Friday in the park, and notwithstanding dull weather, was well attended. Considerable interest was manifested in the classes for horses the entries being largely in excess of previous years.

HORSES.—Cart colt or filly foal, foaled before May 1: 1 and special, R. E. Knapton, Coleby, Doncaster; 2, W. F. Glasier, Winterton. Cart colt or filly foal, foaled on or after May 1: 1, G. Waterhouse, Wildsworth, Gainsborough; 2, R. I. Swaby, Counthorpe. Silver Challenge cup for carting colt or filly foal: R. E. Knapton. Mr. R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe's prize: 1, R. E. Knapton; 2, R. I. Swaby. Roadster foal: 1, A. H. Cooke, Marr, Doncaster; 2, W. F. Glasier. Mr. J. Heppleston's prize: 1, H. Halkon, Moorends, Thorne, Doncaster; 2, W. W. Sutton, Winteringham, Doncaster. Yearling cart gelding or filly: 1 and 2, C. R. Dook, Whitton Grange, Doncaster. Yearling or two-year-old readster gelding or filly: R. Humphrey, Morton, Gainsborough. Two-year-old cart gelding or filly: 1, A. Sheardown, Normanby Lodge, Doncaster; 2, A. Thompson, Old Brumby, Doncaster. Cart gelding or mare: 1, W. F. Glasier; 2, W. Brown, West Halton. Cart gelding or mare (open): 1, A. Thompson; 2, W F. Glasier. Silver bowl for carting mare, filly, or filly foal: Won outright by Mr. A. Thompson. Shire Horse Society's Medal: W. F. Glasier. Hackney Society's Medal: W. E. Inman, Huddersfield. Gelding or mare, driven in harness (open): 1, W. E. Inman, Fenay Bridge, Huddersfield; 2, J. R. Fox, Morton, Gainsborough. Gelding or mare, not exceeding 15 hands, driven in harness (open): 1, J. R. Fox, Morton, Gainsborough; 2, Rev. J. H. Rees, Helpringham. Pony, not exceeding 14 hands, driven in harness (open): 1, G. E. Franklin, The Field, Derby; 2, W. Revill, Conisborough. Gentleman's hack, to be ridden in the ring (open): 1, Rev. J. H. Rees, Helpringham; 2, J. Needham, Grimsby. Lady's hack (open): 1, U. R. Burke, Normanby, Doncaster; 2, J. W. Cook, Kirton Lindsey. Hurdle jumping by horses: 1, W. Favell, Sheffield; 2, Wellburn Bros., Huddleston Hall, South Milford. Gelding or mare, driven in harness, the bona-fide property of a tenant farmer or tradesman, residing and located within a twenty-miles' radius of Winterton (limited to Lincolnshire), and must have been in his or her possession and located in the district two months prior to the show: 1, J. Needham, Great Coates; 2, W. W. Sutton, Winteringham. Pony, not exceeding 14 hands (open): 1, G. E. Franklin, Derby; 2, W. Revill, Conisborough. Hurdle jumping by horses: 1, Wellburn Bros., Huddleston Hall; 2 and special, F. Hookham, Ulceby.

SHEEP.—Three Lincoln ewes, in milk: 1, W. F. Glasier, Winterton, Doncaster; 2, W. Blanchard, Whitton, Doncaster. Three Lincoln shearling gimmers: 1, W. F. Glasier; 2, W. H. Godfrey, Thealby, Doncaster. Three Lincoln lambs: 1, S. Tock, Highfield, Winterton; 2, W. Waddingham, Winterton. Three cross bred lambs: 1, W. H. Godfrey; 2, C. Skelton, Winterton.

Market Weighton.

The thirty-seventh annual Market Weighton Horse Show was held on Thursday. Hackneys were exceptionally strong. In a class of thirteen very promising fillies the four selected by the judges were all sired by Rosador, as was also the winner in the colt class. The last-mentioned was a chestnut belonging to Mr. J. Beal, of North Dalton This was its first appearance in competition, but the animal is a beautiful type of hackney, and the judges had no hesitation in awarding it the championship for foals. A colt by Polonius was placed second. Two handsome fillies were shown by Mr. F. W. Buttle, of Driffield—both the offspring of Rosador—and one of these, a three months old chestnut, came out at the head of a very strong class. Eight yearlings were entered, a distinct advance on last year, and the chief award was given to Messrs. Webster, of Brompton, in respect of a brown filly by Conquest II. First among two-year-olds was a Rosador filly owned by Mr. Buttle, and sister of District Maid, which won the championship at the Hackney Show this year. Roadster brood mares and stallions made a good muster. Though only five of the former appeared in the ring they were of the best type, and included Mr. H. Watson's grey mare, Queen of Newton Kyme, which is one of the offspring of Royal Danegelt, and has a good record. A Rosador stallion was placed first in the two-year-old class, and in the any age class the contest lay in the main between two sons of Garton Duke of Connaught, the palm being eventually awarded to Mr. M. Wray's Winchester, which was defeated last year by Mattine, a Leeds horse, but has been successful many times before and since. It is a capital mover, and showed rather more character than its nearest rival.

Hunters accounted for three interesting classes. The brood mares were led by a chestnut sired by Cedric, and exhibited by Mr. W. H. Winters, of Skipwith; and a ten year old bay, by Marmaduke Soult, was placed next. Mr. T. Wickham Boynton won in the three year old class, and Mr. J. Hadland, of Beverley, took both first and second in the class limited to tenant farmers and subscribers to the Holderness Hunt.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on June 28, Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P. (Vice-President), in the chair, when two new members were elected.

The Selection Committee submitted their further proposals with regard to the judging and stewarding arrangements at the Dairy Show on October 3 and three following days, and brief reports were received from the Show Committee and the Poultry and Pigeon Committee relative to various matters.

A letter was received from Mr. J. B. Ellis resigning his seat on the Council, and the resignation was accepted with expressions of regret.

A communication was received from the Prime Minister stating that he is fully alive to the importance which the association and other bodies attach to the early passage of the Sale of Butter Bill, and suggesting that the Society's request, as regards a deputation, should be addressed to the Board of Agriculture, he being the member of the Government in charge of the measure. The Council accordingly resolved to communicate with Mr. Fellowes on the subject.

A letter was read from the Board of Agriculture as to the suggestion of the Council that the importation of milk powder into the United Kingdom should be recorded in the monthly returns issued by the Customs authorities. The Board stated that, having regard to the small importations of this article, and to the labour which would necessarily be involved in the preparation of a monthly statement for such small items, the Board did not feel that they could press the matter officially on the Customs.

The Council had before them the question of the International Congress on Dairying to be held at Paris next October. It was considered desirable that this country should be represented at the Congress, and the Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Board of Agriculture on the subject.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed to be held on Wednesday, August 2.

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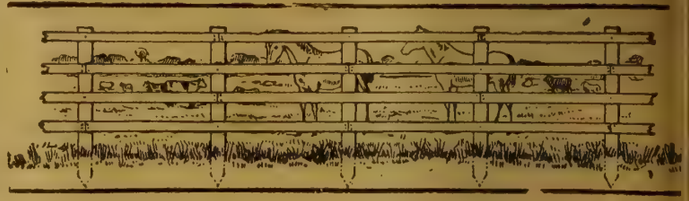

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GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

GREAT AGRICULTURAL SHOW
At TUNBRIDGE WELLS,
THURSDAY and FRIDAY, JULY 27th and 28th, 1905.

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS & RABBITS. IMPLEMENTS, &c.

JUMPING & DRIVING CLASSES EACH DAY.

GRAND PARADE OF HORSES & CATTLE, FRIDAY, JULY 27th, at 11.30 a.m.

The Ceylon Band will perform each day.

Cheap Tickets on S. E. & L. C. & Dover and L. B. & S. C. Railways
(see the Companies' own announcements.)

ADMISSION—
THURSDAY, 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. 2/6
1.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. 1/-
FRIDAY 9.30 a.m. to 6.0 p.m. 1/-
Carriages 10/- each.

(Signed) WM. ROPER, Secretary.
Tunbridge Wells.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW AT COVENTRY.
AUGUST 30th and 31st, 1905.

PRIZES OVER £1,165.

FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY PRODUCE, EGGS, DRESSED POULTRY, &c., &c.

Prizes in HORSE DEPARTMENT over £600.

Special DRIVING & JUMPING CLASSES.

Last day of Entry JULY 29th, after which at double fees up to Eight p.m., August 1st.

Prize Books and Entry Forms sent on application to

FREDERICK H. MOORE,
Secretary, Warwick.

CHATTERIS SHIRE HORSE and HACKNEY SOCIETY,
19th ANNUAL SHOW,
MONDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1905. Entries close July 24th, 1905. Mr. A. HAROLD RUSTON, Hon. Sec., Aveley House, Chatteris.

WORTHING AND WEST SUSSEX HORSE SHOW,
At WORTHING,
AUGUST 9th, 1905.
Entries close July 26th.
W. PAINE, Secretary,
Sumner House, Worthing, Sussex.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
At GUILDFORD,
AUGUST 30th, 1905,
E. H. ELLIS, Secretary,
Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

CENTRAL BANFFSHIRE FARMERS' CLUB,
At KEITH,
AUGUST 8TH, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
G. DONALD, Secretary,
Ladyhill Grange, Keith.

SOUTH BRENT, DARTMOOR PONY, &c., SHOW,
AUGUST 9th, 1905. Entries received until July 26th. Schedules and Entry Forms from Secretary, W. HULL, South Brent, Devon.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
AT HEANOR,
AUGUST 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
J. COVEL, Secretary.
Market Street, Heanor.

LUDLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At LUDLOW,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 24th.
E. H. WOOD, Secretary,
30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW
At COLESHILL,
Jumping, Driving, and Hunting Classes.
SEPTEMBER 11th, 1905.
Entries close 14 days before.
W. H. M. BARTON, Secretary,
High St., Coleshill, near Birmingham.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

WHALLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At WHALLEY,
JULY 27th, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
J. M. RAWCLIFFE, Secretary,
Whalley, near Blackburn.

HARROGATE and DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW,
THURSDAY, JULY 27th, 1905.
President: HY. WILLIAMS, Esq., Moor Park
Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, Four-in-hands, Jumping, etc.
ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 20th.
G. SAVILLE, Secretary.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY,
AUGUST 22nd, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary,
Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At MALTON,
JULY 26th, 1905.
Late entries to July 15th, 5s. extra.
T. MITCHELL, Secretary.
Malton

FELTON AND WARKWORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At WARKWORTH,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 22nd.
J. BARKER, Secretary,
High Stanners, Morpeth.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE EAST BERKS HORSE SHOW will be held at HAWTHORN HILL RACECOURSE, (Between Maidenhead and Bracknell, Berks.
On THURSDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1905.

Entries close July 25th, or with double fees August 1st.
Schedules, &c., may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary,
C. H. W. DIXON,
4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden,
London, W.C.

WALTHAM CROSS AND THREE COUNTIES HORSE AND FOAL SOCIETY,
At WALTHAM CROSS,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 7th.
J. CRAWTER, Secretary,
Cheshunt

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At KEELE PARK, KEELE,
AUGUST 10th, 1905.
Entries close: Dogs, August 3rd; Others, July 29th.
For Schedules—W. A. BENSON, Secretary,
Silverdale, Staffs.

WHITCHURCH (Salop) and DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SHOW at WHITCHURCH will be held on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd.
£500 in PRIZES. Entries close July 22nd.
For Shedules apply to
G. C. WYCHERLEY,
COLIN S. SMITH. } Hon. Secs.

CLIVIGER AGRICULTURAL SHOW, near BURNLEY,
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1905.
Show Field adjoins Holme L. & Y. Ry. Station
Schedules from J. CROSSLEY,
Secretary, Cliviger, Burnley

WHITWORTH (LANCASHIRE) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th, in the splendid Grounds of the Whitworth Football and Cricket Club.
Schedules now ready. Apply E. A. SCOTT,
Secretary, Whitworth, Lancashire.

WEST GLOSTER FARMERS' CLUB,
At WESTBURY-ON-TRYM,
AUGUST 7th, 1905
Entries close July 13th.
H. NICHOLS, Secretary,
Iron Acton, Bristol.

BERKELEY HUNT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At BERKELEY,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 15th.
G. CLARK, Secretary,
Severn Lodge, Berkeley, Glos.

ARUNDEL AND DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND POULTRY SHOW,
At ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK,
AUGUST 23rd, 1905.
Entries close August 15th.
C. BARTLETT, Secretary,
Tulchan, Arundel.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

RICK CLOTHS! RICK CLOTHS!!—Russell's chemically-dressed Covers are the best value in the Kingdom; 8 by 6 yds., 48s.; 8 by 8 yds., 64s.; 10 by 8 yds., 80s.; 10 by 10 yds., 100s.; 12 by 10 yds., 120s.; all carriage paid; thousands in use.—A. M. RUSSELL, Maker, Grassmarket, Edinburgh.

SPECIAL OFFER.—Galvanised Wire Netting, 50 yds., 3 ft, wide, 3 in., 5s.; 2 in., 6s.; 1½ in., 8s; 1 in. mesh, 10s. 6d. Orders to the value of 50s. carriage paid. Poultry Houses, Roofing Felt, Galvanised corrugated Iron. Garden Seats, &c. Lists free.—JOHN ADAMS, Hardware Merchant, 78, High Street, Leicester.

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS—New Sheets, perfect and sound, but slightly soiled by sea water, 3 ft. 6d., 4 ft. 9d., 5 ft. 1s., 6 ft. 1s. 2d., 7 ft. 1s. 4d., 8 ft. 1s. 6d., 9 ft. 1s. 9d., 10 ft. 2s. each; extra strong sheets, 24 w.g., 10s. cwt.; Best New Sheets, 24 w.g., 11s., 26 w.g., 12s. 6d. cwt.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

PLAIN FENCING WIRE, GALVANISED.—English made, perfect but slightly discoloured, 6, 393 yds, 7, 467 yds, 9, W. Gauge, 700 yds. to cwt., 9s. per cwt. Wrought Iron Standards 1s. each.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Estab. 1828.

FACTORY TO FARM—Mowing season, 1905. Best Reaper Knife Files 4s. 6d. doz; Sections 2s. doz., Rivets 7d. lb., Fingers 12s. doz. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—JOHN PEACE & SONS, Algoma Works, Sheffield.

RICK SHEETS! Rick Sheets!! Best Heavy Canvas, roped complete, 8 × 6yds., 30s.; 8 × 8yds., 39s.; 10 × 8yds., 48s.; 10 × 10yds., 59s. Carriage paid. Samples free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

BINDER TWINE! Best quality. 5-ply Jute, 36s.; Manila (mixed), 47s.; (pure), 48s. per cwt. Carriage paid. Samples Free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

BASIC SLAG. All qualities at lowest prices, delivered to any station.—PHŒNIX OIL MILL, Liverpool.

PEDICURA for HORSES' FEET, cures thrush, seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, foul smell of feet. Prevents and helps cure sandcrack and corns. Good for greasy heels, itchy mane, tail, or legs. Produces a sound, healthy growth of hoof. Tins 2s. 6d. or 10s. 6d. through Chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Iron-works, Cardiff.—Improved Waterproof Oil Sheets, guaranteed, 1s. 5d. and 1s. 10d. per square yard; any size supplied; galvanised sheep netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 17 gauge, 6s. 3d. per 50 yard roll, other gauges proportionate prices; galvanised wire netting, all widths and meshes at lowest prices; galvanised corrugated sheets, finest quality, 5ft. 1s. 1d.; 6ft. 1s. 3½d.; 7ft. 1s. 6d.; 8ft. 1s. 9d.; 9ft. 2s. 1d.; 10ft. 2s. 5d.; galvanised rick covers, all sizes, at lowest prices; galvanised steel cisterns, 50 gals. 12s. 6d.; 100 gals, 19s. 6d.; 150 gals. 30s.; 240 gals. 46s. All cisterns carriage paid. All sizes stocked. Send for new catalogue

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2d.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 500 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 5d. per yard

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality, 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 5d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d; 8 ft., 1s. 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 50 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins, Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

Mark Lane Express

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PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

1 insertion	... ...	8/-
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52 "	"	4/- "

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, and Farms to Let, Sixpence per line.

Paragraph Advertisements at foot of reading matter, One Shilling per line per insertion.

☞ Small Advertisements of Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Situations, &c. (under classified headings and set in body type), are charged at the rate of three words a penny (only when accompanied by remittance).

Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BASIC SLAG, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phosphates; also 38 to 45 and 30 to 35 per cent. qualities. KAINIT, MOSS LITTER, &c.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent., phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

LAITA.—The best milk substitute for calves, and best results; popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., Carriage paid.—Send 12s. 6d. for a sample bag to R. J. NELL & CO., Ltd., Spiced Food Mills, Louth, Lincs. Agents wanted.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

ENGLISH CIDER.—The best haymaking and general farm drink; thirst-quenching and refreshing. Try it to replace beer. Prices moderate. — Apply, McCREATH, North Petherton, Bridgwater.

SEED POTATOES.—Prospective purchasers are invited to inspect trials and crops on my farms, during the season, by appointment.—W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary. Spalding.

THOUSAND HEADED KALE SEED, 5d. lb., 21s. Bush. CENTENARY TURNIP (Sutton's) 6d. lb., 22s. Bush. Good Early Yellow-Fleshed variety. Bags 6d. each. The above Seeds are good Stocks. Write for Catalogue to LEONARD J. LEE, Seed Grower and Merchant, Leagrave, Luton, Beds.

PHŒNIX Compound Cakes and Meals for fattening and dairy purposes. The choicest qualities at lowest market prices —PHŒNIX OIL MILL, Liverpool.

SAVE MONEY by writing us for Implements of every description; largest and most complete implement depot in the Midlands; all the leading makes of Mowers, Binders, Horse Rakes, Swath Turners, &c., in stock, for inspection and immediate delivery. Repairs by experienced workmen — CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., Limited (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock and Stafford.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 12s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS (quite new, all sizes), 6 by 6 yards, 21s.; 7 by 6 yards, £1 4s. 6d.; 8 by 8 yards, £1 17s. 4d.; 10 by 10 yards, £2 18s. 4d.; or any size to order at 7d. per square yard; good hemp rope fitted; cash returned if not approved; carriage paid.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

"PAYING POULTRY": A Handbook for all interested in the keeping and Rearing of Poultry. Illustrated. Price One Shilling (by post 1/2½).—WILLIAM A. MAY, "Farm Field and Fireside, 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C

AUCTION SALES.

MONDAY, JULY 24th, 1905.
THE WATERS' PLACE HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK,
the property of Mr. T. Fowel Buxton.
Registered in the Hampshire Down Flock Book.
NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL SALE AND LETTING OF
90 RAM LAMBS AND RAMS,
together with
115 DRAFT EWES IN AGES,
and which
(in conjunction with Messrs. Jackson & Son)

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE are instructed to LET and SELL by AUCTION, at Waters' Place Farm, two miles from Ware (Hertford Branch), and three miles from Roydon (Cambridge line) Stations, G.E.R., on MONDAY, JULY 24th, 1905.

For many seasons the Sale and Letting of the Ram Lambs, Rams, and Ewes at Waters' Place has formed one of the most important annual fixtures in the Hampshire Down world, and as this breed of Sheep is yearly increasing in popularity both at home and abroad, the Auctioneers feel every confidence that they will again—as in previous years—be supported by admirers of Hampshire Downs anxious to secure sires from the celebrated Waters' Place Flock.

Conveyances will meet the trains at the above stations.

Luncheon at 12.30 and Sale after.

Catalogues of Mr. J. H HURFORD, Waters' Place Farm, Ware; of Messrs. G. JACKSON & SON, Auctioneers, Hitchin; or of WATERS & RAWLENCE, Canal, Salisbury.

COCUM FARM,
Six miles from Micheldever Station, two from Sutton Scotney Station, and seven from Winchester.
ANNUAL SALE OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS AND EWES.

MESSRS JAMES HARRIS & SON have been favoured with instructions from Mr. George Judd to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on Thursday, August 3rd, 1905:—
100 RAM LAMBS,
6 SHEARLING RAMS,
and
100 Regular DRAFT EWES,
from his well-bred Cocum Flock, entered in Vol. I. of Flock Book.

Conveyances will meet the principal Trains at Micheldever and Sutton Scotney Stations, and a brake will leave Winchester Station at 12 o'clock, and Andover at same time, on day of sale.

Luncheon will be provided at one o'clock, and sale commence immediately after.

Mr. Judd will be pleased to show his Flock of Breeding Ewes, Ram Lambs, &c., to his friends or intending Purchasers at any time previous to sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

Preliminary.

THE 20TH ANNUAL SALE AND LETTING
of
80 GRAND PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS AND RAM LAMBS,
from
MR. LAMBERT'S OLD-ESTABLISHED REGISTERED FLOCK,
will take place at
CAMBRIDGE,
On THURSDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1905.
MESSRS. CHALK, Auctioneers.
11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge and Linton.

WHIMPLE HOUSE, WHIMPLE, EXETER, close to Whimple Station on L. & S.W.R.

IMPORTANT SALE OF DEVON CATTLE, HUNTER AND SHIRE HORSES.

MESSRS. JOHN RISDON & SON are instructed by Mr. T. S. Morgan to SELL by AUCTION, at Whimple House, on THURSDAY, JULY 20th, 1905, at 1.30 p.m., the valuable DEVON CATTLE, HUNTER AND SHIRE HORSES, viz.,
35 PEDIGREE DEVON CATTLE.
30 FAT DEVON STEERS & HEIFERS.
8 HUNTER and SHIRE HORSES and COLTS.

Full particulars, with pedigrees and prize-winnings, are given in Catalogues, which may be obtained of Mr. MORGAN; at the place of Sale; or of the Auctioneers, at Williton and Wiveliscombe, Somerset.

Dated July 5th, 1905.

AUCTION SALES.

CHICHESTER.
GREAT ANNUAL SALE AND LETTING of SOUTHDOWN RAMS TUESDAY JULY 25th, 1905, and of SOUTHDOWN RAMS, EWES, and EWE & WETHER LAMBS on the following day WEDNESDAY JULY 26th.

The above Sale will be held by

HOBGEN BROS., at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market (quarter of a mile from Chichester Railway Station) commencing each day at one o'clock precisely, when a Grand Selection of Sheep will be offered from the well-known and celebrated SOUTHDOWN FLOCKS of:—

His Grace The Duke of Richmond & Gordon, His Grace The Duke of Devonshire, K.G., His Grace The Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Edwin Henty, Esq., Jeremiah Colman, D.L., J.P., Edwin Ellis, Esq., H. Cosmo Bonsor, Esq, A. Heasman, Esq., J. Edward Allen, Esq., Herbert Padwick, Esq., The Pagham Harbour Co., Messrs. F. N. & E. Hobgen, and others.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Hall.

Catalogues may be had of HOBGEN BROS., East Street, Chichester, who will execute commissions.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

TRING PARK FLOCK.

SALE DAY, FRIDAY, JULY 21st.

70 GRAND RAM LAMBS.

120 EWES AND EWE LAMBS.

This year's selection from the Right Hon. Lord Rothschild's Flock of Registered Sheep will be found one of the best yet offered. The continual selection of the best Lambs procurable from other leading breeders has so stamped the Flock that the Sale now presents one of the best opportunities to secure a perfect combination of the improved Hampshire Down Sheep.

Arrangements made for Foreign buyers accommodation.

For further particulars apply to Mr. RICHARDSON CARR, Tring, Herts (L. & N. W. R., 30 miles from Euston), who will show the whole Flock, or to Messrs.

W. BROWN & CO.,
Auctioneers, Tring.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.—Fifty SHORTHORNS belonging to Mr. F. J. Steward, at White Hall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3. The entire Whitlingham Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (about 1,000 head), at Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.—Col. A. F. Walter's SOUTHDOWNS, at Bearwood, Wokingham.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11.—Mr. A. T. Miles' Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, at Buckwell, Wye, Kent.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sir N. W. Throckmorton's SOUTHDOWN Flock, at Buckland, Faringdon.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W.

CIRENCESTER RAM FAIR,
AUGUST 1st, 1905.

Mr. JAMES T. HOBBS'
MAISEY HAMPTON FLOCK.

A. F. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, in a Field adjoining the Cattle Market, at 12 o'clock, about
60 GRAND PURE-BRED OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS, bred by and the property of James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Gloucestershire, this being the 45th Annual Sale.

First Prizes, Champion and Breed Cups have this year been awarded to the Maisey Hampton Flock at the Oxfordshire Show, Bath and West of England Show, Royal Agricultural Society's Show, Highland Show, Gloucestershire Show, Smithfield Club and Birmingham Fat Stock Shows

First Prizes have been won eight years in succession at the Royal Agricultural Society's Shows.

The Rams this year are exceptionally dark in colour, with abundance of firm lean meat, heavy in bone, and well covered with wool of very fine texture.

A Brake will leave Fairford Station for Cirencester at 10.18 a.m., returning to meet the 6.35 p.m. train. A train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m, arriving at Cirencester at 11.40 a.m.

TUCKER BROTHERS (Abergavenny) LTD.

MESSRS. TOMKINS & CAPPER will offer for SALE by AUCTION at the ANGEL HOTEL, ABERGAVENNY, on TUESDAY, 18th JULY, 1905, at 3 o'clock, the following VALUABLE PROPERTY:

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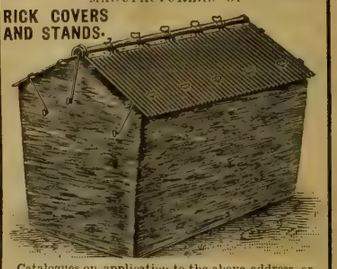

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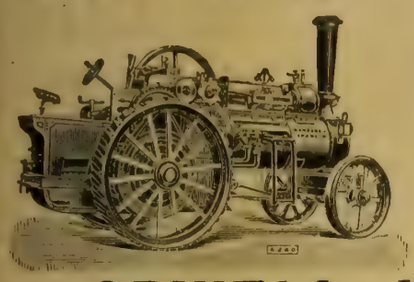

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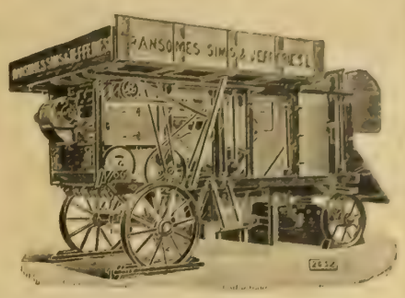

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ESTABLISHED 1832.

JULY 17, 1905.

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AN EMINENT AGRICULTURIST.

The duty of chronicling the ravages of death is always a sad and distasteful one; but it become still more distressing when as this week we have to record the demise of such an eminent agriculturist as Sir Jacob Wilson. English agriculture and stockbreeding is a by-word all the world over, and we can truthfully say that wherever English agriculture is held in high esteem, there also is the name of Sir Jacob Wilson an honoured one. Sir Jacob's life-work has been done in many places and phases; but if one, perhaps, will remain more enduring than another, it will be the great things he has accomplished in connection with the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Our national society has lately fallen upon bad times, and the result of the last show must have been a terrible blow to Sir Jacob. We came into contact with him before and during the recent show, and he expressed himself most hopeful of eventual success, so the crushing failure at Park Royal last June much have been a great disappointment. Sir Jacob's work, however, was well done.

"'Tis not in mortals to command success,
But we'll do more . . . we'll deserve it."

And if ever a show did deserve a change of fortune it was the last Park Royal exhibition. We remarked at the time that the showyard was the most perfect that we had ever visited, and it certainly was a tribute to Sir Jacob's talent and energy, and a crowning success in a direction in which he had already made his mark. The death of Sir Jacob Wilson is a great loss to English agricultural and to our national society; and those who had the pleasure of meeting him at the last Royal Show little thought that his end was so near. His career has been a brilliant one, and his name will be an honoured one as long the annals of agriculture exist. May the turf lie lightly upon him.

THE AMERICAN NEW CROPS.

The Russian, Argentine, and Roumanian wheat crops are of great importance to the British markets, but the reports which reach us are meagre and almost wholly lacking in detail. It is not until the result of the entire national production is officially set forth in some Blue Book that we can say with any safety what quantities of corn we shall have to deal with. The American crops, which concern us most of all are, on the contrary, the subject of reports so full, so elaborate, and so multiform, that it is literally a case of not being able to see the wood for the trees. Let us try with all possible brevity to tell the reader of some not unimportant changes which are taking place in the United States. The leading event, perhaps, is a steady increase in the area under wheat. In the past ten years the average price of wheat on the farm in America has been only 21s. 8d. per qr., yet the area devoted to wheat culture has risen by eight million acres. This American wheat can be put on Mark Lane at 7s. per qr. charges on the farm price in the States, and it is worth as much per qr. as English wheat; sometimes, especially when the home weather has been wet, it is worth more. Thus English wheat is brought by American competition to a 28s. 8d. average, and it is only in periods of reduced American competition that a thirty shilling average can be hoped for. The short crop of America in 1904 was an exceptional experience. It is doubtful if seventy million quarters were actually harvested. This year it is not improbable that eighty-eight millions will be secured.

The next most important event is the change in the State areas, and consequently in the types of wheat grown. While the areas which produce strong spring wheat, rich in gluten, are being extended, those which grow weaker wheat of a fine white or pale yellow colour and of soft milling character, are being reduced. We must expect in the forthcoming twelve-month of American shipments— the American shipping year begins August 1—a decided increase in supplies of wheat from Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana, and no less decided reduction in supplies from California, Oregon, the Walla Walla district, and the regions lying high on the western and eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains. It is clear that these tendencies are of considerable interest to the British wheat grower, as they indicate where competition, and consequent price depression, are likely to be respectively most and least.

The third point of prominent interest relates especially to this year's promise of the fine spring wheat from which the famous mills of Minneapolis, Duluth, and Chicago make the flour which all the world bids for. The wheat of this region looks like being rather short in supply. Minnesota looks 7 per cent. less than last year, Iowa to 1 per cent. less, Dakota to 2 per cent. less. On the other hand, the rising new State of Washington, on the Pacific seaboard, has a bumper crop, by far the best on record, in a country where it has to be remembered no crop records go back into the nineteenth century. The Government report issued on 12th inst. contains, it must also be noted, no reference to the spring wheat crops of Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah, and these States may send us no inconsiderable quantity of very serviceable and, indeed, fine, spring wheat.

The maize crop is the subject of an elaborate first report, but until August is over this October crop is not sufficiently advanced in growth for comment to be really valuable. Of oats, the news is more important, for the crop is ripening fast, and should be a very large one. In all some 120 million quarters are promised, and this is twenty millions above the estimated maximum home wants. If America has twenty million quarters of oats to put on Old World markets, the price of oats is likely to be extremely low for all but the heavy types, of which England, Scotland, and New Zealand are practically the sole producers, though the Canadian North-west ought also to be able to grow them.

American barley is still a comparative novelty, and when a country of two thousand million acres only devotes seven million acres to a cereal, it may almost be said to ignore it. The demand for brewing barley is increasing despite "the wave of sobriety" which has broken with such devastating effects upon the Returns of Customs and Excise. Germany and France are entering the field as buyers, and there is no fear that prices will be depressed by the American consignments. What, however, cannot be ignored is the fact that America has not as yet entered the arena as a serious grower of barley for exportation. Should she do so under stimulus of good prices the whole position of the home barley trade might undergo grave modification.

Seasonable Topics.

It is quite evident that, whatever is done in the future to ensure gates at Royal shows (if they continue to exist), it is not much good depending on the man in the street, and the great effort must be to get the farmers and people who are practically interested in agriculture. The Royal show this year was held just when the hay harvest was getting into full swing, and one of our correspondents recently pointed out that this doubtless had the effect of keeping a good many people at home. We do not wish to suggest for a moment that the time of holding the show was responsible for the financial failure and the small crowd of visitors, but it was probably a contributory cause. When haymaking is about, the place for the average farmer is at home, and naturally other members of his family remain at home as well. Do not think that the farmer is averse to a little holiday now and then, for, on the other hand, he enjoys it and deserves it, but it is absurd to talk of holidays while haymaking is about, and had the Royal show been held at a time of more convenience to the farming fraternity, it is very probable that it would have been attended by a larger number of agriculturists. There may, of course, be other and good reasons why the Royal Show was held during haytime, but the fact that it failed is sufficient excuse for bringing forward any argument which may help to avoid similar disaster in the future.

Farmers and the Royal Agricultural Show.

* * *

Our correspondent who discusses hops week by week in this journal recently informed his readers that his visit to the Royal Show, looking for the usual hop exhibits, was disappointing, because there were none on view. He failed to ascertain the cause of their absence, and, considering the importance of the hop-growing industry, it is curious that it was not represented. Were Kentish growers too busy with cultural matters to think about the exhibition side, and what was Wye College doing? This collegiate establishment is situated in the centre of the industry, and hops are grown here somewhat extensively. In fact, a good deal has been done at Wye by experiments and conferences to further the interests of hop culture, and, this being the case, it would probably be disappointing to many from the southern county, and also Worcester, that there was nothing referring to hops even in the educational department, which, in many respects, was one of the main features of the show.

No Hops at the Royal.

* * *

It has been said that it is quite impossible to make a good gardener out of a farmer, and whether this is so or not, we have observed that, as a rule, farmers do not take kindly to horticulture. We are inclined to think, on the whole, that this is a loss to the farmer, because in many cases, if he gave the same attention to detail as is necessary in the case of the gardener, he would get better results. The amount of interest which the farmer takes in horticulture, however, can be gauged by the condition of the garden surrounding the homestead, and we confess to admiration for a man who likes to keep his place neat and tidy. A little patch of lawn in front of a farmhouse may be a convenient place for rearing young ducks and chickens on, and there would be an excuse for it if there was not another inch of ground available, but in the circumstances there is no real reason why the grass plot should not be kept for the purpose for which it was intended. A well-kept garden beautifies a farmstead just as it does any other habitation, but when the enclosure intended for fruit, flowers, and vegetables is given over to poultry, and ill weeds are allowed to flourish at will, then an air of slipshod untidiness prevails, which is offensive to the eye of any lover of neatness and order. Fortunately, all farmers are not careless gardeners, because in passing along the King's highway one is frequently attracted by farmhouses having neat, well kept gardens about them, which give to the whole place an air of comfort and contentment.

Farmers as Gardeners.

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This worthy individual is safe from extinction, and the march of modern progress, because Longfellow thought well to immortalise him in his well-known poem, bearing the above title. Apart from Longfellow and his poem, however, we do not think that the blacksmith will be likely to drop out, because he is much too useful a man, and quite indispensable in rural districts. We fail to see what the farmer would do without the man of iron, who shoes his horses for him, repairs his machines, makes hangings for his gates, and, at a pinch, solders his milk-churns. In fact, the country blacksmith is a general factotum, who is expected to be able to turn his hand to anything connected with iron. If a farmer buys a patent implement of some new and intricate make, and it happens to get out of order, he promptly sends it to the smithy, and naturally expects the presiding genius thereof to know all about it. Even the motorist who has a breakdown five miles from anywhere stakes his last card on the blacksmith being able to help him out, and expresses himself in tones of disgust if the man confesses to an ignorance of motor-cars. As it happens, however, the blacksmith is the last man in the world to confess to ignorance. If he did that his occupation would be gone at once, considering the many different jobs he has to do, so he just puckers his brow, sets his wits to work, and generally manages to pull through somehow. It is no uncommon sight at this time of the year to see mowing machines and other haymaking implements drawn up before the village smithy awaiting the attention of the blacksmith, and one wonders what would be done at times of emergency without this worthy man. The implement-maker can turn out brand new machines fast enough, but he cannot insure them against damage and breakages, and when accidents of this kind happen, repairs must be done, and done quickly. The handy man for the job is the village blacksmith, and consequently he is indispensable.

The Village Blacksmith.

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Through the combined forces of soaking rains and warm sunshine, mushrooms are now growing freely in favoured fields, from which places they find their way into the markets, and finally on to the tables of those people who have a taste for this edible fungi. At a retail price of sixpence a pound, we have bought mushrooms of late, and though the picker did not get quite so much, one would think it would be worth the while of farmers to preserve their mushrooms and collect them for the market. We are acquainted with some who do this, and, though it has been proved in courts of law that mushrooms may be treated as a crop, certain members of the British public hold views of their own on the matter, and never hesitate to trespass on other people's land in search of the fungi. It may be a relic of an old custom that mushrooms, watercress, blackberries, bilberries, and the like should be treated as public property, but there are lots of people who would never dream of asking a farmer's permission to walk over his ground in search of mushrooms, though they would not think of doing it under any other circumstances. Some years ago we knew a farmer who dressed his ground with proper material to encourage the growth of mushrooms with a view to making money out of them. Such a thing as being prevented from picking mushrooms anywhere and everywhere had never been heard of in the district before, and the local rustics imagined that their rights were being interfered with. To such an extent did they resent the action of the farmer that they stole his mushrooms from under his very nose, and defied him to stop them. It was not till after several summonses had been issued and fines were inflicted at the police court that the local mushroomers realised that the farmer could consider mushrooms as his private property.

Mushrooms.

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In connection with different agricultural societies in the country, we frequently read and hear of awards being given to farm servants, both male and female, for long service in the employ of the same family. Not long ago we were chatting with a man who had worked for sixty years on the same farm. Sixty years; just think of it, working day after day on the same holding! We question whether there will be many in the future who are able to boast of such a record. It was interesting to chat with the old veteran, who had never rolled, but had never gathered much moss. On the farm where he still potters about he swung a sickle in the days when corn was grown, and before the reaper and binder was thought of. The women and children used to glean then, and, with a twinkle in his eye, the old man tells of how the reapers used to leave a bit for them. The veteran can talk of the days when the tithe was paid in kind, and the tenth shock of corn was moved away to the tithe barn. For weeks at a stretch he swung a flail in the barn before the days of the threshing machine, and an exciting moment of his life was when he spent threepence on a box of lucifer matches and struck them all one after another just for the sake of seeing this novel way of producing fire. Peculiar are the ideas of some of these old stagers, but, nevertheless, something may be learnt from the experience of a man who has spent half a century or more on the same farm.

Long Service.

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From the report of the Board of Agriculture under the Diseases of Animals Act, it may be observed that there has been a very satisfactory decrease in this epidemic. In 1894 the veterinary inspectors of the Board confirmed 5,682 outbreaks of swine fever, and 56,296 swine were slaughtered. Ten years later, in 1904, the number of outbreaks confirmed were 1,196, and 5,603 infectious pigs were killed. No one knows better than farmers and dealers how troublesome at times are the swine fever regulations, but the above satisfactory figures offer some compensation for the inconvenience caused.

Swine Fever.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

New Council.

Owing to the withdrawal of other candidates, the following gentlemen are (in addition to the thirty-one members already returned unopposed) deemed duly elected as ordinary members of the new Council of the Royal Agricultural Society:—For Hertfordshire, Mr. Richardson Carr, Estate Office, Tring; for Kent, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Boley Hill House, Rochester, and Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Linton Park, Maidstone; and for Warwickshire, Mr. Howard P. Ryland, Moxhull Park, Erdington, Birmingham. In view of the duties devolving upon him as Chairman of Committees of the House of Lords, the Earl of Onslow finds himself unable to undertake the post of President of the society for the ensuing year.

The New President.

In view of the inability of the Earl of Onslow to undertake the duties of President of the Royal Agricultural Society for the ensuing year, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, of Linton Park, Maidstone, has, at the request of members of the Committee of Selection of the Society, consented to allow himself to be placed in nomination for election as President of the Society for 1905-6 at the Annual General Meeting of Governors and Members to be held at 13, Hanover Square, on Tuesday, August 1st.

Small Holdings Committee.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to enquire into the subject of small holdings, held a meeting on the 13th inst.

The following members were present: — The Right Hon. The Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G. (Chairman); The Right Hon. The Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G.; The Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P.; Sir Ralph Anstruther, Bart.; Major P. G. Craigie, C.B.; Mr. C. Bidwell; Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P.; Mr. James Long; Mr. J. W. Willis-Bund; Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., and the Secretary (Mr. T. H. Sutton).

Evidence was given by the Right Hon. The Earl of Harrowby, Sandon Hall, Stafford, and Mr. J. H. Diggle, Moulton, Spalding.

Railway Rates.—Mr. T. Waghorn, barrister-at-law, gave evidence recently before Lord Jersey's Committee on behalf of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture on the alleged preferential treatment of foreign produce over home produce and the remedial measures which the chambers consider necessary. Sir Herbert Jekyll explained that preferential treatment was a breach of the law, and could only be dealt with by a court of law; and the Board of Trade could only act as conciliators when points of law were not involved. The Witness said that his objection to the Railway Commission dealing with cases of agricultural preference was its great cost; it might be anything from £25 to £10,000. His principal remedy was to transfer agricultural matters from the Board of Trade to the Board of Agriculture, who would know the requirements of the agriculturists and be able to suggest some means of meeting the railway companies, such as co-operation among the farmers, and giving full truck loads. Then if these powers were not given the chambers of agriculture pressed very strongly, as an alternative, that the Board of Agriculture, on behalf of agriculturists, should have power to get a legal decision where a general principle was involved. They suggested for this reason that if, for example, the Act were construed to say that sea competition was a justification for giving preferential rates to the foreigner, then it would be open to the Board of Agriculture to ask for an amendment of the law.

By a Lobbyist.

The significance of the new redistribution proposals—and I am assuming that they will be adopted by the Legislature—lies in the evidence that they provide of what I regard as the ungenerous attitude which British statecraft has invariably adopted towards rural representation. To me there is something grotesquely anomalous in the fact that whilst centres at present represented in the House which can boast of a population of 18,500 will retain their distinction, no less than fifty thousand electors in Norfolk will be deprived of the same distinctive privilege, and be merged into neighbouring constituencies. Of course, that redstribution is necessary is undeniable. This has been rendered so, not merely by the fact that the population has largely shifted its home, but by the fact that the last Redistribution Act perpetuated many anomalies, and by the further fact that the boundary areas in the counties resolved upon by the Boundary Commissioners could only have been accepted in a mood of caprice or a spirit of jaunty indifference. Still, I doubt that these new proposals will do more than unsettle, that they will achieve aught more than to induce a spirit of resentment in the eight counties and the six boroughs to be deprived of a member. Of course, I comprehend that the same basis of population cannot be accepted for town and country alike; but the disparity between 18,500 and 65,000 does seem to me to be too great—too generous to the towns, too ungenerous to the villages.

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One distinct result of the proposals will be to give a more definitely urban character to the House of Commons. There are to be sixteen new English constituencies and one new Welsh constituency. Not only are these new constituencies to be carved entirely out of the towns, but two seats which will under the plan be deducted from the present electoral scheme for the counties will be appropriated by urban centres. I am not anticipating any revival of the old town-and-county antagonism—indeed, the portents point to its absolute disappearance; but the fact remains that with any deliberate issue presented to Parliament which antagonised the great urban centres from the country, this would mean thirty-eight votes. This would have meant a serious matter in the days when the original Agricultural Rates Bill was being bitterly debated, and passions were being evoked by the lurid pictures of a wicked landlordism deliberately filching from the exchequer of the municipalities. It may, too, be a serious matter when the question of the general reform of taxation is considered. Remember that even certain Tory municipalities are in favour of the taxation of land values—a project which smells rank in the nostrils of rural Toryism. It may be that East Ham, Walthamstow, Hornsey, and Tottenham—four of the new boroughs—will each send a Conservative to the House; but I wean that you will find the municipalities in each of these centres in favour of this drastic Radical principle. Yes, the net result of the Redistribution proposals will be the modification of the rural influence in the House of Commons. It is, I fear me, another step in the elimination of the country-squire and landlord element from our politics and statecraft. The astonishing thing is that this should have been done under the ægis of a Tory Government.

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Of course, in another sense, agriculture must distinctly benefit. By the reduction of the number of those political Ishmaelites, the Irish Nationalists, we shall have the prospect of at least added opportunities of dealing with agricultural questions. This reduction of numbers will, it is to be assumed, be accompanied by a moderation of that vivacious activity and restless zeal which have almost usurped every hour of time which the Government could spare the House for business outside its own intentions. In their fevered pursuit of their own ambitions, the Irish Nationalists are indifferent to every interest but their own Not once or thrice have they thwarted and baffled the designs of men anxious to secure some advantage for agriculture. The clipping of the wings of Ishmaelitism is a good thing. The pity on't is that it should have associated with it the punishment of rural representation.

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So we are not only to have the encouraged competition of one Canada in the halcyon day when the policy of Colonial preference has been carried into effect. We are to have the encouraged competition of a second Canada. Australia supplies England at the present time with more wheat than Canada. And Western Australia believes that she possesses a fertility greater than the fertility of Canada. Believing this, Western Australia is preparing herself for the part she is convinced she is destined to play in the economic destiny of the Empire. She is beseeching the would-be emigrant who is likely to make a good colonist to resort to this cereal-Bonanza—to this paradise where wheat may be garnered almost ere the seed has made acquaintance with the soil. Here is the bait offered to him:—A passage for £12; a sojourn at the State farms in order to learn the Australian method of farming, at a cost to himself of 10s a week; a free grant of a hundred and sixty acres, or, if he prefer superior land, he can purchase at 10s. an acre, and have the repayment spread over a period of twenty years. I see that Lord Ridley has just recalled to us the fact that Lord Rosebery, as far back as December of 1903, declared that "the sole effect as regards British agriculture of this new policy will have been to stimulate wheat-growing and agriculture in the colonies to an almost unlimited degree. The 2s. duty would be inadequate to benefit the British farmer directly, and would only stimulate an illimitable area of competition." What has Mr. Chamberlain to offer in view of the many definite efforts now being made by the colonies to realise this prophecy?

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"He cannot," said Mr. Chamberlain, speaking of the ordinary Tory candidate, "go to the country and say that he is for Preference with the colonies and yet is not prepared to pay the price." What is to compensate the British farmer, out of whose purse the real price of this policy will have to come—the farmer, who will be the real and probably the only victim of the scheme? Why do not Mr. Chamberlain and his ancients and lieutenants direct their attention to the readjustment of the balance of responsibility? Is the Statesman in favour of a direct bounty to the wheat-growing English farmer? To again quote Mr. Chamberlain: "No Tory candidate will do any good to himself and his party by ignoring this question and putting it behind him." And yet Mr. Chamberlain is guilty of an evasion of this grave issue which is almost disciplined in its completeness. He had a great opportunity of relieving our anxiety at the Albert Hall—and he was content with a mere platitude and an empty generalisation.

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Mr. Rider Haggard is quite right in emphatically protesting against the idea that in his colonisation scheme he desired to rob England of her sons and daughters. If I have personally in my comments conveyed this idea I am sincerely sorry; it was not my intention. All the same, however, I am so insular in my prejudices and anxieties that I would infinitely rather the organising ability and patience which Mr. Rider Haggard suggests were devoted to the establishment of colonies for Englishmen and Englishwomen in Canada were directed to a similar home-front. As a fact, Mr. Haggard himself would prefer this. Indeed, he made this much definitely clear in the sagacious speech which he delivered to the Garden City Association on Thursday. Garden cities will serve a wise purpose. They will help to modify the economic conditions which demoralise life and weaken humanity in the great urban congeries of our civilisation. But garden cities will not alone solve the grave problems born of the segregation of the populace in the large towns. Beneficent in itself, the Garden Cities' idea has not associated with it that authority which Mr. Haggard desires for his purpose. If we should ever reproduce these agricultural and industrial settlements in this country there must be always behind the project something more than the desire to offer a new life and prospect to the derelicts of our towns, to men who are the victims of the competitive system, to the unfortunate conscripts of the great jostling centres. There must be associated with it the desire to make these colonies nurseries of labour for the country-side. The very system of training as the very character of the daily round should be such as to fit a man for the labour of the fields, and to render him content with an atmosphere of pure air and somnolent quietude. We have to seek to transfer the men who fail to find work in the towns to the land thirsting for labour—to the land parched by its absence. This is so monumental a duty that the State and municipalities might well undertake it. To retain in our midst fellows in whom the possibilities of a decent citizenship still lingers is a wiser policy than exporting them to Canada.

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The Land Law Reform Association—a body which I have more than once described as "Mr. Channing's organisation," because the legislative ambitions of the Member for the Kettering division may be said to epitomise its purpose—is continuing the propaganda whose object is to disciplinise rural opinion in favour of its projects. I learn that two other conferences have been arranged, the first at Lincoln and the other at one of the Kentish centres, at which the programme of the Association will be debated, and sympathetic resolutions passed. I am in a large measure in harmony with many of the purposes of the Association; but I rather regret that these gatherings are given so distinctively a partisan character. Compensation for improvements, compensation for disturbance, the prevention of capricious eviction, the attempt to recall the yeoman to the land by enabling him to purchase his holding by means of a State-advanced loan, and the extension of the Small Holdings Act, were not of necessity partisan-ambitions. I would that the society would seek to gather into association with it that non-political sympathy with rural reform which now agitates the minds of men of all creeds and faiths. We are all reformers now. Of course, the retort will be made that the Association would willingly welcome these men into its ranks. You cannot, however, expect an eager adherence from Conservative reformers when they see the oratorical platform of the Association usually occupied by Liberals.

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Mr. Balfour may be as denunciatory of the Liberal tactics as he will, he may make the most picturesque of epistolary accusations, he may indulge in the most turgid of affected tempers. Still, the fact remains that his abandonment of the Butter Bill—and abandonment we must take his attitude to be—will inevitably recall Professor James Long's accusation: "Mr. Balfour would rather cut off his head than do anything for agriculture." After all, the duration of a season is not fixed by an inflexible and invincible law. If he choose, he could extend it to September, rather than restrict it to the early half of August. And the Butter Bill is so largely non-contentious that there would have been little difficulty in securing its passage. True, a few interested persons might have been garrulous; but a sense of the sentiment of the House would have put some curb on their wagging tongues. A necessary piece of legislation has been relinquished and sacrificed, a piece of legislation which a sympathetic disposition would have ere this made the law of the land. Mr. Balfour is the master of many Parliamentary legions, and in

this case he would have actually been reinforced from the cohorts of his enemy. I wonder what Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes thought when the fact of the Premier's intention was communicated to him, and he was made aware of his resolve to throw all the blame—he, the Leader of the House, and the man who regards the closure as a heaven-designed instrument for his benefit—for his resolution on the Radicals. His face must have been a revelation of chagrin and amazement. The Minister for Agriculture has at least been whole-heartedly sincere over the business.

NORTHERN NOTES.

A week ago it was predicted in this column that the caterpillars of the diamond back moth would now be doing an immense amount of injury to the turnip crop, and more particularly to swedes. To-day these pests are strongly in evidence near the coast, and the nearer the crop is to the sea the more plentiful are the caterpillars. Fortunately, showers of rain have fallen in many places, but in some districts there has been no rain since the middle of May, and there the outlook is extremely bad. However, upon the whole, the caterpillars have thus far done less harm than was anticipated, but the crisis is close at hand, and only rain can avert it.

Everywhere wheat looks well, and if only the time for "filling" continues hot—and at present there is no ground for complaint on this score—the crop will be a bumper. According to the *Times* reports, taking an average crop at 100, the present condition of the wheat crop is 97.5, but this estimate is, so far as the Northern counties are concerned, too low. Here, the crop, so far as its present condition is concerned, is decidedly above the average, and might be returned at least as 102.5 or even higher. The position of the barley crop, there stated as 89, is probably applicable here, but the outcrop of the North hardly warrants the figures 84, low as these are. The *Times* estimates of beans and potatoes may also be accepted for the North, but the estimate of roots is far too high. If 100 be taken as the standard of the average crops of mangolds and turnips, the number 83 may fairly represent the condition of mangolds, but the turnip crop falls far below eight-tenths of an average.

The Border lamb sales are now beginning, but lambs are being held back as long as possible on account of the paucity of sheep keep. It is said that these lambs are no better than they were last year, but prices higher by from 1s. to 3s. per head were secured. The numbers penned at these sales were so small that no great reliance can be placed upon the results obtained.

The scarcity of pasturage is now a common complaint, perhaps more particularly evident in the clover pastures. These are very bare and brown, but it is surprising how well ewes and lambs will thrive in a bad pasture in a hot, dry season if only water is supplied *ad libitum*. The cost of the cartage of water is a very serious matter on many farms where every drop required for every purpose has to be drawn from a distance of two or three miles. One sometimes hears of graziers who think themselves hardly dealt with if they have to cart water from one field to an adjoining one, but what they would say if they had to cart from a well two or three miles from their farms all the water required by a flock of 700 or 1,000 sheep and lambs, thirty or forty horses, and perhaps sixty or seventy cattle, besides every drop required for household purposes, goodness only knows! Oilcakes continue comparatively high in price, but, all the same, a moderate expenditure in cake is a judicious outlay at present, as it helps to make the scanty herbage go further than it would otherwise do, and prevents stock from losing condition.

The harvest bug, or harvest spider—perhaps a variety of the "Red Spider" which is so troublesome to the inhabitants of the chalk districts just when the grain crops are approaching maturity, is often a source of considerable injury to sheep in these localities. These insects seem to collect more particularly towards the heads of the animals, which rub and frantically scratch their necks with their fore feet in their vain endeavours to obtain relief. Sometimes the wool growing round the neck will assume the appearance of a collar through the scratching while blood will be actually drawn from the jaws and throat. The remedy is to dip the flock without delay, and fortunately any kind of dip—poisonous or non-poisonous—will give the desired relief, and the solution need not be very strong if the animals are but kept a minute in the bath and care is taken to souse them overhead once or twice. In some seasons it is surprising how severely sheep grazing in clover pastures on chalk lands will suffer from the bites of these "harvest bugs," and it is an act of gross cruelty to refrain from dipping—or re-dipping—when their presence in the flock has become manifest.

There seems a decided slackness in the home-grown wool market—perhaps it may be only momentary, but the probability is that prices have reached their highest point; at any rate, for some little time to come. There has been little demand for the home trade, the increase in price is entirely due to American activity. One very significant feature of recent seasons is the decreasing number of spinners and manufacturers who by themselves, or through agents, buy direct from the farmer. Almost all the northern lustre wools find their way into the hands of two or three factors or merchants, who buy to sell again to the manufacturer. In some quarters there is a great cry against the middleman; whether it is possible to dispense with this individual in ordinary matters is a very vexed question, but one thing is certain as regards the wool trade, and that is this: there is only the middleman who will buy wool from the farmer who grows it.

M. Y.

July 15, 1905.

An Echo of the Potato Boom.

At the Lincolnshire Assizes, at Lincoln, on Saturday week, Mr. Justice Lawrance resumed the hearing of the action brought by Mr. Thomas J. Blaydes, farmer, of Epworth, to recover £333 2s. 6d. from Messrs. J. H. and T. Bletcher, farmers, Owston Ferry, Worlaby, for potatoes sold and delivered.

Mr. Hugo Young, K.C., for the plaintiff, stated that in March last year, plaintiff sold defendants a quantity of King Edward VII. seed potatoes at £9 a ton. In June plaintiff hear a rumour that the potatoes were a failure. In August defendants wrote him that the potatoes were nothing but rubbish, and that not half of them had grown. Plaintiff maintained that the potatoes were sold without a guarantee, and that the failure of the crop was owing to the condition of the land and severe cutting of the potatoes.

For the defence, Mr. Stanger, K.C., contended that the seed did not answer the description given of it by Mr. Blaydes, and that the potatoes had lost their germinating power.

The jury found for the plaintiff, and by agreement judgment was entered for plaintiff for £158 2s. 6d., in addition to the amount paid into Court, and judgment for the defendant for £46 15s. on a counter-claim.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 8, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	9,504	8,723	Wheat ...	1,541,200	2,365 300
Sheep.....	4,612	398	Flour	147,700	119,500
Swine.....	—		Barley ...	330,400	155,700
Horses ...	358	235	Oats	336,400	752,400
			Peas	4,980	17,490
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	34,530	8,280
Beef	86,196	78,486	Maize ...	1,010,600	961,300
Mutton...	54,718	26,675	Apples ...	15,396	8,787
Pork	4,415	3,226	Apricots &Peaches	2,184	4,506
Bacon ...	116,851	111,698		Bunches	Bunches
Beef, salt	2,595	2,004	Bananas	119,111	149,227
Hams.....	39,710	28,150		Cwt.	Cwt.
Pork, salt	6,288	4,733	Cherries	18,543	15,985
Meat, salt & Fresh	12,897	9,954	Currants	31,269	21,264
Do. pres.	11,677	6,928	Gooseb'r's	7,545	2,803
Butter ...	74,805	79,200	Grapes ..	444	279
M'rg'rine	14,813	13,978	Lemons..	10,007	22,766
Cheese ...	69,897	73,701	Oranges	51 274	2,349
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.			Plums ...	8,179	654
			Straw'b'r's	1,071	1,179
			Oth'r Fr't	Tons	10,425
				15,989	Tons.
			Hay	2,419	2,981
Milk, Cream	231	201	Straw ..	1,165	1,903
			MossLitt'r	—	1,457
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	13,869	18,136	Hops	480	63
Milk pr'p'r'd, other kinds ...	58	27	Locust Beans	3,320 Bush.	20,840 Bush.
			Onions ...	72,981	42,565
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.	Potatoes	308,120	240,068
Eggs	292,311	430,366	Tomatoes	51,613	26,329
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £4,764	Value. £2,108	Veg'bles	£0,912	£7,926
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	5,206	2,777
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ..	1,013	2,834
Rabbits...	588	3,821			
Lard	37,334	47,921			

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Since the last "Notes" were written by this pen nearly the whole of East Anglia has been visited by most heavy thunderstorms, the lightning of which, besides the rain, made havoc far and wide. Farmsteads, houses, and cottages have not only suffered from the violence of the downpour of rain and strong wind, but many places have been damaged by lightning, as well as trees, farm buildings, and live stock—such as cattle, sheep, pigs, and horses—while in some cases human lives have been lost. Essex and Suffolk shares in the heavy thunderstorms on Sunday were nothing when compared with the damage done to the counties east of the East Anglian boundary. Still, the writer had hard and dangerous work to make his journey across country, as the by-roads and lanes had their metal surface completely destroyed by the rush of water that turned them into rough river beds. The stones and gullies being most trying for a bicyclist, while the mud washed into the main roads from the fields made them almost impassable in some places.

However, it was a pleasant sight to see that although in some instances—such as in the Bishop Stortford district, Thorley, Waltham, Wormley, Dunmow, Saffron Walden, Newmarket, and Ely—many fields of corn were badly laid, the damage done to the cereals was not so extensive as might have been expected, the ears being still light, as the grain was only then a third part developed.

The rain, however, and the fierce heat that has since prevailed, have rapidly swelled the grain, while in many cases the laid corn has been drawn to an upright position. So rapid has been the advancement due to the heat that at the corn market held at Yarmouth on Wednesday the theme of discussion was not only the harvest prospects, but the likelihood of oats being cut within a fortnight. On this occasion the writer was told that oats in Norfolk were a thin crop, but wheat was doing well, and there was every promise of a good crop. Barley prospects were, however, not quite so encouraging.

The gathering in of the hay is going on apac and as field by field is finished, the close-cut grass reveals the land full of young partridges. A journey in partridge-land to-day is excited by many sudden surprises and scares as the agitated parents explode with flurry and clatter, calling upon their little ones—balls of spotted fluff—to lie still in the grass, and on finding you are simply a traveller the parent partridges change their note to a summons to follow them into the still standing crops. True, the land this year is full of life!

Whilst being driven across the railway line at Kiln Lane level crossing, about one mile from Ely Station, four valuable young horses out of a batch of twelve, belonging to Mr. W. E. Stockdale, of Tower Farm, Downham, Ely, were killed by a York special express train. It appears that the train rapidly overhauled them, and so confused and terrified the poor creatures that the four killed attempted to double back, and so were literally cut to pieces before the train could be stopped, and then it was found that their remains blocked the engine gear to such an extent that a fresh engine had to be obtained from Ely.

At the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society's show at Grantham, on Wednesday, a very pleasing episode occurred when a prize was awarded to Luke Roberts, of Newstead Priory, Brigg, for having been fifty-seven years continuously employed by the family of the late Mr. J. Hill. The second best man had a record of fifty-four years service, while the third party had been fifty-one years and a half in the same family. Truly all good records!

A committee meeting of the Waveney Valley Agricultural Association was held at Harleston on Wednesday, when the question of altering the date of their show was discussed, inasmuch as the date previously fixed—September 14—had also been chosen by the Mutford and Lothingland Association for their exhibition. And it was thought that both shows, if held on the same date, would each be injuriously affected, and exhibitors inconvenienced and prejudiced. It was therefore decided to alter the date of the Harleston Show to Tuesday, September 12. The Secretary reported an offer by the Master of the Norwich Staghounds of a prize of £5 for the best hunter, four years old and upwards, in an open class, and it was resolved to accept same and to add to it a second prize of £2.

The East Anglian farmers that attended the market at Stowmarket on Thursday resented, not by reason of their opinion of the Butter Bill, the want of consideration that the present Parliament has given to agriculture during its existence.

July 15, 1905.

OBITUARY.

Sir Jacob Wilson, K.C.V.O.

It is with sincere regret that we record the death of Sir Jacob Wilson, which took place on Tuesday night at Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland, owing to heart failure. The deceased gentleman had only been ill a few days, and it is thought that he over-exerted himself in connection with the past Royal show in London. Sir Jacob was a well-known personality in agricultural circles, and he will be missed by many who last had the opportunity of shaking him by the hand at Park Royal last month.

Sir Jacob Wilson was born at Crackenthorpe Hall on November 16, 1836. He was thus sixty-nine years of age. He received his early education near Appleby, and afterwards London. His father was the late Mr. Joseph Wilson, who was tenant of the large farm of Woodhorn Manor, near Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, in Northumberland. He was entered, at the age of eighteen, a student of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. Eighteen months later he had taken his diploma and become curator of the veterinary department, and he had barely attained his majority when he received his first important commission, to go to Switzerland and superintend the laying-out of an estate on the English plan. This early and rapid development manifested itself in several directions. Joining his father, he was quick to apply new methods for dealing with the produce of the soil, and in 1858, at the age of twenty-two, he won the first prize at a county trial of harvesters.

About the same time, too, he won the first agricultural diploma given at Edinburgh, where he had gone to further enlarge his ideas concerning the farming science. Nor was this the only honour Scotland awarded him. In 1863 a report he prepared on the subject of reaping by machinery gained him the prize of the Highland Society. He was early practically interested in steam cultivation, having secured the second pair of ten-horse engines for the purpose sold by the manufacturers, and in 1863 acted with Mr. Clare Sewell Read as judge of steam cultivation at the Worcester meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society. As tenant of Woodhorn Manor Farm, near Morpeth, as well as agent for several large Northumberland estates, and as responsible for the education of agricultural pupils, both in farming and land agency, his hands were full. He was also secretary of the county agricultural society. He frequently acted as judge of live stock, and was a juror at the Paris Exhibition in 1878. As agent for the Earl of Tankerville, he took much interest in the Chillingham herd of wild white cattle.

In 1865 Sir Jacob was elected on the council of the Royal Agricultural Society, and filled the office of steward of live stock at four successive meetings. On the retirement of Sir Brandreth Gibbs from the office of honorary director, he was elected to the position. This was in 1875, and he continued to discharge the onerous duties until 1892. He was also chairman of the Showyard Works Committee, from 1877 to 1881, and from 1887 for a long period. He was chairman of the Stock Prizes Committee from 1883 to 1884, and from 1886 to 1888. As the Duke of Richmond remarked when making the presentation to him in 1892, the services which Sir Jacob Wilson had rendered, not only to the society, but to the public at large, on every occasion when they had to consult him as honorary director of the country meetings, had been invaluable. "His courtesy and urbanity, under all circumstances, were familiar to all, and his good humour had never been known to fail. Whether under the burning sun of the Windsor meeting, or among the swamps of the disastrous show at Kilburn—when they walked about the showyard on planks—Sir Jacob Wilson never once lost his temper or relaxed his exertions." On his resignation of the office of honorary director, the council placed on record their high appreciation of his conspicuous services, which had signally conduced to the welfare and advantage of the society.

One of the subjects which commanded the attention and strenuous exertions of Mr. Wilson was the outbreak of the cattle plague which, in the early seventies, caused such havoc among the flocks and herds of this country. It was owing to his evidence, and the testimony which he received from others that agriculturists first became alive to the fact that the main cause of that dire visitation was the importation of diseased cattle from abroad. In conjunction with the late Mr. T. Booth, Mr. Wilson laboured most indefatigably in bringing about the passing of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act. The chief object then was to insist that all animals coming from foreign ports should be slain at the port of debarkation; and so thoroughly did Mr. Wilson see the importance of this course of procedure that he once said he did not care one whit for the amendments that were under consideration, provided he could only secure that "no animal should leave the port alive." The Act was regarded as a great step in advance, and, for a time, it worked very satisfactorily, but experience demonstrated that the restrictions imposed by the measure were not sufficient to prevent the introduction and spread of foot-and-mouth disease in the country; and in the supplementary Act, which was passed by Parliament in the session of 1884, valuable assistance was again rendered by Sir Jacob Wilson. Many other questions affecting the interests of the ancient industry were indebted for elucidation and solution to the same skilful knowledge and mind, the most notable being the work of the Royal Commission on Agricultural Depression, presided over by the Duke of Richmond. It was generally admitted that that inquiry was the most exhaustive that had ever been held in connection with agriculture, and the report was as comprehensive as the inquiry was exhaustive.

The great services which Sir Jacob Wilson rendered to agriculture were on two occasions recognised in a tangible form by landowners and farmers; in 1884, when, on behalf of a large number of subscribers, the late Duke of Richmond presented him with a cheque for 3,000 guineas, and in 1892, when on his resignation of the position of honorary director of the Royal Agricultural Society's shows, the late Duke of Westminster presented him with a piece of plate given by the society, and announced his election as a life governor. It was but a few years after this interesting incident that Sir Jacob entered upon his duties as an official of the Board of Agriculture, a position which he resigned at the close of 1901.

The honour of knighthood was conferred upon him in connection with the Jubilee show of the Royal Agricultural Society, held in Windsor Great Park in 1889, under the presidency of the late Queen Victoria. At the council meeting a few days after the Windsor show, the following autograph letter from the Queen was read:—"Windsor Castle, July 2, 1889.—To the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.—It gave me very great pleasure to visit the show of the Agricultural Society, of which I am this year the president, and I can assure you I was extremely gratified with this magnificent exhibition. I must thank the council for the care and attention they have devoted to this work, which has been so successful, and I am especially anxious to convey my acknowledgments to Sir Jacob Wilson and Mr. Ernest Clarke for their exertions in organising this show.—(Signed) Victoria, R.I." According to the unanimous desire of his colleagues on the council, Sir Jacob undertook the duties of honorary director of the show this year, and with the president of the society and members of the council received the King and Queen and the Prince of Wales on the occasion of their visit. The honour of Knight Commander of the Victorian Order was conferred upon him by the King a fortnight ago.

Sir Jacob was married, in 1874, to a daughter of the late Mr. Hedley, J.P., and his widow, as well as a son and a daughter, survive him.

The funeral took place on Friday at Chillingham, when the chief mourners were Lady Wilson, widow; Miss Wilson, daughter; Mr. Gordon Wilson, son; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fenwick, of Berryhill, son-in-law and daughter; the Rev. J. Wilson, brother. There were also present Sir Thomas Elliott, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture; Mr. Compton Bracebridge, representing the Royal Agricultural Society; Sir Francis Walker, agent to the Duke of Northumberland; the Earl and Countess of Tankerville; Mr. John Maughan, secretary of Yorkshire Agricultural Society; Mr. Thomas McCrow, secretary of the Agricultural Hall; Colonel Mitford, Otterburn; Mr. Noel Villiers, agent to Lord Tankerville.

At the memorial service for the late Sir Jacob Wilson, K.C.V.O., held on Friday at St. George's, Hanover Square, H.M. the King was represented by Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales by Colonel the Hon. Sir William Carrington; while Prince Christian attended personally. There were also present the Earl of Onslow, the past President of the Board of Agriculture, and Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, the present President, together with the heads of the staff of the Board, including Major Craigie, C.B., Mr. Arthur W. Anstruther, Mr. Somerville, Mr. James William Clark, K.C., the legal adviser, Mr. A. C. Cope, the late chief veterinary officer, Mr. F. A. Fulford.

The Royal Agricultural Society was represented by the following members of the Council and Executive:—Sir John H. Thorold, Bart. (President), Lord Middleton (ex-President), the Earl of Coventry, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Percy Crutchley, the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P., and the Earl of Feversham (Vice-Presidents), Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Curtis-Hayward, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. John Howard Howard, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. Ernest W. Shackle, Mr. Garrett Taylor, Sir Ernest Clarke (Secretary), and Mr. George Taylor and all the members of the Society's official staff. Several past members of the Council and ex officials of the Society were also present, together with members of the governing bodies and executive of the numerous other agricultural organisations with which Sir Jacob was associated.

The following members of the Council, who sent letters expressing regret that they were unavoidably prevented from being present, Lord Moreton (Trustee), Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale (Vice-President), Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., Mr. J. P. [illegible], Mr. S. P. Foster, Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, Dr. J. Augustus Voelcker (Consulting Chemist), and Mr. W. H. Hogg (Farm Manager).

The Duke of Portland (President of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, of which Sir Jacob was a member) wrote that, to his very sincere regret, he had an important and pressing engagement elsewhere which he was unable to postpone. The other Commissioners present were the Earl of Coventry, Lord Middleton, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., and Mr. Bowen-Jones.

Mr. J. Herbert Taylor attended as representative of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding; Mr. E. J. Powell as secretary of the Smithfield Club and the Shorthorn Society; Mr. John Sloughgrove, the Secretary of the Shire Horse Society; Mr. A. B. Charlton, secretary of the Hunters' Improvement Society; and Mr. F. Beck, manager of the King's Sandringham estate. Among other representative men, nearly all old friends of the deceased, were Sir John Rolleston, M.P., General Sir Dighton Probyn, Mr. Minto Wilson, Mr. J. Darby, Dr. W. Y. Davies, Mr. J. Wilson, Sir J. Heron Maxwell, Mr. A. Goddard (secretary of the Surveyors' Institution), Mr. R. S. Burgess, Mr. Frederick Challoner, Mr. G. F. Sandy, Mr. E. J. Powell, and Mr. Walter Webb (many years manager for Sir Jacob, and now superintendent surveyor to the Board of Agriculture).

THE DAIRY.

Municipal Milk.

Dr. A. W. Harris, Medical Officer of Health for the borough of Lewisham, in his annual report, while expressing the opinion that the complete control of municipalities over the milk supply of London is impossible, states that there is certainly urgent need for better control than exists at present. He therefore suggests the establishment by municipalities of a model farm and dairy to produce milk under scientific conditions and to supply carefully prepared modified milk for infants for whom breast feeding is impossible. Such a farm, he thinks, could easily be established at Lewisham, and would be a financial success if supported by public institutions; it would be a great benefit to the poorer classes, who at present suffer from the nefarious practices of the itinerant milk-seller and the polluted milk obtained from small shopkeepers.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

There was a moderate pitch of 57 tons at this fair on Wednesday, and quality was fuliy up to the average. Buyers were numerous, and fully prepared to give slightly higher prices for best qualities, business being quickly done at fairly satisfactory prices. Higher grades 48s. to 53s. per cwt., medium and lower grades 40s. to 47s.

The Sale of Butter Bill.

In a letter to the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., concerning the prospects of the Sale of Butter Bill, Mr. Balfour writes:—"I am as anxious as you to see this measure become law, and I greatly regret the impediments which obstruct the passage of this modest contribution to the general interests of the agricultural community. But your long familiarity with the difficulties attending this class of Bill at a period of the session when controversy proves absolutely fatal to any progress, enables you to appreciate the practical impossibility of finding the time necessary for its discussion before the date at which the session naturally terminates. For this state of things the Government are really not responsible, least of all you, who have so constantly pressed the claims of the Bill upon my attention, and who have done, I know, your very best to compose the differences which prevail in connection with this Bill. You have suggested that I should receive a deputation from those who are deeply concerned in securing its enactment; but, in view of the circumstances which I have mentioned, no useful purpose would be served by acquiescing in this proposal, since you are as competent as I am to point out to those who form the deputation the actual state of affairs. I have only to add that I heartily sympathise with you in the disappointment of your hopes to achieve the passing of a Bill which is so desirable in the interests of those whose welfare is your special care."

"BE WISE IN TIME."

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Gloucester (North Cotswold).

SIR,—Since the very welcome rains of June 30 and July 1, things agricultural have much improved. Wheat looks well, barley fair. Winter oats good—winter beans also. Spring beans better than for several years. Spring oats, where planted late, very bad indeed—the worst crop of the season. Hay, short cut; clover, ditto; mangolds, very patchy, some few good pieces. Swedes and turnips going along well now—early sown much poisoned with the fly, very little fruit.

July 15, 1905. H. DEE.

A Dry Season in East Yorkshire.

SIR,—The prospect of the farmers is not very encouraging, partly owing to the exceptionally dry season, as everything is practically burnt up. Hay is very light, except some clover crops that got a good cover before the hot weather. Corn crops will be short, except wheat, which is good; and in some cases barley is a good crop. Potatoes are looking very well, but short of top; in fact, they do not show the robustness they generally do. Turnips are very scarce except where sown soon and on a fine tilth; in fact, I know of several good farmers who have sown them three times and have no prospect of turnips yet.

The price of stock is only poor. Grazing cattle have been a complete drug; sheep sold well during the early spring, but have dropped very much in price. Beef is only a poor price; in fact there is nothing making a very satisfactory price to the farmer except wool.

Good Prospects in South Nottinghamshire.

SIR,—The promising account I wrote you in the spring has been to a great extent realised. Wheat on almost all sorts of land is far beyond the average in appearance, and should be ready to cut by August 14. Barley was stayed in its growth, by the drought early in June. The big rain did not reach us till June 17. It was most beneficial, and gave the barley renewed vigour, and before the storm of July 9, knocked the crops flat. They had well-developed ears unusually full of corn.

Beans are an excellent crop, likewise peas. Early market peas have been in great request, one grower making at the rate of £28 per acre. Potatoes are very healthy. Those from seed imported direct from Scotland showing vastly stronger than crops from home-grown sets. Mangels and Kohl Rabi forge ahead. Swedes now are making growth, but those sown before the rains were afflicted with the fly, and progressed very badly.

Common turnips sown in July have come freely the rain came too late to make an average hay crop, but the meadows are green with eddish before there is time to cart the hay, though that in most cases has been quickly performed.

Sheep breeders are jubilant with the price of wool, more especially those who during the day of affliction stuck to their long-woolled flocks. Lambs are doing well, after a trying time in the spring, when ewes in many cases had a bad supply of milk.

July 13.

Favourable Season in Brecon.

SIR,—The weather is very favourable for farming purposes, but continues dry, and on shallow land the grass is very short; the hay and corn is also very light on highland farms, and the turnip crop is almost a failure, in most cases the crops have been resown and unless we get a good fall of rain the prospects of the late crops are not anything better than the early ones.

The season has been very favourable for shearing operations on the mountains, and the price of wool is very gratifying to the farmers, being about 3d. per lb. above last year's rates.

Smut in Brome Grass.

SIR,—I enclose a sample of mowing grass which appears to be affected with smut. Can you give me any information as to the cause? and can you say whether the hay will be detrimental to milch cows?—E. C. S.

[*.* The specimens sent are brome grasses (*Bromus arvensis*), and are certainly smutted. Probably the smut is *Ustilago bromivora*, very nearly akin to that found in barley and oats, and also in wheat, but a form more particularly prone to brome grass. This is a fungus, and has probably been present in the crop for a year or two, but in such small quantity as to be unnoticed. The spores (which may be roughly defined as the seeds of the fungus) would fall to the ground and remain dormant until opportunity arose for their growth. In the first instance a few spores may have been carried into the field by wind—or in some other way which cannot now be traced—but each year will see the fungus present in greater quantity. If the hay is badly smutted, it will be detrimental to all kinds of stock. It tends to cause paralysis of the throat, and it affects the spinal cord, and swallowing becomes difficult; there is a constant flow of saliva from the mouth, the jaws are continually in motion, and the animals are lame and stagger. If the herbage is only partially smutted, probably no bad effects will be noticeable, and it is doubtful whether the milk of cows will be in any way prejudiced. If much herbage is smutted, the hay should be given in small quantities, and to old and healthy stock. This fungus affects brome grasses only, and these are practically worthless under any circumstances. So if the herbage is mainly composed of brome grasses, the best course will be to plough up the field, and in about four years' time lay it down again; but care must be taken to sow a mixture of seeds in which there are no brome grasses. If, however, the brome grasses are not much in evidence, or if only a small proportion are smutted, the herbage should be cut early next year before the grasses seed, and the produce should be burnt, thus destroying the spores.—M. Y.

Harvest Prospects in Scotland.

Reports from the different districts in Scotland as to the harvest prospects are published to-day, and they are generally of a favourable character. Harvest operations for grain are expected, with favourable weather conditions, about the middle of August, or a fortnight earlier than last year. On all hands there are complaints of the prolonged drought, which has affected all the cereals, and these crops will in consequence be light in the straw, unless rain comes speedily.

The winter was a very open one, but the spring has been backward. Over the greater part of the country there has been a protracted period of dry weather, which has greatly reduced the hay crop, and made the turnips somewhat doubtful as to results, while the oat and barley crops have also been very seriously affected as regards the straw, which will be short. In some parts of the country, however, there has been within the last few weeks a fairly satisfactory rainfall, but it has been very partial.

The south-west of Scotland has been particularly favoured in this respect, and the crop prospects in Galloway are, on the whole, very good; while more recently, in Perthshire, part of Fife, Forfarshire, and Aberdeenshire things are looking pretty well. The soil was worked in good condition, and the seed bed was all that could be desired. There will not only be an early, but, so far as can be seen at the present time, a fruitful harvest, the cutting of grain being likely to begin about the middle of August, while it will be general before the end of next month.

Wheat will be the crop of the season, the yield all over being probably a quarter more than last year. Barley is looking fairly well, but it will probably be light in bulk as compared with last year. Oats are looking very thin and stunted, and the straw will certainly be short. Hay has suffered from the dry weather, but it is being secured in good condition.

Potatoes have been growing very well, and in the principal counties where they are raised the reports are of the most encouraging nature, and make no mention of disease. The one disquieting feature of the situation is the precarious condition of the turnip crop, which is the staple root for winter feeding. In a good many cases resowing was necessary, owing to the drought, but the plants are now coming away very well. Pastures are bare, and as a result the prices of store cattle and lambs have fallen considerably.—*Scotsman.*

European Crop Prospects.

FRANCE.—There can be no doubt that the wheat, and to some extent the barley crops, must have suffered damage from the violent storms and drenching rains of the past fortnight, but as the injury would have more effect upon quality than quantity, the influence upon trade opinion in the provinces was not sufficiently strong to do more than make holders rather reserved, and to keep prices firm. The weather since Tuesday has been fine, and less complaint is heard as to damage. Harvest is finished in the South and Centre, with about average results. Straw is short. The North and North-East districts suffered most from the cyclones. Barley and oats in general appear to have derived benefit from the rain.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—In bright, hot weather the crops are recovering from the effects of excessive rain, and many of the laid fields are again in normal position. Generally speaking, the harvest outlook is satisfactory.

GERMANY.—During the past ten days there is a marked improvement in the aspect of the crops, and good-average wheat results are looked for with confidence.

ITALY.—Weather is now all right for harvesting. Wheat cutting is general, and a fairly abundant yield is expected. The maize crop is in good condition.

SPAIN.—Harvest work is hindered in the neighbourhood of Saragossa, Huesca, and Lerida, but the general crop shortage will be met by the large wheat imports already to hand and on the way.

HUNGARY.—According to the report issued by the Ministry of Agriculture on the 1st inst. the approximate yield of the harvest is as follows:—Wheat 42 million metercenters (as against 37.3 million last year); rye 13.75 million (11.89 million), barley 12.75 million (10.87 million), oats 11.75 million (9.11 million). Rape is scarcely an average; maize large results are expected; potatoes promise a rich crop; beans and pulse are satisfactory; hops and tobacco are good. The condition of hemp and linseed is satisfactory, generally good for sugar and feeding beet, and satisfactory for artificial forage, meadows, and pasture lands.

RUSSIA.—While complaints are rife as to the unsatisfactory state of the crops in Central and Northern Governments, the news from the Southern half of the Empire is just the reverse. In the regions round about Odessa, in the Crimea and parts of Caucasia large yields of wheat, rye, and barley are practically assured, one correspondent averring that this year's harvest in these districts is leaving behind all the crops of the past 15 years—these be brave words and their fulfilment is "devoutly to be wished." Railway waggons continue very scarce, and there is no probability that this impediment in the way of moving produce will be rectified for many a long day. In the meantime shipments of old grain are maintained at full measure.—*Dornbusch.*

The old established flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep, bred at Buckland, Faringdon, Berkshire, will be sold on Friday, August 18, 1905. The history of the Buckland flock would virtually form a brief history of Southdown sheep, for the flock has been in existence since about the year 1800, when Sir John Throckmorton, Bart., purchased ewes direct from the Sussex Downs, the home of the breed; also from the famous flocks kept by Francis, Fifth Duke of Bedford, at Woburn, and from Mr. Williams, grandfather of the present agent at Buckland, who kept a flock at Ashtree Farm, Buckland, and who, in the year 1850, exhibited three twenty months old Southdown wethers at the Smithfield Show, taking the first prize of £20 and the gold and silver medals.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1. Essex Street, Strand, 12 Noon, Monday, July 17th, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general distribution of atmospheric pressure is normal for a seasonable and mostly fair July type, with some showery spells. There is a persistent area of high barometer over the Bay of Biscay, and shallow cyclonic areas of low barometer are now travelling freely Eastwards across North Scotland and Scandinavia. The weather will be fair, with frequent cloud and some occasional showery spells or local showers. The winds will be Westerly to South-Westerly, and North-Westerly, moderate or fresh. The temperature mild to warmer, and then cooler. The general sequence will be at first mostly fair or cloudy and mild. Later, mostly fair and warm in the East and South, cloudy to showery in the West and North. Finally fairer in the latter, and some showers in the former districts.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—Begins cloudy to fair and mild; some local showers, chiefly in the North, fair in S.E. Later fair to cloudy, some occasional showers. Finally fairer with some passing showers in the N. and E.

„ 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—**At first and later, mostly fair to cloudy and rising temperature. Finally some local or passing showers and cooler.**

„ 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**The same as No. 2, only beginning fair or fine.**

„ 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford-Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, York, shire (West Riding).—**Fair with some clouds; local showers in the north and mild to warm. Later fair to cloudy; some showers and cooler. Finally fairer again.**

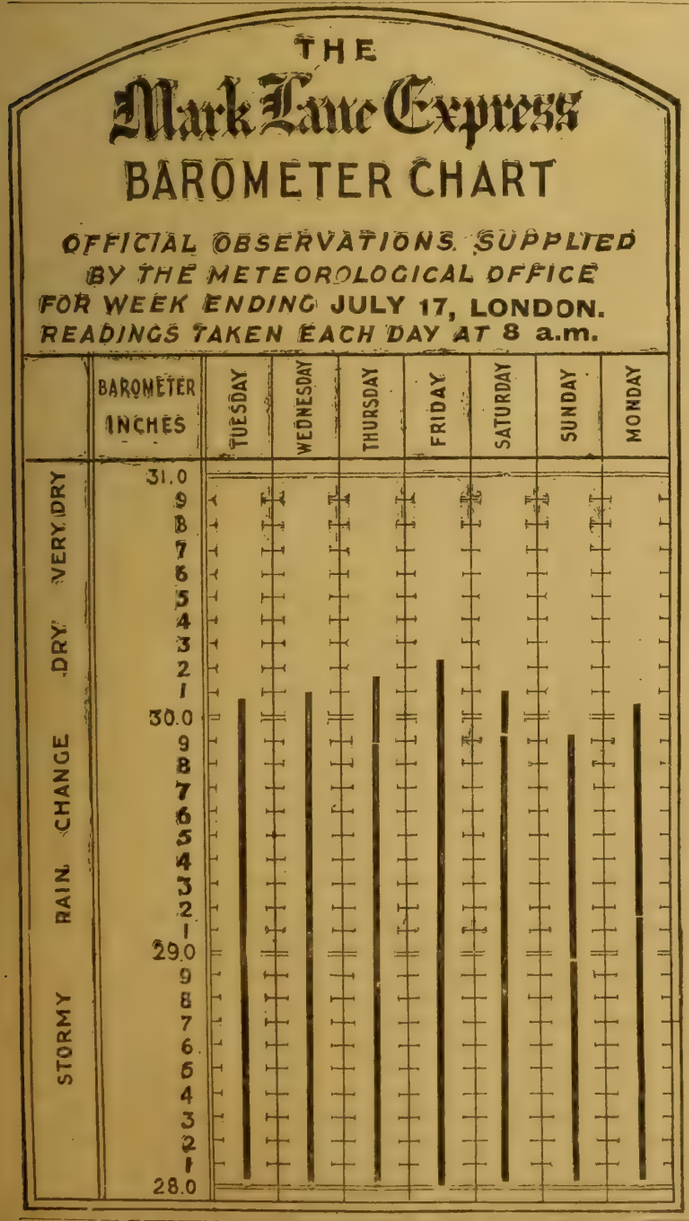
No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—**At first, fair, with some cloud, and normally mild to warm. Later, fair to cloudy and some showers. Finally, some passing showers to fairer and cooler.**

„ 6.—Ireland.—At first, fair to cloudy in East, some showers in the West and North. Later, some passing showers to fairer. Finally, fair to cloudy.

„ 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first, fair to cloudy, some occasional showers, and normally mild. Later, fair to cloudy, with some showery spells. Finally, fairer and cooler.**

„ 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**At first, fair to cloudy, and mild to warm. Later, some passing showers. Finally, fairer and cooler.**

The directions and rotation sequences of the wind, W. to S.W. and N.W. to W., will be generally similar in all the districts. They will be everywhere fresher in force than of late.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday	(July 11)...	30·08
Wednesday	(„ 12)...	30·10
Thursday	(„ 13)...	30·17
Friday	(„ 14)...	30·22
Saturday	(„ 15)...	30·10
Sunday	(„ 16) ..	29·92
Monday	(„ 17)...	30·04

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	4.4 a.m.
„ Sets...	..	8.8 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	8 32 p.m.
„ Sets	...	4 57 a.m.

Age of Moon—Sixteen days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 17th.

GENERAL INFERENCE.—The barometer is now rising at all our Western stations, and fair, rather warm weather seems likely to continue over the greater part of the country. Disturbances passing along the Northern Atlantic will probably cause some showers in our Northern and North Western districts.

SCOTLAND, N.—Moderate or fresh Westerly winds; changeable, some showers.

SCOTLAND, E., and ENGLAND, N.E.—Moderate or light Westerly winds; fair on the whole, occasional showers locally.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and ENGLAND, S (London and Channel).—Light, Westerly breezes; fair or fine; rather warm.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland N.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Moderate or fresh Westerly winds; fair generally, occasional local showers.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Same as England, E., Midland Counties, and England, S.

IRELAND, N. and S.—Same as Scotland, N.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at unchanged prices. Foreign sellers ask late rates, but buyers are indifferent. South Russians quoted at 32s 6d to 36s 6d; Plata, 32s 6d to 34s; No. 2 Club Calcutta, 32s 3d to 32s 6d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, at 35s 6d. Flour quiet, unchanged prices. Hungarians quoted at 31s; Iron Dukes, ex quay, at 21s 3d, and ex ship, to arrive, at 20s 9d. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 24s 6d; La Plata, ex quay, at 24s 9d. Barley quiet, unchanged. Odessa-Nico.-Kherson, landed, quoted at 20s 9d. Oats slow, unchanged. Common sort quoted at 14s 9d to 15s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet; very limited supplies. Foreign dull, and 3d to 6d lower on the week. South Russians quoted at 32s to 35s. Red Karachi at 30s 3d, No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 36s 3d. Flour quiet, unchanged prices. Hungarians quoted at 31s, Pilsbury's Best at 30s 9d, Gilt Edge at 20s 3d, Iron Dukes at 21s 3d. Maize: Limited business passing at about unchanged prices. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 24s 6d, and River Plata, ex ship, at 24s. Barley dull and 3d easier. Odessa, Nico, Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 20s 3d to 20s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged; common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s. Arrivals, July 8-13: Foreign wheat, 53,900 quarters; oats, 75,040 quarters; maize, 35,310 quarters; flour, 33,060 sacks.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Not much business doing, but prices remain firm for English wheats, which are very scarce. Quotations:—Wheat, 33s to 36s; English barley, 27s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 21s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; new flat maize, 27s; round maize, 27s to 28s; black oats, 20s to 23s; white ditto, 22s to 24s per qr; flour, whites, 31s; seconds, 28s; sealing, 26s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 32s to 34s; barley, 26s to 30s; beans (new), 30s to 33s; oats, 20s to 24s; peas, 30s to 34s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Few of any samples of grain on offer, with prices unaltered all round.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Scarcely any business doing here, the attendance being small. Foreign wheats occasionally 3d cheaper, but met with a very poor inquiry. Grinding barley advanced 3d to 20s 9d per 400lb at Sharpness. Plate maize unchanged at 24s per 480lb at Sharpness. Flat maize 5s 2d per cental at Liverpool. No English wheat on market. Beans and oats very firm.

Brighton, Thursday.—Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; English oats, 20s to 22s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s. Small attendance and quiet trade at last week's prices. Nothing doing in wheat.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—We had a poorly attended market, and the business done was of a retail character. Wheat in small supply, only sufficient for the local millers, who were free buyers at last week's prices of 33s to 32s 6d per qr. Oats, grinding barleys, maize, and other feeding corns firm, at last week's full prices. Feeding stuffs firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been unchanged, and the weather has been very forcing. Winter oats will be cut early next week. At this market on Saturday there was a sample or two of wheat on offer, which made the extreme price of last week (32s to 34s per 504lb.). Beans and oats quite as dear.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The near approach of harvest tends to make buyers indifferent, although prices are firmly maintained. English oats range from 20s to 22s; grey peas, 32s to 33s; maize, 26s to 28s per quarter. The strong sun of last week has ripened the corn considerably.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats shown in our market to-day. Slow sale at last week's prices; 22s 6d to 23s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday. The market was very sparsely attended, farmers being busily engaged in the harvest field. There are no changes to note in the prices of feeding stuff since last week, but the market both for English and foreign produce is very firm, with an upward tendency. Quotations: New white and red wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75lb.; new grinding barley, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb.; old beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; Egyptian beans, 33s 6d to 34s per 480lb.; new oats, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; old ditto 2s 9d to 2s 11d per 46lb.; Indian corn, old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d; new ditto, 13s 3d to 13s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—White wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; English oats, 18s to 23s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 27s to 29s. A small attendance, and very little business doing.

Colchester, Saturday. — There was nothing offering from farmers to day; prices were weak and the tendency lower for wheat and oats. The forcing weather of the past week is bringing on harvest very quickly, and several pieces of winter oats are cut already.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday. — Trade slow. Farmers showed scarcely a single sample, and prices were to be quoted as follows: Wheat, 12s to 13s per 196lb; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb; oats, 23s to 25s per 304lb; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per bag (1½bu); peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday. There was scarcely any wheat offering, and prices continued nominal. Extreme rates were claimed for spring corn, which was firm. Quotations: White wheat, 34s to 35s; red, 33s to 34s; malting barley, 23s to 24s; beans, 32s to 33s; oats, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday. English corn of all descriptions still very scarce. New wheat, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; secondary, 15s to 16s; best barley, 26s to 27s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; white ditto, 19s to 22s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s.

Doncaster, Saturday. Very small supplies of grain and a quiet market all round. English wheat made last week's prices, and foreign was a trifle easier. Indian was 6d, and red wheat 3d per qr lower. Oats and beans were steady at late rates, and flat maize and seed 6d per qr cheaper on the week.

Dorchester, Saturday. The attendance to-day was again small, and quite in accord with the limited supplies. A grain wheat being again the most conspicuous feature in the absence. Prices generally ruled slack all through, and buyers were able to make their own terms for most sorts, despite the fact of there being very little remaining of home produce to offer.

Dublin, Friday. Wheat 1s to 2s; grinding barley 2s to 3s, malting ditto, 3s 6d to 4s; oats, 1s to 3s; oatmeal very profined, 19s 6d to 20s; flour 19s to 20s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance to-day at our corn exchange. The exchange will be closed on Friday and Monday owing to the Glasgow Fair holidays. Wheat and flour steady and unchanged, with moderate business passing. Maize 3d cheaper owing to arrivals. Indian corn 1½d dearer. Canadian pease 3d dearer. Other articles of the trade unaltered.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Grantham, Saturday.—The attendance was meagre, and very little corn was offered, quotations being as last week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The market was very small. English wheats were firm at late prices; oats very steady. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62lb; barley, 2s 9d to 4s per 56lb; oats, 2s 3d to 2s 9d per 40lb.; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 65½lb.; vetches, 4s to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: The supply was small, but slightly larger than last week's. Demand quiet at 33s 6d to 34s 6d delivered at Ipswich, and worth about the same for delivery on the line inland, millers being short of stock. Feeding corns firm all round; oats at 20s 6d to 22s, maize at 25s per qr.; grinding barley at 25s to 27s, and other feeding corns at fully last week's prices.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The weather continues favourable for the crops. The wheat trade has not undergone any marked change during the week and maintains a firm attitude without any alteration in values, millers still confining purchases to their immediate requirements. English wheats are now extremely scarce, and fetch long prices. Maize 9d to 1s dearer. Beans scarce and firm. Oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat firmly held at Tuesday's full prices, and all kinds of foreign the turn easier. Malting barley at late rates, feeding in sellers' favour. Beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour without change.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with moderate supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade quiet. Red wheats, 32s to 34s; white wheats, 33s to 35s per 36 stones; grinding barley in slow demand; beans steady; fine oats, 22s to 24s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Very small attendance, and trade of a languishing description. Farmers' stocks of English wheat are apparently exhausted, and the few samples of foreign on offer realised unaltered rates. Feeding stuffs unchanged, except maize, which was firm and slightly dearer.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: The market was thinly attended; wheat a very quiet trade at generally 2d per cental decline from last market day. Flour: A very small trade at about late rates for both foreign and home-made brands. Maize very quiet; mixed American the turn lower, other qualities unaltered; demand slow. Barley neglected for brewing, firm for grinding; demand small. Beans very scarce, and again 3d to 6d dearer. Peas firmly held at full rates, but slow to move. Oats in quiet demand, and prices nominally unaltered. Oatmeal firmly held at recent prices, but in slow demand. Oilcake: A quiet trade, without change in values. — SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday. In consequence of the local exhibition of agriculture and machinery the Corn Exchange was not well filled. Display of wheat samples quite enough for millers, and the cost of it no change from last Thursday's market. Other grain almost entirely without alteration.

Malton, Saturday.—The grain trade is practically nil, and the attendance of farmers is so small that offers are almost unquotable. There will be but little doing in the local markets until the new crop is ready. Prices for wheat and oats remain unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. At our to-day's market a very quiet demand prevailed for wheat at prices below last week's quotations. Maize still reamins firm, though scarce. A steady demand for oats at unaltered prices. Barley in buyers' favour. Beans advanced another 6d on the week. Peas firm at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—In consequence of hay harvesting, there was a very small attendance, and very small supplies on offer. Prices were firmer. Wheat, 32s to 34s; barley, 24s to 32s; oats, 20s to 23s; peas, 28s, to 33s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat still in small supply, with prices the same as last week. Fine weather has prevailed all the week, with high temperature; some rain would be very acceptable. Wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s per quarter, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending July 10, 1905:—Wheat, 142 quarters, 31s 6d.—J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—The little English wheat left held for fancy prices. Grinding barley steady. Poor show of oats, and make full rates. Beans: But few offering, and held for 6d advance.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Only a lot or two of wheat at market, and not many buyers. Prices about the same as last week. Spring corn steady in value, with a quiet demand. Weather all the week hot and forcing.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Friday.—There was a good attendance on our market. Wheat was quiet; maize and barley 3d dearer; oats unaltered.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday. A small attendance, with corn scarce. Wheat made from 33s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 26s; oats, 20s to 23s; beans, 28s to 36s; peas, 28s to 32s; flour, 25s to 28s.

Retford, Saturday.—The scarcity of English wheat was again the dominant feature of this market. There was not a sample to be seen; it was reported to be worth quite 6d more money, and would have made 32s 6d to 33s 6d, but was not to be had. Food stuffs were also considerably dearer. Round maize was quoted at 28s, and flat at 27s, delivered here; good white oats were easily worth 21s to 22s, and black ditto 19s to 20s per 24 stones; English beans, 32s per 36 stones.

Ripon, Thursday. Business is being transacted at late rates, with the exception of round maize, which is 1s per qr dearer. English wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; oats, 20s to 21s; maize, round, 28s to 29s; maize, flat, 27s to 27s 6d per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday. Quotations: Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 336lb; oats, old white, 16s to 17s; new white, 14s to 14s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; beans, 15s to 16s per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday. The Lincolnshire Show had an adverse effect upon the attendance. Very little grain was offered and business was transacted at last week's prices. Wheat, 34s to 35s; oats, 21s to 24s; beans, 32s to 33s per quarter.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Brilliant weather, small attendance. Farmers are busy with hay, and nothing showing to best places. Arrivals: Coastwise, Wheat, 550 quarters; barley, 640 quarters; oats, 190 quarters; beans, 100 quarters; maize, 100 quarters. Foreign nil. E. AND T. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. White wheat, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; red ditto, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 25s; oats, English, 19s to 21s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a very poor attendance at this market. Scarcely any samples of English grain on offer; only one farmer's sample of wheat, which went away unsold. Feeding stuffs were in fair demand at slightly lower prices.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very small market. Odd samples of red wheat sell at about 34s to local millers. No change in other articles.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and very little business was transacted. Quotations: Wheat, 13s to 14s per 216lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb; oats, 13s 6d per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance. White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 21s to 22s; black oats, 20s to 21s; flat maize, 27s to 28s; round maize, 27s to 28s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Market quiet and trade dull, with prices favouring buyers. Wheat quoted 32s to 33s 6d per qr. for best samples; secondary, 30s to 31s; foreign wheat, 33s to 34s; best barley, 27s 6d to 30s; secondary, 22s to 25s; foreign grinding, 20s 6d; maize, round, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto flat, 23s to 24s; oats, white, 16s to 21s 9d; black ditto, 17s 6d to 20s 6d; Irish black, 17s 9d to 18s 3d; rye, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 36s 6d; tares, winter, 47s 6d to 51s 6d; spring ditto, 39s 6d to 43s 6d. Quiet consumptive demand for flour, superfine selling at from 26s 6d to 28s; fine, 23s 6d to 26s. Milling by-products and meal a fair trade at unchanged rates.

York, Saturday.—Most of the farmers are busy getting in the remainder of the hay harvest, and there was only a small attendance at the market. A small show of grain. Wheat made 32s to 33s per qr. of 36 stones; oats scarce and dear at 10s 6d to 20s per qr. of 24 stones. No barley on offer. Beans, peas, and maize dearer.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather remains all that can be desired, and we are looking for a large and fine crop all over Germany, provided, of course, that the weather remains favourable; also from Austria and Hungary the reports are very satisfactory; in Hungary cutting of barley has commenced early this month, and harvest is in full swing; different samples are shown and indicate good corn of a rather mellow colour, whilst prices are hardly fixed yet.

Hamburg, Saturday.—During the latter part of the week we had rainy weather, a continuance of which may interfere with the harvesting of rye, cutting of which has just commenced. In general, harvest prospects continue satisfactory in consequence of which the demand for grain has slackened, and last week's prices are barely supported. The imports since July 1 till July 12 amounted to 19,837 tons wheat; 6,523 tons rye; 20,515 tons barley; 12,010 tons maize; 6,815 tons bran. Fine red Mecklenburg and Saale wheat is held at 32s 6 to 33s 6d per 504lb. f.o.b.; American red winter No. 2 July-August, 29s 9d; hard winter No. 2 August-September 30s 6d; 80 Ko River Plate, 30s 9d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. South Russian rye in better supply; 9 15-20 Odessa and Taganrog is selling at 24s 6d to 29s 9d per 480lb. ex ship Hamburg. The growing crop of barley in Germany is making satisfactory progress towards maturity; while from Hungary there are complaints of excessive heat having impaired the quality and quantity of the crop. Feeding barley quiet at unaltered prices. 60-61 Ko South Russian near at hand, 18s 6d; August, 17s 3d; September-October, 16s 9d to 17s per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg; 70-71 Ko Danubian prompt shipment is selling at 19s 6d per 400lb. c.i.f. Spot maize continues scarce; mixed American and River Plate is selling at 23s 6d to 24s; River Plate August-September, 22s 6d to 22s 9d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Tuesday. — Flour has advanced from 20s. to 45c., the rise in wheat varying from 10c. to 60c., according to dates of delivery, near positions showing the most advance. Rye is lifeless, but prices are well held. The demand for oats is small; the tendency is calmer and prices have fallen from 10c. to 20c.

THE BALTIC.

The market for wheat cargoes has lost in energy since Russian home affairs quieted down a bit. Russia offers plenty of fine winter wheat at 35s. per 492 lb., of fair spring wheat at 33s. per 492 lb., and of hard Tanganrog at 31s. to 31s. 6d. per 492 lb. Australian cargoes are down to 31s. 6d. per 480 lb.; it is to be feared that early spring buyers of these long-distance cargoes are now losing money. Other sales have included Barletta at 31s. per 504 lb., Rosario at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb., and No. 3 Northern Manitoba at 31s. 3d per 480 lb.

Argentine maize cargoes at 23s. 9d. per 480 lb. are hard to place, but American for September shipment at 22s. 6d. are in fair request. A cargo of Californian barley for September shipment made 23s. 9d. per 448 lb. on Saturday, and a cargo of Reval 504 lb. oats made 15s for prompt shipment. Beans are firm, and a cargo on passage from Sidon has made 34s. per 480 lb.

The London Corn Trade Association c. f. and i. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta 32s., Soft Red Calcutta 31s., Bombay Soft White Delhi 32s., Soft White Karachi 30s. 9d., Choice White Karachi 31s. 3d., Soft Red Karachi 30s. 3d.; all per 492 lb. These prices will govern arrivals until a fresh list is issued.

The arrivals of grain and seed laden vessels at ports of call for the week were 10 wheat (1 Adelaide, 2 B. Blanca, 2 Melbourne, 1 Port Germein, 1 Port Pirie, 2 Rosario, and 1 Sydney), 3 linseed (1 Buenos Aires, 1 Concepcion, and 1 Rosario).—Total 13.

The sailings of grain and seed laden vessels from ports of call for the week were 7 wheat (2 Birken

head, 1 Cork, 1 Dublin, 1 Fleetwood, 1 Gloucester, 1 Leith), 2 linseed (1 Antwerp, 1 Greenock).—Total 9.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 227 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 32 linseed.—Total 296.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 114 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 30 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 4 maize, 3 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 15 linseed, and 1 canaryseed.—Total 187.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS. IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 15, 1905:—

Wheat	2,410,100	cwts.
Wheat-flour	141,300	,,
Barley	94,500	,,
Oats	529,500	,,
Maize	616,350	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,761,900	2,046,227	1,393,688	1,352,600
Wheat-flour	171,000	312,035	436,211	479,300
Barley	530,200	490,032	79,568	196,500
Oats	176,000	774,044	284,799	638,800
Maize	736 700	1,450,064	1,071,560	1,842,000

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 15, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	26,716½	29	0	767¾	23	8	3,771½	19	3
1901	17,462¼	27	3	883½	23	4	2,040¼	19	11
1902	14,775½	30	11	66⅜	23	8	2,122	22	10
1903	17,132¼	28	3	390½	20	5	5,370¼	18	7
1904	14,160½	26	10	665½	18	9	6,320¼	17	6

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR. NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	32	0
May 31	,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	[illegible]	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1900	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1901	27 1 ,,	26 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1902	30 4 ,,	26 0 ,,	19 11 ,,
1903	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1904	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,505,000
Barley	,,	427,000	643,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	385,000
Maize	,,	256 000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	803,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	83,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	254,000
Maize	,,	50,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION. CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	31 0	(per sack) 28 0
October 10 (,,)	31 6	(,,) 28 6
,, 19 (,,)	31 0	(,,) 28 0
March 31 (,,)	30 6	(,,) 27 6
May 3 (,,)	30 3	(,,) 27 3
June 7 (,,)	30 0	(,,) 27 0

No change since last date given.

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

MONTHLY AVERAGES. (190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5			
August	28 8	21 3	17 1			
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 6	24 8	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	26 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6	23 1½	35 0
July	25 6	26 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August		26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6
Sept.		27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct.		27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov.		26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½	

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb.	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1
April	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6
July		29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0
August		30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6
Sept.		31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0
Oct.		31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6
Nov.		32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3
Dec.		31 3	8 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.	30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3	26	6 26	9	35 0

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1904. July 16	14,160½	26	10	665½	18	9	6,320¾	17	6
,, 23	15,648¾	27	7	581¾	18	10	6,711⅝	17	6
,, 30	21,778¾	28	0	509⅛	19	9	8,046¾	17	10
Aug. 6	22,575¼	28	3	591¼	19	9	8,891⅛	17	10
,, 13	16,784⅛	28	4	468¾	19	9	8,117¼	17	7
,, 20	19,200⅞	28	8	1,646⅜	22	5	19,032⅜	16	5
,, 27	31,432⅜	29	5	4,701⅛	23	2	26,042⅜	16	7
Sept. 3	32,921⅛	30	2	12,370⅜	25	3	31,507	16	3
,, 10	46,116⅜	30	0	22,400⅛	24	10	31,336	16	1
,, 17	51,889⅛	29	7	45,918⅛	24	9	37,554½	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	89,597⅜	25	10	42,524⅜	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,553⅛	25	5	44,796½	15	8
,, 8	54,607⅛	30	2	163,280⅜	25	6	43,575⅜	15	9
,, 15	45,462½	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,509½	15	8
,, 22	45,960½	30	4	213,190½	25	5	31,445⅜	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044⅜	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅜	25	0	35,145½	16	0
,, 12	43,740½	30	3	204,446½	24	6	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969¼	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅜	24	6	35,831⅛	16	2
,, 10	50,718¼	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,635⅜	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	3	130,563¼	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817¼	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905. Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647¼	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	7
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469¼	25	0	32,957⅜	16	7
,, 28	48,869¼	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662⅜	16	8
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486¼	16	9
,, 11	50,583⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅛	16	0
,, 18	44,495¼	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643⅛	16	0
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,647¼	16	15
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957⅜	16	13
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,448⅜	25	2	24,306⅜	16	10
,, 18	31,769	30	10	18,412⅜	24	11	20,379⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,377½	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,238⅜	25	1	17,703⅜	16	11
,, 8	25,660	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	9
,, 15	27,791	30	8	1,691	24	3	14,659	17	0
,, 22	24,984½	30	8	2,876½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	9
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,458½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,188⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,557½	18	0
,, 13	53,446½	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350½	16	6
,, 20	26,511	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	6
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761⅜	24	4	9,047⅜	18	5
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,912⅜	19	3
,, 10	16,685⅜	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819⅜	31	7	1,171¼	26	0	3,894⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579½	31	4	989¼	23	2	3,48[illegible]	19	7
,, 8	7,8 4⅜	32	1	375¾	22	11	2,332⅜	19	6
,, 15	4,884¾	32	3	34½	23	10	1,962⅜	19	7

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 8, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	4,884¾ qrs.	32s. 3l.
Barley	34½ qrs.	23s. 10d.
Oats	1,962¾ qrs.	19s. 7d

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 5 to 12, 1905, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total
Wheat qrs.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barley	1,200	21	1,221
Oats	280	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beans	171		171
Peas	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Maize	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tares	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Buckwheat	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Malt	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rye	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hempseed	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Linseed	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rapeseed	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Flour sacks	24,284	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bran	120	387	507
Riceflour	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Maizemeal	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 11, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	10	4	17	10	0	1	13	4
Barley	Nil.							
Oats	382	2	386	1	3	1	0	2

EGGS.

(Price at 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11 or 12. Boston: 12 or 13. Colne: 1s 9d to 1s 1od per score. Goole: 12 and 13. Hereford: 14 to 15. Kirbymoorside: 14 to 15. Knaresborough: 12 to 13. Market Drayton: 12 to 13. Market Weighton: 15. Newton Abbot: 11d to 1s per dozen. Northallerton: 13 or 14. Stockton: 12 or 13. Truro: 9d to 10d per dozen. Worksop: 1s 8d per score.

Thursday.—Axminster: 8d to 9d per dozen. Birmingham: 11 and 12. Brigg: 13 to 14. Driffield: 15 or 16. Devizes: 16 to 18. Evesham: 11½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 17. Penistone: 12. Plymouth: 1s per dozen. Ripon: 13 or 14. Scarborough: 12. Wetherby: 12.

Friday.—Barnstaple: 14 to 16. Camelford: 9d per dozen. Derby: 13. Helmsley: 14. Leyburn: 14 to 15. Lincoln: 14. Lostwithiel: 16. Redruth: 9d per dozen. Stamford: 12 and 14. St. Austell: 16. Tavistock: 12 to 13. Totnes: 10d to 11d per dozen. Otley: 12 or 13.

MILK.

London. Saturday.—Week ending July 14: There has been a good demand for milk, with a decreased supply, and owing to the hot weather there has been considerable wastage, consequently the prices for platform milk have been high, advancing from 7d to 1s, and 1s 2½ per imperial gallon.—THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

BUTTER.

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Prices are at per lb, except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 1d and 1s 2d. Boston: 1s to 1s 2d. Colne: 1s 0½d. Dorchester: 9d to 1s. Goole: 11d to 1s. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Kirbymoorside: 9d to 10d. Knaresborough: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz. roll. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 2d. Market Weighton: 10d. Newton Abbot: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Northallerton: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 10d to 11d. Truro: 8d to 10d. Uttoxeter: 10d to 1s. Worksop: 10d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 11d. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Brigg: 11d to 1s. Driffield: 10d to 11d. Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Evesham: 1s 0½d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Penistone: 11d. Plymouth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 1d. Wetherby: 1s to 1s 2d.

Friday.—Barnstaple: 11d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 11d. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Helmsley: 10d to 11d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 10d. Otley: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 9d. Stamford: 1s to 1s 1d. Tavistock: 1s to Redruth: 9d. Stamford: 1s to 1s 1d. St. Austell: 11d Tavistock: 1s to 1s 2d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

CHEESE.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There were larger arrivals of cheese. Owing to the excessive heat there was only a limited inquiry, trade being very sparing. The quality is now improving. There are a few grass cheese forward, which commanded 1s above top quotations. Cheddars, 40s to 51s; Dunlops, 44s to 50s per cwt.

Newport. Wednesday. — Quotations:—Caerphillies, 56s to 58s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 52s to 56s; ordinaries, 48s to 50s; doubles, 46s to 48s. Derbies, 58s to 60s. A supply of twelve tons was pitched. A good attendance and a good demand.

WOOL

Canterbury. Saturday.—The market [illegible] Kent remains very firm, the [illegible] maintained with a brisk trade. [illegible] Kent fleeces and [illegible] are quoted at 1s. [illegible] Downs [illegible]

London. Saturday.—English per [illegible] Fleeces S. Du. Hogs, [illegible] to £15 10s; wethers £[illegible] to £15 15s; Lambs [illegible] per lb. Victoria super [illegible] good, [illegible] greasy average [illegible] 1s 1d; super [illegible] greasy average [illegible] 1s 1d; super [illegible] 1s 1d; greasy average [illegible] 1s 1d; super [illegible] 1s 1d; greasy average [illegible] 1s 1d; super [illegible] 1s 1d;

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat crop of the present year is regarded as almost 10 per cent. above the promise of the past quarter of a century. The yield is likely to resemble that of 1902 in quantity, that of 1898 in character. The area under cultivation being larger than in 1904 makes the favourable promise of the yield per acre an especial matter for rejoicing. Rye is ripe in a few Sussex fields, and where it is grown is over an average yield. There is also fine tall straw. Barley is improving in aspect, but is still irregular, and the reports from the chief malting counties leave a good deal to be desired. Oats are a good promise north of the Humber, but will probably be under an average in all the counties south of it. In parts of the South-West the disappointment will be serious. Round London some good oat fields are to be seen, but the chilly April appears to have injured the start of growth, and May was not a favourable month. Beans have improved very noticeably since July came in. The hay crop is not up to the yield of last year, but as the hay harvest is still in progress it is difficult to say more at present.

The Bureau Report of the American Government, dated July 11, and published here on Wednesday last, gives the wheat yield as follows:—

	Bushels.
Winter wheat	413,150,000
Spring wheat	292,376,000
Total	705,526,000

The crop of oats is put at 949,698,000 bushels, and that of barley at 141,262,000 bushels. These estimates thus compare with ascertained yields, the figures in each case representing millions of bushels:—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1905 (est.)	705	141	949
1904 (ret.)	552	139	894
1903 (ret.)	637	131	784
1902 (ret.)	670	134	987
1901 (ret.)	748	—	736
1900 (ret.)	522	—	809
1899 (ret.)	547	—	796
1898 (ret.)	675	—	730
1897 (ret.)	530	—	698
1896 (ret.)	427	—	707
1895 (ret.)	467	—	824

We have no quantitative returns of barley prior to 1902. The area under the cereal is still small, but a certain increase occurs from year to year.

An increase of 2,081,000 in the American maize acreage is officially reported, the States where this increase has occurred being Oklahama, Texas, Georgia, the Cardenas, Alabama, and Missouri. A decrease is reported from Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, but this is more than wiped out by the increase in the States named, which gives the net increase of 2,081,000 acres for the entire Union.

The rye crop of America is much better than that of last year, but we lack particulars of the area under cultivation. As compared with 1904, the cereals show the following changes:—

Winter wheat, 4 per cent. improvement.
Spring wheat, 2.7 per cent. depreciation.
Barley, 7 per cent. improvement.
Oats, 2.3 per cent. improvement.
Rye, 9 per cent. improvement.
Maize, 1 per cent. improvement.

The maize is as yet in so early a stage that crop estimates have a minimum of value, but on all the other staples, except spring wheat, the above amounts to a harvest report. The spring wheat is inferior in Minnesota and Dacota, but the best promise on record in Washington. Iowa expects 17.65 bushels to the acre. The winter wheat is much above the average in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahama, and Kentucky.

Gramary took at the United Kingdom are thus estimated:—

	1 July.	1 April.	1 January.
Wheat (qrs.)	1,475,000	1,750,000	2,193,000
Barley (qrs.)	747,000	750,000	913,000
Oats (qrs.)	521,000	570,000	634,000
Maize (qrs.)	350,000	430,000	535,000
Beans (qrs.)	77,000	144,000	724,000

In 1904 wheat holdings ranged between 1,204,000 qr. and 1,850,000 qr. in 1903 between 1,456,000 qr. and 1,565,000 qr., in 1902 between 782,000 qr. and 1,234,000 qr., and in 1901 between 1,057,000 qr. and 1,450,000 qr. Barley holdings reached a maximum of 915,000 qr. this January; only 270,000 qr. in hand on April 1, 1904, were then the largest dock supply; and maize reached a high figure with 927,000 qr. at the beginning of last year. Of flour 1,170,000 sacks were in dock on July 1, 1901.

The following returns for the mid-month show [illegible] present expectations of breadstuffs, though [illegible] are by no means exclusive:—

WHEAT ON PASSAGE JULY 15
(including flour as wheat).

	Qrs.
1905	2,945,000
1904	3,385,000
1903	2,326,000
1902	2,456,000
1901	2,326,000
1900	2,402,000
1899	2,743,000
1898	2,202,000
1897	934,000
1896	1,800,000
1895	3,478,000

The extremely small expectations on the July 15, 1897, sent up wheat prices from 27s. 9d. to 30s. 4d. per qr., a rise of 2s. 7d. on the month, but the very large anticipations of July 15, 1895, only reduced prices from 24s. 9d. to 24s. 3d. per qr. That prices should have been no higher than 30s. 4d. in August, 1897, is the chief surprise.

Of spring corn, expectations are thus returned:—

	Barley. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.
July 15, 1905	110,000	925,000
1904	425,000	980,000
1903	309,000	1,100,000
1902	136,000	900,000
1901	110,000	810,000
1900	185,000	784,000
1899	115,000	700,000
1898	148,000	587,000
1897	251,000	660,000
1896	274,000	710,000
1895	278,000	692,000

Of oats 300,000 qr., a fairly large supply, is on passage to this country. We have no returns for years before 1901, and the statistics of the oat trade still leave a good deal to be desired.

The wheat on passage includes 900,000 qr. of Indian, 670,000 qr. of Argentine, and 745,000 qr. of Australian. There are no cargoes of wheat on passage from California, an event without parallel for many years.

Expectations of minor staples are as follows:—Linseed 236,000 qr., rice 32,000 tons, and beans 4,000 qr.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 552,000 qrs.; a very large supply.
Flour, 38,000 sacks; a very small supply.
Barley, 44,000 qrs.; a very small supply.
Oats, 278,000 qrs.; colossal arrivals.
Maize, 224,000 qrs.; large arrivals.

The sales of British produce at the statute markets since harvest have been as follows:—

Wheat, 1,594,000 qrs., at 30s. 7d. per qr.
Barley, 3,132,000 qrs., at 24s. 9d. per qr.
Oats, 1,123,000 qrs., at 17s. per qr.

Last season returns for the same 45 completed weeks of the cereal year were:—

Wheat, 1,988,000 qrs., at 27s. 1d. per qr.
Barley, 2,772,000 qrs., at 22s. 2d per qr.
Oats, 1,049,000 qrs., at 16s. 3d. per qr.

The shipments from America last week were moderate. They included 43,000 qr. of wheat, 9,000 qr. of barley, 11,000 qr. of oats, 93,000 qr. of maize, and 61,000 sacks of flour. Liberal exports from Argentina included 372,000 qr. of wheat, 366,000 qr. of maize, and 35,000 qr. of linseed. Russia shipped enormous quantities of wheat and oats, but only moderate quantities of barley. Returns were:—Wheat 510,000 qr., barley 126,000 qr., oats 417,000 qr., and maize 20,000 qr. Roumania shipped 130,000 qr. of wheat. India shipped 225,000 qr. of wheat and 69,500 qr. of linseed. Finally, 40,000 qr. of wheat were exported from New Zealand

SEEDS.

London, Monday. The marvellous fine weather we are experiencing with the good general reports of new seeds prospects is checking any speculation. Beyond a small demand for mustard and rape the trade is lifeless. There is an abundant crop of fine English trifolium coming out; with patience this should be bought reasonably, as a large autumn demand is not anticipated.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

HOPS

London, Monday. W. H. and H. L. May, 67, Borough, London, report:—There has been considerable inquiry for hops during the past week. The low prices now ruling, tempting brewers to cover requirements

EGGS.

Saturday. Appleby 1 to 14 Bridgnorth 14 Carlisle 1 and 14 Doncaster 14 Grantham 14 and 14 Hawden 13 to 15 Ipswich 1 to 14 Malton 15 and 14 Penrith at 15 Retford 1s 6d to 1s 7d per score Richmond (Yorks) 14 Shrewsbury 1 Skipton 14 and 15 Sleaford 13 or 14 Whitby 1 and 15 Worcester 14 York 14

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 17.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The London market to-day was not at all well-attended,, part of it is still in the hands of the decorators, and, pending first arrivals of new home crops, there is an almost complete truce to trade in British grain. English wheat to-day was dearer than ever. English barley was hardly quoted. Foreign wheat declined for Indian and Russian types. The good wages paid by the shipping firms at Russian ports have preserved that great industry from strikes and disturbance. Russian barley to-day lost 6d. of its recent 1s. advance, and oats also went back in price. Maize was 1s. cheaper for round, and 6d. for both flat and yellow corn. These tendencies were implicit in the market of Friday, but it was not till to-day that prices were actually lowered. Beans show a slight advance, especially for Smyrna, Alexandria, and Sidonian. Dari seems scarce this season, and prices were 1s. up.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	35	— 37
Red	,,	34	— 36
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	none	
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	nominal	
Brewing	,,	nominal	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	nominal	
,,	(per 400 lb.)	19	— 22
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 38
Brown	,,	25	— 30
Black	,,	30	— 32
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	22	— 23
Old Black Winter	,,	nominal	
Old Grey Winter	,,	nominal	
Old Black Tartary	,,	nominal	
,,	(per 320 lb.)	19	— 20
New Winter	(per 336 lb.)	19	— 21
,, Black Tartary	,,	19	— 20
,,	(per 312 lb.)	18	— 19
New (Light)"	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter	,,	33	— 34
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	52	— 72
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	30	— 31
Maple	,,	33	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 52
(Spring)	,,	40	— 44
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	29	— 30

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Mitoba Best White	36	— 37
,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 34
Australian	32	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	33	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 38
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 20/6
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	20	— 24
Smyrna (448 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	21	— 23
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
French	23	— 24
Russian	22	— 23
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	27	— 28
Turkish	26	— 27
Morocco	25	— 26
Indian	25	— 26
American	23	— 24
Argentine	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16	— 1
Revel (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Turkish (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	32	— 34
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	34	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 26
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	40	— 41
Red	22	— 26
Yellow	19	— 20
Sorghum	18	— 19
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	23	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	30	— 31
Russian	28	— 29
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	24	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET WAS VERY DULL AT THE CLOSE, PRICES GENERALLY TENDING IN BUYERS' FAVOUR.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 17.

Town Whites and Town Households were steady at the slight concession made on the 10th inst. Foreign flour was a weak trade, for the stocks, though not large, are in excess of what had been imagined. Although American sorts cannot be quoted lower, there were scarcely any buyers within a shilling of the prices asked. Hungarian, also, had a downward tendency. Some fine flour from Manitoba made 28s. 6d. for cash. No changes occurred in French or Australian sorts. Argentine flour was quite steady, and is undeniably good value for the money. Bran, pollard, and middlings were dull at the prices of the 10th inst. Cottonseed cake was held for 2s. 6d. per ton advance, but linseed and rapeseed cakes were obtainable at the currencies of a week ago.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31 0
Town Whites	,,	28 0
,, Households	,,	25 0
No. 3	,,	22 0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 — 31
,, Second Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	29 — 31
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32 — 33
,, 1	,,	31 — 32
,, 2	,,	30 — 31
,, 3	,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27 — 28
,, 1st Grade	,,	26 — 27
,, 2nd Grade	,,	25 — 26
,, Common	,,	20 — 21
,, "Saturno"	,,	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Whole Meal	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24 — 26
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Bran, London Broad	,,	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Barley Meal	,,	14 — 15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26 — 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34 — 35
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	35 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 15
Maize Flour	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13 — 14
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21 — 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9 — 10
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 22
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 20
Ground Rice	,,	22 — 23
Feeding Rice	,,	17 — 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

Argentine	6s. 6d.	July delivery.
No. 2 American Red	6s. 10d.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 9d. Sept.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 8d. Dec.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d. Jan.	,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 11d.	July delivery.
,,	4s. 10d. Aug.	,,
,,	4s. 9d. Sept.	,,
,,	4s. 8d. Oct.	,,

These are not official prices, but will, we believe, be found practically correct. Official quotations, we hear, are likely to be resumed very shortly.

There is very little speculation to-day in either wheat or maize for future delivery. American Red Wheat at 6s. 8d. per cental, and American flat maize at 4s. 10d., both for September delivery, are the only sales recorded.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour is firm with more business passing, town millers being especially busy. Grain. Indian corn dearer at 14s. 3d. per 280 lb. Oats are in large supply, and prices are easier. Barley and pease firm. Beans in retail demand at unchanged prices. Mill Stuffs.—There is no change in bran, but thirds, especially fine, are in active demand. Saturday and Monday are close holidays here.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—There is no new feature to report; demand continues moderate at late rates. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals. Trade for bran continues quiet; prices practically unchanged.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very quiet, and prices are about 3d. lower on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling Offals.—All offals are unchanged in value, with a slow trade for middlings and pollard.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Arrivals of wheat are moderate. Market quiet, and prices are 3d. and 6d. lower. Flour sells slowly at late rates. Maize dull. Barley and oats 3d. and 8d. lower.—COVENTRY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: London made are dearer and there is rather a better demand. Undecorticated cotton cake: This meets with hardly any inquiry, but prices remain unchanged owing to light stocks on hand. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: The market has again advanced 2s 6d per ton, and with no prospects of large arrivals for some time the demand is very good. Linseed: As usual at this time of year, trade for feeding linseed is quiet, but shipments being light there is no indication of prices weakening.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7	12	0	to 7	15 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, Western ,,	ex quay					
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay					
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	5	0	to 7	12 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	7	6		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	15	0		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	11	3	to 4	12 6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	10	0		
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4	17	6		
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	8	0		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	3	6		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs	ex warehouse	2	0	0	to 2	7 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.						
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,, ,,						
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.						

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Maize, barley, and seed oil cargoes have opened rather cheaper from Saturday, and oats are tending in the same direction. Cargoes of wheat and oilseeds are held for former prices, while those of beans, peas, and dari rather favour holders.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—White Kurrachee, 31s per 492lb. prompt shipment, Red Kurrachee, 30s per 492lb., prompt shipment; White Calcutta, 31s 6d per 492lb., prompt shipment; Bahia Blanca, 30s 6d per 480lb., prompt shipment; Bessarabian, 31s 6d per 492lb., September shipment; Roumanian, 29s 6d per 492lb., October shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 32s 9d per 492lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 23s 3d per 480lb., prompt shipment; Argentine, 23s 6d per 480lb., arrived; Argentine, 23s per 485lb., August shipment.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 19s 6d per 400lb. on passage; Odessa, 18s 9d per 500lb., August shipment; Odessa, 17s 6d per 400lb., October shipment.

OATS.—Roumanian, 13s 9d per 304lb., September shipment; Volegda, 14s 9d per 312lb., prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 30s per 480lb., September shipment.

PEAS.—White Calcutta, 28s 3d per 504lb., July shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 40s 6d per 410lb., July shipment.

RAPESEED.—Roumanian, 34s 6d per 424lb., August shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, 6s per 112lb., New Crop November shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were: From Ireland, 1,622 bales; and from foreign ports, 12,750 bales. There was a great recovery in the bacon market, and, with an improved demand, prices were dearer on the week. Irish, 56s to 68s up to 71s; Danish, 52s to 65s up to 69s; Canadian, 59s to 54s up to 58s. Butter: The butter market was firm for all sorts, prices ranging: French, 94s to 104s; Danish, 116s to 112s; Russian, 90s to 100s; Irish, 96s to 106s; Canadian, 88s to 104s; Colonials, 92s to 102s. Lard: The lard market was steady: Irish, 41s to 50s; Danish, 46s to 48s; American, 35s to 36s 3d.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 17, 1905. British.	Total, July 18, 1904.	Monday.
Beasts	484	480	1,499
Sheep and Lambs	7,850	7,850	7,210
Calves	10	10	—
Milch Cows	10	10	90

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 0d to 3s 4d	3s 8d to 4s 0d	4s 2d
Sheep	3s 8d to 3s 8d	3s 8d to 4s 2d	4s 4d
Lambs	5s 2d to 6s 0d	6s 0d to 6s 4d	6s 6d
Calves	3s 8d to 4s 0d	4s 6d to 4s 8d	5s 0d

Milch cows, per head, £16 10s to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 134; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 729; Devon, 20; Ireland, 67.

We note to-day a increase of 120 head in the number of sheep and lambs penned, the supply as usual at this season of the year consisted principally of grass fed Herefords and Runts from the Midland Counties. Trade for both prime and second quality fat beasts was of a dull and heavy nature at a decline of 4d. per 8 lbs., in value. The Irish consignments were smaller and consisted of 75 Dublins (19 of which were choice Black Polled Dublins and 24 Waterfords. Trade ruled slow but late currencies were maintained for this class of cattle. Fat butchering cows met with a steady demand by both town and country buyers, consequently late values were maintained, on the other hand bulls met with less enquiry, rates showing a downward tendency.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, July 18, 1904.
Black Polled Dublins	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 8d ex 4s 10d
Norfolks	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 6d ex 4s 8d
Runts	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Irish	4s 0d to 4s 3d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was an increase of 970 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a dull and heavy nature, only small choice quality sheep being able to maintain late values, heavy weights were quite unsaleable. Yorkshire sheep shared in the general depression. On the other hand both Scotch and Irish descriptions met with a very fair trade at currencies. Lambs were slightly in excess of the demand consequently trade ruled lower, in some cases 2d. per 8lbs. less money having to be accepted to effect sales. The supply included 500 Scotch, 980 Irish, 600 Yorks, and 1,339 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, July 18, 1904.
8 st Scotch	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
9 st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Yorkshires	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
12 st Lincolns	4s 4d ex 4s 6d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	6s 0d to 6s 2d
6 st Half-bred Lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	6s 0d to 6s 2d

Calves met with a slow trade, the best making from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8lbs (offal given in).

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies, moderate demand. Beef: Scotch: 3s 10d to 4s 2d; English: 3s 9d to 3s 10d; American: 3s 6d to 3s 9d. Mutton: Scotch wether: 4s 4d to 5s 4d; ewes: 3s 0d to 3s 8d; English wethers: 4s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 5d to 3s. Lamb: English, 5s to 6s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal, 3s to 4s 4d. Pork, 2s 8d to 4s.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,391. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 344 head, and consisted of 1,255 from the United States and 185 from Canada. Trade was of a slow nature, States cattle barely making last Saturday's quotations, whilst Canadians were quoted 1d per 8 lbs. lower. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s, ex. 4s 1d. Canadians 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds 3s 6d per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal). On Saturday 1,256 States and 432 Canadian beasts were offered for sale. Trade was of a slow nature at a decline of 1d per 8 lbs in value. Besides the above, 1,170 States and 780 Canadians were held back for Monday.

Liverpool, Monday. Larger supply of stock in market to-day, demand for fat cattle, best prices hardly so good as last week. The sheep and lamb trade was of dragging character, and to effect sales sellers had to accept reduction on late rates. Beef, 9d to 5d; mutton, 8d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7d per lb. At market—882 cattle and 11,793 sheep and lambs.

BUTTER

Saturday Appleby, 9s to 1s. Berwick: 11d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 10d to 1s. Doncaster: 11d. Grantham: 1s to 1s 2d. Howden: 1s to 11d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 3d. Malton: 10d to 1s. Pontefract: 1s. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Richmond (Yorks): 11d to 1s. Shrewsbury: 1s. Skipton: 1s to 1s. Stokesley: 10d to 11d. Whitby: 9d to 11d. Wirksworth: 10d to 1s. 2d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Hops—Belgium.

The plantation reports continue to be generally favourable, the growth progressing rapidly, and the indication of a good healthy crop being manifest. There are at present no signs of vermin, which have been cleared off by the copious sunshine. The markets are consequently quiet, with a slight tendency towards lower values. The stocks presently available are, however, so much reduced, that quotations for Alosts still hang about 135 to 140 francs, and for Pops 125 francs. The prices for October-November delivery are slightly easier.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week there was a decrease in the number of beasts offered for sale. Trade for fat cattle of both prime and second quality, which consisted chiefly of Midlands and Irish (these latter comprising Dunon Shorthorns and Waterfords) was of a firm and steady nature, last week's currencies being well maintained, both descriptions of Irish beasts cleared early in the day to good advantage. Only ten Scotch beasts were offered for sale; these were quickly disposed of at late values. On Thursday a small number of Norfolks found buyers at Monday's money, fat butchering cows and bulls met a slow trade with a downward tendency in value, though hardly sufficient to quote any lower rates, whilst on Monday there was a good inquiry by both town and country buyers.

At Deptford trade was slow throughout the week, at a decline in value. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,249, as against 4,301 during the preceding week, consisting of 880 British (decrease 220) and 3,369 foreign, increase 168, comprising 2,772 from the United States and 597 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 st. Scotch, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 to 95 st. Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d; 95 st. Runts, 4s.4 d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 st. Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 st Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 110 st. ditto, 3s. 8d.; 95 st. Irish 4s. to 4s. 3d.; 90 st. States, 4s. to 4s 2d.; 90 st. Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 st. fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.

The sheep trade at Islington, with a considerable decrease in the supply, was of a firm and steady nature on the first market day of the week. We noticed last Monday the practical opening of the Irish season; the supplies consisted of sheep and lambs, the latter predominating. Trade was firm, an early clearance being effected. Scotch and Yorkshire sheep were in shorter numbers, and shared in the generally better trade experienced. English lambs, on the other hand, were in full supply, and met with a limited inquiry, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. on the previous week's values. No sheep or lambs were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number penned was 3,710, as against 5,670 during the previous week, consisting entirely of British consignments. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 st. Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 st. Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 st. Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 9 st. Irish 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 st. Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10 st. halfbreds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 st. ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 12 st. Lincoln halfbreds, 5s. 4d.; 9 st. Yorkshires, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 5 st. fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d.; 6 st. halfbred ditto, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 5½ to 6 st. Irish lambs, 6s.

Calves were in full supply on the second market day of the week, and met with little inquiry at a decline of from 2d. to 4d. in value, the best being quoted at 5s. per 8 lb. The supply during the week numbered 100.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been seasonably large. Owing to the excessively warm weather heavy-weighted cattle were without change in price, but for good-quality medium weights a slightly better trade was experienced. Fat cows a small show, and they made satisfactory prices. Sheep in average numbers. These have met a good inquiry, and for all kinds prices have ruled firm. There was a smaller supply of fat lambs, and they met an exceedingly good market at from 1s. to 2s. a head advance. A very large and good show of calves, which had to be sold at lower prices. Pigs in small supply and slightly dearer. As is usual at this time of the year there was only a very limited number of store cattle. There was a little more inquiry for them, and a nearly total clearance was effected. A very small show of store sheep at prices the turn lower, and a few were left unsold. Rather more milch cows on offer, which met a good inquiry at prices the turn higher. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., 32s. 6d.; current from 27s. 6d. to 31s. Mutton to fully 8½d. per lb. John Sawers and Sons, Ltd.

Trade in Ireland.

With an increase of 597 cattle and 665 sheep in Dublin Market on Thursday last, even with a good attendance of shippers and buyers from the London markets, trade was rather slow and dull. The cattle offered for sale were, however, not up to the usual quality, presumably owing to the pastures being short from the long drought. The tendency was all in favour of buyers, and only the very choice descriptions of bullocks and heifers made the last week's live-weight rates. There was a large supply of cow beef, and this was bought up to supply contracts, leaving business for the secondary quality of beasts very slack. Prime ox and heifer beef sold at from 52s. to 56s., and for very choice up to 58s. per cwt.; good second-class beef from 46s. to 50s., and inferior ditto from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. The number of beasts in the market was 2,315, as against 2,412 in the corresponding week of 1904. In the sheep department trade was also slow, the warm weather being against any business being done in heavy mutton, the demand being solely for light-weight tidy sheep. Lambs sold at satisfactory rates. Hoggets, value for from 42s. to 45s. each, were bought extensively for the export trade. Choice wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7¼d., and in a few cases up to 7½d. per lb.; while ewe mutton was difficult to place at from 6d. to 7d. per lb. A good number of heavy sheep were left over unsold.

Lambs were in large supply, and good business was done in fat, well-meated sorts at from 32s. to 40s. each; thin, inferior lambs were not wanted, but good mediums sold at from 25s. to 30s. each. Veal was a quiet trade, prime making from 7d. to 7½d. per lb; other sorts from 5d. upwards. There was an improved demand for dairy cows of the right sort at better prices. Choice springers sold at from £18 to £21 each; and inferior cows from £9 up to £16, and £17 for good cows.

There was a very quiet business done in store cattle, and only calves and young animals were inquired for. Mr. Gavin Low had a sale of over 600 beasts drawn from the herds of leading Irish breeders. There was a fair attendance of buyers, but none seemed too anxious to restock their scanty pastures; while many graziers still have their early spring purchases yet on hand. The best live-weight figures which Mr. Low was able to extract ranged from 27s. to 30s. per cwt., but at these prices a fair clearance was made. There was a smaller supply of pigs, and a better attendance of buyers, but trade was dull at first, till it was found that sellers were determined to hold out, when a good clearance was accomplished and last week's decline recovered. Choice light-weight pigs made from 50s. to 52s. per cwt., inferior selling from 34s. per cwt. upwards.

Trade in the West.

We are glad to be able to report a slightly improved trade again for milch beasts, which, with a much better demand, are gradually approximating their old values, £24 having been realised for an exceptionally good heifer which came under our notice, though from £17 to £21 is a more average run for reliable milchers. For the plainer grades of both heifers and cows there is still a quiet sale, buyers showing little inclination to do business in anything but the more reliable sorts. With the rain which set in on Monday, after a somewhat long spell of dry, hot weather, a better feeling is showing itself in regard to barreners, anything of early promise being much more readily caught up at enhanced values than has been the case of late, especially during the advent of the dry weather, some of the more forward drafts bringing £24, up to as much as £33 10s.; the latter figure being realised at Dorchester for a good-class bullock, which will require but little attention to convert into first-class beef. The more ordinary grades are much less sought after at widely varying prices, ranging from £22 down to as low as £14 or £15 for aged beasts or poor-quality cows.

The markets for fat stock are showing no great variation at present. All the bettermost grades in steers, as well as heifers, are commanding close attention on the part of buyers, and, though there is no disposition to give anything approaching fancy prices, still, they are prepared to pay, and are paying, up to 12s. per score for really ripe Devons or Shorthorns, ranging down to 11s. where the quality is not quite so pronounced; but the secondary grades are slower of sale at 10s. to 10s. 6d., whilst fat cows are making 9s. to 9s. 6d. or 9s. 9d. for the best, and bulls from 8s. to 8s. 9d., with by no means an active inquiry at the price—the hot weather telling more against these heavy weights than almost any other classes of stock. Well finished calves of medium weight make up to 8½d., but bigger calves are not so saleable at 7½d. to 7¾d. Mutton is picking up a little in price, both wethers and ewes; but the improvement is more marked in the case of wethers than in that of ewes, though in both instances an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. may be fairly quoted—some of the best wethers again selling up to 5s. per 8 lb. and over, though from 3s. 4d. to 4s. may be quoted as the range for the best ewes now on the market. Lamb is meeting no great inquiry again, and prices have once more suffered a check; 4s. 10d. to 6s. is the present range, but the last-mentioned price is only realised in exceptional cases. Small pork is still holding its own, 9s. 6d. to 10s. being obtainable from neat handling porkers.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday. — Beast supply, compared with Thursday last, showed a slight decrease, and included a short consignment of prime quality beasts; Norfolks, which met a fairly steady trade at last Monday's money; fat butchering cows and bulls met very slow trade, with a downward tendency in value, though not quotably so. Top prices, per 8lb.:—Norfolk, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; fat cows, 3s 6d, extreme 3s 8d; fat bulls, 3s to 3s 3d. Increase of 770 in number penned in sheep market compared with Thursday last, supply consisting chiefly of Downs and half-breds; trade for both wethers and ewes was very sluggish, rates ruling 2d per 8lb lower. Lambs were in excess of demand, and sold at a reduction of fully 2d per 8lb. Best pens made, per 8lb, as follows:—7½ st to 8 st Down sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d, exceptional; 9 st ditto, 5s 4d; 10 st ditto, 5s 2d; 10 st half-breds, 5s to 5s 2d; 10 st ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 12 st Lincolns, 4s 6d; 5 st fat Down lambs, 6s 4d; 6 st half-bred ditto, 6s. Calves met a limited demand. Quotations, per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 3s to 4s 6d; sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; calves, 3s 10d to 5s; lambs, 4s 8d to 6s 4d.

London (Central), Friday.—A large quantity was received on Friday morning, and evidenced better support at firm values. Beef arrivals included 80 tons Scottish, 450 Liverpool sides, 2,500 hindquarters, and 1,850 forequarters American refrigerated; also 450 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; English, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Liverpool sides, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 10d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; River Plate hindquarters, frozen, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; forequarters, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 10d to 3s; forequarters, 1s 10d. Mutton: Scotch ranges from 4s 4d up to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 5d to 3s; River Plate, frozen, 2s to 2s 2d; Dutch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s to 3s 2d. Lamb: English ranges from 5s up to 6s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal: English, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s to 4s. Pork: Town-killed, 3s 8d to 4s; country and Dutch, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Owing to the heat, butchers restricted their purchasers to immediate requirements, and trade, though firm, was slow. Best beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; cows, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; Down wethers mutton, 5s 4d to 5s 10d; small Kent ditto, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; pork very cheap, roasters, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; large hogs, about the same.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 29 fat beasts, 53 calves, 604 fat sheep and lambs, 95 pigs, and 99 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Shorthorn steers made up to £21 15s; heifers, £19; cows, £15; Devon steers, £20 10s; West Highland oxen, £20 to £22 15s; fat calves, 70s to £5 15s; small, 20s to 55s; fat porkers, 26s to 57s 6d; store pigs, 10s to 13s; dairy cows, £11 10s to £20 15s; fat Down wethers made from 50s to 54s; small, 44s to 48s; old Down ewes, 32s to 40s; Dorset, 28s 6d; six-months-old Down lambs, 40s to 47s; small, 30s to 38s; three-months-old sucking lambs, Down, 30s to 36s; crossbreds, 32s to 35s 6d; Southdowns, 26s to 30s. For fat beasts of prime quality there was a good demand and prices well maintained; anything below the best met a slow trade, and lower prices had to be taken to clear. A good entry of fat sheep and lambs attracted the attention of a number of buyers; a clearance made of the show of lambs and choice small sheep, with an advance on last week's prices. A bad trade for ewes and heavy overfed wethers, and prices were lower. Milch cows of good quality met a brisk trade, and high prices were realised. Store cattle continues a slow trade. Fat calves were cleared at late prices. Fat porkers a short entry and with a better demand made more money. Store pigs continued a fair trade. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6¾d to 7½; second ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5¼d per lb.; best fat sheep and big lambs, 8d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7¾d; old ewes and inferior sheep, 5¾d to 6d per lb.; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb.; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb.; fat porkers, 8s to 9s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small market, only 98 head of cattle being penned, as against 165 the previous Saturday. The attendance of farmers and buyers was very small, quality of stock fair, and trade bad. Calves, £6 to £7 15s; heifers, £8 10s to £9; stirks, £8 to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £13 10s; shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply. Trade fair for beasts and sheep. Trade slow for pigs. Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb; few Herefords, 7d per lb; mutton, 6¾d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8¼d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 8d to 9s 9d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 9d per score; sows, 7s 2d to 7s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Demand was quiet, and only average business was done. There was less beef than usual, and prices advanced slightly, best qualities making 60s to 62s, whilst secondary realised 57s. Mutton was in moderate supply, and values were slightly in buyers' favour, though lamb continued firm. Pigs were not numerous, and prices remained unchanged.

Calne, Friday. Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9 3
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	9 3
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	8 9
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8 3

C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was very little doing at this market. No sheep on offer. Store beasts ranged from £7 to £9, and between £9 and £10 rough cows and calves were offered, for which there was little demand. Prices averaged from £15 to £16 each.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies of Irish cattle on the Sands continue small, only about 300 head being forward. There were generally of a useful stamp, and sold at £8 10s to £11 10s. Trade ruled quiet.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was practically no market. What little there was offering sold at the following prices:—Beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; mutton, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; lamb, 6s; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Poor supplies in all departments. Rather better supply than at recent markets, and prices from £15 to £23 bullocks, £12 to £17 heifers, drapes £10 to £15, stirks 6 to £8, and young stock £4 to £6; sheep, 38s to 46s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Good average supplies and a steady trade in most departments at to-day's market. Best wether mutton sold at 7½d to 8d per lb; young medium-sized ewes, 7d to 7¼d; and heavy coarse sheep, 6d to 6½d. Choice lambs up to 10d, and secondary sorts 8d. Calves made 9½d per lb for the best; heavier animals, 7½d to 8d. Small weight pigs, baconers, or porkers sold freely at 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Good average deliveries came to hand at to-day's market, and trade showed decided signs of revival as regards stores, the late rains having proved very beneficial to both the roots and the pastures. Milch beasts made higher rates, and there was also a much better sale for grazing cattle; the former ranged from £14 10s to £21 10s as a general run, and barrenors from £18 to £29 per pair. Fat bullocks (good grass-fed beasts) sold at very satisfactory rates, 11s to 11s 6d per score, but cows were slower at 9s 6d to 10s 3d, owing to the hot weather; small neat wethers sold at full values; but ewes were rather a dragging trade; lambs in steady request.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 2,315, increase 597; sheep, 10,833 increase 665; calves, 48, increase 21. The market opened with a good demand for choice bullocks and heifers of handy weights, but a quieter trade soon supervened, and those who refused morning prices had to accept less later on. Rough and inferior sorts harder to sell at lower rates. Suitable light sheep for home and export trade made late rates; heavy sorts not so easily placed owing to unfavourable weather. Lambs, though in fair request, the very best made last figures. Cattle: Live weight (best), 30s to 33s per cwt; secondary and inferior grades, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton: Dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb. GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Owing to the holiday season the market was small, and there was only a moderate inquiry. Forward lots of half-bred sheep sold at 40s; horned cattle, £8 to £10; polled, £11 11s to £12 12s; Shorthorn cows, £20 to £25 10s; Ayrshires, £15 to £19, and crosses £16 to £23 per head.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a good demand for sheep and lambs. Cattle in steady request, and values firm. Best lambs, 9d to 10d; secondary, 8¾d; best hoggs, 8¼d; secondary, 7¾d per lb.; top Scotch cattle, 63s to 64s per cwt. Demand moderate for dead meat, and prices firm; best States, 5¾d; best Canadian, 5¾d per lb. At market:—Cattle, 616; sheep and lambs, 4,923.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co., report their sales as follows:—A very short supply of cows and calves, and store cattle, with trade about the same.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was no alteration in the beef trade from last week, best heifer and bullock beef being 6½d per lb. Cow beef was a very slow trade, not making 5d per lb. The supply was moderate. Calves were also much about the same in demand as last week, veal only being 7d per lb. Sheep were a short supply, with a slightly improved trade, wether mutton realising 7½d to 8d per lb, and ewe mutton 6d per lb. Lambs were a firm trade, some lambs selling very well at 8½d per lb. The pig trade was slow, and the supply small. Porks d.d not fetch 5d per lb. In store cattle there was little or no trade.

Leicester, Saturday.—The transactions at the previous day's fair had practically met all immediate requirements of graziers. The supplies were limited, but they were of excellent quality. Trade sluggish at 20s to 30s per head below last week's rates. Milch cows, £14 to £16; choice Irish bullocks, £19 to £20; good lots, £14 to £15; yearlings, £5 to £7; and calves, 15s to 30s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small display of horned stock, and trade was bad. Cows, £18; young beasts, £8 to £9.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade slow, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Very few store beasts, not much trade. £6 to £11 each. Average show of fat sheep, trade slow, 8s 9d to 9s per stone. Average show of store sheep, 40s to 46s. Store lambs, 25s to 35s, fat 25s to 40s each.

Malton, Saturday.—A very small show of grazing stock, but the quality was very fair. Young bullocks made £8 to £10, choice heifers £8 15s, and young £9 to £10 per head. Some good calving cows were offered, the best making £18 to £20, secondary £15 to £17, and drape cows from £17 each. Calving heifers were cheaper, the best offered ruling to £14. In the pig market there was a very small show, and trade was dull. Middle stores made to 45s, strong to 52s, small stores 25s, young pigs 12s, and gilts in pig £3 17s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and fairly full supplies of cattle and sheep. Trade was rather slow all round. Quotations:—Heifers, 6½d to 6¾d; small heifers, 7d; cows and bulls, 5¼d to 5¾d; hogg sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 7d; tup, 5d to 5½d; lambs, 9d to 9½d; calves, 6d to 7d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Trade fairly good for fat beasts at 7s 6d per 14lb.; 8s being realised for small box beasts. Exceedingly short supply of stores, which, with the exception of one lot, were Irish; trade dull, prices ranging from £5 to £17 per head. Lambs, offered in smaller numbers, met with a dragging trade at 22s to 32s per head; fat sheep sold readily at 8s 6d to 9s 6d per stone. Fat pigs, penned in larger numbers, sold at reduced prices, in some instances 6d per stone lower, values averaging 5s 6d to 6s per stone; store pigs met with a ready sale.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small show of milch beasts, with a rather better trade. Best milch cows, £17 to £21; in-calf heifers, £14 to £19. Small show of store beasts, with rather a dragging trade. Strong heifers and steers, £10 to £13, and younger beasts £6 to £9; calves, 25s to 50s.

Retford, Saturday.—Thin attendance of farmers and dealers, and a limited supply of stock. Milch cows of good quality were saleable at £17 to £20; inferior, £14 to £16; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £13; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 40s to 50s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in average supply; trade slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves in fair supply; trade slow, at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Average supply of lambs; trade fair, at 6s 2d to 6s 6d per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. No store beasts on offer. Pig trade slow.

Thame, Tuesday. — There was altogether a larger supply of stock than there has been for many weeks past. Buyers attended from Aylesbury, Oxford, High Wycombe, Missenden, Newbury, Abingdon, Maidenhead, Wheatley, and all the principal villages around; in fact, it was one of the best attendances this season. There was a selling trade throughout of all descriptions of stock, and Messrs. Bond and Burrows had a practical clearance. Beef shows no alteration in late prices. Mutton and lamb were perhaps a shade dearer; ewes in better demand. Large supplies of prime veal found customers. Bacon and pork continue to sell well. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 95 fat beasts, 517 fat and store sheep, 95 fat and weaning calves, and 59 pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 15s, fat heifers, £15 to £19 2s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 52s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 55s; fat lambs, 34s to 37s 6d; fat calves, £5 to £4 7s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 58s; bull calves, 10s to 50s; bacon hogs, £5 5s to £4 10s; porkets, 25s to 35s. Store pigs, 10s to 18s.

Truro, Wednesday. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 20s to 40s; wethers, 7½d per lb.; ewes, 5½d; lambs, 7½d; large and small pigs and suckers, 11s 9d to 33s 6d each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 8d to 9d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market:—Bullocks, 392; calves, 92; sheep, 540; pigs, 250; horses, 5. Business fairly brisk; attendance very good.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. Fair supply; slow trade all round. Beef, 5d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—A small show of stock with trade good for mutton. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 3d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wethers and crossbreds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; lamb, 10d per lb.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday. The trade in fertilisers and feeding stuffs, as is usual at this period of the year, is dormant. Values, however, are firm and as per subscribed:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 7s 6d to £10 10s; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s 6d to £2 5s; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £7 17s 6d to £8 7s 6d; ditto foreign round, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £7 2s 6d; ditto English decorticated, prime, new, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 7s 6d to £4 12s 6d; cottonseed, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 12s 6d to £5 15s; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £4 17s 6d to £5; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s per 240lb.; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 9s 6d per qr. 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding, prime, in barrels, 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto ditto guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags; ditto ditto guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags; ditto prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags; finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags nominal.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Old hay, 5½d to 5¾d; old clover, 5¾d to 6d; new clover, 4¾d to 5¼d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a small scale, and a fair demand was experienced at previous quotations: Best clover, 75s to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially-picked hay, 80s; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 75s; straw, 30s to 42s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A good quantity was offered, for which a fair inquiry prevailed. English, 4s to 5s; Jersey, 4s 6d; St. Malo, 4s to 4s 6d; Teneriffe, 7s to 8s per cwt.; Dutch, 3s 6d per bag.

Goole, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and nothing doing in potatoes. In the retail market new potatoes are making 1s to 1s 4d per stone, or 1d per lb.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Supplies are on a liberal scale, and the demand is of a quiet character. English, 4s to 5s; Jersey, 4s; St. Malo, 4s to 4s 3d; Canary, 8s; and Dutch, 3s per cwt.

York, Saturday.—For the present old potatoes are a drug in the market, and unquotable. New home-grown sorts made from 3s to 4s per 80lb. The supplies are coming to hand in good condition, but could do with a good, steady rain to help them.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday. — Supplies were moderate, and met an improved demand. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; Sussex, 3s 3d to 4s; Welsh, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; geese, 4s to 5s; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 3s; country, 2s to 2s 6d; quail, 1s to 1s 3d; Boredaux pigeons, 10d to 1s.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: Considering the continuous rise in price of Canadian butter, the demand has been as good as could be reasonably expected. The quality as a whole shows a distinct improvement on former years. The arrivals are weekly increasing, although from May 1 to July 8 they are not quite as much as last year, being 28,897 cwts. against 29,756 twelve months since. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged, although markets in the north of England, if not showing signs of losing strength, are certainly not gaining. Prices, however, remain virtually unchanged on the week. "Choicest" Danish is making 110s to 112s. Siberian 98s to 100s, Argentine 98s to 100s, French 98s to 100s, and Dutch 102s to 104s. These prices are about 12s to 15s per cwt. above the value at this date in 1904. Cheese: There is a good hand-to-mouth demand for Canadian cheese, but buyers everywhere doubt the continuance of present values. Yet there are no signs of any considerable decline across the Atlantic. There can be no doubt, however, that on this side the wish for such decline is everywhere father to the thought.

WOOL.

Halifax, Saturday. While the tendency of prices is still to firmness, a check has been put to the upward movement for raw material. Merino wools, imported Greasy, are quoted slightly below London rates. Tops, however, are very firm at late quotations. Merinoes are rather quiet, but steady, and cross-breds, both fine and strong, meet with fair business. Not much change in home-grown wools.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed. The arrivals are 2,[illegible] from Bombay, 2,375 qrs. Buenos Ayres, 1,[illegible] 695 qrs. St. Petersburg, and 2[illegible] qrs. Libau. Linseed proved firm but has again turned quiet and prices are 3d to 6d lower than the week. Rape. [illegible] offered at 36s. June/July 40s 9d, July/August 41s. August/September 42s 3d, September/October 42s 9d. Business has been a good deal restricted by the holidays, only [illegible] of business transacted, spot at 5[illegible] 9d, and afloat at 5[illegible] 6d, but business done on [illegible] changed hands at £5 16s, £5 15s, and £5 14s. Cakes at £6 and £5 2s 6d. The last day of two the tone is weaker again at £5 17s 6d spot, £5 16s 3d accepted July/August, and sellers the next month at £5 [illegible] January done again £5 [illegible] £4 19s 6d July/August and August/September £5 [illegible] and £4 19s 6d July/August and August/September £5 [illegible] 6d December/January. [illegible] Oilseed cakes: Linseed cakes firm, and [illegible] cakes are 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton dearer with [illegible] KELLOCK MAXSTED AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: With a [illegible] any demand the trade rules dull and [illegible] small stocks and a firmer attitude in [illegible] values are well supported. Rapeseed [illegible] tion, being relatively cheaply offered. Amer[illegible] India seed cakes are unchanged, but prices are beyond buyers' views. London made met a poor inquiry, but crushers still ask full prices. Cotton [illegible] Egyptian are now getting into a small [illegible] practically no fresh arrivals, the tone of the market has slightly improved, although prices are not quotably dearer. Decorticated: A fair business is passing in [illegible] at £6 15s to £6 17s 6d, and specially [illegible] £6 5s, while American "Open Hand" [illegible] £6 11s 3d, and meal at £6 13s. Rape [illegible] A steamer shipment of kibbled Calcutta in bags is to be had at the low figure of £4 15s per ton. Maize germ meal landed lots of white American have now [illegible] and for the moment nothing offers for [illegible] makes are still available at an advance [illegible] week's price. Maize gluten meal is [illegible] £5 10s per ton. Rice meal: Parcels of Rangoon in warehouse are fully as dear as £4 7s 6d to £4 [illegible] also the price asked for shipment. Broken [illegible] offered at £4 15s per ton in bags. Nitrate of soda is without change. Locust beans are not [illegible] present delivery at £5 for whole and £5 10s for kibbled, although a considerable advance is pointed for [illegible] ment.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 10 0	to 7 15 0
Russian, in bags	7 6	3 to 7 7 6
" in mats	7 3	9 to 7 5 0
Calcutta ..... ex ship	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 8	9 to 4 10 0
" ..... Nov./April	4 10 0	
English	4 8	9 to 4 10 0
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake		
" " " Meal	6 10 0	
" Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	6 17 6	to 6 10 0
" Meal "	4 10 0	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 8	9 to 5 10 0
American		
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 10 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
" ..... ex warehouse	4 7 6	to 4 10 0
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	11 0 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 0 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Good supplies offered were in fair request. English grapes, 1s [illegible] Channel Islands, 9d to 1s; Belgian, 8d to 9d per lb; Australian apples, 10s to 15s per case; cherries, 5s to 10s; gooseberries, 2s to 3s; red currants, 4s to 5s; black, 5s to 6s per half sieve; strawberries, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; [illegible] 3s 6d per pack; Canary bananas, 6s to 10s; Jamaica, 3s to 6s per bunch; pineapples, 2s 6d to 5s each; English tomatoes, 3s to 4s per dozen lb.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—After the fine weather of the past week the appearance of the plants is highly satisfactory.

London, Monday.—The Belgian market has become easier within the last day or two, Brussels quotations now being 134 francs for Aloists 1904, and 132 francs [illegible] lots.

Worcester, Saturday.—We have little change to report either as to the growing [illegible] business passing on the market. Stocks on offer are limited, but buyers only operate [illegible] present requirements. —CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, on Friday, [illegible] a continuance of very hot, dry weather, carried out their 26th Sutton lamb [illegible] and six thousand lambs being [illegible] ing fourteen flocks of the registered Suffolk breed. Trade proved very animated, [illegible] prices prevalent at the great Bentley sale on the preceding day. Mr. Alfred Smith made 60s. for his top Suffolk ewe lambs, 3s. more than last year, and there was an even greater increase on his succeeding pens, his average for [illegible] 37s. Mr. C. F. Marriner, who has recently bought Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, where he has resided for a considerable period, came second for Suffolk ewe lambs at 46s., at [illegible] 42s. 6d. His average for the fall of 138 lambs was the exceptionally good one of 39s. 5d.

AGRICULTURAL SHOWS IN AUGUST.

AUGUST 1.—Chepstow Agricultural Society, at Chepstow. Entries close about July 16. Secretaries, Clay and Thomas, Chepstow.

AUGUST 1 (not 3). Penrith Agricultural Society, at Penrith. Entries close July 18. Secretary, J. Thornborrow, F.A.I., St. Andrew's Churchyard, Penrith.

AUGUST 1 and 2.—Welsh National Agricultural Society, at Aberystwith. General Manager, L. T. Loolden Price, Cambrian Chambers, Aberystwith.

AUGUST 1 and 2.—Isle of Thanet Horse Show Society, at Margate. Entries close July 11; at double fees, July 18. Hon. Secretary, F. H. Bailey-King, 24, Cecil Square, Margate.

AUGUST 2.—Whitchurch and District, at Whitchurch. Entries close July 19 Secretaries, G. O. Wycherley, Colin L. Smith, The Elms, Whitchurch, Salop.

AUGUST 2.—Wadebridge District Agricultural, at Wadebridge. Secretaries, Hart Key and M. P. Menhinick, Wadebridge.

AUGUST 3.—Burton-on-Trent and District Shire Horse Society, at Burton-on-Trent. Secretary, F. D. Winterton, Walton Warren, Burton-on-Trent.

AUGUST 3.—Alford and District Horse and Foal Show Society, at Alford, Lincolnshire. Entries close July 26. Hon. Secretary, S. B. Carnley, Alford, Lincolnshire.

AUGUST 3, 4, 5, and 7.—Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, at Liverpool. Entries close: Implements, June 7; Live Stock, July 3. Secretary, E. Bohane, Miller Arcade, Preston.

AUGUST 4 (1st ram sale) and SEPTEMBER 1 (2nd ram sale). —Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association, at Messrs. Smith's field, next the West Common, Lincoln. Entries close: 1st sale July 5; 2nd sale August 5. Secretary, Stephen Upton, St. Benedict's Square, Lincoln.

AUGUST 5.—Border Union Agricultural Society, at Kelso. Entries close: Implements and Stock July 14; Dogs July 21. Secretary, J. Scott, Ploughlands, Ancrum, Roxburgh.

AUGUST 5.—Perthshire Agricultural Society, at South Inch, Perth. Entries close July 17. Secretary, J. F. Smith, Eastfield, Bridge of Earn, N.B.

AUGUST 7.—Brentor and Lydford Pony Society, at Lydford, Devon. Entries close July 5. Secretary, J. N. Jackman, Burnville, Tavistock, Devon.

AUGUST 7.—Felton and Warkworth Agricultural Society, at Warkworth. Entries close July 22. Secretary, J. Barker, High Stanners, Morpeth.

AUGUST 7.—Gainsborough Agricultural Society, at Gainsborough. Entries close August 1. Secretary, T. J. Dixon, 17, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough.

AUGUST 7.—Kingston and District Shire Horse Society, at Kingston, Derby. Entries close July 24. Secretary, G. Ball, Kingston, Derby.

AUGUST 7.—Ludlow Agricultural Society, at Ludlow. Entries close July 24. Secretary, E. H. Wood, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

AUGUST 7.—Oxted and Godstone Agricultural Association, at Oxted Secretary, J. Stanley, Tandridge, Oxted.

AUGUST 7.—Tyneside Agricultural Society, at Hexham. Secretary, R. Ord, Oakwood, Hexham.

AUGUST 7.—Waltham Cross and Three Counties Horse Society, at Waltham Cross. Entries close July 7. Secretary, J. Crawter, Cheshunt.

AUGUST 7.—West Gloster Farmers' Club, at Westbury-on-Trym. Entries close July 6. Secretary, H. Nicholls, Iron Acton, near Bristol.

AUGUST 7.—Wisbech and District Horse Society, at Wisbech. Entries close July 31. Secretary, H. W. Hatson, West Parade, Wisbech.

AUGUST 7.—Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society, at Berkeley. Entries close July 15. Secretary, G. Clark, Severn Lodge, Berkeley, Glos.

AUGUST 7.—Chatteris Shire Horse and Hackney Society, at Chatteris. Entries close July 24. Secretary, A. H. Ruston, Aylesby House, Chatteris.

AUGUST 7.—Hereford Horse Show, at Hereford. Secretary, E. H. Landon, Bullingham, near Hereford.

AUGUST 7.—Lutterworth and District Agricultural Society, at Cherry Orchard, Lutterworth. Entries close July 24; double fees July 29. Secretary, T. C. Bodycote, Lutterworth.

AUGUST 7. — Tutbury Shire Horse and Meynell Hunt Society, at Tutbury. Entries close July 22. Secretary, S. Walker, jun., Croft Farm, Tutbury.

AUGUST 7.—Newcastle Estate Tenants' Agricultural Society, at Clumber Park. Secretary, T. L. Holley, Ryecroft, Retford.

AUGUST 8.—Central Banffshire Farmers' Club, at Keith. Entries close July 22. Secretary, G. Donald, Ladyhill Grange, Keith.

AUGUST 8.—Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society, at Welbeck. Entries close July 3. Secretary, H. W. Woods, Scotland Farm, Worksop.

AUGUST 8.—Royal and Central Bucks Agricultural Association, at Bletchley Park. Entries close July 11. Secretary, F. B. Parrott, Solicitor, Aylesbury.

AUGUST 9.—Badminton Farmers' Club, at Badminton. Entries close July 10; late entries July 17. Secretary, S. H. Cowper-Coles, Badminton, R.S.O., Glos.

AUGUST 9 (probably).—South Brent Dartmoor Pony, at South Brent, Devon Secretary, Wyndham Hull, South Brent, Devon.

AUGUST 9.—Crook Agricultural Society, at Crook. Entries close August 2. Secretary, W. Pallister, Crook, Co. Durham.

AUGUST 9.—Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show, at Worthing. Entries close July 26. Secretary, W. Paine, Sumner House, Worthing, Sussex.

AUGUST 9, 10, and 11.—Yorkshire Agricultural Society, at Hull. Entries close July 1; late entries July 8. Secretary, J. Maughan, Blake Street, York.

AUGUST 10.—Market Bosworth Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Bosworth Park. Entries close July 29. Secretary, J. Thorpe, Nailstone, Nuneaton

AUGUST 10.—Padiham Agricultural Society, at Padiham. Entries close August 4 (not 6) at 10 a.m. Secretary, R. W. Hargreaves, 71, Church Street, Padiham.

AUGUST 10.—Keele Agricultural Society, at Keele Park, Keele. Entries close: Dogs, August 3; Others, July 29. Secretary, D. A. Bonson, Silverdale, Staffs.

AUGUST 10.—Tring Agricultural Society, at Tring Park. Entries close July 10. Secretary, F. J. Brown, 41, High Street, Tring, Herts.

AUGUST 10.—United Counties Agricultural Society, at Carmarthen. Entries close July 27. Secretary, D. Thomas, 5, Quay Street, Carmarthen.

AUGUST 12.—Cliviger Agricultural Society, at Holme. Secretary, J. Crossley, Oakleigh, Cliviger, near Burnley.

AUGUST 12.—Whitworth Agricultural Society, at Whitworth. Entries close August 8. Secretary, E. A. Stott, 551, Market Street, Whitworth, near Rochdale.

AUGUST 15.—Heanor Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Heanor. Entries close August 9. Secretary, J. Covel, Market Street, Heanor.

AUGUST 15.—Ryedale and Pickering Agricultural Society, at Helmsley. Entries close August 4. Secretary, G. Frank, Kirbymoorside, Yorks

AUGUST 17.—East Berkshire Horse, at Hawthorn Hill Race Course. Secretary, C. H. W. Dixon, 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.

AUGUST 17.—Penistone Agricultural Society, at Penistone. Entries close August 10. Secretary, J. H. Wood, Market Place, Penistone.

AUGUST 17.—Whitby Horse and Agricultural Society, at Whitby. Entries close August 3. Secretary, F. L. Phillips, Golden Lion Bank, Whitby.

AUGUST 17.—Bognor Horse Show Society, at Bognor. Entries close August 7. Secretary, H. E. Griffin, York Road Chambers, Bognor, Sussex.

AUGUST 17.—Banwell and Weston-super-Mare Horse and Agricultural Association, at Weston-super-Mare. Entries close August 2. Secretary, J. Rogers, 30, Baldwin Street, Bristol.

AUGUST 17 (probably).—Uttoxeter Agricultural Society, at Uttoxeter. Entries close August 1. Secretary, G Fletcher Bagshaw, Auctioneer, Uttoxeter.

AUGUST 17.—Vale of Conway Agricultural Society, at Llanrwst. Entries close August 5. Secretary, H. J. W. Watling, Llanrwst.

AUGUST 17.—United Counties' Hunter Show, at Carmarthen. Secretary, Grismond Philipps, Cwmgwilly, Carmarthen.

AUGUST 17.—Warrington and District Agricultural Society, at Walton Park, near Warrington. Entries close August 2. Secretary, H. Beresford Melville, Estate Offices, Warrington.

AUGUST 18.—Barnard Castle Agricultural Society, at Barnard Castle. Entries close August 12. Secretary, J. E. Tilburn, Barnard Castle.

AUGUST 18.—Scalby and Newby Agricultural Society, at Newby, near Scarborough. Entries close August 10. Secretary, J. Tickle, Scalby, R.S.O., Yorks.

AUGUST 19.—Wensleydale Agricultural Society, at Leyburn. Entries close August 6. Secretary, T. F. King, Wynbury, Leyburn, Yorkshire.

AUGUST 19.—Holmfirth Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Holmfirth. Entries close August 12. Secretary, L. Sykes, Holmfirth.

AUGUST 19.—Chorley and District Agricultural Society, at Chorley. Entries close August 12. Secretary, P. Hodgkinson, Town Hall Sale Rooms, Chorley.

AUGUST 19.—Allendale, Whitfield, and Hexhamshire Agricultural Society, at the Riding Haugh. Secretary, W. Moore, Allendale.

AUGUST 22.—Barnsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Queen's Grounds, Barnsley. Entries close August 9. Secretary, F. C. Browne, Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

AUGUST 22.—North Lonsdale Agricultural Society, at Ulverston. Entries close August 10. Secretary, W. C. Kendall, Ulverston, Lancs.

AUGUST 22 and 23.—Royal Jersey Agricultural Society's Show of Horses, Bulls, Cows, and Heifers. Entries close July 22. Secretary, J. A. Perrée, 8, Church Street, Jersey.

AUGUST 22, 23, 24, and 25.—Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep, at Ball's Bridge. Entries close: Horses July 20; Sheep July 13. Secretary, R. Moss, Leinster House, Dublin.

AUGUST 23.—Bakewell Farmers' Club, at Bakewell. Entries close August 14. Secretary, W. J. Clark, Farmers' Club Office, Bakewell, Derbyshire.

AUGUST 23.—Arundel and District Horse, Agricultural, Horticultural, and Poultry Show, at Arundel Castle Park. Entries close August 15. Secretary, C. Bartlett, Tulchan, Arundel.

AUGUST 23.—Newbury Horse Show, at Newbury. Entries close August 4; post entries, August 11. Secretary, Colonel G. C. Ricardo, Broadway, Newbury, Berks.

AUGUST 23.—Lancaster Agricultural Society, at Lancaster. Entries close August 9. Secretaries, T. Armistead and Son, Auctioneers, Lancaster.

AUGUST 24.—Lytham Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Lytham Hall Park. Entries close August 20. Secretary, W. F. Moorhouse, Victoria Buildings, Fishergate, Preston.

AUGUST 26.—Barrow-in-Furness Agricultural Society, at Cavendish Park. Entries close August 19. Secretary F. W. Poole, 36, Cornwallis Street, Barrow-in-Furness.

AUGUST 26.—Craven Agricultural Society, at Skipton. Entries close August 19. Secretary, R. Wilson, 12, Otley Street, Skipton.

AUGUST 26.—Weardale Agricultural Society, at St. John's Chapel. Entries close August 19. Secretary, J. Watson, St. John's Chapel, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

AUGUST 26.—Worsley and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Drywood Park, Worsley. Entries close August 16. Secretary, J. W. Parkinson, 237, Walkden Road, Worsley, near Manchester.

AUGUST 29.—Carmarthenshire Agricultural Society, at Llanelly. Entries close August 15. Secretary, Rhys W. Harry, 40, New Road, Llanelly.

AUGUST 29.—Cartmel Agricultural Society, at Cartmel. Entries close August 17. Secretary, W. Cragg, Cartmel, via Carnforth, Lancs.

AUGUST 29.—Hawes Agricultural Society, at Hawes. Entries close August 21. Secretary, T. T. Fawcett, Town Hall, Hawes.

AUGUST 30.—North-East Somerset Farmers' Club, at Stanton Drew, near Bristol. Entries close August 5. Secretary, J. Tudball, Chew Magna, near Bristol.

AUGUST 30 and 31.—Cardiff Horse Show, at Cardiff. Entries close August 12; late fees August 19. Secretary, C. M. Berkeley, 3, Park Place, Cardiff.

AUGUST 30.—Airedale Agricultural Society, at Bingley. Entries close August 23. Secretary, B. Bartle, Myrtle Place, Bingley, Yorks.

AUGUST 30.—Cheshire Agricultural Society, at Chester. Entries close August 9. Secretary, T. A. Beckett, St. Werburgh Chambers, Chester.

AUGUST 30.—Guildford Agricultural Association, at Guildford. Secretary, E. H. Ellis, Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

AUGUST 30 and 31.—Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society, at Osmaston Park, Derby. Entries close: Stock, July 28; Implements, August 15. Secretary, S. Burton, Canal Office, Derby.

AUGUST 30 and 31.—Warwickshire Agricultural Society, at Coventry. Entries close July 29. Secretary, F. H. Moore, 1, Northgate Street, Warwick.

AUGUST 31.—East Somerset Agricultural Society, at Wincanton. Entries close August 14. Secretary, F. W. Harrold, Post Office, Castle Cary, Somerset.

AUGUST 31.—Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club, at Petersfield. Entries close August 17; post, August 24. Secretary, A. Wyatt, 79, High Street, Fareham.

AUGUST 31.—Leominster Agricultural Association, at The Eastern, Leominster. Entries close August 11. Secretaries, Messrs. A. and D. Edwards, Corn Exchange Offices, Leominster.

AUGUST 31.—Brewood and District Agricultural Society, at Somerford. Entries close August 17. Secretary, G. Bickford, Somerford, Brewood, Staffs.

AUGUST 31.—Hope Valley Agricultural Society, at Hope. Entries close August 19. Secretary, Z. Walker, Bradwell, Sheffield.

Sale of Jersey Cattle.

On Friday last, at Woodlands, Northaw, Hertfordshire, Messrs. Thornton and Co. offered for sale by auction drafts from the herds of Jerseys the property of Mr. C. W. Armitage and Mr. A. Miller Hallett, of Goddington, Chelsfield, Kent. Both herds are widely and popularly known, not only for their especial merit and great dairy properties of the animals, but for their continuous distinguished successes at the Royal and County Shows. Several prize animals were included in the sale, among them being a fine old cow, Farmeuse 3rd, which made 21 gs. to Mr. Thompson; Mignonne's Lily, the first prize cow at the Bath and West Show at Nottingham last month, which went to Mr. Cooper of Whittlebury at 37 gs.; also Jolly Peter, the winner of five first, four second, and two third prizes. He was bought for Lady Linlithgow at 46 gs. The following were the best prices, with buyers' names:—

COWS AND HEIFERS. Gs.

Farineuse 3rd (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. April 3, 1895; s. La Chasse Prince 5243
Mr. Thompson 21

Meadow Girl (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), broken colour, c. May 17, 1898; s. Prism 6995.....Mr. B. Killerby 18½

Bess 4th (Mr. Armitage's), nearly white colour, c. Feb. 25, 1900; s. Manager 6641..Mr. R. J. Streatfield 20

Vanilla 2nd (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. April 15, 1900; s. Hobby 7865 .....Mr. A. M. Hallett 35

Belle Royal Violet 3rd (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. Jan. 30, 1901; s. French .....Earl Cadogan 25

Flying Dulce (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. in 1901 .....Dr. Corner 18

Orleans Daisy (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. March 23, 1902; s. Garrick .....Lord Enfield 13

Flying Fox's Electra, whole colour, c. May 7, 1902; s. Flying Fox 6859 .....Earl Cadogan 26

Mignonne 5th (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. June 3, 1902; s. Sultan's Pilot 7042.....Dr. Corner 22

Fern's Dot (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. March 26, 1903; s. Mignonne's Champion 2nd 7596
Lady Hollams 22

Mignonne 6th (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. April 8, 1903; s. Sultana's Hero 7680 .....Lord Enfield 16½

Goddington Girlie (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), broken colour, c. April 29, 1903; s. Free Stater 6860
Captain Campbell 28

Mignonne's Lily (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. April 30, 1903; s. Mignonne's Champion 2nd 7596
Mr. W. C. Cooper 37

Alfriston Gem 2nd (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. May 5, 1903; s. Free Stater 6860....Lord Enfield 14½

Bay Leaf 25th (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. May 13, 1903; s. Shy Fox 7665..Mr. P. Chalmers 23

Katrine (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. June 3, 1903; s. Doricles 7183 ..Sir W. Phillimore, Bart. 22

Comptesse Mignonne (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. Oct. 21, 1903; s. Mignonne's Champion 2nd 7596
Dr. Corner 22

Goddington Lovelock (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. March 7, 1904; s. Royal Banker 7654
Lord Rosebery 13

Flying Dulce 2nd (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), broken colour, c. May 19, 1904; s. Agatha's Flying Fox 7709
Mr. R. J. Streatfield 12½

Warrior's Lottie (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. Aug. 21, 1904; s. Golden Warrior 7842
Mr. R. H. Cobb 17

Nun's Niece (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. Sept. 26, 1904; s. Sultan's Pilot 2nd .....Lord Enfield 13½

Buttercup (Mr. Armitage's), whole colour, c. Dec. 7, 1901; s. Maisonette Butterboy 7323
Lord Rosebery 14

BULLS.

Jolly Peter (Mr. Miller-Hallett's), whole colour, c. Dec. 24, 1902; s. Golden Jolly 7518
Lady Linlithgow 46

SUMMARY.

Mr. Armitage's.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
16 head averaged	19 6 4	....	317 2 0
Mr. Miller-Hallett's.			
12 head averaged	23 1 1	....	276 13 6
28 head averaged	22 2 8	....	593 15 6

Marriage of Mr. J. R. Coultas.—On the 5th inst., at St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, Mr. James Riley Coultas, only son of Mr. J. P. Coultas, of the Perseverance Ironworks, Grantham, and Miss Margaret Pitchford, second daughter of Mr. Pitchford, of Glentholme, Mornington, Victoria, Australia, were united in matrimony. The bridesmaids were Miss Coultas (sister of the bridegroom), Miss Watson (Darlington), four little girls, and a young page, all charmingly attired. The bride was given away by her aunt, Mrs. Oliver, of Perth, Australia. Mr. C. Folcke, of Birmingham, acted as best man, the officiating clergy being the Rev. R. B. Tollington, Vicar, assisted by the Rev. C. Ellesmere, Vicar of Spittlegate. Before the ceremony the organist played the "Bridal March" from "Lohengrin," and the hymns were "O Father, all-creating," "O Perfect Love," and "Now Thank we all our God." The Vicar of St. John's, Bloomsbury, delivered an admirable little address to the bride and bridegroom, who left the church to the triumphant strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." Subsequently, a reception was held at the Hotel Russell, where the many handsome presents were viewed with much interest by the numerous guests. Mr. Coultas was the recipient of a salad-bowl with servers, in glass and silver, of very elegant design, subscribed for by the employees at Perseverance Ironworks. It was supplied by Mr. Osborne, jeweller, etc., of Westgate. In celebration of the wedding, the employees at Perseverance Ironworks were entertained to supper at the Red Lion Hotel, Grantham.

Live Stock Record.

SHEPHERDING IN JULY.

Those farmers who take delight in their flocks and are good keepers as well as seekers after every means to improve them, find it to be one of their greatest pastimes at the present period of the year to wander among their sheep and inspect their individual merits. The tupping season will soon arrive, when a selection must be made of those ewes best to breed from for next year's lamb crop. Indifferent flock owners make hardly any selection. Most of the ewe-tegs are adopted, and an equal number of the oldest ewes turned out for sale to the tegs brought in. But the careful, improving owner will be much more particular. If he discovers any of his ewes, whatever may be their age, which are unthrifty or ill-shaped or devoid of the quality he desires, he will mark them to be discarded, and he will be likely to cull his tegs severely, also preferring to keep some of the best of the old ewes which have arrived at the age when they are usually sold, rather than admit in their stead animals not up to his standard of merit.

While wandering among his ewes at this period, one particularly absorbing thought will be sure to rise uppermost, as to the sort of ram or rams he should buy or hire at the approaching sales. He may have been breeding in the past two or three years for quality or size, or for bigger fleeces or finer wool, and this old aim having been accomplished, he will now endeavour to promote improvement in a different direction. Whilst some always know exactly what they want, and have eyes to perceive the right sire at a glance when he appears, others, from not having the gift, never know the sort of animal they should buy. A flockmaster who is duly sensible that he is not possessed of the faculty should endeavour to get a shepherd who, in addition to being faithful to duty, is a good judge of stock.

There are not so many arable crops available for sheep-feed as there were in May and June. Vetches and summer cabbage are now the chief of them, with sainfoin where the soil is well suited for that crop to be grown. Arthur Young wrote that the farmers of a great many Wold districts would not be able to pay their rents but for sainfoin, which is just as true to-day as it was in his time. Their biggest hay-ricks are from the crop, and there is no healthier feed for lambs either at the present period or later in autumn than a sainfoin layer. The male lambs, whether rams or wethers, naturally are allowed to have the best green food—cabbages, if there are any; or the front fold for first pick in feeding off vetches or anything else. Alternations of diet and frequent changes from fold to pasture have frequently to be carried out. The owner's eye as well as that of the shepherd has to be active to readily detect the green crop which agrees best with the portion of the flock being fed highly for sale, and their auxiliary food should be put into their troughs regularly, and not more than they are found to clear up well at one time.

The flies which spit the spawn of maggots are always exceedingly active in sultry, showery weather at the present period of the year. The shepherd has to be very attentive to discover fly attacks, as soon as possible after they are made, or great mischief is sure to result even in a few hours. The faithful shepherd will also take care to remove with his shears every clot of dung adhering to the tails of the sheep or lambs under his care, that being another, and, in general, the worst, harbour of maggot-generating flies. Many flock owners dip their sheep at the present period both as a preventive of this troublesome, loathsome pest, and to kill ticks or any parasitic insects harboured in the wool. This having now grown from half an inch to about an inch since clipping, is of a nice stage of growth to be acted on most effectively, and sheep if dipped now would suffer no chill or shock to the system therefrom, as might be the case later in autumn, with a colder temperature; yet they would still be likely to be free of parasites the entire winter.

Prominent British Breeders.

MR. C. T. PULLEY,
Lower Eaton, Hereford.
BREEDER OF HEREFORD CATTLE.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The entries for all departments of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Counties Agricultural Society, except poultry and rabbits, for the annual show on the 27th and 28th inst., have now closed, and it is gratifying to find that a large and excellent show is assured. The cattle section will again be very strong, the entries in the various bovine classes totalling about 350. As usual, the Shorthorn, Sussex, Jersey, and Guernsey breeds predominate, Jerseys being most numerous of all. The entries of horses are also very satisfactory. There are some eighty cart horses, and the lighter breeds will be forward in fully average numbers. Some strong classes of hunters will be seen in the ring, and hackneys may be expected to come up to the usual high standard always found at this show, both as to number and quality; while the harness classes include some of the most famous show animals in the country at the present time. A number of eminent breeders will be among the competitors for the Hackney prizes with the animals that took honours at the recent Park Royal Show; indeed, in nearly all departments Park Royal winners will be found. The sheep classes are well filled, particularly the Romney Marsh breed, which has been immensely improved in recent years; and goats, of which a good number have been entered, may be expected to form an interesting collection. There will be the usual driving and jumping competitions, in which the general public always manifest keen interest; and all present indications point to a generally successful show. The entries in the implement and miscellaneous department have for some years been increasing.

At a Council meeting of the Hereford Herd Book Society, Sir John Cotterill, the Lord-Lieutenant of Herefordshire was re-elected President. Mr. A. P. Turner was re-elected Vice-President, and congratulated on his election to the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society.

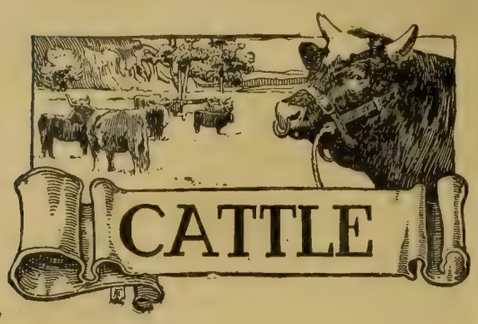
The Council of the Peterborough Agricultural Society have fixed Tuesday, Wednesday, and Tursday, July 10, 11, and 12, 1906, as the date of the Society's exhibition for next year. Secretaries will please note.

A number of choice Guernsey cattle were shipped last week to the United States by the s.s. "Isidare" (Johnstone Line).

They had all been selected on the Island of Guernsey, and formed an attractive shipment. Some Dorset sheep were also on board.

Before the Huntingdonshire magistrates at Norman Cross, last week, a gamekeeper named Albert Smith, on the Holme Estates, was charged with placing poison near certain famous covers in the Fitzwilliam Hunt country with the object of destroying life. Evidence was given that foxes, dogs, and cats had been destroyed by strychnine on defendant's beat. He strenuously denied the use of poison, but was fined £10 and £20 11s. costs.

Strange Death of a Labourer.—The death of Thomas Westwood, farm labourer, was reported recently to the North Worcestershire coroner as having occurred at Halesowen under singular circumstances. He was overcome by the heat when working in a hayfield, and fell off a wagon and injured his neck. While he lay in bed a thunderstorm occurred. The lightning coming through the bedroom window, it was said, startled him, and in turning over his neck was heard to crack, and he died immediately.



Notes and Jottings.

To the cattle breeder or owner, whether he be a breeder simply of young stock to be sold whilst in their growing state, to mature either for the dairy or the block in other hands, whether he breeds and finishes them on his farms, the month of July is one that on the average gives less satisfaction than any other month of the year. Generally speaking, July is a month in which vegetation is either rampant and outgrowing all needs, or otherwise the land is dry and parched, feed scarce, flies terribly troublesome, and your feeders and milkers losing flesh and milk before your eyes in a very rapid fashion. Young stock, too, in a time of short feed, lose badly, and increase in legginess, and often give a good deal of trouble one way or another.

This year, over a very large portion of England, also Ireland and Wales, the latter condition as regards feed prevails this year. Grass is very short in most cases, the weather is excessively hot, and flies have seldom been more troublesome than at the present time, and, travelling through the country, one sees at the railway side many hundreds of cattle of all classes that are suffering loss from the above causes. A week of July weather of the kind now prevailing makes an immense difference to stock. When writing a week ago many districts had been visited by showers or thunderstorms that refreshed the pastures temporarily, and cooled the air, giving very general relief and help to the trying conditions named. To-day heat and drought, as well as flies, are far too much in evidence.

It is at such a time as this that a good supply of green food is a real God-send to the stock-breeder and feeder, as well as the dairy farmer. A large milk-selling farmer said to me this week, "I wish I had a good green crop of some kind to cut at now; my cows are falling off terribly in the milk yield." Last spring it was pointed out in these notes how valuable a green crop is at such a time, and the practice followed by the late Mr. McCombie, of Tillyfour, of sowing a breadth of oats and peas in mixture for the purpose was recommended. In the course of a long journey through the Midlands this week, I passed a field of this mixture just in season, and the bulk of food provided, as well as its nutritive properties, can scarcely be imagined.

Black oats and white peas, I believe, are found to provide the best food; some growers, I think, put in a small proportion of tares also. When the oats are just losing or passing the milky stage, and the other subjects are green in the pod, the feeding value is very high. For milking cattle, cutting it a little younger is of advantage. The time of sowing would vary according to the locality and the season, but July is a good time to provide for its use. Should the season then be plentiful of grass, the green pod makes excellent dry fodder or ensilage, but even in good years of grass, July is a month when a little help is very useful. It assists with the growth in young stock, with the increase or holding together of the milk supply, and also of beef, until the time that aftermaths come in.

It is not often that sufficient attention is paid to the feeding and management of cattle, except in a few really first-class breeding and show herds, where no stone is left unturned in order that the animals may always be found in a condition for inspection by any intending purchaser. Owners and managers of such herds know full well that the high breeding would lose much of its value were they to neglect the providing of a succession—an ample succession of catch or green crops to assist in maintaining steady growth and condition. It is not intended by this to convey the meaning in the slightest degree that "breed goes in at the mouth," but simply to impress upon careless managers the fact that a well bred animal is worth caring for, and that, if neglected, often makes but a poor return.

In support of this statement, many breeders have had cause to regret having sold a highly bred bull or heifer to a careless, negligent, and in some cases, it is to be feared, ignorant manager may be added. The bull that in ordinary good hands would have proved an advertisement of the best possible kind to its breeder would, under the circumstances, mentioned, give quite a bad impression to any strangers who might see it without taking to heart, it may be, the fact of the beast having come from good feeding and careful attention to little better than half rations, and in others to taking care of itself. Such instances are very common, so much so that many intelligent breeders will not sell to customers of this kind, and wisely so.

So much lies in the management of stock that it is often seen that a moderately bred animal, possessing the farlings that often accompany such stock, will, under careful management and proper bringing out, if we may use the expression, make more money than a first-class bred and shapely show bull that has been in bad hands. There is a good deal of truth in the old proverb that fat like charity covers a multitude of faults, and though the best animal may be very nearly faultless, unless he is brought out in fine condition, his beauty and symmetry are not sufficiently emphasised to make him as attractive as he should be, therefore, when an inspection of the herd by any intending purchaser, or interested person, takes place, condition plays a very important part.

The results of the Shorthorn sales in the well known herds of Mr. Henry Dudding and Mr. Jonas Webb, in Lincolnshire, must be very satisfactory to breeders of the red, white, and roan. An average of over £50 per head for such drafts, which include calves, is an average that means leaving the banker's balance on the right side of the ledger, and that such draft sales can take place periodically at brief intervals, points to careful management, and to a healthy and fruitful condition of the animals of both sexes. Purchasers should look well to this point. To buy from a healthy, regular breeding herd is of vast importance, success invariably following; whilst to purchase from a herd where regular breeding is not prominent, sterility or abortion being prevalent, is invariably followed by disappointment.

The judging of the Shorthorns at the Lincolnshire show last week was attended by a circumstance causing considerable excitement in the award of the championship for the best bull. Coates's herd book Shorthorns and Lincoln Red Shorthorns being the only breeds, and the contest lying between the best bull of each of these breeds. The cattle judges each held to their own breed; the sheep judges were then called in, and, singular to relate, these gentlemen also divided evenly, so that an independent umpire in the shape of the famous Norfolk feeder, Mr. Learner, had to be requisitioned ere the final decision could be arrived at, when the honour was accorded to the Lincoln red bull. This, it is believed, is the first occasion upon which a Lincoln Red has succeeded in vanquishing the Durham representative champion.

The two bulls in question were Mr. P. L. Mills's well known King Christian of Denmark, who was champion of the Bath and West show at Nottingham, as well as occupying the highest position in his class at many leading shows of the breed, and no one can deny one of the most stylish bulls of his breed, full of quality, well grown, and very perfect in his symmetry and most valuable points; and Mr. T. B. Freshney's Saltfleet Bonus, a three-year-old, bred by Mr. Riggall, and a very massive short-legged even specimen, grandly filled on his top and in his thighs, and with a wealth of flesh of the kind that the butchers like, a stylish, pleasing stamp of bull in general appearance, too. Such a victory, no doubt, will prove a great lever to the Lincoln Red breed.

The recent sale of a draft of Jerseys from Dr. Watney's famous butter test herd was, on the whole, satisfactory, though the price averaged (only half that of the Shorthorn sales named) was not high, not sufficiently so to leave much margin for profit, and the number sold, only 22, was very small and including only a few select animals. The very high price obtained the other day in the United States for a Jersey (£2,000) was probably not without some effect on the demand at the Pangbourne sale. It should be satisfactory to the owner of these Jerseys that the present sale realised three pounds per head higher than the sale of two years ago, though the number on that occasion was greater.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Amongst the many sales of cattle advertised to take place shortly is one of 45 Dutch cattle of a very superior class, that takes place by Messrs. Bond and Sons, at the Ipswich Cattle Market, on the 18th inst. It is a long time since a good collection of Dutch stock has been before the public in England, and though these cattle, in a general way, are not noted for the richness of their produce, the quantity yielded is enormous, and they form a very useful mixture with the Channel Island breed. As nurses their milk is very useful, the heavy yield going a long way, and when given to Channel Island calves whole it suits them admirably, or when mixed with the Channel Island milk, a very heavy yield of butter follows. The two qualities assisting each other.

Sale of Dexters and Kerries at Park Royal.

A sale of Kerry and Dexter cattle the property of Messrs. Robertson and Son, of La Mancha, was held on Tuesday last at the Dairy Buildings in the Park Royal showground, Messrs. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers.

There was only a small attendance, but some good prices were made for these choice little black cattle, Mr. B. de Bertodano giving 47 gs. for La Mancha Darling and Mr. Martin J. Sutton 33 gs. for Tess. The bull Little Jim, that won first prize at Belfast this season went for 65 gs. to Mr. Ramsey to go into Scotland. The forty-three head sold averaged £14 11s. We give below a sale list:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
La Mancha Noble Lassie (Dexter), black, c. in 1897. T. Clayton	10
La Mancha Wee Wee (Dexter), black, c. in 1899. Hon. Miss R. Hubbard	11
La Mancha Wee Was (Dexter), black, c. in 1899. F. E. Pope	11
La Manch Little Mary (Dexter), black, c. in 1899. Mrs. Portman	14
La Mancha Mascotte (Dexter), black, c. in 1899. David Yul)	9
La Mancha Pimpernel (Dexter), black, c. in 1899. Mrs. Leatham	12
Aicme West (Kerry), black, c. in 1899..T. Clayton	6
La Mancha Little Mary (Dexter), black c. in 1899. G. T. Barham	12½
La Mancha Tess (Dexter), black, c. in 1900. M. J. Sutton	33
La Mancha Gipsy (Kerry), black, c. in 1900. T. Clayton	9
La Mancha Sheila (Dexter), black, c. in 1900. D. Yule	11
La Mancha Isolde (Dexter), red, c. in 1900. Mrs. Leatham	11
Compton Dainty (Dexter), black, calved in 1900. D. Yule	13
La Mancha Mary Ann (Kerry), black, c. in 1900. T. Waite	18
La Mancha Love Game (Kerry), black, c. in 1900. G. T. Barham	9
La Mancha Gadfly (Kerry), black, c. in 1900. G. T. Barham	9
La Mancha Darling (Dexter), black, c. in 1904. B. de Bertodano	47
Little Freak (Dexter), black, c. in 1901.....D. Yule	10
La Mancha Wise One (Kerry), black, c. in 1901. G. T. Barham	6½
Maynooth Pansy (Dexter), red, c. in 1901..T. Clayton	7
Little Iris (Dexter), red, c. in 1902..G. T. Barham	12
Little Ida (Dexter), black, c. May 20, 1902. F. Barbour	20
Mayrooth Pelargonium (Dexter), black, c. in 1902. F. Barbour	9
La Mancha Rhoda (Dexter), black, c. October 3, 1902 ..... F. E. Pope	10
La Mancha Kitty (Dexter), black, c. in 1902. F. Barbour	14
La Mancha Biddy (Dexter), red, c. in 1903. W. G. Mewburn	16½
La Mancha Bumble Bee (Dexter), red, c. in 1903. S. Snelgrove	15
La Mancha Coquette (Dexter), black, c. in 1903. F. Barbour	11
La Mancha Busybody (Dexter), black, c. in 1903. F. Barbour	20
La Mancha Irish Violet (Dexter), black, c. in 1903. D. Yule	18
La Mancha Do Do (Dexter), black, c. in 1903. D. Yule	7
La Mancha Twilight (Kerry), black, c. in 1903. Sir G. Greenall	18
La Mancha Novice (Kerry), black, c. in 1903. Hon. Miss R. Hubbard	7
La Mancha Hard To Find (Dexter), red, c. April 9, 1904 .....Mrs. Portman	27
La Mancha Little Jess (Dexter), red, c. in 1904. Mrs. Portman	10
La Mancha Little Witch (Dexter), black, c. in 1904. D. Yule	6½
La Mancha Maudie (Dexter), black, c. in 1904. Mrs. Leatham	8½
La Mancha Kitty (Kerry), black, c. Sept. 15, 1904. D. Yule	6
La Mancha Michus (Kerry), black, c. Sept. 21, 1904. F. A. Herdeun	3

BULLS.

La Mancha Tomboy (Kerry), black, c. June 2, 1903. G. T. Barham	7½
La Mancha Jack in the Box (Dexter), black, c. in 1903 ..... F. Barbour	10
La Mancha Little Jim (Dexter), black, c. April 27, 1903 ..... J. Ramsey	65
La Mancha Hero (Dexter), black, c. March 30, 1904. D. Yule	8

SUMMARY.

43 Head averaged £14 11 0 .. £625 16 0

Sale of Dutch Cattle at Ipswich.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Sale of Lord Rothschild's Jerseys.

A portion of Lord Rothschild's celebrated herd of Jersey cattle was submitted for sale by auction on Thursday last at Tring Park, Hertfordshire, Messrs. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. The herd has become very distinguished both by the long list of prizes won in recent years and by the heavy milking records which are published annually. The animals offered were all young and of first-rate quality and descent. They were mostly by those celebrated sires Oxford Duke, Oxford Brigadier, and Tudor Boy, all prize winners or from prize parents. Capital prices were obtained, the highest being for Garantie 13th, a two year-old daughter of Golden Lad of Oaklands, which went to the Earl of Cadogan at 70 gs., her recently-born bull calf going to Mr. E. Colston at 5½ gs. One of the best animals was undoubtedly the young cow Snawfell, descended from the old Dauncey strain, and after good bidding, she was bought by the Bishop of Ipswich at 67 gs., her heifer calf again being taken by Mr. Colston at 7½ gs. The bulls made very even prices, the highest being 32 gs. paid by Mr. James for Northern Star, a first prize winner at the Oxfordshire and Bath and West shows this year. Priority, first at Bournemouth and second at Nottingham, made two guineas less to Mr. W. C. Cooper, of Whittlebury. The following were the chief prices and buyers:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Mignonette, whole colour, c. March 16, 1899; s., Black Prince 6136	Mr. J. H. Shore	29
Lady of the Hills 6th, whole colour, c. March 18, 1901; s., Duke of Rosedale 6534	Mr. A. E. Franklin	31
Winky, broken colour, c. Oct. 7, 1901; s., Reminder's Joy 7349	Colonel Horne	18½
Morganette, whole colour, c. Nov. 9, 1901; s., Garibaldi	Sir W. Humphrey	23
Canaris Belle, whole colour, c. Nov. 16, 1901; s., Picton 4th 7958	Lady de Rothschild	46
Eleanora, whole colour, c. Jan. 30, 1902; s., Butter Test 6807	Mr. E. D. Park	32
Cloudy Morn, broken colour, c. April 15, 1902; s., Golden Lad of Oaklands 6872	Mr. J. A. James	17½
Jolly's Pet, broken colour, c. April 18, 1902; s., Golden Jolly 7518	Mr. G. Murray Smith	22
Jolly Lass, broken colour, c. May 6, 1902; s., Oxford Brigadier 7320	Capt. Smith Neill	29
Snawfell, whole colour, c. May 17, 1902; s., Jersey Champion 6902	Bishop of Ipswich	67
Glory 3rd, whole colour, c. Jan. 19, 1903; s., Derry 7475	Mr. J. A. James	18
Sea Gull, broken colour, c. Jan 21, 1903; s., Morny Cameron 7598	Lord Burnham	30
Oxford Sorrel, whole colour, c. March 24, 1903, s., Oxford Duke 5314	Mr. T. H. Macklin	20
Princess, broken colour, c. April 17, 1903; s., Leylands Oak 6615	Mr. E. D. Park	20
Lady Nicotine 2nd, whole colour, c. April 25, 1903; s., Warwick 8047	Mr. J. A. James	29
White Thorn, broken colour, c. May 22, 1903; s., Cowslip's Golden Lad 7767	Mr. G. Harris	17½
Garantie 13th, whole colour, c. July 12, 1903; s., Golden Lad of Oaklands 6872	Earl Cadogan	70
Canariensis, whole colour, c., Nov. 12, 1903; s., Western King 8049	Mr. J. A. James	31
Memory, whole colour, c. March 18, 1904; s., Agatha's Flying Fox 7709	Mr. J. A. James	20
Trattress, whole colour, c. March 25, 1904: s., Carnation's Fox 7446	Mr. A. Chamberlain	15
Fashion, whole colour, c. April 3, 1904; s., Lancelot	Mr. G. Harris	40
Governess 2nd, whole colour, c. June 11, 1904; s., Patriot 7954	Mr. T. H. Macklin	16
Dorothy Dean, whole colour, c. Aug. 4, 1904; s., Field Marshal 7056	Mr. J. A. James	30
Casket, whole colour, c. Sept 7, 1904; s., Tudor Boy 7058	Mr. J. A. James	18½
Luxury, whole colour, c. Nov. 13, 1904; s., What's Wanted 6060	Mr. E. Colston	15

BULLS

Priority, whole colour, c. Oct. 16, 1903; s., Breadwinner 7741	Mr. W. C. Cooper	30
Northern Star, whole colour, c. July 6, 1904; s., Field Marshal 7806	Mr. J. A. James	32
St. Amant, whole colour, c. June 1, 1904; s., Barrister 7719	Mr. E. D. Park	31
Oxford Masterman, whole colour, c. July 1, 1904; s., Oxford Duke 5314	Mr. R. Painter	28
Orphan, whole colour, c. May 9, 1904; s., Golden Champion	Mr. C. J. Fletcher	27
Recruit, whole colour, c. July 8, 1904; s., Field Marshal 7806	Mr. E. Colston	20

SUMMARY

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
34 Cows and heifers	25 14 2	874 2 6
6 Bulls	29 8 0	176 8 0
40 Head, avgd.	26 5 5	1,050 10 6

Sale of Red Polls at Flaxmoor, Norfolk.

A number of Red Polled cattle belonging to Mr. A. G. Scorer and Mr. F. J. Mann, of Shrapham, were sold by auction on Thursday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The cattle were in natural condition, but although there was a fair company, only ordinary prices were realised, the majority being purchased locally. We give below a sale list of the lots that realised over 12 gs.:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Flaxmoor Blossom 14931, c. March 8, 1899; s. Earl of Flaxmoor 5457	Lord de Ramsey	15
Ivy 24th 16858, c. February 10, 1900; s. Prince Rudolph 5792	Mr. R. T. Marshland	14½
Alice 16095, c. February 13, 1900; s. Oscar 5752	Mr. H. Blofield	19
Chick 16348, c. September 8, 1900; s. Red Paddy 6565		13½ 13½
Misty Dawn 18176, c. January 10, 1901; s. Marconi 7337	Mr. T. Fulcher	12½
Flaxmoor Bride 18039, c. March 28, 1901; s. Flaxmoor Lucifer 7072	Mr. B. Upcher	16
Flaxmoor Vesta 18044, c. May 23, 1901; s. Flaxmoor Lucifer 7072	Mr. T. Barton	12½
Maggie Floyd 18149, c. December 18, 1901; s. Magnus Junior 8400	Mr. Green	16½
Milksop 18738, c. April 9, 1902; s. Magnus Junior 8400	Mr. Green	15
Flaxmoor Maggie 18622, c. July 8, 1902; s. Red Duke 8623	Mr. A. Harvey	13½
Mercia 3rd 18734, c. August 20, 1902; s. Magnus Junior 8400	Mr. Green	16½
Flaxmoor Ruby 19209, c. January 15, 1903; s. Red Duke 8623	Mr. T. Barton	16½
Flaxmoor Polly 19207, c. January 23, 1903; s. Red Duke 8623	Mr. G. Bedwell	12½
Bellona 19013, c. February 25, 1903; s. Belisarius 8918	Mr. Green	18
Flaxmoor Geisha, c. February 8, 1904; s. Tiptop 9018	Mr. Youngman	14½

BULLS.

		Gs.
Flaxmoor Firebrand 9242, c. February 7, 1903; s. Red Duke 8623	Mr. F. H. Baxendale	27
Mesmer, c. March 3, 1903; s. Magnus Junior 8400	Mr. A. Harvey	13½
Merry Knight, c. July 7, 1903; s. Magnus Junior 8400	Mr. A. Harvey	14
Mont Pelee 9465, c. August 6, 1903; s. Magnus Junior 8400	Mr. A. Harvey	14
Ambition, c. January 28, 1905; s. Kruger 9115	Sir W. Corbet	13

STEERS.

	£ s. d.
Steer, c. February 20, 1904; s. Tiptop 9018	15 10 0
Steer, c. April 2, 1904; s. Marcus 9125	15 10 0

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Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
July			
18	Dutch Cattle	Mr. A. Grant	Ipswich Cattle Market.
20	Devon Cattle, Hunter and Shire Horses, and Colts	Mr. T. S. Morgan	Whimple House, Whimple, Exeter.
21	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Lord Rothschild	Tring.
24	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. T. J. Buxton	Waters Place Farm, Ware, Herts.
25	Hampshire Down Sheep..	Various	Didcot Junction.
25, 26, & 27	Horses	Various	North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
25	Southdown Sheep... ...	Various	Chichester Cattle Market
26	Shorthorns	Mr. F. J. Steward... ...	White Hall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.
26	Hampshire Down Sheep..	Mr. W. M. Harris ...	Basingstoke.
27	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Mr. F. A. K. Falconer and Mr. J. Goldsmith ..	Hants.
27	Longhorn Cattle	Mr. W. H. Sale	Atherstone, Warwickshire.
27	Hackney and Welsh Ponies	Messrs. Jones and Son ...	Colwyn Bay, North Wales,
27	Horses	Various	York Horse Repository.
28	Hampshire Down Sheep...	The Marquis of Winchester, Mr. F. A. Holman, and Mr. H. C. Stephens	Weyhill.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

I went so fully into the question of bearing reins some time ago that I would merely point out on this occasion that though, as a rule, the bearing rein is entirely unnecessary, there are horses which go very much better in one, and which do their work with much more ease to themselves, a fact which the members of the Anti Bearing Rein Society, which has done so much excellent work, do not seem to recognise. A horse with a heavy head and neck—a horse that is necessarily heavy in hand is all the better for a properly adjusted bearing rein, as anyone who has driven such horses long distances will recognise. The horse goes better and easier both for himself and for his driver. But, as I have pointed out before, a tight bearing rein is at all times an objection, and if a horse has a light forehand a bearing rein is entirely unnecessary.

Manners in harness are of the greatest importance, and one would naturally think would have considerable weight with the judges when harness classes come before them. I have watched the judging of harness classes this season, and, so far as I have been able to follow it, it has appeared as if action was the great, if not the only consideration. Now action is a very important thing indeed, and a harness horse without action is like mustard without beef. But action is not everything. In some instances—a few only—I have seen the judges recognise this fact and put a popular favourite back on account of some minor defect in joint or limb—for being worn in fact. But I have never seen manners much a prominent qualification for a showyard horse.

Yet a horse cannot be a high class harness horse without manners, indeed manners are essential in every horse, except a racehorse, before he is entitled to rank in the first class. I am speaking of course of the finished article which the show harness horse is supposed to be. And, again, no one will buy a harness horse for private use unless he has manners. It is necessary for a harness horse to stand perfectly still without anyone having hold of, or standing at his head. He should start at a walk, not a fidgetty amble and when put into a trot should go at the pace his driver wants—slackening or sharpening his speed without being hauled at by the reins on hit with the whip. How many horses do we see in the show ring that answer this description? What we see is a big class of horses driven round the ring as hard as ever they can go without losing their action. Then, when they are drawn up, a man immediately goes to the head of most of the horses; occasionally we see a horse rear or make a bolt or even kick, and I have seen horses that have reared, or kicked, or shied awarded a prize.

There are, of course, allowances to be made when anything of this sort happens. There may be circumstances which go towards excusing a horse for such "little slips." But they should certainly count against him in most cases. There is no doubt that if manners were more taken into consideration, some popular favourites would be displaced and some nasty things would, probably, be said by unthinking people. But if manners are necessary in a hunter, they are still more necessary in a harness horse. To a hunter that can gallop and jump, and go on galloping and jumping, much may be forgiven; a harness horse should do his work, which in these days is comparatively light, easily, in good style, and with perfect manners.

The question of measurement is frequently cropping up at shows, and disqualifications on account of over height or under height seem to cause more heart burning than any other. Nor is this, perhaps, to be wondered at. At many shows there is no adequate provision made for measuring. If a standard is provided there is no level platform on which to stand the horse or pony that is to be measured. And if there is, how frequently do we find there is a dispute about measurements, and a horse will be measured at one height one day, and at another the

next, with the result that there is disqualification and disappointment.

In the old days of the Give-and-Take Plates, when horses carried weight for inches, there was never any trouble about measuring. Every horse had to go under the standard, and he was measured on a measuring stone which had two parallel lines chiselled on it. These lines were 5 ft. apart, and beyond these lines no horse was allowed to stretch himself. It would be undoubtedly a good thing, and save a considerable amount of trouble, if some such plan were adopted with respect to measurements for the showyard. If owners knew exactly how their horses would be measured there would be fewer disqualifications, for naturally a man would not take a horse to a show when he knew that an objection would bring about certain disqualification. The 5 ft. limit above mentioned might perhaps be too little for horses over 15 hands or 15 hands 1 inch, but a scale might readily be adopted by skilled measurers, of whom there are any number in the veterinary colleges. In the old days, when the measuring-stone was used, the height ranged from 13 to 15 hands. It may be interesting to know that the only measuring-stone that is known to be in existence is in front of the grand stand on Knavesmire. The establishment of a standard rule for measuring is much needed, and the sooner one is established the better.

At many shows the height conditions are so framed that it is only a wonder that there are not more objections and disqualifications than there are. I know of many places where, according to the conditions as expressed in the prize schedule, a pony under 14 hands or under 13 hands could compete in the class for 15 hands 2 in. harness horses if they were literally interpreted. This is not intended, and it is seldom that it takes place. Indeed, I do not remember an instance at the present moment. But that does not do away with the possibility of the occurrence. Again, there are conditions which say, for instance, that a horse shall be 14 hands 2 inches, and not exceeding 15 hands 2 inches. It seems to me that the proper place for the 14 hands 2 inches horse is the smaller one. The conditions as laid down in the Hackney Horse Society's prize schedule are explicit enough, and do not lay the road open to objections. In such a class as I have referred to, the conditions in the schedule would read:—For geldings or mares above 14 hands 2 inches and not exceeding 15 hands 2 in. A much clearer classification than that which usually prevails.

The Highland and Agricultural Society's show at Glasgow was a great success, and was distinguished by a remarkable activity in the Clydesdale horse market. At one time the hiring of stallions by Horse Societies was mainly done at the Glasgow Stallion Show in February. But now, so great is the rivalry amongst breeders that time is taken by the forelock, and at Glasgow several important purchases and hirings were made. Amongst the sales, one of the most important—perhaps the most important, was that of Baron Fyvie, Messrs. A. and W. Montgomery's two-year-old colt. Baron Fyvie is by Baron's Pride 9122, dam Fyvie Bell 15795, by Prince Thomas 10262, and was bred by Mr. John P. Sleigh, St. John's Wells, Fyvie. Last year he was second at Ayr, first at Edinburgh, and fifth at the Highland, and this year he has never been beaten in his class. He was first at Castle Douglas and Kilmarnock, first and champion at Ayr, and first and Champion at the Royal. He was reserve to Mr. Park's Royal Chaltan for the championship at Glasgow. Baron Fyvie will find a new home in New Zealand, having been purchased for Mr. R. Irving, jun., Clinton, Otago.

There has also been a notable sale of a two-year-old Shire stallion, who, though he has never been seen in the showyard, is one of the right sort, wide and weighty, with good flinty bone and standing correctly on the best of feet. This is Mr. A. Grandage's Bramhope Archduke, who has been sold to M. Ricardo Jiminez for the Spanish Government. Bramhope Archduke is by Bramhope Archdeacon, a good horse, that has got in front in good company, from Bramhope Rustic Beauty by Seldom Seen, a horse of very massive character, that won at the Shire Horse Show some years ago when Mr. Grandage purchased him. Bramhope Archduke was a very late foal, hence he was not shown. I hear the price is a very satisfactory one, and I may add that there seems to be an increasing demand for the best breeding animals of all breeds for the foreign market. Is it necessary to utter a warning word to stick to the mare?

THE LOOKER-ON

Horse Supply in Time of War.

Mr W. Pridgeon Williams, whose earnest and persistent efforts in connection with the Brood Mare Society are so well known to breeders and others who recognise that the constant depletion of our stock of breeding mares is a serious menace to the horse industry in this country and a source of grave danger to our cavalry in the emergency of a great war, had the benefit of the platform of the Army League at the Hotel Cecil on Thursday afternoon to deliver a lecture on "The Supply of Horses in War Time." Introduced by the chairman, Sir Archer Croft, he gave an encouraging review of the work done by his society since its establishment, and entered a vigorous protest against so great and essential an endeavour as the retention of brood mares being left unaided by the Government. The 700 horse shows held annually were very well in their way, but they resulted in distant markets being found for the best mares, and except for the Brood Mare Society no effort was made to retain them, the result being that in some districts the supply had gone down 90 per cent., and those who might be our enemies were strengthening their remount provisions in a way which might be disastrous to us. There was urgent need that national interest should be stimulated by the holding of meetings in all important centres, and that the various societies should combine to prevent the wholesale exportation which was now going on. He bespoke the hearty co-operation of the Army League in the matter.

Major Roper-Caldbeck said that the problem of which the lecturer had treated was one of the most practical and urgent which could be considered in connection with military organisation, but we were now in just the same state of unpreparedness as we were before the South African War. There seemed to be no glimmering of an idea that there was any need for expansion with regard to our remount system, though we were within measurable distance of the abolition of our omnibus horses, acknowledged to have been the best sent out to South Africa.

Colonel F. N. Maude, R.E., moved, Colonel H. H. A. Stewart seconded, and it was resolved: "That the breeding and preservation of horses suitable for use in the Army is a question of national importance, and requires the serious consideration of the Government and the country at large."

Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, said that if they could get meetings throughout the country the taxpayer might be shown that to him the matter was one of supreme importance.

Chester Fair.—There was an average show of stock and a fair demand. Good lots readily found purchasers, and altogether a better clearance was made, both of store and dairy cattle. Sheep were more inquired for, and an improved business was done at good prices. Quotations:—Milch cows, £15 to £21; calvers, £14 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 18s. to 35s. The horse fair was not so large as usual for the July fair. Some good lots were shown, and met a fair demand. Inferior horses were not much wanted, and for these prices were irregular. Cart horses, £30 to £75; trap horses, £15 to £32.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 8, 1905:

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	67	161	123	218	2,091	4,024	4,314	4,316
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	36	25	63	444	884	904	931
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	...	2	4	7	643	1,058	1,158	1,101
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	32	17	55	42	1,113	1,462	1,191	1,074
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	33	33	26	640	892	746	589
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
	Outbreaks.	No.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	16	56	34	39	787	841	684	625
	Outbreaks.	No.	12	11	7	9	559	546	402	366
Period.				Week ended July 8, 1905	Corresponding week in	1904 1903 1902	Total for 27 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in	1904 1903 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Notes and Jottings.

The export returns of sheep for June last, given in the recently-issued Trade and Navigation Returns, show that during the past month 248 head were exported. This number is, with the exception of that for June, 1902—when but 211 head were exported—the lowest total of sheep exported in this month since June, 1896.

Another reference to the same source of information shows the average declared value for these to have been £9 2s. 5d. each. This average is one which cannot hardly be accepted as indicative of the actual value, bearing in mind the high prices that have been publicly given for stud rams. We may also remark that the average for the past month—£9 2s. 5d.—is £1 1s. 7d. per head less than the same item for the corresponding period of 1904.

The results of the export demand for the first six months of this year compares favourably with the same period of 1904, the number exported having been 1,624 head, or 3.57 per cent. more. The higher averages of the first five months of the year enable that for the whole of the six months to work out at £12 4s. 8d., which is the highest average but one for the period of the year under review since the year 1897.

The figures quoted above indicate clearly how valuable the export demand for sheep is, and also show what a certain source of income it provides those flock-owners who have flocks from which such selections are made. Were the true value of these exported sheep possible to ascertain, we are convinced that the averages given in the official figures would be found very materially below that price. For instance, there will be exported in July and August no less than twenty-seven of the Riby Grove rams; twenty-six of these averaged fully £90 each. There will also be shipped by Mr. F. Miller, in July, one ram purchased at 1,000 gs. from Messrs. R. and W. Wright, five others from the same breeders that cost 300 gs. each, one from Mr. H. Dudding which cost 500 gs., or seven rams that cost 3,000 gs., which shows an average of 450 gs. each.

Many other rams purchased at high prices will also be going. Hence, if the actual cost prices were given, how very much more important would this portion of our export trade be considered by the general public! We have not full information of all the notable sales that took place in Lincoln sheep at the Royal, and during the subsequent fortnight, but so far as we can gather the demand for Lincoln rams has been much in excess of any year since 1898. Amongst the sales we have heard of are 100 selected rams from Mr. H. Dudding to Mr. F. Miller, sixty-five from Messrs. Wright to the same purchaser, who also took thirty head from Mr. C. E. Howard. Mr. Tom Casswell, who sold the champion ram (Lincoln) at the Royal Show to Mr. E. N. Casares, has, we understand, sold practically all the rams he has at home for export to the Argentine, and Mr. R. Fisher, of Leconfield, has been likewise as fortunate.

The home sales are the best any breeder can make because the price paid is net, and there are no expenses to decrease the amount receivable. Twenty-one export certificates have been issued by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Society for yearling rams, including the first prize winner at the Royal, yearling ewes, and ewe lambs to Mr. H. T. Harding for sheep he has purchased from the Earl of Verulam and Mr. C. File for export to the Argentine. From the Gorhambury flock five ewe lambs of excellent type and character have been taken, these include the third prize pen at the Royal. Four yearling rams also go from that flock, and two of these were in the second prize pen of ram lambs at the Royal in 1904. It has probably never occurred before at this period of the year for so large and valuable a shipment of this breed to be sent away.

Amongst the other exports recently shipped are five Southdown ewes and a two-shear ram from Mr. E. Ellis's well-known Summersbury flock. These go to Australia, and include that

particularly typical pen that were second at the recent Royal show.

We have been dealing this week so far with the export side of the sheep industry. There is, however, the other side of the question to consider, and lucky it is we have this to do, because where it is not so, it is certain the former part of our notes could not have been written. The purchasers of our stud sheep have two objects before them—to improve their sheep, and at the same time increase them and the supplies of mutton for our market, in which there is always a sure and safe sale for it. It may be that the large supplies of imported mutton to some extent affect the price of the home-grown and fed article, but if a balance be struck, there is no doubt but that, after taking into consideration the amount received for stud sheep on one hand, and the reduction in the market value of the home-grown mutton caused by the imported supplies on the other hand, that the balance would be in favour of the English flock master.

So far as regards the imports of live sheep during the past six months, we find the total was 130,331 head, or 33.97 per cent. less than in the same period of the preceding year. This total is the lowest that has been recorded during the past eleven years. These sheep all come from two sources of supply—namely, the United States, which sent 117,620 head, or 33.87 per cent. more than in the first half-year of 1904, and Canada, that sent 12,711 head, or 9.95 per cent. less than during the corresponding period of 1904.

From this information we gather that during the past six months the British public have consumed 130,331 of imported sheep under the delusion they have been eating English mutton. This fact shows clearly how unfairly the home producer is treated under the present practice, which allows the vendor of meat to sell that article under whatever designation he may desire, and, further, the manner in which the consuming public is defrauded of their just privilege—namely, the supply of cheap food. These large importations of live sheep are admitted free to this country for the benefit of all and not for the benefit only of the middleman. This matter, which, of course, applies with equal force to live cattle, also needs the attention of all who are interested in agriculture. The mutton supplies for the past six months were 2,035,288 cwts., 10.14 per cent. more than during the same period of 1904. The Australasian supplies were 294,000 cwts., the New Zealand 887,750 cwts., the Argentine 716,484 cwts.—the largest quantity ever sent us from this country during the past six months of the year, and 6.07 per cent. in excess of the quantity sent during the year 1894—and from Holland 78,545 cwts.

Mr. C. E. Howard, who was first for a pen of five Lincoln rams at the Lincoln show and h.c. for another in the yearling class at that show, reports the sale of these six specially fine rams at a very high price to Mr. E. N. Casares, who, as our readers are aware, has purchased so very many of the leading Lincoln rams this season for export to the Argentine.

Sheep Sales.

Bentley.

This sale was held on Thursday by Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade, for the thirty-fifth year, and resulted in a good trade, and an advance of 3s. to 4s. a head on the year being experienced for a considerable proportion of the consignments, which included the falls from fourteen registered black-faced flocks. The top price again fell to Mr. John Eagle's well-known flock, his best twenty-five ewe lambs realising 55s., as against 52. 6d. last year; but for wether lambs, Mr. John Salmon was, as last year, to the fore, his leading pen realising 50s., as compared with 46s. 6d. a year ago.

Birmingham.

At the annual wool sale conducted by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, on Tuesday, at the Wool Warehouses, New Canal Street, there was a good attendance of buyers. Prices were quite up to the excellent figures that have been ruling this season. Washed wool sold up to 1s. 2½d. per lb., unwashed up to 10d., and lambs' wool up to 11d.

Haverhill.

This important annual dispersal was held on Monday. There was an advance in price as regards lambs (compared with Stowmarket sale on Friday) of well on for 2s. a head, and it appears to be highly probable that the rise in their value, which commenced a fortnight ago, will be maintained until the close of the lamb sale season in this district. Suffolk shearling ewes made as high as 66s. (given by Mr. J. C. Dawson, of Nacton, for a score selected from the consignment of Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise, of Finchingfield); and the leading score of eartmarked Suffolk lambs made 47s., from the flock of the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., which, it will be remembered, was awarded a silver medal and reserve for the challenge cup flock competition (District B) last autumn.

Wool Sales.

Devizes.

There was a large attendance of the leading flock masters of the district at the annual wool sale at Devizes on Tuesday. There was an all-round rise of about 2d. per lb. on last year. The highest price reached last year for washed wool was 11¾d., but upon this occasion five lots reached the top price of 14d. The top price for unwashed was 10½d., as against 8½d. last year. Mr. George T. Smith first occupied the rostrum, and offered about seventy lots. The highest price reached was 13¾d. for washed and 10½d. for unwashed wool. Most of the washed lots went at 13½d., and the unwashed at 9¾d., 9½d., and 9¼d. per lb. Mr. T. Lavington offered some 35,000 fleeces, and he reached 14d. five times.

Didcot.

At this wool fair 14,000 fleeces were on offer, and all sold at prices which showed ½d. per lb. reduction on recent rates realised in the district. Washed wool made from 11½d. to 1s. 0½d. per lb., and unwashed 7¾d. to 9½d.

Findon.

At Findon on Wednesday there was a good company present, and a number of farmers and breeders penned lambs, but there was a shortage of about a thousand as compared with last year, there being some 3,000 entered. Lambs, indeed, appear very scarce. Moreover, there is plenty of feed, and sellers generally had matters their own way. During the morning Mr. Henry Jas. Burt, of Steyning, conducted a successful sale. Wethers averaged over 31s. Mr. T. Peacock, of Angmering, obtaining top price, 34s., which was given by Mr. Candy, from the same locality. Mixed lambs averaged just over 27s. 6d., 32s. apiece, given by Mr. Wenham Drewitt (Dorking), for eighty of Mr. G. Goatcher's (Steyning), being the best figure. A few ewes sold at 24s. 6d.

Leighton Buzzard.

The number of fleeces pitched was about 15,000, the supply being about the same as last year. Trade is considered fairly good, the highest price being 32s. 9d. per tod, and the general average 30s. 6d. per tod. The buyers are Ellis and Sons, of Leicester; Paine, of Bedford; Pearce, of Thame; Franklin, of Hitchin; Cook and Son, of Newport Pagnell; and Pashley and Cheney, of Thrapston.

Leith.

At Messrs. J. and W. Greig's auction sale of wool on Tuesday there was a numerous attendance of buyers, and a good clearance was effected. Half-bred wools sold at an advance of ¼d. to ½d. from June rates. Crosses were also fully ¼d. dearer. A good competition for Cheviot wools, which were well cleared out at corresponding advances. Black-faced experienced a fair demand, but prices are little altered.

Perth.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., held the first of their annual series of sales of wool and skins on Thursday. The show was one of the largest the salesmen have yet offered at their opening sale, the turnout comprising over 2,500 bales of cross, half-bred, Cheviot, and blackfaced wools. There was a very large attendance of manufacturers, staplers, and brokers from all the principal centres of the industry in England, and also a large attendance of buyers from the manufacturing districts in Scotland, and over all classes an animated demand was experienced. For all white wools a decided rise in price over last year's quotations was obtained. Ewes and half-bred were making an advance of from ¼d. to 1½d. per lb., and Cheviot was making a rise of as much as 1¾d. to 2½d. per lb. Blackfaced wool was also meeting a better demand, and prices were from ¼d. to ¾d. per lb. higher than the extreme rates which were obtained for this class last year. Blackfaced ewe was making from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb.; wedder, 7½d. to 8d.; hogg, 7¼d.; to 7¾d.; cross, 9d. to 9¼d.; cross hogg, 9¾d. to 10½d.; half-bred 10½d. to 10¾d.; Cheviot, 10½d. to 11½d.; Cheviot wedder, 11d.; Cheviot hogg, 10¾d. to 11¾d.; Shropshire, 10¾d.; South Down, 11d.; and Dorset, 10½d.

Salisbury.

At this wool fair 120,000 fleeces were pitched. The top price of washed was 14d.—last year 1s.; top price unwashed, 11d.—last year 9d. Washed wools ranged from 12½d. to 14d., unwashed 8¾d. to 11d., lambs' wool 8¾d. to 10½d. Trade was well up to the average of recent sales. There was a large attendance of buyers and keen competition.

Lincoln Show.

The annual three days' show of the Lincoln Agricultural Society was opened at Grantham on Wednesday. The sum offered in prizes reached close upon £1,500, and is distributed as follows:—Servants and labourers, £81; cattle, £204; sheep, £177; wool, £6; pigs, £86; horses, £618; Grantham and district and other special prizes, harness and jumping prizes, £32; butter, eggs, table poultry, etc., £18; poultry, £61; honey, hives, etc., £28; total £1,498, including £1,117 society's prizes and £381 specials. The entries, although in some instances below those of last year's show at Grimsby, were satisfactory, and altogether a splendid exhibition has been produced. Cattle numbered 141, as compared with 51 when the society last met at Grantham in 1895; the sheep 81, against 68 ten years ago; pigs 79, against 50; while the horse section also made a good show, the entries being slightly less than last year. There is a smaller show of poultry than usual, and a falling-off in the exhibits of butter and eggs.

Light Horses.

Hunters were first in the catalogue and they were allotted fifteen classes. The three winning brood mares were the same as at Peterborough, but their relative positions were changed, for Mr. A. J. Brown's Rosalinda, by Discord, came before Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Glasspore. Mr. W. B. Swallow's (Ulceby) Tugela occupied her third Peterborough position. The foal prizes went to Messrs. Swallow, Brown, and Wilkinson in the order named. A double triumph was won by Mr. Swallow in the yearling class with Vigo and Red Morn. The winner made a good show in the ring, but, perhaps, the chestnut had more of the hunting character about him. Messrs. Adlington and Temple, of Sutton Manor, Retford, furnished the third prize-taker in Matchless, and Mr. Brown received the reserve ticket for Lady Vitèz, bred by Mr. R. Henston. Mr. Wilkinson's Destruction was a clear leader among the two-year-olds, beating an unnamed chestnut colt sent by Mr. James Rudkin, of Hanby, and Mr. Brown's Tipperary, a bay by The Wraith. The three-year-olds particularly excelled. Mr. Wilkinson's The Duchess, by Florismart, was first in a filly class at Islington, and second at the Royal, and it was expected that she would now be assigned one of those positions, but the judges ruled otherwise. Some authorities might have put Mr. J. H. Stokes's Henniker in the very forefront, instead of Mr. Brown's nice-looking First Whip, another bay of Mr. Henston's breeding. The Leicestershire chestnut stood second, with The Duchess third, and Messrs. W. and J. A. Cheney's Monarch reserve.

There were some grand movers in the saddle classes. The pick of the light weights turned up in Mr. Stokes's Knick Nack, a stylish chestnut by Knockabout; Messrs. Cheney's Money Spinner, a beautiful bay and a fine galloper; and Mr. Brown's chestnut, Loo, which was bred in Ireland. In the class for four-year-olds, up to 14 stones, Messrs. Cheney's Casual was an easy winner, and among the rest of the smart animals present were Mr. Stokes's Ebony and Mr. W. Gale's brown, second and third respectively.

Hackneys were a disappointing lot and few in number. Only seven stallions turned up. The county class supplied as the leader Mr. R. Sutcliffe's Beckingham Squire, which was recommended at Islington in the Spring. Garton Coin, an old winner, the property of Mr. J. Morton, of Downham Market, was second, third honours going to Mr. S. B. Carnley, of Alford. The couple of two-year-old stallions present were Mr. Alfred A. Haley's Hirwaun, by Rosador, and Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Duke, which won in the order named. The Peterborough judgment on the brood mares was confirmed, so far as it related to Rosadora, and Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Queen. Third prize was rightly bestowed upon Berkeley Lady Helmsley, which hails from Gainsborough. Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. Sutcliffe, and Messrs. Cockayne are the owners of the winning foals. In two and three-year-old fillies Sir Walter Gilbey was again to the fore, coming first with The Royal Favourite Mitre, by His Majesty, and Mr. Cattley's second with Norbury Psyche. Peaches in third Mr. G. E. Franklin's Grand Duchess Gobang. Mr. J. Round's Berkeley Claudius, and Mr. W. Foster's Mel Valley's Treasure.

Shire horses made a fair collection, and there

were several good classes. Aged stallions, as the result of a hard struggle, were headed by Mr. A. H. Clark, of Moulton Eaugate, Spalding, with Lockinge Harold, beating Mr. T. Harrison's Colour Sergeant. Two-year-old stallions suffered in comparison with the preceding class. The winner, Mr. J. W. Whitehurst's Special Brand, was, in some respects, disappointing. Sir Albert Muntz, M.P., was second with Dunsmore Albert Victor, which scored at the Bath and West Show, and Messrs Forshaw third with the big, slashing colt, Albion Magnate. For brood mares, Mr. Philo L. Mills, of Ruddington Hall, carried off the leading award with Hargate Bounce, which is of the real breeding type, Mr. W. Jackson, of Knottingley, being second with Enfield Poppy, which has perhaps better action than the Nottingham representative. The filly foal of Hargate Bounce repeated her Newark victory for Mr. Mills. Enfield Poppy's good-looking filly, by Knottingley Regent, which won at Doncaster, was second, and Messrs. Forshaw and Sons were third with their black colt by Lincoln Lion. Sir W. Cooke, of Wheatley Park, Doncaster, was represented in the two-year-old filly class by Folville Model, and this hard-legged and useful animal beat Mr. Jackson's Underwood Barbara. The three-year-old fillies included Messrs. Forshaw's Willow Holt Pansy, which, besides topping her class, won the Shire Horse Society's gold medal and the challenge cup.

Judges.

Shorthorn Cattle—Messrs. W. T. Garne, Aldsworth, Northleach, Gloucester; and J. Patton, Alnwick. Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Cattle—Messrs. R. J. Epton, Northolme, Wainfleet; and John Goodale, Peakirk, Peterborough.

Sheep—Messrs. Robert Fisher, Leconfield, Beverley; and J. Brocklebank, Carlton-le-Moorland, Newark.

Pigs—Messrs. Tom Cartwright, Riseholme, Lincoln; and C. E. Duckering, Kirton-in-Lindsey.

Hunters—Messrs. Thomas Wickham Boynton, Burton Agnes Hall, Driffield; and James Hutchinson, Manthorpe Lodge, Grantham. Hackneys—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington; and Mr. James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford.

Shires—Messrs. James Gould, Model Farm, Lymm; and Joseph Topham, Thorney, Peterborough.

Cattle.

There was a good muster in the cattle classes, though smaller than last year. Among Shorthorn bulls two years old or upwards the judges had to deal with a capital entry of ten exhibits, the class being headed by Mr. P. L. Mills's King Christian of Denmark, champion at the Bath and West of England show. The second, shown by Mr. Cooper, Lichfield, is a good bull with short legs and plenty of flesh. The third, Messrs. Dean's Imperial Favourite, was champion at the Peterborough show last week, but was outclassed here. Lord Calthorpe's Elvetham Monarch won first honours in the class for bulls over one and under two years old, and was placed second at Peterborough. The second, Mr. Steward's Ascott Star, showed good lines top and bottom. The third, Mr. Dudding's Royal Marksman, appeared to disadvantage, having been lamed in the journey. Lord Powis came to the front in the class for bull calves with a beautifully balanced young bull of true Shorthorn character and outline. In the county class Mr. Dudding won the Shorthorn Society's prize with a young bull from a famous sire which promises quality and substance.

Lord Powis again found favour with his Lady Sybil, where she was awarded a championship, and Mr. Dudding's Waterloo Princess 3rd was deservedly adjudged the leading winner in the class for two or three-year-old heifers, in milk or in calf, and in the succeeding class Mr. Haley, of Malton, Yorks, captured the two best prizes with a pair of choice little heifers in the pink of condition. Seven heifer calves under one year old entered the ring, and the first, Mr. F. Platt's Barnby Lady Venus showed up well after her Peterborough success.

Lincolnshire Red Shorthorns were well represented, Mr Freshney's Saltfleet Bonus, a bull of large scale and deep in colour, coming out at the top in the class for two year-olds or upwards, another good type bull, Weston Monarch, exhibited by Mr. S. Crawley, Hemington, Oundle, being second. Mr. Cartwright's Stenigot Bloom Boy was awarded the third prize, though some around the ring thought it deserving of a better position. There was a larger class of bulls, over one year and under two, a Royal winner, Messrs. Chatterton's Stenigot Gwynne, a very rich red, evenly fleshed, winning the first honours, while the same exhibitors were third with a second prize winner at the Park Royal. The entry of bull calves is small, but the exhibits are very promising. The female class, in milk or in calf, brought thirteen into the ring, and the lead was taken by Mr. E. H. Cartwright, of Louth, with Keddington Pearl, a cow of great scale, wide over the back, and with excellent coat. Captain E. M. Grantham, West Keal, with Keal Nancy, was an easy winner in the class for heifers over one and under two years, and the second, Mr. W. J. Atkinson's Ruby 14th, beat Mr. J. Todd's Kirby Nonpariel, a Royal winner. Mr. Atkinson followed up this success with a first with Stenigot Daisy XIV., a nice heifer of excellent quality. The class shown by occupiers not exceeding 500 acres made a very commendable collection, and the dairy cows also came out well, Mr. John Evens, of Burton, securing the three money prizes with grand reds, evidently great users.

The competition for the challenge cup for the best bull of any age caused no little difficulty, no less than seven judges being called into the ring before the decision was given. The last was Mr. Learner, whose vote was in favour of Mr. Freshney's bull, causing some disappointment to those who supported the entry of Mr. Mills.

Sheep.

An entry larger than last year represents the truly popular breed of Lincoln sheep, and here again exhibits which figured prominently at the Royal have captured some of the best awards. The classes were well filled all through, and the quality was of exceptional merit. In the shearling ram class this feature was particularly noticeable, and besides the prize-winners there were several very fine sheep, which with a few exceptions, were in wonderful condition. The ram lambs were of a superior stamp, displaying grand frames and giving promise of fine lustrous wool. In the class for shearling ewes the order of things seen at the Royal has been repeated, and Messrs. R. and W. Wright secured the champion cup, Messrs. Dean being placed reserve.

The wool section has brought out a larger entry than usual, but once more Mr. Dudding's excellent fleeces predominate.

Pigs.

The exhibits in this department came principally from the most prominent breeders in the country. The "Whites" were perhaps of the best merit, the judges speaking in high terms of the quality throughout. The champion prizes were secured by a "second" and a "reserve," other winners having already obtained this honour. The exhibitors included Sir Gilbert Greenall, G. T. Inman, D. R. Daybell, R. Knowles, and J. Jefferson.

Wickhambrook and South Suffolk.

The seventeenth annual show of the Wickhambrook and South Suffolk Association was held at Sudbury on Tuesday. As one of the conditions is that no first prize taken at the Royal or County Show of the year can compete, the "crack" winners elsewhere were of course excluded. The examples of the Shires coming into the ring were on the whole creditable to the district, many of them hailing from the Essex and Cambridgeshire country, Mr. F. W. Cottee, of the Stud Fram, Dedham, being responsible for a large entry in the various Shire classes.

The Suffolks showed up well, though there might, perhaps, have been more of them to advantage. Among a good class of mares with foal at foot, the famous Marguerite, belonging to Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P., won. There were some promising entries amongst the horse and filly foals, the Rev. Hy. Taylor scoring with a youngster by Court Fop, a well-known sire, a nice foal hailing from Bawdsey Manor being second. Mr. Robert Edgar sent a couple of choice yearlings from the noted stud at Cockfield, Cheerful Prince, by Cockfield Prince, second at the Royal, being placed first.

Hunters, if somewhat short in number, were excellent in quality all round, and it was a very good sort of mare indeed with which Mr. J. W. L. Whitehead, of Cambridge, took first prize, and her foal, by the Irish sire Ballymena, also adjudged the best, is a promising youngster.

The sheep classes were not well filled. Mr. Stockburn virtually swept the decks, being first and second for five shearling Suffolk ewes, with like distinctions for pens of five Suffolk ewe lambs, with the silver medal, presented by the Suffolk Sheep Society, and for Suffolk ram lambs, with another silver medal, the lambs being a very useful collection.

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The show of cattle was only a small one, though there were some choice cows, both in the horned and polled classes, Mr. W Jennings Mills being the principal exhibitor of the latter.

Northumberland.

The annual show of the Northumberland Agricultural Society was held at Berwick on Thursday. The aggregate entries showed an advance from 671 to 807. In the principal departments the totals were:—Cattle 140, sheep 301, horses 222, driving and leaping 30, dogs 24, poultry 106. The increase is mainly in sheep, other sections remaining at about the normal pitch.

Shorthorns were first in the catalogue and Mr. A. F. Nichol's big white bull, Baron Butterfly, in the class calved in or before 1902, was alone. With Famous Leader, a roan of his own breeding, first honours went to the Duke of Northumberland for bulls in the two-year-old class. The Gainford Hall roan was worthy of his second place. This bull was bred at the Royal Farms at Windsor, and is no doubt a remarkably good animal, though he did not appear to quite fill the eye in the way the Duke's bull did. With a first appearance in the showyard this season, Mr. Cruddas, of Haughton Castle, came third with Tarquin. Out of seven appearances last season, Tarquin had six first tickets. In the yearling class, Lord Polworth was first with a nice dark roan, British Renown, which was first at the Royal this year. Mr. Nichol's Bradford Butterfly, which was third, won the Shorthorn Society's prize for the best bull in the class entered in Coates' Herd Book, and two further specials given by the Duke of Northumberland. In the Shorthorn dairy cow in milk, Mr. C. Marshall won first and special. Ratcheugh Witch, shown by Mr. Bell, the noted Ratcheugh breeder, had a good win of first honours. She is not yet three years old. She was first and champion at Birkenhead this year, second at the Royal, first and champion at Peterborough, and yesterday her trophies included a special of £7 for the best cow or heifer belonging to a tenant farmer in the county of Northumberland. Mr. Harrison's Ursula Raglan, a cow with a great record, was second.

The half-dozen classes for Aberdeen-Angus cattle were distinguished by the presence of the well-known showyard bull, Pundit of Preston, and the heifer which was first and champion at the Royal. Mr. C. E. Hunter had two Royal winners in the female classes—Ruritania, a most successful two-year-old heifer, and Eyelid, which though only fifth at the Highland, was third at Park Royal last month. In the Galloway classes Mr. Robert Graham, of Twynholm, and Mr. Thomas Graham, of Dumfries, swept up all the chief awards.

A good representative lot of sheep were penned — Border Leicesters, Cheviots, black-faced, mountain, half-bred, and Oxford Downs. Mr. Thomas Winter, of Lotherton Park, Aberford, obtained several prizes for Border Leicesters, and Mr. John Robson, of Bellingham, did exceedingly well with Cheviots and the black-faced breed.

Among hunters the winning brood mare was Appletart, by Ascetic, entered by Messrs Mitchell, of Morpeth. Her record is a good one, and she added to it by securing the Hunter Improvement Society's gold medal. The same owners secured the leading trophy with a foal by Glory Smitten, showing some distinctive characteristic of the thoroughbred. Good Friday, another Morpeth horse, the property of Mr J. Angus, headed the three-year-old gelding class. Silver medals given by the Hunter Improvement Society were won by Mr. John Gray, of Warkworth, and Mr. J. R. Marshall of Belford. The winner of the Hackney Society's medal was a three-year-old chestnut filly by Brandling Hero, bred by Mr. Clayton, of Felling-on-Tyne, now owned by Mr. Charles Bulmer, of Beal. She was placed first in her class, with a gray mare by Nugget, entered by Mr. E. J. Brown, making a good second. In the pony section the chief winners were Mr. George Renwick, M.P., Mr. J. M. Clayton, Marton-in-Cleveland, and Mr. Andrew English, of Hexham.

Prominent among heavy horses were representatives of the Seaham Harbour Stud, which gave a very good account of themselves, among them Lady Newton, a brown mare, with a lot of strength and substance and good feet, a nice bay filly by the champion Clydesdale stallion Hiawatha, Silver Princess, which was second at the Royal last year, and Rosebud, a noted brood mare. Of the brood mares with foal at foot, one of the most successful was Lambton Maud, entered by the Earl of Durham. In the three year-old fillies, there was nothing so good as Mr. T. Seymour's Sunderland mare, Lady Gartly, and Messrs. T. Smith and Son, of Gateshead, secured first place among the two-year-olds with a bay son of Sir Royal Champion.

CATTLE.

SHORTHORNS.

Bulls, calved in or before the year 1904.—1 and special, A. F. Nichol, Bradford, Belford (Baron Butterfly).

Bulls, calved in the year 1905.—1, The Duke of Northumberland (Famous Leader); 2, George Harrison (Pioneer);

3, W. D. Cruddas (Tarquin).

Bulls, calved on or after January 1, 1904.—1, Lord Polwarth (British Renown); 2, George Harrison (Royal Ensign); 3 and special, F. Nichol (Bradford Butterfly).

For best Shorthorn dairy cow in milk.—1, C. Marshall, Broomhaugh, Reding Mill (Phantom 15th); 2, the Duke of Northumberland (Hope 4th).

Cows or heifers, calved in or before the year 1902.—1 and special, Wm Bell (Ratchcugh Witch); 2, George Harrison (Ursula Raglan); 3, Wm. Bell (Royal Waterloo Maid 9th).

Heifers, calved in the year 1903.—1, George Harrison (Dalmeny Rosemary); 2, George Harrison (Dalmeny Veronica 3rd); 3, Wm. Bell (Millicent's Pride).

Heifers, calved on or after January 1, 1904.—1, The Duke of Northumberland (Rose of Kent); 2, Wm. Bell (Belle of Alma); 3, the Duke of Northumberland (Lady Jane 20th).

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Bulls, three years old and upwards.—1 and silver medal, Charles Perkins and Partners, Birtley, Co. Durham (Punch of Preston); 2, T. H. Bainbridge, Eshott Hall, Felton (Grouseycock).

Bulls, two years and under three years old.—1, T. H. Bainbridge (Idelamere); 2, Charles E. Hunter, Selaby, Gainford, Darlington (Velasquez).

Bulls, over one year and under two years old.—1, Seaton Delaval Coal Company, Limited (Wizard of Delaval); 2, G. W. Glahome, Cheswick, Beal, R.S.O. (Plunger of Benton).

Cows, three years and upwards.—1, Charles E. Hunter (Estimation); 2, Charles Perkins and Partners (Martha 2nd of Aldbar).

Heifers, two years and under three years old.—1 and special Charles E. Hunter (Rubitania); 2 Seaton Delaval Coal Company, Limited (Blue Blood of Delaval).

Heifers, under two years old.—1, Charles E. Hunter, Selaby (Eyelid); 2, T. H. Bainbridge (Elvena).

GALLOWAYS.

Bulls, any age.—1, Thomas Graham, Marchfield, Dumfries (Marchfield Stanley); 2, Robert Graham, Auchengassel Twynholm (Defiance).

Cows or heifers.—1, Robert Graham (Violet 3rd of Cally); 2, Thomas Graham (Lady Grace III.).

SHEEP.

BORDER LEICESTERS.

Rams, of any age above one shear.—1, Thomas Winter, Lotherton Park, Aberford, Leeds; 2, C. F. J. Thompson, Downham, Mindrum, S.O (Bowmont Lad); special, The Scremerston Coal Company, Limited, Berwick.

Shearling rams.—1 and champion prize, Thomas Clark, Oldhamstock Mains, Cockburnspath; 2, J. and J. R. C. Smith, Kelso; 3, Thomas Winter.

Pen of two tup lambs.—1, Chas. Scott, East Lilburn, Wooler, R.S.O.; 2, C. F. J. Thompson, Downham, Mindrum, S.O.

Pen of three ewes.—1, Thomas Winter; 2 and special, Chas. Scott.

Pen of three gimmers.—1, Thomas Clark; 2, Thomas Winter.

Pen of three ewe lambs.—1, C. F. J. Thompson; 2, Scremerston Coal Company, Limited.

CHEVIOT SHEEP.

Rams of any age above one shear.—1, Thomas Elliot; 2 and special, John Robson, Newton, Bellingham (Marshal Oyama); 3, J. R. C. Smith, Mowhaugh, Yetholm (Ambush).

Yearling rams.—1, J. R. C. Smith (John Knox); 2, Jacob Robson; 3, John Robson.

Pen of two tup lambs.—1, A. and Jas. K. Smith, Leaston, Upper Keith; 2, Jacob Robson.

Pen of three ewes.—1, A. and Jas. K. Smith; 2, John Robson; 3, Jacob Robson.

Pen of three gimmers.—1, J. R. C. Smith, Mowhaugh, Yetholm; 2, A. and Jas. K. Smith, Leaston, Upper Keith; 3, Jacob Robson, Byrness, Otterburn.

BLACK-FACED MOUNTAIN SHEEP.

Rams of any age above one shear.—1 and special, John Robson, Newton, Bellingham; 2, John Robson, Newton, Bellingham; 3, John Robson, Newton, Bellingham.

Shearling rams.—1, 2, and 3, John Robson.

Pen of two tup lambs.—1 and 2, John Robson.

Pen of three ewes.—1, Addison and Paisley, Tarset Hall, Bellingham; 2, John Robson; 3, Villar and Jackson, Mayshiel, Cranshaws, Duns.

Pen of three gimmers.—1, John Robson; 2, Villar and Jackson; 3, Addison and Paisley.

OXFORD DOWN SHEEP.

Pen of two tup lambs.—1, William Graham, Tughall, Chathill; 2, Anthony Frederick Nichol, Bradford, Belford; 3, George Ord, Field House, Lesbury.

Pen of three ewe lambs.—1, E. E. P. Taylor, Effington, Cornhill-on-Tweed; 2, George Ord, Field House Lesbury.

SWINE.

Sows of any breed.—1, R. and J. Armstrong, Spring Gardens, Berwick.

HORSES.

FOR AGRICULTURAL AND DRAUGHT PURPOSES.

Brood mares with foal at foot.—1, Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited, Seaham Harbour (Lady Newton); 2, the Earl of Durham, Lambton Castle (Lambton Maud); 3, St. Clair Cunningham, Hedderwick Hill, Dunbar (Lady Lochfergus).

Colt foals, the produce of and shown with a mare entered in class 46.—1, St. Clair Cunningham; 2, R. and J. Armstrong.

Filly foals the produce of and shown with a mare entered in class 46.—1, Seaham Harbour, Limited; 2, the Earl of Durham.

Brood mares in foal at the time of show.—1, Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited (Rosebud); 2, Ralph Holmes, Whitburn Moors, Sunderland (Lady Raffan); 3 and second special, W. R. Trotter, North Acomb, Stocksfield (Princess Robertina).

Geldings or mares, four years old and upwards, not exceeding 16.2 hands high, and suitable for agricultural purposes, confined to the County of Northumberland.—1, The Ashington Coal Company, Limited, Colliery Farms, Ashington (Prince); 2, J. G. and W. T. Mitchell, Ulgham Manor, Morpeth.

Geldings or mares, four years old and upwards, and exceeding 16.2 hands high, and suitable for dray purposes, confined to the County of Northumberland.—1, Fenwick Wilson, Marden, Whitley Bay; 2, W. R. Trotter, North Acomb, Stocksfield (Nancy).

Geldings, three years old. Special, Fenwick Wilson, Marden, Whitley Bay; 1, Matthew Templeton, Sandyknowe Kelso; 2, W. C. Bowe, Thorntonloch, Innerwick, East Lothian (Mace).

Fillies three years old.—1, Thomas Seymour, Hylton Castle Farm, Sunderland (Lady Gartly); 2, Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited, Seaham Harbour (Baroness).

Geldings, two years old.—1, Thos. Smith and Sons, Derwent Crook, Gateshead (Harry); 2, Wm. Graham, Tughall, Chathill.

Fillies, two years old.—1, Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited, Seaham Harbour (Silver Princess); 2 and special, Henry B. Howie, Fenwick Steads, Beal.

Colts or geldings, one year old.—1, Lord Polwarth, Mertoun House, St Boswells (Border Scott); 2, Robert Forsyth, Newsmailholm, Kelso.

Fillies, one year old.—1, Francis Elliot, Middlerigs, Duns; 2, St. Clair Cunningham, Hedderwick Hill Dunbar (Minnie WaWa); 3, Ralph Holmes, Whitburn Moors, Sunderland.

HUNTING CLASSES.

Brood mares, for breeding hunters, with foal at foot or in foal at the time of show.—1 and Society's gold medal, J. G. and W. T. Mitchell, Ulgham Manor, Morpeth (Appletart); 2, Jacob W. Annett, Togston, Acklington (Lady Grey); 3, David Deuchar, Low Buston, Warkworth (Laughing Girl).

Colt or filly foals, the produce of and shown with a mate entered in class 58.—1, J. G. and W. T. Mitchell, Ulgham Manor, Morpeth; 2, Andrew Rutherford, Brokenheugh, Haydon Bridge.

Geldings, three years old.—1, John Angus, Whitfield, Morpeth (Good Friday); 2, John P. Rand Westnewton, Alnwick (Snow King).

Fillies, three years old.—1, Thomas Calder, Swinton Hill, Coldstream; 2, Captain J. R. Carr-Ellison, Hedgeley, Alnwick (Hoped for).

Geldings, two years old.—1 and second special, David Deuchar, Low Buston, Warkworth (Gay Lad); 2, J. L. Greig, Eccles, Kelso (Gilrod).

Fillies, two years old.—1, J. R. Marshall, Chatton Park, Belford; 2, Captain J. R. Carr-Ellison, Hedgeley Alnwick (Forester).

Colts or geldings, one year old.—1, first special and silver medal, John Gray, South Side Farm, Warkworth (Sir Roger); 2, David Deuchar, Low Buston, Warkworth.

HUNTERS.

Hunters, mares, or geldings, five years old and under ten years old, equal to carry from 12 to 13½ stones with hounds.—1 and special, Robert Emmerson, Corbridge-on-Tyne (David); 2, Thos. and Hy. Ward, Pinchinthorpe.

Hunters, mares, or geldings, five years old and under ten years old, equal to carry above 13½ stones with hounds.—1, T. and H. Ward, Pinchinthorpe; 2, Saville Clayton, Chesters, Hunshaugh (Cæsar); 3, Saville Clayton, Chesters, Hunshaugh (Top Thorn).

Hunters, mares, or geldings, four years old.—1, T. and H. Ward Pinchinthorpe (Ireland); 2, Robert Henderson, Mount Hooly, Jedburgh (Hermit); 3, W. H. Dodds, Benwell Hill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HACKNEYS.

Hackney mares, with foal at foot or in foal.—1, Thomas Boddy, Glenton Hall, West Auckland (Dewdrop); 2, T. W. Elliott, The Cottage, Monkseaton (Lady Spider).

Colt or filly foals the produce of and shown with a mare entered in Class 69.—1 Thomas Boddy, Glenton Hall, West Auckland; 2, T. W. Elliott, The Cottage, Monkseaton.

Hackneys, geldings, or fillies, three years old.—1 and silver medal, Charles Bulmer, Berrington House, Beal (Lady Brandling); 2 Eustace J. Brown, Ancroft, Beal, R.S.O. (Harmony).

Hackneys, geldings, or fillies, two years old.—1, Thomas Boddy, Glenton Hall West Auckland (Whitewall Swell); 2, Eustace J. Brown, Ancroft, Beal, R.S.O.

Hackneys, colts, geldings, or fillies, one year old.—1, Eustace J. Brown, Ancroft, Beal; 2, A. Davidson, Berrington Law, Beal.

Hackneys, mares, or geldings, exceeding 14 hands high and not exceeding 15 hands high.—1, Thomas Boddy, Glenton Hall, West Auckland (Woodhatch Connaught Queen); 2, R. Clayton, Clayton House, Felling-on-Tyne (Carnation Tit).

PONIES.

Ponies, mares, or geldings, exceeding 13 hands high and not exceeding 14 hands high.—1, John M. Clayton, Gunnergate Pony Stud, Martin-in-Cleveland, Middlesbrough (Who's Who); 2, R. T. Murray, 2, Azalea Avenue, Sunderland (Brag).

Ponies, horses, or mares, exceeding 12 hands high and not exceeding 13 hands high.—1, Andrew English, Acomb, Hexham (Little Prim); 2, Mr. George Renwick, M.P., Springhill, Morpeth (Lord Chesham).

Ponies, horses, or mares, not exceeding 12 hands high.—1, John M. Clayton, Gunnergate Pony Stud, Martin-in-Cleveland, Middlesbrough (Gunnergate Cavalier); 2, Mr. George Renwick, M.P., Springhill, Morpeth (Springhill Ladysmith).

HARNESS CLASSES.

Single harness, geldings or mares, over 15 hands high.—1, Charles Bulmer, Berrington House, Beal (Lady Brandling); 2, Andrew Ames, Chatton, Belford (Hector).

Single harness, geldings or mares, 14 hands high and not exceeding 15 hands high.—1, Thomas Boddy, Glenton Hall, West Auckland (Woodhatch Connaught Queen); 2, R. Clayton, Clayton House, Felling-on-Tyne (Carnation Tit).

Single harness, geldings or mares under 14 hands high.—1, John M. Clayton, Gunnergate Pony Stud, Martin-in-Cleveland (Beauty); 2, R. T. Murray, 2, Azalea Avenue, Sunderland (Brag).

The Highland Show.

The financial result of the last show of the Highland and Agricultural Society, held at Glasgow the week before last, compares well with many previous exhibitions.

The following table shows the total drawings at all shows since 1897:—

		Total. £	s.	d.
1897	Glasgow	4,368	14	0
1898	Kelso	2,191	16	8
1899	Edinburgh ...	10,222	11	0
1900	Stirling	4,287	16	9
1901	Inverness	2 472	6	7
1902	Aberdeen	4,413	12	4
1903	Dumfries	2,922	9	7
1904	Perth	4,390	1	8
1905	Glasgow	4,453	18	1

Driffield and East Riding.

The annual show of the Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society took place on Friday, and was one of the best ever held by this body. The five cattle classes were filled with Shorthorns, mostly of a very nice type. The winning bull calf, a son of Royal Emperor of Oxford 4th, is a really promising youngster, and Mr. E. Jackson's heifer calf, Lady Matilda 5th, sired by Atwick Duke, also made a good show.

In the sheep section Lincolns were more numerous than Leicesters. Mr. J. C. B. Dixon had the larger share of honours in one case, and Mr. E. F. Jordan in the other.

The Horse Classes.

Hunters formed about one-third of the total horses shown, and were of excellent quality. The brood mares were notable in that nearly every animal in the class possessing good points worthy of commendation. The section of Mr. Heal's bay, Faithful, was thus the more to her credit. The yearlings, too, were an exceptionally attractive lot, headed as they were by Mr. William Boynton's chestnut gelding, sired by Not Out, winner also of the Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal.

With Hackneys, the largest group shown was that of foals, Mr. Buttle's Rosador fillies again coming right to the front. In the yearling class, however, the Pocklington decision was reversed, Mr. W. T. G. Young's colt being in more like form this time. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal went to Mr. Buttle's two-year-old Boguhan Sunrise.

The agricultural horse classes were rather thinly filled. Messrs. Davison's fine upstanding mare Teemside Mettle carried off the Shire Horse Society's silver medal.

Judges on the Royal Dublin Horse Show.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the above show that the entries for horses close as follows, viz.:—On single fees, Thursday, July 20; and on double fees, Thursday, July 27.

The prize money offered for competition amounts to the sum of £2,369, and is exclusive of cups, special prizes, medals, etc., to the value of £865. The total prizes to be awarded at the show therefore exceed £3,200.

The following have agreed to officiate as judges, viz.:—

THOROUGHBRED STALLIONS.—Major McKie, D.S.O., Ernespie, Castle Douglas, N.B.; J. L. Nickison, Hinton Manor, Swindon.

THOROUGHBRED BROOD MARES, FOALS, AND YEARLINGS. Not yet appointed.

HUNTER BROOD MARES AND FOALS.—J. S. Nickson, Hinton Manor, Swindon.

HUNTERS, AND YOUNG HORSES SUITABLE FOR HUNTERS.—Charles J. Cunningham, Weeden, Ayles, N.B.; George Gordon Wincombe Park, Shaftesbury, Dorset; Gerald H. Hardy, Foston Hall, Derby; Frederick R. Hill, Marsh Brook House, Church Stretton; W. L. Lamb arde, Bradbourne Hall, Sevenoaks; Charles McNeill, Broadway, Worcestershire; Thomas Wickham-Boynton, Burton Agnes Hall, Driffield.

RIDING COBS AND PONIES.—Brigadier General M. F. Rimington, C.B., Curragh Camp.

HARNESS HORSES.—Arthur E. Evans, Bronwylfa, Wrexham; William Foster, Mel Valley, Moseley, Worcestershire.

BORDER LEICESTER SHEEP. — John H. Laurie, Hardens, Duns, N.B.

ROSCOMMON SHEEP.—James McCULLAGH, Glaslough, Co. Monaghan.

LINCOLN SHEEP.—Charles Clarke, Brookside, Scopwick, Lincoln.

BLACKFACED AND CHEVIOTS.—Robert M. Buchanan, Lettre, Killeuon, N.B.

SHROPSHIRES.—Frank Webb, Estate Office, Shenstone, Lichfield.

OXFORD DOWNS, SOUTH DOWNS, AND SUFFOLKS.—George Adams, Wadley House, Faringdon, Berks.

GOATS.—P. Clune, Albert Agricultural College, Glasnevin.

Prize lists, entry forms, etc., will be sent on application to the Agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

Dairy Classes in East Suffolk.

The first of a series of dairy classes, arranged by the East Suffolk Education Committee, was commenced at the Dairy Farm, Aspal, on Thursday afternoon. This farm is situated in the parishes of Aspal, Thorndon, and Wetheringsett, and is one of those occupied by the Eastern Counties' Dairy Institute, a choice herd of cows being kept there in connection with this business. A spacious barn has been placed at the disposal of the class, and the teacher engaged is Miss Mabel Smith. The class is carried on as an evening school, under the Board of Education Code, otherwise it differed very slightly from those that have been carried on so long by the Dairy Institute.

Mr. W. Short, County Councillor, and a member of the Education Committee, opened the proceedings on Thursday with an appropriate speech and some reminiscences of his dairy experiences many years ago. He also expressed his pleasure at meeting so many students anxious to adopt modern methods.—In thanking Mr. Short for his address, Mr. Smith said it was undoubtedly true that by improved methods elsewhere the industry had been diverted, but with the advent of the new railway and new ideas, the district might again become successful in dairying. He mentioned that one farmer's wife declined to attend the class because she had already received similar instruction several years ago, and was regularly sending her make of 80 lb. of butter per week to London. This was important testimony to the value of the classes already held.—The next class is arranged to be held at Eye, and the entries are already complete.

Agriculture in Holland.

VI.*

Co-operative Creameries in Friesland.

Leeuwarden is the chief town in Friesland, and situated in the most fertile part of this province. In consequence of its central situation at the junction of the principal roads and railways it is the centre for all business in connection with agriculture, cattle breeding, and dairying. This is clearly shown on market days, and more especially at the cattle market. Although the best cattle are sold at the farms, the cattle market can give a fair idea of the importance of cattle breeding in Friesland. The present cattle market was erected in 1874. In 1875 the number of cattle (all included) bought in the market was 104,756, of which 11,404 were milch cows. In 1893 the number of cattle amounted to 154.801, of which 41,368 were milch cows. When in 1894 the import of cattle in Germany was prohibited, the number of milch cows decreased to 28,010, and in 1904 the total number of cattle had again increased to 205,050, with 40,121 milch cows. The pigs and sheep are mostly killed for the London market.

As regards co-operative creameries, the first steam creamery in Friesland was established in the village of Warga. Creameries from that date increased on a large scale. Nearly all co-operative creameries manufacture butter as well as cheese; in a single place only is there a smaller creamery manufacturing butter exclusively. The cow-keepers, whose concern was to keep their co-operative creamery going, have paid attention from the beginning to the improvement of the quality of butter and cheese. The small, unequal lots of butter from the different farms are now replaced by the larger amounts from the creameries. This fact, together with the improved quality, has allowed Dutch butter to regain part of its reputation.

In order to take care of the common interests, and to contend with the common enemy, a society of those interested in the manufacture of butter and cheese on a co-operative basis was established in 1894, the members of which are mainly directors and managers of co-operative creameries. In 1897 it was dissolved, and in its stead was established an "Association of Co-operative Creameries in Friesland." The association started with forty-three members, and has at present sixty five. According to Article I of its by laws, the association has for its purpose the promotion of the interests of co-operative creameries, and the following provisions are made.

(1) Co-operation and mutual advice in all matters able to further an advantageous working of the creameries. (2) To promote the reputation and the sale of dairy produce in the Netherlands and abroad. (3) To regularly test dairy produce. (4) To deposit a trade mark for common use. (5) The purchasing of the materials wanted for the making of butter and cheese. (6) To detect and to contend with adulterations of dairy produce and fraudulent practices in the butter and cheese trade. (7) To further regular and good dispatch-other societies, where beneficial to co-operative ing of dairy produce. (8) To co-operate with dairying. (9) To control the mangement of co-operative creameries. (10) To give the opportunity to get certificates of abilities for the various situations in creameries.

The trade mark "Nedraw" of the above-named society has been transferred to the association. It is now legally protected in the most important countries. As the Government mark on butter has given to all honest butter producers and traders a strong weapon against unfair competition, the association has furthered as much as possible the use of this Government mark. With the exception of two, all the association's creameries are under control, and have the Government mark on the butter. A regulation has been made, according to which, in case the creamery, in consequence of fire, repair, etc., is not in a condition to work the milk, the surrounding creameries have to assist by taking to work the milk, either wholly or partly.

When co-operative creameries are being established, the Federation assists as much as possible by referring to the advantages of co-operative dairying, and mainly to those of large creameries, in order to obviate in this way the establishment of too small creameries. The association has drawn up a model instruction for the staff of the creameries, the stipulations of which have made the condition of the workman very favourable. Before the insurance against accidents was enforced by law, the association had entered into an advantageous contract with an insurance company, by which all the workmen were insured.

At present the workmen are fully insured against accidents during their business hours, and a mutual insurance against accidents when they are not at work has been established. Neither did the association lose sight of the benefits of instruction to the staff. A teacher has now been engaged, who keeps class-lessons in winter concerning the first theoretical principles of the butter and cheese making.

The association has taken to heart the improving of the productions by introducing butter and cheese tests. The first are held twice a year, the sample of the various creameries being tested then by two experts, and the results communicated to all the creameries. After each third test, the butter which has been sent in is exhibited, and the score made is published. At the end of the year, diplomas are awarded to those creameries, the butter of which has excelled by good quality.

Cheese is put to the test twice a year, and these tests are arranged correspondingly; the nature of the products, of course, different arrangements, and, as a rule, the tests of butter and cheese, have exerted a favourable influence on the products. To the efforts of the association it is due that the steamers from Harlingen to England, and the railway carriage to Belgium and France, are supplied in summer with refrigerative accommodation, which guarantees the butter arriving in good condition.

The association experiments on various subjects in order to assist in solving practical questions within the sphere of making butter and cheese. The following may be mentioned here:—Experiments on the intense refrigeration of cream; on the influence of early stabling of the milch cows; on the amount of volatile acids in butter; on the connection between the fat property of the milk and the fat property of the solids in the cheese which has been obtained, and the relation between the amount of fat in the milk and the quantity of butter and cheese which can be made out of it.

The Frisian Co-operative Company for exportation of milk products has for its purpose the sale of products of co-operative creameries which have joined the society, and to improve the quality of these products. In order to attain this end the society commenced by having its trade mark protected in order to supply all its productions with that mark, which could be recognised on the different markets as its production.

To ensure good quality, every week each creamery sends samples, and these are examined by experts, who certify the quality. One sample is examined as to the amount of water, which also influences the price to be paid. The maximum percentage of water allowed is 15 per cent. for salted and 15½ per cent. for unsalted (fresh) butter. The society was established in 1898 with six creameries, while at present 23 large creameries have joined. The sale proportionally increased very much, and amounted during last year, for butter only, to 56,611 cwt.

Only those creameries are allowed to join the society in the Province of Friesland, and having at the same time constructed their creameries so that first-rate products can with certainty be manufactured.

The Frisian Co-operative Company for Export of Milk Products also undertakes the sale of the different species of cheese which are made in the joined creameries, the cheese being tested at regular intervals to promote the uniformity of shape and quality.

The Cattle Market at Leeuwarden.

It will be seen that many of the cows have pieces of canvas or sacks on their backs. This is to protect them from the frost when first turned out in the spring.

Condensed Milk.

The "Hollandia" Anglo-Dutch Milk and Food Company is a limited company, with factories at Vlaardingen, Bolsward, Purmerend, Heenvliet, Beemster, Limmen, and Gorinchem. The head office is at Vlaardingen, and occupies itself with a preparation of milk products and other articles of food. Its specialities are sweetened and unsweetened condensed milk, creamery butter, cheese, sugar of milk, beet sugar, and the refining of that sugar.

In the milk factories at Vlaardingen, Bolsward, and Purmerend it is mostly condensed milk and butter; but Bolsward also makes Gouda and Derby cheese. At Vlaardingen sugar of milk is made from time to time. The factories at Heenvliet, Beemster, and Limmen are in the first place collecting stations for fresh milk—Limmen exclusively—whilst Heenvliet is also creamery, and Beemster cheese factory. In the "Hollandia" milk factories, 39,694,427 litres, equal to 69,884,355 pints, were received in 1904, and worked into marketable articles for the Dutch and English trade, as well as for export.

The sugar factory at Gorinchem, with a capacity of 1,000 tons of beets per day, makes the raw sugar in the autumn—partly for the company's own refinery at Vlaardingen and partly for the general market. The factory alone is, of course, already a large industrial enterprise. In the refinery at Vlaardingen 400 tons of brown, ill-tasting raw sugar are weekly refined into pure, well-flavoured crystal sugar, which is mainly destined to be melted in the milk factories and worked into the sweetened condensed milk. The company works over the whole of Holland, and has its own warehouses of sugar, and own shops for milk products in the principal towns.

In souring the cream pure cultures are largely used. Of course, in the hand-power creameries, it is not possible to work entirely according to the newest methods, and with the most up-to-date machinery. This is only possible where steam power is available, yet there exists a number of such establishments which turn out a very good article. This may be attributed, amongst other causes, to the careful manipulation and to the scrupulous cleanliness which is observed.

It is, indeed, a pleasure, both to the expert and others who may take an interest in this trade, to go the round of many of our steam and also hand power creameries, and to observe everywhere with what painstaking care every article is cleansed and purified, how fresh and pure is the air which blows through the works, and how everything which can be rubbed and polished shines in the old fashion of the Netherlands, showing how well it is understood that to make good butter cleanliness in every way is of the very first importance.

* *Previous instalments appeared June 5, 12, 19, 26, and July 10.*

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Home Notes.

Our Foreign Trade.

The Board of Trade returns for June show a remarkable falling off in the imports of hops. America has sent us only 458 cwts., and from other countries we have received only 1,063 cwts. during the month. The total is 960 cwts. less than the corresponding month of 1904. The outward movement reported proves the correctness of statements made as to the reshipment of alien produce, as exports of this class in June amount to 1,315 cwts., against 32 cwts. in June last year. We have also exported 534 cwts. of English growth, so that we shipped last month 328 cwts. more than we received. A comparison of the six months ending June 30, 1904 and 1905, also shows very striking results. The first period gives imports 95,776 cwts., exports 10,494 cwts, balance against our market 85,282 cwts. During the past six months the figures are:—Imports 32,286 cwts., exports 10,607 cwts., balance against us only 21,679 cwts., or less than one fourth of the net supply of twelve months ago. The exports of foreign hops for the six months just passed were 6,102 cwts., against 2,660 cwts. in the same period of 1904.

Plantation Reports.

There is no question that the glorious summer we are enjoying may safely be described as "hop growing weather," and this is confirmed by the various details of information received from those who are best fitted to pronounce upon the condition of the bine and the prospects of the crop. There is scarcely an exception to the favourable outlook. The bine has grown vigorously, the laterals are developing with rapidity and strength, and in many places the appearance of burr indicates the probabilty of an exceptionally early crop. The danger of too much luxuriance is, however, detected in the running of mould in some places, necessitating the use of the sulphurator; and there are still, here and there, some fly and lice lingering upon the foliage, sufficient to induce many growers to think that we are not yet "out of the wood." To make room for a free current of air, many grounds are being stripped of the lower leaves mere freely than usual. But while present appearances are generally so promising, it cannot be forgotten that in former years our hopes have been not infrequently disappointed. Hurricanes, hailstorms, and other climatic troubles are not unknown in July and August.

The fateful day of St. James has not yet passed, and the old saying with respect to the hop crop is not absent from our minds, and, if we could look into the inner thoughts of most planters, I think we should find there a lurking desire that the yield may only be moderate in quantity albeit first-class as to quality. The remainder of the season will, however, settle these questions for us, and the settling day is not far off. Meanwhile we must be content to leave the issue in the hands of

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

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ENGINEERS,
MAIDSTONE.

all-powerful nature, whose influence is immeasurably greater than all our calculations or desires.

The Borough

occupies the last place in my remarks this week, as it has hardly any position to call its own, being completely under the control of the country reports. But there are more inquiries for hops floating about, and buyers seem not only willing but desirous to operate if (and what force there is in this little word) they can find openings at lower prices. They are bidding less, and, in some few instances, their bids are accepted, but the firmness of the Syndicate prevents any appearance of "slump," and encouraged thereby, most outside holders are still firm in their demands. They are willing to sell, but not willing to sacrifice.

Hop Report.

VALLEY OF THE MEDWAY (July 15).—The bine has grown a good deal lately, but there is still vermin hanging about, and we are not yet sure we shall not have black cones later on. There being so much bine it is difficult to wash them clean. In some of the grounds there is a good deal of mould on the leaf, and should we get a spell of wet weather no one can tell if it will run.

Foreign Notes.

America.

Recent intelligence from the other side generally confirms the tendency of previous reports. A cable message this week states that some of the hops included in the Oregon pool are now being offered at reduced prices, and from a letter, dated June 29, I extract the following:—"The weather in the United States has been ideal for growing crops. Heavy rains in all sections, followed by bright, warm days, have stimulated a remarkable vigorous growth. Every indication points to a record crop this year. The present prospects of a good yield here, together with the excellent reports from abroad, have depressed prices, both for 1904's and 1905's. The market for 1904 hops is flat. There is a lack of demand even at the low prices now practicable. A sale was made yesterday in Oregon of 150 bales of fair quality at 17 cents to holder. We hear that some of the Oregon pool hops are being offered at 19 cents, with no takers. Our personal opinion is that those who have been fighting for the depression of the price of 1904 hops have won their fight." On the other hand, I am aware that some of the largest holders in the pool refuse to acknowledge defeat, and are still confident that a reaction is possible. It is often the case in actual warfare that the final issue turns upon an apparent trifle, and there are many cases in which victory has been snatched at the last moment out of the jaws of a "debacle" by the bravery of a compartively small body of men. Thus it is possible that depression may yet be replaced by elation, and the policy of those who still are hoping and holding is worthy of all praise.

Nuremberg.

The extreme heat (far in excess of recent English experience), although stimulating to the growth of the vine, is now, by reason of its uninterrupted continuance, causing some anxiety to growers, who are wondering whether the soil contains sufficient moisture to enable the plants to mature. Rain is most urgently required, and if it should be withheld, the lively expectations of a full yield will doubtless be disappointed. The risks that are dependent upon the climatic conditions of the next few weeks are evident to all, therefore the market is not depressed, but generally maintains its recent firmness. I hear of a sale of Tettnang hops of moderate quality being

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effected this week at 185s., and the general range of quotations are fully equal to those of the previous week. Here and there some smaller lots, pressed for sale by country holders, who are needing money, have changed hands at 5s. to 10s. reduction; but the trade, as a whole, controlled by merchants, has not been effected thereby. Small sample parcels of new crop have arrived and been sold at 2s. 6d. per lb.

Alsace.

A large part of the hop districts has been devastated by a violent hurricane. It is estimated that at least 70,000 hop-poles have been thrown to the ground, and several plantations are irretrievably ruined.

POULTRY.

Present Day Work in the Poultry Yard.

At last the summer has come, and poultry-keepers are busy sorting over their young birds which represent their work during the months which have passed. In many cases the hatching results have been excellent, and the prices realised for the young cockerels which have been culled out and fattened for market have been better than in any preceding year. Poultry-keepers generally report that they have had every reason to be satisfied with their results this year, and the prices for eggs and birds have been better than before. Those who have broods coming on should give them careful attention, in order that they may have every chance. Summer chickens frequently die off for the want of the exercise of care in little details.

The reason why so many die is because they are not sheltered from the sun. If no natural shelter can be found, then artificial shade must be provided. We have in previous numbers referred to this question frequently, but still find it does not receive the necessary attention from poultry-keepers.

It is a mistake to attempt to rear chickens on rough sandy ground in the summer months. This ground can be used in the winter and spring, but when the weather is hot the sand holds the heat, and any chickens placed on it are nearly scorched up, and suffer from the heat and die off.

Numbers of chickens have died from the effects of great ticks which have fastened on their heads or other parts of the body, and drawn all the strength from the birds. The owners have been much puzzled by the deaths of their birds, as the feeding and general management has been just the same as in previous years, but the birds have died off from no apparent cause. Young turkeys have died in the same way.

We consider it absolutely necessary to handle the birds every week, and carefully examine them by looking into the flesh to see if it is perfectly clear of insects and ticks, and if any are found, immediate steps should be taken to get rid of them, as otherwise the birds will not thrive, and the weakest will die off.

Insect powder should be plentifully sprinkled over the birds to kill the insects, and for the nits an ointment should be made of equal parts of lard and precipitate powder, and well rubbed into the parts where the nits are found.

Fresh water, placed in a cool place, should be given to all the birds once a day. In the hot weather, rice is an excellent thing both for the fowls and chickens. It can be boiled one day, and given dry the next, to provide variety. It prevents diarrhœa and the tendency to feverish conditions so prevalent in the hot weather. Maize and barley should not be purchased at all now, wheat being the best grain, varied by feeds of good oats.

As fowls do not care for oats as well as for wheat, it is always well to give the grains separately. Care in feeding is advisable, as many poultry-keepers waste more food than their fowls eat. This is a serious loss, and should be avoided The proper way to feed is to throw only a small quantity of food down at first, and then as soon as it has been eaten a little more, and so on.

When the weather is dry, we always prefer to throw the food on the ground, so that the birds are scattered about the run, and not all close together at one or two troughs. They can then be watched individually, and any bird which does not show the usual appetite can be caught and examined, to ascertain the cause of its loss of desire for food. In the hot weather the birds will not eat nearly as much as at other times, but it is necessary that they should have a sufficient quantity to keep them going on, as there is always a waste in their systems to be made good, as well as a demand from the egg organs for material to keep them going.

An ample supply of green food is necessary in the hot weather. Those who have gardens will have no difficulty in supplying this. It is well, even when there is plenty, to give it to the birds in small quantities, so that it is eaten while crisp and fresh, as when a lot is thrown down at once it soon becomes tough and stringy, and the birds frequently peck at it just for occupation, and a stoppage has frequently been caused in this way. It should be thrown down in the shadiest part of the run, and the supply replenished, removing the stems, etc., as frequently as required. It is important that chickens of different ages be separated, so that they may all have every opportunity given to them of growing as fast as possible.

The fowl-houses should be carefully examined now, as vermin breed quickly in the hot weather, and it is particularly necessary that the nest boxes be looked after, as nothing can be worse for birds than to have to lay in nests which are infested with vermin. They are not only worried in this way, but are injured, and birds which have many insects on them lose strength fast and die. Should an egg be broken in the nest the shell and contents should be removed at once, as nothing causes vermin to collect more quickly than this. When sufficient eggs have been set, the male birds should be removed from the hens, as it is usual to store some eggs for autumn and winter use when they are plentiful, and this cannot be done successfully unless the eggs are unimpregnated.

There is an advantage gained, too, by this plan, as the male birds are found in better condition for killing when it is necessary to do this—as their legs when they are breeding go dark, and make them unsightly.

To store eggs, we have found the shelves with holes bored in them, in which the small ends of the eggs are placed, a great success. The holes should be different sizes to allow for eggs of different dimensions—and the eggs should be placed on the shelves as soon as possible after being laid. If allowed to remain on their sides for some time the experiment will not be a success.

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Unmated hens and pullets in healthy condition should always be selected for the purpose of laying eggs for storing, as those eggs which have germs in them do not keep nearly as well. A cool cellar is a good place to store eggs in. We have kept eggs for five and six months stored in the manner described, and when they have been used it was not possible to distinguish them from fresh eggs.

Contrary to the other methods adopted, we have never yet heard of anyone who has carried out our advice in this matter being disappointed with the result. We were the first to advocate this plan, and have been well pleased with its success.

The best material for the egg boxes is dry road dust. Finely sifted ashes, or sand, may be substituted if the road dust is unobtainable. Now that the roads are dry, those who live in the country would do well to collect a good supply of road dust, and make a heap of it in some corner or other, so that the covered runs may be replenished in the autumn, this making excellent scratching material for the birds.

Some poultry-keepers use it also in their houses for the summer months, but it is not such a success as the moss peat, which entirely absorbs the excrements, and prevents the possibility of a smell in the houses.

The perches should be movable in all the fowl-houses, just dropped into sockets, and during the summer months the ends require to be dipped in paraffin once a month to prevent any collection of insects in the wood.

Chickens are very fond of dusting themselves. When they are kept on grass runs they are not able to do this, unless some provision is made for them. It is a good plan to cut out a large square of turf, so that they may use the loose earth for this purpose. We are very glad to see that the mustard growers in Lincolnshire have now adopted the plan we have advocated for several years, of using the fowls and chickens to eat the mustard bug, which has proved such a drawback to them, by turning the birds out into the fields.

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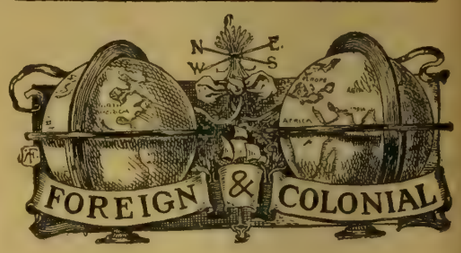

Agriculture in Brazil.

H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. Rhind) has forwarded to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade copies of decrees promulgated by the Government of the State of Rio de Janeiro, with the object of encouraging the development of agricultural and dairy industries within that State, and they are as follows:—(1) Providing for the establishment of a Public School of Agriculture, with lands for practical experiments in agriculture and grape-growing. (2) Providing for practical instruction on pupils' own lands, by travelling instructors, in ploughing and the use of agricultural implements, machinery, and instruments of all kinds. (3) Establishing a prize of 2,000 dol. for the ham curers who, during the year following upon June 1, 1905, shall produce a quantity exceeding 3,000 kilos.

On Thursday, John Thomas Scott, farmer, of Cushet Leazes, near Edmondlyers, and Thomas Howdon, Hogg Farm, near Durham, were ordered to pay reduced costs for an offence under the Diseases of Animals Act. Mr. Scott, it was stated, had his sheep dipped in accordance with the Board of Trade regulations, and sold twenty-five blackfaced sheep to Mr. Howdon. Instead of taking them home, Mr. Howdon had the animals sold at the Lanchester Auction Mart. In taking them to the Mart he traversed an infected area, and this constituted the offence. The magistrates imposed the lowest possible punishment, believing that the orders under the Act are not sufficiently published amongst farmers.

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Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

VOL. XCIII. No. 3852. [REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.] LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 24, 1905. [With Two Supplements.] PRICE 3D.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with the Society's Supplemental Charter of 1905, and By-laws 57, 60, and 74-6 made thereunder, the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Governors and Members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England will be held at 13, Hanover Square, London, W., on TUESDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1905, at 12 noon, to elect a President and Trustees, Vice-Presidents, and Auditors, to hold office until the next ensuing Annual General Meeting, and to take cognizance of the election of the Ordinary Members of Council made by Divisions pursuant to the By-laws.

By Order of the Council,
ERNEST CLARKE,
Secretary.

13, Hanover Square,
London, W., July, 1905.

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CHATTERIS SHIRE HORSE and HACKNEY SOCIETY,
19th ANNUAL SHOW,
MONDAY, AUGUST 7th, 1905. Entries close July 24th, 1905. Mr. A. HAROLD RUSTON, Hon. Sec., Aylesby House, Chatteris.

WORTHING AND WEST SUSSEX HORSE SHOW,
At WORTHING,
AUGUST 9th, 1905.
Entries close July 26th.
W. PAINE, Secretary,
Sumner House, Worthing, Sussex.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
At GUILDFORD,
AUGUST 30th, 1905,
E. H. ELLIS, Secretary,
Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
ANNUAL SHOW, AUGUST 19th, not 26th.
Entries close August 12th to
FRED. W. PIRLE, Solicitor,
Barrow-in-Furness.

SOUTH BRENT, DARTMOOR PONY, &c., SHOW,
AUGUST 9th, 1905. Entries received until July 26th. Schedules and Entry Forms from Secretary, W. HULL, South Brent, Devon.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
AT HEANOR,
AUGUST 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
J. COVEL, Secretary.
Market Street, Heanor.

LUDLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At LUDLOW,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 24th.
E. H. WOOD, Secretary,
30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY,
AUGUST 22nd, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary,
Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

SCALBY AND NEWBY AGRICULTURAL, FLORAL, AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
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Scalby, R.S.O. J. TICKLE, }

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SEPTEMBER 26th 1905.
Entries close September 12th; post entries (double fees) September 19th.
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W. G. W. WILLIS, }
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President:
SIR GILBERT GREENALL, BART.
Vice-President: T. HENRY LYON, ESQ.

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Warrington.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

DERBYSHIRE AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
44TH ANNUAL SHOW.

OSMASTON PARK, DERBY.
AUGUST 30th and 31st, 1905.

CLASSES OPEN TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

	1st.	2nd.	3rd
Shorthorn Bulls (3 classes) ...	£6	£3	
Shorthorn Cows and Heifers (4 classes)	£5	£3	
Channel Island Cattle (3 classes)	£3	£2	£1
Kerries and Dexter Kerries (2 classes)	£3	£2	
Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal.			
Entire Shire Colts (2 classes)	£6	£3	£1
Shire Fillies (3 classes) ...	£5	£3	£2
Shire Mare, foal at foot ...	£3	£5	
Shire Colt Foal...	£5	£3	£2
Shire Filly Foal	£5	£3	£2
Hunter Brood Mare, foal at foot	£5	£3	
Hunter Foal	£3	£2	
Hunter, up to 15 stone ...	£10 10	£5	
Hunters' Improvement Society's Medals (two).			
Polo and Riding Ponies (2 classes)	£5	£3	
Polo and Riding Pony Society's Medals (two).			
Pony Stud Book Society Silver Medal.			
Hackney Horse Society's Medal.			
Hackney Yearling Colt or Filly	£5	£3	
Hackney Two-year-old Colt or Filly	£5	£3	
Hack or Roadster, to be ridden	£6	£4	£2
Harness Horse or Mare, over 15 hands	£5	£3	£5
Harness Horse or Mare, over 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands	£7	£3	£2
Harness Pony, not exceeding 14 hands	£5	£3	
Harness Pony, not exceeding 13 hands	£3	£2	
Pair or Tandem, to be driven in the ring	£5	£3	
Hackney Horse Society's Medal.			
Bending Competition... ...	£5	£2 10	
Driving Competition	£5	£2 10	
Jumping (2 classes)	£15	£5	£4
Jumping (Consolation class)	£4	£3	£2
Pigs, Large White (3 classes)	£3	£2	
Pigs, Tamworth (3 classes) ...	£3	£2	
British Tamworth Pig Breeders' Association Gold Medal.			

Horticulture, £200. Poultry, £90. Bees, £21
Entries close FRIDAY, JULY 28th.

SIDNEY BURTON, Secretary.
Canal Office, Derby.

MALTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At MALTON,
JULY 26th, 1905.
Late entries to July 15th, 5s. extra.
T. MITCHELL, Secretary.
Malton.

HAY HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 21st, 1905.
Entries close September 7th; double fees September 13th.
R. MORRIS, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

(Continued on page 98.)

SOCIETIES & NOTICES

(continued from front page).

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1905.

1,000 ENTRIES.

Inspection of Duke of Portland's Thoroughbred Stock at close of Show.

WALTHAM CROSS AND THREE COUNTIES HORSE AND FOAL SOCIETY,
At WALTHAM CROSS,
AUGUST 7th, 1905.
Entries close July 7th.
J. CRAWTER, Secretary,
Cheshunt

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At KEELE PARK, KEELE,
AUGUST 10th, 1905.
Entries close: Dogs, August 3rd; Others, July 29th.
For Schedules—W. A. BENSON, Secretary, Silverdale, Staffs.

CLIVIGER AGRICULTURAL SHOW, near BURNLEY,
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1905.
Show Field adjoins Holme L. & Y. Ry Station
Schedules from J. CROSSLEY,
Secretary, Cliviger, Burnley

WHITWORTH (LANCASHIRE) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th, in the splendid Grounds of the Whitworth Football and Cricket Club.
Schedules now ready. Apply E. A. SCOTT, Secretary, Whitworth, Lancashire.

ARUNDEL AND DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND POULTRY SHOW,
At ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK,
AUGUST 23rd, 1905.
Entries close August 15th.
C. BARTLETT, Secretary,
Tulchan, Arundel.

MID-SOMERSET AGRICULTURAL SHOW,
SHEPTON MALLET,
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th, 1905.

CHEESE, BUTTER, CATTLE, HORSES, &c.

£550 in Prizes. Cups, and Championship Medals, &c., and £120 in Cash Specials.
Schedules of the Secretary, W. OZZARD, Shepton Mallet. Entries close August 18th.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW,
LIVERPOOL,
AUGUST 3rd, 4th, 5th and 7th, 1905.

The London and North Western Railway Company has extensive accommodation at Liverpool for dealing with Live Stock, Implements, and Merchandise traffic passing to and from the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show, to be held at Liverpool 3rd to 7th proximo.

Live Stock will be dealt with at Stanley Station, where the Company has extensive Horse and Carriage Landings, Cattle Docks, and every facility for dealing expeditiously with such traffic.

General exhibits and other merchandise will be unloaded at Rathbone Road Station, but small consignments will be dealt with at Edge Hill Station, where the Company has a large number of carts and every accommodation for quick delivery.

Passenger traffic such as Poultry, Dogs, small parcels, &c., will be dealt with at Waverttree Station, while Carriages and Horses can be unloaded at either Edge Hill or Mossley Hill Stations, according to the requirements of the senders.

All information may be obtained from Chief Goods Manager, Euston Station, London, or from District Goods Manager, Waterloo Station, Liverpool.

The Company will have an office and representative on the Show Ground to give information.

Sefton Park is the nearest Passenger Station to the Show Ground, and a frequent service of trains will be run to meet the requirement of passengers.

Forward Merchandise, Live Stock, &c., to and from the Show by the Company's route, care being taken to clearly consign the exhibits "Per London and North Western Railway."

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station
London, July, 1905.

PUBLICATION

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. Thoroughly practically devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 2d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

Mark Lane Express

SCALE OF ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES.

PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

1 insertion	... ...	8/-
6 insertions at	... ...	7/- each.
13	"	6/- "
26	" " ...	5/- "
52	" " ...	4/- "

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, and Farms to Let, Sixpence per line. Paragraph Advertisements at foot of reading matter, One Shilling per line per insertion.

☞ Small Advertisements of Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Situations, &c. (under classified headings and set in body type), are charged at the rate of three words a penny (only when accompanied by remittance).

Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

RICK CLOTHS! RICK CLOTHS!!—Russell's chemically-dressed Covers are the best value in the Kingdom; 8 by 6 yds., 48s.; 8 by 8 yds., 64s.; 10 by 8 yds., 80s.; 10 by 10 yds., 100s.; 12 by 10 yds., 120s.; all carriage paid; thousands in use.—A. M. RUSSELL, Maker, Grassmarket, Edinburgh.

VESICO SUDORIFIC, for lame and unsound horses, has become a famous and most reliable remedy for Weak Joints, Strained Sinews, Diseased Bone, Puffy Swellings, and other defects. Sold in pots, 2s. 6d. or 5s., through Chemists, or post free,—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS—New Sheets, perfect and sound, but slightly soiled by sea water, 3 ft. 6d., 4 ft. 9d., 5 ft. 1s., 6 ft. 1s. 2d., 7 ft. 1s. 4d., 8 ft. 1s. 6d., 9 ft. 1s. 9d., 10 ft. 2s. each; extra strong sheets, 24 w.g., 10s. cwt.; Best New Sheets, 24 w.g., 11s., 26 w.g., 12s. 6d. cwt.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

PLAIN FENCING WIRE, GALVANISED.—English made, pe fect but slightly discoloured, 6, 393 yds, 7, 467 yds, 9, W. Gauge, 700 yds. to cwt., 9s. per cwt. Wrought Iron Standards 1s. each.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Estab. 1828.

FACTORY TO FARM.—Mowing season, 1905. Best Reaper Knife Files 4s. 6d. doz; Sections 2s. doz., Rivets 7d. lb., Fingers 12s. doz. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—JOHN PEACE & SONS, Algoma Works, Sheffield.

DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.—Improved Waterproof Oil Sheets, guaranteed, 1s. 5d. and 1s. 10d. per square yard; any size supplied; galvanised sheep netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 17 gauge, 6s. 3d. per 50 yard roll, other gauges proportionate prices; galvanised wire netting, all widths and meshes at lowest prices; galvanised corrugated sheets, finest quality, 5ft. 1s. 1d.; 6ft. 1s. 3d.; 7ft. 1s. 6d.; 8ft. 1s. 9d.; 9ft. 2s. 1d.; 10ft. 2s. 5d.; galvanised rick covers, all sizes, at lowest prices; galvanised steel cisterns, 50 gals. 12s. 6d.; 100 gals, 19s. 6d.; 150 gals. 30s.; 240 gals. 46s. All cisterns carriage paid. All sizes stocked. Send for new catalogue

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2d.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING. —50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates. Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 30s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 500 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 5d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d; 8 ft., 1s. 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BASIC SLAG, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phosphates; also 38 to 45 and 30 to 35 per cent. qualities. KAINIT, MOSS LITTER, &c.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent., phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

LAITA.—The best milk substitute for calves, and best results; popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., Carriage paid.—Send 12s. 6d. for a sample bag to R. J. NELL & CO., Ltd., Spiced Food Mills, Louth, Lincs. Agents wanted.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

SEED POTATOES.—Prospective purchasers are invited to inspect trials and crops on my farms, during the season, by appointment.—W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

THOUSAND HEADED KALE SEED, 5d. lb., 21s. Bush. CENTENARY TURNIP (Sutton's) 6d. lb., 22s. Bush. Good Early Yellow-Fleshed variety. Bags 6 l. each. The above Seeds are good Stocks. Write for Catalogue to LEONARD J. LEE, Seed Grower and Merchant, Leagrave, Luton, Beds.

PHŒNIX Compound Cakes and Meals for fattening and dairy purposes. The choicest qualities at lowest market prices —PHŒNIX OIL MILL, Liverpool.

SAVE MONEY by writing us for Implements of every description; largest and most complete implement depot in the Midlands; all the leading makes of Mowers, Binders, Horse Rakes, Swath Turners, &c., in stock, for inspection and immediate delivery. Repairs by experienced workmen.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., Limited (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock and Stafford.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 12s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS (quite new, all sizes), 6 by 6 yards, 21s.; 7 by 6 yards, £1 4s. 6d.; 8 by 8 yards, £1 17s. 4d.; 10 by 10 yards, £2 18s. 4d.; or any size to order at 7d. per square yard; good hemp rope fitted; cash returned if not approved; carriage paid.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK SHEETS! Rick Sheets !! Best Heavy Canvas, roped complete, 8 × 6yds., 30s.; 8 × 8yds., 39s.; 10 × 8yds., 48s.; 10 × 10yds., 59s. Carriage paid. Samples free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

BINDER TWINE! Best quality. 5-ply Jute, 36s.; Manila (mixed), 47s.; (pure), 48s. per cwt. Carriage paid. Samples Free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

BASIC SLAG. All qualities at lowest prices, delivered to any station. —PHŒNIX OIL MILL, Liverpool.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading

POULTRY.

EGGS.—Champion winners of White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks, White, also Brown, Leghorns; 2s. 6d., sitting. POULTRYMAN, Nafferton Hall, near Hull.

HENS.—Now making 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. each, of LARGE FAT, LIVE, OLD HENS, small 1s. 6d. Established 100 years. WALLER & CO., The Live Poultry Commission Salesmen, Central Market, Smithfield, London.

EDUCATIONAL

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
CIRENCESTER.
PATRON—H.M KING EDWARD VII.
FARMING AND COLONIAL BRANCH. ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND FORESTRY BRANCH.—For Land Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc. For Prospectus, with particulars of Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, etc., apply to the Principal. NEXT SESSION begins TUES., OCTOBER 10, 1905.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
Eighty-third Session.
Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh. The only endowed Veterinary School in Great Britain. Under arrangements, which are now being made, the equipment of the College will be strengthened and modernised, and the teaching facilities greatly increased. An Examination in General Knowledge, for intending students, will be held on JULY 6th, 7th, and and 8th, on SEPTEMBER 7th, 8th, and 9th. Next Session commences TUESDAY, 3rd OCTOBER, 1905. Further particulars may be learned on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE.
Principal and Dean:
Prof. McFADYEAN, M.B., B.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.

SESSION 1905-1906.

The WINTER SESSION will commence on MONDAY, OCTOBER 2nd, when the Chair will be taken by Sir THOMAS ELLIOTT, K.C.B., and the INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS delivered by W. HUNTING, Esq., F.R.C.V.S., at 12 o'clock.

Students are required to attend Four Complete Courses of Instruction before being eligible for examination for the Diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

The College Fee for Four Years' Lectures and Collegiate Instruction is Eighty Guineas, which may be paid in four instalments of Twenty Guineas. The first instalment must, with a Fee of One Guinea towards the Library and Reading Room Fund, be paid prior to entry.

An Examination in General Knowledge will be held at the ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE, CAMDEN TOWN, N.W., by the Educational Institute of Scotland, on the 7th, 8th and 9th of September.

The College Calendar, with full particulars of Prizes offered, duration of Terms, and other information, will be forwarded on application to RICHARD A. N. POWYS,
Secretary.
July, 1905.

ARMSTRONG COLLEGE, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
(In the University of Durham.)

Professor of Agriculture: Professor DOUGLAS A. GILCHRIST M.Sc.

Secretary: F. H. PRUEN.

For full particulars of B.Sc. (Agriculture), College Diploma, and courses in Agriculture, Forestry, Estate Management, and Dairy Farming, apply to the Secretary.

Session commences September 25th, 1905.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid-up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £1,190,000.
Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000. Letters of Credit and Drafts issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.
Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
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Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.
R. W JEANS, Manager.

BIRKBECK BANK
Established 1851.
Current Accounts. 2% Interest allowed on minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £10.
Deposits. 2% Interest allowed on Deposit Accounts.
Advances made. **Stocks and Shares** bought and sold.—Apply SECRETARY, Southampton Buildings, High Holborn, W.C.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY, ACCIDENT AND DISEASE.
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, Diphtheria, Appendicitis, &c.)
BURGLARY & FIDELITY INSURANCE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid £4,800,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary.*
64, Cornhill, London.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE
19, Lombard Street, London, E.C.
Established 1782
LOWEST Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules Supplied.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.—Mr. F. J. Steward's SHORTHORNS, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3. The entire Whittingham Flock of SOUTHDOWNS (about 1,000 head), at Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4.—Col. A. F. Walter's SOUTHDOWNS, at Bearwood, Wokingham.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11. Mr. A. T. Miles' Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, and about 50 LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS, at Buckwell, Wye, Kent.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sir N. W. Throckmorton's SOUTHDOWN Flock, at Buckland, Faringdon.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.

Re JACOB WRENCH & SONS, Limited. CALDER v THE COMPANY and Others. 1904 J No. 22?4. With the approbation of Mr. Justice Warrington.

39 and 39a, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY OF LONDON.

EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY for purchasing the LEASE and GOODWILL of a well-known WHOLESALE and RETAIL SEED BUSINESS, with extensive Home and Foreign connections, the firm having been established for about 150 years.

MESSRS. PROTHEROE AND MORRIS, the persons appointed by the Judge, will SELL by AUCTION on the premises, No. 39, King William Street, London, E.C., on TUESDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1905, at 12 o'clock, the LEASE of the spacious premises comprising the two Shops, Nos. 39 and 39a, King William Street, aforesaid, with Offices and Warehouses in the rear, having separate entrance in Miles Lane.

The Premises occupy several floors, and are particularly adapted for the business, or for any trade requiring extensive accommodation in the city and near the river, held for about five years unexpired at £1,000 per annum. One Shop and Offices over being let off at about £568 per annum. The trade fixtures will be included in the Sale, also the Goodwill of the Business, one of the oldest in the Trade, the books containing the names of several thousand customers. The Premises may be viewed any day prior to the Sale

Particulars and Conditions of Sale may be had on the premises, of Mr. C. T. COURTNEY LEWIS, 3, Adelaide Place, London Bridge, E.C., Solicitor; of Messrs. E. F. & H. LANDON, of 53, New Broad Street, E.C., Solicitors; of the Receiver, Mr. W. McINTOSH WHYTE, of 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.; and of the Auctioneers, of 67 and 68, Cheapside, E.C.

Following the Sale of the Lease and Goodwill, the whole of the Stock and Utensils in Trade will be offered in suitable lots. See separate advertisement.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.

Re JACOB WRENCH & SONS, Ltd. CALDER v. The COMPANY and Others. 1904, J. No. 2224, With the approbation of Mr. Justice Warrington.

CITY OF LONDON.

IMPORTANT to SEEDSMEN, FLORISTS and Others.

ABSOLUTE UNRESERVED CLEARANCE SALE.

MESSRS. PROTHEROE & MORRIS will SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, 39, King William Street, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1905, at 12 o'clock, immediately following the Sale of the Lease and Goodwill, in suitable Lots, the whole of the STOCK of SEEDS and UTENSILS IN TRADE, consisting of several tons of Onions, Leek, Radish, and Cress: also quantities of Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflowers, Celery, Carrot, Lettuce, Savoy, Spinach, Swede, Turnip, Tomato, and other Vegetable and Flower Seeds. Sundry Office Furniture, large Iron Safe by G. H. Griffiths; a smaller Safe; Weighing and other Machines, Measures, Trolleys, Sieves, 2,000 Sacks, and numerous other items.

May be viewed three days prior to the Sale, or previously by arrangement. Catalogues may be had on the Premises, of Mr. C. T. COURTNEY LEWIS, Solicitor, 3, Adelaide Place, London Bridge, E.C.; of Messrs. E. F. & H. LANDON, Solicitors, 53, New Broad Street, E.C.; of the Receiver, Mr. W. McINTOSH WHYTE, of 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.; and the Auctioneers, 67 and 68, Cheapside, E.C.

SOUTH DEVON FLOCK BOOK ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL SALES OF REGISTERED RAMS will take place as follows:—

At Totnes, Devon, on Monday, July 31st, 1905. Ewes will be included in this Sale.

At Liskeard, Cornwall, on Monday, August 14th, 1905. And at

Truro, Cornwall, on Wednesday, September 6th, 1905

Special attention is called to these Sales, at which a large supply of typical Rams, from all the principal flocks of the breed, will be offered for sale.

Full pedigrees, &c., of these Sheep, and particulars of Conditions of Entry, for Flocks or Sheep, in the Flock Book, can be obtained of the Secretary, W. W. CHAPMAN, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.

AUCTION SALES.

CHICHESTER, TUESDAY, JULY 25th, 1905.

GREAT ANNUAL SALE AND LETTING of SOUTHDOWN RAMS, and SALE of EWES, on TUESDAY, JULY 25th, 1905, commencing with the Ewes at 12 o'clock, and followed immediately after by the sale of the Rams.

The above Sale will be held by

HOBGEN BROS., at their Repository in the Chichester Cattle Market (quarter of a mile from Chichester Railway Station), commencing punctually at 12 o'clock on TUESDAY, JULY 25th, when a Grand Selection of Sheep will be offered from the well-known and celebrated Southdown Flocks of:—

His Grace The Duke of Richmond & Gordon, His Grace The Duke of Devonshire, K.G., His Grace The Duke of Northumberland, K.G., Edwin Henty, Esq., Jeremiah Colman, D.L., J.P., Edwin Ellis, Esq., H. Cosmo Bonsor, Esq., A. Heasman, Esq., J. Edward Allen, Esq., Herbert Padwick, Esq., B. Tribe, Esq., The Pagham Harbour Co., Messrs. F. N. & E. Hobgen, and others.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Hall.

Catalogues may be had of HOBGEN BROS., East Street, Chichester, who will execute commissions.

COCUM FARM,

Six miles from Micheldever Station, two from Sutton Scotney Station, and seven from Winchester.

ANNUAL SALE OF HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAM LAMBS AND EWES.

MESSRS JAMES HARRIS & SON have been favoured with instructions from Mr. George Judd to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on Thursday, August 3rd, 1905:—

100 RAM LAMBS,
6 SHEARLING RAMS,
and
100 Regular DRAFT EWES,

from his well-bred Cocum Flock, entered in Vol. I. of Flock Book.

Conveyances will meet the principal Trains at Micheldever and Sutton Scotney Stations, and a brake will leave Winchester Station at 12 o'clock, and Andover at same time, on day of sale.

Luncheon will be provided at one o'clock, and sale commence immediately after.

Mr. Judd will be pleased to show his Flock of Breeding Ewes, Ram Lambs, &c., to his friends or intending Purchasers at any time previous to sale.

Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Winchester.

IMPORTANT GREAT ANNUAL SALE OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 1905.

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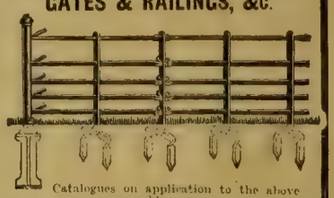

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	100·00		100·00
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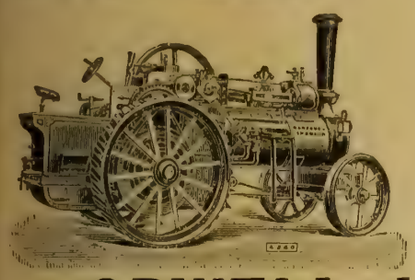

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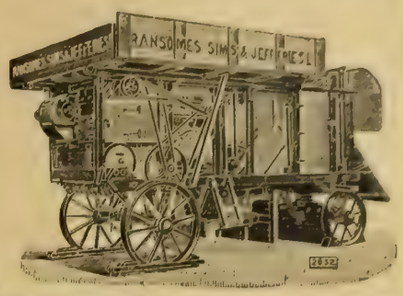

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JULY 24, 1905.

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FRUIT CULTURE AS A FARMING INDUSTRY.

The report of the Committee on Fruit Culture, which the President of the Board of Agriculture appointed to inquire into and consider its present condition and to suggest any recommendations for measures to promote and encourage future extension, has appeared, and been subjected to considerable criticism. Of course, it is of great interest to horticulturists, but, as the committee point out, it is a growing industry, even agriculturally, its increase in recent years having been remarkable. After holding forty-nine meetings and examining sixty-one witnesses they came to the conclusion that "still more fruit might be advantageously grown provided that certain difficulties and disabilities were removed, and if extension were directed into the proper channels." This is no doubt so, but planting is too costly for farmers.

The recommendations and suggestions are forty in number, some of which have been highly approved, while others if not deemed impracticable have provoked considerable criticism.

The generality of farmers, if we except those of the cider counties and those who carry out a combination of agriculture with horticulture in Kent and Worcestershire, have never in the past taken much interest in this subject. The reason is very apparent. The planting of orchards or even the establishment of small fruit plantations would take an amount of capital quite equal to the fee-simple value of a deep, rich soil, such presumably being only what would be selected. The Committee appear to have taken full cognisance of this, inasmuch as they recommend recourse to be had to the National Exchequer for two different purposes. The eleventh clause in the report recommends "that the State be empowered to lend money to landlords who have fruit on their estates for the purpose of supplying the ready money required for the compensation at the determination of a tenancy." The thirteenth clause also recommends that "an Act of Parliament be passed for facilitating the purchase of small holdings by tenants with assistance from the public funds, somewhat on the lines of the measure brought in by the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P."

The eleventh suggestion above quoted appears to give security to landlords to meet the liabilities of plantings already effected by tenants, but there is no suggestion that State aid be given direct for new plantations to be made when both landlord and tenant desire it, but have not the necessary funds to effect the improvement. The interests of landlords are considered also more than those of tenants by the ninth clause, which states that a tenant shall not be entitled to compensation on quitting, unless he provide a successor acceptable to the landlord who will give the same rent and defray the full amount of compensation to which the quitting tenant may be entitled.

The suggested changes in the assessment and rating of fruit plantations and glasshouses, both for imperial and rating purposes, are excellent in several respects as well as those relating to railway rates and the need of more liberality being shown to fruit-growers by the railway companies. But, after all, it must be acknowledged that although great profits have often been made out of fruit-growing in suitable districts, it is a very precarious industry to rely on entirely for a living. In our fickle climate with its cold treacherous springs crop failures are frequent. The small holders of Worcestershire have been punished severely two years in succession. Moreover, the enormous imports of foreign fruit from warmer climes handicap British growers very severely.

Lord Onslow on Agriculture.

Speaking at the luncheon held in connection with the Tendring Hundred Farmers' Club at Thorpe on Thursday, Lord Onslow, ex-president of the Board of Agriculture, said they were accustomed to hear from their more fortunate agricultural brethren in other parts of the country that they lived in the distressful county of Essex. Well, he had the advantage of owning and farming property in that county, and he would venture to tell their friends that they were not nearly so distressful as was said. He did not mean to say that the farmers of Essex were millionares, but, given intelligence and perseverance, they could at least hold their own with the other agriculturists of the country. The evidence of the vitality of Essex was, he thought, shows such as the present.

These shows might be divided into three classes: first, those such as the Tendring Hundred, which were purely local; then such as the Essex County Show, where the farmer would meet with greater competition; and, lastly, notwithstanding the unfortunate circumstances that had attended its latter career, he hoped they would always have one great central show for England in the Royal. (Hear, hear.) There they had the best exhibits of local and county shows, sent up to do honour to their localities. He was satisfied that, if they wished to make the stock-raising side of farming pay, they must breed the best. The best always paid, and, what is more, the foreigner almost invariably came to England when he wanted to buy the best pedigree animals. There lay their greatest encouragement for breeding the best, and he hoped England would long hold her premier position in pedigree stock-raising.

Suggested Land Purchase Scheme for England.

Speaking at a meeting held at Well Vale, near Alford, on Thursday, Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P., said he believed the Irish Land Purchase Bill was a good one, and he should like to see the principle of that Bill extended to England. He believed it was a bad thing in this country that there were not larger numbers of men interested in the land as freeholders. He did not believe for one moment that a large and universal scheme of land purchase was possible, or would even be acceptable to the great part of the tenant farmers of England, because he did not think that there was at all a strong desire on the part of the tenant farmers to purchase their holdings.

The Government, he thought, would only be doing right to put out a certain sum of money, say ten million pounds—a far less sum than we had given credit for in Ireland—to enable, as an experimental scheme, people to acquire land in this country. He knew cases in his constituency, and on his own property, where there were small holdings, where he believed men would be willing to buy, and where he would be only too delighted to sell. And he believed that by paying into a sinking fund those men could in forty or fifty years become the owners of those holdings.

The question was entirely one of Government security in advancing loans to enable tenants to purchase, and at the next General Election he intended to bring the matter forward prominently.

The Small Holdings Committee.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to inquire into the subject of small holdings, held a meeting on the 21st inst. Present: The Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G.; the Right Hon. the Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G.; the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P.; Major P. G. Craigie, C.B.; Mr. C. Bidwell; Mr. W. Brown; Mr. James Long; Mr J. W. Willis-Bund; Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., and the Secretary (Mr. T. H. Sutton). Evidence was given by Mr W. J. Harris, Halwill Manor, North Devon, and Mr. C. B. Macpherson, Balavil, Kingussie, N.B.

Seasonable Topics.

Lightning and Tempest.

Farmers are continually liable to losses, and sometimes through circumstances over which they have no control, they are brought face to face with ruin. One can have little sympathy with a man who, through idleness or neglect of business, gets into the unfortunate position of having to wind up his affairs; but when a man fails through losses or sheer misfortune, it is another matter entirely. And farmers are liable to losses in a score of ways. Their stock-in-trade consists largely of living creatures, which are liable to diseases and death from various causes. Quite recently, when terrific thunderstorms visited different parts of the country, we read of cattle being struck suddenly to death by flashes of lightning. In one instance twenty-four valuable beasts were stretched dead in one place, and in other cases less numbers were killed. Some men may be in the fortunate position of being able to stand the financial loss caused by the death of a number of cows, but to others such a catastrophe would mean sheer ruin. Amongst the instances of the death of animals by lightning, which have come before our notice was the case of a working-man whose whole savings were invested in one cow, which was suddenly struck dead in a thunderstorm. The man was disconsolate, for his little all was gone, but fortunately local sympathy took a practical turn, and money was collected locally, by means of which the man was enabled to obtain another cow.

Agricultural Inventions.

A look round the implement department of any big agricultural show is a means of education, because it gives one a good idea of what the inventor has done for agriculture in providing apparatuses for saving time and labour in every department on the farm. We well remember, when machinery was first introduced to agriculture, what an outcry there was that manual labour would be superseded and the working population in the country would be starved. No such thing has happened, however, for now, in the days of machinery, instead of there being a glut of labour, the cry is more generally one of scarcity, and if the farmer could do a little more by machinery he would be saved some anxiety. The farmer, at the outset, needed some persuading before he would take advantage of machinery, and in this he only showed his natural conservatism, but he learnt to realise that he must march with the times or take his chance of failure. Even now there are some who prefer to muddle along in the old-fashioned way rather than take advantage of modern inventions for saving time and labour, anad others do not buy machines because they cost money. This is sheer false economy, for a man who buys a machine for doing any particular work should look upon it as an investment. The apparatus, if good, will pay percentage on capital in the salvation of time and labour, and if it does nothing more, it will pay for itself. As a matter of fact, machines are as essential in agriculture to-day as they are in any other industry, and refusal to use them through sheer prejudice shows a want of common sense.

Inventors of Agricultural Machinery.

It is said that necessity is the mother of invention, and doubtless there were men who saw the necessity of machinery in agriculture long before farmers realised the fact. In short, it is not the actual farmer who can claim credit for the different machines which are now indispensable, but it is the mechanic and implement maker who is ever exercising his inventive brain with the one end—that of making money. And one man begins where another leaves off. That is to say, a certain machine serves a good purpose for a time, till someone sees a way of improving on it, and, this done, the original implement becomes obsolete. Compare an express engine of to-day with George Stephenson's Rocket, which was the wonder of its time. There is hardly any comparison, and yet without the Rocket we should probably never have had the present-day powerful locomotives. Lightness and elegance, without losing strength, are great features of improvement in modern agricultural machines, and the implement maker does not wait till the farmer asks for a certain apparatus before he produces it. If he did this, he would probably wait for ever, but he anticipates the demand, makes his machine, points out its advantages to the farmer, and waits for him to use it. If the implement is any good he does not have to wait long as a rule, for the up-to-date section of the farming fraternity has learnt to realise that machines are essential, and that the implement maker is as necessary to agriculture as the farmer himself.

The Training of Farmers.

Agricultural education is a term with a meaning in these days, and various opinions are expressed as to the best means of training the farmers of the future. It is an open question, however, whether, up to the present time, we have hit upon the best means of training young men to become farmers. All will agree that a sound training is essential if a man is to be successful in agriculture, but the question under discussion is, what is the best means of getting that training. Is it provided at agricultural colleges? Of late years a number of these institutions have been established in different counties, and a good deal of public money is being spent on them. At first these establishments could only be treated as experimental, but that stage is past now, and the question may reasonably be asked what agricultural colleges are doing towards turning out practical farmers. We do not see that country agricultural colleges are intended to train men for colonial life, because we want good farmers at home; neither are they required to turn out estate agents, or provide education for men who never make any practical use of it, but what we should like to see is an official return showing what percentage of the students at agricultural colleges are the sons of farmers, and also what percentage return to the land when their college course is finished and take up farming as an occupation. We are by no means averse to agricultural education, but, on the other hand, are strong believers in it. We realise, however, how essential it is that the education should be of the right character, and that men who go to agricultural colleges should do so in order to learn farming with the idea of becoming farmers. Further, it is essential that the education given should be of a thoroughly practical character, which fits a man for the work-a-day life of a farmer, and not a training which gives ideas above it.

The Fruit Industry of Great Britain.

A Departmental Committee has sat to inquire into the fruit industry of Great Britain, a good deal of evidence has been taken, a large number of witnesses have been examined, a lengthy report has been issued, and a long list of suggestions have been made by the Committee. Just so, and now we are waiting to see if anything further will be done, or whether the forty-page report, after being carefully read, will be packed away along with the summary of recommendations on a shelf and be promptly forgotten. It is suggested that a special sub-department of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries be established to deal with matters connected with the fruit industry, and that there be a bureau of information and an experimental fruit farm. This is a large order to begin with, but the suggestion is a good and practical one. We have frequently contended that fruit culture, though associated with agriculture proper, is distinct, and, considering its importance, it is essential that a department should be devoted to it. The Committee suggests that horticulture be taught in elementary schools in country districts, and that the attention of local education authorities be called to this. Here, again, we agree, and from our experience, we are convinced that a great deal more good would be done by initiating country children in the principles of horticulture and fruit-growing than by teaching them smatterings of things which are of little or no use to them. And, again, the education of recent years has tended to give the impression to the youthful mind that it is infra dig. to work. Now manual instruction teaches the opposite to this, and we want our country schools to turn out good workmen rather than cheap clerks. If horticulture is to be a subject in country schools, however, it must be general. It is no good playing at it, doing a bit here and a bit there, but there must be a proper authorised system, and the teachers must know sufficient about practical horticulture themselves to be able to impart instruction to others.

Landlords and Orchards.

The Departmental Committee referred to above suggests that the attention of landlords, especially in the West of England, should be called to the pressing need of renovating and replanting the decayed orchards on their property. In doing this the Committee only emphasises what the press, lecturers, and others have been recommending for some time past, but in too many cases, we are afraid, the calling of attention to the pressing need is not unlike pouring water on the proverbial duck's back. Something a little more stringent will be necessary if anything is to be done. When making recommendations, however, the Committee might also have suggested that attention of tenants be also called to the necessity of looking after young trees when the landlord has planted them, for in this matter there appears to be six of one and half a dozen of the other. There are landlords who are contented to see the orchards on their property go to ruin and decay, and they will spend nothing on re-establishment or replacement. It is not likely that the tenant with this present security of tenure will do it. On the other hand, there are landlords who willingly supply trees for the establishment of orchards, but unfortunately they are not always encouraged to do so, and when a man sees a tenant deliberately neglecting newly-planted trees, it is not to be wondered at if he devises other means of spending his money. The deplorable state of many West of England orchards affords evidence that drastic renovation is necessary, but mere calling of attention will never bring about the end desired.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 15, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,935	11,928	Wheat ...	1,761,900	2,410,100
Sheep.....	5,905	1,568	Flour	171,600	141,300
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	530,200	94,500
Horses ...	1,251	1,064	Oats	176,000	529,500
			Peas	45,280	34,270
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	8,680	4,380
Beef	54,605	109,972	Maize ...	736,700	616,350
Mutton...	89,237	64,207	Apples ...	19,808	19,380
Pork	3,449	3,197	Apricots		
Bacon ...	106,950	120,720	&Peaches	3,521	4,793
Beef, salt	3,896	2,469		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	27,671	37,313	Bananas	43,230	205,758
Pork, salt	5,099	5,865		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	9,593	13,767	Cherries	17,502	14,595
			Currants	27,087	20,616
Do. pres.	14,363	10,722	Goosebr's	2,340	1,890
Butter ...	88,294	86,730	Grapes ..	571	529
M'rg'rine	16,325	20,580	Lemons...	25,085	13,056
Cheese ...	6 ,652	64,014	Oranges	30 206	4 743
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	6	—	Plums ...	30,286	7,003
			Strawb'r's	1,172	462
			Oth'r Fr't	37,566	23,662
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	2,952	2,560
Milk, Cream	215	129	Straw ..	993	1,446
			MossLitt'r	—	1,632
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	18,960	16,715	Hops	1,135	215
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	46	27	Locust Beans	9,676	7,403
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	53,791	86,338
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Potatoes	167,215	163,647
Eggs	427,073	168,885	Tomatoes	64,707	45,021
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£6,273	£6,381
	£4,169	£2,294		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,351	1,083
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	1,420	2,490	by can-		
Lard	42,291	38,183	ning ..	1,348	1,3 8

Intercepted Food at Hull.—It is stated by Dr. Wright Mason, in his annual report as Medical Officer of Health for Hull, that during 1904 there were seized by the inspectors 154,165 pounds of meat, offal, 367,656 pounds of fruit, 1,692,604 pounds of vegetables, 517,216 pounds of fish, and 11,631 pounds of poultry and game, a total of 1,224 tons 13 cwt. 2 qr.

Mr. John Porter, a well-known Lancashire farmer, died on Thursday at his residence, Beech House, Rufford, near Preston, in his 85th year. For over 50 years he was connected with Hesketh estates, for which he acted as agent. He assisted materially in reclamation of land at Hesketh Marsh, and was chairman of the Leyland Hundred Highway Board and treasurer of the Rufford Show for many years.

Topcliffe Horse and Cattle Fair was held on Tuesday, when there was a large show of horses, and the best class of agricultural horses seen for some years. There was no demand for horses for Army purposes. Horses for general agricultural work ruled for the best from £50 to £45; secondary kinds, £12 to £18; harness and tram horses, £20 to £30; ponies, £10 to £15; secondary kinds, £4 to £7 each. There was a marked improvement both in the quality and quantity of cattle. Good calving cows and cows newly calven made up to £21; calving heifers and heifers with calf, £12 10s. to £14; year to two-year-old stirks, £8 to £10; three-year-old bullocks and heifers, to £16; and fat beasts, £15 to £18 each.

By a Lobbyist.

There is one imperative necessity upon all associated with rural areas in the interval, be it long or short, which will precede the introduction of the Redistribution Bill. This is to convince the Ministry and the Conservative party that the rural elector is not a decadent political entity as compared with certain of his fellows resident in the towns. For instance, there is no reason why between forty and fifty thousand Wiltshiremen resident on the country-side should be deprived of a distinct and separate representation while twenty thousand Wiltshiremen resident in the city of Salisbury should be conceded it. If you were to skin the Sarumite you would find him composed of very much the same physical texture as his fellow-countymen living in the villages. There is no reason why the twenty thousand Taunton men should be conceded the privilege of individual representation and fifty thousand Somersetshire men told they are to be robbed of the privilege and parcelled out to other constituences with which they may have no sympathy. Mr. T. Gibson Bowles is a sprightly and versatile politician, but this is no sufficient reason why King's Lynn's twenty thousand men should be told they are worthy of a distinctive representation on the Grand Inquest of the Nation, and fifty thousand Norfolk men who surround the town be bidden to be satisfied with being tacked on to one or other of the electoral centres the county is to be permitted to retain. Be assured of this, that this favouritism—and understand that the one assured purpose of the redistribution-scheme, as at present announced, is to vest a greater authority in towns, which will not, like those smaller boroughs I have mentioned, be possessed by an alloying rural sympathy—would mean the divorcing of much of the Parliamentary influence now associated with the counties.

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I repeat my remark of last week. I do not anticipate the revival of the old Parliamentary line of demarcation between the town representatives and the county representatives. Still it is mathematically certain that if the Parliamentary strength of the counties is to be reduced, if a different standard of electoral value is to be demanded from the shires than from the towns, the Legislature will be even less desirous than at present of dealing with agrarian problems. Heaven knows that that desire is at this moment at sufficiently low an ebb. Or if the Legislature does show a willingness to deal with these problems it will be more or less according to the predispositions of the economists of the towns—that is, of the loud-shouting orators whose knowledge of agriculture is chiefly based upon the conviction that the squire is a tyrant, the farmer a ninny, and the labourer a silly, obsequious oaf. This warning is necessary. It will be suicidal to consent to the degradation of the rural representation in Parliament—it will be worse than folly to assent to the establishment of a differentiating standard of electoral value to the hurt of county representation. This is no mere academic or sentimental business. The danger is real. Would it be worth while on the part of the county members of the House—that is, if the continuance of this Parliament is assured—to see men, say, like Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, Mr. Walter Long, and Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes? These be Ministers who may be assumed to have sympathy with the rural position.

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Do not imagine the redistribution purpose has been killed by Mr. Balfour's mistake and by the fact of his expeditious anxiety being checkmated by the Speaker's ruling. If this Government is in power another session we shall have a Redistribution Bill. Even if it be not in power Redistribution is now a Tory "plank." The anxiety should be to preserve as faras possible the present rural representation. Let the great towns be satisfied with the members taken from Ireland. The first duty of rural electors is to educate our statesmen in the fact that they do not think rural constituencies deserve any penalisation—do not deserve any reduction of its membership. If 18,500 townspeople deserve representation, forty thousand country people should not be deprived of it. There is the position in a nutshell.

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Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes's attitude over the report of the Departmental Committee on the fruit industry may not inspire entire satisfaction, but at least it will induce respect. It is an excellent epitome of the method by which his administration has from the first been characterised—the method and manner of the sympathetic man who does not desire to give birth to unreasonable hopes. It would be a good thing if the suggestions could be at once embodied in legislation—a most excellent thing, apart from the advantages it would confer upon fruit culture. It would have established a most excellent precedent in the wider purpose of tenure reform. Even Mr. Channing finds in at least one instance, that the existing Market Gardeners' Act provides a most desirable example. He would have found an Amendment Act based on the recommendations of the committee provide a foundation and justification for legislation of the more emphatic character he has long demanded, and failure to secure which he has long innocuously chafed against. The Minister for Agriculture knows, however, that it is impossible for him to give effect to the proposals in this session—he knew it before even the crisis of Thursday night arose, knew it before the political sky was darkened with the menace of dissolution. With a Premier in power who seeks to find illusory excuses for abandoning a Butter Bill—against which there was no implacable resentment; nay, which had not evoked any serious contentious spirit—the introduction of a Market Gardeners Act Amendment Bill based on these recommendations would be a deed of callous cynicism foreign to the nature of Mr. Fellowes. To assure his friends that he must first study the evidence on which the recommendations of the committee have been based—a very desirable and wise preface we must all admit—is the Minister for Agriculture's method of condoning the temper of his chieftain. Does he think—and I am in this paragraph assuming that this Government will, despite appearances, continue in office—that the portents will be any more satisfactory in the next session? The Premier's present mood is apparently that the Rates Act in itself expresses all that agriculture needs or has a right to demand. That is the Alpha and Omega of reform, the final and only needful concession to rural necessities.

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There is one interesting fact at last commending itself to the mind of those philanthropists who see in the establishment of farm colonies a solution of the unemployed problem. Of course' readers of this page know that the writer is not against farm colonies. To use a favoured phrase of his, he regards them as an anodyne rather than as a panacea, as being more calculated to breed a class of desirable workers for the soil, than as a solution of the unemployed question. The fact which now has run athwart the philanthronic mind is that farmwork is more or less a summer demand, and that the unemployment problem assumes its more acute character in the winter. Would farm colonies be a serious boon to the congested towns in the bitter days of January and February, and when the cold snows of Christmastide render the void belly still more desirous of good fare and plenty of it? Would our future West Hams and East Hams find in the farm colonies a relief for the population robbed of employment at the dock-side by prolonged frosts? It is well that these suggestions have presented themselves to the mind, belated though that presentation be. It serves to reveal that this grim problem is not to be met by some bucolic statesman jauntily waving a magician's wand and calling a series of farm colonies into existence.

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The Liberals undeniably mean to make the rural-housing question one of their popular cards in the coming fight. What is more, they mean to utilise the innocuous Wrightson Act—over which so many vainglorious pretensions were made by its author and his political associates — in order to illustrate their assertion that it was a mere piece of make-believe and bluff designed for the purpose of persuading the House of Commons to refuse to deal drastically and emphatically with the question. Of course, some of us will refute this suggestion; but be assured that it will not altogether fall on non-receptive or sterile soil. Many Liberal candidates are deliberately making a tour of the constituency they are wooing with the object of discovering local data in support of their contentions. Certainly the facts they are accummulating are painful enough—sometimes even appalling. One of these candidates, Mr. R. W. Essex, who is fighting the Cirencester division, thus epigrammatically epitomised the housing situation in certain areas which he has visited, "That good health should after all prevail is a flagrant defiance of the general result of sanitary laws, that decency is not neglected is a proof of the fine texture of the rural character, that morality is respected is a tribute to the innate virtue of the rural heart and mind."

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One bedroom for a man, wife, and family, or two bedrooms for man, wife, grown-up son, and growing-up daughters. A man having to sit down on his bed ere he can undress. If he did otherwise he would come in contact with the ceiling—perhaps knock off the roof. "This," said Mr. Essex, "is the state of things which has come under my observation during my tour. I tell you," he added, "that the Liberal Government which failed to deal with this question would be recreant to its holiest duty."

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Well, forewarned is forearmed. But will the Conservative candidates heed the forewarning? Or will they proceed to reflect the indifference and somnolence towards the rural problems exhibited in the most exalted annals of the political hierarchy? What is the official Conservative attitude towards the proposal to re-shape, amend, and strengthen the Wrightson Act?

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My last paragraph has this week the ominous significance of the postscript to a lady's letter. Shall we have a dissolution? I am writing on Saturday morning, and thus before the definite intention of the Government is announced. I believe we shall have a dissolution: not immediately, of course, because administrative chaos would be the sequel to a peremptory dissolution. The very cadence of Mr. Balfour's speech, the wearied inflection of his voice on Friday, revealed a desire for surcease from the vicissitudes and tribulation of which he has so long been the victim. He will—I make this prophecy now in order that you may compare it with the actual facts—resign and suggest that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman should continue the Government in order that the [illegible] work of the year might be completed in a disciplined manner. In the event of consent being given by Sir Henry, Mr. Balfour will promise him support until the dissolution can be formally announced in October. It is no use describing the Ministerial defeat of Thursday night as a snap division. It was not—it took place in a House of four hundred Members and had been preceded by a pressing Tory whip. It was a formal expression of opinion, whose significance was really rather accentuated by the deliberate absence of so many Conservative Members. The division has absolutely changed the political situation. A dissolution in October. That is my prophecy.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

The music of the reaping machine is heard to-day in all the early districts of East Anglia, for the corn harvest has in earnest commenced; and the click, click, click that one hears while journeying through the lanes across country in the Eastern Counties proclaims the fall of a cereal crop that in some favoured spot has ripened sufficiently for the reaper. On Tuesday last, oats were cut down in three counties of East Anglia, and to-day the wheat plant is being severed from its roots in order to secure "quality" for the miller, inasmuch as this cereal must not become dead ripe, or it loses shillings per quarter in price as a millers' wheat, although it should be dead ripe for seed purposes. To-day in East Anglia the sight of the ripening corn is a grand sight, next week many fields will be brown and bare. So we can now say with the poet:—

"Oh! 'tis a goodly sight and fair,
To see the fields their produce bear,
Waved by the breeze's lingering wing,
So thick they seem to laugh and sing;
And call the heart to feel delight
Rejoicing in that bounteous sight,
And call the reaper's skilful hand
To cull the riches of the land."

In the corn harvest we are all concerned, and in the farmer's prosperity we all, in some degree, share. The sight of the fruitful fields should, therefore, gladden the heart of each individual as it does that of the cultivator himself. But the farmer must look with concern on the development of the motor industry, for not only does the motor-car that flies through his district materially wear out the highways and byeways, but the heavy traction not in any way connected with agriculture is a source of heavy expense; while the displacement of horse traction means, especially in towns and cities, a considerable loss in the market value of oats; that, as a crop, has become of considerable consideration in the economics of English farming in recent years. What must, therefore, be in the future his mainstay?

The forty-eighth annual meeting of the shareholders of the Chelmsford Corn Exchange Co., Ltd., was held under the presidency of Mr. Henry Marriage, when the report showed that the gross income for the year amounted to £1,115 4s. 8d., against £1,040 19s. 3d. in the previous account. This result was mainly due to the increased receipts for the hire of the hall, while the rent of stands, standing places, and annual admission tickets had been maintained. The sum of £620 3s. 9d. was available for dividend, and the directors recommended that a dividend, at the rate of £4 10s. per cent. per annum and £70 3s. 9d. be carried forward, with £100 on deposit to form the nucleus of a reserve fund. The report was adopted.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee appointed under the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894, held at Ipswich, a further report of an outbreak of anthrax at Burton's Farm, Long Melford, Suffolk. Anthrax, it should be mentioned, besides attacking cattle, sheep, and horses, readily affects rabbits, hares, and mice, and fowls have been known to contract it; while, during the last few months, many cases have occurred in men and women in different parts of the country. The characteristic organism, the bacillus, which is the cause of the disease, consists of a straight, rod-shaped body, usually about 0.001 millimetre in thickness and from 0.005 to 0.02 millimetre in length. They are made up of a number of joints rather longer than broad, each of which consists of an envelope with protoplasm in its interior. The symptom of the disease in most acute cases in animals is that they fall down as if they had received a severe blow and go into convulsions. The pulse then becomes quickened, the breathing rapid and laboured, and death follows in a few minutes or hours. In less acute cases, the animal attacked loses its appetite and is feverish and thirsty, after having flux and dysentery. To all appearances it may recover, but, after a short interval, the animal will have a more severe seizure, and, in a fatal case, dies with great enfeeblement, convulsions, and laboured breathing.

The agricultural statistics for 1904, just issued by the Board of Agriculture, show in a very convincing way the supremacy of Norwich amongst the corn and live stock markets of Great Britain. In wheat, barley, and cattle the capital of East Anglia is easily first, its preminence being especially notable in barley, in which nearly twice as much business was done during the year in Norwich as was done in any other centre; while the comparative figures for the past four years show a steady increase in the total head of live stock dealt with on the cattle market.

The writer, on making his way from White Roding to Sawbridgeworth, had occasion to go through the village of Little Hallinbury, anciently called "Hallinbury Bourchier" or "Bowser" on account of its having formerly belonged to the Bouchiers, Earls of Essex, when his attention was called to some red wheat that had been cut for three days, and is now in shock.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. Smith.

By the death of Mr. Joseph Smith, East Anglia has lost one of its veteran and most popular agriculturists. The deceased gentleman was in his 83rd year, and had been in failing health for some time, so that his death at The Grange, Walton, on Wednesday, was not unexpected; but, nevertheless, much regretted. Several years years ago he relinquished his extensive business, the greater part of which was taken by his youngest son Herbert, who resided with him.

The late Mr. Smith was one of the best-known agriculturists in East Anglia, and as a farmer he had perhaps few equals. His connection with the Suffolk horse, Red Polled cattle, and Suffolk sheep was well and widely known. As to the Suffolk sheep, some fifty years ago Mr. Smith was devoting his energies, and the rare judgment he possessed, in evolving the perfect type of animal with which the public are now familiar. No expense was spared in selection, and the result must have been gratifying when so much success was obtained at public exhibitions. Later on, Mr. Smith took great interest in the founding of the Suffolk Sheep Society, and when he retired from business in 1898, a handsome presentation of silver plate was made to him by the Marquis of Bristol on behalf of the Suffolk Sheep Society, at a meeting of a most representative character. As a public man, in addition to his intimate connection with the leading Agricultural Societies, he for a long time held the position of Vice-Chairman of the Woodbridge Board of Guardians.

Mr. Edward F. Quilter.

It is with regret we have to record the sudden death of Mr. Edward Frederick Quilter, of Hill House, Belstead, and 7, Savile Row, London, W., who suddenly succumbed early on Thursday morning at his town residence, probably to cardiac failure. The deceased gentleman, who was 57 years of age, was in his usual good health on Wednesday, attending a Board meeting in the City in the afternoon, and afterwards taking tea in the West End with his brother, Sir Cuthbert Quilter. The suddenness of his demise can therefore be imagined.

The late Mr. Quilter was an active member of more than one important Board of Directors, and was a familiar figure in business, as well as in Club circles in London. In the county of Suffolk he was a most popular landlord, and since he settled at Belstead had been specially prominent in the breeding of Suffolk horses, the friendly rivalry between the Bentley and Bawdsey studs having done much to stimulate interest in the increasingly popular local breed. Although taking no public part in national or local politics, he was always ready to support any movement for the general well-being.

Sale of a Freehold Estate at West Wittering, Sussex.—Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester, offered this freehold estate in six lots at their property sale rooms on Wednesday afternoon. There was a good company present, including the owners of the adjoining land and farmers and gentlemen from surrounding districts. The first lot, Nunnington Farm, comprising 98 acres, was started at £2,000, and advanced steadily to £2,950, and, there being no further bidding, the lot was withdrawn. Lot 2, a field containing 7¼ acres, was put in at £150, and advanced sharply to £220, at which price it was sold to Mr. Stevens, of Earnley. The bidding for lot 5, known as Buckitt or Sheepwash Farm, started at £700, and rose to £900, at which price it was knocked down to Mr. C. Shrubb, of West Wittering. The fourth lot, a field of about 10¾ acres, was started at £500, and Mr. Haskins became the purchaser at £550; Mr. Haskins also secured lot 5, known as Cackham Green, containing about 84¾ acres, for £2,000. The first bid for lot 6, a freehold field of about 5¼ acres, was £150, but the bidding for this lot was brisk, and, after good competition, it was knocked down to Mr. Barker.

Prize Day at Wye College.

With the startling incident of the defeat of the Government on Thursday evening immediately present in their minds, the large audience assembled at Wye College on Friday must have been prepared for the disappointment conveyed in the announcement that the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, was unable, owing to pressing political duties, to fulfil his engagement to present the prizes to the successful students. Mr. Lawrence Hardy and several other prominent M.P.'s were absent for the same reason; but, making allowance for these exceptions, the meeting passed off with the usual satisfaction, the Chairman, Lord Ashcombe, being supported by several members of the Kent and Surrey County Councils and by a very numerous gathering of the élite of the neighbourhood, with farmers and others who were interested in the welfare of the College.

The principal, Mr. Dunstan, M.A., in the course of an eloquent and interesting address, referred to the loss sustained by the governors in the death of Mr. E. J. Halsey, whose clear foresight and untiring energy had brought the College to its present advanced position. They had also lost Earl Stanhope, whose valuable assistance could hardly be overestimated. The number of students was constantly increasing, having risen from 74 last year to 89, the present enrolment. With the numbers, the quality of their work had also greatly advanced. A high standard of work was the chief aim of the staff, and the holders of the diplomas about to be presented were well able to uphold the reputation and credit of the College in any part of the Empire. The general utility of the College as a source of information was demonstrated by more than 1,200 letters they had received during the past year from farmers in nearly every agricultural district in the United Kingdom. The residence of students in College was very advantageous both to themselves and the staff, inasmuch as greater intimacy was encouraged, and the characters as well as the work of the students could be better understood. He (the principal) hardly thought that the College was the proper place for the instruction of school masters, the classes for whom would shortly be formed. This technical instruction should be rather imparted in technical schools associated with the training colleges. It appeared to him that the masters had been trained solely with a view to urban teaching, and that the rural side of their duties had been neglected, otherwise the staff at Wye would not have to deal with so many instances of absolute ignorance with respect to rural matters.

Several enlargements of the College buildings had been sanctioned by the governors, and an extension of the farm by 200 acres had been decided upon. The courses of instruction had been also rearranged, whereby farmers' sons could be accepted for a course of 2 years, and other students could be taken on for 3 or 4 years, according to the objects to be obtained. Mr. Dunstan's emphatically expressed opinion that the "fool of the family" was no longer good enough to be a farmer, but that modern farmers required brains as well as capital, because he considered that farming now demanded more from a man than almost any other occupation, was warmly approved by his audience. He regretted that many of their students did not come to College better prepared by their previous teachers for advanced instruction, and believed that this deficiency was due to a great extent to the athletic fetish that had been set up in most schools. He distinctly approved athletics, but when they found, as they had done, that the simple elements of reading, writing, spelling, etc., were neglected, he thought it was time that radical changes should be made, as Wye College did not undertake to provide such elementary instruction. He was also strongly in favour of technical classes for rural labourers, with the object that their work should be accomplished more intelligently and efficiently. Mr. Dunstan concluded by drawing attention to the fact that the College students were making the influence of their training at Wye felt in many parts of the Colonies, and he believed that in this way the College was doing a good part in increasing the strength of the Empire, which they were all called upon to uphold and extend.

The prizes and diplomas having been presented by Lord Ashcombe, Chairman of the College governors, his lordship congratulated the principal upon the excellence of the work and the progress of the College. Though its foundation was very modern, it had already achieved a good reputation, which was not only National but Imperial, and it would certainly continue to enlarge the sphere of its operations under the able guidance of Mr. Dunstan.

Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, in proposing a vote of thanks to Lord Ashcomb, referred with satisfaction to the establishment in London of the Agricola Club, which was a rendezvous for previous students and the means of maintenance of the fraternal associations commenced at Wye.

Major Coates, M.P., seconded the proposal, and expressed his satisfaction that, although in its early stages, the College had been a source of great anxiety to the Kent and Surrey Councils; it had now become firmly established on a profitable basis, and would therefore be warmly supported in future.

The Chairman having acknowledged the vote, the company adjourned to the Quadrangle, where tea was served, and the proceedings agreeably concluded.

Early Harvesting in Herefordshire

Mr. J. B. Sainsbury, of Whitecross, Ross, Hereford, has had a remarkably early and fine harvesting of his New Winter King two-rowed barley. He commenced cutting on July 12, the whole crop being fit for the process, and he began hauling on July 19, and at the time of writing was continuing, the whole crop being ripe. Some idea of how the field looked can be gathered from the illustration we give on this page. Mr. Sainsbury claims for his New Winter King barley that it is the earliest two-rowed variety known, is a very heavy cropper, and a favourite with maltsters for colour and extract. It will stand any ordinary winter, and has been grown in Scotland with great success. The straw is very heavy, and stands better than most varieties. Mr. Sainsbury adds that clovers succeed better after Winter King barley than spring-sown on account of this variety's earliness, whilst one can obtain a green crop, turnip, or mustard after a crop of Winter King barley. Mr. Sainsbury has given constant care, and has reselected his variety of barley for the past eleven years, and that his efforts have been crowned with success will be easily seen from what we have stated and the illustration given.

Speech Day at Dauntsey College.

The annual prize day of the Dauntsey Agricultural School at West Lavington, near Devizes, was held on Wednesday week and was honoured by the presence of the Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. C. T. Lane, chairman of the Mercers' Company and of the Board of Governors, presided, and he was supported by the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice, M.P., Dr. Somerville, of the Board of Agriculture, and a large company of influential guests.

The Chairman, in a review of the present position of the school, said they had a most satisfactory report to make. They now had forty-nine boarders and twelve day boys, and three-fourths of them were engaged in studying agriculture.

The Head Master gave a very satisfactory report, expressing himself as gratified at the excellent reports they had received from the Board of Agriculture and the Board of Education.

The Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, after some introductory remarks, said the reports of the examinations under the auspices of the Board of Education and of the Board of Agriculture had been most satisfactory, and showed that the school was doing a good work. When the school was opened in 1895 by Mr. Chamberlain, it was thought to be rather as an experiment, and it

Mr. J. B. Sainsbury.

was thought by some that it would not answer. He (the speaker) had had the opportunity of reading the official correspondence and a large number of letters which were received from farmers in that district, showing that they were not so favourable to the scheme at that time as he ventured to say they would be found to be now (Applause.) What was exceedingly gratifying to him was the fact that in the school at the present time no fewer than fifty-two boys were taking up an agricultural course. What was still more important was that forty-six of the boys were the sons of tenant farmers. (Applause.) The result of this must be to revolutionise agriculture in many of its forms. Boys saw new methods and learnt new facts which their fathers had had no opportunity of acquiring, and these would be of considerable use to them in after life. He would like to suggest that the school might be developed by the acquisition of a farm adjacent, which would enable the lads to have an opportunity of putting theory into practice. This was being done in connection with the agricultural colleges in different parts of the country, with beneficial effect. The school might then be made a useful centre for dairy instruction, poultry, and farriery work for the whole of the county. He urged the boys who were leaving to cherish the traditions of their school, and concluded by paying a high tribute to the staff.

Lord E. Fitzmaurice, M.P., predicted much excellent result from the accession to the office of the Minister of Agriculture of Mr. Fellowes, who had a practical acquaintance with the subject.

Other speeches followed, and a programme of sports was subsequently carried out.

Tenant Farmers' Valuations.

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Land and Tenant Right Valuers' Association was held recently at Leeds. The report and financial statement showed that the Association was growing in usefulness and membership, and that its financial position was very satisfactory.

The first business of the meeting was the election of a president for the ensuing year, and Mr. Ackroyd, of Keighley, was unanimously chosen to fill that position; whilst Mr. Kilby, of Barnsley, and Mr. Weatherhead, of Keighley, were elected vice-presidents. During the meeting reference was made to the fact that it was exactly 21 years since the Association was formed, and that during that time the members had been the means of having justice done between outgoing and incoming tenants, and between tenants and landlords, in accordance with the provisions of the Acts of Parliament that had been passed since the Association was formed. It had been able to do this, it was stated, by the schedule of regulations that had been drawn up for its guidance, and had, moreover, brought together in friendly relationship the men who were engaged in the work of tenant right valuation throughout Yorkshire. The principal business of the last meeting was the consolidation and revision of the various resolutions passed by the Association since its formation. This work entailed so much care that it was impossible to complete the task, and the meeting was adjourned until October 18 next, at the same place in Leeds.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.—Pitch about fifty-five tons, good attendance of buyers. The tone of the market was good; sales freely effected at prices: best, 50s. to 55s.; medium, 45s. to 48s.; lower grades down to 40s.

A large haystack, containing about a hundred tons, situate in a field at Tilgate, close to Three Bridges railway station, and belonging to Mr. J. A. Nix, was found on fire on Monday, and, though two engines were got to work, and two jets were directed on the stack, firemen worked hard until late at night. Only about half the stack was saved, some fifty tons being destroyed or rendered useless. The damage was estimated at £100.

Spilsby Fair.—This annual fair for horses was held on Monday, when there was above an average number on offer. Trade, however, was far from good, except for best quality animals, and these were on a downward scale. Good draught horses for town work made up to £55; good farm horses, £35 to £40; second-class from £18 to £25. 'Bus and van horses sold at from £30 to £35; cab horses, £18 to £20. There were hardly any good trappers on offer, but some of the best Irish drove horses, suitable for making hunters, etc., realised as much as £30.

An Early Barley Harvest:
THE VARIETY IS SAINSBURY'S NEW WINTER KING TWO ROWED BARLEY.

"BE WISE IN TIME."

FARMERS should take care (especially in view of the comparatively low rates of premium) to insure against loss through **STORMS** and **FIRE.**

The **HOMESTEAD, FURNITURE, OUT-BUILDINGS, LIVE STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, STACKS, AND GROWING CROPS** all represent property which can, by the present modern system of **INSURANCE**, be covered at a trifling annual outlay.

INSURANCE against death or injury through accidents should not be neglected.

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HAILSTORM INSURANCE.

The Royal, besides being the largest Fire Insurance Company in the world, is one of the few offices that undertakes risk from Hailstorm. The important feature for Agriculturalists when effecting protection on their property is the opportunity afforded them of combining insurance against Hailstorm and that of Fire Insurance in one office.

Gentlemen able to influence introductions with this object are invited to make application for Agencies.

Offices, 28, Lombard Street, London, E.C.

Fine Hay Harvest in the Isle of Wight.

SIR,—One of the finest hay harvests is now over; the rain came too late to make a good clover crop, but the meadows are quite an average, and well saved. Mangolds are doing well; swedes have been troubled with "fly"; turnips, which are just being finished sowing, should come away well in all the kind lands. Wheat, barley, and peas are promising and up to average—oats hardly an average. Store sheep have sold well, owing to plenty of keep. Wool, I think, has made the best price for many years.

Your readers will think the farmers' prospects good in this district; and so they would be were it not for the so-called progressive local councils, who will in my case swallow up more than the small extra profits I should have made in this favourable year. If all the agricultural papers and societies would make an effort (the unjust burdens on the land are so palpable to all) no government could resist a well organised appeal for relief from rates too grievous to be borne.

July 21, 1905. HENRY WAY.

Tithes, &c. in Berkshire.

SIR,—July has proved a very forcing month, with many days of great sun power and brilliancy, consequently the crops have progressed towards harvest at a rapid rate. Harvest, in short, has commenced, the machines being engaged in most directions yesterday cutting winter oats and rye. Flocks of sparrows are also busy pecking out the wheat, so that this once important cereal in this neighbourhood will be fit for cutting in our forward districts in a few days—say, at the beginning of August. All crops are big and bulky, except a few fields of oats that are thin, and there will be a large quantity of straw to gather in this season. The harvest generally promises to be a full average—wheat above an average—also fairly early as regards time of ingathering. Haymaking has been rather delayed by the thunder showers we have had; it is, however, now nearing completion, and a large quantity of hay of various grades of quality has been put together. Sainfoins have not bulked so large this season; on the other hand, the later meads have proved heavy, so that abundance of winter keep is ensured, and hay will remain at a moderate price—too moderate, in fact, for some growers. Roots have benefited by the showers, and, where attended to, are coming on apace; but the care exercised in this department is not as it was wont to be formerly. Keep is plentiful, and all stock is at a fair price. I should say the county could carry profitably with its present keep outlook nearly double the stock it possesses. Wools have appreciated in value, but not to the extent anticipated just prior to our local fairs. It is evident that sheep farming pays, as the men who have held and dealt in sheep are now buying estates in land.

Fruit prospects are indeed meagre, but bush fruits have been fairly plentiful. The cost of road up keep continues to increase; whilst roads such as our Bath Road, which runs through South Berks in lovely vale scenery, are practically ruined by the motors and the dust they raise for walking or driving exercise.

Unusually large and extensive properties have come into the market of late for sale, and, where offered in separate farms and small holdings, such find ready purchasers. I note, however, that the tithe forms a heavy burden on present land values—in fact, on one large estate offered in several lots the sum realised was closely approximate to the value of the tithe, if capitalised. Mother Church has, therefore, a heavy dig into the land at the present time, and far exceeding one tenth. Seeing how few attend the Church services, and many who do, attend for what they can get, in a mercenary sense, why not devote the tithe to a more useful purpose—say, poor and education? Nonconformists already provide for their religious views, and why cannot our more wealthy Established Church friends do the same? The ordeal would, I believe, do them good. Labour is, on the whole, fairly plentiful, but most farmers complain that it is not of the quality it was wont to be. There will be, however, a lot of stuff to handle in the harvest just about commencing. R. LOVELOCK.

July 21, 1905.

The Harvest in Suffolk.

SIR,—The prospects for our part of the world (Ipswich) as far as oats and barley are concerned are extra good. The wheat is in certain parts rather thin. We are requiring a nice rain to put in the turnips, which we have been unable to do up to the present on account of the drought. Our beet crops are exceptionally good, and the corn is ripening very fast, and, in most cases, I consider harvest will begin on or about the 26th.

We have had an exceptional hay time, and the hay has been stacked in splendid condition. This is, on the whole, perhaps not in quantity up to the average on account of the drought we had in May; but the quality will, undoubtedly, be very superior, and I think, taken all round, farmers will not have much to find fault with in 1905.

W. G. HICKS.

July 20.

Improved Prospects in Essex.

SIR,—We are glad to be able to chronicle a better look out for farmers than for some years past—the weather has been exactly what is wanted, excepting when very heavy thunderstorms have beaten down the crops. A rainy June sets all things in tune in this county, and we are wanting a genial and fine time in August for our harvest.

Wheat, beans, and peas are the crops of the year, though barleys in some places are very good where they were sown early, and as far as we can judge at present we are to have a better sample than for some time past. Oats are a weak crop as a rule—last year's clovers very patchy; mostly sown with foreign seed. A good crop of mangold and swedes seems assured and white turnips now coming up. Lambs are fetching a high price from 3s. 6d. to 5s. dearer than last year, especially ewe lambs. Wool at 12½d. to 13d. is also a help to the flockowner.

Sainfoin and clover hay of last year are rather more saleable, but grass hay seems to be a drug in the market. On the whole the prospect is more cheerful, and we hope that we shall be able to make up for some of the heavy losses of the past two years.

July 20. A. N. R.

The Outlook in South Wilts.

SIR,—The weather during the last month has been favourable to mixed farmers, rain storms at intervals have been a great help to the roots, and yet we have had beautiful haymaking weather between. The hay, which is a fair crop, is mostly got together in excellent condition, and harvest is rapidly approaching, the beginning of August will see it in full swing. Wheat and barley promise well, in fact, I have not seen the latter looking so well in this neighbourhood for some years. Oats are a medium crop, straw short, and on some farms thin and blighted, the very cold dry May seems to have adversely affected the crop; also the mangolds and early rape, both of which are very uneven and much under the average; swedes and turnips are doing well.

I am glad to say the price of sheep keeps pretty well up, and as wool sold at 2d. to 2½d. per lb. over last year (for washed samples), we must look upon the season as less unfavourable than sometimes. The great drawback to agriculture is labour, not so much quantity as quality. The skilled farm labourer of my younger days is departed, and we get in his place men who slouch through as little work as they possibly can as badly as they can; of course, there are exceptions, but they are few and far between.

I fear the system of primary education is now arranged so as to unfit boys in the country to be of any use to the agriculturists, and very little to any one else. I find that it now takes two men at higher wages to do the same amount of work in most of the ordinary field labour than one man at less wages did twenty or thirty years ago.

July 20. E. H. M.

Corn Crops in West Suffolk.

SIR,—Now that haysel is almost finished (some late pieces not yet carted), we may say there has been some very good hay made again this year, and a good average crop.

And now the corn harvest is quickly approaching, some winter-sown oats being already cut and others ready for cutting. The wheat stands well for harvesting this year, and appears to be a fair crop, but is somewhat blighted in the ear.

Barley in this district is rather driven by the storms, but looks as though there might be a good crop if we get weather suitable for ripening and harvesting it. There appears to be a large breadth of oats, but it is thought they are not generally looking well, although there are some excellent pieces. Mangolds are looking well, but rain is wanted for late sowing of turnips.

July 21, 1905. J. J.

Crop Prospects in South Yorks.

SIR,—Hay is a better crop than was expected, and has been got fairly well; but there has been too much sun and too little wind for it to be of quite the best quality.

Swedes I am afraid, will be a very poor crop. In not a few places they have failed altogether. Potatoes look well, if they can be judged by the tops.

Wheat also looks like being a good crop; but both oats and barley are short in the straw. Rain is wanted now that hay harvest is over.

Stocks generally look well, but keep is scarce.

July 21, 1905. H. T.

Utility Poultry Club Laying Competition.

SIR,—In spite of the great publicity given to the Club's proposal to hold a twelve months' laying competition, I regret to say the response for the necessary funds has been most disappointing, and very little help has been received.

I may perhaps mention that the estimated deficit on the competition is £50, which must be provided before the competition begins. In addition, the Club requires a guarantee of another £50 as security against further loss, but it is not expected that this guarantee will be called up.

I cannot advise the Club to undertake the competition unless the amount required is forthcoming, and I trust, therefore, that those who wish to see the competition held will send a donation at once to Mr. C. Dunkley, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, who will also supply forms of guarantee on application.

The Utility Poultry Club will give a donation to the fund, and the Poultry Club have kindly offered to guarantee £10.—I am, etc.

B. W. HORNE,
Honorary Treasurer, U.P.C.

49, Gloucester Gardens, Hyde Park, W.,
July 21, 1905.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1. Essex Street, Strand, 12 Noon, Monday, July 24th, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general aspect of the barometric distribution is favouring a continuation of moderate winds, varying from N.W. to S.W., and of fair and warm spells interrupted by occasional temporary showery spells, covering most of the area. South, Centre, and East England and S. Ireland will have most fair weather and least rain. Scotland, N. Ireland, Wales and N. England will have most rain and cloud. The general sequence will be: Fair at first in the Southern half of the Kingdom, Fair to Cloudy and Showery in the Northern half. Later some Showers over most of the area except, perhaps, the Southern borders. Finally, Fairer in the W., N. and S., Showery to Fairer in the N.E. Temperature moderate at first, warmer later, finally warm to moderate.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—**Scotland**:—**At first cloudy to showery; later some rain to fairer; finally fair to cloudy; wind S.W. to N.W. and W.**

,, 2.—**England (N.E.) and part of Scotland**:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—**At first fair or fine to cloudy; later some showers; finally fairer; wind N.W. to S.W., and then N.W. to W.**

,, 3—**England (East)**:—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**The same as No. 2.**

,, 4—**Midland Counties**:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford-Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, York, shire (West Riding).—**At first fair or fine; later fair to cloudy and some showers; finally fairer; wind light, variable, to W. or S.W.; then N.W. to S.W. and moderate; temperature moderate to warmer and then slightly cooler.**

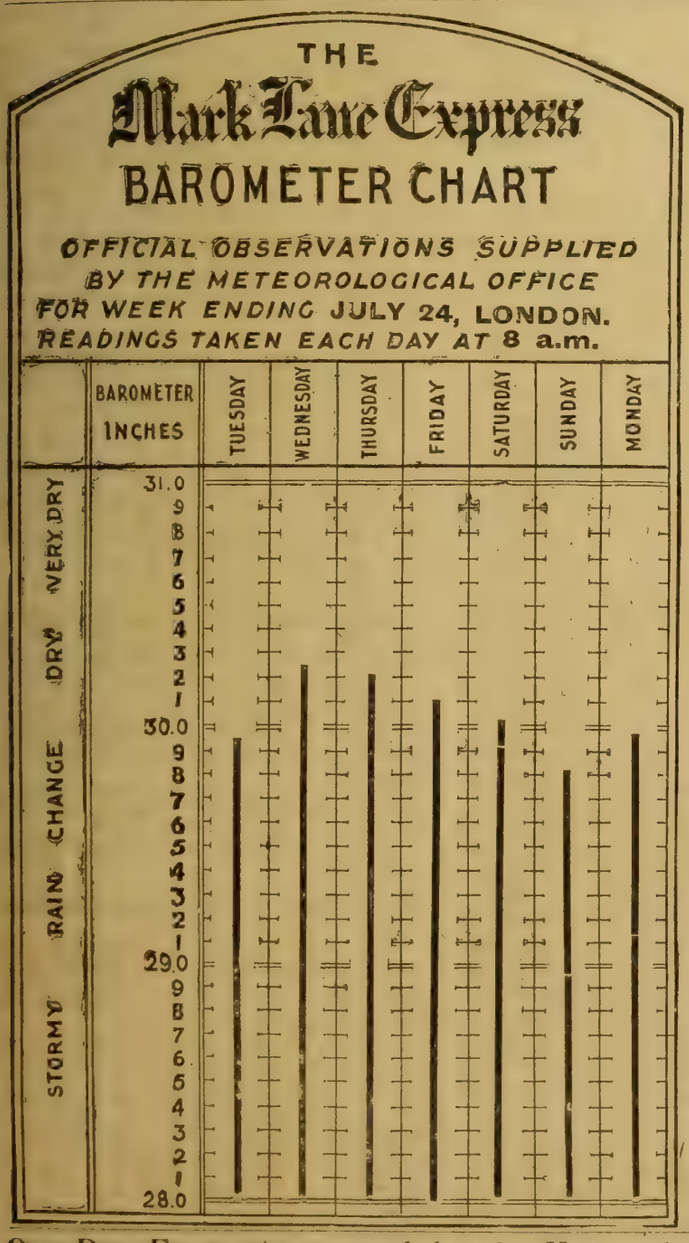
No. 5.—**England (South)**:—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire. **Similar to No. 4.**

,, 6.—**Ireland.—At first cloudy, some rain at times, chiefly in the North; later some passing showers to fairer; finally fair to cloudy; wind S.W. to N.W., and then S.W. again; temperature mild.**

,, 7.—**England (North-West) and North Wales.** Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first cloudy, some showers; later some passing rain to fairer; finally fair to cloudy; wind S.W. to W. or N.W., and finally W. to S.W.**

,, 8.—**England (South-West) and South Wales**:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**The same as No. 2, with only a temporary showery spell.**

When the local temperature sequence is not specifically indicated, it may be taken as similar to that in the General Prediction.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday	(July 18)...	29·97
Wednesday	(,, 19)...	30·26
Thursday	(,, 20)...	30·21
Friday	(,, 21)...	30·11
Saturday	(,, 22)...	30·03
Sunday	(,, 23)...	29·82
Monday	(,, 24)...	29.98

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	4.13 a.m.
,, Sets...	...	7.59 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	11.30 p.m.
,, Sets	...	0.29 noon

Age of Moon — Twenty-two days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 24th.

GENERAL INFERENCE. The recovery of pressure in the anti-cyclone over the Bay of Biscay promises a temporary improvement in the weather in our Southern districts, but as the barometer is again falling in the North-West, conditions are likely to remain unsettled throughout the North and North-West of our Islands.

SCOTLAND, N. and E.—Moderate or light Southerly to Westerly winds; cloudy or dull, some rain; rather cool.

ENGLAND, N.E.—Moderate or light North-Westerly to Westerly winds; fair at first, some showers later.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Moderate or light Northerly winds, backing later towards West; weather improving temporarily; moderate temperature.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland, N. and E.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Moderate or Light South-Westerly winds; changeable, unsettled, some showers; moderate temperature.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Light Westerly breezes, fair as a whole; moderate temperature.

IRELAND, N.—Moderate South-Westerly to Westerly winds: cloudy or dull: some rain.

IRELAND, S.—Westerly breezes; fair intervals; occasional showers.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat, English, steady, quiet. Foreign, sellers, ask late rates, but demand very slow. South Russian quoted at 32s to 36s 6d; No. 2 Club Calcutta, 31s 9d to 32s; Persian, 30s to 31s 6d; River Plate, 32s 6d to 34s. Flour slow, unchanged prices. Hungarian quoted at 30s 6d, Minnesota Gilt Edge at 20s 3d, and Iron Dukes at 21s 3d. Maize steady, quiet, at about Monday's prices. Mixed American quoted at 24s 3d, ex quay, and 23s 9d, ex ship; La Plata, at 24s 6d, landed; 23s 9d, ex ship. Barley dull, and prices tending in buyers' favour. Odessa Nico Kherson, ex quay, quoted at 20s 3d. Oats slow, no demand. Common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet. Foreign steadily held at fully late rates, but only a moderate business passing. South Russian quoted at 32s to 36s; No. 2 Club Calcutta, at 31s 9d; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, at 35s 6d to 36s. Flour quiet, unchanged prices. Iron Dukes, ex ship, quoted at 20s 9d, and ex quay at 21s 3d; Pittsburg ilt Edge, at 20s 3d. Maize firm btu quiet. Mixed American quoted at 24s 3d; La Plata, 23s 9d to 24s 6d. Barley slow, unchanged. Odessa, Nico, Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 20s, and ex quay at 20s 3d. Oats steady, quiet. Common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Market firm at last week's prices. Wheat, 33s to 36s; English feeding barley, 27s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 21s; new flat maize, 27s; round maize, 27s to 28s; black oats, 20s to 23s; white oats, 21s to 24s; mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; flour, whites, 31s; seconds, 28s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 32s to 34s; barley, 25s to 30s; beans, new, 30s to 33s; oats, 21s to 24s; peas, 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance, with little supplies of grain, prices remainin gunchanged.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Business at this market is very quiet, and the attendance very thin. Foreign wheat met with but a poor inquiry, and at about 6d per qr. lower on the week. Grinding barley has declined 6d since last market day. Plate maize has advanced 3d and flat ½d per cental. English oats, 21s to 21s 6d per qr. (312lb.); beans, 13s 6d per bag (196lb.), delivered Birmingham.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—The market was poorly attended, and the trade was slack all round. A few samples of wheat changed hands at about last week's prices of 33s to 33s 6d per qr, but the trade was only of a retail character. Oats, grinding barley, beans, peas, and maize were all firm at late rates, although in moderate demand. Feeding stuffs firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat has been about unchanged. A few pieces of winter oats and rye are cut. At this market the few samples of wheat on offer made former prices, from 32s to 34s per 504lb. New winter oats sold at 19s. Old oats the turn against sellers.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices of English wheat are maintained from 34s to 36s, but sales are difficult to make. Oats are in demand at from 20 sto 22s, and grey peas are very scarce at from 32s to 35s per quarter. The cutting of winter barley, oats, and peas has commenced.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; slow trade at late rates; 22s 6d to 23s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chelmsford, Friday.—Very quiet market, and no change in prices for the little wheat on offer. There were a few samples of new oats brought to market.

Chester, Saturday.—The hay harvest still interferes with the attendance, and the supplie sof English grain are small. The values of all descriptions were well maintained. Egyptian beans have advanced 6d per 480lb, and Indian corn 3d per 240lb. Quotations:—New white wheat, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75lb; new grinding barley, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb; old beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb; Egyptian beans, 33s 6d to 34s per 480lb; old oats, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; new ditto, 2s 9d to 2s 11d per 46lb

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance, but very little trade doing. It was reported that harvesting had commenced in some parts of the neighbourhood. Quotations:—White wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; English oats, 18s to 23s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 27s to 29s.

Colchester, Saturday.—A week of hot forcing weather has brought harvest on quickly. Wheat-cutting has commenced and will be getting general next week. Several samples of new winter oats were offered, making 17s to 18s per qr.: no wheat showing. JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday. — Only a moderate attendance. Trade was but moderate, and prices ruled as follows:—Wheat, 12s to 13s per 196lb.; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb.; oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday. There was no change to note in the supply and value of wheat, which continued quiet at late rates. Spring corn unchanged. Wheat, white, 34s to 35s; red, 33s to 34s; malting barley, 25s to 28s; beans, 32s to 35s; oats, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Very little corn of any description at to-day's market. The fine weather has forced on the harvest. Oats, barley, and rye have already been cut, and wheat cutting will become general in about ten days. The following were the quotations: New wheat, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; secondary, 15s to 16s; best barley, 26s to 28s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 13s to 21s; white ditto, 19s to 22s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very small attendance of buyers. English wheat firm, and top values 1s 3d per load, but nearly all the best samples have been disposed of. Foreign was also firm, having recovered from last week's depression. Only a limited supply of feeding stuff. Old oats firm at late rates, with a better inquiry. Beans scarce and 6d per quarter dearer.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The attendance again to-day was only moderate, and there was but a very limited supply of corn, though quite up to the requirements of the trade, which was exceedingly quiet. Prices all round were nominally unchanged, and from all that we could gather, the supply of last year's crop is practically exhausted, not only of wheat, but equally so of all other sorts.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 32s to 36s; feeding barley, 24s to 25s; malting ditto, 28s 6d to 29s; oats, 14s to 14s 6d; cwt. meal extra, 16s 6d to 17s; flour, 11s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade dull. English wheat scarce, and 1s/- as dear as last week. Foreign unchanged. Barley 3d cheaper. Maize very firm. Flour firm. English wheat, 4s 3d; superfine flour, 26s to 28s; fine, 23s to 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance at our Corn Exchange, and a holiday feeling still prevails. Market quiet for all articles of the trade, and prices practically unchanged on the week.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Spring wheats are held for 1½d to 3d advance, but buyers are loth to respond. Flour quiet of sale; for forward shipment the price is rather in favour of buyers. Mixed American maize firm at 14s 1½d per 280lb, with a moderate demand; round moves quietly at 15s. Beans, barley, oats, peas, and oatmeal slow at steady prices.

Gloucester, Saturday.—No English wheat on offer. Foreign in better demand at 3d to 6d advance. Maize 3d to 6d dearer. Oats and barley firm at late rates.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — The market was poorly attended, and very little business was done. A few samples of old wheat were disposed of up to 36s per quarter.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Harvesting operations interfered with the attendance. English wheat remained about the same as last week, but practically no business was passing. Old oats were very firm. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, per 62lb., 3s 10d to 4s; barley, per 56lb., 2s 9d to 4s; oats, per 40lb., 2s 3d to 2s 9d; beans, per 65½lb., 3s 9d to 4s; vetches, per 65½lb., 4s 6d to 6s 6d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: The supply is now so small that prices are almost nominal at from 33s to 34s per qr. Feeding corns were not in large demand, but prices are generally good, and fully firm on the week. Oats at 21s to 23s, grinding barley at 24s to 27s, and maize at 25s per qr. Feeding stuffs were also firm at last week's prices.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Under the influence of continued fine weather, heavy shipments, and weak American advices, the wheat trade has turned flat, the demand is of the merest retail character, and, although there is no pressure on the part of holders to force sales, prices of most foreign descriptions have declined 6d to 9d per qr. on the week. English, though scarcity, maintains its value. Maize, beans, and oats quiet.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheat fully maintain Tuesday's prices, with a slight advance for best Americans. Slow demand for beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, and flour, prices, if anything, favouring buyers.

Leicester, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance of buyers, with restricted supplies of home-grown wheats. Red wheats, 32s to 34s; white wheats, 33s to 35s per 36 stones; grinding barley in fair demand; beans steady; fine oats, 23s to 24s per 20 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a small attendance, and very little grain on offer. Wheat and oats samples were so few and trade so quiet that any change in quotations could not be gathered. Feeding stuffs generally firm, and maize fetched recent prices.

Liverpool, Friday. The market has had a very small attendance, and sales very quiet but firm, from ½d to 1d dearer. Flour very quiet, but without further quotable change in prices. Maize, mixed American, is firmly held for 1d advance, and there is a fair inquiry for the small quantities available. Plate is steady, with a quiet trade, and the turn in sellers' favour. European sorts are irregular, with only a small inquiry. Barley, malting and feeding sorts, quiet, unchanged. Beans firm, at 3d advance, and there is a fair demand. Peas firmly held at full prices, but in small demand. Oats a dull trade, at about late rates. Oatmeal firmly held at recent currencies, but demand slow. Oilcake a very quiet trade, without change in price.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday. — Business at the Corn Exchange to-day was by no means extensive. The millers hold off buying wheat except for present need; the cost of it is just about the same as on Thursday last. Barley is slightly dearer, and black oats are a trifle higher than recently, but that cannot be noted for white sorts. Maize is firm, the demand not brisk, as price is considered high. No change in any other description of grain.

Manchester, Thursday. — The market was slow. English wheat was dearer, but foreign somewhat slow. Flour quiet and unchanged. Indian corn, mixed American, about 1d dearer. Foreign barley unchanged. Peas, Canadian, dearer, and both English and foreign dearer. Bran occasionally 6d per load dearer, and thirds unchanged. Oatmeal was firm.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a very small show, and prices firm at last week's extreme rates. Oats and beans firm at full prices. Quotations:—Wheat, 34s to 35s; oats, 21s to 23s; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market for wheats and last week's prices were fairly maintained; maize scarce on spot and dearer; foreign oats steady at last week's quotations with a fair demand; Scotch oats, however, was neglected and to tempt buyers lower quotations had to be made; beans again dearer; peas unchanged; barley trade almost nil.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was again a small attendance and few samples on offer; prices were unchanged. Wheat, 32s to 34s; barley, 24s to 32s; oats, 20s to 23s; beans, 31s to 34s; peas, 28s to 33s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday. The few parcels of English wheat still in merchants' hands are held for too high a price for millers; foreign slightly in sellers' favour; grinding barley steady; oats in poor supply and values maintained; beans scarce and held for 6d advance. — ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Another week of forcing weather has ripened the growing crops rapidly, and here and there a forward piece of wheat will be cut next week. Not much business passing; wheat was scarcely so well sold, as last week; spring corn unaltered. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very fair attendance on our market this afternoon. Wheat was unchanged; barley 6d and maize 3d dearer, with oats also unchanged. ORLAND& DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—The market again was very quiet, and but little business was done at the following prices:—Wheat, 33s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 26s; oats, 20s to 22s; beans, 30s to 36s; peas, 28s to 31s; flour, 24s to 27s.

Retford, Saturday. — Very small supply of English wheat, the few samples on offer making 32s 6d to 33s per quarter; slightly damaged maize was worth 26s 6d, and sound 27s 6d per 34 stones delivered here; grinding barley, 24s 6d; white oats, 20s to 22s; and black ditto, 19s 6d and 20s per quarter. The prospects of the coming harvest in this district were reported as follows: Wheat in fair condition, and likely to be beyond the average yield; oats light; barley requires rain.

Ripon, Thursday.—English wheat has an upward tendency, and made 1s per qr. more money. A moderate attendance. English wheat, 33s 6d to 34s; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; oats, 19s to 21s; round maize, 26s to 26s; flat maize, 27s to 27s 6d.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 496lb.; old white oats, 16s to 17s; new ditto, 13s to 14s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; beans, 15s to 16s per 496lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Small attendance, many farmers having commenced harvesting. A large amount of old oats has been cut. Old oats are almost exhausted. The reports respecting the prospects of this season's crops are very encouraging, barley being particularly promising. Old oats, 21s to 24s; wheat, 32s to 33s; barley, 28s to 28s 3d; beans, 32s to 33s per quarter.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, which held for full prices. Barley and oats unchanged. Arrivals nil. E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—Wheat, white, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; red ditto, 33s 6d to 34s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; English oats, 19s to 21s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little business doing. Very small supply of wheat, and new supply waited for by buyers, who will be ready for it as soon as it can be got upon the market. No alterations in price.

Winchester, Saturday.—Wheat in fair demand at fully last week's rates; barley and maize a shade dearer on the week; oats unaltered; flour steady at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small attendance and very little doing at market; farmers' wheat about exhausted; reds nominally 34s; oats 20s 6d to 21s 6d; other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Poor attendance. White wheat, 32s to 33s; red ditto, 31s to 32s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 21s to 22s; black oats, 20s to 21s; flat maize, 27s to 28s; round maize, 27s to 28s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—But little home-grown grain offering; best samples quoted at 32s 6d to 33s 6d per quarter; secondary, 30s to 31s; foreign, 33s to 34s; oats, white, 16s 3d to 21s 6d; black ditto, 17s 3d to 20s 3d; Irish black, 17s 9d to 18s 3d; best barley, 28s to 30s; secondary, 22s 6d to 25s; foreign grinding, 20s 6d; maize, round, 24s 6d to 25s; ditto, flat, 23s to 24s; beans, 32s 6d to 36s; yre, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; tares, winter, 4s7 6d to 52s; spring ditto, 40s to 42s 6d. Flour in quiet demand, superfine sellnig at from 26s 6d to 28s, and fine 23s 6d to 26s. Offals continue to sell well, bran making more.

York, Saturday.—There was practically no wheat left in this district. On the market prices are unchanged. Fine white, 32s to 33s; red and mixed, 31s to 32s per quarter of 36 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats stead; white Tartary, 18s to 19s; black, 19s to 20s; short oats, 20s to 21s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 7½d per stone; beans, 10d to 11d.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather has been rather unsettled the last week, but is improving now, with glasses rising. Prospects in Germany remain quite satisfactory, but much depends upon the weather at harvest time, as cutting of barley will likely not commence before early next month, and the same may be said of the Bohemian and Moravian districts; whilst in Hungary the crop is practically finished. As regards quantity it has turned out quite satisfactory, but quality varies a good deal, principally in colour.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday. — Daily thunderstorms caused some anxiety about the rye crop, and prices advanced. Reports respecting other cereals continue satisfactory. Root crops are decidedly benefiting from the rainy weather. Wheat little inquired after. The growing crop looks promising; 60-61 Ko. Mecklenburg and Saale new crop; August September delivery is offering at 32s to 32s 6d per 504lb.; 80 Ko. River Plate prompt is held at 30s 9d to 31s; American Hard Winter No. 2 and Red Winter No. 2, August-September, 30s 6d; 78-79 Ko. Danubian 2 per cent., 29s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Russian rye ready for shipment from hence is in demand at 24s 3d to 24s 9d; 9 15-20 South Russian, July shipment, is selling at 23s 6d; August-September is held at 23s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. According to special reports respecting the new crop of barley, there are good prospects in the Saale districts, there being a large quantity and well filled grains; if the present rainy weather does not last too long we may expect fine quality. From Bohemia and Moravia reports are varying, harvest will be later than last year, and the result in general scarcely so good. Samples of Slovakian barley show a stout grain and varying colour; but these first samples are of little use; it will yet take a few weeks till reliable samples of actual parcels can come forward. In Northern Germany and in Denmark the crops so far have a good appearance. Feeding barley meets more attention; 60-61 Ko South Russian, July, is selling at 18s 9d; August, 17s per 100lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize on the spot continues scarce. Mixed and River Plate costs 23s 9d to 24s 3d; July-August, 23s to 23s 3d per 180lb. c.i.f.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—In provincial markets wheat prices are firmly maintained, and the few offers are quite sufficient to meet millers' requirements. Business is very calm at the Bourse de Commerce. In view of the return of fine weather and less pessimistic reports as to the state of the crops buyers are reserved, and term prices have fallen from 5c. to 20c. for flour, and from 5c. to 10c. for wheat. Rye quiet, unaltered. New home-grown wheat will not appear on the Paris market so soon as was expected, as the work of harvesting has been retarded by laid fields; the fields left standing are very fine. Business, meanwhile, is very quiet; in spot wheat holders are asking an average rise of 25c. per 100 kilos, but millers are buying hardly anything so that this increased quotation is merely nominal. Oats: The stocks at Paris only amount to 4,140 qrs., not sufficient for one day's consumption; this is making shorts nervous, and the price of current parcels exceeded 20f. to-day. The demand for barley should soon become brisk, as stocks are exhausted. Maize market steady at late prices.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are so out of favour that their holders, making a grace of necessity, quote a firm market. The four recorded transactions include arrived Australian at 31s. 9d. per 480 lb., White Calcutta on passage at 30s. 9d. per 492 lb., and Argentine for prompt shipment at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are firmer for near futures. The sales include American at 22s. 9d. per 480 lb., and Argentine at 23s. 3d. nearly due, 23s. due in a month (sailer), and 22s. 9d. prompt shipment. By a fast steamer, 23s. would be demanded.

Barley cargoes are quiet, but 17s. 6d. per 400 lb. is a price which tempts purchasers of the new crop, for October shipment from Russia.

Other cargo sales include White Liban oats at 15s. 3d. per 304 lb., Smyrna beans at 30s. per 480 lb., Calcutta linseed at 40s. 3d. per 410 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £5 16s. 3d. per ton.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. and I. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta 30s. 6d., Soft Red Calcutta 30s. 3d., Bombay Soft White Delhi 31s. 6d., Karachi Soft White Delhi 31s. 6d., Soft White Karachi 30s., Choice White Karachi 30s. 6d., Soft Red Karachi 29s. 9d. These prices are all per 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Bahia Blanca, 1 Brisbane, 2 Melbourne, and 1 Sydney), 2 linseed (1 Buenos Aires and 1 Rosario); total 8.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 7 wheat (1 Belfast, 1 Birkenhead, 1 Bristol, 1 Dublin, 1 Hamburg, 2 London), 2 linseed (1 Dunkirk, 1 Hull); total 9.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 233 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 34 linseed; total 304.

Last week during the same time the arrivals were 122 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 30 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 17 linseed, and 1 canaryseed; total 198.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGE.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Wheat ..... 28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley ..... 24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats ..... 17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS. IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 22, 1905:—

Wheat	2,668,600 cwts.
Wheat-flour	158,900 ,,
Barley	76,100 ,,
Oats	495,800 ,,
Maize	612,700 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,509,600	2,1[illegible]0,992	2,165,550	1,260,100
Wheat-flour	191,000	300,993	317,289	382,400
Barley	231,900	3[illegible]4,495	100,418	91,900
Oats	311,7[illegible]0	727,555	332,553	537,500
Maize	729,500	1,103,365	993,145	1,093,600

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 22, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	33,088	29	3	194[illegible]	24	4	3,335[illegible]	19	9
1901	18,297[illegible]	27	3	206[illegible]	22	1	2,3[illegible]5[illegible]	19	4
1902	11,627	31	5	44	25	0	1,219[illegible]	22	8
1903	17,224[illegible]	28	7	558[illegible]	20	10	6,385[illegible]	18	5
1904	15,648[illegible]	27	7	581[illegible]	18	10	6,711[illegible]	17	6

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR. NETT EX MILL. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	32	0
May 31	,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	26	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	5	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	28	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	1,477,000	1,690,000	1,[illegible]05,000
Barley	,, ...	424,000	633,000	575,000
Oats	,, ...	531,000	568,000	365,000
Maize	,, ...	256,000	508,000	460,000
Flour	sacks ...	770,000	803,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,, ...	87,000	115,000	53,000
Oats	,, ...	334,000	388,000	254,000
Maize	,, ...	80,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks ...	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION. CREDIT AND DELIVERY. OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

		London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September	1 ..... (per sack)	31	0	..... (per sack)	28	0
October	10 ..... (,,)	31	6	..... (,,)	28	6
,,	19 ..... (,,)	31	0	..... (,,)	28	0
March	31 ..... (,,)	30	6	..... (,,)	27	6
May	3 ..... (,,)	30	3	..... (,,)	27	3
June	7 ..... (,,)	30	0	..... (,,)	27	0

No change since last date given.

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	6
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	4

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 23	15,643[illegible]	27	7	581[illegible]	18	10	6,711[illegible]	17	6
,, 30	21,778[illegible]	28	0	609[illegible]	19	9	8,046[illegible]	17	10
Aug. 6	22,575[illegible]	28	3	591[illegible]	19	9	8,891[illegible]	17	10
,, 13	16,784[illegible]	28	4	468[illegible]	19	9	8,117[illegible]	17	7
,, 20	19,200[illegible]	28	8	1,646[illegible]	22	5	19,032[illegible]	16	5
,, 27	31,432[illegible]	29	5	4,701[illegible]	23	2	26,042[illegible]	16	7
Sept. 3	32,921[illegible]	30	2	12,370[illegible]	25	3	31,507	16	3
,, 10	46,116[illegible]	30	0	22,400[illegible]	24	10	31,336	16	1
,, 17	51,889[illegible]	29	7	45,918[illegible]	24	9	37,554[illegible]	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	89,697[illegible]	25	10	42,524[illegible]	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534[illegible]	29	10	119,553[illegible]	25	5	44,796[illegible]	15	8
,, 8	54,607[illegible]	30	2	153,230[illegible]	25	3	43,575[illegible]	15	9
,, 15	45,462[illegible]	30	5	185,031[illegible]	25	4	34,509[illegible]	15	8
,, 22	45,960[illegible]	30	4	213,190[illegible]	25	5	31,445[illegible]	15	11
,, 29	47,947[illegible]	30	6	221,044[illegible]	24	11	29,704[illegible]	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313[illegible]	30	6	205,816[illegible]	25	0	35,145[illegible]	16	0
,, 12	43,740[illegible]	30	3	204,446[illegible]	24	6	32,320[illegible]	15	11
,, 19	41,025[illegible]	30	2	178,529[illegible]	24	5	31,299[illegible]	16	0
,, 26	41,359[illegible]	30	5	177,969[illegible]	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942[illegible]	30	4	166,809[illegible]	24	6	35,831[illegible]	16	2
,, 10	50,718[illegible]	30	4	165,257[illegible]	24	4	36,63[illegible]	16	2
,, 17	44,745[illegible]	30	4	130,563[illegible]	24	4	35,950[illegible]	16	2
,, 24	33,336[illegible]	30	3	99,997[illegible]	24	7	28,916[illegible]	16	1
,, 31	21,163[illegible]	30	4	60,817[illegible]	24	8	18,466[illegible]	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757[illegible]	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230[illegible]	16	3
,, 14	39,617[illegible]	30	4	78,964	24	6	34,754[illegible]	16	3
,, 21	45,646[illegible]	30	5	90,469[illegible]	25	0	32,957[illegible]	16	5
,, 28	48,869[illegible]	30	6	89,49[illegible]	25	1	41,662[illegible]	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442[illegible]	30	6	75,347[illegible]	25	0	41,486[illegible]	16	7
,, 11	50,58[illegible]	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080[illegible]	16	8
,, 18	44,495[illegible]	30	5	61,753[illegible]	25	2	36,643[illegible]	16	9
,, 25	42,165[illegible]	30	10	39,509[illegible]	25	0	30,647[illegible]	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188[illegible]	30	8	40,477[illegible]	25	2	30,957[illegible]	16	10
,, 11	38,118[illegible]	30	9	23,418[illegible]	25	2	24,396[illegible]	16	10
,, 18	31,[illegible]69	30	10	18,442[illegible]	24	11	20,279[illegible]	16	10
,, 25	32,371[illegible]	30	9	17,428[illegible]	25	2	18,910[illegible]	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,239[illegible]	25	1	17,703[illegible]	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104[illegible]	25	6	15,660[illegible]	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	28,984[illegible]	30	8	2,87[illegible]	24	4	14,871[illegible]	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185[illegible]	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183[illegible]	30	8	3,014[illegible]	25	3	11,57[illegible]	18	0
,, 13	53,446[illegible]	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350[illegible]	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,008[illegible]	24	8	8,803[illegible]	18	5
,, 27	21,508[illegible]	30	11	761[illegible]	24	4	9,017[illegible]	18	8
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	6	5,942[illegible]	19	1
,, 10	16,685[illegible]	31	4	247[illegible]	24	0	6,115[illegible]	18	11
,, 17	12,819[illegible]	31	7	1,171[illegible]	26	0	3,59[illegible]	19	1
,, 24	11,57[illegible]	31	7	145[illegible]	23	9	3,031[illegible]	18	11
July 1	9,579[illegible]	31	4	289[illegible]	23	2	3,48[illegible]	19	7
,, 8	7,8[illegible]	32	1	87[illegible]	22	11	2,532[illegible]	19	6
,, 15	4,864[illegible]	32	3	31[illegible]	23	10	1,962[illegible]	19	7
,, 22	6,558[illegible]	32	2	52[illegible]	23	7	2,45[illegible]	18	11

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 22, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	6,558[illegible] qrs.	32s.	2d.
Barley	52[illegible] qrs.	23s.	7d.
Oats	2,434 qrs.	18s.	11d

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 12 to 19, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	166	55,000	55,166
Barley	450	4	454
Malt	22,9[illegible]4	...	22,924
Oats	300	96,400	96,700
Beans	560	500	1,060
Peas	46	2,000	2,046
Maize	...	37,924	37,924
Linseed	...	4,233	4,233
Rapeseed	...	287	287
Farmseeds	..	2,341	2,341
Tares	25	...	25
Rye	...	1,000	1,000
Dari	...	1,338	1,338
Haricots	...	2,654	2,654
Flour sacks	59,600	37,800	67,400
Middlings	..	2,000	2,000
Maizemeal	...	2,332	2,332
Ricemeal	...	40,000	40,000

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 18, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat ...	23	2	37	10	0	1	12	3
Barley ...	Nil.							
Oats ...	19	3	19	7	0	1	0	0

EGGS.

(Prices are 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11 to 12. Boston: 13. Colne: 1s. per score. Dorchester: 11½ to 12 per 4 z. Goole: 12 and 13. Hereford: 12 and 13. Holsworthy: 13. Keighley: 12 and 13. Kirkby-moorside: 12 and 13. Knaresborough: 12. Louth: 13. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Market Weighton: 13 or 14. Newton Abbot: 13 per dozen. Northallerton: 12 or 13. Truro: 2d per dozen. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d per score. Worksop: 1s 2d per score.

CATTLE.

Thursday.—Axminster: 11 to 12. Barnsley: 11 and 12. Brigg: 11 to 13. Driffield: 11 and 12. Devizes: 12 to 13. Evesham: 12d to 1s; per doz. Kidderminster: 14. Northtawton: 12. Penzance: 9d to 11d per doz. Penrith: 13. Ripon: 13 or 14. Scarborough: 11. Wetherby: 13 to 14.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Cullompton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Helmsley: 11d to 1s 1d. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 12d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Redruth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per 24 ounce roll. Richmond: 1s 2d. Austell: 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Sandbach: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 2d to 1s 6d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitchurch: 1s to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11d to 1s. Berwick: 11d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 11d to 1s. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Howden: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Malton: 10d to 1s. Pontefract: 1s 1d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 1d. Skipton: 10½d to 1s. Stokesley: 11d to 1s. Whitby: 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

MILK.

London, Saturday.—Week ending July 21.—The prices of milk has been firm, prices ranging from 7d to 1s 2d per imperial gallon, the average price being about 8d per gallon. — THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

BUTTER.

(Prices are at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Boston: 1s to 1s 2d. Colne: 1s 0½d. Dorchester: 11d to 1s 1d. Goole: 1s to 1s 1d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Kirbymoorside: 10d to 1s. Knaresborough: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24oz. roll. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Weighton: 1s 6d to 1s 10d per 24oz. roll. Truro: 8d to 10d. Uttoxeter: 11d to 1s. Worksop: 1s. Keighley: 1s to 1s 2d; Louth, 11d to 1s; Holsworthy: 1s 4d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 11d. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d. Driffield: 10d to 11d. Devizes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Evesham: 1s to 1s 0½d. Kidderminster: 1. Northtawton: 1s. Penistone: 11½. Penzance: 9d to 11d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

Friday.—Ashburton: 10 and 11. Altrincham: 10. Barnstaple: 14. Camelford: 10d per dozen. Derby: 12. Helmsley: 14. Leyburn: 13 or 14. Lincoln: 13 to 15. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 10 and 11. Redruth: 9d per dozen. St. Austell: 14. Stockport: 10 and 11. Tavistock: 12 to 13. Totnes: 10d to 11d per dozen. Otley: 12 or 13. Whitchurch: 13 and 14.

Saturday.—Appleby: 12 and 13. Berwick: 10d to 11d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 12. Carlisle: 12 and 13. Doncaster: 12 to 14. Grantham: 14 and 15. Howden: 13 and 14. Lancaster: 10 and 11. Malton: 12 to 14. Pontefract: 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 12 and 13. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Skipton: 12 and 13. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 12. Worcester: 12. York: 10 to 12.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals of cheese at the Glasgow market were free this week. There was a fair trade passing, especially in Dunlop cheese, full prices being obtained. Cheddars were almost neglected. Cheddars and Dunlops were priced from 46s to 52s per cwt. Canadians attracted sparse attendance, home parcels being reckoned better value.

Newport, Wednesday. — A fair demand and an average attendance. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 42s to 46s per cwt; fancy dairies, 43s to 48s; truckles, 43s to 68s; doubles, 40s to 42s; Derbys, 50s to 54s. A supply of ten tons was pitched.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—The slight depression noticed in the market last week seems to have passed off, and there is now a better feeling in regard to trade; 1s 9d is given for best lots of Kent fleeces, 8d for lamb wool, 1s 0½d for half-bred fleeces, while Downs make from 1s 1d to 1s 1½d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—Business for the raw material is quiet, and there is some change in price in favour of the buyer. The decline is attributed, in part, to the receipt of American purchases are not leaving this side. While merinos and fine cross-breds are almost unchanged, coarse cross-breds are lower, and have brought down the value of home grown wool.

London, Saturday.—English per pkge.: 4 [illegible]—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £[illegible] to £14; [illegible] to [illegible] 12s, £12 10s to £13; half-bred wethers, £[illegible] to £13; Kent fleeces; £12 to £12 5s; South Downs ewes and wethers, £12 to £13 10s; Leicester do., £12 to £12 10s; Colonial—per lb. Vic., Fleece, super., 1s 1[illegible]d to 1s 1[illegible]d; super. good, 1s 1[illegible]d to 1s 2d; super. average, 1s 1[illegible]d to 1s 2[illegible]d; fair; 1s 1[illegible]d to 1s 2[illegible]d; N.S.W., super. average, 1s 2[illegible]d to 1s 2[illegible]d; greasy average, 11d to 1s 1[illegible]d; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., super. average, 1s 2[illegible]d to 1s 3d; greasy average, 1[illegible]d to 11½d; Cape, super. average, 1s 2[illegible]d to 1s 3d; fleece average, 1s 1[illegible]d to 1s 2[illegible]d; greasy average, 9[illegible]d to 10d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 9[illegible]d to 9½d; crossbreds grs. Vic., good to super., 1s 1[illegible]d to 1s 2d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 2[illegible]d to 1s 3d; fine medium, 1s 0[illegible]d to 1s 1d; fair to good, 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

York, Thursday.—Only a moderate supply, the majority of which had been forward last week, but not the number of new sheets promised, prevented large figures. Trade continued quiet at about 5d per stone reduction upon last week's prices. Good bred hoggs, 13s 6d to 14s; good bred ewes, 12s 6d to 13s; cross-bred ewes, 11s 6d per stone of 14lb.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The brilliant sunshine of the past week has brought us to the very gates of the wheat harvest. The Lammas-loaf of our forefathers was an offering on a day coincident not with us August 1, but with August 10th and 11th. This year it will be quite easy to offer loaves of new wheat on the 10th prox., for plenty of wheat will be in sheaf by the 1st. The yield should be good in quality, as well as 10 per cent. above the average in quantity. On a total wheat area of 1,800,000 acres, we may anticipate perhaps a yield of 7,650,000 qr., and there are some reasons for believing that the area actually under cultivation is rather larger than 1,800,000 acres. The acreage returns, however, will be available in August, so that estimates can well tarry until then.

The Buff Book Code, 2594, which was issued on the 19th inst., gives us some useful particulars of what markets are noted for good prices and what exchanges are, unfortunately, of an opposite repute. We also learn that certain markets are ceasing to sell corn. These, happily, are very few in number, but, of course, our regret is that there should be any. We have however, to mention Kendal, Cardigan, and Garstang. English wheat sales now exceed 100,000 qr. a year—at Norwich, 111,601 qr., and at Peterborough 103,299 qr. They exceed 50,000 qr. at Mark Lane, 61,141 qr. at Chelmsford, 73,974 qr. at Ely, 50,914 qr. Cambridge, 73,761 qr. Lincoln and Hull, 76,388 qr. London business has not declined, but the actual market structure is altogether inconvenient and behind the times, with the result that there has been a great increase in the business done in offices and also by telephone. Of such business our readers hear, through our market reports, but the Government inspector gets no particulars of actual sales; to these he is only entitled where the grain was sold on the actual market.

English barley sales now exceed 100,000 qr. at the following markets:—Ipswich, Norwich, Lynn, Lincoln, and Berwick. Of these exchanges Norwich is easily the chief. London sells 53,711 qr. of barley.

Oats are a bigger business in London than anywhere else, and 127,372 qr. have been sold in the past twelve months on the actual market. Other large markets for oats are Colchester, Ipswich, Yarmouth, Norwich, Salisbury, Devizes, Lynn, Spalding, Basingstoke, Boston, Lincoln, Peterborough, Chichester, and Wisbech, but none of them compare for a moment with London. London and Lincoln are good markets for English pulse, London and Chelmsford for English rye.

With respect to prices, the best for wheat have been realised at Mark Lane, Chelmsford, Ipswich, Birmingham, Farnham, Kingston, Canterbury, Maidstone, and Leicester, while exceptionally low values seem to rule in the districts of Peterborough, Spalding, Brigg, Wadebridge, and Truro.

Barley fetches satisfactory prices in the districts of Halesworth, Reading, Guildford, Rochester, Maidstone, and Hertford, but is exceedingly disappointing in price in the regions represented by Cheltenham, Warminster, Plymouth, Truro, Wadebridge, Dorchester, Banbury, Hull, and, we regret to add, Mark Lane.

Oats usually sell well in London, but during the last twelve months local demand has been exceptionally good, and the London average has been exceeded at Uxbridge, Halesworth, Melton Mowbray, Coventry, Birmingham, Warwick, Stratford-on-Avon, Oxford, Bicester, Aylesbury, Abingdon, Wallingford, Farnham, Guildford, Redhill, Kingston, Croydon, Rochester, Canterbury, Ashford, Maidstone, Tunbridge, Lewes, Horsham, Southampton, Plymouth, Oakhampton, Bath, Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Ross, Hereford, Evesham, Worcester, Oswestry, Burton, Derby, Sheffield, Ripon, Northallerton, Darlington, Stockton, Newcastle, Alnwick, Berwick, Carlisle, Penrith, Wrexham, Welshpool, and Cardiff.

It is evident that unless London wishes to lose its trade in barley of home growth it must bid a little better price for it, while the metropolitan average for oats, though not unreasonably low in itself, clearly is ceasing to be high enough, a long list of other places where London is outbid being, as we have just seen, disclosed. The foreign oats do not satisfy the owners of valuable horses or supply enough vim for the horses which are very hard worked in the London streets. Consequently English oats are deserving of a better price than London is at present willing to pay for them. The warning of the new Government return should not be neglected.

Sales of English wheat at the statute markets since September 1 have been as follows:—

This season, 1,592,000 qrs. at 28s 9d per qr.
Last season, 2,005,000 qrs. at 27s 1d per qr.

The rise of 1s. 7d. on the year is gratifying

Sales of English barley at the same list of markets have been as indicated:—

This season, 3,132,000 qrs. at 24s 9d per qr.
Last season, 2,772,000 qrs. at 22s 1d per qr.

Sales of oats thus compare:—

This season, 1,125,000 qrs. at 17s 0d per qr.
Last season, 1,006,000 qrs. at 16s 3d per qr.

The imports of the week were as follows:—

Wheat, 563,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Flour, 56,520 sacks; a very small arrival.
Barley, 27,000 qrs.; a very small arrival.
Oats, 196,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Maize, 144,000 qrs.; two-thirds of an average.

The total imports since September 1 have been:—

Wheat, 21,200,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Flour, 3,960,220 sacks; the smallest for twenty years.
Barley, 5,492,000 qrs.; mediocre supplies.
Oats, 5,432,000 qrs.; fair supplies.
Maize, 8,606,000 qrs.; small supplies.

Imports of beans since harvest have been:—

This season	339,000 qrs.
Last season	442,000 qrs.

Imports of peas this season thus compare with last cereal year:—

1904-5	393,000 qrs.
1903-4	441,000 qrs.

The falling off is chiefly in Canadian, Australian, and New Zealand peas; Indian and Dutch sorts have arrived in reasonable quantity.

Stocks of wheat in granary are thus computed:—

In farmers' hands	675,000 qrs.
In merchants' hands	2,817,000 qrs.
Total	3,492,000 qrs.

The supply of wheat on passage shows little change from a week ago.

American	78,000 qrs.
Russian	315,000 qrs.
Indian	940,000 qrs.
Argentine	690,000 qrs.
Australasian	647,000 qrs.
Various	50,000 qrs.
Total	2,720,000 qrs.

The quantity of flour on passage has sunk to the all but unprecedentedly low quantity of 122,000 sacks.

Of maize, the quantity on passage exceeds an average, but the supply on spot is so small that the price of the staple has again hardened.

Flat corn	300,000 qrs. on passage.
Yellow corn	600,000 qrs. on passage.
Round corn	30,000 qrs. on passage.
Total maize	930,000 qrs. on passage.

Of Barley, 165,000 qr. are on passage—100,000 qr. of Russian, 10,000 qr. of Californian, 35,000 qr. of Smyrna, 10,000 qr. of Roumanian, and 10,000 qr. of Persian.

Of oats, 517,000 qr. of linseed, 212,000 qr., and of cottonseed, 210,000 tons are on passage.

America reports that the winter wheat is in good condition, the harvest weather is almost too hot, and farmers find the labour of actual harvesting excessive. The shipments last week were 31,000 qr. of wheat, 7,000 qr. of barley, 11,000 qr. of oats, 93,000 qr. of maize, and 26,000 sacks of flour.

Argentina is shipping more maize than ever, but of wheat she is not sending off quite as much as before. Latest returns are:—Wheat, 242,000 qr., maize, 472,000 qr.; and linseed, 28,000 qr.

Russia has still a wonderful reserve of old wheat, but the maize, barley, and oat reserves are at last showing signs of exhaustion. Last week's exports were:—Wheat, 563,000 qr.; barley, 110,000 qr.; oats, 216,000 qr.; and maize, 21,000 qr. Roumania added 95,000 qr. of wheat and 7,000 qr. of barley. Roumanian produce approximates closely with Russian in its general characteristics and market value.

Other shipments of the week were 217,000 qr. of wheat, and 20,000 qr. of linseed, from India; 14,000 qr. of wheat, from New Zealand; 14,000 qr. of maize, from European Turkey.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit and greenstuffs in season in plentiful and steady demand. Quotations for English stock: Apples, 8s to 0s per bushel; grapes 9d to 3s 6d; peaches, 1s 6d to 12s per dozen; green figs, 1s to 3s 6d; nectarines, 2s to 15s per dozen; greengages, 8d to 1s per box; cherries, 3s to 10s 6d; gooseberries, 2s 6d to 4s; black currants, 3s to 5s 6d; re delitto, 3s to 5s per half sieve; apricots, 3d to 10d per box; ditto, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per half sieve; melons, 1s to 3s each; tomatoes, 2s to 4s 6d; beans, 2s 6d to 3s; scarlet runners, 2s 6d to 3s per half sieve; broad beans, 9d to 1s per bushel; carrots, 1s 6d to 3s; turnips, 2s to 4s; mint, 1s 6d to 3s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; radishes, 4d to 5d per dozen bunches; cabbages, 3s to 5s; vegetable marrows, 3s 6d to 5s per tally; green onions, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 6s to 12s per 12lb.; beetroots, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; green peas, 2s to 4s 6d per bag; ditto, 2s to 3s 6d per bushel; cos lettuce, 6d to 10d per score; cauliflowers, 1s to 3s; cucumbers, 1s to 3s; endive, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; horseradish, 2s to 10s 6d per dozen bundles; potatoes, 4s to 6s 6d per cwt.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 24.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Harvest was stated to be in active progress round London, and as far north as Coltishall and Horstead, beyond Norwich. The crops being cut are rye, winter oats and barley, and a few fields of early October-sown wheat. Farmers are in good spirits. English produce to-day was almost off the market, but a few samples of wheat, rye, and oats were still to be met with, and these made at least former prices. Foreign wheat barely made the terms of the 21st, but maize was scarce on spot, and, if anything, rather dearer from Friday. The buyers of foreign barley and oats expected 3d. to 6d. decline, but did not obtain it, save in a very few cases. Of linseed, the buyers were willing to pay old prices, while several holders asked for 6d. rise. Oilcakes were strongly held. No fresh business was reported in beans, peas, millet, or dari.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS.

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	35	— 37
Red	,,	34	— 36
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	none	
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	none	
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 23
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 38
Brown	,,	25	— 30
Black	,,	30	— 32
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	22	— 23
Old Black Winter	,,	none	
Old Grey Winter	,,	none	
Old Black Tartary	,,	none	
,,	(per 320 lb.)	19	— 20
New Winter ,,	(per 336 lb.)	19	— 21
,, Black Tartary	,,	19	— 20
,,	(per 312 lb.)	18	— 19
,,	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
New (Light) ,,	(per 480 lb.)	24	— 25
RYE	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
BEANS, Mazagan	,,	40	— 42
Pigeon	,,	38	— 40
Tick	,,	33	— 34
Winter	,,	32	— 33
Spring	,,	52	— 72
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	40	— 50
New Unpicked ,,	,,	44	— 46
Partridge	,,	30	— 31
Dun	,,	33	— 35
Maple	,,	72	— 82
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	56	— 64
(English ,,)	,,	48	— 52
(Winter)	,,	40	— 44
(Spring)	,,	30	— 31
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)		

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
M'toba Best White	36	— 37
,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 34
Australian	32	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	33	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	30	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 20 6
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	20	— 24
Smyrna (448 lb.)	29	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	21	— 23
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
French	24	— 25
Russian	23	— 24
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	27	— 28
Turkish	26	— 27
Morocco	25	— 26
Indian	25	— 26
American	24	— 25
Argentine	24	— 25
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15/6	— 16
Revel (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Turkish (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	32	— 34
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	34	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Grain	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	40	— 41
Red	22	— 10
Yellow	19	— 20
Sorghum	18	— 19
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	29	— 30
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

AMERICAN ADVICES COME FIRMER FROM LAST WEEK, BUT THE LONDON TRADE WAS LITTLE AFFECTED THEREBY. EVERYTHING WAS, AND CLOSED, A DULL TRADE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE BRILLIANT SUMMER WEATHER.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 24.

There were few buyers to-day, but for Town Whites, at 28s. cash; Town Households, 25s. cash; whole meal, 26s; best and country whites, 24s. per sack, there was, after all, more inquiry than we have known at some July markets. The trade, though lethargic, was hardly to be styled depressed. America cabled offers to ship new north-western flour, in October, at 30s. c.f.i., but this is a florin above the ideas of the average buyer. Iron Duke, at a guinea, cash or spot, sold quietly. Kansas offers to ship new flour from winter wheat, at 24s. 6d. in August. There are buyers at 24s. c.f.i. Hungarian, French, and Australian flour holders asked old terms, but seldom got them. Argentine flour was steady. There was also a steady market for bran middlings, Pollard and Farina.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31	0
Town Whites	"	28	0
" Households	"	25	0
No. 2	"	22	0
Whole Meal No. 1	"	26	0
" No. 2	"	24	0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	"	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	"	23 — 24
Best Stone made	"	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 — 31
" Second Patents	"	29 — 30
" First Bakers'	"	21 — 22
" Second Bakers'	"	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	"	29 — 30
" Bakers'	"	21 — 22
Californian	"	26 — 27
Canadian	"	29 — 31
Russian	"	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	"	32 — 33
" 1	"	31 — 32
" 2	"	30 — 31
" 3	"	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	"	24 — 25
" Renaux	"	23 — 24
" P.S.D.	"	21 — 22
Australian	"	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	"	27 — 28
" 1st Grade	"	26 — 27
" 2nd Grade	"	25 — 26
" Common	"	20 — 21
" "Saturno"	"	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
" Country Flake Choice	"	13	— 14
" " Broad	"	11	— 12
Pollard	"	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	"	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	"	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	"	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	"	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	"	27	— 28
" Seconds	"	25	— 26
Barley Meal	"	14	— 15
Canadian Oatmeal	"	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	"	34	— 35
Groats	"	34	— 35
Oat Flour	"	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	"	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	"	14	— 15
Maize Flour	"	18	— 20
" Germ Meal	"	13	— 14
" Cones	"	18	— 19
" Gluten Meal	"	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	"	21	— 22
" (Konigsberg)	"	18	— 19
Rye Meal	"	17	— 18
Pea Meal	"	19	— 20
Bean Meal	"	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	"	15	— 16
Rice Meal	"	9/9	— 10
Rice Flour	"	20	— 22
Rice Cones	"	18	— 20
Ground Rice	"	22	— 23
Feeding Rice	"	17	— 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

Argentine	6s. 6d.	July delivery.
No. 2 American Red	6s. 10d.	" "
" "	6s. 9d.	Sept. "
" "	6s. 8d.	Dec. "

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 11d.	July delivery.
"	4s. 11d.	Aug. "
"	4s. 10d.	Sept. "
"	4s. 9d.	Oct. "

These are not official prices, but will, we believe, be found practically correct. Official quotations, we hear, are likely to be resumed very shortly.

Wheat (American red winter) is quoted to-day 6s. 10d for September, and 6s. 9d. for December, while American mixed maize is quoted 4s. 11d. for August, and 4s. 10d. for October delivery. Trade is dull.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour, owing to strong American advices, is held for 6d. to 1s. per sack advance. Grain. Indian corn firm at 14s. 1½d. to 14s. 3d. per 280 lb. Oats are in large supply, and prices in buyers' favour. Barley and peas firm. Beans in retail demand at unchanged prices. Mill Stuffs. Bran rather better. Thirds in excellent demand. MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour. Trade continues quiet, and prices nominally unchanged. Offals.—Bran generally quiet. For immediate shipment prices unchanged; higher prices, however, are being quoted for forward delivery.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

The arrivals of foreign wheat are again large; the trade is firm, and last Monday's prices are maintained. Flour is steady in value. Maize 3d. per qr. dearer. Barley unchanged. Oats 3d. per qr. lower.—COVENTRY.

Owing to the sharp rise in America, holders of flour generally ask an advance of 3d. to 6d., except for bakers' qualities, which remain as last quoted. A quiet business is all that can be recorded.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS (Mark Lane).

Milling offals are unchanged in price from last week, with a better demand for middlings.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO. (Mark Lane).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: There is no change to report in prices, either for foreign or home made, trade being just as quiet, though a few buyers prefer to secure parcels ready for delivery and store rather than pay what is asked for future deliveries. Cotton cake: Quiet and unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Inquiry keeps brisk and values are again higher. Linseed: Demand is better but no alteration in the market.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 12 6	to 7 15	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
" Western "	ex quay			
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay			
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 5 0	to 7 12	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 15 0	to 6 17	6
" " Meal	ex quay	6 15 0		
London-made " Cake (best)	ex mill	4 12 6		
Egyptian " " (in bags)	ex quay	4 10 0		
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton		4 17 6		
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 8 0		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 3 0		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs	ex warehouse	2 2 0	to 2 6	0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse			
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.				
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London				
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)				
Bombay " " "				
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.				

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are quiet, in smaller lots or "parcels" (i.e., 100 to 500 tons) there is a trifle more doing from Saturday. All cargoes of oil-seeds, barley, oats, and maize are a quiet sale, and prices are hardly so good as at Saturday's close.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Azoff, 33s per 492lb., August shipment; No. 2 Hard Winter, 30s 9d per 480lb., August shipment; Australian, 31s 6d per 480lb., arrived; Bahia Blanca, 31s per 504lb., on passage.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480lb., on passage; American, 23s per 480lb., on passage.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s 9d per 400lb., on passage; Azoff, 17s 4½d per 400lb., October shipment; Kustendje, 18s 9d per 400lb., prompt shipment; Californian, 24s per 448lb., October shipment.

OATS.—Petersburg, 14s per 304lb., prompt shipment; Roumanian, 13s 3d per 304lb. September shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 30s per 480lb., August shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 40s 3d per 416lb., August shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 15s per 2,240lb., arrived.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,178 bales, and from foreign ports 13,158 bales. There was a very general recovery in bacon prices last week, and the market was a very steady one, although still a fair quantity of under-priced bacon pushed for sale. Prices ranged:—Irish, 58s to 65s up to 71s; Danish, 52s to 66s up to 71s; Canadian, 50s to 58s up to 63s. Butter: With the continued hot and dry weather, the butter market was very steady:—French, 86s to 104s; Danish, 114s to 115s; Russian, 90s to 100s; Irish, 93s to 106s; Colonials, 94s to 104s. Lard: The lard market was steady: Irish, 41s to 49s; Danish, 46s to 48s; American, 34s 9d to 36s 6d.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The Danish Committee has raised the Copenhagen Official Quotation by three kroner, and it now stands at 95, which is the highest at this time of the year since 1893. Unless a great change in the total imports of butter occurs, there seems no chance of lower values for some weeks, and it is very doubtful even then, as the time of year has gone by for any great increase in the production of butter in the Northern Hemisphere. Cheese: The hand-to-mouth method of buying still continues; but the volume of business this week is not quite so large as last week. Prices on spot, however, are virtually unaltered; but in Canadian values have advanced about 1s. per cwt. "Choicest" Canadian is making 49s to 50s per cwt., and "Choicest" New Zealand 54s to 56s for white, and 51s to 52s for coloured.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 24, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday July 25, 1904.
Beasts	1,100	1,100	1,500
Sheep and Lambs	7,709	7,709	7,709
Calves	30	30	—
Milch Cows	60	60	90

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 0d
Sheep	3s 8d	5s 2d	5s 10d
Lambs	5s 4d	6s 2d	6s 6d
Calves	3s 8d	4s 10d	5s 2d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 112; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 56; Devon, 30; Ireland, 123.

We note to-day an increase of 120 head in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day compared with Monday last; the supply as usual at this season of the year consisted principally of grass fed Herefords and Runts from the Midland Counties with a fair proportion of Irish, these latter consisting of 75 Dublins and 48 Waterfords, for which there was a very limited enquiry, with a downward tendency in value, although not quotably so. Trade for both prime and second quality English cattle was of a slow but steady nature, late currencies governing all transactions. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited enquiry, consequently 2d. per 8 lbs. less money had to be accepted to effect sales. A clearance is expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, July 25, 1904.
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Norfolks	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 0d to 4s 3d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was an increase of 100 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a slow but firm nature for anything small, heavy weights being extremely unsaleable. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions were in average supply, and met with a steady enquiry at last Monday's values. Amongst the latter arrivals were some lambs; these found a ready sale at a slight advance in value. English lambs met a firm trade at 2d. per 8 lbs. more money. The supply included 300 Scotch, 1,225 Irish, 500 Yorkshires, and 1,224 from Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex. A clearance is expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, July 25, 1904.
8 st Scotch	5s 8d to 5s 10d	—
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
9 st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
10 st Yorkshires	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
12 st Lincolns	—	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 8d to 3s 10d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6 st Half-bred Lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
6 st Irish ditto	6s 0d to 6s 2d	—

Calf trade slow, the best on offer being quoted at from 4s 10d to 5s 2d per 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies, moderate demand. Beef: Scotch, 4s to 4s 6d; English, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American, 3s 5d to 3s 9d. Mutton: Scotch, wethers, 4s 2d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English, wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; lambs, English, 5s to 6s; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal: English, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s to 4s. Pork: 3s 4d to 4s 2d per 8 lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 261; sheep and lambs, 1,737; pigs, 400. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 7s 7d to 8s 4d; lamb, 8d to 10d; pork, 5s 9d to 6s 6d. Fat and store cattle; sheep, and pigs fair demand. Milch cows short supply, fair demand; prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday. — Beasts, 682. To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed a decrease of 709, and consisted of 487 from the United States, and 195 from Canada. Trade was of a very slow nature, with a decline of 1d in regard to States beasts. Canadians slightly firmer. The best States on offer to dress from 720 lb. made 4s; seconds, 3s 10d. Canadians, 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8 lb. (sinking the offal). On Saturday the supply consisted of 1,832 from the United States and 423 from Canada, trade for which was slow at from 3s 9d to 4s for the former, and from 3s 8d to 3s 10d for the latter. Besides the above, 400 States and 700 Canadian were held back for Monday. 193 Canadian ewes were consigned, and were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—A larger supply of cattle in market to-day; demand very slow in sympathy with country markets, and prices lower. Sheep and lambs shown in about same numbers as on Monday last; demand slow. Small finished sheep made late rates. Lamb trade easier. Beef, 6½d to 5d; mutton, 8d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7d per lb. At market: 936 cattle and 11,733 sheep.

HOPS

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—There is a fair amount of business doing for the time of year, and stocks are getting into a small compass, at the same time market must be quoted in buyers' favour. The reports from the plantations are altogether favourable.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 4[illegible] to 5[illegible]; [illegible] new, 4½ to [illegible]; clover, old, 5[illegible] to [illegible]; [illegible] new, 4[illegible] to [illegible]; wheat straw, 4d to 1[illegible]d; oat ditto, 3[illegible] to [illegible] per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Good supplies were offered and met a good demand. Best old, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 85s; good ditto, 65s to 70s; inferior ditto, 45s to 55s; meadow and sainfoin, 67s to 75s; straw, 30s to 42s per load.

POTATOES.

York, Saturday.—A quiet trade on last year's potatoes owing to large consignments from Scotland and Lincolnshire which had the result of lowering prices. Quotations: 2s 6d per hamper of four score lb.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality, trade, practically confined to Monday, opened on that day very slowly at last week's quotations, and continued so throughout the day; the tendency in regard to value being in favour of the buyer in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. Fat butchering cows were in average supply, and met with a slow but steady inquiry from both town and country buyers, late currencies governing all transactions; bulls, on the other hand, met with little demand, notwithstanding a decline in value. The Irish arrivals consisted of 75 Dublin (10 of which were choice black-polled cattle and 22 Waterfords), for this class of cattle trade also ruled slow at late values. No stores were offered for sale.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, the arrivals were rather larger than last week, there being an increase in the supply from both Canada and the United States. Trade throughout the week was of an exceedingly slow nature, with a marked downward tendency in value. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,646, as against 4,249 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,000 British (increase 120) and 3,646 Foreign (increase 277); these latter comprising 3,038 from the United States and 608 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Downs, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 80 to 90 stone Black Polled Dublins, 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 9d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. The sheep trade at Islington was of a dull and dragging nature for both wethers and ewes, heavy descriptions meeting with no inquiry, a few small, choice quality sheep succeeded in maintaining the previous week's values, Yorkshires also met with a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. On the other hand, Scotch and Irish sold fairly well, all sales being governed by last week's quotations. Lambs were slightly in excess of the inquiry, salesmen consequently had to accept 2d. less money to effect sales. On Saturday at Deptford 193 Canadian ewes were offered for sale, and made a fair price. The total number penned at both markets was 4,883, as against 3,710 during the preceding week, consisting of 4,690 British and 193 from Canada. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d.; 12 stone Lincolns, 4s. 6d.; 9 stone Yorkshires, 4s. 6d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6 stone halfbred ditto., 6s.; 6 stone Irish ditto, 6s.; Canadian ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.

Calves were in full supply, and were quoted at from 4s. 10d. to 5s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

No pigs on the market.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer this week has been larger. Owing to the excessively hot weather trade has been a shade quieter, and prices on an average nearly 10s. a head lower. Fat cows in rather larger supply, and they maintained previous prices. For the season of year there was an average supply of sheep. Those of useful weights met a good inquiry, and prices were well maintained, but heavy weighted sheep were just the turn lower. Cheviot and black faced ewes, if of good quality, made rather more money. An exceedingly large supply of lambs. The high prices of the previous week were barely maintained, and in some cases a fall of 1s. to nearly 2s. a head had to be accepted. Fat calves met a rather better inquiry, and sold dearer. Pigs in moderate supply, and also dearer. The first of the store sheep and lamb sales was held at St. Boswells on Thursday. There was a large and exceedingly good show, although the quality was more mixed than usual. There was a very large attendance of buyers, and everything of good quality made satisfactory prices, but secondary descriptions were rather cheaper. There would be an average advance over the whole sale of fully 6d. per head. Very few store cattle on offer, and scarcely any sales effected. There was a fair show of milch cows, and they met a slow trade at prices £1 a head down from last week. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle, per live cwt., 38s. 7d.; current, from 30s. to 35s.; mutton, to fully 8½d. per lb. JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

The supply of cattle was a large one for that season of the year, but owing to scarcity of grass, condition was generally backward. The depleted pastures have much to say for so many cattle being sent in the market in such a half-meated state, and unless we get plenty of rain soon, the season will be a disastrous one for graziers. For really good well-finished beasts, prices were fairly well maintained at last day's figures, but for ordinary cattle prices, live weight, were from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. lower. For some fancy cross-bred Aberdeen and Hereford beasts, up to 33s. 6d. per cwt. (live weight) was given. Good fat cows were in demand, and sold briskly. Prime ox and heifer beef, from 52s. to 56s., and for very choice, up to 58s. per cwt.; good second class beef, 46s. to 50s.; and other qualities, from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. In the mutton department, home butchers confined their attentions to light-weight sheep, as in the continuance of hot weather, heavy sheep are not wanted. There was a fair inquiry for good hoggets for the London and Lancashire markets, best selling at from 44s. to 54s., and small to medium, from 32s. to 42s. each. Prime wether mutton rated at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 7d.; and inferior sheep at very irregular prices. A good home and export inquiry was experienced for good, well-fed lambs, at firm rates, from 30s. to 38s.; good medium qualities, 26s. to 30s. each, but small, thin lambs were not wanted, and failed to clear. There were 10,514 sheep and lambs offered for sale, a decrease of 419 on the previous week. Prime veal scarce, and in stronger demand at from 7d. to 8½d. per lb.; no improvement in coarse calves.

A quiet trade for milch cows; best springers making up to £20 and £21 each; good heavy dairy cows, from £15 to £18; and other sorts from £8 upwards.

The store cattle trade is dull and listless, any little stir consequent on the hope of a continuance of showery weather, having been checked by a rising barometer. Most of the grazing lands are so dry and burnt up that it has been found impossible to market the stock on them, except at ruinous rates. Some who find their lands stocked beyond their feeding capacity, are selling off, but it is easy to understand that the demand for stores is very limited. Some of the salesmen who had advertised auction of store stock, have postponed the sales till the prospects are more favourable.

Trade in the West.

After meeting a very indifferent trade for several weeks, milch beasts are once more being actively sought after, and, though they have not quite got back to the old level, still they are in a very fair way for doing so, useful heifers and good-class cows again selling from £17 up to £22 a-piece, and, in a few exceptional cases, to £23; but then this must be for something quite out of the ordinary run. Plainer beasts are much slower of sale, though we hardly know that values can be quoted as showing any marked change as compared with late currencies. Grazing beasts are still steadily going up in value, and, though we cannot in truth say by "leaps and bounds," yet there is a perceptible improvement in values, which may be given generally as showing a rise of from £1 to £2 per bullock for the best, which we may give as making £25 to £33 per pair; whilst for the rougher grades values range from £24 down to as low as £17 or £18. Young stock continues to bring a decent return, yearlings making £6 to £8 10s., and three-year-olds £10 to £13. The sheep trade remains in a fairly healthy state, and we may quote draft Down ewes as making from 40s. up to 52s. apiece, though Horns bring rather more; young ewes, selling up to as high as 58s., ranging down to 45s or 46s apiece; store hogs, 30s to 37s; whilst working ewe and wether lambs range from 35s. up to 42s. apiece; any class of lamb being one of the best selling things on the market just at present.

A good many fat beasts are being offered at many of the markets, but the trade is by no means active, except for the ripest steers and maiden heifers, which are making from £18 to £25 apiece for the best, though at Wimborne one rare Shorthorn heifer made £25 15s. (or from 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score), which is the very outside value. Fat cows are much quieter at 9s. to 10s., and coarse heavy beasts not so much by 1s. per score. Best calves sell up to £5 10s. apiece; but prices are back not only for best but for seconds as well. The mutton trade is again favouring the buyer, except for the very smallest wethers, which make 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb. in the wool; and ewes, the trade for which is much depressed, not more than 6d. to 6½d. Lamb in the wool here makes up to 10d. in the wool and 9d. for shorn. Pigs are keeping up exceptionally well in value, best class porkers making 9s. 6d. to 10s. per score; baconers, 8s. 6d. to 9s.; and heavy sows 7s. to 7s. 6d.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which was slow and dragging, with a downward tendency in most cases, to the extent of 2d per 8lb. Top prices:—Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Decrease of ten in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting chiefly of Downs and half-breds, with the average number of lambs; latter sold well, last Monday's quotations being well maintained. Small choice wether sheep met a firm trade at late rates, but heavier descriptions met a very limited demand, chiefly owing to the hot weather. Ewes met slow but steady trade, with rates in favour of sellers. Best pens made per 8lb as follows:—7½ to 8-stone Down sheep, 5s 8d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone ditto, 6s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s 2d; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s 4d to 6s 6d; 6-st half-bred ditto, 6s. Largest supply of calves this season, which met slow trade; best offered quoted at 4s 10d to 5s 2d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; calves, 3s 6d to 5s 2d; lambs, 5s 4d to 6s 6d. Total supply:—Beasts, 20; sheep and lambs, 3,180; calves, 100; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—A large quantity was delivered, for which a very slow demand was experienced, prices, however, keeping firm. Arrivals of beef included 70 tons Scotch, 780 Liverpool sides, 2,300 hindquarters, and 1,500 American refrigerated, also 1,500 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long sides, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; Liverpool sides, 3s 5d to 3s 8d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; forequarters, 1s 6d to 1s 8d. Mutton: Scotch wethers range from 4s 2d up to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 5d to 3s; Dutch wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d. Lamb, English, range from 5s to 6s 7d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal, English and Dutch, 3s up to 4s 4d. Pork, English, 3s 4d to 4s 2d; Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 10d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Business steady at last week's prices, except pork, which showed a slight increase. Best beef, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; secondary, 4s 3d; mutton, small half-breds and Downs, 5s 4d to 5s 10d; Kent wethers, 5s; lamb, 6s 8d to 7s 2d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; pork, roasters, 8s 6d to 9s; small store pigs, 10s to 14s each.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 63 calves, 486 fat sheep and lambs, 85 pigs, and 129 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Devon steers made from £18 10s to £22 10s, shorthorn steers £18 to £20, heifers £18, cows £13 10s, polled steers £18, cows £17, a West Highland bull £18, fat calves 80s to £5 15s; small ditto 20s to 50s, fat porkers 30s to 56s, store pigs 16s to 20s, dairy cows £8 10s to £22 15s, fat Down wethers and ewes from 50s to 58s, smaller 44s to 48s, old ewes 30s to 40s, six months' old Down lambs 42s to 50s, smaller 34s to 40s, choice three months' old sucking lambs (Downs), 30s to 40s, cross-breds 31s to 33s 6d, Southdown 31s 6d to 33s 6d, cross-bred ewes up to 44s, Welsh ewes 26s. A short supply of fat beasts met a fair inquiry, the best lots being cleared at an advance on last week's figures. A good show of fat sheep and fat lambs, and a clearance very nearly made; more money given for prime fat wethers; young ewes, and choice lambs; for old and over-fed ewes the trade was slow, and price slower. The best class milch cows met a brisk trade with a good inquiry. Store cattle moved off more readily at slightly improved prices. Fat calves: The trade remains about the same as last week. Fat and store pigs, with a short entry, were in demand at late prices. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 6d to 5½d; best quality fat sheep and big lambs, 8d to 8¾d; secondary ditto, 7d to 7¾d old ewes, etc., rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6d per lb; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 8d per lb; fat porkers, 8s to 9s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Only 41 beasts were penned. There was no demand, and no sales were effected. The attendance of farmers and buyers was about the smallest this season.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade fair for beasts and sheep; trade slow for pigs. Beef, 5¼d to 6¾d; a few Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8¼d to 9d per lb; veal, 6¼d to 7d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 4d to 9s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 4d to 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was quiet and uneventful, the demand being moderate and business dull. An average quantity of beef; prices unaltered. Sheep and lambs in moderate number; light wethers firmer at 7¾d, and ewes at 6d, whilst lambs declined to 8d and 9d. There were few pigs and values were unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9	6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	9	0
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A good demand for milch cows at from £15 10s to £17 10s; ewe tegs were making 36s to 42s; and a few lambs were also offered. Supplies of store cattle are limited.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply was the smallest of the season, there being only between 100 and 200 Irish store cattle exposed. Buyers were very scarce, and trade dragged. Small heifers, £7 10s to £10 10s; best ditto, £10 10s to £14 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—A smaller supply of stock, fewer buyers, and a quiet trade, prices being about the same as last week, with a slightly lower tendency in certain departments. Quotations: Milch cows, £15 to £22; calves, £14 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; and sheep, 1s to 3s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good company of buyers were in attendance. Fat cattle met a firm selling trade at prices similar to those of previous market. A good demand prevailed for dairy cattle at fully 30s per head advance on late prices. Owing to the dry weather, grazing cattle met rather a dragging sale, and a good many lots were turned out of the ring unsold. Quotations: Prime Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; prime Shorthorn steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Polled Scotch, 5s 4d to 4s 8d; fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; best South-down sheep, 6s 3d to 6s 4d; best West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d, fat lambs, 7s 2d to 7s 6d; veal, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; store pigs, 15s 6d to 23s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was again this week a poor supply of everything, and beef made from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; lamb, 6s; and pork, 3s per score.

Doncaster, Saturday. The market was poorly supplied with cattle and sheep,and there was an indifferent attendance, trade being exceedingly slow. Milch beasts were firm, and made £17 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £4 to £7; sheep, 35s to 45s; lambs, 25s to 27s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Full supplies and a full attendance at to-day's market. A fairly brisk inquiry. Calves made £3 to £5 17s 6d for the best; seconds, 48s to 58s; and rearers, 22s to 42s. Best wether mutton sold at 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 40s to 48s; and lambs, 9½d to 10d per lb. Bacon pigs made 9s to 9s 3d per score; porkers, 9s 6d to 10s; and heavier animals, 7s 6d to 8s.

Dorchester, Saturday. Good supplies of stock came to hand at to-day's cattle market, while sales were conducted by both Messrs. Duke and Son and by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson, and trade ruled fairly active for best things. Milch beasts, of which there was a large offer to select from, selling very well at from about £15 15s to £19 for best heifers, others making £9 15s to £15; yearling heifers £18 to £24 per pair. The fat beef included some very nicely furnished grassed beasts, which made £17 to about £19 10s each (or 10s 6d to 11s per score, and in some cases rather more); seconds, 9s to 10s. The best class for mutton may be quoted 7½d to 8d per lb. (or from 47s to 52s each for wethers); fat ewes very slow trade, except for young animals of medium weights, which made 7d to 7¼d per lb., other qualities, 44s down to 36s (or 6d to 6½d). Lamb a trifle more saleable on the best up to 39s each (or 9¼d to 10d).

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts 2,344, increase 24; sheep 10,314, decrease 419; calves 37, decrease 11. A slow and dragging trade experienced for all descriptions of cattle with prices in favour of buyers and a clearance difficult to effect. Choice light weight sheep and fat lambs in fair request at last week's prices, other sorts in favour of buyers. Cattle, live weight, best, 30s to 33s per cwt.; rough and inferior sorts, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Owing to the continued drought, trade was nearly at a standsill. Half-bred gimmers sold to 44s, half-bred Dunmonts to 40s, Cheviots to 36s, and grey-faced to 34s each. Few store cattle on offer; conditioned animals to £14, Irish cows to £19 10s, and shorthorns to 23s per head.

Exeter, Friday.—Inquiry for the best quality beasts; steers and heifers, 11s 6d; cows, 9 to 10s 6d. Small supply of sheep brisk trade; small wethers, 5d to 8½d; large, 8d; ewes, 6d to 6½d. Best quality lambs in demand, 10d in wool, 9d shorn; breeding ewes, 42s to 45s; calves, 7d to 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Cattle were a shade cheaper. Sheep and lambs steady. Top Scotch cattle, extreme 64s, current 58s to 60s per cwt.; top hoggs, 8¾d; secondary, 8d to 8¼d; lambs, 8d to 9d per lb. Dead meat quiet; best Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5¾d; Canadian, 5½d; best cows, 5d; best hoggs, 8d; black-faced wethers, 7½d per lb. At market: Cattle, 684; sheep and lambs, 4,494.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—A short supply of cows and calves, with good trade for the best quality. A short supply of store cattle, with very little demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Owing to the hay harvest supplies were moderate. The beef trade was fluctuating, but the average was about the same as last week. Best bullock and heifer made from 6d to 6½d per lb; cow beef as low as 5d. Veal at the same as last week, about 7½d per lb, for a small supply. Trade was brisker on the sheep, yearling mutton realising 6d to 6½d per lb. Lambs, being a short supply, found a ready sale at 9d per lb. Pigs were a poor supply, and trade was a trifle better than last week. Porks made 5d per lb. Few store cattle were in the market, and there was little call for them.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of fat cattle for the season, all of which were yard-fed. Trade was firm at from 8s 3d to 7s 6d per stone. Grazing cattle scarce, and demand slack. At the special sale of dairy stock there was a large entry, including 40 Dutch cows and heifers, all bred by the owner, who offered the whole herd. There was a large attendance of buyers, many from distant counties, and a good demand was experienced throughout. Cows with calves by sides made from £32 5s to £26 15s, heifers in calf £23 10s to £16 5s, heifers, 14 months £12 10s, 8 months £8 5s. In addition to these a considerable number of shorthorn and polled cows and heifers were offered. Heifers fresh calved sold exceptionally well, the best making from £23 15s to £17 5s. Fat sheep were short, and sold at current rates; Suffolk shearlings to 60s, half-breds to 68s. Grazing lambs were in good demand; Suffolks 37s 6d to 24s, half-breds 36s to 26s. Fat swine were in good demand, last weeks values being well maintained. Numbers at sale and market: 631 cattle, 3,469 sheep, and 933 swine.

Leicester, Saturday.—With pastures scorched up trade suffered severely, while sales were only possible at a further decline of 10s to 20s per head. The restricted supplies were more than equal to the demand. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23; secondary, £14 to £16; bullocks, £12 to £14; calves, 15s to 30s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Fat beasts average show for time of year; trade slow, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Very few store beasts, scarcely any trade, £6 to £11 each. Average show of sheep, trade slow, 8s 9d to 9s 3d per stone; store sheep, 40s to 44s; store lambs ,20s to 30s; fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday. — Beef: First-class, 5½d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Mutton: First-class, 7¼d; second-class, 6¼d to 7d; third class, 5¼d to 6d. Veal: First class, 6d; second class, 5d to 5½d; third-class, 4d to 4½d. Lamb: First class, 7½d; second class, 7d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday. The supply of fat beasts was equal to the demand at 7s 3d to 8s per 14lb. Scarcely any store cattle offered, trade was very quiet, and but few lots were disposed of, selling at about late rates, £6 to £16 per head. Lambs in smaller supply; trade quiet, at 28s to 34s per head. A large number of breeding ewes, which made 50s to 52s per head. Fat sheep made 8s 6d to 9s 6d per stone. Smaller number of fat pigs, which sold for 5s 9d to 6s per stone, an extra 3d being realised for best quality animals. Small number of store pigs of moderate quality, for which there was no demand.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a fair show of milk beasts and a good trade resulted. Best milk cows made £18 to £23, and in-calf heifers £15 to £19. Only a small supply of store beasts, and a dragging trade. Strong heifers and steers fetched £8 to £12, and younger beasts £5 to £7; calves, 25s to 50s.

Preston, Wednesday. Good attendance. Trade rather slow all round. Good supplies of cattle and sheep. Heifers and bullocks, 6½d to 6¾d; a few nice Scotch heifers, 7d; cows and bulls, 5d to 5¾d; hogg sheep, 8¾d to 8¾d; tups, 5d to 5½d; ewes, 5½d to 6¼d; lambs, 8¾d to 9d. At market: Sheep, 2,470; cattle, 220; and calves, 180.

Retford, Saturday. Not many store cattle, scarcely sufficient to test prices. Really top milch beasts easily maintained late rates of £17 to £20; steers and heifers, £10 to £12; calves, 40s to 50s.

Romford, Wednesday. Short supply of fat beasts; trade very slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves a very bad trade at 4s 3d to 4s 10d per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone; ewes a better trade, at 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs in short supply; trade about the same, at 6s 4d to 6s 6d per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade slow.

Thame, Tuesday.—A large attendance of buyers. Trade all round remarkably brisk, each lot quickly changing hands. Beef selling with an upward tendency. Mutton considerably higher. Veal, bacon, and pork in good demand. Stores of every description a good sale. Messrs. Bond and Burrows disposed of 83 choice heifers and oxen, 215 fat sheep and lambs, 55 fat and weaning calves, and 40 bacon hogs, porkers, and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 2s 6d, fat heifers £15 to £22, fat wethers 48s to 58s, fat ewes 45s to 50s, fat lambs 30s to 41s, fat calves 68s to 95s, weaning cow calves 30s to 62s, bull calves 10s to 51s, bacon hogs £3 1s to 5£4 10s, porkers 26s to 38s, store pigs 10s to 21s.

Truro, Wednesday. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; harreners and store bullocks, 40s to 48s; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5½d; lambs, 8d to 8¼d; pigs, 11s to 42s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7¼d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 4½d to 5¼d per lb. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 267; calves, 65; sheep, 289; pigs, 230; one horse, one donkey, one dog. Business very brisk. Attendance very good.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good supply all round; trade slow. For useful milch cows a fair demand. Beef, 5d to 7d per lb; mutton, 6¼d to 8¼d per lb; lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of beef, and rather slow trade, best qualities making 7s to 7s 6d per stone; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 8¼d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9¼d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Good inquiry for milch beasts, which sold at from £14 10s to £20 each for heifers and calves, and £12 10s to £17 10s for cows and calves; in-calf heifers, £14 to £15 15s; in-calf cows, £13 10s to £16 1s0 ;steers, yearlings, £8 to £9 10s; two-year-old heifer,s £9 10s £12; yearlings, £7 10s to £9 15s; ewes sold at from 40s to 45s; wethers, 42s 6d to 47s 6d; lambs, 25s to 32s.

York, Thursday.—Owing to the drought and the dried-up state of the pastures, the supply of both English and Irish store cattle was very small indeed, and trade was absolutely at a standstill. Calving and milch cows were in good supply, but the quality, except in a few instances, was not high. The recent improvement in the trade continues, and most of the stock found purchasers at fully late rates. One or two of the best animals made up to £22 each, and a good many others sold at from £17 10s to £19. Second-rate cows might be bought at £14 to £16. As is usual at this time of the year, the supply of sheep and lambs was very small. The best twice-crossed shearling sheep made up to 46s each, and Mashams from 36s to 40s. Sellers asked up to 24s for lambs, but there was practically no trade.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for week ending July 1°, 1905.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average Live weight.	Average price per head	Average price per cwt.
		c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ..	10 1 7	17 7 6	1 13 8
4	,, ,, ..	11 2 16	19 7 6	1 13 3
2	,, ,, ..	11 2 21	19 7 6	1 13 2
2	,, ,, ..	10 0 0	16 10 0	1 13 0
2	,, ,, ..	9 2 24	16 0 0	1 12 11
4	,, ,, ..	11 0 10	18 3 4	1 12 9
2	,, ,, ..	9 2 3	15 5 0	1 12 0
3	,, (very good) ..	9 0 24	14 10 0	1 11 5
1	,, ,, ..	9 0 0	13 15 0	1 10 7
2	,, ,, ...	9 1 17	14 5 0	1 10 4
2	,, ,, ..	9 2 10	14 10 0	1 10 3
2	,, ,, ..	10 1 7	15 10 0	1 10 1
1	,, (good) ..	7 3 0	11 10 0	1 9 8
2	,, ,, ..	9 1 24	14 0 0	1 9 7

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Large supplies were to hand, and a rather better demand prevailed. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 9d; Sussex, 3s to 3s 6d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; geese, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s to 2s 3d; country, 2s to 2s 3d; quail, 1s to 1s 3d; Bordeaux pigeons, 8d to 10d; feathered, 8d to 10d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d; tame, 1s 4d to 1s 8d each; Australian, 6s to 8s per dozen.

SEEDS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 2,672 qr Bombay, 15,932 Rosario, 810 Sam Lorenzo, 2095 St. Petersburg—total, 21,509 qr. Linseed has been practically neglected throughout the week, and in the absence of demand values have dropped about 2s per qr. River Plate: Spot has sold down to 38s, afloat 38s 6d, July-August 39s, August-September 39s 3d. Bombay is held above the market, August-September being quoted 42s. Calcutta is again being offered as far forward as April-June next year, but does not attract any attention. Oilseed cakes: Linseed cakes firm, unchanged. Cotton cakes are 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton dearer, but demand very quiet. Spring corn: Barley: In foreign barley of the new crop not much business has taken place, as shippers insist upon higher prices than buyers are disposed to give. In feeding there is no material alteration to note. Oats continue a very slow trade at weak prices. Beans are about exhausted. Plate maize, through scarcity, has mended 6d to 1s per qr, but fresh lots are due shortly. Prime mixed maize is in very small compass. Cottonseed: There was a little more steadiness in this article about the middle of last week, with business done in Egyptian passage and July at £5 16s 3d and August at £5 17s 6d, but the market soon turned quiet again, and although quotations practically unchanged there is at the moment nothing doing. A little November-January changed hands at £6 to £6 1s 3d with still sellers at latter price. Bombay sold at £4 17s 6d to £4 18s July-August and August-September, also same for new crop December-January, January-February.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday. [illegible] There is a slight improvement to report in the demand for cotton compound and [illegible] and a general tendency to [illegible] but rather more [illegible] during the forthcoming week. Russian and [illegible] are unchanged. London made [illegible] quoted. Cocoanut cakes [illegible] a poor inquiry [illegible] All qualities at a slight [illegible] Decorticated [illegible] cheaply offered at £5 17s 6d [illegible] £5 5s per special digestive meal which Messrs. Gow, Hand" brand is available at £6 17s 6d, "Ley" brand at £6 1s 6d, and meal at £5 11s 6d [illegible] of matted East India seed in bags [illegible] of £4 15s per ton. Maize germ meal: Stocks of white American are now exhausted, but English [illegible] obtainable at last week's quotations. Maize gluten meal is in good demand at £5 5s to £5 15s per ton. Rape meal: Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held at £4 8s 9d to £4 10s, which is the ex ship price [illegible] shippers for arrival. Broken Rangoon [illegible] good value at £4 15s per ton ex docks. Locust beans at least rather more attention at £5 5s for white and £5 10s for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is without alteration at £11 per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 1[illegible]	6 to 7 15 0
Russian, in bags	7 6	7 to 7 7 6
in mats.....	7 3	9 to 7 5 9
Calcutta .....ex ship	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 8	9 to 4 10 6
..... Nov./April	4 10 0	
English	4 10	0 to 4 12
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....		
" " " Meal.....	6 10 0	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17	6 to 6 12 6
" Meal "	6 11 3	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 8	9 to 5 10 0
American		
Maize Gluten Meal..... June/Dec.	5 10	0 to 5 15 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive	4 8	9 to 4 10 0
" .....ex warehouse	4 8	9 to 4 10 0
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	11 0 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—There is practically no trade, and quotations are purely nominal in the absence of business. Nitrate of soda is declining, and now quoted at £10 to £10 7s 6d, according to quality. Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e. guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 5s to £10 7s 6d; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £7 17s 6d to £8 7s 6d; linseed cake, foreign, round, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, new, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 3s 9d; ditto, ditto, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto, ditto, English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s; ditto, ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, in bags, £6; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 per ton.. Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £8 7s 6d to £2 9s 6d per quarter 416lb.; cod liver oil cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in brls., 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt. D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaanteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed, 30 to 31, in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, nominal; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 42 to 50 pr cent. phos., nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Supplies were on a good scale, but met with slow request. Quotations:—New English, 70s to 80s per ton; Jersey, 4s 5d; St. Malo, 4s to 4s 5d; Teneriffe, 7s to 8s; Scotch, 3s 9d; Dutch, 2s 9d per bag.

Goole, Wednesday.—The market for potatoes at Goole is now almost over, and yesterday there were hardly any lots changing hands, buyers waiting for the new season's crop, which will soon be on the market. The prospects for the present season are excellent, the Marshland district not having suffered to any extent from want of rain, and crops are, moreover, looking very healthy. In the retail market yesterday, potatoes sold at 3½d to 4½d per quarter stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Large supplies of English were available, but the demand was generally poor. New Canary No. 3 7s 6d per cwt; English, 60s to 80s per ton; Dutch, 2s 9d per bag.

Manchester, Saturday. Yorkshire reds, 7s to 9s; Sandy, 5s to 7s; Cheshire reds, 5s to 6s; kidneys, 5s to 7s 6d; snowdrops, 5s to 6s. Lincoln reds, 6s to 7s per 14 stone; Bedfords 4s 6d to 5s 3d per cwt.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday. In view of the excellent prospects of the growing crop growers are more disposed to accept current rates, and several lots have lately changed hands. The pockets have been weighed over this week. Nothing has arrived to check the plants, which now look all that can be desired. Picking will be early this year.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Overton Sheep Fair.

This, one of the most important of sheep and lamb fairs in the South of England, took place on Tuesday, and that it still holds its own was proved by the large entry and attendance. About 15,000 sheep were penned, a number in excess of last year, and trade was brisk, at good prices. The regular draft ewes from the best known flocks throughout the fair made on the average just about the same prices as last year, there being some instances of them making from 2s. to 3s. per head more, and also some of 2s. to 3s. less, and others making the same prices. The lambs taken all round were a good 2s. to 3s. per head above last year's prices. There were fewer young ewes (two-tooths) than last year, the average for all the best lots was from 4s. to 6s. above last year's prices. The committee were enabled to offer a similarly liberal list of prizes to that which has been a characteristic of Overton Fair for many years past, and the support which is forthcoming at the hands of noblemen and gentlemen resident in the district is indeed most gratifying. The entries in the prize classes were good all through, notably in the ram lambs. The Judges were Mr. Allen, of Eastover; Mr. James Futcher, of Fovant, Salisbury; and Mr. Webb, Andover; the following being their list of awards:—

Class 1.—Pen of wether lambs, from a flock of any number, bred and fed by the exhibitor: 1, F. A. Holman, Dunley Manor, Whitchurch; 2, J. Pickard, Chapmansford, Whitchurch; 3, W. and G. Crimble, Southington, Overton.

Class 2.—Pen of full-mouthed ewe sfor breeding purposes and bona-fide for sale, the whole of which shall have been fed by the exhibitor from November 10, 1904: 1 and 2, Lord Ashburton, Northington Down Farm.

Class 3.—Pen of two-tooth ewes: 1, F. A. Holman: 2, Lord Ashburton.

Class 4.—100 two-tooth ewes (open to farmers and dealers): 1, A. Holman, 2 ,Lord Ashburtno.

Class 5.—Pen of ram lambs of any breed, bred by the exhibitor: 1, H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, near Salisbury; 2, Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Hungerford; 3, F. A .Holman.

Messrs. James Harris and Son's catalogue comprised 6,250 ewes and lambs, being about 1,000 fewer than last year. There was a good selling trade throughout, especially for lambs, which were certainly dearer than at Stockbridge, the ewe trade being about the same. For regular draft ewes the prices ranged from 45s. to 54s. 6d. For wether lambs, by far the best lot were shown by Mr. F. A. Holman, of St. Mary Bourne, a grand pen, which, after taking first prize in the show pens, realised 54s. 6d. and 54s. in two lots of fifty each. The second prize pen of Mr. Pickard, of Chapmansford, sold in twenties, made 47s. to 49s. Other prices for wether lambs ranged from 32s. to 43s. 6d.

Messrs. Frederick Ellen and Son disposed of about 3,200 ewes and lambs at similar prices to the above.

At the conclusion of the sale of store sheep Messrs. James Harris and Son offered 30 Hampshire Down ram lambs from the flock of Mr. A. Philippi, Crawley Court, and 60 ram lambs from Sir Richard Rycroft's flock, and, although no extravagant prices were realised, every lamb offered found purchasers. The prices given for Mr. Philippi's ranged from 4½ to 6½ guineas, and averaged £5 9s. 6d. The 60 lambs from Sir Richard Rycroft, Bart., made from 3½ to 5½ guineas, averaging £4 2s.

Ipswich Wool Sale.

Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' second wool sale of the year too place at Ipswich, on Friday, when, as compared with those obtained on the 16th June, prices showed a decline from a ½d. to a 1d. per pound. Last year it was the other way about, the second sale yielding the best results to the growers of wool. About 15,000 fleeces were now pitched, the weather was hot and dry, and there was a good muster of buyers, although several firms were unrepresented who bought extensively last month. The top price was 13¼d., given for two sheets of Southdown hogget from Mr. J. A. Hempson, as compared with 14d., the leading figure at the June sale. Washed wool of the various breeds ranged as under: Southdown hogget 13¼d. to 12¾d., Southdown ewe, 12½d. to 11½d., black-faced hogget 12¾d. to 12½d., black-faced ewe 12½d. to 11d., half-bred hogget 12½d. to 12¼d., half-bred ewe 12½d. to 11¾d.; and unwashed—South-down 9½d. to 9d., black-faced, 8¾d. to 8d., half-bred 9d. to 8d., Scotch hog 7½d., locks 7¼d. to 6½d.

The Gloucestershire Agricultural Society and Bath and West Show.

At the adjourned annual meeting of members of the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, held on Saturday, there was an interesting discussion on the question of whether to hold a show next year or amalgamate with the Bath and West Society for their exhibition at Swindon.

The President (Mr. W. E. Hicks-Beach) said the facts of the matter were: At present they had no invitation from any town or county for holding a show next year, and as many of them knew the Bath and West were going to Swindon, and possibly—so some of them thought—it might be wise for Gloucestershire to accept their proposals and join them in their show there, and have no county show for Gloucestershire at all in 1906. He knew that was much against the feeling of some of their old members, but he thought it would be wise to take that course, and he was not at all afraid, as some of them seemed to be, that their subscriptions would drop off through having no country show. The Bath and West gave them terms which he called generous, but which he was told were the general terms with them. They did at all events give some advantage to that society. As some of them knew they had a sort of general invitation from Lydney, but that had fallen to the ground. They had invitations from Stroud, Tewkesbury, and Gloucester for 1907.

Mr. J. T. Hobbs moved that there be no county show next year, but that they join in the Bath and West of England exhibition at Swindon. He said it was a most excellent society, well managed, and Gloucestershire would have no regret afterwards, he was sure, if they joined them for next year on the terms most generously offered by that society.

The Secretary stated that the terms offered were that on condition of Gloucestershire suspending the holding of their show next year and subscribing £100 towards the prize list of the Bath and West, they would endeavour to consult their wishes so that they might have some restricted prizes for their own members or county, and the members of the Gloucestershire Society would have all privileges in every respect that were enjoyed by members of the Bath and West.

The motion was finally carried unanimously.

The question of whether or not to amalgamate with the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Society was allowed to die a natural death for the present at least.

Irish Harvest Prospects.

Notwithstanding the long continuance of the drought, and the excessive heat which has prevailed since the opening weeks of June, the crops, as a whole, are more promising than might have been anticipated, and the outlook is by no means dispiriting. The wheat crop, which is still, in our opinion, confined to a smaller acreage than its claims to profitableness entitle it, is described as looking splendid, and certainly any fields which have come under our observation this year might be truthfully described in these terms. Barley also promises exceedingly well, and a good yield is confidently anticipated. Last season the yield showed a falling off from the year previous, which in turn showed a decline from 1903, so it is the hope of growers that the average of 1902 may again be reached this season. There is a general concurrence of opinion that the oat crop will cut exceedingly deficient in straw, though the yield of grain may prove satisfactory. The excessive heat, coupled with lack of moisture unduly contracted the period of growth, and forced the plants prematurely into ear. The result has been that the crop, especially on thin soils, is of the very lightest description. On heavy soil, however, and especially on manured ground after roots, the crop has turned out heavier than was expected, and some really good fields under these conditions of grow— have come under our notice. The reason, no doubt, is due in a large measure to the increase in the moisture-holding capacity of the soil derived from the incorporation and decay in it of the farmyard manure, which, in its turn, not only acted as a mulch to conserve the moisture present, but served as a sponge to hold a larger supply in reserve for the needs of the plants.

Potatoes everywhere look especially promising, and, judging from their luxuriant growth, one of our correspondents feels justified in describing them as "the best crop of the season." It is rather early, we fancy, to venture a comparative statement of this kind just yet; but there is no gainsayin the fact that the promise of a plentiful crop of tubers is exceptional. The potato plant builds up in its underground stems the supply of starch, which is afterwards destined for the food of man, and this process it can only do, or do only to the greatest advantage, in the presence of direct sunlight. Keeping this in mind, we have good grounds for our belief that the potato crop this year will not only be large, but also of exceptional quality. The early varieties at present being raised are unusually dry and floury, and we will be surprised if the same good qualities will not characterise the later and maincrop varieties.

Concerning the mangel and turnip crop, there is a considerable conflict in statement. Reports from the North indicate that both these crops, though delayed by the drought and the fly attack, are now looking very promising, and may be expected to come up to the average yield of other years. The Midland and Southern reports are not nearly so assuring, and in some districts, where even the slight rainfall which improved the conditions elsewhere, was not experienced, a partial failure of the crop is predicted. All over the southern province there is a general tale about the mangels being late and very patchy, while in some of the Midland counties turnips are still in a very bad way, one correspondent describing them as being completely burnt up. Early sown turnips, on the whole, seem to have done best; but exceptions to this rule have occurred, so much depends on the soil conditions and other considerations. At present it seems difficult to tell how both these root crops may turn out. There is no doubt the present is a very critical stage of their growth, and the arrival of timely rain would improve matters considerably. Any shortage in the root crop would be a matter of serious moment to the farming interests, and we can fully appreciate the anxiety with which the progress of the crop during the next fortnight or three weeks will be watched.

Pastures still continue in a very burnt-up condition owing to want of rain, and though the showers which have fallen occasionally within the past ten days have refreshed the surface herbage slightly, not nearly sufficient rain has fallen to thoroughly soak the soil, and to provide the much-needed drinking-water for the stock on uplying fields. Great inconvenience to stock-owners has been caused in this way, and although cattle have had to be driven considerable distances for watering purposes, or water conveyed specially to them in the fields, they are not making such a thrive as under normal conditions of grass and water supply in other years they would have made. The hay season for the late meadows is now in full swing, and, looking back on the past month of bright sunshine and drying reezes, more ideal conditions for the perfect saving of hay—and that with the minimum amount of inconvenience and handling—could not have been wished for. Seeds or upland hay cut surprisingly well considering the season, and though the average yiel will fall short of last year's figure, the shrinkage may not turn out to be of much consequence. Meadows, as a rule, cut fairly well, and while one of our correspondents thinks the yield may be put down as only half a crop, there are others who think the average was fully reached. One thing is certain, that if the quantity be under the average, the quality will be well above it, and tha stock will this winter be provided with fodder at once nutritious and palatable.—*The Farmers' Gazette.*

Doctors and Our Milk Supply.

As was only to be expected, the question of our milk supply was, among other matters, discussed at the Congress of the Royal Institute of Public Health, held last week. No fewer than four papers dealing with the subject were read, and perhaps the most interesting was that of Mr. H. R. Rhodes, who comes from America. He described the production of medically certified milk as carried on at one of the farms of which he had charge under the New York Medical Committee. By this system practically everything except the milk itself is sterilised, and the natural product thus assured a high pitch of cleanliness sells at a shilling a quart to the well-to-do New Yorker. One passage from this paper is worth quoting:

"The day's work commenced at 4.30 a.m. every morning by each cow being led singly, and in turn, from their living stable into the washing and cleaning shed. Here they are washed with sponges and brushes in antiseptic water and dried with sterilised towels. As each cow is finished off a lad leads it by the halter to the milking shed, where it is fastened to a snap along the wall.

"Here the milkers take each cow in hand as it arrives from the cleaning shed. These milkers are required to wash themselves thoroughly in a bath-room provided, adjacent to the milking shed, and to wear clean linen clothes that are frequently washed and sterilised twice daily."

The result of all this elaborate care was that, according to Mr. Rhodes, while ordinary milk supplied to New York was found to contain 5,000,000 bacteria to the cubic centimetre, an analysis of certified milk showed an average of only from 1,500 to 1,600 bacteria in the same bulk.

The other papers were read by Dr. T. D. Lister, assistant physician to the Royal Waterloo Hospital for Children, who gave reasons for the establishment of municipal milk depots, declaring that children were dying by thousands every year for the lack of such provision; Dr. L. W. Hope, medical officer of health for Liverpool, who described in detail the encouraging work carried on by the milk depot of that city, at an annual cost of £1,200; and Councillor A. W. Short, of Bootle, who advocated in a paper full of facts and figures, the municipalisation of the milk supply.

Live Stock Record.

PROSPECTS OF THE RAM SALES SEASON.

The present week will bring into train several important ram auctions, and henceforth all through August quite up to the middle of September there will be sales of rams in different parts of the Kingdom, somewhere or other, almost every day. So far as sales have gone yet, tradings have been pre-eminently satisfactory to sellers, and there appears to be every prospect of higher prices than usual being realised by breeders this year. All circumstances are indeed favourable for such a forecast. We trust that recent frequent rainfall has enabled farmers to get a satisfactory turnip plant. The fly has been very busy in many districts, but judging from the general character of reports hopes may be entertained that the July outlook in this particular will prove favourable to sheep-trading rather than otherwise. Certainly the recent rise in the rates of wool ought to help the ram trade. Almost all sorts of wool are worth at least 2d. per lb. more than last year. A century ago flockowners bred for wool more than for mutton, and although circumstances have greatly changed in this respect, the value of the fleece is till an important factor promotive of sheep-husbandry. But apart from these natural influences, the extraordinary activity of foreign buyers, especially those seeking sheep for the Argentine, has caused ram sales which have already taken place not only to go off well but to have been characterised by some remarkably high prices.

Thus the Royal first-prize Shearling Lincoln ram of Messrs. Wright was bought by Mr. F. Miller for the Argentine for 1,000 guineas. At Mr. H. Dudding's Riby Grove auction the same buyer gave 500 guineas for the second-prize Royal Shearling, and he would have been prepared to have given a far higher sum, so it was said, if he had met with a competitor at the auction to bid against him. Other high prices for rams at the Riby Grove auction were 420, 210, 150, 105, and 100 guineas, the average realised for thirty-one Shearling rams being over £90 each. Several of the leading flockmasters of the Lincoln breed have made so many sales recently by private contract that they will have no need to auction their Shearlings this year. The Argentine buyers have never previously been so keen. Messrs. Wright have sold sixty-five to Mr. Miller, in addition to the 1,000-guinea sheep. Mr. Dudding had specially reserved one hundred rams for the Argentine trade, and Mr. Miller has bought the whole of them. Mr. Casares, another agent for Buenos Ayres, bought Mr. T. Casswell's Royal Champion ram, and has since secured many rams from the flocks of Messrs. Dean, Mr. C. Howard, Mr. Dixon, etc.

Nor have these active foreign tradings been limited to one breed. The Hampshire flock-owners have been able to clear off their Shearling and older rams, which they have been doing with great readiness, as their sales and lettings being chiefly for ram lambs will not be affected thereby. Mr. James Flower has disposed of his Shearling ram, aptly named Fame—for after being let for 180 guineas last year, he has won firsts this show season at some half-dozen leading exhibitions, including the Royal Counties and the Royal. Five other Shearlings from Chilmark will accompany him. Mr. H. C. Stephens has also sold several rams for South America, which have distinguished themselves as prize-winners. When we find also that on one steamboat there were recently despatched sixteen Shropshire rams including the celebrated Royal first prize two-shear, as well as nine from Mr. C. Harding's and six from Mr. Butter's flock, and that a large consignment of Kent sheep from the flocks of Mr. C. File, Mr. H. Rigden, and the Earl of Verulam, accompanied these Shrops, we perceive that the Argentine net is this year being extended widely. All this bodes for good, and it is to be hoped there will be no check in respect to disease outbreaks for many years to come to interfere with the demands of Argentine flockmasters for British rams, and even when their demands have been satiated there are other vast territories in South America awaiting the golden tread of the sheep for the development of their agricultural resources. We trust that we have entered on an extended era of shepherding all the world over, which is bound to bring British flockmasters larger demands for rams and genuine prosperity.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 15, 1905:

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	60	111	139	200	2,151	4,135
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	26	29	50	463	800
								933
								981
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	1	...	2	5	644	1,063
								1,116
								1,106
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	9	...	...
								11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	40	57	64	45	1,153	1,619
								1,254
								1,119
	Outbreaks.	No.	21	27	40	29	661	820
								756
								618
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								100
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	15	18	30	808	856
								707
								465
	Outbreaks.	No.	18	11	15	18	566	557
								457
								404
Period.	Week ended July 15, 1905 ...			1904			Total for 28 weeks in 1905 ...	Corresponding period in 1904
	Corresponding week in ...			1903				1903
				1902				1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Lady Warwick College.—The fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Lady Warwick College, Studley, was celebrated on Wednesday by the holding of a show of flowers, fruit, vegetables, etc., in the Castle grounds. There was a very large attendance of visitors, including the Countess of Warwick, Lord Brooke, Mr Wilson, K.C., and Miss Wilson, Chatham, Ontario, and Mr. Brooke Hunt, of the Board of Agriculture. The exhibits were staged in two large marquees, the table decorations being arranged in a spacious room in the Castle. The produce exhibited by the students was generally of a high-class character, and the show was altogether the most successful of the series.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The sixteenth annual show of the Warrington and District Agricultural Society will be held in Walton Park on Thursday, August 17. Prizes, cups, etc., are offered to the value of about £750. As in past years, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., gives a district champion cup value £10, and two silver cups value £5 each. Mr. F. Stapleton Bretherton gives a special prize value £5, and the vice-president, Mr. T. Henry Lyon, a silver cup value £5, while Lady Greenall offers three special prizes of £2 each to the blacksmith for the best shod horse which has been regularly shod at the same forge during the six months or thereabouts previous to the date of the show, in certain specified classes. Mr. J. Whittaker Kenworthy, Mr. James Gould, Messrs. Henry Milling and Co., and Messrs. Day and Sons also offer special prizes. Medals are offered by the Shire Horse Society, the Hunters' Improvement Society, and the Hackney Horse Society. There are classes for Shires, hunters, hackneys, harness horses, jumpers, tradesmen's or tenant farmers' turnouts, cattle, pigs, cheese, and butter. A special feature of the show will be novice classes in the open hunter and open harness classes for horses not having previously won large prizes at other shows. Entry forms and all particulars may be obtained from Mr. H. Beresford Melville, Bold Street, Warrington. Entries close on Wednesday, August 2.

For their thirty-third annual show, which takes place on Tuesday, August 15, the Heanor Agricultural and Horticultural Society is offering upwards of £250 in prizes. Classes are provided for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, and song birds, some of which are open to the United Kingdom, and among the numerous specials are the medals of the Shire and Hackney Horse Societies. Entries close August 8 with the secretaries, Messrs. G. H. Holmes and J. Covel, 11, Market Street, Heanor, Notts, from whom prize schedules, etc., can be obtained.

The second biennial sale of hackneys, Welsh ponies, brood mares, made harness horses, cobs, etc., belonging to Messrs. J. Jones and Son, will take place on Thursday next at Dinarth Hall, Colwyn Bay, Messrs. H. Manley and Sons being the auctioneers. As most horse breeders are aware the name of Messrs. John Jones and Son has been for the last twenty-five years prominently identified as owners and exhibitors of Welsh cobs and ponies, whilst their success in the show-ring has been remarkable. The most noteworthy successes have been achieved since the introduction into the stud of that noted hackney-pony sire, Julius Cæsar II. 5666, one of the most successful pony sires in the United Kingdom. He was purchased by Mr. J. Jones, in 1895, at the dispersal of Sir Humphrey de Trafford's pony stud, at the record price of 210 guineas, and the outlay has been fully justified, three of his progeny having since realised £1,800. Following the precedent of the sale two years ago, with few exceptions all the animals catalogued will be sold without reserve, and thus breeders are offered a good opportunity to purchase young stallions, fillies, and foals as an addition to, or nucleus of, a pony stud.

During the week I have received some catalogues of sales to be conducted by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. in the course of the next month or two. They include the dispersal of a number of pure-bred Shorthorns belonging to Mr. F. J. Steward, Whitehall, Brigstock, Thrapston, at Whitehall Farm, on Wednesday next, the 26th inst.; a selection from the Southdown flock belonging to Mr. R. J. Col-

man, at Crown Point Park, Norwich, on Thursday, August 3; and the sale of sixty head of Shorthorns belonging to Lord Brougham and Vaux, at Brougham, Penrith, on Friday, September 1. All three dispersals are sure to attract a large company of breeders from all parts, the stock to be offered being of the very highest quality and well known.

A valuable consignment of high-class pedigree pigs was shipped from Liverpool on the 11th inst. by the Houlder Line steamship "Drayton Castle," for Brisbane, Queensland. These included a choice Middle White boar, and two sows from the celebrated "Walton" herd owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., of Walton Hall, Warrington, and three Berkshires (a boar and two sows) from Mr. Jefferson's well-known Peel Hall herd. The whole of the animals were personally selected from the respective herds by their new owner, who has been paying a visit to this country, and from their superior breeding should prove a valuable acquisition to his present herd.

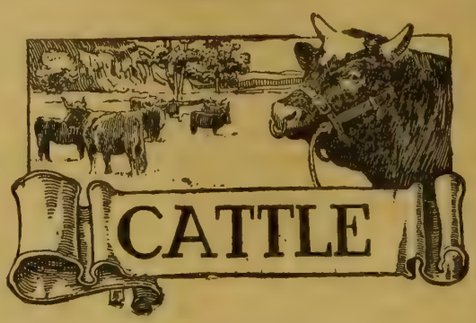
Mr. H. J. Kingwell, of Great Aish, South Brent, Devon, has met with much success this year in the exhibition and sale of Large Black pigs. He has obtained the award of the following prizes:—1st and 2nd at the Royal Show; 1st at the Bath and West at Notting ham; 1st at the Devon County Show; 2nd at the Somerset County (Bath). In addition to the two young boars sold by auction for 16 and 9½ guineas respectively at the Royal Showyard, Mr. Kingwell sold two sows (sisters of the boars) for 15 guineas each, and these are to go to Australia. Another young boar of the same litter was sold to Mr. Frank Dodd, of Chester, and the new owner has entered him for show at the Royal Lancashire, to be held at Liverpool. At the Royal it was remarked that Mr. Kingwell's pen of young sows (three) was the heaviest pen of pigs in the yard of any breed at the same age. Mr. Kingwell has sent other pigs during the past six weeks to Warmley, to Wolverhampton, to Exeter, and has not only sold at good prices, but has purchased recently a noted Cornish Large Black boar named Trescowe Pride (No. 875) at a good price.

At a meeting of the council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, held last week, the secretary, Mr. J. Maughan, stated that the arrangements for the Society's show at Hull, on August 9, 10, and 11, were all in a satisfactory condition, and he presented the following list of entries:—

Section.	1905. Hull.	1904. Huddersfield.	Average for last 5 years.
Cattle	230	249	221
Sheep	122	103	120
Pigs...	99	112	—
Horses	442	377	463
Total Live Stock ...	893	841	804
Total Ent's of all kinds	1,124	1,085	1,093

The figures given in the average column include sections not now represented in the prize list. In the case of pigs the average is not given, as in certain of the years there were no entries owing to the prevalence of swine fever. The number of feet frontage for implement shedding at Hull this year is 6,850, at Huddersfield last year it was 6,102, and the average for the five years is 6,588. Mr. Maughan added that a very satisfactory feature of the entries was that the horses are largely in excess of last year. Shorthorns are also in advance of the Huddersfield entry, but dairy cattle are below, the reason being that so high a standard has now been reached that only the very best quality animals have any chance of success. Arrangements have been made with the Hull Corporation and the three Ridings in respect to the movement of swine, whilst arrangements have been concluded with all the principal railway companies to issue return tickets to Hull for thirty miles and upwards at a single fare and a quarter, available for return to Saturday, August 12.

Altogether there is every prospect of the above show being a most successful one, all that is apparently needed being fine weather, which I hope will be vouchsafed the society. As regards next year's show it was reported at the meeting already mentioned that the Sites Committee recommended the Council to accept the invitation of the Mayor and Corporation of Middlesbrough for the show in 1906, and it was unanimously decided to adopt the recommendation, subject to Middlesbrough sending a deputation to the meeting at Hull on the show day to formally ratify the invitation.



Notes and Jottings.

Another week of unbroken drought has passed over the larger portion of the country since my last notes were penned, and no matter if one meets breeders or feeders from the North, South, East, or West, the complaint of shortness of feed in the pastures comes from one and all alike. Yet, generally, feeding cattle in particular have done fairly well. White clover has been very much in evidence during the past month or six weeks, much more than during the average of seasons, and this alike in pastures that have been dressed with artificial manure and those that have not been dressed. The natural dryness of the season has apparently kept the stronger varieties of grasses from asserting themselves so much, and, given more air, and liberty to the leaves of the delicate white clover, whose sweet blossoms form quite a sheet of white in many pastures.

It has often been said by some one or other of our leading authorities, upon the value of grasses and clovers—and I saw this same thing repeated in a prominent agricultural paper recently—that white clover is not a desirable plant in the pastures, and that it is not as nutritious and beneficial to the cattle pastured there as some of the other varieties of feed. Now my experience has been that there are occasions, and kinds of fodder, green feed, cakes, etc., that give much better results in practice than in theory, and white clover to me has been one of these. Walking to-day over the aftermaths, which, by-the-bye, are but very scanty, I find that the cattle have devoured down to the roots all the moist places where the white clover has grown best, and at all times the presence of this succulent herbage has been looked upon by graziers as an indication of the greatest richness of pastures.

It has been noticed how well cattle eat up such pastures, and almost invariabaly do well upon them. The short grass of a lawn mown continually with lawn-mowing machines, too, when carefully used, is one of the best feeds for indoor stock in the summertime, and this feed, owing to its being continually kept closely mown, usually consists very much of the leaves of the white clover. Then, again, the fact of the cattle always choosing that portion of the pasture first that is most prolific in this herbage is a proof that they like it, and it seldom happens that cattle are bad judges in such matters. Again, if we take the fact that a lot of cattle in a coarse pasture of grasses in which white clover is almost or entirely absent we find that they neither relish the feed as much or rest and thrive as well upon it.

The meat markets, especially beef, have of late been very depressed. Whether the beef has been marketed in quarters or upon the hoof, the highest quotations in the highest markets show a slight decline as compared with a year ago. The hot weather has no doubt a temporary influence in that direction, which is, perhaps, intensified, taking the country through, by the number of so-called unemployed, who, in consequence of their, perhaps in some cases (but very few), enforced idleness, have not the means wherewith to consume their usual quantity of meat. Shortness of pasturage, too, is causing in many places the disposal of more than the usual number of animals, and in some instances they prove to be not quite as well finished as would be well.

American and Canadian reports generally seem to sound rather a warning note in respect of grazing cattle or heifers. In the first place, it is said that on many of the leading or large ranches very much greater than the average number of fat stock will be forthcoming this fall owing to the fact that many lots of steers that ought to have been finished off last autumn were held over, and will augment the present year's supply. At the same time, a warning note is sounded that, so far as the Northern American Continent is concerned, the present year will in many instances be the last one in several immense districts in which ranch cattle will be fattened, a number of very large ranches having been split up and fallen into the hands of settlers, whose modes of farming will produce far less cattle and beef for a time than the old system.

In view of such facts, which are, there is no doubt, correct and stubborn facts, British breeders will do well to stick to their guns in the way of cattle-breeding, and maintain and increase, if possible, their ordinary numbers of stock, always bearing in mind that the quality is maintained as well as the numbers, and that it is the best that are most readily sold, and that leave the most profit behind them. Sheep-breeding in America, too, appears to be very much on the increase, and with wool at a better price than for years past, and mutton dear, there is little doubt business will increase very considerably in that direction, and this, too, will certainly have at least a little effect upon the beef and cattle supplies of that great Continent.

It has been admitted by many farmers of late years that it pays better to breed and feed than simply to purchase the raw material in its unfattened state, and just finish it for the block. This theory is a pretty sound one, and will be found by far the most profitable way of going on where the farmer and those around him do not begrudge a little trouble in the feeding and management of the youngsters, as great care is needed in this respect; but when these cares are over and the feeder finds himself the possessor of a large herd of highly-bred stock, secured, as we may say by instalments, past troubles sink into oblivion. There is no question that the man who is a feeder only finds greater difficulty every day in purchasing well bred stock, and experience has proved that badly bred ones leave little or no profits.

With regard to the rearing of calves for fattening when matured, a great many and various systems are followed. Some simply let a cow bring up her own and another purchased calf, letting them run out in the fields or fold yards; others take the trouble to milk the cows and feed the milk, to which other foods have been added, from a pail, some using one means and some another of increasing the capacity for bringing up a number of calves at as small an expense as possible. In some recent experiments carried out in calf feeding at the Kansas Experiment Station, some valuable hints have been obtained. One of the main things taught is the great value of skimmed milk as a food for bringing up stock calves, this product being rich in bone and muscle formers, and the calves were found to make better progress later on than those reared upon their dams.

The "Sale of Butter Bill" is being looked forward to as being likely to afford some benefit to the butter producing portion of dairy farmers as soon as it is passed and becomes law. Our dairy papers and thousands of our consumers are continually throwing in the face of British butter makers what they call the superiority of a great deal of foreign butter as compared with the home-made product, and at home are continually yelling about the superior properties of creamery butter as compared with that of individual dairy farmers. Those people who have to make their homes largely in hotels know many of them to their sorrow, how utterly unpalatable, and, it may be said, unfit for food much of the butter put before them at these establishments has been during the recent hot weather.

The recent award of milking prizes at Park Royal should be, plainly speaking, an eye-opener to many dairymen. The number of animals that were disqualified owing to the poverty of their milk being almost incredible. It is much to be regretted, and detracts immensely from the instructive value of such tests that the results are so late in being published. This year nothing was known of them practically until the majority of visitors had left the show. Had these results been published upon the opening or second day of the show, it would have given those interested an opportunity of inspecting these animals and of seeing if outward signs of this poverty were visible. This might be done were the animals received into the yard, and tested prior to the general exhibition.

Another matter of very vital importance is

the question of food used. These cows ought to be all fed alike and under the superintendence, as regards their feeding, of some thoroughly responsible and reliable person. Until this is done, and the weight of food consumed by each animal published, very little, or, we may say, no benefit whatever in the way of intelligence will be conferred upon the dairy portion of our stock breeders. What availeth it so far as rent paying and making a living is concerned if one cow succeeds in giving five or six gallons of milk a day, if the cost per gallon in production is, as it would often be found to be, double that of the cow that yields three or three and a half gallons, the latter also improving her value by better condition, whilst the former is only sinking away?

There was little to choose in the way of breeds as to the richness, or rather as to the disqualifications on account of poverty of the milk, as regards the large breeds, Shorthorns, Lincoln Reds, South Devons, and Red Polls all showing in the disqualifications, and Longhorns also. Ayrshires, Channel Islanders, and the smaller breeds all passed favourably in this respect; but, as regards the former of these breeds, no awards were made beyond the first and second prizes. Roughly speaking, Jerseys came out best of any breed, and probably Dexter Kerries next best. The latter breed and the sisters, the Kerries, did not have quite as good a time as for the past few years at Messrs. Robertson's annual sale at Park Royal. Shortness of feed may, perhaps, account for this, and also for the low prices prevailing at a recent sale of Red Polls.

Sale of Dutch Cattle at Ipswich.

Messrs. Robt. Bond and Sons sold at Ipswich on Tuesday a herd of forty Dutch cattle, the property of Mr. Allan Gant, of Ramsey. The animals were all bred by the owner, and included some good specimens of the breed. There was a sharp demand, and high prices were realised throughout, buyers attending from long distances. Details:—

	£	s.
Polly, 6 years old, and calf ... Lord Radnor, Wiltshire	28	0
Princess, 5 years old, and calf		
Strawberry, 5 years old, and calf ... Mr. L. Lucas, Ramsey	27	0
... Mr. A. C. Haddenham, Pakefield	27	10
Darkie, 5 years old, and calf ... Mr. A. C. Haddenham, Pakefield	32	0
Duchess, 5 years old, and calf ... Lord Radnor	28	10
Violet, 5 years old ... Mr. H. W. Girling, Reydon	23	10
Spot, 5 years old ... Mr. H. W. Girling, Reydon	21	0
Cowslip, 5 years old ... Mr. E. J. Keeble, Gt. Oakley	17	10
Snowball, 4 years old ... Lord Radnor	23	0
Heifer, about 2 years old ... Mr. A. C. Haddenham	22	10
Heifer, ditto ... Lord Radnor	20	0
Heifer, ditto ... Mr. A. C. Haddenham	21	10
Heifer, ditto ... Mr. L. Lucas	22	10
Heifer, ditto ... Lord Radnor	23	10
Heifer, ditto ... Mr. W. Dybell, North Walsham	15	10
Heifer, about 20 months old ... Mr. W. Dybell, North Walsham	13	10
Four Heifers, about 12 months old ... Mr. W. Dybell, North Walsham (each)	12	10
Eight Heifers, about 8 months old ... Mr. A. Hutley, Braintree (each)	8	5
Two Heifer Calves ... Mr. J. C. Dawson, Nacton (each)	5	0
Bull, 2½ years old ... Mr. H. W. Girling	13	0
Bull, 20 months old ... Lord Radnor	15	10
Bull calf, 10 months old ... Mr. W. Dybell	15	15

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

Good may be expected to arise from the persistent efforts that Mr. Philpotts Williams is making to bring the question of light horse breeding before the country, and his lecture under the auspices of the Army League and the Imperial Defence Association is, so far as it goes, a cheering sign. To say that our horses have deteriorated would not be correct. In every breed there are as good horses as ever there were. The records of the racecourse show that our thoroughbreds are as stout and as fast as ever they were, and in the hunting field there are more horses which go to hounds satisfactorily than used to be the case. But there are not so many light horses bred as are required—the demand has increased more rapidly than the supply, and herein lies our weakness. Government aid is called for; it is suggested that there should be a restriction, if not a prohibition, on the foreign sale of mares and fillies, and that the Government should undertake to either subsidise breeders under certain conditions, or commence breeding establishments as is done abroad. A restriction or prohibition on the sale of mares to go abroad is, at any rate at present out of the range of practical politics. Mr. Philpotts Williams says that the 700 horse shows in the United Kingdom are so many horse fairs at which the foreigner has the opportunity of buying our best mares. That is so, but Mr. Williams and those who think breeders and farmers should sacrifice themselves for the good of the community, forget how easy it would be to keep those mares in the country. The men who sell them would take the same money or less from an English customer. It is precisely because the foreigner is a good buyer that he gets some of the best. He does not get them all.

Though the Government might do more than it does to encourage horse breeding it is questionable whether any great benefit would be derived from Government interference. It is very questionable if a Government stud would be a satisfactory solution of the difficulty. Because Government studs succeed to a certain extent abroad it by no means follows that they would do so in this country, the private enterprise of which in horse breeding has far surpassed the Government efforts of other countries as is sufficiently evidenced by the throng of foreign buyers who come over to visit us every summer. The danger seems to be that there is a decreasing market for the second or third rate horse. What is meant by the term as a model the horse possessing speed but [illegible] something which is necessary for him to rank in the first or second class. The future market for such horses seems likely to be curtailed by the increase of motor omnibuses and electric trams, and with the omnibus and van motor-driven, the army seems to be the only great market left for the class of horse named. This means a decrease in price except in the case of a war when there would be famine prices at once. It may be safely assumed that [illegible] about double the estimated number if a [illegible] war was on the way. Now the danger seems to be that the foreigner may get our good mares at even less than their value. The most practical way to prevent this seems to be to support the Brood Mare Society, for which Mr. Williams has done so much. If this Society was supported as it should be, or kindred societies were formed, horse breeding would soon be put on its proper footing, and there would be no need for complaining of a deficiency of horses. The patriotism of private individuals seems likely to effect more benefit at a less cost than any Government scheme, but it is evident that on the question of the horse supply that it requires rousing.

The way in which the Cleveland Bay breed has been neglected is from a national standpoint culpable. Here we had the finest foundation for the general utility horse in the world as I have frequently pointed out in these columns, and we simply let it slide because it was unfashionable. I am led to make these remarks by a paragraph which I saw in a Yorkshire newspaper a few days ago to the effect that a gentleman had purchased some high-class Cleveland Bay fillies with a view to experimenting in the direction of hunter breeding. And then the newspaper went on to say that should the experiment prove successful it would provide good weight-carrying hunters and solve a problem which had long puzzled breeders, or words to that effect. All which is of course so much twaddle.

For a hundred and fifty years certainly, but very probably for many more the cross between the Cleveland Bay mare and the thoroughbred sire has been a matter of common practice. I myself have written columns, historical and otherwise, about the cross between the thoroughbred and the Cleveland Bay, and some twenty years ago I bought nine Cleveland Bay mares for the late Duke of Hamilton, who got them with the express purpose of breeding hunters from them by thoroughbred sires. But this is only a recent occurrence. Let us for a moment go back to ancient history. In 1735 was foaled a horse named Traveller, by Almanza. He was bred by Mr. Osbaldeston, and was a notable horse in his day, winning many plates. He was sold at the end of his racing career, and for many years was a country stallion travelling in the neighbourhood of Yarm, at the low fee of one sovereign, and very frequently less. The excellence of his stock from the country mares, most of which in those days were Cleveland bays, drew attention to him, and the first Duke of Cleveland fancied him sufficiently, and determined to give him a trial. The result of his alliance with Slighted by All was Dainty Davie, who, so far as we are able to judge, was the best of his year. At any rate, he was so good that the Duke was not long in buying him, and though he was an old horse he sired some useful horses. He was seventeen or eighteen years old when he mated with Slighted by All.

Why Traveller was neglected in the early part of his stud career it is impossible to say. His history is enveloped in obscurity from the time he ran his last race to the time the Duke of Cleveland patronised him. But it is well known that when he was in the neighbourhood of Yarm he was mated with the mares of the country, i.e., with the Cleveland mares, and many a good Cleveland bay stallion owed his extra dash and quality to old Traveller, whose name appears in many of the old pedigrees of Cleveland Bay sires.

Coming down to a later date—about one hundred years after the birth of Traveller—we find, on his own showing that the Primate was the best horse in Sir Harry Goodricke's stable when that gentleman hunted the Queen. And the history of the Primate is an interesting one. He was by President from a Cleveland Bay mare, and was bought by Mr. John Maynard, of Harlsey Castle, when three years old. Mr. Maynard, a very heavy man, hunted him with his own hounds and Mr. Milbanke's, and sold him to Sir Harry Goodricke for 400 gs. Sir Harry wrote that he was the best horse out of a stable of fifty, and, I believe, that when he was sold after Sir Harry's death he made 600 gs.

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
July 24	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. T. J. Buxton	Waters Place Farm, Ware, Herts.
25	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Various	Didcot Junction.
25, 26, & 27	Horses	Various	North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
25 & 26	Southdown Sheep... ...	Various	Chichester Cattle Market.
26	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. F. J. Steward... ...	White Hall Farm, Brigstock, Thrapston.
26	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. W. M. Harris ...	Basingstoke.
27	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Mr. F. A. K. Falconer ...	Alresford Fair, Hants.
27	Hampshire Down Ram Lambs	Mr. J. Goldsmith	Alresford Fair, Hants.
27	Longhorn Cattle	Mr. W. H. Sale	Atherstone, Warwickshire.
27	Hackney and Welsh Ponies	Messrs. Jones and Son ..	Colwyn Bay, North Wales.
27	Horses	Various	York Horse Repository.
28	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Marquis of Winchester ...	Weyhill Fair.
28	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. F. A. Holman ..	Weyhill.
28	Hampshire Down Sheep..	Mr. H. O. Stephens ..	Weyhill.
28	Hampshire Down Sheep ..	Mr. W. S. James	Cattle Market, Kettering.
28	Devon Longwoolled Shearling Rams	Various	Exeter Cattle Market.
28	Suffolk Sheep	Various	Kesgrave, near Ipswich.
29	Devon Longwoolled Shearling Rams	Various	Taunton Cattle Market.
31	South Devon Rams ...	Various	Totnes, Devon.
31	Suffolk Horses	Various	Ipswich.

He was the highest-priced horse at the sale. Mr. John Maynard was a great believer in the cross, and the Primate was not the only horse bred that way that he sold for 400 gs.

I have had a most interesting letter from an old East Riding man on the subject of Cleveland Bays, and I trust if he sees this he will forgive me for quoting him. "I have seen the time," said he, "when much of the East Riding was farmed with clean legged—no white—mares—a golden bay; and I have seen the farmers' wives ride to market on pillions behind their husbands on these mares. These mares, crossed with whole coloured blood, bred either hunters or coachers—short backs, cut their tails as hunters, if not coachers. . . . I have seen to my sorrow fifty beautiful mares exported to Prussia by old Ryby Nicholson every fortnight. England was then fooling away what you cannot replace at about £30 each."

England is not doing that now; and, as I pointed out earlier in this article, the export of mares can easily be stopped by rich people at home. But in the days of which my correspondent speaks the Cleveland Bay was neglected, and sent out of the country wholesale, simply because men failed to recognise what an important factor they were in horse breeding. And something very similar, though in a different way, has gone on during the last 25 years. When the revival took place men, hastening to be rich, bred entirely for the foreign market. Immediately that there was a falling off in the foreign demand, many of them—not all—gave up breeding pure bred Clevelands, and crossed their mares with Hackneys or thoroughbreds. There was a time when it would have been comparatively easy to have got up a good stock of valuable mares. It is not out of the range of possibility to do that now; but it will be a work of time and patience. In a few years, unless something is done at once, I fear it will be impossible. And I would point out that the methods which have stood the test for over 150 years seem to be far more worthy of support than more or less chimerical theories on crossing.

I was at the Bedfordshire show at Ampthill on Wednesday, and was very pleased to see the judges, Mr. A. Parker and Mr. G. Taylor, rode the hacks. This resulted, as might have been expected, in some of the "fashionable" high-stepping type being put back. And quite right. What is the use of a hack that no one would ride five miles, or could ride five miles, without being shaken to death? And if a hack is no longer a necessity, he is a luxury; and if hack classes are kept in show schedules, hacks should be "pleasant conveyances."

THE LOOKER-ON.

Show at Chesterfield.

The show of the Chesterfield and East Derbyshire Agricultural Society progresses each year, there having been a steady increase in the number of entries of recent years, and last week a further advance was noted, a record being established. The exhibition was the 63rd that has been held, and in every respect it was a great credit to the society, the stock being of an excellent character. The entries totalled 397, comapred with 374 last year, and 364 in 1903. There were 212 horses, an increase of 7, 58 cattle as against 75 last year, 72 sheep, an increase of 22, 17 pigs, and 38 entries of dairy produce. Delightful weather favoured the gathering and the attendance was good. Agricultural horses made a very good display. There was not a big class of mares with foals, but they included an animal of rare merit, and one which has taken honours at many leading shows. This was Tom's Flower, which has captured no fewer than five gold medals of the Shire Horse Society. She formerly belonged to Messrs. James Forshaw and Sons, of Carlton-on-Trent, Newark, but is now the property of Mr. Joseph Grimes, of Highfield, Pallerton. Mr. J. Grimes was successful in the barren mare class with Warlie's Bluebell, by Blythewood Conqueror. She also won the Challenge Cup as being the best mare belonging to a tenant farmer. Mr. Grimes thus repeating his last year's victory, and he has only to be successful once more to win the cup outright, as he did the previous one. Warlie's Bluebell also secured the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society. Though the hunting classes were not of large dimensions, they contained animals of almost unrivalled character. Classes for pit ponies were included in the catalogue for the first time, and they obtained strong support, the sturdy animals coming in for much attention. The standard attained in the cattle section was a high one, the bull classes being excellent. Sheep, too, were good—in fact one of the best displays seen at Chesterfield, the entries being more numerous and the quality much improved, whilst of pigs there was a moderate show.

Notes and Jottings.

Some interesting facts have been given to the agricultural press of the results obtained by crossing rams of certain other breeds with Welsh ewes. This information having already been widely circulated, it need not be referred to more fully here, save to draw attention to the fact that such tests are most valuable, and, further, to emphasise this value.

On all hands it is admitted that the export demand for stud sheep is one of the most lucrative portions of the ram-breeder's business. This demand, therefore, is one worth giving all encouragement possible, and, hence, any matter that would aid in this direction is worthy of repetition.

The object of all who import our stud rams for the improvement of their native stock is to breed rams for this purpose. This being so, it follows that any information as to the value of different breeds of sheep when used for cross-breeding is of the greatest interest and value to these buyers.

If this is so, then there can be no question but that experiments such as have been conducted with the Welsh ewes ought also to be conducted with other breeds. When one remembers the grand fat sheep exhibited at Smithfield in the lamb classes for cross-breds, and the various crosses that have been tried to produce the cross-bred lambs for competition there, it is a matter of regret that a full record of all the details of their breeding, etc., has not been tabulated and placed upon record.

It will probably be urged that, so far as regards Smithfield Show, one cross more than any other has been successful: quite so, but this does not prove that in different localities and under other circumstances other crosses would not be quite as profitable.

The Smithfield crosses have proved themselves the best for that purpose, but it has yet to be proved this cross is the best for all purposes or the most profitable for the general feeder.

Another point these Welsh experiments have brought to light—namely, there is still much to be learnt in this direction. Experiments in crossing of two pure breeds are useful and valuable, and it would doubtless be well worth the while of sheep societies to give encouragement to such cross-breeding tests, with a view of being able to show by actual results the value of the service of sires of their breed, both upon other pure-bred ewes, and also upon nondescript ewes with no particular line of blood.

The notable rise in the value of wool has been much commented upon, and many excellent sales have been made. One of the best we have heard of is that effected by the Duke of Richmond for the wool of his Goodwood Flock, which, at the Chichester Wool Sale, realised 15½d. per lb. of washed wool. Many growths of Kent wool have realised fully 1s. per lb., and one we heard of at Ashford last week made 12½d. per lb. Contrast this with 5½d. and 6d., the ruling prices two or so years ago, and the importance of this rise in value will be fully realised, equalling in the Kent breed some 3s. 6d. to 4s. per sheep.

Looking around the various pens of Hampshire Down sheep and lambs at Salisbury Fair, one could best realise how great a part the sheep play in the successful working of that huge tract of land adjacent to Salisbury. A visit to any one of these large holdings there will always bring home the importance of the sheep to the profitable occupation of land, not only in that district, but in all others where sheep will thrive and do.

Another notable feature of this fair, or sale, was the remarkable prices obtained for the fat wether lambs, barely of an average age of six months. Up to 50s. per head was realised, and quite a number went over 40s. Surely there is profit in this.

That the Hampshire Downs have a well-deserved reputation for early maturity, is well known; but facts such as the remarkable early development of their ordinary wether lambs are not sufficiently well known. Many times, when I have been quoting the remarkable results given by Smithfield average daily gain, I have been met with the rejoinder that such gains are only those of show sheep. Would it not, therefore, be advisable for the Hampshire Down breeders to arrange for an actual test to be taken of, say, for instance, the first-prize pen of either fifty or eighty fat wether lambs at the next Salisbury Fair, the lambs to be weighed alive and then dressed. Whatever the result might be, it would be of value and interest both to those interested in the breed at home, and also in the Colonies and elsewhere.

The agricultural returns show a reduction in the number of sheep in the United Kingdom as compared with the preceding year by 1.87 per cent. The aggregate total is 29,105,100 head, which is the heaviest total recorded since 1888, when it was 28,938,716. This diminution of the sheep stock of the country is a matter of regret; but it is more than probable largely due to the fact that under the present system of early maturity and rapid development the average age of sheep slaughtered is very much less than formerly, and consequently, even with the smaller number kept for breeding purposes, it is more than likely that the weight of mutton produced is larger than it used to be in former years.

The number of ewes kept for breeding purposes in 1904 was 11,436,017, which shows a decrease of 0.43 per cent. as compared with the corresponding total for the previous year. This reduction, though a small one, is a matter of regret, because any reduction of the breeding stock of the country is a matter of serious import, particularly of sheep. These are, without question, one of the most valuable assets our farmers can have, and no other domestic animal gives so good a return for the money invested, nor are any more valuable in respect to maintaining the fertility of the soil.

Reference to the tables for the different parts of the United Kingdom shows, however, that the whole, or, at any rate, the larger proportion, of the reduction has taken place in Ireland because, whilst this country's total for 1904 is 3.25 per cent. less than in 1903, Great Britain shows an increase of 0.02 per cent, the increases being 0.52 per cent. for England, 1.06 per cent. for Wales, and a decrease of 1.42 per cent. in Scotland.

Practically, England, Scotland, and Wales have just maintained the stock of the previous year, a matter we are pleased to note, because it shows that, so far as regards these countries, the annual decrease has been stopped.

Inverness Sheep and Wool Fair.

This famous fair, which was held on the 14th and 15th inst., was one of the most satisfactory to buyers and sellers that have been held at Inverness for about a generation. The great demand for Cheviot and blackfaced wools—manufacturers in the United States seem to want as much wool as they can get—ensured an exceptional attendance of wool buyers at the market; and, on the other side, the sheep farmers of the Highlands, feeling assured that they would obtain enhanced prices for sheep and wool, were ready to meet the buyers in an accommodating spirit. Business was therefore got through with a degree of dispatch that was almost up-to-date, and was somewhat foreign to the old ways of bargaining. Some well-known Highland farmers held back their plots for the autumn sales, in the confident expectation that the market rates would be bettered. The indications are that the demand for first-class wools will further strengthen, and some of the sheepowners, being inclined to think that keep will be more plentiful in the South than had been indicated in the reports on the harvest prospects, have also held back for a further increase.

The advance on the prices obtained at the same market last year may be quoted as follows:—Cheviot sheep, 1s. to 2s. per head up; Cheviot lambs, 1s. 6d. up; blackfaced sheep, 1s. to 2s. up; blackfaced lambs, 1s. to 1s. 6d. up; Cheviot wool, 4s. to 5s. per stone up; blackfaced wool, 6d. to 9d. up.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Braintree.

The annual sale of sheep and lambs held at Braintree by Messrs. Bales took place on Thursday, when there was an entry of upwards of 5,600 animals, and a large company of buyers. The lambs were an exceptionally good lot all round, the high class and quality being a matter of general comment. The prices realised were considered on the whole to be very satisfactory. Shearling Suffolk ewes made up to 61s., Suffolk ewes to 49s., half bred full mouthed ewes up to 44s., and Hampshire Down ewes to 44s.

Camelford.

At Camelford Fair on Monday the supply was below the average, and there was keen competition, especially for the lambs, with the result that sales were fast and good prices realised. Many flocks were intercepted on the road to the fair, and others were purchased from the farms. In those instances lower prices were realised, and agriculturists were disappointed to find that bringing them into the fair would have considerably increased their returns. Lambs made from 20s. to 33s.; wethers, 42s. to 53s.; fat lambs, 8½d. per lb.; fat wethers, 7½d.

Chichester.

At Chichester on Wednesday Messrs. Stride and Son held their second special sale of the season of about 3,000 Southdown and other lambs. There was a large company of buyers present, and a good selling trade prevailed throughout, and, with the exception of one lot, every lamb was sold, prices ranging from 28s. to 35s. 6d.

Halesworth.

There was a large attendance at Messrs. Stanford and Broom's annual lamb sale, at Halesworth, on Thursday. The catalogue of 7,000 lambs and sheep comprised 4,600 half-bred lambs (mostly first-cross), 550 black-faced shearling and flock ewes, 200 half-bred shearling and flock ewes, 30 fat sheep, and 10 ram lambs. Competition was good, and the prices realised satisfactory. Half-bred lambs made up to 35s., ram lambs 50s., wethers 37s., and ewes 39s. 6d.; blackfaced shearling ewes fetched up to 52s. 6d. and lambs up to 45s.

Harleston.

Messrs. George Durrant and Sons' annual sale of lambs, ewes, and grazing sheep, at the auction mart, Harleston, took place on Monday, when the entries comprised 3,050, from the principal flockmasters in the district. Trade was fairly brisk, and the prices realised were very satisfactory, the highest price for lambs being 36s. per head, and for ewes 64s.

Kingsbridge.

About 2,500 sheep were sold at Kingsbridge Fair on Thursday, at prices that were considered good. Breeding ewes in pen realised 37s. to 45s. 6d. each; some of special breed reaching 52s. to 53s. 6d. top price; wethers in pens of five and ten sold at 54s. 6d. to 57s. each; ram hoggets £4 to £5 10s. each; one or two prime animals, £8 8s.; single wether sheep, 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; ewes, 5d. to 5½d.; lamb, 9d. to 10d.

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Dublin.

At Messrs. Ganly and Son's sale at Dublin on Wednesday the catalogue comprised 400,000 lb. of home-grown wools, all of which appeared to be in prime condition. There was a large attendance of buyers, but competition was very irregular, and much quieter than on the opening sale last month. Prices for bred wools, and for seaside and mountain qualities were from 1d. to 3d. per lb. lower, while Scotch and crossbred descriptions ruled about the same as at the June sale. Kerry wools were neglected. Considerable quantities withdrawn owing to buyers not offering up to consignor's reserve. Prices: Shropshire and Downs, 12¾d. to 13¾d.; fine hoggs, 12¼d. to 12¾d.; deep hoggs, 11½d. to 12d.; fine wethers, 12d. to 12½d.; deep wethers, 11d. to 11½d.; Wicklow mountain and seaside, 9d. to 10½d.; strong mountain, 8½d. to 9d.; bred greasy fleeces and mats, 8½d. to 10¾d.; blackfaced and Scotch, 6½d. to 8½d.

Lewes.

The second annual wool sale was held at Lewes on Monday in place of the annual wool fair, which has come to stay. All the best-known farmers in the eastern division of the county had entered fleeces, and buyers were present from a great distance. No fewer than 35,000 fleeces were catalogued, and the prices realised were very satisfactory. Of the 160 lots offered, less than half a dozen were passed over unsold. The average price realised was about 1s. 0½d. per lb., some fleeces making as much as 1s. 2½d. per lb. All the wool offered was English wool, and was comprised practically of fleeces from Southdown flocks, only a few Kent, Exmoor, Scotch, and crossbred fleeces being included.

Teesdale.

Haymaking operations interfered with the attendance at the Teesdale wool-sales last week, but a fair amount of business was transacted. Scotch wool came more freely to hand, and the feature of all classes of wool was its marked cleanliness. Quotations:—Best Leicester hogg, 13s. to 13s. 6d. per st.; half-bred fleeces, 12s to 12s. 6d.; Scotch wool of the best class, 7d. per lb.

Sussex County Show.

From small beginnings, this county show has grown to be one of the best in its district. The hearty manner in which all connected with its management do their work, assisted by their able and courteous Secretary, thoroughly deserves the success that has attended this year's exhibition held at Horsham. This mid-Sussex town gave the Society a hearty welcome, and the show ground was well adapted for its purpose. The arrangement of the ground was well planned, and little, if any, exception could be taken to this. One point, however, must be mentioned, namely—the bad method adopted in the arrangement of the catalogue. Evidently those responsible for this have but little need to refer to the catalogue, or otherwise we should not find the horse section commencing at number 1, and a little later find the same numbers again used in the cattle section. This duplication of numbers is much to be deprecated, and will, we trust, be avoided in future years; in fact, the faulty manner in which the catalogue is compiled is the worst feature of the otherwise excellent show.

Horses.

The first section is that for agricultural horses, which were judged by Mr. A. H. Clarke, of Moulton Eangate. This was a particularly strong section, and one in which the improvement of the past fifteen or twenty years' careful breeding of Shire horses in this country was seen to great advantage. Fifteen entries were made in the brood mare class, and the merit ran high all through. Rendall Lass, by Regent II., won first for the Marquis Camden, whose position was closely challenged by another excellent mare, Mr. J. Pearman's Creslow Belle III., that came second; her stud mate, a nice type of a weighty brood mare, Dogdyke Duchess, came third, and Poling Chance, owned by Mr. Thomas Dare, took the r.n.

We do not remember ever seeing a better class of foals at any county show for a very long time than we saw at this show. Not only was it a large class, twenty-two in number, but its merit was excellent. The winning foal, Mr. J. Pearman's chestnut colt by Hurdle Champion, was a grand colt, said by competent judges to be good enough to win in any company, an opinion your reporter thoroughly endorses. Next came a bay filly from the Marquis Camden's stud by Westley Regent, a first-class filly of high merit. Messrs. J. and H. Robinson owned the third winner, a well-known filly by Girton Charmer; whilst the r.n. went to a capital black colt, with good bone, by Hendre Champion, owned by Mr. Thos. Dare. Half-a-dozen entries made up a very creditable class of yearlings. Mr. T. Luckin won first with Sussex Menestrel, by the champion horse Menestrel. Mr. A. Luckin was second with a weighty one in Orford Charm; and Mr. T. Dare, with Poling Smart, took third, and the r.n. with an unnamed colt by D'Arcy Albert. Six entries were found in the two-year-old class. Mr. T. Luckin's Sussex Surprise, by Hendre Champion, secured the preference, followed by a very good filly of Mr. T. Dare's, Poling Dainty, by D'Arcy Albert. The third winner was Orford Champion from Mr. T. Luckin; and Mr. G. Duct, with Floradora, bred by Mr. J. W. Measures, took r.n.

The three-year-old class was of some good merit; here the winner was Orford Bridesmaid, a well-bred filly owned by Mr. A. Luckin; Love of Okehurst, bred by Messrs. Locke-King, and owned by Mr. W. G. Fladgate, ran close for first honours, but had to be content with second place. Mr. T. Luckin, with Bosphorus, bred by Mr. J. Parnell, came third—this is a very good filly—and Mr. W. Prince was r.n. The four-year-old and upwards mare class had a grand one for its winner in Mr. T. Luckin's Sussex Bluegown, which was followed by another of practically the same merit, Mr. John Allenby's Nailstone Lady of the Lake, bred by Mr. E. Clarke (Atherstone). The stallion class was a better one than we have often seen at this show. Mr. A. Luckin won correctly with Orford Prince, by Hendre Champion, followed by Mr. P. F. R. Salliard's Bridegroom William, by that grand old stud horse Prince William; and the same owner won the r.n. with Grenaragh Draytman.

Messrs. T. Wickham Boynton and W. G. Lambarde were judges of the hunter classes. This section was a good one, and very many of the best horses of the present day were in competition. The brood mare class was a good one, Sir M. R. Burrell, Bart., with Speculation, took first honours, and second and third with Florence and Chartreuse. Sir M. R. Burrell also won first in the foal class with a first class foal out of the winning mare. The leading winners in the other classes were Messrs. E. T. Norris, M. Seth Smith, W. A. Thornton, J. A. Mullens, and H. F. Sturdy. In the riding classes, wherein there were many superior animals, Messrs. E. T. Norris with Blood Royal, J. H. Stokes with Rosebud and Wiskey, H. M. Mackusick with Goldbeater, A. Gorham with Joan, and J. P. Hornung with Draco were the leading winners. In the champion class for any age, Mr. J. H. Stokes won with Wiskey, who beat Mr. H. M. Mackusick's well-known Tennis Ball, which was followed by Mr. F. G. Colman's Chance.

The two classes of covert hacks secured a good entry. Sir M. R. Burrell and Messrs. J. Colman, Leigh Brook, and C. B. Toms were the principal winners. Sir Gilbert Greenall and Mr. A. Rowell judged the Hackney classes, in which, though the entries were of moderate numbers, the merit was very good. Rosadora won with every ease in the brood mare class for Mr. W. B. Tubbs, Atwick Flirt taking second honours for Mr. J. F. Mitchell. This latter exhibitor won first in the foals with a fine filly foal out of his winning mare by His Majesty, Mr. J. A. Mullens taking second honours. Administrator won first honours in the stallion class and the special prize as best stallion for Mr. W. B. Tubbs, Brave Member was second for Sir Walter Gilbey, and Copper Prince third for Mr. A. Benson. The latter exhibitor went to the fore in the two-year-old class with Copper Duke, taking precedence of Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Lad, who had Mr. S. Shorter's King's Equerry as his close attendant. The jumping, driving, and other exhibition classes were well filled, and the competition good all through.

Cattle.

Messrs. H. Leney and Hugh Gorringe were judges for the Shorthorn and mixed breed classes. Two of these were for cows and heifers and two for bulls. The former were practically all representative of dairymen's herds, and the merit was very good all through, particularly in the cow class, in which we found quite a number of real good cows. Messrs. G. F. Sanford and Green Bros. were leading winners, and the last-named, together with C. and E. Robinson and T. Watson, took the prizes in the order named in the heifer class. The older bull class had the Marquis Camden's Roan Foundation for its winner, but a more stylish and shapely one was found in the second bull, from the Duke of Richmond's herd, Silver Coir. A white with good form and nice type from Sir E. Loder came in r.n. A roan of nice quality, Faries Chieftain, took first for the Marquis Camden in the yearling class, and Sir A. H. Brown was second.

The Sussex cattle, judged by Mr. Gerald Ward and C. D. Mare, have never been better represented at this show than to-day. A better lot of females, particularly in the yearling heifer classes, we have not seen for years. Old Mayflower 8th won first honours for the Hon. R. P. Nevill, a very typical cow she is; the Earl of Derby, with Fancy, came next; and Messrs. Cumtice and W. G. Fladgate were third and r.n. Earl Winterton won with Sunlight 5th, first in the two-year-old class, a beautiful heifer, very straight and even in her flesh. She won the female champion honour, and was r.n. for the best Sussex in the show. Bewbush Wind 4th, another capital heifer, was second for Mr. Salliard; Brunswick Queen from Mr. E. E. Braby came third in this strong class, leaving the r.n. for Mr. E. Bannister's Limehurst Broadhorn, a neat and typical animal.

The class of the section and of the show was the yearling heifer class in this breed. A beautiful heifer is Sunlight 7th that won first honours for Earl Winterton and the r.n. for female champion honour. We admired this heifer very much, she was third at the Royal, and her herd mate, now third, then was first. Such a choice, is a very excellent heifer, and, whilst we agree with the award [illegible] this heifer has particularly good merit. The second winner here was in the same place at the Royal, is Gwendolm of Lynwick, owned by Mr. J. Anngier. The r.n. was Mr. Salliard's Bewbush Woodmancote, another choice heifer. Two from Mr. W. Cuttley, and one from Mr. J. Anngier were h.c., and those sent by Count Munster and

W. A. Thornton were c. The Earl of Derby's Mayor went first and was made best male and champion of the yard; Mr. Salliard's Bewbush Marquis was second; and the Earl of Winterton's Bewbush was third. The two-year old bull class was a good one. The winners were Eric, from Mr. C. J. Lucas; Bonfire Prince, from the Hon. R. P. Nevill; and Champion of Dumgewick, from Mr. E. Braby were the winners in the order named. Nine entries made up a very excellent class, and the winner was that grand young bull Shillinglee Bewbush, one of the best of its age we have seen for some while. Mr. E. E. Braby, with Lord of Dumgewick, came second, and J. Goodman third.

A neat and good entry of Aberdeen-Angus represented this breed. Messrs. G. Drummond, who won the champion honours, was, together with Mr. G. A. Cooper and J. H. Bridges, who was first, second and third in the two-year-old class, were the leading winners in the section.

The Jersey entry was a large and most typical one of special merit and excellent type. Lady de Rothschild's Whitewood, first in the cow class of nineteen entries, won the championship prize as best cow or heifer of her breed, and also the Blythwood bowl. Lord Rothschild's Oxford Snowdrop, first in the two-year-old heifer class, taking the r.n. for these honours. Captain L. G. Gisbourne, with Glorious Lad, first in the two-year-old class for bulls, won Admiral Brand's champion bull prize; Lord Rothschild's fine yearling bull Favour, first in its class, taking the r.n.; Captain Fraser, Mr. J. C. Drew, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand, A. Miller-Hallett, etc., were also leading winners.

The Guernsey classes were not large, but the merit very excellent. Mr. E. Hambro won for cows and bulls, and Mr. F. Hargreaves for heifers and young bulls.

Sheep.

The Dexter Kerry class were small, but the merit was very good indeed. The Duchess of Devonshire and Mr. B. de Bertodano were the leading winners. Messrs. W. Brown and W. Toop judged the excellent classes of Southdown sheep. The class that is unique for this show, namely, nine ewes of the usual flock ages, is one of particular merit and interest, because it brings out the type of any flock far better than any other class. In the ewe class for hill flocks great gratification was expressed upon the success of the Duke of Richmond, who, in addition for his first prize here also won the silver medal for best pen of hill ewes. Mr. A. Cooper came second, and Mr. A. M. Singer third. The second prize pen was an excellent one. In the ewe lamb class from hill flocks, a grand pen of great merit and very uniform won first honours for Mr. A. Cooper, Mr. A. M. Singer taking second and r.n., and the Duke of Richmond third. The merit of this class was good. The under hill flock ewes found their winner in Mr. John Tompkins's pen of well matured ewes; Mr. E. Henty's, which were not quite so even in type and size, were second; and the Duke of Devonshire's third. The ewe lamb class in this section was a superior one, particularly the first prize pen that came from Mr. E. Henty's flock, they won first, and, subsequently, the medal for best pen of ewes or ewe lambs in the yard. Mr. J. Tompkins was second, and the Duke of Devonshire third. The class for three yearling ewes was one in which the competition was thoroughly keen. The Duke of Devonshire won first honours by the decision of the referee, Mr. E. Ellis came in for second honours, a very choice and good pen. The Duke of Richmond went to the third place, and Colonel A. F. Walter was r.n.

The two shear ram class was one of fine merit. The two that won first and second honours both came from Mr. E. Ellis; these were of high merit and first class in the flesh. The winner here was made r.n. for the gold medal for best male in the yard. The Duke of Devonshire was third, and the Duke of Richmond came in for r.n. In the next class the Goodwood flock was well to the fore; here first and second honours went to the Duke of Richmond, the winning ram was that grand ram that won first honours at Bournemouth, and this sheep, at a later period, was made winner of the gold medal as best ram of its breed. The Duke of Richmond thus winning two out of the three medal offered at this show, an excellent test of the merit of this flock. Mr. E. Ellis was third and h.c. with two very fine rams, and the one that came in r.n. from Mr. E. Henty's flock had excellent type and good merit.

The award that gave Mr. E. Henty precedence in the ram lamb class was one not generally approved of, and had either Mr. E. Ellis or Colonel A. F. Walter, who were respectively second and third, been preferred, a better and more typical lamb would have won. In view of the decisions given in the other classes this award is difficult to understand. Fourth honours went to Mr. Ellis, and the r.n. to Mr. E. Henty. An excellent entry of butter and live poultry completed a real good show.

Staffordshire.

The Staffordshire Agricultural Society have every reason to be pleased with their visit to Walsall last week after a lapse of sixteen years, for the show proved one of the most successful on record; in fact, so far as the attendance is concerned it was the best, for on the two days close on 24,000 visitors paid for admission, this number being the largest ever recorded in the history of the society. The show itself was also one on which the society can be congratulated. The total number of entries of live stock was 671, as compared with 525 last year, when the show was held at Hanley, a substantial increase of 146, while at the last Walsall meeting in 1889, the entries were but 431. The cattle numbered 246, against 181 a year ago; there were 318 entries of horses, as compared with 247; 75 pens of sheep, against 66; and 28 pens of pigs, against 31. The other sections were equally satisfactory. The samples of cheese numbered 71, against 85; butter 28, against 46; poultry 418, against 320; pigeons 209, against 128; and there were also 75 exhibits of honey and bee appliances, as compared with 79 in 1904. Much interest was taken by the visitors in the stock, and the exhibits in the smaller departments were also a source of attraction. Before entering into a description of the various sections we may mention that at a meeting of the committee of the society, held during the show, under the presidency of Captain W. B. Harrison, it was resolved to accept an invitation to hold the show next year at Stone.

Horses.

Agricultural horses always make a good show here, and last week's was no exception to the rule; in fact, the display was better than ever. In several of the classes the competition was open to the United Kingdom, instead of, as was formerly the case, only to the district comprised within the society's radius, and the result was that prizewinners were drawn from a very wide field, and some particularly fine animals were shown. Mares and fillies, in both open and local classes were of excellent type, whilst many useful geldings were shown. There was a close competition in the class for two-year-old stallions between Mr. Warner Barrs' Nailstone Cup Bearer and a bay belonging to Sir Albert Muntz, and they were eventually placed in the order named. Mr. J. W. Whitehurst took third prize with a colt that at the Lincolnshire Show, at Grantham, won the first card. A notable prizewinner received the first ticket in the entry for yearling stallions, viz., Ratcliffe Forest King, which was first at the Shire Horse Society's Show, in February, in a big yearling class, and took as high honours at the recent Royal Show, and Shustoke Monarch, which came next in order of merit, is another colt of good type, with plenty of weight about him, but he did not move quite so satisfactorily as the prize-taker. Mr. Cross, of Rugby, was third with Catthorpe Archon, a colt of wonderfully fine Shire character, but rather on the small side. Mr. Bernard Wall, of Coleshill, had an outstanding win in the class for two-year-old geldings, with a well-grown bay colt with good, sound feet and splendid action. Newstead Stamp was the only gelding entered in the three-year-old class, and, being a useful animal, the first prize was not withheld. Some valuable, weighty geldings, foaled not later than 1901, were forward, and the first and second prizewinners, Samson and Hilcote Patch, were particularly well shaped, and quite of the right stamp for town work. The competition between dray horses shown in gear was watched with great interest. Laughton Pink and Tatton Iris, the first prize winners, were a pair of wonderfully good mares. The first-named has been a great winner at Derbyshire local shows for the past two or three years, and still retains her old form and freshness. In the open entry for Shire mares foaled in or previous to 1901 Sir Alexander Henderson, Bart., was awarded premier honours for his beautifully proportioned Poole Duchess, whilst Earl Egerton of Tatton was close up with Rocks Madam. The first-prize mare in the three-year-old open class was Sir Albert Muntz's Bonny Blue, which has been a great winner all the way round this year. Ivy Fashion, the second prize taker, is an animal of quality, and was a high-price purchase at Mr. Smith-Carrington's sale in February last. Nailstone Lady of the Vale, a fine brown mare was first in the two-year-old class, which, although open to the kingdom, furnished three local winners. Yearling Shire fillies, also an open class, comprised a numerous entry of typical specimens, and here the famous Buscot Fantasy, was placed first. She is a very smart filly, with nice limbs and feet. Peak Dolly, a well bred bay, ran the first prize winner rather closely, but she has hardly so much scope as Sir Alexander Henderson's filly. The remaining classes in the Shire section were all well filled, and contained many noted winners. Poole Duchess, a mare which has already been referred to, was awarded the championship for the best Shire mare or filly in the yard; whilst Edith of Rolleston, a mare owned by Sir Oswald Mosley, was the winner of the Shire Horse Society's gold medal.

The young hunter stock shown was of a very encouraging character, both in point of numbers and quality. In the older classes the horses were more easily placed, but they included some very fine specimens. Colehurst Pride, a mare of size and quality, and one to breed hunters from, was shown in the opening class for brood mares with a foal at foot, and was easily first. A very promising animal was also entered in the class for three-year-olds. This is Gold Cloud, which was not only first in its class, but secured a special and silver medal. Another particularly successful exhibit was Just Dew, owned by Mr. Arthur Kendrick, which won the South Staffordshire Hunt special and the silver medal offered for the best entire colt. The silver medal for hunter fillies was taken by The Nun, Messrs. Ballard and Son's well-known filly.

The judging of the hackneys and turn-outs led to some exceptionally keen competition. The hackneys and cobs made the best display for many years—indeed, it is questionable if a better has been witnessed at any of the Society's shows. The brood mares were a strong class, Mr. Baker's Mattishal being placed first on account of her superior size. Her bay filly Shelbourne Hamlet received the premier award in its class, though it was run rather closely by Jolly Jack, a younger foal belonging to Mr. Hussey, with extremely good action, and of excellent type. Among the big hackneys Mr. A. H. Pooler's Caynton Phillis, which has won many prizes and taken the Hackney Society's medal at previous shows, was a very easy first, her hock action being noticeably good. She also won in the harness class, beating a horse which showed plenty of dash in Wigginton's Surprise. With regard to the turn-outs the milkmen's class was weak, but the butchers' section was highly creditable. In the class for single turn-outs there was a surprisingly good selection, and many were of such excellence that the task of selection proved difficult.

The judging of the pit ponies was also completed, and it was found that a very creditable lot of animals had been got together. The larger ones were very sturdy, and showed plenty of bone, while the smaller ponies also made a creditable show. A class for ponies which had worked underground for not less than ten years proved extraordinarily successful. The winner of the premier prize was sixteen years old, and although of an age at which most ponies have passed their best, showed clean legs and feet, and fine all-round quality. The second prize winner had actually worked in the pit between sixteen and seventeen years, and was still in good condition.

Cattle.

The quality of the cattle was high all round, and the display a highly creditable one. The vast majority of the animals were of the Shorthorn breed, and some useful specimens were brought out. A very level and well-bred bull, Duke of Sedburgh, took the first prize for Mr. I. Parton in the aged class, and Mr. R. P. Cooper's second winner, Rose Victor, a thick specimen, full of quality, improved on the position he occupied at the Bath and West show. Mrs. Inge's smart Bletchley Buccaneer, which led in the yearling class, possesses the highest Shorthorn character, and the same lady was in front in the calf class with a well-grown youngster Butterscotch, which gives promise for the future. In the class for cows, Sir Oswald Mosley was first with the stylish Yours Faithfully, three years old, the receiver of the reserve honour at the Bath and West and Royal shows. Second place was taken by Captain Harrison's six-year-old Elderberry IV., a cow of large scale and in fine condition, which was awarded the championship at Malvern. A capital class of two-year-old heifers was headed by Sir Oswald Mosley's Proud Duchess and Rolleston Elder Flower, which gained the first and second honours. The winner is an attractive heifer, nicely brought out, and full of character. Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Regina was well beaten in the yearling heifer class by Mr. W. A. H. Bass's Whitewall Anna, a lengthy animal, adequately furnished, and admirably brought out. Heifer calves were in grand condition, most of them well grown, and of great promise. The best was Sir Oswald Mosley's Rolleston Spice, which has beautiful hair and typical style. The Shorthorn Society's special prize for the best bull in Staffordshire was won by Mrs. Inge's grand-looking Bletchley Buccaneer, whilst the same Society's special prize for pedigree dairy cows in milk went to Mr. J. Myatt, for a six-year-old, and next to it for the Staffordshire Society's prize was placed a four-year-old belonging to Mr. W. A. H. Bass. The cattle best adapted for dairy purposes looked well, and the tenant farmers' classes were filled with animals of exceptional merit. The three classes of Jerseys contained several useful exhibits,

some of which have secured honours on previous occasions. Mr. W. C. Cooper was very successful, for he won the first prize for cows and heifers and the second for bulls, while Captain Gisborne, who was beaten in the female classes, leads the Whittlesbury exhibitor in the male department. The Aberdeen-Angus cattle had three classes, and the number of entries was larger than in the Jersey division. The best class was that for cows calved previous to December 1, 1902, and here Mrs. Macpherson won first prize with a splendid cow, nine years old, which also received the silver medal of the English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association for the best animal in the section. In the class Mr. J. J. Cridlan was placed second; but in the heifer division he secured both prizes, and the challenge cup presented by the late Mr. L. A. Macpherson to the exhibitor who gains the greatest number of points in the section. The bulls were poorly represented, the best being shown by Mr. J. B. Brooks.

Sheep.

The Shropshire was the only breed of sheep shown, and it might be imagined that the exhibition would be as important as the one in the adjoining county of Salop, but unfortunately the Society exclude the winners at the Royal Agricultural Show, with the result that the section was deprived of an important feature. So far as it went the display was useful and of average merit, but if there were no restriction it is certain that the attractions of the department would be infinitely greater than they are. The younger classes, both of rams and ewes, were the best, and they included a number of exhibits of surpassing excellenece. A big, well-grown, strong sheep belonging to Mr. A. S. Berry credited him with the leading honour in the class for rams of any age, and Mr. R. P. Cooper won easily in the shearling ram class, although Mr. J. Harding was represented by a couple of useful pens which were honoured with the second and third awards. Mr. Cooper was also first for pens of five shearling rams, and Mr. Harding was in front in the ram lamb class with a remarkably good specimen. There were only three pens of five ewes, but all were in fine show condition, the premier pen being Mr. Cooper's. The pens of five ewe lambs formed a characteristic feature, and the competition in the class for pens of five ram lambs was very good, while several excellent contests were noticeable in the tenant farmers' classes.

Pigs and Produce.

There was a capital lot of pigs of the Large, Middle, and Small White breeds. Mr. A. C. Twentyman was a successful exhibitor, taking several prizes, as well as the Society's silver medal for the best boar in the yard. A few attractive Tamworths and Berkshires were penned, among the representatives of the latter breed being the biggest pig in the show. This was a prize boar shown by Mr. G. Pedley.

The produce section was a large one, and included some excellent lots of butter and cheese, several years have elapsed since there was such a good show of honey, both for colour and quality.

Darlington.

Originally the show at Darlington consisted of horses and dogs, but to enlarge its scope the Society this year included some cattle classes, and these attracted 38 entries of good stock, so that the experiment was justified. There was, however, a great falling off in the horse section, the entries being 228 as against 330 last year, and 374 in 1903. Some of the dropping away is accounted for by the fact that the jumping contests were abolished; but this would not cause more than half the decrease, so that the other half has to be accounted for. Quality was, however quite up to the average, as were also the dogs, the entries of which compared favourably with other years.

Hunters made a capital show. Brood mares were a small but choice lot, the chief winners being Messrs. Ward's famous old prize-taker, Beatrice, and Mr. E. Lloyd Pease's ten-year-old Lady, who last year, as this occupied second position. A fine class were the heavy weight hunters, which included a number of animals that have frequently contended against one another. Mr. J. H. Stokes's Baronet was placed first, before Mr. W. B. Brown's Royal Oak (who was at the top of a restricted class), while third honours fell to Messrs. Ward's Ireland, another capital mover. The three-year-old geldings were headed by Mr. F. A. Rickaby's Splasher, who occupied a corresponding position here a year ago as a two-year-old, an unnamed roan belonging to Mr. John Brown now taking the next ticket. The pick of the two-year-old hunters of either sex was Mr. T. B. Newton's nice black filly, Lady Gilling, who likewise got the leading award in the farmers' class, and a very promising lot of yearlings was topped by Mr. G. Marton's bay filly Pineapple.

Roadsters mustered well, and among them were many that have successfully gone the round of the shows this season, beginning with the opening meeting in London. Again Mr. Thomas Boddy's Dewdrop, the ten year-old daughter of Chocolate Junior, led the way among the brood mares. It was a small class, but it also included Mr. J. Henderson's Whitburn Bella, a Garton Duke of Connaught mare, only three years old, which took second honours. There was a nice collection of youngsters, especially foals, but yearlings were rather scarce. The any age class was very well filled, and here Mr. S. R. Tennant's Authority was placed first, and Messrs. Leo Snowden and Son's Belmont Star, from Harrogate, second; both geldings are five years old, the former being by Ganymede and the latter by Garton Duke of Connaught. Mr. Rickaby's Ringlet and Messrs. Ward's Kildale fought for supremacy in the riding class for ladies' hacks, and they were eventually placed in that order. In the driving class they took the same positions. Both prizes in the pony class (in harness) were won by Mr. T. P. Robinson, of Wiggington, with Pinderfield Sapphire and Pinderfield Ruby, the first-named also gaining the premier award in the saddle class. The coaching and harness classes were not so well filled as might have been wished. In this section were Mr. George Grandage's three-year-old filly Woodland Beauty, first at the Royal and first here, and Mr. George Elders' Ailsuby Beauty, who was second at Park Royal, but now beaten by a four-year-old bred and shown by Mr. George Thompson. Agricultural horses comprised some good representatives of both Clydesdales and Shires.

Bedfordshire.

Fortune favoured the Bedfordshire Agricultural Society in every respect for their exhibition at Amptill Park on Wednesday. The showyard was a most charming one; the entries were up to the average, both as regards numbers and quality; the weather was beautifully fine, and the gate a good one. The Society are greatly indebted to the people of Ampthill and the Duke of Bedford, for, according to the old-established rota, it was the turn of Luton to receive the visit of the County Show, but it appears that it was not practicable to obtain a suitable ground. Ampthill then stepped into the breach, and, opened by his grace, the inhabitants did everything to make the show a success; and, in addition to supporting the show on the day, they raised no less a sum than £180, which is a record for any town, not even excepting Bedford itself. They also proved themselves the possessors of some rare-class animals, many of which gained honours in the various classes.

The cart horses were more numerous than for some years, but, despite this, there were few animals of real outstanding merit, and certainly not so many as previously. On the average, however, the class of animals was distinctly good, though one or two of the classes took a lot of judging owing to many of the animals being very moderate. The hunters were much better than usual, those in the open classes being especially worthy of mention. The driving classes attracted some classy animals, and the hackneys were quite up to the average of previous years. There was a distinct improvement in the sheep as regards quality, but the number of entries was about the same as usual.

The cattle were a good lot, and among these were 12 pedigree Shorthorn bulls which have been purchased by the Society—the money being found by the Duke of Bedford for the use of agriculturists in the county, the object being to improve the breed of Shorthorns in the district. A considerable portion of the money required for the upkeep of the animals has been subscribed, and the Society now requires only about £130 to make the scheme a complete success. The twelve bulls are located at Riseley, Roxton, Chellington, Bromham, Wootton, Haynes, Meppershall, Millbrook, Sharpenhoe, Woburn, Hockliffe, and Limbury; so they are well distributed. The Society's roan bull, Florian, a useful-looking beast, was second in the class for young bulls, Messrs. Hipwell and Sons' Sharnbrook Marquis being first in this and two other classes, besides winning the District Prize of £10 given by the Shorthorn Society for the best bull in three counties. It has a perfect type of head, neck, and quarters, broad and level back, and splendid hair. In one class for ages between 1½ and 3 years, the Society's bull, Clapton Prince, with fine masculine head, was first; and a Red and White shown by Mr. J. F. H. Harter was second. A useful looking bull was the roan Sarabaand, shown by Mr. F. A. W. Wyatt. The pigs were numerous and of good quality, and the other departments of the show were well filled.

The judges were: Cart horses: Mr. W. F. Gullin, Borough Farm, Peterborough; and Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Kedleston Grange, Derby. Nags: The Hon. A. Parker, The Cottage, Doveridge, Derby; and Mr. G. [illegible], Cranford, Middlesex. Cattle: Mr. J. A. Pease, Dearham Home Farm, Thrapston; and Mr. John [illegible], Maisey Hampton, Fairford. Sheep and pigs: Mr. R. Dickens, Newton Purcell, Bicester; and Mr. [illegible] Hayter, The Mount, Whitchurch. The chief awards were as follows:

CART HORSES.

Colt foaled in 1904: 1, S. Draper, Wilden, Worcester (Wilden James); 2, F. Crawley, Stevenage, Herts (Stevenage Prince); 3, F. Brown (Houghton Conquest).

Filly foaled in 1904: 1, T. Long, Upper Stondon (Stondon Heartsease); 2, J. King and Sons, Broom; 3, S. Draper (Wilden May).

Gelding foaled in 1904: 1, W. S. Brocklehurst, Kempston (Kempston Friar); 2, Street and Phillips, Priestley (Priestley Primus); 3, R. Long.

Filly foaled in 1903: 1, J. King and Sons (Southill Pearl); 2, R. Long (Brigstock Baroness); 3, T. Teasdale, Steppingley (May Queen).

Gelding foaled in 1902, the property of a tenant farmer: 1, J. Day, Roxton Park.

Mare foaled in 1902, the property of a resident in the county: 1, J. King and Sons (Southill Mayflower); 2 and 3, C. Keevil, Billington (Blagdon Victress and Lockings Corona).

Mare four years old and upwards, the property of an exhibitor in this or adjoining county: 1, H. Towgood, Little Shelford (Eastern Dawn); 2, R. Long (Stondon Violet); 3, W. S. Brocklehurst (Kempston Dubchick).

Gelding four years old and upwards, the property of a tenant farmer in the county: 1, T. B. Kitchener and Co., Potton; 2, J. Day.

Pair of geldings or mares of any age, the property of a bona fide tenant farmer in the county: 1, G. Street (Maulden Lady Bedford III. and Maulden Magnate); 2, H. Gates (Captain and Major); 3, B. Howkins (Halstead Rose and Daisy).

Pair of geldings or mares foaled before 1902: 1, G. Street (Maulden Lady Bedford III. and Maulden Magnate); 2, H. Gates (Captain and Major).

Mare and her foal: 1, C. Keevil (Blagdon Beauty); 2, H. Towgood (Shelford Sash); 3, W. S. Brocklehurst (Montford Gipsy).

Mare and her foal, the property of a bona-fide tenant farmer in the county: 1, C. Keevil (Blagdon Beauty); 2, W. S. Brocklehurst (Montford Gipsy); 3, C. Keevil (Blagdon Princess); 4, R. Long (Stondon Peony).

Colt foal, the property of a resident in the county: 1, J. King and Sons; 2, C. Keevil; 3, W. S. Brocklehurst (Kempston Harold).

Filly foal, the property of a resident in the county: 1, W. S. Brocklehurst (Kempston Heroine); 2, R. Long; 3, T. Teasdale.

Special prize for the best animal exhibited in Classes 1 to 6 inclusive, the bona-fide property of a resident within the district: 1, T. Teasdale (May Queen); 2, Street and Phillips (Priestley Primus).

For the best animal exhibited in Classes 7 to 14 inclusive, the bona-fide property of a resident within the district: 1 and 2, G. Street (Maulden Lady Bedford III. and Maulden Magnate).

Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal, that is registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book: 1, C. Keevil (Blagdon Beauty); 2, R. Long (Stondon Heartsease).

A piece of plate, value £20, for the best cart horse (gelding or mare), the property of a tenant farmer: 1, C. Keevil (Blagdon Beauty); 2, R. Long (Stondon Heartsease).

HUNTERS, HACKS, OBS, AND PONIES.

Mare suitable for breeding hunters, with her foal at foot, property of a resident in Oakley or adjoining hunts: 1, W. and J. A. Cheney, Gidding Grove (Haddon Lass); 2, J. Sturges, Woburn Sands (Violet); 3, T. H. Barnard, Kempston Hoo.

Yearling colt, gelding, or filly, for hunting purposes, the property of a resident in the county: 1, R. Long; 2, B. Howkins.

Two-year-old colt, gelding, or filly, for hunting purposes, by a thoroughbred horse, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Wm. Whitehead, Shelton Hall; 2, S. Whitbread (Topthorne).

Three-year-old gelding or mare by a thoroughbred horse for hunting purposes, bred in Beds. or Hunts: 1, W. and J. A. Cheney (Monarch); 2, W. Whitehead.

Four-year-old gelding or mare, for hunting purposes, bred in the county, or the property of a bona fide tenant farmer or his son within the county: 1, N. and A. Sturges, Ampthil (Togo); 2, W. and J. A. Cheney (Bashful).

Hunter under 14 stone: 1, J. Drage, Chapel Brampton; 2, J. S. Watson, Towcester (Amber).

Hunter, 14 stone and over: 1, J. Drage; 2, J. H. Stokes (Gold Reef).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter filly: W. Whitehead (Simon Fraser); r., R. Long.

For the best hunter mare or gelding: W. Whitehead; r., R. Long.

Cob not exceeding 15 hands: 1, W. Manning, Leighton Buzzard; 2, Deacon and Co., Bedford (Gloria).

Hackney of any age, 14 hands and over, the property of a resident in the county: 1, W. Whitehead; 2, T. H. Woodcock (Dolly).

Harness horses, exceeding 15 hands, in single harness: 1, R. W. Jay, New Southgate (The Gentleman); 2, John Kerr, M.P., Hemel Hempstead (Forest Freeway).

Cob not exceeding 15 hands, in single harness, the property of a resident in the county: 1, S. Lamming, Astwick Bury (Why Not); 2, Miss E. M. Heysham (B[illegible]).

Pony not exceeding 13·2 hands, in single harness, the property of a resident in the county: 1, E. J. W[illegible], Ampthill (Bessy); 2, J. S. Tansley, Bedford (Black Bess).

Pony not exceeding 13·2 hands, in single harness: 1, J. L. Round, Broadholme, Wellingboro' (Berkeley Claudius); 2, R. A. de Mancha, Waterside, Frogmore (No. 984).

Special prize for the best animal in Classes [illegible] inclusive, the bona-fide property of a resident within the district: 1, H. J. Humphreys; r., W. I. Roberts, Lidlington (Peg).

BULLS.

Bull of Shorthorn type not exceeding 30 months, the property of a resident in the county: 1, Hipwell and Sons, Sharnbrook (Sharnbrook Marquis); 2, Beds Agricultural Society (Florian).

Bull of Shorthorn type between 24 months and three years, property of a resident in the county: 1, Beds. Agricultural Society (Clapton Prince); 2, J. F. H. Harter, Cranfield (Count).

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Bull above one and not exceeding three years old: 1, Hipwell and Sons, Sharnbrook (Sharnbrook Marquis); 2, W. Jackson, Hitchin (Rossett Patriot 4th).

District prize of £10, given by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland, for the best Shorthorn bull in Beds., Herts, and Middlesex, calved in 1904: 1, Hipwell and Sons (Sharnbrook Marquis); 2, W. Jackson, Hitchin (Rossett Patriot 4th).

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Heifer, between one and two years old: 1 and 2, H. S. Leon (Princess II. and Princess).

Heifer between one and two years old, the property of a tenant farmer in the county: 1, Hipwell and Sons (Sharnbrook Miss Nymph); 2, E. Abbiss.

Shorthorn cow or heifer, in calf or in milk, not exceeding three years old: 1, H. S. Leon (Lancaster Lady); 2, G. Street.

Dairy cow in milk or in calf, the property of a tenant farmer in the county: 1, H. Campion (Beauty); 2, E. Abbiss (Ginger).

Two dairy cows of one herd, in milk or in calf, the property of a tenant farmer in the county: 1, J. Day; 2, E. J. Watson (Daisy and Buttercup).

Cow of any age, in calf or in milk: 1, H. S. Leon (Roseleaf); 2, J. Day.

Special prize for the best animal exhibited in Classes 35 to 44, inclusive, the property of a resident within the district: 1, G. Street; r., E. Abbiss (Ginger).

SHEEP.

Short-woolled shearling ram: 1 and 3, T. Fowell Buxton (Hampshire); 2, G. Street (Oxford).

Three ram lambs of any breed: 1 and 2, T. Fowell, Buxton (Hampshire).

Oxford Down shearling ram or ram lamb, in Flock Book or eligible for entry: 1, G. Street; 2, B. Howkins.

Five pure-bred theaves, eligible for entry in Flock Book: 1, T. Fowell Buxton (Hampshire); 2, G. Street (Oxford).

Ten crossbred theaves, the property of a Bedfordshire tenant farmer: 1, Hy. Campion; 2, R. M. Bodger; 3, J. E. Brown.

Breeding ewes of any age or breed, which have suckled lambs up to June 1, 1905, the property of a resident in the county: 1, G. Street (Oxford); 2, B. Howkins (Oxford).

Ten wether lambs, the property of a tenant farmer in the county: 1, R. M. Bodger; 2, R. Quenby and Sons, Kempston.

Ten ewe lambs, the property of a tenant farmer in the county.—1, R. M. Bodger; 2, G. Street.

Special prize for the best exhibit in Classes 48 to 52 inclusive, the property of a resident within the district: 1 and r., G. Street (Oxford Downs).

PIGS.

Boar under two years old, the property of a resident in the county: 1, R. Long (Middle White); 2, H. J. Humphreys (Berkshire).

Sow and pigs, the property of a resident in the county: 1, P. Bass (Black); 2, F. Smith (crossbred).

In-pig sow, the property of a resident in the county: 1, C. T. Part, Luton (Berkshire); 2, Three Counties Asylum, Hitchin (Yorkshire).

Two sow pigs under twelve months old, the property of a resident in the county: 1, W. I. Roberts; 2, Three Counties' Asylum.

Special prize for the best exhibit in Classes 54 to 56 inclusive, the property of a resident in the district: 1, F. Smith; r., H. J. Humphreys.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Boston.

The Boston Show Society, which was established in 1870, held its annual exhibition of horses and flowers on Wednesday and Thursday for the third time in succession in the People's Park, placed at the disposal of the society by the Mayor and Corporation, and a better show ground could not be conceived. The flower beds, lawns, and trees were a show in themselves and the well-kept park was generally admired by the visitors. The weather was all that could be desired, but the attendance was much below the average. The show of horses was not so large as on some former occasions, but, with regard both to numbers and quality, it compared very favourably with other shows held this season—the Hackneys, indeed, being in advance of the county show. The flowers were the best for several years, the blooms being in perfect condition.

Launceston.

The annual show of Launceston Agricultural Society was held on Thursday, and was an unqualified success, there being an increased entry, and the attendance above the average, the weather, fortunately, being most favourable. The entries totalled 334, being made up as follows:—Horses, 160; bullocks, 60; sheep, 36; pigs, 8; dairy classes, 60. The horse classes were well filled, and many animals of exceptional merit exhibited; whilst in the cattle classes were to be seen many South Devon beasts which secured premier honours at the recent Bath and West Show at Nottingham. Sheep were well represented, as were also the pigs, whilst for the first time for five years a dairy produce section was introduced, and, judging from the success which attended this particular section, it should become a permanent feature of the show.

March.

The annual show of the March Shire and Hackney Horse and Foal Show Society was held on Tuesday and both the heavy and light breeds were well represented, the entry of 218 constituting a record. Shires formed excellent classes. The championship for foals went to Mr. Wm. Richardson's colt, and the challenge cup now becomes his own property. Hackney foals formed a splendid collection, and here the championship went to Mr. Tibbatt, for an excellent filly by Harlow Garton Dane. Mrs. Hartley Batt's Royal Winner, Heathfield Squire, beat Mr. Jay's Tow-Law Performer, and won the president's cup for the best horse or mare in harness.

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Agriculture in Holland.

VII.*

The Royal Netherlands Dairying Company.

I will resume with a description of the Royal Netherlands Dairying Company, established in 1882 under the name of "Netherlands Dairying Company," and started its business with two factories.

These introduced factory cheese-making into Friesland, which, before 1882, was completely unknown in that district. The new industry has made tremendous strides, and the company added three factories to their list, and this example was extensively followed; cheese and butter factories (private and on the co-operative system) arose all over Friesland. In recognition of the services this company rendered in establishing a new industry, it pleased H.M. the Queen, in 1900, to confer on the company, by Royal warrant, the honorary title of "Royal."

The quantities of milk daily worked by the company have gradually increased—in the beginning they were very small indeed—the farmers now selling their milk to the factories, instead of turning it into butter and cheese, as their fathers and grandfathers have done before them. This proved to be a tedious, difficult, and even expensive undertaking, but gradually they have been won over to give the new system of disposing of the milk a fair trial. In 1889 three of the factories, though originally containing sufficient space, had to be extended, in order to create room for the sea of milk that poured into them. The daily quantity of the milk worked in summer by the five factories did not fall far short of 50,000 gallons. In winter these quantities sink to one half or less, till the farmers, accustomed to the new conditions of business, began to change the "calving-time" of the cows. Now part of the calves are born in spring and part in autumn, instead of all in spring as the old custom was, and in consequence the flow of milk is more regular.

The products of the company soon succeeded in attracting the attention of the trade in England, Scotland, Germany, Belgium, and France, and before long its reputation was firmly established. The trade mark "Pan" is now one of the best known brands in England, and more particularly in London, where the average daily consumption of Pan-Goudas amounts to about a thousand cheeses.

Belgium is another important customer for Pan cheese, and every week waggon loads are despatched from the railway stations near the factories straight to the chief towns in Belgium. The rest of the company's cheese is divided between Scotland and Germany, very little being left over for other countries and exportation purposes, the demand continually exceeding the supply.

For some years the company has been packing butter in tins, but this business was pushed less and less on account of the increasing demand for "Pan" butters nearer at home. At present the tinning business is quite unimportant, only old, regular customers, who pass their orders before the grass season sets in, being served. This is not the place to enter on extensive technical details, suffice it to say that in course of time the entire system of butter-making has been changed and considerably improved, and the differences in cheese making twenty years ago and now are so great that we can say that an entirely new system of cheese-making has been evolved.

Co-operative Creamery at Grouw.

The co-operative society for establishing and carrying on a steam creamery was established at Grouw, in 1896. As farmhouses at Grouw are situate far from each other on canals, channels, and lakes, many were of opinion that the creamery would have little chance of being carried on, and even the founders indicated as a great difficulty the way in which milk should be transported. It very soon proved, however, that, in spite of the far distances of the farms, the milk could be brought together per vessel in a very advantageous way, and that the difficulties in connection with the transport of the milk (in stormy weather and during the winter months) could be very well surmounted.

The issued capital was £4,333 and obtained by a loan in bonds, of which the main shareholders were the inhabitants of Grouw, and the creamery, which originally accommodated to manufacture at the utmost the milk of 1,200 cows, soon wanted enlargement. Fortunately the founders had foreseen this increase of the number of members, and the plant had been made large enough in order to manufacture the milk of all the cow-keepers at Grouw. The co-operation has now 35 members, and the milk of 1,914 cows is being worked in the creamery. This spring 7,360 gallons of milk have daily been manufactured into butter and cheese. Since 1900 the butter is being sold through the agency of the Friesche Co-operative Zuivel Export Vereeniging (Friesian Co-operative Company for the Export of Milk Products), while the cheese (Friesland, Edam, and Gouda models) is being sold to different wholesale dealers.

The selling of the dairy products by retail takes place in two warehouses belonging to the society; twenty-two persons are busy in the factory, whilst thirteen persons are trusted with the milk conveyance. The milk transport is being done for the society, and the expenses amount nearly to 2d. per 20 gallons of milk. Up to the end of last year 165,000 gallons of milk have been received for which has been paid to the members £26,560.

The board of the society have three members, chosen by the members of the society. Members of the board are at present—Mr. A. G. Jelles, president; Mr. Y. R. Jonker, vice president; and Mr. R. K. de Jong, secretary. The daily management of the transactions of the creamery in its full extent is entrusted to the manager. Mr. Tj. Kuperus, who is at present manager, was appointed in May, 1896, before the establishment of the factory.

(To be continued.)

* *Previous instalments appeared June 5, 12, 19, 26, and July 10, 17.*

Royal Veterinary College.

The thirteenth annual general meeting of the Royal Veterinary College was held at Great College Street, N.W., last week, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote presiding.

The report presented stated that during the financial year 1904-5 sixty-six students entered the college as against fifty-three in the previous twelve months. The governors were pleased to record that the work of the college had been carried out satisfactorily, and that the attendance and behaviour of the students had been good on the whole. At the examinations held by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in July last 65 per cent. of the 240 students of the college passed as against 58 per cent. of the 336 students from other veterinary colleges. The number of students for the winter session, 1904, was 231, or six less than in the previous year. Students who obtained the Diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons numbered 36 as against 34 last year, and 37 passed the first professional, 37 the second, and 47 the third, as compared with 37, 48, and 36 respectively last year. The post graduate courses in veterinary pathology and bacteriology, first held in January and February, 1904, have been continued in the present year.

The daily average of horses in the infirmary during the year ending March 31, 1904, was 49, at a cost of 1s. 1d. per night for forage and bedding, showing a decrease of one farthing on last year's individual cost. The number of animals brought to the college for advice and treatment numbered 1,319 against 1,566 in 1903-4. The number of horses examined for soundness had decreased from 803 to 747.

The new subscribers numbered 174, including ten members of the medical profession and eight of the Royal Agricultural Society. There were at present 114 and 896 annual subscribers. Cases of gratuitous advice were on the increase, numbering 7,428 as against 6,673. Inspections in this connection had also increased from 10,633 to 11,609.

As regards finances, the governors regretted the fact that there was a deficit of £500 on the year's working. During the year complete or partial post mortem examinations had been conducted in the research laboratory for members of the Royal Agricultural Society and veterinary surgeons, and of these cases eighty-seven specimens had been sent for analysis to the clinical laboratory. The report was carried with acclamation.

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Home Notes.

The Crop Prospects,

are warmly debated both in town and country, various opinions being expressed as to the ultimate issue. There is, however, no difference of opinion as to the present condition of the plantation, the weather being ideal, and the results thus far apparently very promising. The bine is almost everywhere plentiful, strong and healthy, and although vermin is still in evidence in most gardens, and the existence of mould necessitates sulphuring in many districts, these dangers are not generally existent to sufficient extent to cause any immediate anxiety. My own observations, during a short journey into Kent this week, suggests that there is risk in the excessive luxuriance of bine and foliage, lest there should not be sufficient energy in the roots to carry the growth forward to the fulness of flowers and fruit. Some gardens I have seen are exceptionally rich, presenting for an almost impenetrable mass of bine, the poles, wires, and strings being so heavily-laden that it seems almost impossible for the plants to progress further. Others, that are more moderately bined, have been seriously infected with mould spores, and copious applications of sulphur have not completely remedied the evil, as fresh manifestations were plainly visible. Again, there were doubtless sufficient lice remaining to develop into a dangerous attack of blight should the weather encourage them, and on many of the abundant laterals, the pin had perished, becoming useless for flowering. It is therefore quite possible that the present brilliant external appearances may end in partial failure, and that the actual crop will not be nearly so heavy as has been predicted. I am inclined to think that the chances for and against a greater than an average yield are about equally balnced.

The Borough

is, however, entirely under the influence of present reports. We have always a strong party amongst our traders, who seem to rejoice in anything that appears to make for low prices. The interests of the growers, upon the basis of whose exertions and profit the Borough hop trade stands, are practically ignored by many of our people. I cannot understand why they should be so ready to "bear" the market. But so it is, and just now it seems as if too many are ready and willing to jeer at holders, whose faith is being so severely tried, and to chuckle over their disappointment. Some day, I trust, growers will assert themselves, and will take up the management of their own business, or at least, ascertain who are their reliable friends, and who their secret foes, in order that they obtain the proper recompense for their anxious and costly labour.

Californian Hop Contracts.

I am glad to see that the Canterbury Farmers' Club has been discussing this matter. There is little doubt that the Herst and Armour combination is an ugly fact, which may cause trouble on this side. Being themselves large growers, they possess certain advantages over the ordinary merchants, and my friend, M. H. Durst, of California, says that unless English growers and merchants combine to fight the enemy with their own weapons, very important results may follow. Nevertheless, he does not think there is any immediate danger. The combination cannot grow hops in America cheaper than others, whatever may be the ultimate extent of their operations. But it is not safe for English growers to rest in calm contemplation of these proceedings, which will doubtless injure, and possibly, in the end, destroy, their position. The question should therefore be handled sensibly, practically, and speedily, so that we may be fully prepared for any eventuality that may arise.

Hop Reports.

VALLEY OF THE MEDWAY. — The bine still looks well, and is throwing out no end of laterals, but it is still thought there is too much bine. There is a good deal of vermin in some grounds, and fresh fly have been seen. Most growers have decided to wash all over again, which means a lot of work, owing to so much bine. The horse washer in some grounds is next to useless. Some mould may be found, but not to any extent. Some bramlings are well out in burr, and should hot weather continue, picking will be earlier than usual.—(July 22.)

Foreign Notes.

Export of German Hops.

An inquiry has been instituted by the German Government for the purpose of ascertaining in what manner and to what extent the export of hops to the United Kingdom might be assisted. From 1890 to 1901 the sales of German hops in England, it is said, steadily grew, but since 1902 they have remained stationary, even if they have not declined. This is presumed to be in consequence of exports coming from other countries, and notably Hungary and the United States; and hence the action of the German Government.

America.

Recent news from the Pacific Coast is somewhat conflicting. Mr. M. H. Durst, the large Californian grower, writes me in a decided optimistic tone, with regard to the immediate and ultimate future of the market. He is of opinion that the crops in Oregon, California, and Washington will not turn out nearly so large as have been reported, and that the final results will hardly exceed those of last year. It is positively stated that several speculative dealers have contracted for future deliveries far more largely than they are covered, and that consequently they will be compelled to buy. It is therefore easy to understand that their efforts to bear the market will be unremitting. But growers are fully alive to the position, and meetings are being held in every district, which have so far resulted in practical unanimity for the pooling of the 1905 crop, in order to withstand the pressure exerted by buyers. Mr. Conrad Krebs, the president of an important hop-growing company, is taking the lead in this protective organisation, and it appears as if the movement will be successful. Mr. Durst says there is much vermin in Oregon, and the same in Sonoma County, Cal., but whether it will do much damage depends on weather conditions. "One hardly knows what to predict, but meantime we are banking on good prices for 1905's and the balance of our 1904's."

From New York State I hear that crop prospects are generally favourable. Brewers are holding off from buying, and the N.Y. market being thus very quiet, although quotable unchanged, is rather weak and unsettled.

Nuremberg.

Demand being very slow and sales being limited to small quantities, the present tendency of the market is in the direction of lower prices. The general satisfactory appearance of the plantations induces the few growers who have held their hops on speculation, to clear them out, therefore the arrivals at the central depots have lately exceeded the sales. The absence of any export business also assists the downward movement, which, however, has not yet altered values beyond 5s. to 10s. It is, however, admitted that although the outlook for yield may be accepted as satisfactory, there are dangers to full fruiters yet to be considered. The steady continuance of hot weather, and the necessity of rain, are causing anxiety in many districts, and as in England, so in Germany, it is impossible to calculate correctly upon the yield until it is actually in hand. Samples of early Styrian hops are now fairly plentiful at Nuremberg. These earlies have been pushed forward rapidly by the favorable conditions, and are eagerly examined as precursors of the bulk to follow.

Belgium.

The white bine hops in Poperinghe are rapidly developing burr, and it appears probable that if the weather continues favourable a full average crop will be gathered, both here and in Alsace. Prices are rather lower both for spot parcels, and for forward deliveries of 1905 growth.

Foreign Crop Prospects.

FRANCE.—Storms with hail and rain were frequent this week, and it is feared that the considerable area of laid grain will delay harvest operations, as scythes must be used in lieu of reaping machines. The quality, if not the quantity, is said to have suffered.

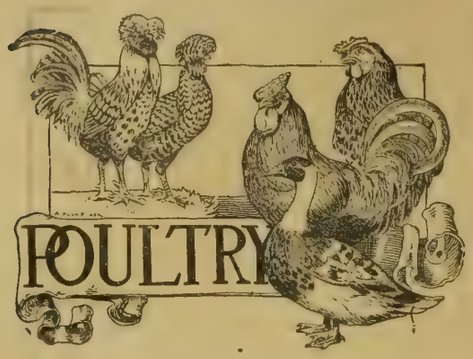
HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—Harvest began at the end of last week, and, notwithstanding some interruption from rain, is progressing well.

GERMANY.—The cutting of rye began last week. Corn prospects in the main are satisfactory, and with fine weather should soon become general.

RUSSIA.—The official estimate of crop conditions in the returns between 1st and 14th inst. does not confirm the gloomy reports of failure and impending famine. Summarised briefly, conditions are as follows:—Winter wheat as a whole will be above an average. Spring promises an average; oats and barley in the aggregate are considered above an average; maize, favourable results are expected; rye is expected to be under an average. In South-West Governments and in Poland a good yield is reckoned upon. The position is satisfactory to bad in Samara, Viatka, and North-Eastern districts, also in parts of Taurida and the Don Territory. In the rest of the Empire it is satisfactory.

AUSTRALIA.—Mail advices confirm the impression that the area under wheat is much in excess of recent years, and the outlook is more promising than has been the case for the last ten seasons.—*Dornbusch* (July 21).

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*



Advantages of Incubators.

Hundreds of years ago the hatching of poultry artificially was practised by the inhabitants of Egypt, but it was only during the present century that the incubator reached perfection. To produce a healthy chicken from a fresh fertile egg—heat, air, and moisture alone are needed. These, of course, must be supplied in the proper proportions, and the machine that can do this with the least trouble will be the popular incubator. Having used an incubator, a fifty-egg machine, with much success for many years, we wish to advance a few claims in favour of their more general use.

The primary claim for their adoption, we consider, is their simplicity of operation, and the little personal attention that is required when incubation is proceeding. After the eggs are introduced the operator's duties are so light and easy that they might be performed by a child of ten years. If the regular attendant be absent for a day, the work can be deputed to any other member of the household, who has seen the duties once performed.

Large numbers of chickens can be obtained by this method, and at any season of the year. From the beginning of March to the end of July in almost any situation, the incubator may be kept constantly at work, and if the place be well sheltered, and adequate accommodation be had for rearing, to these months may be added January and February. Birds hatched later than June, however, should not be used for stock purposes, even were they to have special attention and favourable weather.

On November 1, a few years ago, we filled the incubator with fifty eggs, being curious to see how they would hatch, and how the chicks would thrive. Eggs at the time were not plentiful, the hens having not recovered from their moult. The complement was made up from different sources, and many of them seemed, from their size, to be the eggs of pullets, which are inferior to those of hens for hatching purposes. Forty of these produced strong chickens—a hatch better than was anticipated at this unseasonable time of the year.

The foster mother was placed in an out-house, with a dry earth floor, which is more suitable for chickens than wood or other material. The door faced the south so that they might not lose a gleam of the precious sunshine, and a light wooden frame covered with wire netting was made to fit the doorway. This movable door proved to be of great advantage, giving to their apartment more light and to them fresh air, and, when it was obtainable, the warmth of the sun.

If a strong south wind was blowing a piece of coarse canvas was attached to the under half of the door for protection. Being the only brood on hand at the time, it got special attention. On every alternate day we suspended by a string from the roof a few pieces of raw liver, about six inches from the floor. The exercise the chickens had in trying to obtain pieces of the meat kept them warm, and was highly beneficial to them. This brood did so well that we have never been without a late hatching since.

Chickens reared artificially thrive better and are more independent than chickens reared in the natural way. They are also less liable to death by accident, as a hen in her search for food often leads her young into places of danger, where, but for timely aid, many would perish. Active hens—good mothers we call them—often take their offsprings long distances at a time, overtaxing the strength of the weak ones of the brood. The stronger ones keep pace with her, and by them the mother's movements are regulated. In this way many a valuable brood is reduced.

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Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flock-masters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor, G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

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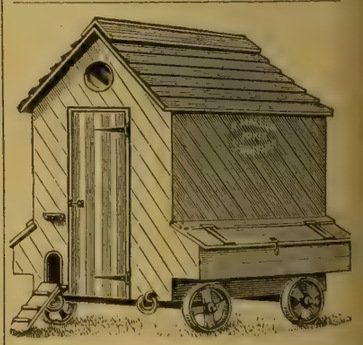
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The Best and Cheapest - -
Sugar Feed on the market.
ANALYSIS:
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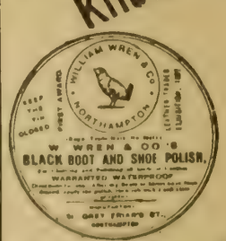

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and

Live Stock Record.

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Vol. XCIII. No. 3853. [Registered as a Newspaper at the General Post Office.] LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 31, 1905. [With Two Supplements.] PRICE 3d.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS (Founded June 1894.)

SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

GREAT YORKSHIRE SHOW, Anlaby Road, HULL, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, AUGUST 9th, 10th, and 11th, 1905.

STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, &c.

JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

Military Band.

Admission:

Wed., 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... 2/6
Wed., 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. ... 1/-
Thurs, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.... 1/-
Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.... 1/-

Season Tickets 10/6 each.

Reserved Seats on Grand Stand, 5/- each.

JOHN MAUGHAN, Secretary.

BATH HORSE SHOW,

SEPTEMBER 6th and 7th.

Nearly £700 in Prizes.

GREAT JUMPING COMPETITIONS.

Entries close August 19th.

Schedules and all particulars to be obtained of LEWIS C. MUNDY, Secretary, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

President: J. F. GIFFARD, Esq.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SHOW at ST. HELIER'S, JERSEY, AUGUST 22nd and 23rd, 1905 (held in connection with a week's fêtes and gaîté).

JOHN A. PERREE, Secretary.

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION, At GUILDFORD, AUGUST 30th, 1905.

E. H. ELLIS, Secretary, Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ANNUAL SHOW, AUGUST 19th, not 26th.

Entries close August 12th to FRED. W. PIRLE, Solicitor, Barrow-in-Furness.

STOKESLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

47TH ANNUAL SHOW, 21ST SEPT., 1905.

Prize money, nearly £500. — Open Classes.

Entries close 9th September.

For schedules and entry forms apply to WM. HODGSON, T. G. EELES, F. WARDALL } Secretaries, Stokesley, R.S.O.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

WELBECK TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1905.

1,000 ENTRIES.

Inspection of Duke of Portland's Thoroughbred Stock at close of Show.

WALTHAM CROSS AND THREE COUNTIES HORSE AND FOAL SOCIETY, At WALTHAM CROSS, AUGUST 7th, 1905.

Entries close July 7th.

J. CRAWTER, Secretary, Cheshunt.

KEELE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, At KEELE PARK, KEELE, AUGUST 10th, 1905.

Entries close: Dogs, August 3rd; Others, July 29th.

For Schedules—W. A. BENSON, Secretary, Silverdale, Staffs.

CLIVIGER AGRICULTURAL SHOW, near BURNLEY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1905.

Show Field adjoins Holme L. & Y. Ry. Station

Schedules from J. CROSSLEY, Secretary, Cliviger, Burnley.

WHITWORTH (LANCASHIRE) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th, in the splendid Grounds of the Whitworth Football and Cricket Club.

Schedules now ready. Apply E. A. SCOTT, Secretary Whitworth, Lancashire.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, AT HEANOR, AUGUST 15th, 1905.

Entries close August 9th.

J. COVEL, Secretary. Market Street, Heanor.

LUDLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, At LUDLOW, AUGUST 7th, 1905.

Entries close July 24th.

E. H. WOOD, Secretary, 30, Broad Street, Ludlow.

SCALBY AND NEWBY AGRICULTURAL, FLORAL, AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

SHOW at NEWBY (Scarboro'), on Friday, AUGUST 18th. £300 Prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Leaping, Driving, Yeomanry Class, Plants, Flowers, &c.

Entries close August 10th.

T. FLINTON, J. TICKLE, } Secs.

Scalby, R.S.O.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY, AUGUST 22nd, 1905.

Entries close August 9th.

F. C. BROWNE, Secretary, Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

HAY HORSE SHOW. SEPTEMBER 21st, 1905.

Entries close September 7th; double fees September 13th.

R. MORRIS, Secretary, Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT GREAT ANNUAL SALE OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.

For Prime quality of both Mutton and Wool, hardiness of constitution, and early maturity, Southdowns are unsurpassed. First class results obtained when crossed with other Breeds.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

(The principal centre in England for the Sale of Southdown Sheep).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9th, next.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON beg to announce that they will hold their GREAT ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE of about

400 SOUTHDOWN SHEARLING RAMS AND RAM LAMBS (the largest and best selection to be offered anywhere this season, both Shearlings and Lambs being from leading Breeders).

5,500 SOUTHDOWN EWES of all ages (from a large number of the leading registered Flocks).

COMMISSIONS CAREFULLY EXECUTED.

Catalogues on application to the Auctioneers, 63, East Street, Chichester.

BIRTLEY ESTATE, BRAMLEY, SURREY. One mile from Bramley Station (L.B. and S.C. Railway), 2½ miles from Shalford Station (S.E. Railway), and 4 miles from Guildford (L.B. and S.C. Railway, L. and S.W. Railway, and S.E. Railway).

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160 SHEARLING EWES,
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93 SIX-TEETH EWES,
139 FULL-MOUTHED EWES,
45 DRAFT EWES,
204 EWE LAMBS,
232 WETHER LAMBS, and SIX RAMS,

Which

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON are favoured with instructions from the Hon. Henry Cubitt, M.P. (all the farms on the estate being let), to SELL BY AUCTION, at THE HOME FARM, BIRTLEY, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 10th next (the day after the Great Annual Show and Sale at Chichester).

This Flock was founded in the year 1882, by the purchase of ewes from some of the best Hill Flocks in East Sussex. The rams used have been chiefly selected from the famous prize-winning flocks of Mr. Edwin Ellis, Mr. William Toop, Messrs. Murrieta, Mr. Geo. Peel, Mr. Alfred Heasman, and Mr. F. N. Hobgen.

The Birtley Ewes thus embrace some of the best and most fashionable strains of Southdown blood: they possess exceptional size, great scale, and wonderful constitutions, which, combined with their choice breeding and beautiful quality, render them well worthy the attention of Southdown Breeders.

Luncheon (by ticket only) at One o'clock.

Sale to commence punctually at Two o'clock.

The Flock is open to inspection at any time by appointment with Mr. Allen Baker, Bailiff, Birtley Farm, Bramley, Surrey.

Catalogues of Messrs. Messenger and Thurgood Town Hall Chambers, Guildford; or of the Auctioneers, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester.

(*Auction Sales continued on page 126.*)

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, AUGUST 3.—The entire Whitlingham Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP (about 1 000 head), at Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.

FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 4.—Col. A. F. Walter's SOUTHDOWNS, at Bearwood Wokingham.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11.—Mr. A. T. Miles' Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, and about 50 LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS, at Buckwell, Wye, Kent.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sir N. W. Throckmorton's SOUTHDOWN Flock, at Buckland Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux's SHORTHORNS, at Brougham, Penrith.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—Mr. Henry Williams' SHORTHORNS, at Moor Park, Harrogate.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Third and final portion, about 120 head of the Whitlingham RED POLLED herd at Trowse, Norwich.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W.

FIXTURES FOR 1905.

MESSRS. PAXTON & HOLIDAY beg to announce the following important Sales of OXFORD DOWN RAMS, RAM LAMBS, EWES & THEAVES.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2nd.

UPPER WINCHENDON, near Aylesbury Bucks. The Forty-eighth Annual Sale of about 50 OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS from the celebrated Registered Flock of Messrs. J. & S. Treadwell.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5th.

BICESTER SUMMER FAIR. About 2.000 EWES, THEAVES, LAMBS, and RAM LAMBS, being drafts from the Principal Oxford Down Flocks in the neighbourhood.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9th.

OXFORD GREAT RAM FAIR. About 300 OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS, and 20 OXFORD DOWN THEAVES from the well known Registered Flocks.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31st.

BANBURY RAM FAIR. OXFORD DOWN SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS from the Registered Flocks.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th.

HEMPTON GREEN, NORFOLK. OXFORD DOWN RAM LAMBS from the noted Flock of Mr. George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Faringdon.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th.

NORTHAMPTON RAM FAIR. About 200 SHEARLING RAMS and RAM LAMBS, consigned from the Flocks of the Principal Oxford Down Breeders.

The Sheep may be seen by arrangement with the respective Owners, from whom catalogues may be had; or of the Auctioneers, Bicester, Oxon.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1905.

THE MANOR FARM, WINTERBOURNE STOKE, WILTS.

Four miles from Wishford Station, six from Wilton, and nine from Salisbury.

MESSRS. WATERS & RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. CAREY COLES to LET and SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on FRIDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1905, 97 RAM LAMBS AND 3 RAMS from his highly-bred Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

From personal inspection of this year's selection of ram lambs, the Auctioneers can speak in the highest terms of their general excellence; for years it has been recognised what great uniformity is apparent in the Winterbourne Stoke Flock, and it must be very satisfactory to the spirited owner that, whether at home or abroad, universal satisfaction is always expressed by those who purchase from this noted flock. Great judgment is shown by Mr. Coles in the selection of sires, with the result that great uniformity of character and type is always maintained in the highest degree, whilst the sheep carry that depth of flesh and superior fleece which is so marked in all the animals bred at Winterbourne Stoke.

Luncheon at 12.30 and Sale after.

Conveyances will meet the Trains until midday, at Salisbury, Wilton, and Wishford.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Canal, Salisbury.

THURSDAY NEXT.

THE 20TH ANNUAL SALE AND LETTING of 80 GRAND PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS AND RAM LAMBS, from MR. LAMBERT'S OLD-ESTABLISHED REGISTERED FLOCK, will take place in a field adjoining the Cattle Market at CAMBRIDGE, On THURSDAY Next, AUGUST 3rd, 1905, at Two o'clock

MESSRS CHALK, Auctioneers, 11, Alexandra Street, Cambridge and Linton, of whom Catalogues may be obtained.

Mark Lane Express

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Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

AUCTION SALES.

KENT.
ANNUAL LAMB SALE.
ASHFORD.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above Sale in the Cattle Market Field on THURSDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1905.

7,500

KENT AND HALF-BRED SHEEP AND LAMBS

from the best flocks in the district, including
4,000 KENT EWE AND WETHER LAMBS,
3,350 HALF-BRED LAMBS,
150 ONE, TWO, AND THREE-LAMB EWES,
28 EWE AND WETHER TEGS.

Arrangements can be made for Sheep going into the counties of Surrey and Sussex, to be dipped in accordance with the regulations, at the expense of the purchaser.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock. Luncheon provided.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

ROYAL LANCASHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, LIVERPOOL, AUGUST 3rd, 4th, 5th and 7th, 1905.

The London and North Western Railway Company has extensive accommodation at Liverpool for dealing with Live Stock, Implements, and Merchandise traffic passing to and from the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show, to be held at Liverpool 3rd to 7th proximo.

Live Stock will be dealt with at Stanley Station, where the Company has extensive Horse and Carriage Landings, Cattle Docks, and every facility for dealing expeditiously with such traffic.

General exhibits and other merchandise will be unloaded at Rathbone Road Station, but small consignments will be dealt with at Edge Hill Station, where the Company has a large number of carts and every accommodation for quick delivery.

Passenger traffic such as Poultry, Dogs, small parcels, &c., will be dealt with at Wavertree Station, while Carriages and Horses can be unloaded at either Edge Hill or Mossley Hill Stations, according to the requirements of the senders.

All information may be obtained from Chief Goods Manager, Euston Station, London, or from District Goods Manager, Waterloo Station, Liverpool.

The Company will have an office and representative on the Show Ground to give information.

Sefton Park is the nearest Passenger Station to the Show Ground, and a frequent service of trains will be run to meet the requirements of passengers.

Forward Merchandise, Live Stock, &c., to and from the Show by this Company's route, care being taken to clearly consign the exhibits "Per London and North Western Railway."

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office,
Euston Station,
London, July, 1905.

THE CAMBRIAN RAILWAYS COMPANY.

THE WELSH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, ABERYSTWYTH.

JULY 31st, AUGUST 1st and 2nd.

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The Company cannot be responsible for detention on the line, at the same time every exertion will be made to ensure punctuality.

All information regarding Excursion Trains and Tourist Arrangements on the Cambrian Railways can be obtained from Mr. W. H. GOUGH, Traffic Superintendent, Oswestry.

C. S. DENNISS,
Secretary and General Manager.

Oswestry, July, 1905.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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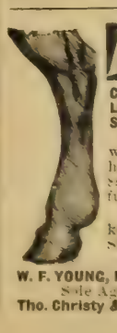

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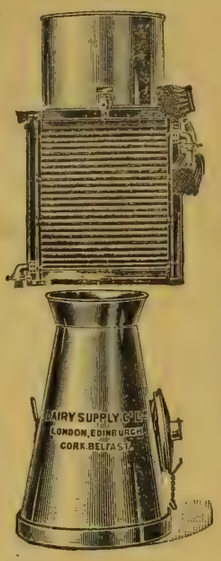

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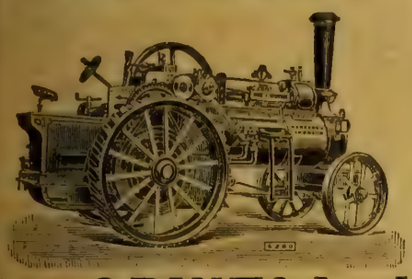

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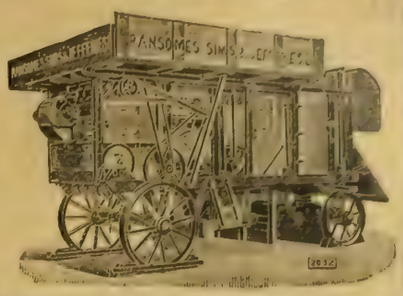

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Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To Readers and Advertisers.

In consequence of Monday next being a Bank Holiday, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on SATURDAY, AUGUST 5.

All communications for that issue should reach this Office as early as possible, and in any case not later than by first post on FRIDAY MORNING NEXT.

POISONOUS SHEEP DIPS.

As our readers are aware, the Board of Agriculture recently inaugurated experiments to test the suitability of various preparations as cures for sheep scab without detriment to the fleeces of the animals dipped. The essential ingredients of the approved prescriptions were lime and sulphur, carbolic acid and soft soap, and tobacco and sulphur. Prescriptions containing arsenic were not scheduled as preparations which could be recommended. Although such dips were recognised as thoroughly effective in curing scab, the possible danger to human beings attendant upon their preparation rendered it advisable that they should be compounded by qualified persons only, and therefore the prescriptions were not given. The Board, however, recognise that there are a large number of sheep dips on sale which may be regarded as equally efficient cures for sheep scab, and have arranged for examination of any dips for sheep scab which the manufacturers may submit to them for approval. On being satisfied that a preparation may be relied on as a cure, the Board will issue their formal approval to the manufacturer, with an intimation that he is at liberty to label the preparation to that effect when offering it for sale.

In thus franking the preparations of private firms and manufacturers, however, the Board must be careful to insist on proper precautions being taken to prevent the dip killing the sheep, as well as the scab. That the cure may sometimes be worse than the disease is shown by a disaster which occurred some years ago in Northumberland. A large farmer at New Heaton brought an action against a tradesman to recover damages for negligence and want of skill in selling a sheep wash, which poisoned the sheep. The farmer had recently purchased the stock, and taken a farm of about 1,000 acres at Burton, in addition to his place at New Heaton. Seeing an advertisement in a newspaper headed "Important to Farmers," and greatly recommending the defendant's "Celebrated Sheep Wash" for the destruction of tick, lice, and vermin in sheep, he ordered a quantity of the wash, which was sold in powders. The powders were duly delivered, the instructions on the powders being that each one was to be mixed with three or four gallons of boiling water, and that the mixture, with 4lb. of soft soap, should then be diluted with forty-five gallons of cold water, which would make a wash sufficient for fifty sheep. The direction was implicitly followed, and one Saturday in August 869 sheep were dipped in the wash. Of these, sixty were dipped after the wash had been much diluted, as they had been washed before. The sheep were brought a considerable distance to the sheds, and they were turned back into the sheds, and sent back to their pasture at intervals during the day.

History does not record what happened to the parasites, but on Sunday one of the sheep died. On Monday several more died, and many were seen to be ill—foaming at the mouth, shaking their heads, and lying down. On Tuesday a greater number died; on Wednesday more still; until, in the course of a few days, 850 of the sheep were dead, and only nineteen survived. The nineteen survivors were part of the sixty which had been dipped in the very diluted mixture. Moreover, the hands and arms of the shepherds which had been dipped in this very effective and efficient sheep wash became sore, and mortified and sloughed, and the men were ill for some time. The powders were analysed, and it was found that each powder, weighing 2lb. 10oz., contained 1¼lb. of arsenic, 1¼lb. of soda ash, and 2oz. of sulphur. The judge directed the jury that their decision must be founded on whether this was a reasonable, fit, and proper composition to be used, according to the directions on the package, for dipping sheep. The jury emphasised their opinion by awarding the farmer £1,400 damages for loss of his sheep.

The Board of Agriculture are hardly likely to include the above prescription in their schedule of recommended dips. By if by mistake they approved of a preparation which was afterwards found to be dangerous to man and beast, and resulted in a similar catastrophe, an interesting question might arise as to their liability for holding up to the world a noxious compound as a suitable sheep wash for ordinary use, without at the same time warning the public of its dangerous qualities.

Speech by Lord Wenlock on Agricultural Topics.

Speaking at the luncheon held in connection with the Malton Show on Wednesday, Lord Wenlock made some interesting remarks concerning agriculture generally. His Lordship at the outset expressed the opinion that agriculture was improving, and remarked that one of the best symptoms of an improvement in agriculture was that if a farm became vacant there was a certain number of solvent applicants who were willing to bid for the place at a reasonable rent. He did not think that the British farmer could throw any stones at the landlord nowadays that the rents were too high. The landowners had accommodated themselves to the necessities of the case, and had put their rents at such a figure that the tenants, generally speaking, were able to make a livelihood out of the land. They could congratulate themselves on the great improvement during the last twenty or thirty years in the condition of the agricultural labourer.

At the present time they were properly agitating for an improvement in the houses of the labourers. One of the greatest difficulties which confronted landlords was the provision of decent and proper cottages. The rents received now left a very small percentage of return on the outlay involved, but he believed that as a result of the efforts now being made it would soon be found possible to erect a cottage for a labouring man, with three bedrooms, for £150. But they would have to go a great deal further before they would see the same number of persons engaged in agriculture as formerly.

The people naturally demanded that their food should be cheap. The only way in which it was possible to get the people back to the land in anything like sufficient numbers to make any appreciable difference in the overcrowding of our towns would be for the country to make up its mind to give a bounty on wheat-growing. It was an heroic measure, no doubt, but it was the only way in which any great portion of the present large acreage of bad grass could be brought under cultivation, and made to produce more food for the people than it did now. "Bad food, closely overcrowded cities, want of employment, and stunted growth"—he proceeded—"this is the price which we have to pay for cheap food. It is a curious thing that while the agriculturists—reduced in numbers though they are—are doing more and more every year to improve the standard of the quality of their stock, the human beings driven off the land are becoming so deficient in physique and their general stature is becoming so deteriorated that the subject is engaging the attention of statesmen as to a remedy for this state of affairs."

We had to thank those who had brought about this excessive cheapness in food that the great mass of the population was reduced to such a low ebb that they were not able to bear arms in the way their forefathers did to uphold the honour of the country in the manner in which it used to be done.

Seasonable Topics.

The Advent of August.

The passing away of July, the gradual shortening of the days, and the rich glow of increasing ripeness which may be noticed amongst vegetation on every side, all are reminders that summer is running its course to the end. Being a privileged individual in this direction the farmer has his little grumbles, but of late the fates have been kind to him in many ways. Though grass crops in all cases were not quite up to the standard we like to see, there is satisfaction in surveying the stacks built of hay which never had a drop of rain on it, and those who made the best of their opportunities in July have little to complain about with respect to the hay harvest. When we think of seasons in the past in which hay-making continued into September, and, in some cases was not completed at all, we have reasons to feel thankful for the tropical July sunshine of this year. A glimpe at cornfields displays a golden glow of ripening mellowness, which suggests early reaping, and, all things considered, we think climatic conditions at the height of summer have done more than a little to redeem the shortcomings of the beginning. With the advent of August, townsfolk rush away from stifling streets to seek relaxation in the country and by the sea; but the farmer's work is not yet over, and it is not till the last of the crops is safely harvested that he can think of holidays, even if he allows himself this treat at all.

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Cuckoos and Caterpillars.

Everyone is familiar with the cuckoo who comes to herald the spring, and returns again in that mysterious manner which is peculiarly his own as the summer reaches its height. We all have a sentimental regard for the cuckoo, which, perhaps, prompts us to overlook his bad habit of appropriating the nests of other birds for his own use, and compelling them by a system of fraud to bring up his offspring; but, in spite of these shortcomings, the cuckoo plays a useful part. In common justice to him let it be said that the cuckoo does not live entirely by sucking the eggs of other birds as is sometimes supposed, but he is a voracious insect eater, and has a decided liking for long hairy caterpillars, which smaller birds fight shy of. Quite recently we have been watching the operations of a pair of cuckoos in an apple tree which was badly infested with the prettily-marked hairy caterpillars of the Lackey moth. Every day they came, and could be seen devouring the insects until they had made a meal, after which they departed, but to return the following morning. These visits continued until there was not a caterpillar left on the tree, and then the birds flew away and were seen no more. By his call the cuckoo tells us when he comes, but his departure is silent, and takes place when the supply of caterpillars runs out. During the period of his residence amongst us, however, the cuckoo is responsible for the destruction of a host of insects, and is, consequently, a friend of the fruit grower.

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In View of Hop-picking.

Kentish hop-gardens present a charming picture now that poles and strings are covered with clustering bine, and under the influence of the summer sunshine the crop is advancing towards maturity. Hops still remain the most important crop in the southern county, and as the time for picking draws near everyone becomes more or less interested in the question of prospects. At the moment of writing the outlook is favourable, and the early appearance of the burr indicates that picking will not be late in commencement this season. As is usual at this time of the year there are numerous advertisements in the local papers seeking the services of pickers, bookers, cashiers, dryers, and so on for the busy season. People who read about the rush from East London to Kent when the hop picking is on are inclined to think that the whole of the work is done by the Cockney element, but this is by no means the case. In fact, hop growers prefer local pickers, and would gladly rely on them altogether if there were sufficient available; but as this is not the case, the nondescript fraternity from the Metropolis is welcomed. The individual, however, who rises from the level of the commonplace to a position of importance at hop-picking time is the dryer, because his task is one of considerable responsibility. In fact, a good dryer is a man of untold value to a hop grower, and when the latter has got a capable and trustworthy servant in this department, he endeavours to retain his services year after year. Hop drying is one of those tasks which are mastered better by experience and observation than by all the theory in the world, and this is where the old dryer scores. He knows his work, and being aware of the fact, he realises a sense of his own importance during the time that hop-picking is on. Any ordinary individual can soon learn to pick hops, and local schoolmasters during holiday time are equal to booking, but the dryer must be a man of experience and knowledge of his work, or he may be the means of his employer soon losing money. In view of this fact, it is not surprising that good dryers are eagerly sought after.

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Haybarns.

We remember the introduction of the first haybarn in a district where these erections were hitherto unknown. The pillars were of iron and the roof formed of corrugated sheets, and there was nothing extraordinary about it, but nevertheless the strange building was the subject of numerous comments on the part of the local farmers. They failed to see how hay stored under a thing like that could be as good as if it were built in a stack and thatched in the old-fashioned way. But corn-growing had not gone out of fashion then, straw was more plentiful than it is now, and labour was cheaper and easier to obtain. The old haybarn still stands where it was erected, but it is not alone in its glory, for similar buildings have appeared on nearly all the homesteads round about, and the farmers who are still without haybarns are perpetually petitioning the landlord to supply them. Nowadays the farm without a haybarn is not considered to be properly equipped, which is proof sufficient to show how much these commodities are appreciated for their usefulness. No argument is needed to show what a valuable acquisition in the saving of time, material, and labour a good haybarn is on a farm, and yet when they were first introduced they were looked on with a certain amount of suspicion. It is true, in many ways, that farmers do not welcome new things, but when the utility of a fresh introduction is made clear, they follow each other like sheep in their desire to obtain it.

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Summer Drought.

The tropical sunshine of July has had its effect on pastures, which in many cases present a burnt, dried-up appearance, and there is in consequence a shortage of feed for sheep and cattle. Oh, for rain to set the aftermath growing, says the farmer, ever mindful of himself, after the hay crop is safely harvested, and the green spots in dried-up districts are the fields where the grass was cut early and the herbage has had time to make fresh growth. A writer in a recent issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS spoke of the value of a good green crop during a period of summer drought, for those farmers whose business it is to provide milk. We emphasise the writer's remarks, because we know how the milk yield falls off when the cows have to rely for their food on sundried pastures. But lucky are the farmers who never suffer through want of water in dry seasons. They have much to be thankful for, as we know of nothing more wearying than having to cart water long ditsances for sheep and cattle. Yet many have to do this, and there is an outcry now from various quarters about the shortage of the water supply. Water-carting, though absolutely necessary when circumstances demand it, is profitless work, because it demands the expenditure of a good deal of time and labour which could be well spent in other directions. In view of these facts we maintain that the question of water supply is a matter which should never be overlooked when taking a farm.

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Giving Notice.

It falls to the lot of some men to be able to spend a lifetime on one farm without ever having occasion to think of leaving, while others never seem to settle long in a place, and are frequently making changes. Why farmers actually leave their holdings and take others is best known to themselves, but we have met with instances of men who have given notice more than once without any intention of leaving at all. Of course, there is an object in view when this is done, and whereas sometimes it comes off, at other times it does not. Last year an instance came before our notice of a farmer who gave notice because he could not agree with his landlord over some small matter. The man was doing very well, and had no real intention of leaving, but when he made an attempt to withdraw his notice he found he had reckoned without his host. The landlord, by the way, never gives a tenant notice so long as things are going on satisfactorily, but when he receives a notice he rarely allows it to be withdrawn. The result in this case was that the tenant had to leave through his own act, and in addition to being put to the expense of removal he had to put up with an inferior farm. A moral adorns the tale, namely, that a tenant should not give notice unless he really intends to leave, and that the giving of a notice is not always a safe way of obtaining some object in view.

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Rabbits on Farms.

Many of our readers will remember the hue and cry there was in certain quarters when the Ground Game Act was passed. It was asserted that the days of the cosmopolitan rabbit were numbered, and that soon the whole family would be wiped off the face of the earth. The fear was groundless, however, and rabbits flourish now as vigorously as ever they did. If they are represented in numbers sufficient to do appreciable damage to the farmer's crops he has the law in his own hands, but as for obliterating rabbits entirely, farmers generally have no such desire. If for no other reason the farmer likes to have a few rabbits about him in order that he may gratify his inborn taste for sport, and we know of nothing more pleasant at this time of the year than a quiet walk in the cool of the evening in quest of young rabbits, which form a welcome addition to the bill of fare. Indeed, farmers get many little pleasures in a quiet way, and one of them is the privilege of being able to stroll out, gun in hand, in the delicious coolness of a summer's evening with the object of potting a few rabbits for the morrow's meal.

Unlet Farms of the Crown.

A certain number of farms belonging to the Crown were specified in last year's report as unlet, and the following, according to a statement made by Mr. Victor Cavendish, in the House of Commons last week, are still unlet:—

Place.	Acres.	Vacant Since.
Cambridge (Burwell)	916	1904
Hants (I. of W.)	763	1903
Kent (I. of S.)	1,157	1892-1903
Norfolk (Wingland)	357	1883
Oxford (Whichwood	490	1887
Suffolk (Shrimpling)	572	1892
Surrey (Esher)	16	1902
	4,276	

Mr. Cavendish has assured Sir Walter Foster that any application for part of a farm as a smaller holding would be considered, but it must be borne in mind that a division of the farms into smaller holdings, except for allotments, would involve substantial outlay in the provision of additional farmhouses and buildings.

Essex Farmers at Cambridge University's Farm.

On Tuesday about forty Essex agriculturists visited the experimental farm at Impington, near Cambridge, worked by the Cambridge University Department of Agriculture, the trip being organised by Mr. G. Clarke, F.I.C., of the Chemical and Agricultural Department of the Essex Education Committee. The party was received at Burgoyne's Farm, which is within a mile of Histon Station, by Professor T. H. Middleton, and were entertained to light refreshments on arrival. Burgoyne's Farm, it may be explained, consists of about 140 acres of light and medium soil, and has been leased to the department for nine years rent free, the department to have the option at the end of that time of a further lease at the rate of about 5ls. per acre. The land was in very bad condition when taken over, and for teaching purposes was, therefore, very suitable. Mr. Middleton is at the head of the department, but the farm is under the management of Mr. H. Henshaw.

Mr. Middleton, before starting on the tour of

inspection, gave an outline of the work that is going on at Burgoyne's Farm, and other places, and under his guidance the party then proceeded to the garden, where there are kept, in a large cage, many varieties of wheat from all parts of the world. Mr. Middleton explained that the object of this wheat breeding was to raise by selection varieties which would be good miller's wheat, as well as strong in constitution and free growers. This season, four generations of wheat hybrids of various parentage are being grown. The difficulty is in fixing the various types. In the case of oats cross breeding has not been resorted to, but a number of the best varieties now on the market have been systematically tested.

Proceeding to the root fields, the visitors were shown the experiments being conducted there. There are two stages with mangolds, swedes, turnips, and kohl rabi. The best known varieties are first grown side by side, and the weight of each crop ascertained. At the same time samples are taken of each variety, and analysed in the University laboratory, and in this way can be determined which variety is the most profitable to grow. The second stage consists in the analysis of individual roots, and those which contain the largest percentage of food materials are saved for growing seed.

Experiments on potatoes are also being carried out as to the merits of the leading new varieties and the effects of change of "seed," sprouting in trays, the size of sets, cutting sets, "greening" of sets, and growing in the pit. The various plots were described by Mr. Middleton, who explained where the seed had come from and how it was planted, etc. The visitors were able to judge of the results for themselves. One thing seemed very clear to the veriest tyro, viz., that it pays southern potato growers to get new seed from Scotland, rather than to grow their own.

Another fact that stood out plainly, according to the professor, was that the best results are obtained from medium-sized seed. Experiments with clover and with oats having been described in detail, the tour terminated with a visit to pasture land, where Professor Middleton described the treatment for improving pasture, answering many questions here, as elsewhere during the afternoon, on points of special interest to members of the party.

The Agricultural Outlook in Wiltshire, Hants, and Dorset.

We have again to thank a large number of correspondents for enabling us to publish reports on harvest prospects and the condition of agriculture in Wilts, Hants, and Dorset. On the whole, the season from an agricultural point of view has been a favourable one, and the outlook is more promising than for some years past. The abundance of sunshine and hot weather has hastened the maturity of crops, and harvest is likely to be general next week.

Of cereals wheat is the best crop, and all our correspondents describe the yield as over average or average. A few reports speak of a deficiency in the ear, and slight blight is visible in a few instances, but this is the exception, and on the whole the crop promises to be a heavy one, of good quality, and with plenty of straw. Barley is also likely to be a good crop and rather better than last year, whilst the colour and yield promise to be satisfactory. Oats appear to be the worst of the cereals. Winter and early sown are a fair average, but spring-sown are poor, the drought in May apparently in many cases having stunted the growth.

The crop of hay is not so heavy as last year, and in some cases is spoken of as light. On the whole, however, the growth is an average one, and, thanks to the fine weather which prevailed during the hay-making season, the whole has been well secured in excellent condition.

The reports with regard to the roots vary to some extent. Those who have benefited by local showers report the crop as an average one, whilst others describe it as backward and uneven. Although in a few cases some sowings have failed, on the whole the crop is more promising than might have been anticipated. The reports are most unfavourable with regard to mangolds, but swedes and turnips promise a fair yield. Rain, which is greatly needed, would still do much to improve the crop, but if the present dry weather continues much longer, the crop is likely to suffer very considerably.

Sheep and cattle are generally described as healthy, and in good condition; sheep are about the average number, and the breed of lambs was a good one.—*Salisbury Journal* (July 29).

For having in his possession a carcase of diseased meat, intended for human food, William Bennett, butcher, was on Thursday sent to gaol for three months, by the Chesterfield magistrates.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The significance of the Parliamentary proposals made by Mr. Arthur Stanley, M.P., lies in the fact that it would give a distinctive position to the motorist. He would, it seems to me, become at once a chartered person—licensed, delegated, empowered by the State to the usage of the roads under special conditions. Well, it may be necessary. I was reading this week a letter in the *Salisbury and Winchester Journal* written by Mr. John Bennett-Stanford, a name once to conjure with in Wiltshire. If I understood this epistle aright, the roads ought to be absolutely left to motorists, and the other users of them ought to be fined. A flock of sheep passing along a highway does, says Mr. Bennett-Stanford, infinitely more harm to it than a thousand motor-cars; a careless carter may do a world more damage than a hundred cars. Ergo, the thousand sheep ought to be refused right of usage; the carter ought to be placed in gyves. Then the gentlemen from Houndsditch or Park Lane—they have usually one lineament in common—would be able to enjoy themselves with broken-English enthusiasm, and the duty of the British farmer—that malicious rascal who has dared own that thousand sheep—would be permitted the glorious privilege of contributing towards the maintenance of their highway.

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We are to have classified roads, vide Mr. Arthur Stanley and his seven Parliamentary associates. We are to have national roads and other roads. And the maintenance, alteration, and restriction of such roads is to be provided for out of moneys supplied by Parliament. What penalty will be placed upon the motorist if he doesn't use the national roads? What will it matter to him if, instead of using the highway partially maintained out of funds supplied by Parliament, he insists on using the road maintained by that pernicious master of the flock of sheep? And Mr. Stanley would proceed with fine method. He would enact that suburban districts shall be laid out according to some definite plan and that new trunk roads of adequate width shall be built and the existing ones widened before building operations are commenced, and "so render unnecessary the costly street widening." This is most admirable philosophy. I only hope, however, that Mr. Arthur Stanley will insist on inflicting some adequate punishment should a suburban area prove indifferent to its duty. What if, as a fine, each suburban area were made to bear the cost of a balloon service for the carriage of that flock of sheep from field to field, or market to market, or made to bear, say, a year's cost of a college for the training of carters in ways that shall not disturb the motor gentleman.

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Mr. Arthur Stanley has made one very practical suggestion in his Bill. This is, that the county councils should be the supreme authority for all highways within the county. The educational example is really an excellent one. The incidence of the maintenance of the cost of education and the maintenance of roads have much in common. In both instances there is a partial responsibility attaching to the State and a partial responsibility attaching to the local area. The educated child may be an asset of the area, but he is also an asset of the State. Upon the area is placed the responsibility of evolving an instrument that shall be of value to the State. The county authority should also have placed upon it the responsibility of maintaining public roads, to the cost of which a definite contribution should be made by the State. If Mr. Stanley and his coadjutors would introduce a Bill on these simple lines he would place the whole agricultural world under an obligation—aye, even the dastardly fellow who has the effrontery to own Mr. Bennett-Stanford's flock of a thousand sheep. Mr. Stanley and Mr. Bennett-Stanford have instead given us a very piquant insight into the motorist mind. *A has* the pedestrian, the fellow who, if he doesn't walk on two legs, may ride on four with a horse ahead of him, and the brutal farmer who dare want to walk his flock of sheep along the public road for whose upkeep he has to pay. Why not a close time for the pedestrian and the flock of sheep?

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My prophecy as to the policy of the Government in regard to an election was wrong. And if prophets have not the luxurious right to be wrong, who have? My prophecy as to the probable date of the general election I still believe to be right and wise. The contest will in all probability take place in October. There is undeniably a great distaste on the part of many Conservatives to meeting another session. They hold that it would only be a season of tribulation and turmoil and chagrin. This being so, it follows that they would prefer an election on the old register. A new register is invariably unfavourable to the Conservatives. On an old register those interests which are generally Conservative have a chance of assertion. The property vote, then, has an improved opportunity of making its importance felt. While this is so the nomads of our electoral life are more difficult to be traced. These facts must, of course, have impressed itself on the official mind of Conservatism. It will be to the advantage of Conservatism, always assuming, of course, that the resolve has been arrived at not to meet the House of Commons in another session—to have an election in October.

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The speech of Lord Willoughby de Eresby, which THE MARK LANE EXPRESS reported in its last number, in favour of the extension of the principle of land purchase to England, is an evidence of the trend of opinion. Lord Willoughby de Eresby is not a Tory of the miocene and pliocene order, but he is undeniably a Tory; and, what is more, he is a representative of the aristocratic sentiment. When such a man as he pronounces so emphatically in favour of Mr. Jesse Collings' land purchase scheme—for that, of course, is what his speech meant—and avows his own willingness to sell to tenants aided by the State in their desire for ownership, we have an assurance that we are progressing rapidly towards the yeoman-ideal. When, however, his lordship says that "the question is entirely one of Government security in advancing loans to enable tenants to purchase," I fear me that he mistakes the temper of his own party. The question is one of converting the Conservative party to his purpose. Not, believe me, the territorial element in Conservatism. To-day there is a keener sympathy with the idea of voluntary purchase in Conservatism than there has ever been. If a vote were taken of the squirearchal element in Conservatism you would find a preponderating force in its favour. The element in Conservatism which is antagonistic is the plutocratic element—the men, not of broad acres, but of well-filled purse, to which a providential industrialism gives the character of the widow's cruse of oil. These be the men who hanker after the delights (*sic*) of rural landlordism—who long for the spacious parks and the attached farms.

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I have received a somewhat vigorous remonstrance from a well-known Conservative Member of Parliament against what he assumes to be my predilection for Liberal candidates. I retort upon my friend with another remonstrance. He has mistaken my regret at the apathy, the anti-ruralism, of Conservative officialism for sympathy with the antagonists of Conservatism. There be Conservatives like Mr. Jesse Collings, Sir John Dorrington, and Lord Willoughby de Eresby who have a practical policy—a policy affecting land purchase.

small holdings, and the labourers; but what official sympathy from Conservatism has this policy received? We have measures of definite moment to agriculture introduced into the House of Commons, and then abandoned without even a faint semblance of a practical effort being made to seure their adoption. We have the greater men in agriculture reprobating the Ministerial apathy in real stalwart fashion, and we have that Ministry absolutely indifferent to the necessity of disproving these assertions. These be the incidents that I reprehend, and they have no more association with sympathy with Radicalism than they have with the anti-libidinous ethics of the Koran.

The Hampshire Crops.

Following its usual custom, the *Hampshire Chronicle* has published the reports on farming and crop prospects from thirty of the leading agriculturists of the county, and the majority speak more hopefully of the present season than for many years past. There is no doubt, our contemporary adds, had it not been for the timely rain of June 5, the outlook for this county, at least, would have been one of the gloomiest on record, but this splendid rain, followed by a cool week with some additional showers, saved the situation.

Taking a summary of the reports, first, as regards the wheat crop, eighteen consider it over average, ten average, and not one under, whilst two do not give an opinion. In reference to barley, four give it as over, eighteen average, and only three under, whilst five do not give an opinion as to yield. The oat crop appears to vary a good deal. Whilst winter oats are generally good, the spring sown are under average, and especially the late sown. Not a single correspondent gives this crop as over average, and only seven average; seventeen return it as under.

As to the hay crop, although it is spoken of generally as well harvested, yet it is considerably under average, especially mowing pastures and old sainfoins; in fact, it comes out as follows:—Over average, none; average, nine; and under, eighteen.

The root crop is favourably reported upon, for whilst only seven give a bad report of this most important crop, twenty-three speak hopefully, and especially if we get shortly a good rain. The mangel crop is very disappointing, and in many instances has been ploughed up.

Visit to Scotch Nurseries.

A number of the friends and customers of Messrs. W. P. Laird and Sinclair, Ltd., from the Arbroath district visited the firm's extensive nurseries and trial grounds at Monifieth on the 22nd inst. Agriculture, arboriculture, horticulture, and floriculture are all branches of the nursery and seed trade that engage the close attention of this firm, and the unanimous opinion of the large party of visitors was that to the hands of the two managing directors, Mr. J. W. and Mr. W. P. Laird, all the branches of the trade give evidence of careful study and attention. The party were received at Fountainbrae House by Mr. J. W. Laird, who acted as guide, taking them round and pointing out all the principal items of interest. The nurseries are beautifully situated, and command at many points a magnificent view of the estuary of the Tay and right up beyond Newport and Dundee. From a business point of view the "exposure" is all that could be desired. Lying close to the German Ocean, the trees that are here grown cannot fail to be hardy, and consequently well adapted to successful transportation to all parts of the country.

Much interest was taken in several plots of potatoes here and there growing in the nursery, and although the keen edge is off this indispensable tuber as compared with the excitement of last year, still there was sufficient interest displayed to give evidence that the excitement has sharpened the interest of agriculturists, and caused them to be more observant and to give greater attention to this imporant crop.

The newest varieties of potatoes, to the number of forty, are being tested this year by the firm, Golden Wonder, Highlander, Conquering Hero, Eldorado, Sim Gray, Pearl, Diamond, Money Maker, Duchess of Cornwall, and many other well-known varieties are making fine growth and looking well. Mr Colin MacPherson's three new varieties, introduced by the firm last year, namely, The Macpherson, New Victoria and Early Champion, were looking remarkably well, and exceedingly good reports are being received from the South

NORTHERN NOTES.

There is a great difference between the climatic conditions of the East Coast and the West Coast of England, and it is a relief to pass from the arid parched eastern shores to the western side and to note the different aspect of the crops and of vegetation generally. Not that even in the west is there much humidity, but still the contrast is very striking. Harvest is approaching rapidly, and in the north will commence unusually early. Oats are changing fast, and some fields are already cut. The word "changing" is used advisedly, as "ripening" would scarcely be an appropriate term. We often hear the word "dying" used as though it were synonymous with ripening, but this season many flats of oats are dying under the sun's heat and the drought, and are not ripening. But the promise of the wheat crop is a good one, and that of barley at least fair.

"Everything comes round to him who will but wait," and now the East Coast has at last been visited by refreshing showers at a date when it seemed as though the clerk of the weather office had forgotten the existence of such a locality. The rains will afford some assistance to the pastures, although the season is too far advanced to admit of ought but a partial recovery. The root crops will benefit very considerably, although their present condition is really "parlous."

The caterpillars of the diamond back moth have done great injury, although perhaps not to the extent that was anticipated; forward swedes have suffered least, backward fields have suffered very severely, and some are entirely ruined. Farmers have congratulated themselves upon the comparatively little harm done by the turnip fly, but the root crops have many other enemies in a dry hot season, and the only cause for wonder is that they have stood as well as they have done.

The weaning time has now arrived, and the question with most flock owners is what they shall do with their lambs. Where fields of clover have been specially laid up for the lambs, the herbage is so short that the growth will be consumed before anything is ready to succeed, and the aftermath of grass and clover and sainfoin has in most places scarcely made an appreciable start. Naturally a good deal of stock is being pushed into the market, and as a consequence the price of beef has fallen, and in many provincial markets anything over 6d. per lb. is only to be had for animals of the finest quality. The trade in the best class of mutton has not been affected to nearly the same extent, and cross-breds of medium size are in good demand. Room must be found for the weaned lambs, somewhere, and so although the day of final separation will be postponed until next month in many instances, the grass pastures are being lightened in order to provide food for the lambs.

As a natural consequence the price of oilcakes and high-class artificial foods is hardening rather than declining, and this makes the position of the stockkeeper and grazier more unfortunate. But it is absolutely necessary to provide the flocks and herds with artificial food; it would be folly to allow animals in good condition to lose ground on account of the additional expense of artificial foods. If either sheep or cattle lose ground for a week, it takes at least two weeks to recover the ground that has been lost, if indeed the lost ground is ever again regained.

The condition of the wool trade is not encouraging. It is very strange that there are at any time so few buyers of long wools in the north, and now that the American demand is for the moment stayed, there seems to be absolutely no buyers for such wool. A great part of the season's clip is now in the hands of the factors and they will not sell at the present at a reduction, but they will not buy of the grower, and the manufacturers will only buy of the factors, and so for the moment things are absolutely at a standstill. The expected Japanese demand is not yet in evidence, and manufacturers are endeavouring to bring about a slump in English wool, but as the bulk of the clip has passed out of the hands of needy growers the anticipated slump will probably not arrive. Later on there will pretty certainly be a revival in the trade, although it is doubtful whether the farmer will obtain any higher rates than those prevailing three weeks or a month ago.

What may be termed the period of the local agricultural shows has set in, and everywhere local committees and secretaries are complaining of the want of public support. But the plain fact is that agricultural shows are overdone. Nearly every village now has its local show, and under such circumstances how can it be expected that the public will support all of them. After all, to the uninitiated, one agricultural show is very like another, and even if a farmer from one district is staying in another district a couple of hundred miles away, about a couple of these gatherings will satisfy him. He is interested in the first he goes to, as he sees animals of different breeds than those to which he is accustomed, but the second has smaller charms for him, and for a third he has no liking. In one's own district one may find interest in repeated visits to scenes where one may compare different types of breeds of which one has an expert knowledge, but it is not so interesting to repeatedly examine specimens of breeds and varieties of stock that are comparatively strange. The other day a disgusted official was heard to say that the general public found much more attraction in a group of pierrots by the seashore, or in a cycle exhibition, or a motor-car race, and he was undoubtedly right, although it is not so clear why the fact should put him out so much. However, the same position occurs everywhere, and if instead of increasing the number of petty exhibitions, local managers would eliminate the weaker organisations or bring about amalgamations and seek to join forces, their prospects of success would be much greater. If the number of local agricultural shows were reduced by one half, agriculture would be benefited.

One of the burning questions which will shortly come to the fore will be that of agricultural co-operation. Not on the lines so often advocated in interested quarters—a successful movement can only be actuated from within. Farmers cannot be guided by outside forces, and it is well for them that they resist all such attempts; but a movement from within will be irresistible, and one of the first steps will be the co-ordination of the powerful agricultural clubs and the weaker agricultural societies, and the elimination of certain elements which events have proved nither make for ornament nor utility.

M. Y.

July 28.

Farm Colonies: Departmental Committee Appointed.

A Departmental Committee to consider Mr. Rider Haggard's report on the Salvation Army Colonies has now been constituted, the names of the members composing it being as follows:—

Lord Tennyson, G.C.M.G. (chairman).
Mr. J. S. Davy, C.B., General Inspector of the Local Government Board.
Mr. Arthur Wilson Fox, C.B., Deputy Comptroller, General and Labour Commissioner, Board of Trade.
Mr. Bernard Holland, C.B.
Mr. Henry Lambert, of the Colonial Office, and Chairman of the Managing Committee of the Emigrants' Information Office.
The Hon. H. L. W. Lawson, M.P., member of the Managing Committee of the Emigrants' Information Office.
Colonel Llewellyn, M.P., representing the Board of Agriculture.
Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., and
Mr. Sidney Webb.

The Committee are instructed to consider the suggestions made in Mr. Rider Haggard's report on the Salvation Army Colonies in the United States and at Hadleigh, and to advise the Government whether any steps can usefully be taken for promoting agricultural settlements in the British Colonies of persons taken from the cities of this country. It is desired that the report should embody the views of the Committee upon any questions or proposals of a practical nature relating to emigration, which may arise during the inquiry.

Droitwich and Bromsgrove Farmers' Club.

At the annual meeting of the members of this club, Mr. E. B. Cotton (hon. secretary) reported that, after paying away to members cash prizes to the amount of £84 and prizes in kind £34, there remained a small balance in hand. It was agreed to invite Mr. R. B. Ward, of Westwood Park, to become president for the year, and Mr. E. B. Cotton was again appointed hon. secretary and treasurer. The members decided to accept the offer of Mr. J. W. Wall, of Hindlip, and hold this year's show at the Ford, near Droitwich.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

The thinly attended markets throughout the Eastern counties proclaim by reason of the absence of the farmers that they—the farmers—are all busy in the harvest fields, for the farmer takes care to be absent as little as possible from the scene of the harvest operations. In fact, for his own interests, visits and journeys are postponed, and the markets even for a time are unattended, inasmuch as all his energies are concentrated in his cornfields, where he restrains and directs hasty and careless hands, while he urges on the slow and cautious. It is to the farmer's advantage that the ground shall everywhere be well cleared and the crop secured in the best condition, while the weather and other circumstances are favourable. So one can understand the considerable progress that has been made during the past week, and the bare, brown patches that can be seen in the early districts from which the corn has safely been carted and housed.

Thus, the cornfield is a busy and interesting scene, and such it appears equally to have been in the days of the poet Homer, who wrote thus:—

> Here stretched in ranks the swelled swathes are found,
> Sheaves heap'd on sheaves here thicken up the ground;
> With sweeping stroke the mowers strow the lands,
> The gatherers follow and collect in bands;
> The rustic monarch of the field descries,
> With silent glee, the heaps around him rise.

In fact, we must say that this year all the processes of harvest are pleasant to behold, and inspire feeling of gladness and contentment in spite of the fact that the heavy rains that fell on Wednesday night in south Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire beat down a few hundred acres of corn and completely put a stop in some districts to harvest work the following day; while the downpour in south Essex late on Thursday afternoon, although it put a stop to the ingathering and cutting of the harvest, was welcomed by most farmers for its beneficial effect on the grain, and its cooling effect on the air.

New wheat, if it is not shown on Mark Lane Corn Exchange at Monday's market, will be in evidence at Romford next Wednesday, or Bishop's Stortford the following day, for the threshing machine started work in south-west Essex on Wednesday morning last.

Some remarkable records in the size of families are shown by the awards of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, in connection with which premiums are annually offered to farm labourers who have brought up and placed out the greatest number of children without having "parochial relief." This year it was found that eight men were the fathers of no fewer than 124 children, and four prizes were awarded:—1. J. G. Willoughby, of Calceby, who had 20 children born to him, of which 17 had been brought up and 12 placed out. 2. C. E. Blanchard, of Sleaford, with 19 children born, 14 brought up, and 14 placed out. 3. Stephen Robinson, of Rothwell, with 14 children born, 11 brought up, and 11 placed out; and 4. John Elsey, of Lusby, with 14 children born, 14 brought up, and 9 placed out. It should be mentioned that one of the stipulations of this competition was that the competitors had not occupied more than half an acre of land.

Although he would be a bold man who asserted that the agricultural depression which has now been drawn out almost thirty years is about to take its departure; nevertheless, the fact remains that in the purely agricultural counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire, as well as Essex, land is steadily increasing in value. And it was not a surprise, therefore, when Messrs. Cruso and Wilkins offered, at King's Lynn, on Tuesday last, to public competition, the Barwich Hall freehold estate at Barwich and Bamar, Norfolk, comprising residence, gardens, agricultural premises, 5 cottages, and about 1,015 acres of arable and pasture land, now in the occupation of Mr. Clement Savory, at an annual rental of £800, that the property was withdrawn at £17,500.

The Canadian motor waggon, which is decorated with the varied products of Canada, after being on show at Park Royal during the Royal Agricultural Show, has made good progress on its tour through the Eastern counties. It is expected in Norwich on Saturday, 29th inst., and any inquiries concerning the car should be addressed to Mr. B. G. King, of Haymarket Chambers, Norwich.

July 28.

CHEAP COTTAGES: GARDEN CITIES.

On Tuesday a large number of visitors had the opportunity of inspecting the Garden City at Letchworth, near Hitchin. The occasion was the official opening of the cheap cottage exhibition by the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., who was supported by Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey (chairman of the executive committee of the exhibition), the Bishop of Hereford, the Earl of Crewe, Mr. Justice Grantham, and Mr. Ralph Neville (chairman of the first garden city company).

The exhibition is an attempt to solve the problem as to whether a suitable cottage can be erected for approximately £150, so that if it let at £6 a year, the owner would at all events be receiving within a fraction of 4 per cent. for his outlay, not counting the cost of the land. On these terms there is a reasonable probability of some improvement being effected in the houses of agricultural labourers, and there can be little doubt that with more civilised accommodation in prospect there would be a diminution of the tendency on the part of country-bred young men and women to flee to the towns.

There are four classes in the exhibition:—

1. Detached labourer's cottage, containing living-room and scullery, or kitchen-scullery, and three bedrooms (two with fire-places). No room to be less than 7 ft. 6 in. in height, and cubic space in bedrooms to be not less than 2,000 ft., and the estimated cost to be not more than £150.

2. Pair of five-roomed cottages, costing not more than £300.

3. Group of three or four cottages, six rooms, including scullery, not to cost more than £35 a room.

4. Detached cottage or pair of cottages, six rooms, costing not more than £35 per room.

The cheapest cottage in the exhibition is that designed by Mr. A. Randall Wells, of Hastings. Built of brick, it works out at 2¾d. per foot cube. The cost is estimated at £150, plus the profits, and other items deducted in accordance with conditions. There is a living-room 15 ft. by 14 ft., a parlour 14 ft. by 10 ft., a scullery (with bath) 14 ft. by 7 ft., and three bedrooms, all with fireplaces and recesses for clothes. This is one of the group of cottages adjoining agricultural land intended for tenants of small holdings. Another cheap house of this group is that put up by the Wire-Wove Roofing Company, which works out at 3½d. per foot cube. Its principal feature is a large living-room, 21 ft. by 14 ft. 6 in., and a large scullery 17 ft. 6 in. by 9 ft. There is no parlour, but three bedrooms of useful size, all on the ground floor.

Another one-storey building is put up by the Darlington Construction Company at the cost of 3.6d. per foot cube. Its walls consist of 1 in. weather boards, a layer of inodorous felt, and asbestos cement sheeting ¼ in. thick. Experiments carried out by the College of Science at Newcastle indicated, it is stated, that the above combination was equivalent, when temperature conditions were steady, to 9 in. of brickwork. The asbestos cement sheeting can be papered, but does not look amiss as it is, and the assistant in charge of the house declared that it could be washed without injury. Concrete is used in various forms in the construction of many of the cottages.

In some cases concrete and timber are used, and in other cases the concrete is reinforced with steel. One of the best concrete habitations is that erected by the Concrete Machinery Company, Limited, of Liverpool, partly to recommend their portable hand-power machinery for making concrete blocks. The concrete blocks are made on the spot of gravel, sand, and cement, and the cottage in question is the first built by this process. It comprises parlour, kitchen, scullery, and larder, three bedrooms (two of which are 14 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft.), and it is claimed that it could be erected in six weeks for £150. It is fitted with a bath, that folds up into a recess behind the kitchen fire, and it is averred that by the patent boiler connected with it a hot bath could be obtained in half an hour, with an expenditure of 3½ lb. of coal. Some walls consist of "timber framing, expanding metal lathing, and Portland cement," giving 4 in. hollow space, and in many cases the usual lath and plaster for internal walls is replaced with fireproof material, such as plaster laid on expanded metal lathing, or the patent material "Mack."

A very excellent pair of cottages, with interior walls of "Mack," is built by the Letchworth Building Syndicate, Mr. V. Dunkerley being the architect. The outer walls are of asbestic brick, and by the adoption of the Mansard roof, three capital bedrooms are obtained. There are two other good features of this pair—a "model cottager" combined range, copper and bath, and the utilisation of a new idea for chimneys passing through the bedrooms. Instead of 4 ft. or so of solid brickwork from floor to ceiling, there are two comparatively small shafts of fire clay, one for the kitchen chimney and one leading from the bedroom fire, the space between the two being fitted with a cupboard for linen, etc. Yet another feature is "the sink recess" in the kitchen-scullery, shut off by a door when not in use. The architect says that the cost, including builder's profit, model cottager and bath, is £150 per cottage, and as twenty-two similar cottages are now being erected in another part of the Garden City, the estimate is probably nearer the mark than the estimates of many of the so-called "cottages," whose construction excites as much wonder as admiration when the "cost" is considered.

One plan of building is "brick-on-edge, reinforced with ironwork, and built in cement mortar," giving a hollow wall of great strength and cheapness. In another house there are "wire walls," otherwise steel framing and plaster 7 in. thick—rough-cast plaster outside and ordinary plaster inside. Here, as in some other cases, there is an underground tank for rain water.

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Successful Co-operation.

A deputation of farmers from the Earl of Scarborough's Lincolnshire and Yorkshire estates recently visited Brandsby, a village sixteen miles from York, where an agricultural co-operative scheme is in successful operation, to learn how things are done there. The deputation reached York soon after nine o'clock in the morning, and were whirled to their destination in one of the splendid motor 'buses belonging to the North-Eastern Railway Company. Pulling up eventually in a dingle, the party found themselves opposite a quaint wooden cabin, with the legend surmounting the doorway: "Brandsby Dairy and Trading Association. Licensed to sell tobacco"; while on the other side of the roadway was a storehouse, with another double the size in course of erection. The Squire (Mr. Fairfax-Cholmely), to whose initiative the establishment of the Brandsby Association is due, gave the party the warmest of welcomes, and so did the Committee of the Association, and soon the deputation were inspecting the depôt, asking questions and receiving a most interesting account of the advantages derived, and the progress made by this, one of the pioneer agricultural co-operative societies of England.

The value of organisation to the farmers of the Brandsby district unquestionably found its strongest proof in the establishment by the North-Eastern Railway Company, purely at the instigation of the Society, of a motor waggon service between there and the main line at Tollerton. The deputation were actually on the scene when a motor puffed up laden with five tons of linseed cake and cotton cake, and the Lincolnshire farmers at once commenced to discuss amongst themselves the probabilities of their being able to induce one of the companies to grant them, if they combined, similar facilities.

The delegates were entertained by Mr Cholmely to luncheon, and afterwards, in the shade of a magnificent oak, there was a little speechmaking. The vicissitudes of the Brandsby Society, which started simply as a co-operative dairy, were traced by the Squire, who emphasised the advantages of the department for the purchase of agricultural requirements. It was surprising, he said, what [illegible] was told to by many of the cake merchants. Most firms would not give a guarantee as to the quality of the cake. Then, again, they found that certain firms who were prepared to give a guarantee were no more to be relied upon than others. When a Society bought perhaps 500 tons of cake it took care to have it analysed, and saw that the members were getting the full [illegible] of oil. Previous to the starting of the [illegible] Mr. Cholmely added, a small warehouse was taken near the station, in which coke was stored, and members brought that back when they took goods to the railway, and thus saved themselves an empty journey.

"BE WISE IN TIME."

FARMERS should take care (especially in view of the comparatively low rates of premium) to insure against loss through **STORMS** and **FIRE.**

The **HOMESTEAD, FURNITURE, OUT-BUILDINGS, LIVE STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, STACKS, AND GROWING CROPS** all represent property which can, by the present modern system of **INSURANCE**, be covered at a trifling annual outlay.

INSURANCE against death or injury through accidents should not be neglected.

Notts Improved Prospects.

SIR,—Harvest operations have commenced in this locality with the cutting of oats, and in a few days will be general. The wheat crops look well with an increased acreage under cultivation to the extent of 10 to 15 per cent., and will be above an average yield. Barley is, perhaps, about an average; spring sown oats below; beans and peas about an average. Winter beans, barley, and oats much better than the spring variety this season. Mangolds look well, turnips patchy and thin, potatoes doing fairly well, and have improved since the showers. But we have had very little rain in this locality, and the season is a very trying and expensive time for grassland farmers, for there is neither grass nor water in the ponds; some good downpours would be welcomed. The corn crops are standing up well, hence the reaping machines will be much in evidence this year. The wheat fields are looking golden and mellow; however a few pieces of oats have been attacked with the aphis fly, the crop at its best is only medium, straw short, thin, and blighted. The hay crop has gone into very little room, very light, but well secured; seeds and clover better. Stock generally looks well on the scanty pastures, however the showers have freshened them up. Many "half-meated" fat cattle are seen in the markets, causing depressed trade owing to the shortage of keep. The outlook is better than last harvest, and with an increase in the price of wool, farmers most certainly ought not to find fault with 1905. There has been a good crop of bush fruit, with nice promise of apples, pears, and plums in North Notts, although many apples have dropped off during the drought.

AGRESTIC.

July 27.

Fair Prospects in Kent.

SIR,—Agricultural prospects in this county are fair, in spite of the severe drought and heat that has been experienced since June. In this district (near Rochester) the rainfall this month has been only .24. Wheat and barley are the cereals of the year, especially the former. Oats suffered from wireworm, and are very uneven. Roots and potatoes are suffering from the dry weather, late potatoes looking bad, and are shutting up in places, and on light soils grass, too, is beginning to get short, and flockmasters will soon be in difficulty as to what their lambs are to be weaned on! The fall was very short about here, a lamb to a ewe being about the average. The hay crop on the whole has been secured in fair order, but the stacks are about half the size of last year. Hops look well, in many places there is too much bine, the burr in the early sorts is now getting quite forward, there is a little vermin at places, but not enough to cause much alarm, although some growers are washing. Mould is rather troublesome, and the sulphur machines are kept busy. Harvest will be general next week, but even now a few fields of oats and wheat are being cut.

W. S.

July 28.

Harvest in West Sussex.

SIR,—Harvest is now engaging everyone's attention. Winter oat cutting began on the 19th. Some spring oats will be fit to cut by the 27th, and wheat cutting will be in full swing a day or two after. Oats are ripening off too fast for a heavy crop of good weight; but winter oats are a better crop than for some years past. Wheat looks well, and is thick, but there are several complaints of blight; the sunny weather is all in its favour. Both wheat and winter oats are more twisted and badly laid than for several years, yet it is not so much beaten down as it is the many ways it has gone down that will make the cutting go badly. However, labour is more plentiful than it has been the last few years.

Haying is practically over. The crop is fully 10 cwt. lighter than last year's. Most of it is stacked in splendid condition, but prices do not look like being any better than last year. Roots require a good rain; some of the backward sowings will not come up until they get some. Most people have an excellent plant, although some fields are very patchy. Mangolds, as usual, enjoy the sunshine, and have much improved the last month.

Wool has sold well this year—about 2½d. rise on last year's price; and sheep, both fat and store, are selling well; altogether, flockmasters look like having a good year.

H. W. D.

July 21, 1905.

York (North Riding).

SIR,—In our district of Wensleydale the hay is only a very light crop, but got in good condition. Oats is short in straw only; barley promises fairly well; wheat is a good average crop; turnips is a very poor crop; there are lots been sown three times over, the fly eating them off again; the weather is so very droughty, the pastures and fog all burnt up; potatoes looking fairly well; the prospect is very bad in face of winter.

J. W.

July 28.

Corn Cutting in North Lincolnshire

SIR,—Although only two-thirds of the way through July, at the market yesterday we heard of the first field of corn cut. Many others are ripe, or nearly so, and several neighbours will commence on Monday.

This early period, after such a dry spell, betokens a good wheat crop, of which I estimate a 10 or 15 per cent. increase in area, and a good yield, weather permitting.

On the contrary, barley and oats are poor, the latter especially; only the early-sown fields are very good.

Enquiry is beginning as to lamb-selling, showing that the slight showers have saved the turnip crop, and we shall have winter food.

Swedes are not so good as other turnips. The Diamond Moth is damaging them very much. Thousands fly off when you walk through the crop.

The bulk of the wool has been sold, the best clips at 30s. per tod. Those who have speculated cannot quite reach their old bids. This is for long-wool, the higher price of which is ousting the half-bred sheep once more, although the mutton is better to sell, if the wool be not.

July 21, 1905. NORTH LINDSEY.

Good Wheat Crop in North Lancashire.

SIR,—The hay is mostly in, a lighter crop, but well got. Roots are doing fairly well, but have not got a start off like we have seen them some years. Wheat is the best crop of the season; oats and barley are fairly good, and the dry weather will help the yield.

The early part of the year has been so hot there will not be much old grass on the fields for autumn and winter use. Stock have summered well, but prices are against profits.

July 26.

FOR exhaustive and helpful information on the growth, cultivation, and uses of fodder crops, read

FODDER CROPS

ONE SHILLING. By Post, 1s. 1½d.

From the Publishers:
"MARK LANE EXPRESS" Office,
1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Poor Outlook in Mid Staffordshire.

SIR,—The continuance of drought is a source of considerable anxiety in this district, and not only is the present output of farm produce from grass greatly lessened, but, also, the partial and, in many instances, the total failure of green crops gives an unpromising outlook for next winter.

The hay harvest may be estimated at about three-fourths of an average crop, and, unfortunately, the clearing of the hay crop at an early date has not been followed by any considerable growth of aftermath. An unusually large quantity of concentrated foods has become necessary for dairy cows, whose yield of milk has been greatly reduced, although the richness of the milk is above the average.

The markets for beef and mutton have not been much lowered in price by the persistent drought because the supply of fat stock is not excessive. Meanwhile, the slow progress of feeding makes for an accumulation of imperfectly finished animals which later on in the season will come out for sale.

Of cereal crops wheat is much the best, and oats the worst. Almost every field of the small acreage under wheat is above an average, and the harvest in this district is close at hand. The straw of barley and oats—especially of oats—is short; and, speaking generally, the deficiency in the stock of dry fodder, whether of hay or straw, will be somewhat serious.

July 26.

Heat and Drought in Essex.

SIR,—The extreme heat and dry weather of the past month has to some extent modified what had, up to then, promised to be a capital season. The corn has ripened, it appears, somewhat prematurely, which on light land, at any rate, means anything but a good sample of barley, while spring oats are cutting up light, though the winter variety is good and heavy. Feed for stock is now getting short, and showers will be welcomed to freshen up the grass, and at the same time to help mellow the barley before it is harvested.

D. ABBOTT GREEN.

July 29, 1905.

Satisfactory Outlook in Somerset.

SIR,—The hay crop is fairly satisfactory, and has been made well. Wheat is about the average. The oat crop of which is by far the largest grown in the district, will be light, owing to the cold and drought of May.

The root crop promises to be a good one, although there are many bare patches owing to wireworm and rooks. Grass is plentiful and good.

A. S. LOVELACE.

July 29, 1905

The Great Northern Company's claim that they make "a specialty of holiday traffic," is fully borne out by the special excursion facilities they are offering for August Bank Holiday. On Friday, August 4, there are cheap express excursions from London to North-Eastern stations and Scotland for 7 or 17 days, and on Friday and Saturday, August 4 and 5, there are similar trips to the Midlands, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Lancashire, Yorkshire, and North-East England, for 3, 6, or 8 days. On Sunday and Monday special non-stop half day excursions are run to Skegness at the exceptionally low fare of 3s., which is a marvel of cheapness, working out to about 8 miles for a penny. On Bank Holiday, August 7, there are excursions to Grantham and Nottingham for a half, one, two, or three days, as well as day and half day trips to main line stations. The cheap week-end tickets usually issued each Friday and Saturday, will be issued on Friday, August 4, Saturday, August 5, available for return on Sunday, August 6, Monday, August 7, Tuesday, August 8, or Wednesday, August 9. Full particulars of these special facilities are contained in an attractive programme, which can be obtained from any Great Northern Office, or direct from the Chief Passenger Agent at King's Cross.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1. Essex Street, Strand, 12 Noon, Monday, July 31st, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general aspect of what are termed the action centres of barometric pressure, in particular the persistence of the seasonal anticyclone over Biscay is favouring a continuation of mostly fair weather over the British area, with an occasional showery spell chiefly affecting the Northern and Western districts, and only partially and temporarily affecting the Middle, East, and South.

The general sequence will be: 1. At first moderate Westerly (N.W. to S.W.) breezes, Fair with Cloud, some Showers in Ireland and Scotland. Temperature, Normal or Mild. 2. Later mostly W. to S.W. and S. winds, freshening, Fair to Cloudy and some Showers, spreading, temporarily over most districts, but light or absent in Nos. 3 and 5. Temperature, Warmer in the South, Centre, and East. 3. Finally, S.W. to W. winds, Moderate. Fairer generally, some Showers, chiefly in the Northern districts, and Mild.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first mostly cloudy—fair in the S. and some showers chiefly in the North; later freshening winds, some passing, more general showers; finally fairer; temperature, normally cool to mild.

„ 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings). **—At first some passing showers; later fairer; wind S.; finally some passing showers to fairer; temperature similar to No. 1.**

„ 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.**—At first fair to cloudy, normally mild; later fair to cloudy, some light showers; S. to S.W. winds and warmer; finally fairer.**

„ 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford-Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, York, shire (West Riding).**—The same as No. 3, with more probability of showers in the Northern Counties.**

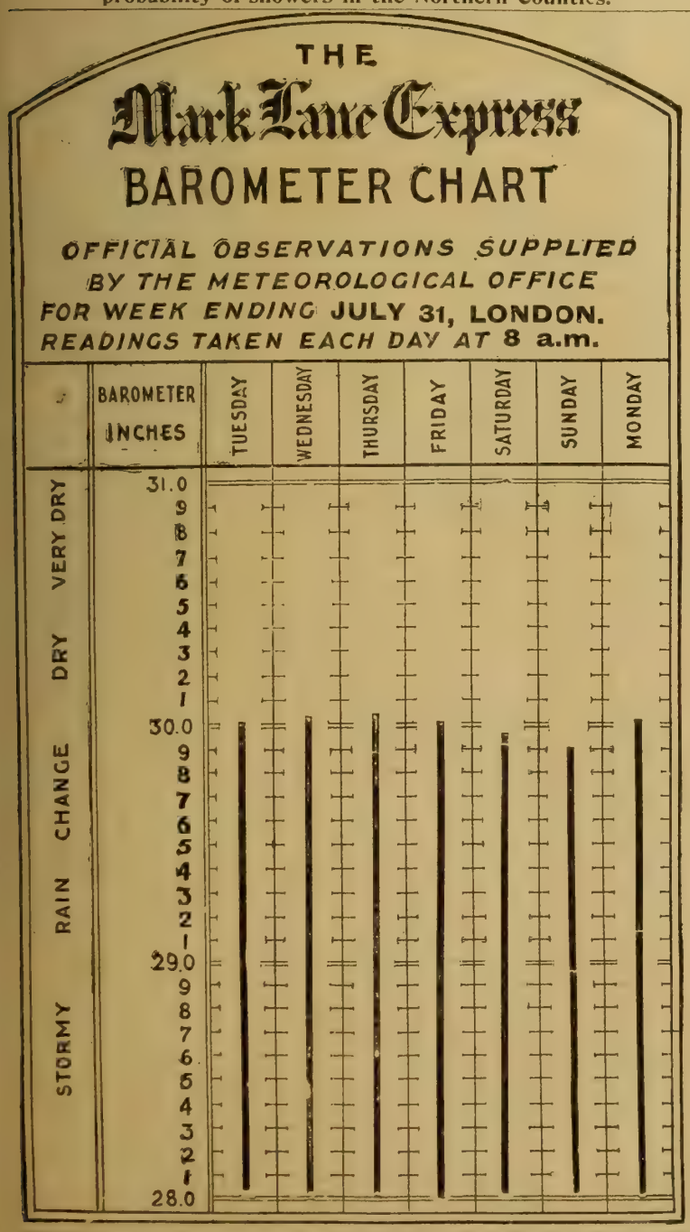
No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.**—The same as No. 3.**

„ 6.—Ireland.—At first showery, chiefly in the North and West; later some showers more generally, except in the S. and S.E.; finally fairer with some showers as at first. Temperature, mostly normal to mild, with a good deal of cloud.

„ 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.**—At first fair with cloud; later some showers; finally some showers to fairer.**

„ 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.**—At first fair with cloud, normal to mild; later fair to cloudy and warmer; some passing showers; finally fairer and mild to normal.**

When the local wind directions are not specifically indicated, they may be taken to approximate to those under the General Prediction.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday	(July 25)...	30·01
Wednesday	(„ 26)...	30·04
Thursday	(„ 27)...	30·05
Friday	(„ 28)...	30·01
Saturday	(„ 29)...	29·98
Sunday	(„ 30)...	29·91
Monday	(„ 31)...	30·02

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	4.23 a.m.
„ Sets...	...	7.49 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	3.34 a.m.
„ Sets	...	7.13 p.m.

Age of Moon—Thirty days.
New Moon — August 1st. 4.3 a.m.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 31st.

GENERAL INFERENCE.—There are no indications of any important changes occurring during the ensuing 24 hours. Fine weather is likely to continue over the greater part of the country, but disturbances over the Northern Atlantic will cause some showers in Scotland and Ireland.

SCOTLAND, N. and E.—Moderate Westerly breezes; fair generally, some showers.

ENGLAND, N.E., E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Moderate or light breezes, mainly Westerly; fair or fine generally, becoming warmer.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland, N. and E.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Light Westerly breezes, fair generally.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Same as England and Midland Counties.

IRELAND, N. and S.—Same as Scotland, N. and E.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—A quiet tone prevailed, with values making no appreciable change from last day. Foreign wheats ruled quietly steady; with No. 2 Club Calcutta landed, quoted at 32s. Maize continues firm, but quiet. La Plata ex ship offers at 24s, and mixed American landed at a similar figure. Flour dull at last quotations. Barley steadily held. Odessa Nicolaieff, July shipment, ex ship, is quoted at 19s 6d. Oats unaltered.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at about late rates. Foreign in slow demand; sellers ask late rates, but to do business 6d less money would have to be accepted. South Russians quoted at 32s to 35s 6d; No. 2 Club Calcutta, 31s 6d; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, at 34s 0d. Flour dull, unchanged; Hungarians quoted at 30s, and Iron Dukes at 21s 3d. Maize in limited request, at about late rates; mixed American, landed, quoted at 24s 6d; and River Plate, ex ship, at 24s. Barley slow, with prices tending in buyers' favour; Odessa, Nuco, Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 19s 6d to 19s 9d; landed, 20s 3d. Oats dull and lifeless; common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s 6d. Arrivals, July 22-27: Foreign wheat, 119,500 qrs.; oats, 139,520 qrs.; maize, 23,440 qrs.; flour, 15,750 sacks.

COUNTRY.

Appleby, Saturday.—There was a sample of new oats forward, which sold in small quantities at about 24s per 20 stones.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Business improved. Wheat firm at 33s to 36s; English feeding barley, 27s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 21s; Mazagan beans, 30s to 32s; tick beans, 33s to 35s; maize advanced slightly, new flat, 27s to 28s; black oats, 20s to 23s; white oats, 21s to 24s; flour, whites, 31s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, 32s to 34s; barley, 27s to 29s; beans, new, 32s to 34s; oats, 21s to 23s; peas, 30s to 35s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Small attendance. Oats easier. Wheat, 31s to 33s 6d; oats, 21s to 22s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A very sparse attendance at this market, business being quiet. Foreign wheats move very slowly at about last market day's prices. Plate maize has advanced 3d on the week, and flat 6d. Grinding barley is unchanged at 20s 3d per 400lb at Sharpness. English oats 22s to 22s 6d per 312lb. Beans 13s 6d to 13s 9d per bag (196lb) delivered Birmingham.

Brighton, Thursday.—There was a small attendance at Brighton corn market yesterday, and trade was quiet at last week's prices. The supply of wheat was short, and prices were nominal. Quotations: Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 19s to 22s; new ditto winter, 19s 6d to 20s per 42lb; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Cambridge, Saturday.—A few samples of wheat on show made 6d less than last week. Red wheat, 33s 6d. New black and grey winter oats made 17s 6d. Harvest is now in full swing. Several pieces of wheat have been cut, but the corn is not in a condition for market, and there are rumours that the quality may not be so good as was expected. In some cases it is blighted.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Old corn neglected. New black winter oats were offering at 18s, and some grey peas of fair quality were sold at 30s; oats, both English and foreign, are quiet and rather pressed for sale. Other articles unchanged.

Chelmsford, Friday.—Old wheat dull to 6d lower. A few samples of new wheat, not in good condition, were on offer, selling at from 31s to 33s, but really there were no fixed prices. New oats made from 16s to 18s, and a few samples of new barley were on offer, but these had little sale.

Chester, Saturday.—Trade quiet, and no quotable change in prices of corn, oats, and beans. Bran and thirds are going into consumption more freely at advanced prices. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 7d to 4s 9d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 64lb.; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; Egyptian beans, old, 33s 6d to 34s per 480lb.; oats, new, 2s 9d to 2s 11d; ditto old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indian corn, new, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—An unusually small attendance, and less trade than usual, even for the time of year. A single sample of old oats was offered by a farmer, and there was no new corn. Quotations:—Old wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; oats, 19s to 22s; maize, 26s to 26s; grinding barley, 20s to 21s; flour, 27s to 29s.

Colchester, Saturday.—The weather has been favourable for harvest operations during the past week. Two or three samples of new wheat were offered and made about 34s to 36s per qr. New winter oats sold at about 17s per qr.—Joseph Wilkes and Son, Ltd.

Coventry, Friday.—The attendance was very small, and but few samples offered. Trade quiet in wheat at about last week's rates. Oats and beans firm. Prices: Wheat, 12s to 13s per 196lb.; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb.; oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday.—No change to note in wheat, which continues quiet at late rates. Spring corn unaltered. Quotations: Wheat, white, 34s to 35s; red, 32s to 34s; barley, malting, 32s to 34s; beans, 32s to 33s; oats 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday.—The first new corn made its appearance at Devizes market in a number of sacks of new winter oats, but the wet has not as good condition, having been threshed too soon. Winter oats are said to be a good crop. The following were the quotations: New wheat, per 504 lb. for old, scarce; 32s to 36s; red, per 504 lb., 32s to 34s; white ditto, 32s to 34s; barley, malting, 32s to 34s; grinding, 28s to 30s; oats, new, 18s to 20s; old, 20s to 22s; beans, 32s to 34s; extra fine, 37s to 38s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—No English wheat to speak of; several spots foreign per 504 lbs. 34 to 35 per qr. Barley and peas were wanted to-day, whilst oats and beans were easy. All feeding stuffs in request.

Dorchester, Tuesday.—Only a very small attendance to-day, and comparatively little business passing, stocks being [illegible] and sellers have held their former [illegible] to offer and [illegible] to-day. The new season's crop in the [illegible] remain unusually backward. Farmers [illegible] engaged on the harvest [illegible] kinds of grain and roots are [illegible] much needed, but to-day [illegible] to be [illegible] to ascertain even [illegible] with the [illegible] of corn.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 18s to 20s; barley, 11s to 12s; malting, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 11s to 14s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s 6d to 13s; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow, with prices generally unaltered. English wheat scarce, and fully as dear as last week; foreign unchanged. Oats rather easier. Flour steady. English wheat, 4s 3d; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been quiet, but firm, for breadstuffs, buyers' and sellers' views being somewhat apart. Maize has been the turn dearer. Barley scarce on spot, and firmly held. Oats, being in liberal supply, are rather the turn in buyers' favour. Other articles remain unaltered. There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat and flour dull and nominally unaltered. American corn 1½d dearer on the week. Other articles of the trade quietly firm at unaltered prices.—Gibson and Clark.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat quiet and unaltered. Flour might be similarly described. The local millers are kept fully employed, and their prices are unchanged. Mixed American maize in moderate request at 14s 3d per 280lb Feeding stuffs generally command a poor inquiry; holders adhere to previous values.

Gloucester, Saturday.—No English wheat offering. Foreign slow, prices favour buyers. Feeding stuffs quiet, and maize, barley, and oats are all the turn lower.—Wait, James, and Co.

Grantham, Saturday.—The market was fairly well attended, but business was extremely quiet. No new corn was offered, and for old samples the quotations were unaltered from last week.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A few hours' rain on Saturday night relieved the drought, but more is sadly needed for root crops and pastures. American contradictory crop reports have once again caused sharp fluctuations in prices, option values being more particularly affected. The consumptive demand has continued slow. Holders of wheat, however, insist upon 6 per qr advance on last Tuesday's rates. Maize, beans, and oats quiet and unchanged.—Dunns and Co.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—There were a few samples of wheat offering, but the demand was rather slack, and it was difficult to make last week's full prices of 33s 6d to 34s per qr delivered at Ipswich. Maize was steady at last week's prices of 25s to 25s 3d per qr, and grinding barley was firm, but oats, in consequence of foreign arrivals, were quiet at 21s to 22s 6d per qr; foreign 19s to 20s per 335 lb. Lentils unchanged at 23s 6d to 24s per 504 lb. Linseed cakes very firm, at £8 to £8 5s per ton. Milling stuffs scarce and firm.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with very moderate supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade ruled quiet in view of an unusually early harvest. Red wheats, 32s to 34s; white wheats, 33s to 35s per 35 stones; beans and barley in fair request at firm rates; fine oats, 23s to 25s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—A very moderate market; attendance small. Very little old English wheat on offer, late rates prevailing. Foreign firm but unchanged from last week. No new corn showing.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There has been a small attendance at the market, and wheat is very quiet with a small trade doing at a general decline of ¼d since last Tuesday. Flour: A very quiet trade at about recent currencies for both home-made and foreign brands. Maize: Mixed is steadily held at ¼d decline, with a quiet trade passing. Plate is in moderate request at a full 1d. decline from Tuesday: European sorts unchanged. Barley: Malting quiet, unaltered; feeding slow at ¼d decline. Beans are strong, but rule quiet. Peas firm at late rates, but quiet. Oats quiet, with a limited trade doing at about last Tuesday's prices. Oatmeal firmly held at last quotations, but slow to move. Oilcake firm for all qualities, with a rather better demand at occasionally higher prices.—Segar and Tunnicliffe.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat 6d per qr and foreign ½d per cental dearer on the week. Flour unchanged and quiet. Indian corn: Mixed American scarce; prime quoted at 5s 6d to 5s 6½d here; no Plate offering on spot, but to arrive 5s 5d. Oats quiet at late rates. Barley: Foreign occasionally ½d more money. Beans: Egyptians, old, 6d, and new, 3d higher. Bran, thirds, and oatmeal unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a small trade at previous values. Oats and beans moved quietly at unchanged quotations. Wheat, 34s to 35s per qr; oats, 20s to 22s per qr; beans, 34s to 35s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A quiet demand for wheat at our to-day's market at last week's prices; maize scarce on spot, holders demand 6d more over last week's quotation; peas steady at late rates; beans firm at last Saturday's prices; holders of Scotch oats had to reduce prices to make sales, foreign, however, made the full prices of this day week; barley favouring sellers.—Joseph Pollard and Co.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is scarcely any wheat on offer at our market to-day, at late quotations. Wheat cutting will become general next week in this district. Fine and warm weather has prevailed during the past week, with occasional showers. Wheat, red, 33s 6d to 34s per qr., weight 63lb. per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending July 24, 1905:—Wheat, 1,111, 31s 11d.—J. Arthur Mills.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance and limited supplies. There was small supply of new winter oats on offer at 18s 6d, and the stock of old corn was practically exhausted. Wheat, 33s to 34s; barley, 24s to 32s; old oats, 20s to 23s; beans, 31s to 34s; peas, 28s to 33s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Nottingham, Saturday.—The little English wheat in merchants' hands are held for full prices. Foreign trade slow and slightly easier. Oats and beans in limited supply and full values maintained.—Robt. Hebble.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The weather during the past week has been stormy. Scarcely a ramp of corn in market to-day and price nominally unaltered. Harvest will be pretty general next week if weather permits.—Thomas Hill and Son.

Plymouth, Thursday.—A quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market, which was very quiet but steady. Last week's prices were still maintained.—Orlando Davis and Co.

Preston, Saturday.—Thin attendance. No farmers' corn on offer, and prices nominally the same as last week. Wheat, white 5s 7d to 5s 9d, ditto red, 5s 6d to 5s per windle of 280lb.; flour, 23s to 26s 6d per pack of 240lb.; oats, 2s to 2s 2d per bushel of 45lb.; oatmeal, 6s to 6s 6d per load of 240lb.; Indian meal, 15s 6d to 15s 9d per load of 240lb.; beans, 6s 6d to 7s per windle of 40lb.

Reading, Saturday.—Business was quiet in all departments, and last week's prices were maintained. Wheat made 33s to 35s, grinding barley [illegible] to [illegible], oats [illegible], beans [illegible], flour, 24s to [illegible].

Retford, Saturday.—There was an unusually thin attendance, and very few samples of any kind of grain on offer. English wheat was worth 33s and 34s per qr. Maize was very scarce and dearer, round and flat, 28s, delivered here. English beans, 32s; black oats, 19s to 20s; white ditto, 21s; and for finest, 22s per qr. Some oats are cut in this district, and the harvest is expected to be general in less than a fortnight.

Ripon, Thursday.—Round maize shows a downward tendency. Business extremely quiet. English wheat, 33s 6d to 34s; foreign ditto, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; oats, 20s to 21s; round maize, 27s to 27s 6d; flat ditto, 27s to 27s 6d per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The following were the quotations: Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb.; oats, old white, 16s to 17s; new white, 14s to 14s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; beans, 15s to 16s per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Very thin attendance, and quiet trade. No new samples of new grain offered. Old wheat, 32s to 33s; old oats, 20s to 21s 6d; beans, 33s to 34s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Moderate show of wheat which maintained late rates. No spring corn offering. Arrivals, coastwise, nil; ditto foreign wheat, 72,639 qr.—E. and F. Richardson.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little grain of any kind on offer, not sufficient to test prices. Old rates are ruling for all English grain. Foreign grain rather easier. Feeding stuffs rather dearer and in good demand.

Winchester, Saturday.—No English wheat on offer. Foreign maintained at fully last week's prices. Barley 3d. per qr. cheaper on the week. Oats and maize unchanged. Flour fair consumptive demand at late rates.—Fear, Colebrook and Co., Ltd.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small market and little business doing. Old wheat scarce and late rates maintained. Millers waiting for new, which promises fine quality should the weather be favourable for harvesting.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and little business was passing. Quotations:—Wheat, 13s to 14s per 216lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb; oats, 13s 6d per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance. White wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; red wheat, 32s to 33s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; white oats, 22s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 22s; round maize, 27s to 28s; flat maize, 26s to 27s; beans, 30s to 37s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—A few samples of new grain were shown, and the quality was good, but no business worth mentioning was transacted. Some of last season's corn was quickly purchased by millers. Best samples made from 32s 6d to 33s 6d per quarter; secondary, 30s to 31s; foreign, 33s 6d to 34s; oats, white, 16s 6d to 21s 6d; black ditto, 17s 6d to 20s 3d; Irish, black, 17s 9d to 18s 3d; best barley, 27s 6d to 30s; secondary, 22s 6d to 25s; foreign grinding, 20s 6d; maize round, 24s 9d to 25s 3d; ditto flat, 22s 6d to 23s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 35s; rye, 22s to 23s; winter tares, 47s 6d to 51s 6d; spring ditto, 40s to 42s. Little doing in flour, but prices were firm, superfine making from 26s 6d to 28s; and fine 23s 6d to 26s. Offals continue in good request, bran maintaining last week's advance.

York, Saturday.—Only a small attendance of farmers, and little grain of any kind offering. English wheat was a shade easier in price; best sorts, 32s to 33s; red and mixed, 31s to 32s per qr. of 35 stones; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per qr. of 32 stones; oats steady; white Tartary, 18s to 19s; black, 18s to 20s; white Cartons, 20s to 21s per qr. of 24 stones. Beans, peas, and maize unchanged.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather is improving now, and this was very welcome, as cutting of barley is commencing and will be quite general towards the middle of next month from the Saale districts and other parts of Germany. The reports remain quite satisfactory of Bohemian, and the first samples were shown, but looked rather poor; but the Chevalier barleys are not secured yet, and will undoubtedly turn out better. The quality of the Hungarians has decidedly improved, and a good many really nice samples are shown, but some are defective in colour.—Francis M. Th. Duhne.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Latest reports about the crops vary considerably, according to the weather, in different parts of the country; in some drought and in others heavy storms have done much damage, in consequence of which the hopes for a full average harvest are somewhat reduced. In many places the crops were laid by heavy rains, which will injure the quality. Wheat remains quiet; millers show no inclination to follow any rise of prices. Fine old Mecklenburg is held at 32s 6d to 33s per 504lb. f.o.b.; Red Winter, No. 2, at 30s 6d; 80 Ko. River Plate, at 30s 9d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Much of the new rye is damaged by rain, in consequence of which there is a good demand for old rye, spot parcels of South Russian fetching 25s to 25s 6d; 9 15-20 Nikolajeff afloat, 24s 6d per 480lbs. c.i.f. Hamburg. A considerable quantity of barley has already been carried in Austria-Hungary; quality is varying, but most of it shows a yellow, some even a rather dark, colour. From Slovakia we shall get a well-filled grain of light yellow colour. In Germany the rainy weather retards reaping, and it remains to be seen how quality will turn out. Feeding barley continues in fair request; 60/61 Ko South Russian, July shipment, is selling at 18s 3d; September-October, at 16s 9d per 400lbs. c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a fair trade doing in maize, mixed and River Plate on the spot selling at 24s; August-September, 23s 9d to 23s 3d per 480lbs. c.i.f. Hamburg.—John Tatlock.

Paris, Wednesday.—No business of importance is doing at the provincial markets, and late prices are maintained. At the Bourse de Commerce buyers display no eagerness. The fall in the American markets is gradually exerting a depressing influence, and prices of flour have dropped from 10c. to 15c. Wheat is quiet, and prices have lost from 10c. to 15c., except as regards current parcels, which have gone up 10c. owing to a good demand from "shorts." Rye quiet at nominal prices. Oats in good demand with a rise of 10c. to 25c., according to month. At the weekly spot market the situation remains undecided in home-grown wheat. Harvesting is being rapidly pushed on and, if the weather be favourable, offers of new wheat will be all the more pressing as prices are good and stocks in millers' hands are almost exhausted. In consumption marks of flour business still remains difficult. Rye flour, due to the scarceness of rye, the market is firm with unaltered prices. To-day there were also buyers of new rye at from 14f.25 to 14f. per 100 kilos at station of departure, but sellers insist on asking from 14f.25 to 14f.50. Oats are now at 20f. 50, the highest price of the campaign, but this price cannot last with new oats coming along.

THE BALTIC.

There are few buyers of wheat cargoes just now, but sellers are fairly confident. Sales between 25th and 29th inst. were: Australian, 31s. 9d. per 480 lb.; Rosario, 30s. per 480 lb.; Roumanian, 30s. per 492 lb.; Russian, Winter, 33s. 6d. per 492 lb.;

and Red Kurrachee, 30s. 3d. per 492 lb. No American cargoes were sold, either on passage or for shipment.

Maize is in fair request. Argentine cargoes are held for 23s. 3d. per 400 lb., with buyers at 23s. American at 22s. 9d. per 480 lb., are a steady sale. No cargoes of Russian maize have been on sale of late.

Barley is quiet, with a small but steady sale of Russian new crop, for October shipment at 17s. 6d. per 400 lb. For a cargo of Reval oats, 15s. per 304 lb. was accepted on Friday, and on the same day a cargo of La Plata linseed was parted with at 39s. 3d. per 416 lb. Both these sales argue a declining market. On Saturday a cargo of Indian cottonseed, for December shipment, made £4 15s. per ton.

The London Corn Trade Association c. f. and i. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta, 31s. 3d.; Soft Red Calcutta, 30s.; Soft White Delhi, 31s. 6d.; Karachi Soft White Delhi, 31s. 6d.; Soft White Karachi, 29s. 6d.; Choice White Karachi, 30s.; Soft Red Karachi, 29s., all per 492 lbs.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call for the week were:—6 wheat (1 Concepción, 1 Geelong, 1 Melbourne, 1 Rosario, 2 Sydney), 4 linseed (1 Concepcion, 1 Monte Video, 2 Rosario)—total, 10.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports of call for the week, were:—10 wheat (1 Antwerp, 2 Birkenhead, 2 Cardiff, 1 Cork, 1 Hamburg, 1 London, 1 Stockton, 1 Tyne Dock), 4 linseed (2 Antwerp, 1 King's Lynn, 1 Rotterdam)—total, 14.

Since 1st January, 1905, the total arrivals have been 239 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 38 linseed—total, 314.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were:—138 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 30 barley and wheat, 14 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 18 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—total, 215.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 29, 1905:—

Wheat	2,864,600 cwts.
Wheat-flour	141,500 ,,
Barley	217,700 ,,
Oats	554,100 ,,
Maize	650,700 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,808,900	2,220,477	1,835,193	1,876,800
Wheat-flour	257,600	435,516	324,674	280,160
Barley	536,700	230,807	40,879	140,800
Oats	252,300	431,751	271,350	635,500
Maize	1,140,900	1,645,229	1,033,778	805,500

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 22 in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	45,748½	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453⅞	19	4
1901	18,666⅛	27	6	250½	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
1902	12,113¼	31	8	186¾	25	0	1,586⅛	22	10
1903	18,028¼	28	11	403¾	21	0	6,050⅛	18	6
1904	21,778⅞	28	0	509½	19	9	8,046⅞	17	10

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	32	0
May 31 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.		Barley. s. d.		Oats. s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	29 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,
1902	28 0	,,	25 8	,,	20 2	,,
1903	26 9	,,	22 11	,,	17 2	,,
1904	28 4	,,	22 4	,,	16 4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,105,000
Barley	,,	427,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	385,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	63,000
Oats	,,	331,000	308,000	258,000
Maize	,,	30,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

		London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September	1 ..... (per sack)	31 0	..... (per sack)	28 0
October	10 ..... (,,)	31 6	..... (,,)	28 6
,,	19 ..... (,,)	31 0	..... (,,)	28 0
March	31 ..... (,,)	30 6	..... (,,)	27 6
May	3 ..... (,,)	30 3	..... (,,)	27 3
June	7 ..... (,,)	30 0	..... (,,)	27 0

No change since last date given.)

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
July 30	21,778⅞	28	0	509½	19	9	8,046⅞	17	10
Aug. 6	22,575½	28	3	591½	19	9	8,891¼	17	10
,, 13	16,784⅜	28	4	468¼	19	9	8,117¼	17	7
,, 20	19,200⅜	28	8	1,646⅜	22	5	19,032⅜	18	5
,, 27	31,432⅜	29	5	4,701⅜	23	2	26,042⅜	16	7
Sept. 3	32,921⅜	30	2	12,370⅜	25	3	31,607	16	3
,, 10	46,116⅜	30	0	22,400⅜	24	10	31,336	16	1
,, 17	51,389⅛	29	7	45,918⅜	24	9	37,551⅛	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	89,597⅜	25	10	42,524⅜	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534⅛	29	10	119,553⅛	25	5	44,796⅛	15	8
,, 8	54,607⅛	30	2	153,280⅜	25	6	43,575⅜	15	9
,, 15	45,462⅛	30	5	185,031⅛	25	4	34,509⅛	15	8
,, 22	45,960⅛	30	4	213,190⅛	25	5	31,446⅜	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044⅜	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅜	25	0	36,145⅛	16	0
,, 12	43,740⅛	30	3	204,446⅛	24	6	32,320⅛	15	11
,, 19	41,025⅛	30	2	178,529⅛	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969⅛	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅜	24	6	35,831⅜	16	2
,, 10	50,715⅛	30	4	165,257⅛	24	4	36,635⅜	16	2
,, 17	44,747⅜	30	4	130,563⅛	24	4	30,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	90,997⅜	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817⅛	24	8	18,106⅜	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,617⅛	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469⅛	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869⅛	30	6	89,496⅜	25	1	41,662⅛	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅛	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486⅜	16	7
,, 11	50,589⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅛	16	8
,, 18	44,495⅜	30	5	51,753⅛	25	2	36,643⅛	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅛	30	10	39,509⅛	25	0	30,627⅛	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477⅛	25	2	30,957⅛	16	10
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,448⅜	25	2	24,390⅜	16	10
,, 18	31,069	30	10	18,442⅜	24	11	20,278⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30	9	17,428⅛	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,236⅜	25	1	17,703⅛	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104⅛	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	23,984⅛	30	8	2,876⅛	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185⅛	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014⅛	25	3	11,67⅛	18	0
,, 13	53,446⅛	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350⅜	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003⅛	24	8	8,803⅛	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761¼	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	6	5,912⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685⅛	31	4	247⅛	24	0	6,115⅛	18	11
,, 17	12,819⅛	31	7	1,171⅛	26	0	3,492⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,571⅛	31	7	145⅜	23	9	3,031⅛	18	11
July 1	9,579⅛	31	4	289⅛	23	2	3,45⅛	19	7
,, 8	7,804⅛	32	1	375⅜	22	11	2,532⅛	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅛	32	3	31⅛	23	10	1,962⅜	19	7
,, 22	6,558⅛	32	2	42⅜	23	7	2,43⅛	18	11
,, 29	7,691⅛	32	3	24⅛	19	9	3,065⅜	17	10

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 19 to 26, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	557	110,000	110,557
Barley	1,000	11,000	12,000
Malt	19,600	...	19,600
Oats	350	97,000	97,350
Beans	321	305	626
Peas	75	1,930	1,975
Maize	...	6,912	6,912
Tares	60	...	60
Haricots	...	1,598	1,598
Buckwheat	...	4,372	4,372
Linseed	...	16,340	16,340
Cottonseed	...	2,450	2,450
Rye	...	480	480
Dari	...	800	800
Flour sacks	16,686	24,661	41,347
Middlings	...	4,000	4,000
Ryemeal	...	30	30
Buckwheatmeal	...	3,500	3,500

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities Sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended July 29, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 55th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

		s.	d.
Wheat	7,691 qrs.	32	3d.
Barley	24¼ qrs.	23	11d.
Oats	3,065 qrs.	17	9d

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and on the Essex and Kent coasts, within 40 miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, July 25, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per Quarter. £	s.	d.
Wheat	112	0	15	7	0	1	13	6
Barley	Nil.							
Oats	Nil.							

EGGS.

(Prices at per 120, except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday. Barnsley: 11 to 12. Beverley: 14 per 132. Colne: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per score. Doncaster: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per dozen. Goole: 12 and 13. Hereford: 12 and 14. Kirbymoorside: 12 and 14. Knaresborough: 12 to 13. Louth: 16. Market Drayton: 12 to 13. Market Weighton: 14 and 15. Newton Abbot: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per dozen. Northallerton: 13. Stockton: 11. Truro: 1s 10d per dozen. Uttoxeter: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen.

Thursday. Axminster: 9d to 1s per dozen. Birmingham: 10 to 12. Brigg: 13 and 14. Driffield: 15 and 16. Devizes: 14 to 16. Kidderminster: 14. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 12. Penzance: 9d to 11d per dozen. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 12. Scarborough: 11. Wetherby: 13 and 14.

Friday. Altrincham: 10 and 11. Barnstaple: 14 and 15. Camelford: 10d per dozen. Chester: 12. Crewe: 11. Derby: 12. Helmsley: 14. Knutsford: 11. Leyburn: 13 or 14. Lincoln: 14 and 15. Lostwithiel: 1s. Mansfield: 11. Nantwich: 13. Northwich: 11. Otley: 11 and 12. Redruth: 9d per dozen. Ripon: 1s. St. Austell: 14 and 16. Stockport: 1s. Tavistock: 14 to 1s. Totnes: 11d to 1s per dozen.

Saturday. Appleby: 1s and 1s. Berwick: 11d to 1s per dozen. Bridgnorth: 12. Carlisle: 12 and 13. Doncaster: 13. Grantham: 13. Howden: 12 to 14. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Malton: 12 and 13. Pontefract: 1s per 24. 1s 6d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 12. Shrewsbury: 12 and 13. Skipton: 12 and 13. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 11 and 12. Worcester: 12. York: 12.

MILK.

London. Saturday. Week ending July 29. The price per milk has been maintained, the average being 8d per imperial gallon, with occasional sales at higher prices. CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

BUTTER.

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday. Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Beverley: 1s 1d. Colne: 1s to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 11d to 1s 1d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 2d. Keighley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kirbymoorside: 11d to 1s. Knaresborough: 1s 10d to 2s per 24oz. roll. Louth: 1s. Market Drayton: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Weighton: 11d to 1s. Newton Abbot: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Northallerton: 1s 10d to 2s 1d per roll of 24oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 2d. Truro: 9d to 10d. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 3d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Driffield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s. Northtawton: 1s 2d. Penistone: 11d. Penzance: 1s 1d to 2s. Plymouth: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 4d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 1d and 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s. Derby: 1s 1d to 1s2d. Helmsley: 1s. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz. roll. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d to 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 11d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 1d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 1d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 11d to 1s. Doncaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Grantham: 1s 1d. Howden: 1s to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Malton: 1s to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 1d. Retford: 1s 1d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 11d to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s to 1s 1d. Stokesley: 1s to 1s 1d. Whitby: 1s 2d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

CHEESE.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There were large arrivals of Cheddars and Dunlops, and the demand was limited to Grocers and provision dealers who had disposed to buy in small, seeing the weather is so warm. The quality of cheese coming to the market is satisfactory. Cheddars and Dunlops were quoted 44s to 54s per cwt.

Newport. Wednesday.—A supply of home and foreign cheese was present. About 200 tons were present. An active demand, a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 44s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 52s to 54s; truckles, 48s to 52s; Derbys, 53s to 54s.

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday. Supplies ... sale ... Queenborough ... per bag.

Goole. Wednesday. ... is now about over, and ... awaiting the new crop ... not likely to come up to ... potatoes will be of ... which have been grown ... desert during the past ... potatoes realised 1s per ...

Manchester. ... Cornish new ... weeks. Jersey ...

Spitalfields. ... Lincoln ... demand ... English, 55s ... per ton.

York. ... with a fair demand ... sacks pounds. ... retail at 1s to 1s 2d per stone.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The harvest is in progress in Essex and Thanet, and the first threshings of new wheat are expected to be seen at Chelmsford in the one region and at Canterbury in the other before the present week is out. There is such an utter exhaustion of old crop supplies, that millers are paying what may be termed urgency money to farmers to induce the very earliest threshings; 32s. to 33s. is likely to be the opening price of new English wheat on the country markets, but this will be for 63 lbs. to the bushel, and 32s. 6d. per 504 lbs. equals only 31s. per 480 lb., which is the Government quarter.

The barley has been ripening up fast since St. Swithin, and will be a better crop than was then anticipated. The great heat has told on the oats on dry slopes and other situations where it is not wise to grow them, as a rule. On these on a fit land, they will often be agood crop. The new rye is above the average, and samples have already reached Mark Lane, Colchester, and Canterbury markets. The price asked is 24s., and 23s. is forthcoming.

The French wheat harvest is well forward, but the ingathering continues to be interrupted by heavy electrical storms. The estimates of the quantity available for the mill vary very much, and it is not yet possible to form any very clear view. In Germany, rust is very widespread but the crop is regarded as attaining an average. In Austria, as well as in Hungary, the yield is above the mean. Roumania has the largest yield on record, but the weight is not quite up to an average; the forcing summer has resulted in a small grain sample, though the heat has not been sufficient to render the character of the corn ricey or flinty as in downright tropical climes.

The Russian crops are, on the whole, well spoken of, and attempts to make out that there is scarcity are not to be regarded as other than political or financial manœuvres. Quiet has been restored at Odessa, and shipments are in full progress from that port.

Persia has good quality crops, but the decline of the area under cereals renders it unlikely that there will be much for export.

The American Board of Agriculture have supplied our own Board with some interesting particulars of some crops not given in the monthly or "Bureau" reports. The following are the returns for the last three years, the figures in each case being in *millions of bushels*:—

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Rye	34	29	27
Buckwheat	15	14	15
Potatoes	285	247	333
Rice	21	21	21
Flaxseed	29	27	23

It would be interesting to know what the U.S.A. did with a surplus of 86,000,000 bushels of potatoes. Linseed, always an "exhausting" crop, seems to be losing favour with the American farmer, even as it did long since with the Englishman.

The visible supply of wheat in America is thus telegraphed:—

July 29, 1905	2,228,000 qrs.
July 30, 1904	2,290,000 qrs.
July 31, 1903	2,520,000 qrs.

Although the present total is the smallest of the three, it is not so much the smaller as to account for the all but entire cessation of American wheat shipments.

The tocks of foreign wheat in England are reckoned at 2,905,000 qr. This includes flour as wheat on the usual basis. On July 30, 1904, the stocks were 2,325,000 qr., and on July 31, 1903, they were 1,975,000 qr.

The sales of British wheat since harvest at 189 statute markets have been as follows:—

This season, 1,665,000 qrs. at 32s. 3d. per qr.
Last season, 2,645,000 qrs. at 27s. 1d. per qr.

Recent sales have been extremely small, even when the late period of the season is borne in mind.

The sales of British barley are thus returned:—

This season, 512,000 qrs. at 34s. 9d. per qr.
Last season, 277,000 qrs. at 29s. 6d. per qr.

Last week only 20,800 lb. of barley changed hands, against eleven times that quantity a year ago, yet, on the whole season, the present has done much the bigger business.

Of oats, the returns run as follow:—

This season, 1,1[illegible] qrs. at 17s. 1d. per qr.
Last season, 1,[illegible]00 qrs. at 16s. 9d. per qr.

Imports into the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 6,1[illegible] qrs.; a very large arrival.
Flour, 62,[illegible] sacks; much less than usual.
Barley, 5,[illegible] qrs.; a remarkably small supply.
Oats, 185,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Maize, 14,[illegible] qrs.; two-thirds of an average.

Imports of breadstuffs since last harvest have been:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	21,820,000
Flour	3,352,480
Total	25,172,480

Continental purchases of wheat for the eleven months ended June 30 make a very interesting item in *Beerbohm's List* for July 28. Although twenty-seven days "late," the return is, in reality surprisingly early, for it includes not only particulars from France and Germany, Belgium and Holland, but also from such countries as Spain and Sweden, Italy and Austria-Hungary. The total is 23,085,000 qr., against 22,088,000 qr. for the like period in the previous cereal year. A net increase of a million quarters is thus disclosed, or say 5 per cent. The countries buying less wheat have been France, Holland, Germany, Belgium, and Sweden, while increased reliance on wheat grown outside their own frontiers is shown by Austria-Hungary, Spain, and Italy.

Supplies on passage to the United Kingdom on July 29 included a liberal quantity of wheat:—

	Qrs.
American	80,000
Russian	395,000
Indian	975,000
Argentine	595,000
Australasian	565,000
Various	45,000
Total	2,655,000

No wheat is coming from California or Chili.

Of flour, 122,000 sacks are on passage, viz., 42,000 sacks American, 40,000 Argentine, 15,000 Hungarian, 15,000 Australian, and 10,000 "various." Acreage expectations are about half a million sacks.

Of barley, 195,000 qr. are on passage, or about a third of a full quantity. The chief items are: Russian, 125,000 qr.; Roumanian, 10,000 qr.; Caifornian, 20,000 qr.; and Asiatic, 15,000 qr.

Of oats, 317,000 qr. are on passage, including 300,000 qr. Russian, 10,000 qr. Argentine, and 5,000 qr. American.

Of maize, the following are the expectations, which exceed the average by about 25 per cent.:—

	Qrs.
Russian	25,000
American	300,000
Argentine	700,000
Total	1,025,000

Other supplies on passage are as follows:—
Rice, 24,000 tons; a small supply.
Linseed, 216,000 qrs.; more than usual.
Cottonseed, 21,000 tons; a full supply.
Beans, 2,000 qrs.; a very small quantity.

There are a few parcels of Indian peas, millet, and dari on passage, such parcels ranging from 100 to 500 tons apiece. The total of these three staples is a good deal under the average.

Shipments from America last week were much below the average. The totals were: wheat, 42,000 qr.; barley, 3,000 qr.; oats, 3,000 qr.; maize, 144,000 qr.; and flour, 40,000 sacks. Argentina, on the other hand, was a remarkably vigorous shipper, sending off 230,000 qr. of wheat, 389,000 qr. of maize, and 76,000 qr. of linseed.

Russia's energies as a shipper have already been referred to. Actual quantities cleared from Russian ports last week were 423,000 qr. of wheat, 66,000 qr. of barley, 110,000 qr. of oats, and 18,000 qr. of maize. To these may be added 16,000 qr. of wheat and 5,000 qr. of barley shipped by Roumania.

Other shipments of the week were 90,000 qr. of wheat, and 21,000 qr. of linseed from India, 18,000 qr. of wheat from New Zealand, and 9,350 tons of cottonseed from Egypt.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Supply and demand good, prices: Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 10d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 3d; quails, 1s to 2s; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 3d; goslings, 5s 6d to 4s 6d; wild rabbits, 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 8s per dozen; venison, haunches, 10d; forequarters, 5d per lb.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 16,054 bales, and from foreign ports 15,39 bales. The bacon market was fair from strong last week, the demand not being such as it should be taking the time of year into consideration. Prices ranged:—Irish, 58s to 62s up to 71s; Danish, 54s to 58s up to 71s; Canadians, 56s to 58s up to 61s. Butters were all in good demand. French ranging from 92s to 104s; Danish ranging from 118s to 120s; Russian ranging from 92s to 94s; Irish ranging from 98s to 112s; Canadian ranging from 92s to 110s; Australian ranging from 94s to 100s. Lard: The lard market was steady: Irish, 34s to 39s; Danish, 40s to 42s; American, 32s to 36s.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 31.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day commanded but a small attendance, and interest will be concentrated on the actual cornfields for some little time to come. New crop samples may be expected at the market immediately after the Bank Holiday, i.e., on August 9, but no appreciable quantities of new wheat are likely to be obtainable much before the market of August 21. From that date trade should be brisk. The sales to-day of English wheat, barley, and oats were so small that prices were practically unquotable. Foreign wheat was dull, but, with the old home crop completely exhausted, and no new yet to be had, holders of imported sorts were in a position to refuse concessions. Maize was as firm as ever, but foreign oats and barley favoured buyers. New trifolium seed made 24s. per cwt., and mustard seed made 8s. 6d. per bushel for best, 7s. 6d. for ordinary good seed. Hempseed made 34s. for Russian and 35s. for Chilian, each per 336 lb. A small quantity of very fine sunflower seed realised 18s. per cwt., but ordinary was quoted 11s. to 12s. per cwt.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	35	— 37
Red	"	34	— 36
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	none	
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	"	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	none	
"	(per 400 lb.)	none	
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	"	26	— 30
Black	"	31	— 33
Crystallized	"	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	"	22	— 23
Old Black Winter	"	none	
Old Grey Winter	"	none	
Old Black Tartary	"	none	
"	(per 320 lb.)	none	
New Winter	(per 336 lb.)	19	— 21
" Black Tartary	"	19	— 20
"	(per 312 lb.)	18	— 19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	"	40	— 42
Tick	"	38	— 40
Winter	"	33	— 34
Spring	"	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	"	none	
New Unpicked "	"	none	
Partridge	"	44	— 46
Dun	"	30	— 31
Maple	"	33	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	"	72	— 82
(English ")	"	56	— 64
(Winter)	"	48	— 52
(Spring)	"	40	— 44
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	30	— 31

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Mitoba Best White	36	— 37
" Red	35	— 36
" 2nd "	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
" Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	33	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	30	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
(400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
(400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 20 3
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	23	— 24
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
French	none	
Russian	23	— 24
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	27	— 28
Turkish	26	— 27
Morocco	25	— 26
Indian	25	— 26
American	24	— 25
Argentine	24	— 25

	s.	s.
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15 6	— 16
Revel (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
" (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Turkish (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb.)	16	— 17
" (504 lb.)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	32	— 34
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	34	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
" Crowns	54	— 56
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 33
" Dun	27	— 28
" Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Grain	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	40	— 41
Red	22	— 26
Yellow	19	— 20
Sorghum	18	— 19
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	29	— 30
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED IN BUYERS' FAVOUR.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, July 31.

Top-price flour was dull but steady, at 31s., Whites coming at 28s., and Households at 25s., as on the 24th inst. No. 1 Supers made 29s. 9d. to 30s. per sack, and paste flour realised 21s. 6d. to 22s. per sack.

Country flour was steady at 22s. 6d. for roller Whites 60 per cent. extract, and 26s. 6d. for fine East Anglian patents. Cascadia made 25s. to 25s. 3d., and Granardia 25s. 9d. to 26s. per sack. Hungarian realised 31s. for "Five Stars," and also for "Six Anchors." Manitoba patents were held for 29s. 9d., with a few bona fide offers at 29s. per sack. Kansas patents may be quoted 26s. 9d. to 27s. for autumn delivery. Nothing is doing on spot. Belgian flour made 27s. 6d. for the best sorts. Fine middlings were quoted 115s. per ton for best; coarse at £5 per ton, were in good rtquest. London flake bran at £5 pe ton, also sold well. No new features marked business in Australian or Argentine flour, but prices were considered to be no worse from a week ago.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31 0
Town Whites	,,	28 0
,, Households	,,	25 0
No. 2	,,	22 0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	26 0
,, No. 2	,,	24 0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 — 31
,, Second Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	29 — 31
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32 — 33
,, 1	,,	31 — 32
,, 2	,,	30 — 31
,, 3	,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27 — 28
,, 1st Grade	,,	26 — 27
,, 2nd Grade	,,	25 — 26
,, Common	,,	20 — 21
,, "Saturno"	,,	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	14 — 15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26 — 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34 — 35
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	35 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13 — 14
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21 — 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 2[illegible]
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9 — 10
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 22
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 20
Ground Rice	,,	22 — 23
Feeding Rice	,,	17 — 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 10d.	Aug. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Sept. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Oct. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 10d.	Aug. delivery.
,,	4s. 9d.	Sept. ,,
,,	4s. 8d.	Oct. ,,

These are not official prices, but will, we believe, be found practically correct. Official quotations, we hear, are likely to be resumed very shortly.

There are offers to-day to buy American Red winter wheat for September delivery, at 6s. 8d. per cental, but 6s. 9d. is asked. For American maize, September delivery, 4s. 8½d. was accepted.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS' REPORT.

Flour.—Rather more business has been done; demand steadier, and for some qualities there has been a slight improvement in prices. Offals.—Bran in only moderate demand; no new feature to report. GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—American markets have again quietened down, and flour is not so firmly held as it was last week. Grain.—Indian corn is quieter on spot at 14s. 3d. per 280 lb., and 4½d. per boll lower for shipment. Oats very plentiful, and favour buyers as regards price. Barley continues very scarce. Owing to arrivals, pease are rather lower. Beans in retain demand, but price is 3d. dearer. Mill Stuffs.—Bran is in better demand at 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton advance. Thirds scarce.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour on the spot has met only a small demand to-day at unchanged prices for patents, whilst bakers' grades are somewhat pressed at fully 3d. decline. For shipment some little business has been put through in Kansas patents at steady prices.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Arrivals of wheat are large. Trade is steady and prices are supported. Flour sells slowly at late prices. Maize and barley unchanged. Oats, with heavy arrivals, in favour of buyers.—COVENTRY (Mark Lane).

The trade for milling offals is slow, but prices remain unchanged from last week.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: For the time of year we have had a good demand, especially for forward delivery, and we anticipate that the market will further advance. Decorticated cotton cake, as well as ordinary, are scarce and full prices are paid.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 12	6 to 7 15	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
,, Western ,,	ex quay	7 5	0 to 7 7	6
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay			
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7 7	6 to 7 15	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 17	6 to 7 0	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 12	6 to 6 17	6
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 10	0 to 4 13	6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 7	6 to 4 10	0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 17	6	
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse		1	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2	0 to 2 3	0
La Plata do. per 416 lbs	ex warehouse	2 1	0 to 2 7	0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 3	0 to 2 5	0
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.				
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London			
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)				
Bombay ,, ,, ,,				
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.				

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Cargoes of White Wheat were a little steadier from Saturday. Red wheat cargoes were depressed. Maize was a firmer market from Saturday for cargoes, and barley, oat, and pulse cargoes were all the turn in buyers' favour.

BUSINESS DONE

WHEAT.—No. 3 Northern Manitoba, 31s 3d per 480lb, August shipment; Bahia Blanca, 30s 9d per 480lb, August shipment; white Calcutta, 30s 9d per 492lb, August shipment; white Kurrachee, 30s per 492lb, August shipment; red Kurrachee, 29s 9d per 492lb, August shipment; Roumanian, 30s 3d per 504lb, August shipment; Roumanian, 30s 6d per 512lb, August shipment; Russian winter, 33s 3d per 492lb, August shipment; Russian spring, 32s per 492lb, August shipment; Australian, 31s 6d per 480lb, arrived.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480lb, August shipment; American, 22s 9d per 480lb, August shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s per 400lb, on passage; Kustendje, 19s 3d per 400lb, on passage.

OATS.—Vologda, 14s 6d per 304lb, August shipment; South Russian white, 13s 9d per 304lb, August shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 30s 9d per 480lb, August shipment.

PEAS.—White Calcutta, 28s 3d per 504lb, August shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 39s 6d per 416lb, August shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 13s 9d per 2,240lb, August shipment.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—Some consumers are availing themselves of the present most favourable opportunity to replenish their stocks. Growers being anxious to clear out now puts the market all in favour of the buyer.

Worcester, Saturday.—The plantations continue to make steady progress and to develop in a satisfactory manner. Trade is of a retail character to meet present requirements. Prices tend in buyers' favour.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

THE VALLEY OF THE MEDWAY (July 29).—There is not much change in things so far, but there is a little vermin, some mould, also red spider, which may cause trouble unless we get a good deal of wet. The early hops are mostly out in full burr.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, July 31, 1905 British.	Total.	Monday Aug. 1, 1904
Beasts	1,010	1,010	745
Sheep and Lambs	4,000	4,000	4,550
Calves	20	20	
Milch Cows	50	50	49

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d	3s 4d	4s 0d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 2d	4s 6d
Lambs	5s 4d	6s 0d	6s 4d
Calves	3s 8d	4s 10d	5s 2d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 90; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, [illegible], Devon, 15; Ireland, 112.

We note to-day a decrease of 90 in the number offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade all round was of a dull and dragging nature, rates ruling 2d. per 8 lb. in favour of the buyer. The arrivals from Ireland consisted of 70 Dublins (10 of which were black polled cattle) and 42 Waterfords. These shared in the general depression, and were quoted from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lbs. lower. Fat butchering cows and bulls, notwithstanding their being in smaller numbers, met with a very limited demand, consequently 2d. per 8 lbs. less money had to be accepted to effect sales. No Scotch cattle were offered for sale. A clearance will not be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 1, 1904.
Scotch	—	4s 10d ex 5s 0d
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 8d to 4s 10d
Herefords	4s 6d ex 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 2d	
Fat Cows	3s 2d to 3s 4d	3s 6d ex 3s 8d

There was an increase of 110 in the number penned in the sheep market compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes being of a very sluggish nature, rates ruling 2d. per 8 lbs. in favour of the buyer. Both Scotch and Yorkshire sheep are now falling off in point of number. Irish were in larger supply and met with little enquiry even at 2d. per 8 lbs. less money. Lambs were in fair average supply and shared in the general depression, salesmen having to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lbs. to effect sales. The supply included 600 Scotch, 1,225 Irish, 200 Yorkshires, and 1,100 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance will not be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:

	To-day.	Monday, August 1, 1904.
8 st Scotch	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 8d ex 5s 10d
9 st Downs	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Half-breds	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Yorkshires	4s 6d to 4s 8d	6s 2d to 6s 4d
12 st Lincolns	—	4s 4d to 4s 6d
10 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 2d to 6s 4d	6s 0d to 6s 2d
6 st Half-bred Lambs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
6 st Irish ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 10d to 6s 0d

Short supply of calves, trade slow, best on offer making from 4s. 10d. to 5s 2d. per 8 lbs.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supply, quiet demand. Best Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; American, 3s 1d to 3s 6d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; lamb, English, 4s 10d to 5s 8d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 4s; pork 3s 2d to 4s per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday. Beast 160; sheep and lambs, 1,225; pigs, 430. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d. Mutton, 7s 6d to 9s 4d. Lamb, 8d to 10d. Pork, 5s 9d to 6s 6d. Fat and store cattle, sheep, and pigs, fair demand. Milch cows, short supply fair demand, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 765. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 81 head, and consisted of 667 from the United States and 96 from Canada. Trade was of a firm and steady nature, both in regard to tone and value, last Monday's quotations being well upheld. The best States on offer to-day, about 720lb, made from 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d per 8lb (sinking the offal). On Saturday 1,241 beasts from the United States and 191 from Canada were offered for sale, and with a slow trade were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d exceptionally, 4s for the former, and from 3s 8d to 3s 9d for the latter.

Liverpool, Monday. Supply of cattle in market to-day was smaller than last week. Demand slow and prices unchanged. Sheep and lambs also shown in reduced numbers. Trade fair for lambs at last week's rates, sheep in slow demand and prices lower. Beef sold at 5d per pound; mutton, 8d to 6d; lamb, 9½d to 7d. At market, 809 cattle and 10,463 sheep.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade rather more cheerful, wool being firmly held at recent rates. Good lots of Kent fleeces are worth 1s. per lb., but inferior only fetch 11½d, lamb wool 8d., halfbred fleeces 12d to 12½d, and Downs 13d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday.—The quieter tone lately noticed in the state of the wool trade appears to be passing away; values are again firm, and the same causes stated the purchases. There is some talk [illegible] American requirements, which has called the value of North begg wools, now quoted at 13d, and Yorkshire hoggs about 13½d.

Liverpool, Wednesday. The fourth series of periodical auctions for this year began on the 26th inst. East India Wool being catalogued on that and two following days, and sundry descriptions yesterday and to-day. The new arrivals of East India wool [illegible] bales, and importers still had 50[illegible] bales out of the 1,55[illegible] withdrawn from the May sales, so that with a few second-hand lots 19,514 bales were catalogued, and 15,[illegible] bales sold, leaving 3,495 bales in importers' hands. The home trade secured 9,100 bales, the Continent 2,[illegible]50 bales, and America 4,[illegible]50 bales.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

There was a rather larger supply of beasts at Islington during the past week; as usual, at this season of the year, the supply was chiefly drawn from the Midland counties, and consisted of grass-fed Herefords and runts. Ireland was well represented; no store cattle, however, were included in the consignment. Trade for both prime and second quality beasts was of a slow but steady nature, late currencies governing all transactions. On the other hand, Irish descriptions met with a very limited inquiry, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, though barely sufficiently so to warrant our quoting any lower rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, and met with less inquiry by both town and country buyers. On Thursday, the second market-day of the week, trade was practically confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, trade was slow with a downward tendency in value.

At Deptford throughout the week a slow trade was experienced. The total number on offer at both markets was 3,783, as against 4,646 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,150 British (increase 150) and 2,633 foreign, comprising 2,247 from the United States and 386 from Canada. Quotations were as follows:—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 8d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 3d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadian, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade was entirely confined to the Islington market. Small wethers met with a steady inquiry, late rates governing all transactions. Heavy descriptions, on the other hand, were difficult to vend, Scotch sheep met a slow but steady sale, rates being well maintained, this remark also applies to Irish, included in the latter consignment were some lambs, these found ready purchasers at advanced rates. Ewes were steady at late currencies. Lambs met a firm, steady trade at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. on value. On the second market day of the week, for both sheep and lambs, trade was of a very sluggish nature. The total number penned consisted 4,290, as against 4,690 during the previous week. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 4d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d.; 9 stone Yorkshires, 4s. 6d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 6d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 6s. 2d.; 6 stone Irish lambs, 6s. 2d.

Calves numbered 110, and were quoted at from 5s. to 5s. d. per 8 lb., offal given in.

No pigs on the market.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been much under an average. Owing to the very hot weather the demand has been only moderate, but the light supplies helped the trade, and prices on an average would advance fully 10s. per head. Sheep have been shown in fair numbers. The demand was fairly steady, but prices were just the turn lower, with the exception of ewes, which being more scarce, maintained previous rates. There was a very large supply of lambs, and they also met a slightly worse market at quite 1s. a head less money. Calves a large and good show, and they were decidedly cheaper, while pigs were without change. There were exceedingly few store cattle on offer, but there is no demand, and very few were sold. There was a small supply of sheep, and they got nearly cleared out at previous prices. Milch cows met a quiet trade at rather less money. Quotations: Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s; current from 35s. to 36s. Mutton to fully 8¼d. per lb.

Trade in Ireland.

Cattle of best finish were scarce, and sold well considering the general state of the meat market. Buyers held back in the early hours, and this gave a tedious tone to business, and it was only well finished cattle that managed to at all hold their own. Best ox and heifer beef made from 52s. to 54s., and extra lots up to 57s. per cwt.; good second-class beef from 46s. to 50s.; and inferior from 42s. upwards. Exporters were feeling the effects of the recent sultry weather in England on the wheat trade; while, on the other hand, the continued drought is bringing in very keen beef as graziers are sending in all the cattle they can to thin the stock on the lands.

The sheep trade was very much on the lines of the previous Thursday's market. The home trade inquiry was limited to light qualities of wethers, and for these the values of last day were fairly well maintained, but with some difficulty. Some buyers were acting on commission for London and Lancashire, but only a moderate business was done by them. Heavy sheep difficult to place, and coarse, wasty sorts neglected, at very irregular prices. The decrease in the number of lambs offered for sale was very marked, and there were very few really prime fat ones forward, owing to the lack of food on most pastures. Good lambs sold well; inferior ones were not wanted. Prime wethers sold from 7d. to 7½d per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 7d. Light hoggets made from 32s. to 42s., and heavy ones from 44s. to 54s. each. Best lambs sold briskly at from 38s. to 40s. each; other sorts from 20s. to 30s. Veal met with a disappointing sale, offerings being in excess of demand, but choice made from 7d. to 8½d. per lb.; inferior from 5d. per lb. upwards.

There was a fairly large show of milch cows, and a rather brisk demand, best springers making from £18 to £21, and other sorts from £8 upwards. Trade for store cattle was very slow, and most of the auctions of store stock have been postponed till better times.

The attendance at the pig market was a full one, comprising a large number of exporters and local pork butchers. Sellers were firm, as the supply of pigs was small, and buyers were equally hesitant, so it was hard to transact business. Later on in the day, representatives of country factories coming on the market matters improved, and a brisk business and early finish was effected at the full prices of previous day. Nice light-weight pigs sold at from 54s. to 55s. per cwt.; heavy from 49s. to 53s.; and coarse from 35s. per cwt.

Trade in the West.

Very considerable supplies of store cattle are just being sent to market, many farmers being greatly perplexed what else to do with them on the present burnt-up condition of the pastures. As a result, prices have suffered more or less, except for the most desirable classes, which have declined only to a very trifling extent, whilst some of the more ordinary and rougher grades of graziers have dropped back from 10s. to £1 a head, with a quieter trade, too, at the same time buyers not caring to hamper themselves with a single head of stock more than they know what to do with; and barreners are feeling the effects of the drought more acutely than almost anything else, from £24 to £26 or £27 per pair is almost an outside figure at present for even the best, this price being but rarely exceeded for anything exceptional in character, whilst the rougher grades can be bought out at the ruinously low figures of £14 or £15 per pair up to £20.

As regards fat stock, bullocks are coming to hand rather more freely than they have been doing of late. The bettermost class of both heifers and steers still command fully late rates—11s. to 12s. per score (or from £17 to £23 apiece); but fat cows of anything of an ordinary class meet a very slow sale at prices favouring buyers—from 9s. to 10s. being an average range—and for anything coarse or excessively fat, 8s. to 8s. 6d. is a nearer approximate to present values, the hot weather badly affecting heavy weights. Fat calves of medium size are steadily hardening value with an increase, the best of these again touching 8½d. per lb. and over; but heavier calves are still a comparatively slow trade at 7d. to 7½d. In mutton, butchers are confining their attention almost exclusively to the neater weights of wethers, which are bringing from 47s. to 55s. each (or 8d. to 8½d. per lb. for the best); seconds, 7½d.; coarse ewes, a very dragging trade, at 6d. to 6½d. Young, well-finished sucking lamb meets a good demand at extreme rates, the best bringing 10d. to 11d. per lb. (or 34s. to 42s. each); heavier lambs, 9d. to 9½d. In pigs the demand is principally restricted to small weights in baconers and medium-size porkers, which sell freely at 9s. to 10s. 3d. per score, and baconers of decent quality at 8s. 6d. Heavy pigs are much neglected, and sellers are unable to find a market for them, except at very low values—7s. to 8s. per score; but the fact is, this class of meat is, with the prevailing hot weather, quite out of demand.

LONDON.

Islington. Thursday.—Beast supply consisted of fat butchering cows and bulls, trade for which was slow, last Monday's money being barely maintained. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8lb. An increase of 500 in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and half-breds, including a fairly large number of lambs, for the latter there was little or no inquiry, rates favouring the buyers to the extent of fully 2d per 8lb. For all grades of both wethers and ewes trade ruled dull and dragging, small neat handy weights barely making late rates, whilst heavier descriptions were practically unsaleable. Best pens made as follows:—7½ stone to 8-stone Downs, 5s 8d; 9-stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone, 5s 4d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s; 5-stone fat Down lambs, 6s 4d; 6-stone half-bred ditto, 6s. Rather larger supplies of calves on offer, which met a limited demand, best being quoted at from 4s 8d to 5s. Quotations per 8lb:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 8d to 5s 8d; calves, 3s 6d to 5s; lambs, 5s 2d to 6s 4d. Total supply:—Beasts, 50; sheep and lambs, 3,680; calves, 80.

London (Central). Friday.—A large quantity was delivered, for which a slow demand again existed at late rates. Arrivals of beef included 60 tons Scotch, 385 Liverpool sides, 2,500 hindquarters, and 1,900 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,700 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s to 4s 4d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; English 3s 6d to 3s 8d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Liverpool sides, 3s 1d to 3s 5d; American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; River Plate hindquarters, 2s 1d to 2s 3d; forequarters, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 10d. Mutton: Scotch wethers range from 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; New Zealand, 2s 6d to 3s; River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; Dutch wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d. Lamb: English, 4s 10d to 5s 8d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal: English, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; Dutch, 3s 4d to 4s. Pork: English, 3s 2d to 4s; Dutch, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—Improved trade for sheep. Small half-breds and Downs, 5s 6d to 6s; Kent wethers, small, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; large, up to 5s 2d; lamb, 6s 8d to 7s 4d. Beef, same rates as last week:—Best, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; secondary, 4s 4d. Small supply of pigs, big demand; roasters made 2s a score advance, selling at 10s to 11s, small store pigs made 10s to 14s each.

Basingstoke. Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 32 fat beasts, 100 calves, 515 fat sheep and lambs, 159 pigs, and 164 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Shorthorn steers made up to £18 5s; heifers, £20 10s; cows, £16; bulls, £17; Devon steers, £18 15s; cows, £17 10s; two-year-old Polled Angus heifers up to £18 5s; fat calves, 70s to £5 10s; small, 20s to 55s; fat porkers, 28s to 52s 6d; store pigs, 10s 6d to 19s 6d; dairy cows, £10 15s to £22 5s; prime Down wethers and ewes, 50s to 56s; smaller, 44s 6d to 48s 6d; old Down ewes, 35s 6d to 39s; rams, 42s to 52s; six-months-old lambs, 44s to 53s; small, 34s to 38s; three-months-old Down sucking lambs, 30s to 36s; cross-breds, 31s to 35s; Southdowns, 31s to 34s; Exmoor ewes, 38s; black-faced Scotch wethers, 32s 6d; Welsh sheep, 25s 6d; Dorset ewes, 31s; small cross-bred store lambs, 27s 6d to 28s. The show of fat beasts included some choice Devons and Shorthorn steers and Polled Angus heifers, for which there was a good demand and a clearance made. A good supply of fat sheep and fat lambs attracted the attention of buyers from local and distant markets, a clearance very nearly made, late rates ruling for fat sheep and big lambs, for small choice lambs higher prices were paid; a good part of the supply being taken for the south coast water-side places. The best class milk cows found a ready sale at late high prices, secondary were difficult to realise upon, less money having to be taken. Store cattle are a slow trade. Fat calves were cleared at late rates. Fat porkers met with a good demand with a poor trade throughout. Store pigs sold fairly well at late prices. Ruling values:—Choice Devon and Polled Angus beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; Shorthorns, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5¾d; best fat sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7¾d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat lambs 9d to 10d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 7¾d per lb.; fat porkers, 8s to 9s 6d per score.

Berwick. Saturday.—The number of beasts penned was not large, but they were 31 more than the previous week, and the quality was very good. Business was practically at a standstill.

Birmingham. Thursday.—Fair supply of lambs; small supply of beasts and pigs. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb. Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7¼d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d per score; sows, 7s per score.

Bristol, Thursday. — Market to-day was quiet, and only average business was done. Beef was in fair quantity, and trade steady at late rates, best price being 60s per cwt. With abundant supply of sheep and lambs, there was a limited demand, and values fell slightly; light down wethers selling at 8d to 8¼d, and prime wethers at 7¼d to 7¾d. Pigs were fewer in number, and baconers advanced to 9s 6d.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under ...	9 6
Under 10 sc. ...	...Not exceeding 2¾ in.	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	,, 3¼ in.	9 0
Under 12 sc. ...	,, 3 in.	8 6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury. Saturday. Rather more sheep offering to-day met a fair trade. One run of 260 lambs averaged 28s 6d; large ones forward in condition, 27s to 30s; and some good fresh Down tegs sold at 38s 6d; old sheep, 24s 6d to 32s.

Carlisle. Saturday. There was a very small supply of Irish store stock on the Sands. Buyers were very scarce and trade stagnant. Small heifers, £6 10s to £8 10s; ditto best, £10 to £12 10s.

Chester. Thursday. Supply and demand were fairly good. Best dairy cattle were in strong request, and realised high prices. Quotations: Milch cows, £15 to £22; calvers, £14 to £19; barrens, £10 to £15; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 17s to 32s.

Colchester. Saturday. There was again a poor supply all round. Grass beef made from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; lamb, 6s to 6s 8d; and pork, 8s to 8s 6d per score.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Small supplies of cattle, chiefly milch beasts. Poor attendance and a slow trade. Milch beasts made slightly less, and realised £10 to £22; bullocks, £15 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £16; stirks, £6 to £9; young stores, £4 to £6 each. Very quiet trade for sheep; hoggs, 40s to 48s. Mashams, 30s to 38s each.

Dorchester. Wednesday.—Full supplies at to-day's market, and a fairly brisk inquiry. Prices had rather a declining tendency. Medium calves made 8d to 9d per lb. for the best; larger calves, 7d to 8¼d; and rearers still a quick sale. Best wether mutton or young ewes sold at 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.; coarser mutton, 6¾d to 7d; and lambs, 9½d to 10d per lb. Bacon or porker pigs made 9s to 10s per score, and heavier 7s 6d to 8s 6d. Store pigs made 18s to 40s.

Dorchester, Saturday. — For the time of the year Messrs. T. Eason and Son were well supplied at their sale at the Agricultural Repository, and there was also a good attendance of buyers, a good many being very keenly in search of milch beasts to meet the requirements of the trade, owing to the falling off in the supply as a result of the dry weather, and a considerable advance in prices resulted. Best milchers sold from £17 up to £21 10s each, and others from £14 to £16 10s. Barreners quiet sale, except for anything very fresh, which made £22 to £28 10s per pair. Fat bullocks quiet, but prices about maintained, £17 10s being the top price to day (or 10s 6d to 11s per score). Mutton slow, except for wethers, which made 8d; ewes, 5½d to 6½d; choice lamb in request up to 38s; secondary grades slow trade.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market—Beasts 2,177, decrease 24; sheep 8,783, decrease 1,526; calves 525, increase 15. Export buyers continue in very cautious mood, all tendency towards speculation being checked by the disappointing trade in cross-Channel centeres. The smaller numbers of cattle on offer helped to keep business steadier to day, but prices show no recovery from last week's rates. Nice suitable sheep in fair request at last week's prices; heavy sheep very difficult to place to advantage owing to unfavourable weather; lamb in better demand at late rates. Cattle, live weight, best, 30s to 33s per cwt.; rough and interior sorts, 26s to 29s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb. —GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — The market was the smallest of the season, and trade was very dull. Polled bullocks realised up to £14, the best class of half bred sheep 43s, secondary 34s to 38s; Cheviots 32s to 39s; the best Shorthorn cows £23 to £24, and Ayrshires £17 to £19 10s per head.

Exeter, Friday.—Dull trade in fat cattle, and late prices barely maintained. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s to 11s 6d; cows, 9s to 10s 6d, not all cleared. Very large market of sheep, but not so good a trade as last week. Small wethers, 8d; larger size, 7½d; ewes, 6d; lambs, best quality, 10d in wool, 9d to 9½d shorn. Many breeding ewes on offer, but very little demand, 40s to 44s; calves, 7d to 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies moderate of cattle, but larger of sheep. A fair trade for live stock at full to dearer prices than those of last week. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; secondary, 58s to 60s per cwt.; top hoggs, 9d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lambs, 8d to 9d per lb. A moderate demand for dead meat, and prices a shade off; Scotch beef, however, commanded 6d: States, 5½d; Canadian, 5½d per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a fair supply of beef, best heifer and bullock making up to 6½d per lb., cow beef 5d per lb. Calves were a small supply, the trade being about 7d per lb.; there was a good demand. Mutton was a better supply than last week, and the trade was fairly rm for young wethers at 7½d to 8d per lb., ewe mutton fetching 6d per lb. There was a large supply of fat and store lambs, making 8d and 8½d per lb. A short supply of pigs with dull trade. Store cattle no trade at all.

Leicester, Saturday. — With a continuance of the drought there were only small consignments of home-bred stock. Buyers were moderately represented, and trade ruled sluggish at a further decline of fully 10s per head. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; secondary, £14 to £17; bullocks, £12 to £14; calves, 15s to 30s per head.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small show of store beasts, and a moderate trade. Milch cows, £16 to £20. Few sheep were penned, and trade was slow. Ewes, 20s to 37s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade slow, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Scarcely any store beasts, and very little trade, £6 to £12 each. Fat sheep average show, trade slow, 8s 9d to 9s 3d per stone. Store sheep 40s to 45s, store lambs 20s to 32s, fat lambs 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4½d to 5d; third-class, 3½d to 4d. Mutton: First-class, 7½d; second-class, 6½d to 7d; third-class, 5½d to 6d. Veal: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4½d to 5½d; third-class, 3½d to 4½d. Lamb: First-class, 7½d; second-class, 6½d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat beasts in sufficiently large numbers to meet the demand, choice animals making 8s per stone; those of inferior quality as little as 7s per stone. Store beasts on offer were not of first-rate description, and trade was dull at £6 to £13 10s head. Store sheep and lambs penned in small numbers. Lambs fetched 22s to 33s per head, and breeding ewes, 32s to 55s per head. Average supply of fat sheep, and trade fair at 9s to 10s per stone. Good demand for fat pigs, at 5s 9d to 6s 3d per stone, there being a large supply. Plenty of store pigs on market; but trade was anything but brisk.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Very slow trade, except for best cattle. There were very few stores, but a large quantity of milch beasts; in calf cows, to £22 5s; and in-calf heifers, to £20 5s; store beasts, to £16 17s 6d; smaller ditto, to £9 7s 6d; calves, 30s to 50s.

Retford, Saturday. — Store stock of all kinds was scarce, and with a limited muster of farmers and dealers the business was restricted, and quotations generally showed no change from those of the previous week.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts in shorter supply; trade very slow. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in average supply; trade slow at 4s 6d to 4s 8d per stone. Good supply of sheep; trade fair; best sheep, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade about the same at 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Lambs in short supply; trade better at 6s to 6s 4d per stone. A few store beasts offered; very slow demand. Pig trade slow.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a large show of all descriptions of stock, both beef and mutton being in larger numbers than for many weeks past. Best trade throughout showed a slight decline on previous weeks, although best quality was a clearing trade. Cows were difficult to dispose of. A capital trade for both sheep and lambs, this firm being supported by a large number of buyers right up to the finish; in fact, practically every lot was disposed of. Veal met a ready sale. Bacon and pork dear. Weaning calves at late rates. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 101 fat beasts, 412 fat and store sheep, 38 fat and weaning calves, and 81 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £21 17s 6d; fat heifers, £15 to £13 5s; fat wethers, 50s to 64s; fat ewes, 40s to 52s; fat lambs, 32s to 40s 6d; fat calves £3 to £4 18s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 55s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 5s to £4 10s; porkets, 24s to 38s; stores, 10s to 24s.

Truro, Wednesday. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; very choice, 60s; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 42s; cows and calves, £11 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 50s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 10s to 45s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork sausages, 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market—200 bullocks, 62 calves, 310 sheep, 234 pigs, 4 horses, 20 live geese. Business fairly brisk; attendance very good.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply; very slow trade all round. Beef, 5d to 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb.; veal, 7d to 8d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of stock. Trade slow. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wether and cross breds, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d; veal, 7d to 7½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday. Large supplies of Canadian and American cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to day, there being 1,105 head penned in the lairages. A large attendance of buyers was present, but business ruled exceedingly slow throughout the day, and prices owing to the continued warm weather combined with a dull holiday trade, exhibited substantial reductions from the previous week's rates. Bullocks of really choice quality sold at up to 56s per cwt. dead weight, while other sorts were disposed of from 51s to 53s per cwt., the current price being about 52s per cwt. dead weight. Bulls made from 44s to 48s per cwt.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for week ending July 2[illegible] 1905.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average Live weight.	Average price per head.	Average price per cwt.
		c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	Bullocks (prime) ...	8 2 21	14 5 0	1 12 10
1	,, ,, ...	11 0 0	18 0 3	1 12 9
1	,, ,, ...	10 1 14	16 19 9	1 12 9
1	,, ,, ...	9 3 14	16 3 5	1 12 9
2	,, ,, ..	11 0 3	18 0 0	1 12 8
2	,, ,, ...	9 2 14	15 10 0	1 12 2
2	,, ,, ..	8 1 0	13 5 0	1 12 1
2	,, (very good) ..	8 3 21	14 0 0	1 11 4
2	,, (good) ..	9 1 0	13 15 0	1 9 9
2	Heifers (prime) ..	9 2 14	15 15 0	1 12 9
2	,, ,, ...	9 0 21	14 15 0	1 12 1
2	,, (very good) ...	9 2 24	15 10 0	1 11 11
1	,, ,, ...	9 1 21	14 15 0	1 11 3
2	,, ,, ...	8 3 14	13 7 6	1 10 2
2	Cows (prime) ...	10 0 0	15 5 0	1 10 6
1	,, ,, ..	10 2 21	16 2 6	1 10 2
1	,, ,, ...	9 1 14	14 2 6	1 10 2
1	,, ,, ..	10 0 7	14 15 0	1 9 4
1	,, ,, ...	11 1 0	16 10 0	1 9 4
1	,, ,, ..	11 3 14	17 0 0	1 8 8

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—In the absence of business, quotations are purely nominal and are as per subscribed:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 5s to £10 10s; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 7s 6d to£5 10s; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s 6d to £2 5s; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 5s to £7 10s; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £7 17s 6d to £8 7s 6d; ditto foreign round, prime, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 2s 6d; ditto ditto English decorticated, prime,soft, in bages, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s; cotton-seed, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 to £6 5s; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 13s per 240lb.; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 9s 6d per qr. 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, gauranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto ditto guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags; ditto ditto guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags; ditto prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags; ditto finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos. in bags—nominal.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The demand for Canadian butter, both creamery and dairy, continues as strong as ever and the market in consequence is very firm. The arrivals largely go direct into consumption, and unlike nearly all previous years the accumulations in cold store are unusually small, and it is some years since the cold stores all over the country were so empty of butter of all kinds as they are at the present time. The price of "Choicest" brands of Canadian are selling on spot at 106s to 108s per cwt., mildly salted and saltless alike, and the c.i.f. quotation is considerably in advance of these figures. The Copenhagen official quotation has again been raised and this time by four kroner, which brings it up to 99 kroner, the highest figure it has reached at this time of the year ter the last quarter of a century. Cheese: The market is strong and the demand good at 50s to 52s per cwt. for Canadian, which shows an advance of 2s on the week. There is practically no New Zealand cheese left on the market. The price of cheese, like that of butter, is the highest for many years at this period, and although there may be no immediate decline, it is idle to ignore the accumulation of stocks now takinb place in the United Kingdom. — W. WEDDEL AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, old, 5½d; ditto new, 4½d: clover, old, 5½d to 6½d; ditto new, 5d to 5½d; oat straw, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday. Supplies continue fair, and meet with fair support, at steady rates. Best clover,75s to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 80s; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 75s; straw, 30s to 42s per load.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed: The arrivals are 2,192 qrs Archangel, 17,452 Russian, 1,792 from St. [illegible] 4,200 St. Petersburg, total, 26,736 qrs. The importers' returns ending July 21 were as follow: Plate 4,720 Bushels, 12,500 Quarters, 9,500 Cwts. etc., 9,000 Lead, 9,000 Continent Bombay 9,000 Continent [illegible] 6,000 qrs. The market has ruled [illegible] but the business passing is [illegible] Plate: Spot, 28s 9d. [illegible] September, 29s; Bombay, nominal. [illegible] and September-October, [illegible] quiet all the week and [illegible] Egyptian, on spot, sold at down to [illegible] sellers to-day. August done [illegible] more offering at the lower figure. [illegible] been dealt in, and 26s to 27s would [illegible] January. Bombay, on spot, offers at £4 15s 3d, and a little business done for shipments [illegible] December-January at £4 17s 6d to £4 17s. Oilcake: Linseed cakes: A firm market, but with very quiet demand. Cotton cakes keep very firm in price, but offers are scarce. KEIGHLEY MAXTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: The market has been steady during the week at enhanced values—at the close, however, prices are about 2d under the best. [illegible] London — Spot June-July and July-August 40s 3d; August September 40s 6d; September October 40s 9d. La Plata, July-August, 39s 9d. Hull — A steady market with fair demand for near positions, forward neglected. La Plata spot 39s 6d, passage-ness doing and prices are nominal Brown Cawnpore July-August 35s 9d, Brown Calcutta, July-August 35s 6d sellers. Cottonseed: Egypt has again declined and prices here are considerably lower; the market, however, closes firmer. London—Spot and July £5 13s 9d, August £5 13s 9d, September Favourite £5 14s 3d, November-January £5 18s 9d. Oil cakes.—Linseed cakes: Firm. London made £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Cotton cakes steady. London made £4 8s 9d to £4 10s. — THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed Cakes.—With only a limited quantity of foreign description available in warehouse and small offerings both from Russia and America, values are again inclined to harden, while a decidedly improved inquiry has sprung up in spot and forward positions, which will further tend to strengthen the market. Russian make fully £5 5d per ton more sought American have changed hands at a slight increase in price. East India are 5s. per ton dearer. London made sell rather more freely, but are unchanged. Cotton Cakes.—As is usual at this time of year, there is only a limited consumption, and with fairly large stocks values remain quiet, while English and Bombay are unchanged. Decorticated: London made attract rather more attention being relatively cheaply offered at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal and at£5 5s for special digestive meal, with American "Open Hand" brand selling at £6 17s 6d, "Ley" brand at £6 12s 6d, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape Cakes. Scarce and dear. East Indian and Ravison unchanged. Maize Germ Meal.—White American does not offer in any position, but English makes may be bought on last week's terms. Maize Gluten Meal is nominally quoted at £5 10s to £5 15s per ton. Rice Meal.—Landed lots of Rangoon are firmly held at £4 10s. to £4 12s 6d, while steamer parcels to arrive are quoted at £4 8s 9d to £4 10s. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is to be had at the low figure of £4 15s per ton. Locust beans, on account of the short crop, are the turn dearer, at £5 5s. for Whole and £5 10s for Kibbled. Nitrate of soda is dull and without change at £11 per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 6
,, in mats.....	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta ..... (c.i.f.)	7 15 0	
American	7 0 0	to 7 2 8
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 10 0	to 4 11 3
,, ...		
English	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal.....		
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17 6	to 6 12 6
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 17 6	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American		
Maize Gluten Meal..... .....June-Dec.	5 10 0	to 5 15 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive	4 8 9	to 4 10 0
,, ...ex warehouse	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	11 0 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — Fruit and [illegible] met with a steady inquiry, the market being amply supplied with produce. Quotations for English produce: Apples, 4s 6d to 6s per bushel; grapes, 8d to 3s 0d; gooseberries, 2s 6d to 3s; cherries, 2s to 4s 6d; black currants, 4s 6d to 5s; red ditto, 3s to 5s; apricots, 4s 0d to 5s 0d per half sieve; peaches, 1s 0d to 1s 6d per dozen, [illegible] to 1s 0d; green figs, 1s to 1s 6d per box; plums, 2s 0d to 2s per half sieve; greengages, [illegible] box, 0s to 1s 0d per half sieve; nectarines, 1s to 1s 6d per box; tomatoes, 2s to 4s 0d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per 24 bunches; radishes, 4d to 5d; carrots, 1s 0d to 2s; turnips, 1s 6d to 3s per dozen bunches; cabbages, 1s 0d to 2s 6d; cucumbers, 1s to 3s; cauliflowers, 1s to 3s per dozen; vegetable marrows, 2s 0d to 4s per dozen; peas, 1s 0d to 2s per bag; beans, 1s to 2s per bag; scarlet runners, 2s 0d to 3s 0d; broad beans, 2s per bushel; beetroots, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; potatoes, 3s to 4s 0d per cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday. Reports from the plantations continue very favourable generally. Mould is troublesome at places, and on some thin lands the dry weather is bringing red spider; the plant, however, as a rule, is very healthy and promising.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Berwickshire.

The twenty-third annual show of the Berwickshire Agricultural Association took place on Thursday within the policies of Duns Castle, Duns, in lovely weather, and there was a very satisfactory attendance of visitors. The show, which had formerly been limited to the district, is now open, but the entries were chiefly from the Border districts. A nice lot of Shorthorns were forward, and the grazing cattle made a strong show. Sheep, too, were good, including as they did winners at the Highland and Northumberland shows. There was a really good entry of agricultural horses, which showed that the breeding of Clydesdales in the Borders is being carried on with great care, skill, and success. Among other attractive features was a working trial of sheep dogs, which was watched with interest by a large crowd.

Framlingham.

Visitors to the show of the Framlingham Live Stock Association can generally rely on seeing a splendid array of Suffolk horses, and those who visited the twenty-second annual fixture, held on Thursday, were not disappointed in this respect, for there was an array of the native breed of horses, especially of young stock, unequalled by any other show, and the judges had a hard task in making their awards. The truth of this will be more readily seen when it is remarked that for a special prize given for the best Suffolk foal, no fewer than forty animals entered the ring, and they formed a display of which any Suffolk agriculturist had reason to be proud. Horses other than Suffolks also made a creditable display, Shires predominating, whilst in the foal section some good Red Polls were shown, and in the four sheep classes Suffolks held their own. There was also a small but choice show of pigs.

Longtown.

The show of the Longtown Agricultural Society, which opens the agricultural show season in Cumberland, took place in not very favourable weather, and the attendance, consequently, was smaller than usual. The show was in all respects well up to the usual standard. There were 510 entries—almost the same number as for the two preceding shows—and of the total there were no fewer than 326 in the horse section. The draught horses were a feature of outstanding interest; whilst the show of saddle horses was a distinct improvement on those of previous years. The cattle were by no means a strong lot, Shorthorns being especially few in number, but the quality was good. There was a good class of dairy cows, and the grazing cattle were also a creditable lot, most of the animals being Irish. Border Leicesters were the principal breed of sheep exhibited; whilst amongst the attractions of the day were driving, jumping, sheep dog trials, and military competitions.

Malton.

The thirty-ninth annual show at Malton, on Wednesday, unfortunately clashed with that of the Durham County, Tadcaster, and two other local shows, whilst the harvest had begun in the district, so that both the entries and attendance were affected by circumstances. Nevertheless, there were nearly three hundred horses forward, in addition to nearly fifty each of cattle and sheep, and there was a goodly attendance of visitors, so that the show was anything but a failure. Hackneys were not so well represented as on previous occasions, and were somewhat disappointing; but hunters were as good as ever, and a really fine lot. The competition for the big prize of the show—Lord Wenlock's £20 prize for four year old hunters—brought a field of twenty, and they made a remarkably fine show. They were put through their paces by the judges, whose choice for the principal premium was Messrs. Snowden's chestnut gelding, Silver Thorne, by Sleive Gallion, and bred by Mr Fox, of Dundalk. The winner is a very valuable and courageous hunter, with the best of limbs, which he uses to the greatest advantage; but many preferred Mr J. H. Stokes's noted Ebony, champion at Glasgow, which had on this occasion to play second fiddle. The third prize-taker was another well-known gelding, Ireland, the property of Messrs. T. and H. Ward, of Pinchingthorpe. Weight-carrying hunters, over 15 stone, had a cup offered them by Lord Helmsley, which was won by Mr. John Brown, of Kirbymoorside, with Queen Bee, Mr Wm. Brown, of Slingsby, being second. Coaching horses made a good show, and, as far as they went, the agricultural horses to the number of 50 were a meritorious lot. A slight decline was noticeable in the numbers in the cattle classes, but this was compensated for by an appreciable improvement in the quality. There was an improved entry in sheep, and the quality was also an advance on last year. Flockmasters welcomed the change by which the different breeds of rams were differentiated, and the results were much more satisfactory. Lincoln rams were distinctly the pick of the show.

Monks Kirby.

The annual show of the Monks Kirby Farmers' Club was held at Newnham Paddox, on Wednesday, by permission of Lord Denbigh, and was well attended. The stock penned numbered 300, and was just about the same as last year. Horses formed the principal feature, and many high-class animals were exhibited, notably in the Shire horse classes; the cattle classes, which were well filled, also contained some high-class animals, and the show all round was a credit to the club.

Paignton.

The Paignton and District Agricultural Society were favoured in every respect for their show on Wednesday; the entries were good, the weather delightfully fine, and the "gate" a record one, so that the show was written down one of the best, if not the best, of the series. In addition to the ordinary attractiveness of the horses and cattle and other exhibits, enjoyment was considerably enhanced by the excellent performances of the famous Besses o' th' Barn Band, which also played in the evening, when the front of the pavilion was prettily illuminated. The South Devon cattle made a capital show, the winner in the old bull class of the president's five-guinea cup—the property of Mr. A. Searle, of Waddeton—being a remarkably fine animal, good in quality and type. The three winning cows were very satisfactory specimens, and the class generally was commendable. The heifers were such an exceedingly good lot that the judges had difficulty in awarding the premier honours. In the horse section there was a good show of hacks, hunters, and cart horses, whilst the riding and driving competitions were quite the attraction of the afternoon. The sheep, though somewhat mixed, were on the whole a fairly good lot.

Royal Northern, Aberdeen.

The annual summer show of the Royal Northern Agricultural Society, held in Central Park, Aberdeen, was in every respects a success, for the weather was good and the takings a record—£612 2s., as against £537 8s. last year—whilst the entries were larger than in the three preceding years, and the quality quite up to the standard. There was a splendid display of stock in all the sections, and the show was reckoned as one of the best that has been held under Royal Northern auspices. The cattle classes were all well filled with animals of the highest merit, and in the fat stock ring the King carried off first prize with a yearling Aberdeen-Angus ox, Magistrate, after the famous sire Elandslaagte. His Majesty was also awarded a first prize for a pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus yearling heifer. As regards the horse section there was quite an average display in the various classes of Clydesdales, with the exception of brood mares, which were rather poorly represented. The quality all over was high, some very nice colts and fillies being forward. Roadsters, too, were a strong lot, and there was a nice display of Shetlands.

Tadcaster.

The show held at Tadcaster, on Wednesday—the 28th of the series—was a credit to the Tadcaster Agricultural and Horticultural Society; the entries all round being above the average in numbers, whilst quality was as good as ever. The agricultural horse classes were not only well filled but contained a large proportion of animals of really good quality; whilst in the Hackney section several stylish examples claimed attention. The hunting horses, more numerous than those of the Hackney and roadster type, though fewer than the agricultural, made an attractive display and included a goodly number possessed of sterling quality, as befitted this hunting district. Cattle and sheep, though not numerous, made a fairly creditable display, the dairy cows being quite the most noteworthy feature in their section. There was also an interesting show of poultry, pigeons, and rabbits, as well as a very pleasing collection of horticultural exhibits.

Taunton Horse.

The Taunton and West of England Horse Show Society's nineteenth annual exhibition, held on Tuesday at Taunton, proved a remarkable success as regards the number of horses entered and the quality of the animals. This was especially so in the hunter classes, as might naturally be expected in such a famous hunting country as West Somerset, where staghounds, foxhounds, and harriers all find a home. In the four heavy and light-weight classes there was a really grand lot of horses, including prize-winners at the Royal, Richmond, Peterborough, Nottingham, and Melton Mowbray exhibitions; while others more familiar, perhaps, to show visitors in the West Country had been prize-winners at the Somerset County, Cornwall, and Devon and Exeter shows. Hacks were unusually numerous, and made an excellent display, whilst agricultural horses showed an improvement on previous years. There was a considerable increase in the jumping and driving classes, and these, as is always the case, formed one of the most attractive and popular features of the show.

Tiverton.

The show of the Tiverton Agricultural Society was originally held at Stoodleigh, where, principally through the instrumentality of Sir E. H. Dunning, the Association had its inception now some five years ago, but last year it was thought that if held at Tiverton itself a greater amount of success would be achieved, and it would appear as if the presumption was correct, for at the show on Thursday last there was an increased entry—658 against 628 last year, and also a better attendance of visitors. The agricultural horses made a dozen classes, with an additional special class for the produce of the Society's Shire horses, in which the prizes were all given by Sir E. H. Dunning. Mr. Reed's champion prize, open to tenant farmers, was taken by Mr. S. Mansfield, of Kentisbeare, with a brown mare Violet, the same exhibitor being reserved with Bassett Mundee, an older black mare. Local hunters and light horses were well supported, and the jumping was a great improvement on previous years. As to the cattle classes, they were well filled, and there was an admitted improvement in quality, whilst there was more competition in the sheep department than usual, and Devon Longwools especially made good classes. Neither Exmoors nor crossbreds were quite so strong numerically, but the quality was exceptionally good.

Wem.

The annual show of the Wem and District Agricultural Society, held at Parkymoor, Wem, on Wednesday, attracted a record number of visitors, and there was certainly a good show for them to inspect. There were nice displays of cart horses and hunters, a good show of cattle, and a splendid turnout of Shropshire sheep, these forming a feature of the exhibition; whilst dogs were generally acknowledged to be one of the most interesting sections of the show, Clumbers particularly being in strong force.

Whalley.

The Whalley Agricultural Show on Thursday reached its ninety-fifth year, and the pleasantly situated ground was crowded with visitors from all parts of the country. The entries in all classes numbered 1,100, which is 60 above last year, and very little below the record entry. The quality, too, was good, being better than has been the case on many previous occasions. This was notably so in the horse and cattle sections, which included many well known prize-winners. During the day an exhibition was given by trained sheep dogs, and there was also jumping competitions of the horses entered in the hunter classes.

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An Extraordinary Farm Scene.—Mr. W. T. C. Greene, of Parkside, Wethersfield, Braintree, Essex, in a letter to the *Standard*, says that at ten minutes to three p.m. on July 21 part of a load of hay was taken up by a whirlwind some 5,000 feet high. Some of it we watched out of sight and never say it again. It had the appearance of a flock of rooks going round and round as they ascended almost straight up. There was scarcely a breath of air at the time elsewhere.

Sherborne Sheep and Cattle Fair. At this important Dorset stock fair, held on Thursday, a full average number of sheep were penned. Best Down ewes, 42s. to 43s.; plainer, 34s. to 40s.; young Down sheep, 35s. to 40s.; Down wether lambs, 35s. to 38s.; seconds, 28s. to 34s.; mixed working lambs, 33s. 9d. to 35s. 6d.; horn wethers, 38s. to 44s.; horn and cross-bred lambs, 24s. to 35s. Milch beasts were dearer, but barreners were very dull. Fat beasts were also cheaper to buy.

Live Stock Record.

HARNESS HORSES AND PONY SOCIETY.

A new society with the above title was formed on Wednesday. The Earl of Lonsdale, who presided at the inaugural meeting held at his house in Carlton House Terrace, was emphatic in his assertion that the time had arrived for horse-owners to protest against the selfish use of the roadway by one class of traveller to the detriment of the interests of all others; and the meeting, which was a most influential one, being largely composed of the principal owners of exhibition harness horses, cheered his lordship to the echo.

Lord Lonsdale, in the course of his observations, expressed the opinion that it was unnecessary for him to say anything in praise of the horse before such a meeting, but they were there as supporters of the old rules of the road, and to protect the interests of those who owned and exhibited horses to the best of their ability. The objects of the meeting, which had been subscribed to by Lord Ashtown, Mr. John Kerr, M.P., Messrs. C. E. Cooke, W. Foster, E. H. Goad, James Hamilton, R. G. Heaton, A. W. Hickley, H. Le Marchant, R. W. Lindsay, Walter Lloyd, J. M. Meeken, W. S. Miller, Tom Mitchell, Alex. Morton, William Oppenheimer, Iain Ramsay, Vero Shaw, W. J. Tatem, W. G. Weger, Mrs. Hartley Batt, and Miss Ella Ross, than whom there were no better-known people in the horse world, and which had received offers of practical support from Sir Walter Gilbey and others, were, to put it briefly, the recognition of the rules of the road, and the enforcement of the rights of those who show harness horses and ponies, and surely no more laudable objects could be imagined. But in claiming the recognition of the rights of the road, Lord Lonsdale did not imply that motorists alone were to blame, though he was afraid that a good many people, when they put on their blue goggles, forgot the necessity for behaving like gentlemen. Beyond all doubt there were many people professing to be ladies and gentlemen using motors who were responsible for much discomfort and injury to other people, and to horses who used the King's highway, and also there were ill-behaved cyclists and irresponsible drivers of horse-drawn vehicles who attempted to monopolise the rights of others. All these people the society would attempt to reach, and particularly those who lost no opportunity of seizing the tramway lines and the crown of the road, thereby disorganising the faster traffic behind them. The smoke nuisance was also one that should be dealt with, as in France, where a man who exceeds the proper allowance of smoke and oil, thereby creating a nuisance to the public, is promptly fined, and so it should be here. The harness horse is the horse of the Empire, and he spoke as one who had owned and judged every breed of English horse; in fact, all horses from the thoroughbred to the pony supply the ranks of harness horses, and yet there existed no society to protect their interests and to support the claims of their owners to use them in comfort. As regards the exhibition of harness horses and ponies, there were many hardships, Lord Lonsdale pointed out, from which owners suffer, and none more conspicuous than the measuring question, the arrangements for taking the heights of show horses being most unsatisfactory. The official heights which were registered by the Polo Pony Society were recognised, and most properly so, by the committees of all shows, and so it should be with harness horses and ponies.

Lord Lonsdale's remarks having been strongly endorsed by several speakers, it was unanimously decided to establish the Harness Horse and Pony Society, the Earl of Lonsdale being by acclamation elected the first President thereof.

Lord Lonsdale was elected the first President of the Society; and, on the motion of Mr. John Kerr, M.P., Mr. Vero Shaw was appointed secretary, upon terms to be arranged between the committee and himself. The following committee was elected:—Lord Ashtown, Mr. John Kerr, M.P., Mr. W. Foster, Mr. E. H. Goad, Mr. James Hamilton, Mr. R. G. Heaton, Mr. H. Le Marchant, Mr. R. W. Lindsay, Mr. Walter Lloyd, Mr. Alex. Morton, and Mr. Iain Ramsay.

A general meeting of members will be held at an early date, at which rules will be drafted and the association put into working order.

Lady Members of the Live Stock World.

LADY SEFTON.
Croxteth, Liverpool.
BREEDER OF DEXTER CATTLE.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Cliviger Agricultural Society's sixty sixth annual show will be held on Saturday, August 12, when prizes and specials will be offered in competition for cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, poultry, pigeons, dogs, cats, rabbits cavies, gentlemen's and tradesmen's turn-outs, butter, eggs, bread, etc.; whilst among other popular features there will be a pony race, donkey race, etc., and a gala in the evening. It will thus be seen that an attractive show is promised. The society is a member of the Federation of Lancashire Agricultural Societies, and entries will therefore absolutely close on the date mentioned, viz., Tuesday, August 8, at 10 a.m. Mr. J. Crossley, Oakleigh, Cliviger, near Burnley, is the secretary.

Intending exhibitors at the show of the East Berks Horse Show Society, to be held at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse on Thursday, August 17, are reminded that the post entries at double fees close to-morrow (Tuesday) the other entries having closed last Tuesday. An attractive schedule of prizes has been drawn up and deserves a good entry. The hon. secretary of the society is Mr. F. R. Jackson, Auctioneer and valuer, Abingdon.

The English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society has recently issued volume VI. of "The English Kerry and Dexter Herd Book," which is on a much smaller scale than some other herd books, but is none the less interesting and useful. The new volume contains entries of 9 Kerry bulls and 111 cows, and 27 Dexter bulls and 80 cows; a record of change of ownership; standard descriptions of the Kerry and Dexter; prize winners at some of the principal shows in 1904, and other interesting matter to English breeders of these small but useful cattle.

If this year's show of the Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Society to be held August 8, is not a success it will not be the fault of the society, for the members, and particularly the indefatigable secretary, Mr. H. M. Woods, have done everything possible to deserve success. A most liberal prize-schedule was issued and this has attracted a very fine entry, the total being 1,028, made up as follows:—Horses—agricultural 109, half-breds 172, including 24 saddle and 18 harness—total, 281; cattle, 75; sheep, 155; pigs, 22; wool, 20; butter, 17; eggs, 32; cheese, 13; shepherds' dogs, 29; shoeing smiths, 16; poultry, 164; long service, 8; farms, 15; employees' poultry, etc., 166; and workmen's long service, 15.

It will thus be seen that every department has received goodly support, and should provide much to interest visitors. In addition, a new feature has been introduced, viz., a horticultural show, fifty classes for all kinds of garden produce, for workmen on the estate, have been provided, and there is promise of a large entry and good show. Other attractions in an altogether good programme include:—Exhibition of objects of agricultural interest from the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute, Kingston; demonstrations of milk-testing and fancy cheese-making, by Miss Evans, in dairy; parade of the Duke of Portland's thoroughbred stallions and yearlings at Hunciecroft Paddocks, and lecture, with practical illustrations of the best and most profitable methods of bee-keeping, showing appliances of the most modern type and of reasonable cost, and how to use them, by Mr. Hayes, British and Notts Bee-keepers' Association. A large house-party has been invited at Welbeck Abbey for the occasion, and amongst those expected to be present is the President of the Board of Agriculture. The various railway companies will run special and cheap trains, and those who can spare the

time should certainly pay a visit to this, one of the most interesting of our one-day shows.

The Mid-Somerset Show at Shepton Mallet is always one of the most popular and best-managed fixtures in the West and a London Press representative of wide experience who visited its last show described the showground as one of the best arranged in the Kingdom. The district, from the influence of the Compton Stud, is one of special interest to horse breeders, and being so close to Bath Show many of the best outsiders find their way to Shepton Mallet to compete. The cattle are good, and the Shorthorns of the district are famous, whilst here is always a pretty competition amongst the Channel Islands stock. Cheese is a great line at Shepton, a tent over 200 ft. long having to be erected for the great competition, one of the largest in the Kingdom. The total entries at last year's show numbered over 800, and with the capital schedule which the committee have issued there should be an advance even on this for the current year. Entries are open till August 18.

Nearly £700 is offered in prizes by the Bath Horse Show Society for their exhibition at Bath on September 6 and 7, and the affair promises to maintain its old reputation. Classes are provided for hunters, hacks, riding and harness horses, cart horses, etc., and handsome prizes are offered in all, the value of the firsts ranging up to £20. In addition there are some "specials," including the medals of the Hunters' Improvement Society. Entries close on Saturday, August 19, and forms, together with prize schedules, can be had of the Secretary, Mr. Lewis C. Mundy, 41, Milsom Street, Bath.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs's lamb sale at Ashford will take place in the Cattle Market Field on Thursday, August 3, and already they have an entry of 8,000 Kent ewes and wethers, half-bred Southdown, Shropshire and Hampshire Down lambs, including 300 capital half-bred Southdown lambs from Godington Park, the property of Mr. G. Ashley Dodd. Catalogues, when ready, may be obtained from the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

Chichester, Sussex, the principal centre in England for the sale of Southdown sheep, will be the scene of another dispersal by auction on Wednesday, August 9, for on that date Messrs. Stride and Son will hold their great annual show and sale of about 400 Southdown shearling rams and ram lambs both shearlings and lambs being from leading breeders, and also over 5,500 Southdown ewes of all ages from a large number of the leading registered flocks. Catalogues, etc., can be had on application to the Auctioneers, 63, East Street, Chichester.

Leighton Buzzard and Linslade Foal Show will be held at Leighton Buzzard on September 26, the entries closing September 12, or post entries at double fees on September 19. Prize schedules, etc., can be had of Messrs. Walter C. Prudames and W. G. W. Willis, secretaries, North Street, Leighton Buzzard.

August 13 is the date of this year's show of the Scalby and Newby Agricultural, Floral, and Horticultural Society, and a sum of £300 is offered in prizes for horses, cattle, pigs, leaping, driving, Yeomanry class, plants, flowers, etc. The entries close on August 10 with the secretaries, Messrs. T. Flinton and J. Tickle, Scalby, R.S.O.

The South Devon Flock-book Association announces that the annual sales of registered South Devon rams will take place this year as follows: At Totnes, Devon, on Monday, July 31 (ewes will be included in this sale); at Liskeard, Cornwall, on Monday, August 14; and at Truro, Cornwall, on Wednesday, September 6. Special attention is called to these sales, at which a large supply of typical rams, from all the principal flocks of the breed, will be offered for sale. Full pedigrees, etc., of these sheep, and particulars of conditions of entry, for flocks or sheep, in the Flock Book, can be obtained of the secretary, Mr. W. W. Chapman, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, London, W.C.

Entries for the new volume of the Hackney Stud Book close on August 1. Applications for forms should be made to the Secretary, Hackney Horse Society, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., stating the number required, and whether for colts or fillies.

At a meeting of the council of the Essex Agricultural Society, held in London on Monday, the Secretary, Mr. F. Taylor, presented the financial statement of this year's show at Southend, and I am glad to say the balance, as I anticipated, comes out on the right side, the net profit on the show being £313 1s. 4d. The total receipts exceeded the previous year by £110, £3,554 10s. 3d. against £3,442 5s., there being a large increase at the gate and in the entry fees. The latter amounted to £543, against £433 at Chelmsford last year. The Society had, however, to pay various items, such as hire of the ground, police charges, etc., which had never been incurred before, these items having hitherto been paid by the local committee. As a result of this satisfactory show the Society's balance in hand now stands at £496 15s. 4d. as against £183 14s. at the beginning of the year. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Southend for the admirable way in which they conducted everything. The field trials were a new but undoubtedly popular feature, and it has been decided to appoint a committee to consider whether or not the feature should be a permanent one.

I hear that Mr. George Cran, Morlich, Aberdeenshire, has sold his four-year-old Aberdeen-Angus bull Jeshurun to Sir George Macpherson Grant, Bart., of Ballindalloch, at the price of 300 guineas. This beautiful bull, which was bred at Ballindalloch, won the second prize at this year's Royal Show, and was one of a group which won for Mr. Cran the president's prize at the Royal Northern show at Aberdeen recently.

On Friday next, August 4, an important sale of Southdown sheep will take place at Bear Wood, Wokingham, for Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. are to bring under the hammer close on eighty animals from Colonel A. F. Walter's famous flock. The flock is kept in natural breeding condition on high-lying land very healthy for sheep, and the wool has usually obtained the highest price made in the neighbourhood. The sale includes the champion ram at the Gloucestershire Show at Cheltenham this year, whilst there are a number of very good shearlings as well as lambs for sale, among their sires being Bear Wood 42, winner of second prize at the R.A.S.E. Show at Park Royal, 1903; Bear Wood No. 7, a winner at the B.W.S., the Sussex, and Tunbridge Wells Shows, and other prize rams.

Polled Cattle Society.

The annual meeting of the Polled Cattle Society was held in the showyard of the Royal Northern Agricultural Society at Aberdeen. Mr. Garden A. Duff, of Hatton, the president of the society, occupied the chair, and moved the adoption of the report, which showed that the membership and finances were in a very satisfactory condition.

Mr. Bridges, of Ewell Court, Epsom, Surrey, was elected president of the society for the ensuing year. Mr. Smith, Burnshangie, was re-elected vice-president, and Mr. Dingwall Fordyce was appointed a vice-president.

Sale of a Lincolnshire Estate.—At Boston on Wednesday, Messrs. Escritt and Barrell, of Grantham, offered a freehold estate known as the Abbey Parks Farm, Great Hale Fen, Lincolnshire, consisting of about 563r. 0r. 19p. of arable, pasture, and meadow land, with the mansion known as Park House, two farmhouses, seven cottages, and extensive farm buildings. Lot 1 comprised the mansion, entrance lodge, farmhouse, four cottages, plantation, and pasture, arable, and meadow land, the whole covering an area of 488a. 0r. 25p. Bidding commenced at £12,000, and when it had advanced to £18,000, it was knocked down to Mr. A. J. Sole, of Peterborough. Lot 2 consisted of a farm house, farm buildings, and pasture, and arable land, standing upon an area of 74a. 3r. 34p., and the lot is subject to an annual rent charge of £50 in favour of the Vicar of Heckington. Mr. W. Marris, of Boston, became the purchaser, for £2,125.

The Royal Lancashire Show at Liverpool.

Each succeeding year of this popular Society brings with it new features, either in a large addition to its membership role, or the increased total of its entries, and judging by the accompanying tabulated statement of entries the forthcoming show at Liverpool, on August 3, 4, 5, and 7, seems likely to eclipse all previous attainments. For reference the entries for the previous visit to Liverpool are included:—

	Liverpool, 1905.	Liverpool 1899.
Farms	—	12
Cattle	342*	229
Light Horses	404	319
Shires, &c.	91	156
Sheep	90	172
Pigs	186*	70
Goats	—	25
Cheese	78	108
Butter and Dairy	159	135
Dogs	1,105*	205
Poultry	1,232*	850
Pigeons	469*	293
Honey	140*	105
Eggs	26	46
Horse Shoeing	—	59
Local (one day) Exhibits	189	—
		2,784
Implement Stands	301	309
Total	4,810*	3,093

* Represents Record.

The previous grand total record was 4,072.

A gratifying feature is the records established in the principal sections, which will embrace the finest exhibits in the United Kingdom; whilst in the minor sections, especially poultry and pigeons, Mr. Bohane's new judging combination has had the effect of increasing the entries very materially, and is a striking answer to the many criticisms levelled against it by some interested.

The great display of implements and machinery in motion will be unequalled in the Society's long history, the whole of the principal engineering firms being represented, and this section alone will occupy no less than 6,948 lineal feet of shedding.

The harness, driving, and leaping competitions are exceptionally strong, and the push ball matches (football on horseback) arranged for daily by teams from the Royal Horse Artillery will be a distinct feature. Five aside teams—the horses playing the ball a mammoth leather football five feet in diameter—the animals entering into the spirit and excitement of the game equalled only by their riders.

The full band of the Royal Marines, under the directorship of Lieutenant Miller, will provide the musical programme on the first three days of the show, and the Liverpool City Police band on the Bank Holiday.

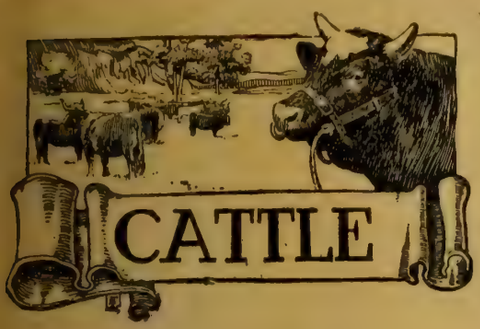
The showyard is an ideal one, covering 44 acres, level, with an excellent sandy subsoil, ensuring an absolutely dry ground; within easy access of all parts of the city and railway stations. Electric cars will run to entrance gates every minute.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 22, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	127	62	302	235	2,278	4,197
								4,755
								4,771
	Outbreaks.	No.	29	15	27	48	492	875
								960
								1,091
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	3	...	3	...	647	1,058
								1,163
								1,196
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								11
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	41	59	50	41	1,194	1,578
								1,378
								1,159
	Outbreaks.	No.	26	23	44	23	647	802
								890
								641
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								130
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	15	25	18	...	528	876
								725
								672
	Outbreaks.	No.	12	15	13	...	575	575
								476
								411
Period.				Week ended July 22, 1905	Corresponding week in	1904 / 1903 / 1902	Total for 29 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in	1904 / 1903 / 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.



Notes and Jottings.

At the time of writing, the intensely hot weather of the past fortnight appears to be giving place to more temperate heat. The thunder and rain storms that have been rather severe in some districts, appear to have cleared the air and made matters much more comfortable for both man and beast, and have in a very few hours made a great change in the aspect of the pastures and roots. Swedes were turning blue in many places very rapidly, but it is not yet too late for these to revive and for white turnips to make a good crop. The earth is just now in quite a hot-bed state, vegetation, with a little more rain, will be very rapid. In districts where cutting of corn has commenced the shocks are standing thickly, so that, altogether, there are yet hopes of a fair amount of feed and winter necessaries for our cattle.

During the past week interest appears to have been awakened in some of our breeds of cattle of which but little has been heard of late. Those good and profitable dairy cattle of North Britain, the Ayrshires, have been in request for export to a greater extent than usual, 116 animals of this breed having been shipped in one consignment to Finland, this being the largest shipment of this breed that has ever left Scotland. Japan, too, appears to be at last waking up to stock-breeding, as we hear that a committee from that country have recently visited Ottawa for the purpose of selecting cattle for experiments, and have purchased a number of Ayrshires and Jerseys for dairy purposes. The climate of Japan, at least, should suit these cattle. We know but little as to the soil.

When cattle of any breed are being taken to an entirely new country, the matter of attention is one of the most important elements in their success or failure. In a country like Japan the feeling of friendship is very strong, and this will influence very much the amount of care and thought that will be bestowed upon these English and Scottish breeds of cattle. The man has as much to do with the matter as the cows have. Good cows treated unkindly in the way of looking after and milking, will quickly become bad ones if subjected to harsh and careless treatment; whereas, on the other hand, where they are looked upon as friends and pets, tended with care and kindness, they thrive and feed, and quickly show their gratitude by giving a plentiful supply of rich and wholesome milk.

We often see this sort of thing in our home herds. When visiting strange places, a rough and hasty herdsman opens the shed doors to you, and the cattle all jump up and endeavour to face you as though wondering what is going to happen to them, you may rest assured there is little milk and little profit either in growth or flesh; whilst, in direct contrast to this, you go to another farm, a quiet and faithful herdsman introduces you into the byres, and the cattle lie there chewing the cud of contentment in the most trusty and familiar manner, and, though you are a stranger, it is only by force (lightly applied, of course) that you can get them to rise and show themselves. These are the sheds and conditions under which profit is made.

The old Longhorn breed of cattle, too, has attracted a share of attention during the past week in the Midlands, a sale of some thirty of this breed having taken place by Messrs. Lythall and Walters, of Birmingham, from Mr. W. H. Sales's famous herd at Atherstone. There were a number of strange purchasers present, and new herds seem likely to be founded as a result of this sale. Sensational prices were an absent element in the features of the sale, the highest price being 35½ gs. for a young cow and her five-days-old heifer calf; the average for Mr. Sales's cows working out at £25 10s., and heifer calves ran from 13 gs. to 22 gs. each. Bulls were in demand chiefly for crossing purposes, but this sex was represented by one or two aged ones and several very young ones. The highest price was 28 gs.

The influence of dry weather upon our milk supply is very marvellous. There appears to be very great difficulty always has been in maintaining a full supply of milk and butter during hot and dry weather, and it is quite certain from experence that the weather has a very telling effect upon the quantity of butter fat in the milk. Upon the same pastures, and from the same cattle, we have known an increase of as much as over 2 lb. of butter per head over a large herd to take place in the month of June from one week to another. The only question that could possibly account for this great difference being the weather. After rain the cattle rest quieter, flies are less troublesome, and a greater amount of succulent grass springs up. Peace in the sheds and yards, and succulent feed, must be factors in this increase.

During the spring and early summer sales of North Devon cattle, a much more active demand than usual was experienced for all the best specimens, and we read that recently at a dinner given in the West in honour of some visitors to England from Uruguay and Argentina, a very interesting, and, to breeders, very satisfactory account, was given of the progress of "these juicy red plums of the Devonshire line," on the River Plate, and this good account extended both to their dairy properties as well as to their beef productiveness. A great many excellent native cattle appear to be graded up in these countries from the imported Devons. We have always spoken very highly of the many good properties of this beautiful breed of cattle, particularly as regards the main thing, "rent paying."

The recent sale of the Hengherst herd of Sussex cattle must have presented a sort of silver lining to the clouds that have been hanging over breeders of this very useful and profitable breed of beef cattle. At several sales during the past two or three years some very low averages and individual prices have ruled. At Hengherst, though figures were not sensational, they were fairly substantial indeed, so much so as to show that a profit may be obtained by good breeding and management; 42 guineas, 53 guineas, 45 guineas, 39 guineas, and 36 guineas were some of the prices given, and Mr. Schicker must have read with satisfaction the average of over £25 for the entire herd. The Sussex is a very massive and heavily-fleshed beast, easily fattened, and yields to but few, if any, in the way of early maturity.

Though there appears to have been a great deal of talk and fuss about dairy cattle and our milk supply for some long time past, and still continues, yet we all must admit that in the way of money making the beef breeds and the beef strains of blood in the dual purpose herds have had the best of it as regards prices. This may be due to the bare fact that you may obtain milk, as least in moderation, from the beefiest cattle, and its quality is always good; but, on the other side, we question if it is not well nigh impossible to obtain beef at a profit, or any quantity of it at any price from the milking breeds only. Then it is not every farmer that cares, or is adapted to dabble in the milk pails year in and year out.

Herefords continue to meet a strong demand for export, and at very fair, and, in some instances very high, prices. America and the Argentine have always been customers for the white faces in great numbers, and Australia and New Zealand also, as well as one or two of the smaller islands of the sea; latterly also the continent of Europe appears to be looking the breed up, and several inquiries have been noted from that source. Four heifers and a young bull have recently been exported to Spain from Mr. Turner's well known herd at the Leen. A very important day among the white faces will be October 3 next, when the renowned herd from Downton Castle, the property of Mr. Thomas Fenn, will be dispersed. There is a deep infusion of the best strains of blood here.

These are days of intense education in the lower and middle classes, especially whilst in the upper classes there appears to be quite an inclination to treat higher education especially rather coolly. The reason for this may probably be found to a certain extent in the fact that a great many sons of the upper classes are finding that, with even a modicum of education, they can spend a happy life, if not a lucrative one, on the land. There are many of this class nowadays taking, what may be called, "gentlemen's helps" or "farmer's helps" places and very useful they prove, not only to themselves, but to the country. When a man is destined to be a man he will find the way, whatever his education may have been.

A few paragraphs of a biographical character, referring to that well-known and clever live-stock auctioneer in America, Colonel Judy, who is now hearty and comparatively young, and well to do at 83 years of age, are very interesting. One paragraph tells us that he was the son of an industrious farmer, who believed in putting his boys to work as soon as their age would warrant it. Experience has well atoned for education in the life of this fine man; and we are bound to ask the question, Would he have made one iota a better citizen or become a happier or wealthier man had he been given a university education? Not a bit. And what about the sons of the lower classes? Would not thousands of them become better and happier men, with a little less of the Board school droning and a good deal more country life, amongst our magnificent and interesting herds of cattle?

Sale of Mr. F. J. Steward's Shorthorns.

About sixty head of Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. F. J. Steward were sold by auction on Wednesday, at Whitehall Farm, Brigstock, Northamptonshire, by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. Established some ten years ago, the stock bred by Mr. Steward has been most successful, and at the Birmingham show and sale last year, eight bulls from this herd made over £90 each, one of them making 410 gs. At the sale last week there was a capital lot of large-framed cows (many of them with their calves running with them). Mr. J. T. Hobbs purchased a couple of the best of them to go to Maiseyhampton, viz., Brigstock Careless, winner of first prize as one of a pair at the Duke of Buccleuch's estate show last year, at 100 gs.; and Carnation 2nd, the winner of a couple of second prizes at the Northampton and Peterborough shows this season. Several were also bought for Argentina. The fifty-eight cows and calves averaged

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
July			
31	South Devon Sheep ..	Various	Totnes, Devon.
31	Suffolk Horses	Various	Ipswich.
August			
1	Oxford Down Shearling Rams	Mr. J. T. Hobbs	Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Glos.
1	Hampshire Down Sheep..	Mr. R. L. Ovey	Ilsley Fair.
1	Hampshire Down Sheep .	Sir W. G. Pearce	Ilsley Fair.
1	Hampshire Down Sheep .	Mr. A. C. Hall	Ilsley Fair.
1	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. G. L. Dean	Market House, Salisbury.
2	Suffolk Sheep	Various	Ipswich.
2	Suffolk Sheep	Major J. E. Platt	Ipswich.
2	Oxford Down Shearling Rams	Messrs. J. & S. Treadwell	Upper Winchendon, near Aylesbury, Bucks.
2	Hampshire Down Sheep ...	Mr. J. Dean -	Chitterne, Wilts.
2	Horses	Various	Derby Repository.
3	Southdown Sheep... ...	Mr. R. J. Colman... ...	Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.
3	Sheep	Various	Ashford.
3	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. G. Judd	Coeum Farm, near Winchester.
3	Hampshire Down Sheep...	Mr. Lambert	Cambridge.
4	Southdown Sheep	Col. A. F. Walter... ..	Bearwood, Wokingham.
4	Horses	Various	Peterborough Repository.
4	Hampshire Down Sheep ..	Mr. Cary Coles	The Manor Farm, Winterbourne, Stoke, Wilts.
4	Shropshire Sheep	Mr. T. S Minton	Montford, near Shrewsbury.

£29 8s. 6d., but there was little demand for the bulls. We give below a list of the principal lots, with purchasers' names, and prices :—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Hardbelle 8th, red and little white, Nov. 18, 1895; s. Rosedale Beau 64699.....Mr. J. C. Nichols	20
Her B.C., red roan, c. March 8, 1905; s. Barrington Boy 82825.....Mr. W. Hipwell	14½
Brilliant 5th, red and little white, c. March 17, 1896; s. Rosedale Beau 64699 .....Mr. G. McMillan	18
Her C.C., red, c. March 18, 1905; s. Barrington Boy 82825 .....Mr. Denton	12
Barrington Mavoress, red and white, c. July 2, 1896; s. Major 59419 .....Colonel Lawson	23
Zeal 82nd, red roan, c. March 18, 1898; s. King Hec 70707 .....Mr. W. Fowler	29
Clemency, red, c. October 19, 1898; s. Drayton Lad 70289 .....Mr. W. Savage	37
White Hall Lady, roan, c. Aug. 10, 1899; s. Ranbury Musician 73348 .....Mr. White	23
Her C.C., red and little white, c. Oct. 30, 1904; s. Weekly Hall 87675 .....Mr. White	10½
Wild Duchess of Worton 8th, red roan, c. Nov. 15, 1899; s. Victor 71775 .....Mr. Deans	66
Barrington Duchess 30th, red and little white, c. Nov. 19, 1899; s. Victor 68037 .....J. A. Preece	20
Her C.C., rich roan, c. Dec. 16, 1904; s. Kingscote Duke 16th 79163 .....Mr. R. R. Rothwell	16
Swinford, roan, c. April 21, 1900; s. Flying Colours 70458.....Mr. B. Measures	18
Carnation, red, c. Jan. 28, 1901; s. Cruickshank Bates 74326 .....Mr. C. H. B. Firth	30
Her C.C., red, c. May 29, 1905; s. Imperial Prince 81312 Mr. Rooke	8
Dame Garnet, roan, c. May 7, 1901; s. Lord Lambert 77078 .....Mr. J. H. Cameron	18
Her C.C., Dame Lass, red and white roan, c. Sept. 21, 1904; s. Raider 79683 .....Mr. F. S. Smith	8
Aldwinckle Cowslip, red, c. April 21, 1902; s. Sir John 79993 .....Mr. J. Cooper	19
Her C.C., red, c. March 1, 1905; s. Barrington Boy 82825 .....W. Hipwell	14½
Waterloo Duchess 4th, red and little white, c. April 23, 1902; s. Rearguard 77572 ....Sir O. Mosley	34
Her twin C.C., Brigstock Waterloo Duchess, red, c. Dec. 24, 1904; s. Lydney Masterpiece 83998 Mr. E. G. Preece	10
Her twin B.C., Brigstock Masterpiece, red, c. Dec. 24, 1904; s. Lydney Masterpiece 83998 Mr. W. Hipwell	10½
Duchess of Barrington 81st, red, c. May 14, 1902; s. Double Barrington 78715....Mr. D'Arcy Taylor	56
Her C.C., roan, c. May 20, 1905; s. Raider 79683 Mr. D'Arcy Taylor	13
Brigstock Countess, red, c. July 8, 1902; s. General Buller 76747 .....Rev. R. R. Rokeby	34
Her B.C., red, calved June 15, 1905; s. Imperial Prince 81312 .....Mr. Heale	10
Cherry 3rd, roan, c. Nov. 22, 1902; s. General Buller 76747 .....Mr. Deane	45
Carnation 2nd, red, c. Jan. 6, 1903; s. General Buller 76747 .....Mr. J. T. Hobbs	75
Superba, roan, c. March 11, 1903; s. Manor Arbitrator 78414 .....Mr. Evens	31
Holywell Starless, red roan, c. March 21, 1903; s. Manor Sebaste 79350 .....Mr. J. T. Hobbs	43
Brigstock Lovely 3rd, red roan, c. April 25, 1903; s. Extraordinary 76640 .....Mr. Rowland Wood	42
Primrose 3rd, red roan, c. June 4, 1903; s. Extraordinary 76640.....Mr. W. Savage	57
Wee Lady 3rd, red and little white, c. Aug. 16, 1903; s. Offley Baron 86754.....Mr. E. G. Preece	25
Brigstock Careless, rich roan, c. September 2, 1903; s. Extraordinary 76640.....Mr. J. T. Hobbs	100
Ruthina, roan, c. Sept. 24, 1903; s. Sebastopol Yet 84733 .....Mr. C. H. B. Firth	37
Stroxton Jane 3rd, red, c. Oct. 13, 1903; s. Royal Windsor 77767 .....Mr. J. L. Stockton	19
Cherry 4th, red roan, c. October 19, 1903; s. General Buller 76747.....Mr. E. G. Preece	31
Blanche Duchess 13th, red and little white, c. Oct. 20, 1903; s. Duke of Cornwall 2nd 78737 Mr. C. H. B. Firth	30
Oxford Rosy, red roan, c. November 8, 1903; s. Raider 79683.....Mr. Rowland Wood	22
Lady Careless 3rd, red roan, c. Nov. 29, 1903; s. General Buller 76747 .....Mr. W. Hipswell	28
Forest Lady 2nd, roan, c. February 13, 1904; s. Bianca Beau .....Colonel Beach	27
Hampton Gazelle 4th, red roan, c. March 14, 1904; s. Bianca Beau .....Mr. W. Savage	53
White Hall Brilliant 2nd, roan, c. April 1, 1904; s. General Buller 76747 .....Mr. E. G. Preece	25
Brigstock Princess Mary, roan, c. July 10, 1904; s. Extraordinary 76640 .....Mr. W. Hipwell	34
Lady Carwin, roan, c. July 2, 1904; s. Carwin Lad 78544 .....Mr. A. Hiscock	40
Cowslip, red, c. Sept. 1, 1904; s. Rearguard 77572 Colonel Beach	25
Lady Crumpet 3rd, red, c. Sept. 3, 1904; s. Rearguard 77572 .....Mr. W. Savage	30
Cherry 5th, red and little white, c. Sept. 19, 1904; s. Rearguard 77572 .....Mr. E. G. Preece	20
Charming Lass, red, c. Feb. 28, 1905; s. Barrington Boy 82825 .....Mr. R. R. Rothwell	22

BULLS.

Fairy Duke 4th, red, c. June 20, 1904; s. Rearguard Captain Barclay	17
Brigstock Fairboy, red, c. Nov. 20, 1904; s. Weekly Hall 87675 .....Mr. Denton	19
Brigstock Baron, red and little white, c. Dec. 22, 1904; s. Barrington Boy 82825 .....Mr. Pike	15½

Sale of Devon Cattle, &c. at Whimple.

The sale of pure-bred Devon cattle, Shire and hunter horses, and fat cattle belonging to Mr. T. S. Morgan, at Whimple House, Whimple, on the 21st inst., attracted a very large company of breeders. Messrs. Risdon and Sons were the auctioneers, and they brought under the hammer a fine lot of stock, which met a fairly ready demand, except the horses, but at prices somewhat in favour of the buyers. The Devon cows and heifers made up to 31 guineas and the bulls up to 24 guineas, whilst the fat steers made £43 per pair, and fat heifers £36. The horses did not change hands.

Sale of Longhorns at Atherstone.

The greater part of Mr. W. H. Sale's herd of Longhorn cattle was sold by auction, at Arden Hill, Atherstone, on Thursday, by Messrs. Lythall and Walters. There was a good attendance of breeders, and the chief prices realised were 35 guineas, 30 guineas, 29 guineas, 28 guineas, 27 guineas, and 25 guineas. The principal buyers were Lord Gerard, Hon. E. A. Fitzroy, Captain C. Tollemache Scott, Mrs. Cheape, Messrs. S. H. B. Chamberlayne, R. T. Bowers, W. L. Riley, O. C. H. Riley, F. J. Mayo, H. H. Cave, H. W. F. Garland, G. H. Tanzer, W. Shaw, and J. Green.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

The great improvement which has been made in heavy horses all over the country recalls some circumstances connected with the early history of the two great breed societies which look after the interests of those breeds which are fairly entitled, from their numbers and position, to be called the principal breeds of agricultural horse of Great Britain. Some seventeen or eighteen years ago—I forget the exact date—there was a considerable agitation in some influential quarters to bring about an amalgamation, or what practically amounted to an amalgamation, between the Clydesdale and the Shire Horse Societies. It was urged that the Clydesdale and the Shire horse had practically the same origin, and that, whilst the English breed was undoubtedly descended from Flemish stallions which were imported so far back as the reign of King John, so the Scottish breed could certainly trace its descent from a Flemish stallion which was imported by the fifth Duke of Hamilton, who bred in the reign of Charles II.

Much was made of the common origin of the two breeds. Still more was made of the way in which, in pre-Stud Book days, the English heavy horse breeding counties Lincolnshire especially, were scoured by Scottish breeders for those big weighty mares which are the pride of the Midlands. Emphasis was laid upon the fact that many of the stallions in the early volume of the Clydesdale Stud Book were, undoubtedly, descended from English dams or granddams, and one scarcely ever found an advocate of the amalgamation who could not show a heavy horse in which he defied the critic to tell where the Shire ended and the Clydesdale began, and which he asserted roundly was a better and a more valuable animal either for working or breeding purposes than any pure Stud Book animal—an assertion which it was very difficult to disprove. In connection with this I well remember, at one of the Glasgow stallion shows, a conversation between a gentleman whom I will describe as a Clydesdale purist, and one who was a strong advocate for the change. The Clydesdale man's arguments were cogent and convincing from his own standpoint, and when he had finished his opponent said, "Yes, I grant you all that; but you are a man of sense and knowledge, and I ask you," pointing to three or four of the horses that had been kept in the short leet, "if those are not English heads"? And the Clydesdale man had to admit that they looked very like it.

It is a matter of history that nothing was done by either society to promote an amalgamation, and the result was the formation of what was called "The Select Clydesdale Society of Great Britain and Ireland" which published a few volumes. I never saw more than two of a Stud Book. The "Select Society" did not last long. A society within a society publishing a Stud Book within a Stud Book, so to speak, was on no substantial foundation, and its fate was practically certain when it did not obtain the support of either of the great societies whose good work it attempted to supplement.

Those of the younger generation who see the magnificent specimens of the cart horse which are brought into the show ring at the Shire horse show, the Glasgow stallion show, and other great shows throughout the country will scarcely credit how different the two breeds were only some twelve or fourteen years ago to what they are now. The Shire horse had plenty of bone and feather, but he was very subject to side bone, he had upright joints, and in every respect he was the inferior of the Clydesdale "on the ground." The Shire breeder, however, when tackled on these subjects, had a ready retort. He pointed out that the Clydesdale was losing size, that his back was by no means what it should be, that he wanted a rib, and that though undoubtedly a horse was not of much good unless he had good legs and feet that would wear on the stones, he was useless for town work unless he had some weight to put into the collar. These are in their way unanswerable arguments, and the fact that the crossbred cart horse, if I may be allowed to use the term, possessed both the good feet and legs of the Clydesdale and the weight of the Shire was much dwelt upon, but to no effect.

It is interesting to note how the two breeds have changed, each working on its own lines. Some months ago I called attention to the great improvement which had been made in the Shire horse; how one no longer saw the fleshy legs, sidebones, and upright pasterns which prevailed in the early days of the Shire Horse Society, and it is needless to go fully into the subject again. But a word on the improvement which has been made in the Clydesdale seems apropos. I have been at several shows of late where the agricultural horses have been emphatically of the Clydesdale type—indeed, where they have been "Stud Book" Clydesdales, and I could not fail to be impressed with the fact, that whilst they had gained in size and power, they had not lost any of that beautiful quality of bone and joints which was their leading characteristic. At South Shields, on Wednesday last, there was a remarkably fine show of Clydesdales, and in mentioning one or two horses that I saw I must promise that I am selecting them at haphazard; I have no intention of giving anything approaching to a report of the classes.

Two grey colts, two-year-old stallions, shown by the Seaham Harbour Stud Co., which is founded on the stud which the Marquis of Londonderry owned for so many years, and which did so much for heavy horse-breeding in the county of Durham, seem to be a fair example of what I mean. They are half-brothers by Prince of Aires, and were first and second in their class. The winner, Pearl Diver, is a big upstanding colt, with weight and substance. He has a capital middle, his bone is big as well as of fine quality, and he combines the good points of both breeds. The same may be said of Gamecock, who was second, though he has not quite so much bone, and his bone is perhaps the least bit like the bone of the old Clydesdale in shape.

The facts that I have pointed out, viz., that the two breeds have, without cross breeding, developed valuable properties which were a quarter of a century ago looked upon as almost exclusively the property of the other, bears ample testimony to the industry, intelligence, and singleness of purpose which has actuated British cart horse breeders during the period we have been surveying, and they also prove that the policy of the Clydesdale and Shire Horse Societies in adhering to their original plan was a wise one. The lesson is one which may be taken to heart by other societies which are flirting with the policy of amalgamation.

How little was thought about sidebones in the early seventies, and indeed much later than that, by the rank and file of breeders, it is scarcely possible to realise nowadays. I remember selling a gelding for a very big figure to a veterinary surgeon. He looked him over, said "You well know he has a little side bone," and then bought him, saying he was sound enough, and it did not matter much.

His successor would not buy such a horse now at any figure. Another incident connected with sidebones occurs to my memory. A few years after the sale of the horse to which I have drawn attention I was judging agricultural horses at an important show, and the first class we had to judge was one for brood mares. We selected a big handsome mare as they walked round, and placed her at the head of the class. When we got the lot drawn up we began to run the rule over them. The mare we first selected had big side bones, and we sent her down. So had other two or three of the best looking mares in the class, and we had some trouble to please ourselves in placing the three for which there were prizes. As we left the ring I was pounced upon by an angry lady—she was very angry indeed who asked why we had not given her mare first prize, and she proceeded to expatiate on the many undoubted excellencies of her mare. I admitted these when I could get a word in, and added: "But then she had big sidebones." "Sidebones," said the lady in tones of the greatest contempt, what

are sidebones, I neved heard of sidebones." I meekly answered that I wished I never had—and I wish so still.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale at Perth.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., held a sale of work horses and mares, Clydesdale colts and fillies, carriage and riding horses, cobs and ponies, etc., at Perth on Monday, 247 of all classes being catalogued. There was a large attendance of buyers, and for the best class of carriage horses, and also work horses, a good selling demand was experienced, but secondary sorts were meeting a slow demand. Work horses, from four to seven years old, from £56 to £75, and from £35 to £48; seven years old and upwards, from £30 to £36, and from £17 to £26; colts and fillies to £35; carriage horses, from £34 to £55, and from £18 to £32; cobs to £35; ponies, from £8 to £17.

Sale of Dinarth Hall Stud Animals.

Messrs. John Jones and Sons' second biennial sale of high-class Hackney and Welsh polo brood mares, etc., was held at the Dinarth Hall Stud, North Wales, on Thursday. Messrs. Manley, of Crewe, being the auctioneers, and there was a large representative company of breeders present, whilst prices ruled high. The three-year-old filly, Lady Cahar, first and reserve championship winner at the Hackney Horse Society's Show in London, sold for 225 gs. to Mr. Boddy, Durham; whilst the handsome yearling colt by Julius Cahar, sold for 110 gs. to Mr. Hollingworth, of Oldham. For the noted prize-winner, Maid of Newton Mr. Lemmell bid 485 gs., which, however, did not reach the reserve; but Mr. Jones and he had a private consultation, when it was announced that the sale to Mr. Lemmell had been effected. Other good prices were realised, as the following list of the chief sales will show:—

Welsh Actress, bay mare, by Winnal George—Mr. Hollingworth, 45 gs. Welsh Music, bay mare, by Winnal George, and colt foal—Mr. Davies, 50 gs. Lady Jones, black mare, by Eiddwen Flyer—Mr. Booth, 31 gs. Londesborough Whitesocks, dark chestnut mare, by Sir Augustus—Mr. Chancellor, 76 gs. Buttington Jessie, bay mare, by Winnal George—Mr. Thompson, 60 gs. Gloomy, dark brown mare, by Winnal George—Mr. Pickering, 71 gs. Titmouse, black mare, by Ruby—Mr. Willis, 37 gs. Lady Cæsar, bay mare, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Boddy, 225 gs. Julia Gem, chestnut mare, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Underwood, 51 gs. Two-year-old filly, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Booth, 36 gs. Yearling filly, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Hollingworth, 36 gs. Why Not, two-year-old stallion, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Jones, 85 gs. Andrew, two-year-old stallion, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Evans, 46 gs. Yearling colt, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Hollingworth, 110 gs. Yearling colt, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. A. Morton, 64 gs. Two-year-old harness gelding, by Confidant—Mr. Bourne, 40 gs. King Orme, dark chestnut gelding, by Stortford Denmark—Mr. Hughes, 51 gs. Garon King, dark chestnut gelding, by Stortford Denmark—Mr. Willis, 50 gs. Garon Prince, dark chestnut gelding, by Stortford Denmark—Mr. McNaughtan—53 gs. Newry, chestnut gelding, by Julius Cæsar II.—Mr. Willis, 33 gs. Maid of Newton, chestnut mare, by Langton—Mr. Gemmell, 485 gs. Welsh Princess, black mare, by Honesty—Mr. Hollingworth, 110 gs. Combination, chestnut gelding—Mr. Forbes, 45 gs. Sian Llwyd, dark chestnut mare—Mr. Crowe, 46 gs. Gentle Jane, chestnut mare—Mr. Miller, 41 gs. Etto, dark chestnut mare, Mr. Grey, 32 gs. Sweet Jenny, bay mare—Mr. Pascoe 31 gs. Elin, bay mare—Mr. Forbes, 35 gs. Rhys, dark dun gelding—Mr Pascoe, 30 gs.

The Small Holding Committee.

The Departmental Committee appointed by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to inquire into the subject of small holdings, held a meeting on the 27th inst.

The following members were present:—The Right Hon. the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G.; the Right Hon. Jesse Collings, M.P.; Major P. G. Craigie, C.B.; Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P.; Mr. James Long; Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P.,; and the Secretary (Mr. T. H. Sutton).

Evidence was given by Mr. Jesse Marlow, Secretary of the Desborough Co-operative Society, and Mr. W. Gutteridge, Secretary of the Rushden (Northants) Allotments and Small Holdings Association.

The approaching Bank Holiday is undoubtedly the time when the greatest exodus takes place from London, and to meet the many requirements of holidaymakers, both for the forthcoming holiday and the remainder of the season, the Midland Company's programme of Bank Holiday excursions gives the fullest particulars of their arrangements. The pamphlet can be obtained, together with tickets (which can be dated in advance, to suit the convenience of passengers) from any of the Midland Company's stations and booking offices, or from any office of Thomas Cook and Son.

Notes and Jottings.

The increased price of wool has been on all hands a great benefit to the sheep breeder. Probably the breeders of the long wool varieties of sheep have felt the benefit of the rise more than the short wooled breeders. At least this would appear to be the case in respect to the export demand for stud sheep. The records of the sales of Lincoln rams by private treaty has been quite exceptional. This excellent demand has resulted in quite a large number being purchased at very high prices. In addition to the sales previously reported, we understand that Messrs. Poels and Brewster have secured a first-class lot of fifty yearling rams from Mr. Harry Dudding's flock at Riby.

The demand for the Kent and Romney Marsh sheep has been far more keen than in recent years. In fact, we are informed by the secretary of that society that a larger number of this breed have been already exported this season than in any previous year since the society was established in 1902. Amongst those to whom export certificates have been issued during the past month are Mr. Charles File, of Elham, who has despatched to the Argentine six ewes born in 1904 and five yearling rams; the Earl of Verulam, who has sent to the same country five ewe lambs, including the winning pen at the Royal Show, and four yearling rams; and Mr. A. Amos has just sold to Mr. T. Goodchild, for export to the Argentine, a specially good lot of the yearling rams.

The last-named breeder has also sold for export to Australia three specially-selected yearling ewes, and two yearling rams which are being sent out to Victoria.

One of the best sales of Southdown wool we have noticed this season is that of Mr. Ellis, of Summersbury, Shalford, Guildford, who has sold the whole of his clip of Southdown wool in the grease at the very excellent price of 1s. per lb. Higher prices have been made of washed wool, but this is, we believe, the highest we recorded for a whole clip of unwashed wool.

Amongst the Hampshire Down flocks we find Mr. H. C. Stephens, at Cholderton, has come very much to the front during the past season. This flock has for several years been working its way to the fore, and the result of the past showyard season shows very clearly that the sure foundation that has been laid, coupled with the judicious purchases made, are bearing good fruit, another flock bids fair to take a very leading position amongst others of its breed. Several important lots of lambs, yearlings, and other sheep have been recently despatched to the Argentine.

Another flock of Hampshire Down sheep which has given strong indication of future excellence is that owned by Mr. F. A. Holman, of North Litchfield, Hants. At the Wiltshire County Show a very nice and typical pen of lambs were exhibited; and again at the Salisbury Fair its two entries in the single ram lamb class were both in the award list—one h.c. and the other c.—and then at Overton Fair several of the leading awards were secured.

The first-prize pen of wether lambs from this flock were a grand pen of one hundred head, and they were sold at the excellent price of 54s. 6d. per head. This price is one that few, if any, other breeds or breeders could equal for so large a number of lambs at this season of the year, and is one that brings out in a very distinct degree the high merit and early development of the Hampshire Down Sheep.

A valuable addition has just been made to the Cholderton Hampshire Down flock by the purchase of 300 ewes from Mr. W. G. Young's noted flock at Stratford-Sub-Castle. This selection comprises of the best 100 ewes of the three flock ages, 2 tooth, 4 tooth, and 6 tooth ewes. Mr. Young has, we understand, decided to retire from ram breeding, and can therefore spare these specially fine and well-bred ewes.

At the Chichester sale last week it was quite a striking feature to find how much more eagerly the fat rams were competed for than those in ordinary field condition. This is always the case, and yet breeders on all hands acknowledge that better results accrue when rams are in good store condition.

Of course, every flockmaster is entitled to the credit of being able to know that which best suits his own requirements, but it is very singular to note that whenever there is a sale the rule is generally to find all the fattest rams to sell most readily; and yet take almost any of these breeders by themselves, and ask them the question: Which is the best to use, the fed up ram or the store ram in ordinary condition? and the reply will be, in ninety-nine cases out of the hundred, the latter one is.

Special attention is called to this fact now, because the sale season is the proper time to direct attention to such points of interest in flock management. It would, of course, be of value and interest if statistics were carefully compiled showing the results that accrued from the service of the two classes of rams amongst ordinary flocks.

Another matter that is worth thinking of at this season is whether or not the custom of turning out three or four rams, as the case may be, altogether with the flock (the number, of course, varying to its size) is the correct one. The writer's experience is that it is not so. A very successful system is for the rams to be kept shut up alone in separate pens during the daytime and well fed, and only turned with the ewes at night.

Some shepherds object to this system on the ground of the trouble it involves, but this is a matter of no real consequence, because in actual practice it is but little, if any, extra labour. Close observation has time after time convinced me that for all flocks in which hand-riding is not practised this is by far the better plan to adopt. The ram is well rested, and keeps its vigour and strength far better than when he has to take its chance with the ewe flock entirely.

The earlier Hampshire Down ram sales have been quite satisfactory. Mr. T. F. Buxton has not quite equalled his high letting price of 1904, but with one making over the century for six weeks' hire, it is evident that there was keen competition for these well-bred and typical ram lambs. Lord Rothschild's sale was also a very good one.

Vegetable Matter in Wool.

At a meeting of the Bradford Chamber of Commerce last week a circular was approved drawing attention to vegetable matter in wool, and asking all British Chambers of Agriculture to take up the subject. It is recognised that these extraneous matters only get into the wool through inadvertence—for instance shearing the sheep and winding the fleeces in places where particles of grass, straw, etc., are littered about, and tying up the fleeces with loosely twisted string known as "binder twine."

These faults, the Bradford Chamber states, may appear trivial to wool-growers, but they are very serious matters indeed to consumers of the wool, as vegetable fibres will not take the dyes used for animal fibres. An appeal was also approved to Colonial Chambers of Commerce mentioning similar grievances, and complaining of the hemp or jute material used in bagging wool.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Chiddingly.

The glories of the Bat and Ball Fair, Chiddingly, seem on the wane, for at that held on Monday there was a poor entry of lambs, and only a few cattle. Against the 16,000 or 17,000 lambs of a few years back, only some 3,000 were penned, and trade was dull. The prices for lambs varied from 35s. downwards; 32s., 31s. 6d., 30s., 29s., 28s., and even 27s. being prices at which lots of 100 to 15 or 20 lambs changed hands. Wether lambs fetched 30s. 6d. to 32s.; mixed culls 26s. to 28s.; tegs 2 gs. to 46s. 6d. Mr. Paul, of Ninfield, offered some fine ram lambs, and these went at £10 apiece. Store beasts brought from £7 10s. (yearlings) to £15—£13 being a popular price.

Kesgrave.

Kesgrave lamb sale was held on Friday, the auctioneers being Messrs. Spurling and Sons, of Ipswich. Additional interest attached to the event from the fact that just fifty years have passed since the late Mr. William Biddell held the first public auction, and every year since 1895, pens have been pitched on land opposite the Bell

Inn, the consignments numbering thousands each year. The sale of Friday was one of the largest witnessed for a long time, the consignors including the names of gentlemen occupying farms from which lambs have been sent from time to time during the whole period of fifty years. On no previous occasion perhaps was there a better collection of lambs; there was a good attendance, and the high prices which have ruled elsewhere this season were well maintained.

The first Suffolk lambs to come into the ring were 100 belonging to Mr. Clement C. Smith, Trimley, the first two lots of twenty Suffolk ewe lambs making 45s. and 42s. respectively, the average of the consignment being 37s. Mr. N. Everett, Rushmere, sent 320 Suffolk and first-class lambs; the first lot of twenty of which fetched 48s. 6d., and the whole consignment made the satisfactory average of 37s. 6d. Mr. R. J. Dawson, Kirkton Hall, sent about 300 lambs realising 57s. and 49s., 125 ewe lambs making the good average of 46s., and whole flock just over 41s. Mr. S. R. Sherwood, Playford, had seventy ewe lambs, two lots fetching 55s. 6d. and 52s., the seventy averaging 49s. The 250 Suffolk ewe and wether lambs, belonging to Mr. B. S. King, also sold well; 100 ewes averaging 38s. Mr. E. G. Pretyman, M.P., sent 325 Suffolk lambs and ewes from the Kesgrave Hall farm, the first two lots of forty ewe lambs going at 41s. 6d. and 40s. 6d.; 160 ewe lambs averaging 36s. 3d. and 146 wethers 34s.; top price 37s. 6d. The same gentleman had an entry of 358 wether lambs and ewes from the Brightwell Hall farm, 300 wethers averaging 32s. Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall had 100 ewe lambs, which averaged 43s. 3d.; top price 51s. There were numerous other consignments which went at prices similar to the above.

Saxmundham.

Messrs. Flick and Son's thirty-eighth annual lamb sale at Saxmundham took place on the 21st inst, when upwards of 8,400 lambs and ewes were penned, the catalogue embracing 4,561 Suffolk lambs, chiefly from registered flocks, and 3,122 first-cross and half-bred lambs. There was a crowded company of buyers, representative of all parts of East Anglia, and in these circumstances the bidding ought, perhaps, to have been a little more spirited. Trade, however, unquestionably showed an improvement upon last year, and, generally speaking, the growers had very little reason to grumble. Prior to the sale, a wine luncheon was served in a marquee upon the ground, at which the chair was occupied by Mr. Robert Flick, and the usual mutual compliments cordially exchanged. One of the most successful consignors was Mr. W. H. Borrett, of Leiston Hall, who achieved the coveted distinction of making the top price of the sale—48s. 6d. apiece for a score of Suffolk ewe lambs (ear-marked). Other prices were on similar lines to those ruling at recent East Anglian sheep sales.

Tring Park Hampshires.

The annual sale of ram lambs, ewes, and ewe lambs from Lord Rothschild's Tring Park farms, took place at the Home Farm, Mr. F. J. Brown (of the firm of W. Brown and Co.) being the auctioneer, and, as usual, there was a large and representative gathering of those interested in the Hampshire breed, especially from the Northampton district. In opening the sale the auctioneer reviewed the sheep trade of the previous year, and gave his reasons for thinking the season just opening a most hopeful one for sheep farmers, both as regards fleece and mutton.

Fifty-four ram lambs were offered for sale, and six for hire for six weeks. The first ram was let to Mr. J. G. Williams, of Pendley, for 51 gs., and another let for 21 gs. The top selling price was 25 gs. for a lamb by Dogdean, the purchaser being Mr. Hamborough. Others realised 18, 17, and 16 gs., the average being over 11 gs. a head. The purchasers included the Marquis of Winchester, Lord Salisbury, Mr. A. de Rothschild, Mr. Scott-Murray, and Mr. Sheppard Cross. Twelve lots of five two-tooth ewes, belonging to the Hon. C. N. Rothschild, of Ashton Wold, Oundle, sold at from 56s. to 58s. Draft ewes belonging to Lord Rothschild made from 50s. to 56s. 6d., and ewe lambs from 40s. 6d. to 47s.

Mr. T. F. Buxton's Hampshire Downs.

A large company gathered at Waters Place on Monday for the annual sale and letting of sheep from Mr. T. F. Buxton's famous Hampshire Down flock, beautiful weather favouring the occasion. Mr. Buxton, in giving the only toast of the afternoon ("The King") said he was pleased to see so many persons present that day, which showed that they were glad to see the Waters Place sheep. It was wonderful how many years that flock of Hampshire Down sheep had kept up its quality, and they ought to express a word of appreciation to Mr. Hurford, under whose superintendence it had gone on. (Hear, hear.) The auctioneer again had a very good lot of sheep to put before them, even though the successes the flock had won during the year had not been quite up to those of the previous two or three years, for it could not always maintain quite the same standard. All he could say was that they hoped for a return of the same success next year

Mr. Rawlence was the auctioneer, and he commenced the sale with the letting of six ram lambs. The first one was secured by Mr. Drake, of Salisbury for six weeks for 104 gs. This was the top price, compared with 180 gs. last year. Another lamb was hired by Lord Rothschild for 40 gs., and a third for 20 gs. by Mr. Holman, of Whitchurch. The others went for 10, 11, and 15 gs. Among the ram lambs sold, the highest price—37 gs.—was paid by the Hon. Duncan Bouverie, of Coles Hill, Berks. Last year's highest price was 50 gs. Ewes fetched prices up to 68s. a head.

Mr. W. M. Harris' Hampshires.

Messrs. James Harris and Son, of Winchester, offered for sale on Wednesday afternoon, at Basingstoke, seventy ram lambs from the well-known Long Sutton Hampshire Down flock of Mr. W. M. Harris. There was a fair attendance of farmers and sheep breeders, and altogether forty-one lambs were let and sold, twenty-eight being withdrawn. The principal buyers were Mr. Carey Coles, 18 gs.; Mr. Flower, 14 gs.; Mr. Goldsmith, 14 gs.; Mr. A. Arnold, 13, 12, 11, 10, and 8 gs.; Mr. Bruce, 11, 10, and 9 gs. (twice); Mr. Meinertzhagen, 9 gs.; Mr. Harding, 8 gs. The average price of forty-one lambs let and sold reached £7 15s

Wool Fairs and Sales.

Berwick.

The first wool sale of the season at Berwick was held on the 22nd inst., and was well attended both by merchants and farmers. With the enhanced prices offered there was a disposition on the part of farmers to dispose of clips more readily than has been the case at the opening market for some years past, and consequently a good deal of business was done. Prices showed an average rise of 2s. per stone over last year's figures, when the advance was very marked from the previous year. The general rates prevailing were: All hogg, 25s. 6d. to 26s. per stone of 24 lb.; all ewe, 24s. per stone; half ewe to half hogg, 25s. per stone.

Bellingham.

This old-established wool fair for the sale of Cheviot and blackfaced wools was held on the 22nd inst., and was largely attended. Business, however, was very slow for the greater part of the day, farmers holding out in a confident manner for substantial increases on last year's prices, but in the end a considerable number of transactions took place at good advances from last year's quotations. Cheviot clips—hogg and ewe included—were dealt in at from 25s. to 26s. 6d. per stone, this showing an increase of from 4s. to 4s. 6d. when compared with last year, while an exceptional clip made a considerably higher price. There was not much business done in blackfaced clips, prices being about the same as last year, the general price being from 14s. to 14s. 6d. a stone—an advance of about 3d. per stone.

Brampton.

The second wool fair for hill clips at Brampton, Cumberland, was held on Wednesday, in fine weather, and there was a fair attendance of buyers. Blackfaced clips sold from 7½d. to 7¾d., unwashed 6¾d. to 7d. Cheviot ewe wool 11d. and 11½d. Other wools left over from last fair sold at a ½d. down in price.

Jedburgh.

At the Rink Wool Fair held at Jedburgh on Tuesday, the farming interest was very well represented, but buyers were not drawn from so wide a district as used to be the case. At the opening of the market business was slow, mainly because an agreement as to terms could not be arrived at; and in the end a few of the farmers were not satisfied with the prices offered, and left the market without selling. A fair number of clips were, however, disposed of. For half-bred, prices were slightly easier than they have been, but Cheviot was quite firm. On an average the price for half-bred ewe may be quoted at from 23s. 6d. to 24s. per stone; for one-quarter to one-third hogg, 24s.; while for Cheviot, which has shown a remarkable advance and has still a steady market, the price was about 26s.

Langholm.

This old-established Border fair for the sale of Cheviot wool was held on Wednesday. Trade was slow at the start, but eventually the usual amount was disposed of at excellent prices, the clips bringing from 23s. to 26s. per stone of 24 lb., a rise of 4s to 5s. During the past three years the price of Cheviot wool has more than doubled.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

New Council.

Below we give, as far as is possible, a complete list of the members of the new Council. For the divisions of Dorset, Essex, and South Wales no nomination has been received, and the vacancies in these divisions will, therefore, fall to be filled up by the new Council under By-Law 90.

Bedfordshire.—John Howard Howard, St. Mary's House, Bedford.
Berkshire.—George Adams, Royal Prize Farm, Faringdon.
Buckinghamshire.—Ernest Mathews, Little Shardeloes, Amersham.
Cambridgeshire.—C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambs.
Cheshire.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington.
Cumberland.—Joseph Harris, Brackenbrough Tower, Carlisle.
Derbyshire.—John T. C. Eadie, The Knowle, Hazelwood, Derby.
Devonshire.—Mr. John Henry Hine, Pomphlett Farm, Plymstock.
Durham.—Christopher Middleton, Vane Terrace, Darlington.
Gloucestershire.—Lieut.-Colonel J. F. Curtis-Hayward, Quedgeley House, Gloucester.
Hampshire.—The Earl of Northbrook, Stratton Park, Micheldever.
Herefordshire.—A. P. Turner, The Leen Pembridge.
Hertfordshire.—Richardson Carr, Estate Office, Tring.
Huntingdonshire.—John Rowell, Manor Farm, Bury, near Huntingdon.
Kent.—T. L. Aveling, Boley Hill House, Rochester; and F. S. W. Cornwallis, Linton Park, Maidstone.
Lancashire (two).—T. H. Miller, Singleton Park, Poulton-le-Fylde; and William Harrison, Hall House, Leigh.
Leicestershire.—J. P. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby.
Lincolnshire.—William Frankish, Bracebridge, Lincoln.
London (three).—John Thornton, 7, Princes' Street, Hanover Square, W.; Ralph Charlton Palmer, 9, Little Stanhope Street, Mayfair, W.; and William Arthur May, 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.
Middlesex (two).—Ernest W. Shackle, Redleaf, Hayes; and George Taylor, Cranford, Middlesex.
Monmouthshire.—Richard Stratton, The Duffryn, near Newport, Mon.
Norfolk.—Herbert Tallent, Westacre, Swaffham.
Northamptonshire.—Sir Charles V. Knightley, Bart., Fawsley, Daventry.
Northumberland.—George Gray Rea, Middleton, Wooler.
Nottinghamshire.—Claude M. S. Pilkington, Wollaton, Nottingham.
Oxfordshire.—Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.
Rutland.—S. N. Bankart Hallaton Hall, Uppingham.
Shropshire.—Thomas Stephen Minton, Montford, near Shrewsbury.
Somerset.—R. Neville Grenville, Butleigh Court, Glastonbury.
Staffordshire.—Mr. Richard Powell Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield.
Surrey.—The Earl of Onslow, K.C.M.G., Clandon Park, near Guildford.
Suffolk.—Alfred J. Smith, Rendlesham, Woodbridge.
Sussex (two).—Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Goodwood, Chichester; and Walter F. Ingram, 2, St. Andrews Place, Lewes.
Warwickshire.—Howard P. Ryland, Moxhull Park, Erdington, Birmingham.
Westmorland.—Mr. Christopher W. Wilson, Rigmaden Park, Kirkby Lonsdale.
Wiltshire.—Henry Herbert Smith, Bowood, Calne.
Worcester.—E. Vincent V. Wheeler, Newnham Court, Tenbury.
Yorkshire (East Riding).—Frederick Reynard, Sunderlandwick, Driffield.
Yorkshire (West Riding).—E. W. Stanyforth, Kirk Hammerton Hall, York.
Yorkshire (North Riding).—William Scoby, Hobground House, Sinnington, York.
Glamorganshire.—Robert Forrest, St. Fagan's, Cardiff.
North Wales.—R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc.
Scotland.—Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Montrave, Leven, Fife.
Ireland.—Richard George Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore, Tipperary.

The Contested Seats

A meeting was held, on Monday, the 24th, of the Sub Committee Sir John Thorold, Bart. (President), Lord Middleton, and Sir Nigel Kingscote appointed to supervise the arrangements for the election of the new Council of the Royal Agricultural Society, and to superintend the counting of the voting papers, with the assistance of the three auditors of the Society's accounts appointed by the members, who had been invited to act as scrutineers.

As a result of the voting, the following candidates received a majority of votes, and are, therefore, under By-law 85, "considered to be elected to be Ordinary Members of Council":—

Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, of Babraham Hall, Cambs. (Cambridgeshire).

Mr. John Henry Hine, of Pomphlett Farm, Plymstock (Devonshire).

Lieut.-Colonel J. F. Curtis-Hayward, of Quedgeley House, Gloucester (Gloucestershire).

Messrs. Thomas Horrocks Miller, of Singleton Park, Poulton-le-Fylde, and William Harrison, of Hall House, Leigh (Lancashire).

Messrs. John Thornton, of 7, Princes' Street, Hanover Square, W.; Ralph Charlton Palmer, of 9, Little Stanhope Street, Mayfair, W.; and William Arthur May, of 1, Essex Street, Strand, W.C. (London).

Mr. Robert W. Hobbs, of Kelmscott, Lechlade (Oxfordshire).

Mr. R. Neville Grenville, of Butleigh Court, Glastonbury (Somerset).

Mr. Richard Powell Cooper, of Shenstone Court, Lichfield (Staffordshire).

The Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., Clandon Park, near Guildford (Surrey).

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, of Goodwood, Chichester; and Mr. Walter F. Ingram, of 2, St. Andrews Place, Lewes (Sussex).

Mr. Christopher W. Wilson, of Rigmaden Park, Kirkby Lonsdale (Westmorland).

SHOWS

Tunbridge Wells.

The annual show of the Tunbridge Wells and South-Eastern Agricultural Society took place on Thursday and Friday last in their permanent showgound. A good entry had been obtained in the various sections, and the show was quite up to the average of previous exhibitions, while the attendance was, as far as we could judge, satisfactory.

Heavy Horses.

The horse section so far as it relates to the heavy horse classes was not so strong a feature of this show as we have sometimes seen it. However, although some of the classes were a bit below the average, it is satisfactory to report that there were some real good horses amongst the exhibits. Mr. Walpole Greenwell won with Marden Harold in the senior class for stallions, with Grimsargh Drayman from Mr. Saillard's as second, a pair of very serviceable horses. Mr. L. Salomons took first honours in the two-year-old class with an excellent colt Norbury Wizard, and in the yearling colt the same breeder was first with a real good one in Norbury Minstrel, second honours going to Mr. Walpole Greenwell for Marden Premier, a well bred weighty colt. The eleven entries in the mare and foal class included some very good ones. Sir E. Stern's winner Ladysmith II. was one of the right sort and moved well. The well known Tatton Tapestry from Mr. R. W. Hudson's stud came second, and then came that grand mare, Childwick Youno, as r.n., whose present owner is Mr. L. Salomons. The foal class that followed was a good one. Sir E. Stern won with Harrysmith, by Dunsmore Jameson; Mr. L. Salomons with a filly out of Childwick Youno, by Hurdle Champion; and Mr. R. W. Hudson r.n. with Danesfield Tapestry. The barren mare class had seven entries. Here Marden Fan, a typical Shire, won for Mr. T. Jones, with Mr. R. W. Hudson's Blythwood Laurel in close attendance, leaving the r.n. for Wern Blossom from Mr. L. Salomon's stud. A useful class of three-year-old fillies was headed by Marden Lily, from Mr. Walpole Greenwell; but Norbury Pearl, from Mr. L. Salomon ran very close as second, leaving the r.n. for Mr. F. Manwaring's Ninna. Mr. T. Simpson Jay won first honours in a capital class of two-year-olds with Johnson Fairy Queen, but Mr. L. Salomon's Norbury Duchess was a bit out of luck to have to take second honours here. Marden Pride came r.n. for Mr. W. Greenwell. Lord Hothfield's yearling filly, first in her class, has fine merit and excellent bone; Norbury Jewel, the second winner for Mr. Salomons, also a very promising one; and in Swaylands Princess, from Mr. G. Drummond's stud, the r.n. was found a rare good filly.

The five classes open for tenant farmers in Kent, Surrey, or Sussex seemed a very good average entry. The leading winners were Messrs. R. Burrow, D. Harris, F. Manwaring, and F. de B. Collard. Mr. L. Salomons won the special prize for best colt with any foal bred in Kent, Surrey, or Sussex with that fine filly by Hurdle Champion out of Childwick Youno; and Mr. P. D. Harris was r.n. with Sherndon Harold.

Sir E. Stern, with Ladysmith, won the Shire Society's gold medal, and Mr. R. W. Hudson was r.n. for the same with Tatton Tapestry.

Hunters.

This section was a good one. The entries were fully up to the average, and quite a number of first class horses were found in the several classes which numbered eight. Sir M. R. Burrell's Speculation, first in a real good brood mare class won the Hunter Society's gold medal; followed by Homely Lass, from Mr. C. Kelway Bamber; whilst Gold Leaf and Glowworm, third and fourth winners, owned by Messrs. E. W. Robinson and J. A. Mullins, another pair of first class mares were found. The foal class had nine entries, a choice lot, particularly the winner, Mr. J. A. Mullin's Radium. In the riding classes Tennis Ball won first for Mr. H. M. Mackusick: and amongst the other winners were Draco, from Mr. J. P. Honning. The three-year-old class had its winner in Mr. J. A. Mullin's Shono, with Primrose Day, from Mr. E. W. Robinson as second. A small class of two-year-olds were led with Mr. J. A. Mullin's Paleface; and that for the yearlings had Sweet Alum, owned by Mr. C. Kelway Bamber, as its winner.

Four classes for Polo or Riding Ponies secured an excellent entry. Bold Marco led for Mr. J. Barker in the stallion class, and won the special for best polo stallion. Mr. Barker won in the brood mare class with Sapphire, with Miss L. C. Standish's Silver Star in close attendance, to which also went the medal for best brood mare, and this fine mare subsequently won in the mare and gelding class. The second and r.n. in this class were owned by Mr. O. T. Price, whose mare, The Nun, won the special for best mare other than a brood mare.

Hackneys.

Several of the classes in this section were judged the second day; but in these as in those mentioned below, an excellent entry was secured. Mr. W. B. Tubbs' Administrator won in the stallion class, with Cuddington, from Mr. T. Radmore second. Mr. W. B. Tubbs, with that grand mare Rosadora, came in first in the brood mare class; Mr. E. J. Allen, with Lady Wilmington, taking the second place. Atwick Flirt won for Mr. J. T. Mitchell in the under 15.2 hands class, Mr. E. J. Allen's Croydon Surprise taking second honours. The three-year-old class had Sir Walter Gilbey's Bold Clara for its winner, Mr. H. Le Marchant taking second with Green Girl. The fine lot of two-year-olds were led by Polllinaris, from Mr. R. P. Evans' stud, Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Princess taking second honours. Cristolian won for Mr. Evans in the yearling class, and Mr. J. E. Allen came second with Country Primrose, a nice typical filly. The hack class obtained a very first class entry. Mrs. W. C. N. Chapman was the leading winner. The Ladies E. and D. Hope and Mrs. A. J. Beale were leading winners in the interesting and good classes of Shetland ponies.

Cattle.

This section, taken as a whole, was one of very good merit indeed. We were pleased to note the larger support secured in the Sussex classes, and the keen competition seen generally all through the section. The Shorthorns were first to enter the ring, and here, in the Old Bull classes, Messrs. Denny, with that very fine bull, Ascot Constellation, took leading honours. This is a bull of great merit and fine character. Foundation, from the Marquis of Camden, came next with Ascot Francis r.n. from Messrs. Green Bros. Ten entries made up a good class of yearling bulls. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Old Daisy Bull 6th was first, followed by Millhill's Favourite from Mr. J. Colman's herd. A useful lot of tenant farmer bulls was headed by Coral Beard from Messrs. Robinson's. Millhill's Favourite won for Mr. J. Colman the Shorthorn Society's prize for the district, and Mr. T. Jones, with Maiden Douglas, took the r.n. The cow class, with its fourteen entries, was a good one. Hawthorn Flower, a fine specimen of her breed, won first honours for Mr. J. Colman. This excellent cow was also first in the class of milking Shorthorns. Another nice type of the breed was found in Mr. R. W. Hudson's Jenny Lind's Princess, whilst Ardfoot Belle, another from Mr. Colman's herd, was r.n. Mr. A. Hiscock took second honours in the milking class with Golden Rose, and Mr. J. Colman came r.n. with Ada 2nd. This latter breeder made short work in the two-year-old class, for he won both first and second honours with two very useful heifers, Mabel 2nd and Gatlin Rose. The yearling heifers had for their winner a beautiful white sweet briar bred by Mr. H. Y. C. Brassey, and exhibited by Mr. R. J. Balston. This was probably one of the

Shetland Pony Mare Corona.

Winner of First Prize at the Tunbridge Wells Show last week.

FOALED JUNE, 1902; SIRE ODEN, 32, DAM HOPLEMURONIA, 130; BRED BY AND THE PROPERTY OF THE LADIES E AND D. HOPE, GREAT HOLLENDEN, UNDERRIVER, SEVENOAKS.

THE DAIRY.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr. R. Challinor reports as follows concerning the Cheese Fair at Chester last week:—Pitch about 50 tons; large attendance of buyers being present a brisk trade ensued. Finest lots made from 52s. to 57s.; medium 46s. to 50s.; lower grades down to 42s.

Preston Cheese Fair.

The July Cheese Fair at Preston was held on Wednesday, and was largely attended, but the supply was exceptionally small for the season owing to extensive country buying and limited production. A fair business passed at prices showing a slight advance on last month, medium cheese making from 47s. 6d. to 50s., best 52s. 6d. to 55s., with one of two lots reaching 60s. per cwt.

best Shorthorns in the show. Another white, Mr. J. Colman's Snow Queen, made a good second. The Colman Challenge Cup for the best four Shorthorns, one from each class—a fresh competition—was one of great interest. Another fine animal owned by Mr. J. Colman won the honour, Messrs. Denny taking r.n.

Sussex.

Here the competition was a close one, and one far more keen than has been the case in recent years. The Hon. R. P. Nevill won with Mayor in the Old Bull class, followed by Mr. W. Lord's Brown Prince. The two-year-old class was an excellent one, Mr. Nevill's Bonfire Prince II. taking away his due first honours, but Mr. C. J. Lucas, with Lord Eric, pressed him very close indeed. The yearling bull class afforded that grand young bull, Shollingen Bewbush to secure yet another honour for Earl Winterton. Mr. E. E. Braby, with another very promising youngster, Lord Dumgewick 5th, took the second honours, and a neat and well-formed young bull, Patsy Major, came in r.n. for Mr. C. H. Hoare. That grand old cow, Old Mayflower 8th, won once again first honours for the Hon. R. P. Nevill, Fancy, another fine type of her breed, taking second honours for the Earl of Derby. The three-year-old class had but two entries. These were those two grand heifers from Mr. W. F. Winch's herd—Warden Lady and Tilsden Damsel—and they won first and second honours. Smileput 5th, a grand heifer, won first honours for Earl Winterton in the two-year-old class with Bewbush Wind 4th from Mr. Saillard as second. The yearling heifer class was particularly strong. The Earl of Winterton won with Sunlight 7th, a choice heifer, followed by Gwendolin of Lynwick from Mr. John Angier's herd, leaving the barren honour of r.n. for Mr. Saillard's excellent heifer Bewbush Woodmancote.

Other Breeds.

The Aberdeen Angus were represented by an entry of choice breeding and pedigree, being of small numbers. Danesfield Jester was easily the first in the Old Bull class and special as best of its breed; Dianthas 5th, from Mr. J. H. Bridges's, taking second. This breeder won with Judge of Hursley in the yearling bull class. The cow class was one of superior merit. Here two from Mr. G. A. Cooper's herd were first and third, leaving the second place to Mr. G. Drummond's Effuljust II. of Danesfield. Enamel of Dalvey won first honours for Mr. G. A. Cooper in the two-year-old class, and Pride of Swaylands, a choicely-bred and typical heifer, took second for Mr. G. Drummond. Mr. J. H. Bridges was first and second with Queenie of Longshott and Parthia of Longshott, two grand yearling heifers. The Jersey entry was always one of superior merit and equality. Lady de Rothschild won the challenge cup for best female with Golden Hours, who, together with her herd mate, were first and second in a very strong class of cows. The same owner took r.n. for this honour with her first-prize three-year-old heifer Tambourette, whose new mate, Coral, was third in this class. Mr. R. H. Cobb, A. Miller Hallett, Mr. C. McIntosh, J. Joicey, and Captain L. G. Gisburne were also leading winners. The bull classes were hardly so large, but there was fine merit all through. The winning two-year-old bull, Mr. A. F. Perkin's Dort, won the Wadhurst Challenge Cup for best bull in the section, Mrs. C. McIntosh's Polly Gum, winner in that proud class of yearling bulls, taking the r.n. for this honour. Lady de Rothschild, Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand, Mr. J. B. Hawkey, Mr. J. C. Drew, and J. Joicey were amongst the other leading winners.

The Guernseys secured a representative entry, Mr. G. A. Hambro, who won in the cow class first and second honours with Queen of the Roses and Golden Cherry, two beautiful cows, in the two-year-old heifer class with Hayes Golden Cherry, and first and second for yearling heifers with Hayes Olive 2nd and Hayes Sultana, was the leading winner. Messrs. H. Fitzwalter, Plumpton, F. Hargreaves, J. P. Morgan, and J. W. Martel were the other leading winners.

Lady Greenall, the Countess De-la-Warr, and Mr. T. Waite were the leading winners for Kerries. The Duchess of Devonshire and Messrs. De Bertodano, and J. Snelgrove were leading winners in the very excellent and good entry of Dexters.

Sheep.

A very typical and first-class lot of Southdown sheep were found in this section. Mr. E. Ellis won first and second for two shear rams, his winner taking r.n. for the best male, and r.n. for the Blythwood Bowl for the best Southdown in the yard. Mr. E. Ellis was also second for ram lambs and first and third for yearling ewes and first for ewe lambs, taking also the medal and r.n. for the best pen of females in the show. Mr. E. Henty won first honours for the yearling rams beating here Mr. E. Ellis's grand entry with the narrowest of margins. Col. W. W. Hammond, who won first honours in the ram lamb class, had a grand lamb, probably one of the best of its age breed and sex we have seen out this year. This noble masculine ram lamb was made winner of the medal for the best male Southdown and the Blythwood Bowl for the best specimen of its breed. Mr. J. Colman was close up in all the classes, and he also came in r.n. for the Colman Challenge Cup for the best pair of Southdown exhibits, one being taken from each class. This award was won by Mr. E. Ellis, whose quartette when out for inspection disclosed that marked uniformity of type and character that shows how well this grand old flock has been bred and selected.

The Kent or Romney Marsh breed has never, we consider, been represented by a better or more typical entry. The awards were not in all cases such as we approve of, but it must be a matter of great satisfaction to Mr. H. Walters to be able to secure with a ram bred by Mr. A. Amos, first honours in the two-year-old class, in which Mr. H. Rigden came second and Mr. F. Neame r.n. Mr. Rigden won again in the yearling rams, followedby Mr. C. File, whose ram was of superior merit. Mr. F. Neame claimed the leading honours in the ram lamb class, but Mr. C. File who came in second and third, was only beaten with a very narrow margin. In the yearling ewe class Mr. F. Neame led; Mr. C. File was second and Mr. W. Millen r.n., but Mr. C. File's pen that has won all through the season was not in the award list, a result that is beyond conception, because a better, more level, and typical pen we have not seen this year. Mr. F. Neame won in the ewe lambs with a fine compact pen, followed by Mr. H. Rigden's excellent pen.

Pigs.

The Berkshire breed was strongly represented. Mr. G. T. Jurman won first and third honours for boars with two fine animals, Hopemoor Mikado and Hopemoor Duke, first for sows with that excellent Compton Rose, and first and r.n. for pairs of gelts. The Duchess of Devonshire was second for boars with that nicely marked and good fleshed boar Polegate Dollar, first for pair of boar pigs, second for sows with Polegate Dido. Mr. A. Hiscock took second with a real good pair of gelts. In the other breed classes Mr. Sanders Spencer was first throughout with a very fine and well bred lot of pigs.

Produce.

This section was but meagrely catered for, in three classes of butter there were some good makes, but the great heat was much against their appearance. First prizes in two classes were won by Messrs. R. Underwood, of Berkhamsted, while the best in the tenant farmer class was Mrs. Baines, of Henfield. A couple of classes for home-made bread brought a fair entry, and concluded the section.

Cambridgeshire.

Unpromising weather and the fact that harvesting was being carried on somewhat extensively in the surrounding districts affected the attendance of visitors at the show of the Cambs and Isle of Ely Agricultural Society at Cambridge on Thursday, but happily the general returns at the end of the day were anything but disappointing, and, considering all things, the organisers of the show had every reason to feel satisfied with the day's results. Those who did put in an appearance had quite a tropical experience—vivid lightning, followed instantaneously by crackling peals of thunder and deluging rainfall. The morning had been sultry and threatening, and about three o'clock, just after luncheon had been concluded on the show ground, the storm broke over the district, and a perfect deluge of rain followed. Most of the ring competitions were carried on in the pouring rain, whilst the turn-outs were judged during the thunderstorm.

The site of the show was the same as on previous visits to Cambridge—viz., the admirably suited paddocks adjoining Brooklands, kindly lent by Mr. G. E. Foster. The entries were good, showing an increase of ten over last year's total, when the exhibition was held at March. On that occasion the aggregate was 396, the previous four years being—1903, Cambridge, 417; 1902, Chatteris, 418; 1901, Cambridge, 416; 1900 Ely, 390. The quality and nature of exhibits in the various sections will be gathered from the following details of the awards, etc.:—The Shire horse made undoubtedly one of the chief attractions of the show, for not only were the exhibits numerically strong, but of good quality, the competitions being in many cases keen. The best of the Shire stallions foaled previous to or in 1901 turned out to be Mr. J. Rowell's Aldeby Coeur de Lion, a celebrated winner, which was easily first against the Cambridge Shire Stud Company's exhibit. Mr. W. Richardson, of Doddington, was both first and second with three-year-old stallions, Mr. H. Bultitaft, Ely, being the winner in the class for the entire colts foaled in 1903; with the same animal he won the tenant farmers' prize. His exhibit in the class for colts foaled in 1904 was beaten by Mr. J. Rowell's Bury Best Quality. The class for Shire mares with foal at foot was a strong one, a close contest ending in favour of Mr. H. Towgood, of Little Shelford, with Rolleston Fuschia, Mr. C. Morbey, of Soham, and Mr. T. Gee, of Wrydelands, Thorney, being respectively second and reserve. The last-named, however, won the tenant farmers' prize in the next class with the same animal, Wrydelands' Sunshine, which secured the Shire Horse Society's medal at the Thorney Show. In the brood mare class, Mr. Gee added another to his many wins with Wrydelands' Starlight, which turned out to be one of the best animals in the ring, and was appropriately awarded the championship. The reserve went to Mr. C. Morbey's Integrity, a beautiful black animal of undeniable quality. Mr. Morbey was an easy winner with Barrow Gem in the filly class foaled in 1903, whilst of those foaled in 1904, Mr. H. Towgood's second Suffolk winner, Shelford Luck, took premier place.

The hackney classes were fairly well filled, but the hackney stallions foaled in 1901 were not a strong lot. First prize was given to Mr. R. G. Heaton, Chatteris, for Spuds, and the same exhibitor, with Bolsover, won first in the 1902 stallion class, and with the same animal captured the champion prize offered by Sir Walter Gilbey. In the open class for hackney entire colts foaled in 1903, Mr. W. Flanders won with an animal that looks like making a fine stallion. The hackney mare with foal at foot class was a somewhat poor one, but had an excellent animal at its head, namely, Bury Duchess, shown by Mr. J. Rowell. There was a very nice lot of fillies, the best of which was Mr. R. Carter's Wood Nymph, which was first in both the open and tenant farmers' classes. Of the hackney fillies foaled in 1903, Mr. R. G. Heaton secured first and champion with Sedgeford Pretty Polly, which was more like a brood mare: the second and reserve, belonging to Dr. H. C. Meacock, North Brink, Wisbech, was the best goer. The fillies foaled in 1904 were a useful lot, the leading one of which was Mr. C. E. E. Cooke's Lilladora. The colt foals were a rather ordinary lot, the leading animals being Mr. A. Towler's, of Trumpington, who was first and second in the open, and first in the closed classes, Mr. J. Tibbitt, of Doddington, took the first awards for filly foals in both classes. Saddle and harness horses did not provoke any very serious competition, the leading winners being Mr. W. Flanders, Ely, Mr. R. G. Heaton, Mr. R. Baxter, Walsoken, Dr. H. C. Meacock, and Mr. J. Towler, Bottisham. Hunters were fairly well represented, the principal awards falling to Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden, Market Harborough, who, besides taking two firsts, secured the championship.

Cattle were not over numerous, and were not so good as they might have been. Six Shorthorn bulls, calved in or after 1900, were brought out in the first class, the winner being Messrs. S. Spencer and Son's beautiful roan bull, already the winner of a good many first prizes. Captain Duncombe came a good second with Crown Diamond, a massive bull, the winner of numerous prizes. The best representative in the class for Shorthorn cows of any age was found in Mr. H. S. Leon's Roseleaf, a splendid animal that has scarcely ever been beaten. Captain Duncombe again took second place with a useful animal, bred in Scotland, that was a bit patchy. In Shorthorn heifers Mr. H. S. Leon again supplied the winner, a pretty red, and a very level animal.

There was not very keen competition in the classes for the Channel cattle, Mr. Hargreaves, Gamlingay, taking all the prizes with but one exception. There were two classes for dairy cows, the first being for those having produced one live calf. In this instance, Mr. W. Tebbs, of Peterborough, was first with a very good cow for dairy purposes, Mr. W. Nesbit, of Radwinter, coming in second. The best of the cows eligible for registration was shown by Captain Duncombe, his specimen being a fine three-year-old heifer, with wonderful back for her age. Messrs. Spencer and Sons, who were second, had a nice cow, but it was too small.

Sheep were rather fewer than last year, but the quality was good. The Suffolks occupied the foremost position, though there were a choice lot of Southdowns, all shown by the President, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, who had absolutely no competitors, and consequently captured all the prizes for this breed. The entry of Wensleydale sheep were confined to two exhibitors, who brought very good specimens of the breed. The winner in each of the three classes was Mr. W. J. Green, Childerley Gate, Wensleydale. The Suffolks were a splendid lot. The winner of the four rams entered was Mr. M. G. Hale's, Claydon, Royal winner, Mr. R.

Barclay, of Higham, being both second and reserved. Mr. Hale's ram was awarded the Suffolk Sheep Society's silver medal, besides winning the championship award for the best ram bred by a tenant farmer. There were four pens of three black-faced ram lambs, and it was a curious circumstance that there was one weak specimen in each pen. Messrs. Traylen were clear winners, but there was very little to choose between the second and reserved pens, owned respectively by Mr. M. G. Hale and Mr. R. Barclay. Mr. R. Burrell, of Westley Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, had a very good pen, but unfortunately, having lost one of his lambs during the past week, he was unable to supply the vacancy with a really good specimen. In the ewe lamb class, Messrs. Traylen's, which the judge considered the champion lambs of the show, under a mistaken notion, were awarded the champion prize; but as it was afterwards found only Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely competitors were eligible, it was given to Mr. H. J. Briggs, of Babraham, the only exhibitor of the Hampshire breed. The winning pen was closely followed by Mr. R. Barclay's ewes.

Herts.

That the show of the Herts Agricultural Society is as popular as ever was proved last week by the fact that, in spite of two other shows taking place upon the borders of its district, simultaneously with its own annual show at Hatfield, it was able to command a large number of entries and as numerous an attendance of supporters, and this, although the weather was far from favourable, a severe storm being experienced during the afternoon.

The value of the prizes offered in competition in the various classes was stated to be £1,100, and amongst the new prizes offered this year were four handsome championship cups given, to be won outright, by the president, the Marquis of Salisbury. The entries, however, showed a falling off of 157, but this is not surprising, seeing that the Cambridgeshire and Tunbridge Wells Shows were being held at the same time. The most noted falling off was amongst the nags, which were fewer by 33, as compared with last year's figures—namely, 214, against 181. Agricultural horses were fewer by 18—174 as compared with 192; Shorthorns fewer by 10—113 against 123; pigs fewer by 10—47 against 57; and butter showed a decline of eight in the number of entries —33 against 41. In two sections only, those devoted to sheep and honey, was there an increased entry. In the former department there were 70 entries, as against 58 last year and 57 in 1903, and in the latter 18, as compared with 14 last year. The Channel Islands cattle stood at the same total as last year—63.

The judges were:—Agricultural horses: Mr. T. Ewart, Dunsmore, Rugby; Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Keddington Grange, Louth; Mr. W. Howkins, Hillmorton Grounds, Rugby; and Mr. R. Simpson, Wilbarston, Market Harborough. Hunters: Hackneys, ponies, etc.: Lord Alfred Fitzroy, Whittlebury, Towcester; Mr. A. Jordan; Mr. W. Foster, Mel Valley, Moseley, Birmingham; and Mr. James Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford. Cattle: Mr. W. Crosland, Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks; Mr. J. Paisley, Sandy, Beds; and Mr. J. Stratton, Wick Down, Broad Hinton, Swindon. Channel Island breed: Mr. W. Adams, Woodside, Loughton; and Mr. Ernest Matthews, Little Shardeloes, Amersham. Sheep: Mr. George Judd, Cocum, Barton Stacey, Hants. Pigs: Mr. W. T. Hall, Highclere, Newbury.

The section of the show devoted to agricultural horses was deprived of the presence of many of the leading animals which were noticeable in the show ring a few years ago. The death of Sir J. Blundell Maple robbed the society of one of its most constant supporters, and the withdrawal of such Shire breeders as Lord Rothschild, Mr. Crisp (who has given up breeding Shires), and the Earl of Verulam, accounted for the absence from the show ring of many of its leading habitues. But while the open classes were lacking in this respect, the farmers' classes were never better than on the present occasion. Mr. J. Bell, of Cattlegate, gained distinction with his mare, Cattlegate Ruby, an excellent mare of true Shire type, which not only beat all her opponents in the competition for the Aldenham Challenge Cup, given by Mr. C. T. Part, and the Shire Horse Society's silver medal, but carried off first prize in her class, and in company with Cattlegate Ruth and Cattlegate Headlight, two of her offspring, obtained Messrs. Young Bros.' five guinea cup. She was also reserved for the president's Champion Cup and the Tring Park Challenge Cup. Cattlegate Headlight, her bay foal, was first both in the open and local classes for yearlings. It was in the class for entire colts, foaled in 1903, that the champion tenant farmer's animal was found in Mr. S. Pigg's Lockinge Blagdon, a colt of excellent type, with good legs and feet and a profusion of hair, bred by the exhibitor. He has been frequently exhibited, and has generally succeeded in obtaining a place of prominence, and on this occasion added to his laurels by being awarded the Tring Park Challenge Cup. Mr. J. Lloyd's challenge cup went this year to Mr. S. P. Bullen's Dragon, which also claimed first prize in its class and first, in association with the same exhibitor's Duke in the class for pairs of geldings. One of the most successful fillies was 'Ware Chance, sent by Mr. W. Hammond, which obtained three first prizes and secured the reserved card for the Aldenham Challenge Cup.

The classes in the hunter section were all very satisfactory, those for yearlings being especially good. The Hunters Improvement Society's medal was accorded to Veda, a smart animal shown in the three-year-old hunter class by Messrs. J. I. Kirkby and Son, of Sawbridgeworth, which was placed third in its class; and the Imperial Hunter Stud Book Society's silver medal for the best hunter mare was given to Mr. J. R. Russell's Diana, reserved in its class. Amongst the polo ponies, Mr. S. Gurney Shephard, jun., had things entirely his own way, all three of the prizes offered falling to him. The Hackneys were, taken generally, a very useful lot, although, with regard to the Hackneys proper, they were a little short of action. The judging in the light horse classes took place, as usual, in the large ring, and was witnessed by a considerable number of interested spectators. The jumping was looked forward to with much eagerness, but many were disappointed, as the rain, which came on just before the competition commenced, greatly marred the progress of the event. Owing to the rain, the bulk of the onlookers had to take refuge in the tents, and could only catch a glimpse of what was going on. The jumping, too, was not so good as usual by far, many of the competitors failing to go over the obstacles, which were in some cases knocked down. On several occasions, too, the horses refused to jump at all.

The classes for cattle have for some years been as strong as any classes in the show, and this year they were again excellent, comparing very favourably with former years. The judges were particularly pleased with the young animals exhibited, the classes for these being very strong. The classes for Shorthorns showed some fine animals, and Mr. C. E. Wodehouse, of Woolmers, Hertford, took first in the class for cows calved previous to 1902 for the sixth year in succession. Mr. Wodehouse has been remarkably successful with his animal, Coronet 10th, having taken prizes at the Royal Show both this year and last. In the class for bulls, Mr. C. F. Raphael's Duke of Strathtay secured first, and was also awarded the prize for the champion animal in the show. In this class, Mr. A. D. Acland secured second with another of his animals, Duke of Barrington 84th. Mr. C. F. Raphael was a prominent exhibitor in the section for cattle, and was successful in securing several firsts. In the Channel Island breeds the classes were all strong, and the judges were particularly pleased with the animals exhibited. Lord Rothschild exhibited largely in the classes, securing quite a number of firsts in succession, and, with the exception of two classes, he swept the board of firsts. Mr. A. Beit, of Welwyn, secured first in the class for bulls calved previous to 1904, with his animal Alex.

The sheep were characterised by the judge as a very nice lot. The Hampshire Downs, as usual, led the way, producing the largest and strongest classes. Mr. T. F. Buxton was represented by several excellent pens of the breed, with which he has scored so many successes at the leading shows in the neighbourhood. He not only carried off first prize in all four of the Hampshire classes, and seconds in three of them, but secured also the President's Champion Cup for the best pen of sheep in the show. The three Southdown classes were well filled, Sir J. Wernher and the Right Hon. T. F. Halsey leading the way amongst the prize-winners. In the Shropshire classes, which exhibited considerable improvement upon the show of previous years, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. H. F. Woollatt, and Mr. J. Pearman shared the honours.

The show of pigs was very encouraging. The Berkshires were particularly prominent, being an increase on any previous show, and the judge here reported a marked improvement over this section of the show two years ago, when he acted in the same capacity. The Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert, who won the champion prize in this section the year before last, secured the champion prize again this year with the same animal. Other interesting features were shepherd's dogs, butter, poultry and pigeons, honey, etc.

Durham County.

Of late years the Durham County Agricultural Society has been most unfortunate as regards the weather experienced for its annual show, so that to have a brilliantly fine day, as was the case on Wednesday last, was quite a welcomed change. The show was held at South Shields, and a magnificent site, off the New Sea Road, to the south of the Marine Parks, consisting of about fifteen acres, was granted by the Corporation of South Shields, free of any cost to the Society. A more suitable or more pleasantly situated site could not have been secured, for, from the show ground, could be obtained an uninterrupted view of the coast line, far to the north and to the south, but a few trees would have afforded welcome shelter from the heat of the sun. The show itself was a splendid one all round, the number of entries established a record in the history of the Society, and showed a substantialy improvement on last year's show at Lambton Park, the total number being 1,430, as compared with 993 in 1904. The entries in the various sections compared with last year were:—

	1905.	1904.
Cattle	59	36
Sheep	57	1.2
Agricultural horses	175	159
Hunters, hackneys, and driving	252	144
Leaping	15	9
Pigs	—	—
Dairy Produce	31	61
Pigeons	215	91
Poultry	305	240
Dogs	267	110
Totals	1 430	993

Shorthorns were well up to the standard quality of the leading county exhibitions, including specimens of well-known herds in Durham and Northumberland, and from still further north. The most successful of the importations was Ratcheugh Witch, from Mr. Bell's Alnwick herd. She is a beautiful roan daughter of the famous Baron Abbotsford, and has taken many coveted honours this season, in addition to the second at the Royal. On Wednesday she gained the championship cup for the best breeding animal. The contest for the trophy lay between her and Mr. C. E. Hunter's Polled Angus heifer, Ruritania, which was first and champion female at the Royal. If rather on the small side, she is a particularly well-shaped animal, though the Shorthorn appeared better in substance, and had five months advantage in age. Most of the Northumberland winners came into the ring, and as a general rule previous verdicts were sustained, or only slightly varied through the advent of fresh competitors. The massive three-year-old bull, Baron Butterfly, belonging to Mr. A. F. Nichol, came out at the head of a small but very strong class, the runner-up being Mr. George Harrison's Pioneer, a roan with splendid Shorthorn characteristics, sired by Ronald, the champion of the Royal and Highland Shows in 1904. In the yearling class Lord Polwarth's British Renown, the winner at Park Royal, was again in the foremost place, and Mr. George Harrison secured the second with Royal Ensign, which was, in addition, given the Shorthorn Society's special prize for the best bull calved in 1904. Another of Mr. Harrison's bulls, under a year, won premier honours on its first appearance in the show-yard; the same owner's Ursula Raglan led the way in the cow class, and Mr. G. H. Proctor's Fairy Whitesocks, a nice red, which has a good record at county and local shows, obtained the second award.

The principal exhibitors of Polled Angus stock were Messrs. Perkins and Partners, Mr. C. E. Hunter (of Selaby Hall, Gainford), and the Seaton Delaval Coal Co. (Limited). The most conspicuous winner in the section was Pundit of Preston.

Agricultural horses were a particularly strong lot, and made quite the feature of the show. Some of the best awards were carried North by Mr. William Park, of Portobello, who with such first-rate animals as his brood mare Florodora, and his bay two-year-old filly Rosadora, was deserving of all the honours he obtained. Against the former, which is by Prince of Brunstane, the Earl of Durham showed his well-known Lambton Maid, which, as at the Northumberland, made a good second among a remarkably strong lot. Mr. Park's filly, a daughter of Marmion, was awarded the open championship. Draught mares were led by Rosebud, of the Seaham Harbour Stud, and they also won in the pairs, with a couple of strong well-furnished mares, and in other classes. Some special prizes were given to tenant-farmers in the county, who managed to hold their own in the wider competition. The tenant-farmers' challenge cup went to Messrs. Turbull Brothers, of Twizell Hall Farm, Beamish.

Most of the hunting classes were thinly contested, but, thanks in a great measure to the offer of a twenty-five guinea challenge cup, the gift of Mr. J. E. Rogerson, M.F.H., the competition showed some little improvement on previous shows. This coveted trophy went to Mr. F. Walton Smith, the exhibitor of a smart light weight gelding. The best of the brood mares was Blue Garter, a chestnut shown by Mr. J. Ingledew, of Bedale. Hackneys were a fairly strong section, and the championship was carried off by Mr. Thomas Boddy, of West Auckland, with Woodhatch Connaught, a five-year-old chestnut mare shown in saddle.

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Home Notes.

The Weather and the Coming Crop.

As we are getting very near to the harvest, there seems to be little doubt that, unless special hindrances should arise, a fairly abundant yield of good hops is in front of us. With but few exceptions, the reports from the plantations in every district are promising. Here and there we hear of mould and suiphuring, of red spider, and some lingering lice, with continuance of washing to a limited extent. The most prominent question is the capacity of the over luxuriant bine for development of a due proportion of fruit, concerning which there appears to be considerable difference of opinion. Despite the strong growth of laterals, much of it seecrs to be failing to put forth burr, and many experienced planters are inclined to think that the finai results will not be commensurate with present promises. All depends on the climatic conditions of August, and it may be conceded that the usual experience of English weather suggests the possibility of an early and important change from the uninterrupted sunshine we have recently enjoyed for an exceptional period. Predictions are already circulated that many wet days and nights are in store for us during next two months, and, should these be fulfilled, the present crop prospects will, of course, be materially modified.

The Borough Trade.

is consequently in a state of partial suspense. Merchants report that their customers generally refuse to entertain offers, and, although the output of beer has largely increased, prefer to lower their stock of hops to the lowest possible point before buying further. Nevertheless, inquiries are not altogether absent, and in cases where out side holders are willing to accept very low prices, a few sales have been made. The present hopes of holders are based upon the necessary demand for yearlings that is always consistent with the supply of new hops, and experience has shown that in certain seasons, when a large new crop has reduced the general value to a low point, yearlings have frequently realised much higher prices. Considering the very limited stocks of 1904's at present in hand, it is not improbable that such a variance in values may be apparent this season.

Arsenic (not) in Hops.

I am happy to say that the note of alarm sounded in the ears of hop growers by the action of certain brewers, based upon a reported regulation as to the proportion of arsenic in hops, may now be unheeded. A statement of the case for which "Lupulin" is pleased to accept one chief responsibility) was presented a short time ago by Dr. Hutchinson, M.P., to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Subsequently the Chancellor, after consultation with the experts of his department, requested Sir W. Hart-Dyke, Mr. Lawrence Hardy, Dr. Hutchinson, Captain Foward, and Mr. Ball (Parliamentary representatives of the principal Southern hop-growing districts) to meet him. The Right Hon. gentleman stated ther that no sperial regulation had been issued by the Inland Revenue Department with respect to the amount of arsenic permissible in hops, and that samples of English-grown hops were frequently submitted to Government analysis, with the result that out of eighteen samples recently tested, eight were entirely free from arsenic, seven contained minute and negligible quantities, and one sample showed more than the 1-100th of a grain per lb. The inquiry that had arisen is therefore traceable solely to some misapprehension of the scope and effect of the usual official action in advising brewers whenever an appreciable amount of arsenic is detected in any samples of beer or material used in its manufacture.

The members of Parliament mentioned afterwards agreed upon a report on the subject, which will be published in due course, and which will doubtless be entirely satisfactory to hop planters and others connected with the industry.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

Foreign Crop Prospects.

America.

Letters recently received are interesting, in so far as they give me the views of the writers; but I must confess that as they appear to be coloured according to the desires of those who are concerned in this or that direction of the course of future events, I am bound to take them with a pinch of salt, and read between the lines. The old couplet, "As the man thinks, so the bell clinks," is applicable to American as it is to English opinions. I have long ago learned that predictions as to the hop trade must be especially examined in this light. There is, however, one evident fact. The pools—at the formation of which such great results were foreseen—have failed in their mission, the bear buyers having succeeded in forcing prices down to such an extent that holders were sickened and their combinations are broken up. It appears that they did not possess from the first any solid elements of cohesion, being formed on mere promises, accompanied by entire liberty of action on the part of the individual members, thus each holder could act for himself, and gradual disintegration set in as soon as any uncertainty was hinted at. This rapidly spread, until panic took the place of confidence, and the whole combine came to a speedy end. Buyers are consequently acting with extreme caution, and values appear at the moment, in view of the favourable crop outlook, to be gradually but steadily falling. It is almost impossible to quote reliable prices, and a cable message received this week indicates that the market is expected to be still lower. Of course, much depends upon the weather, and by a letter dater July 7 I learn that a sudden and heavy attack of vermin had appeared in Oregon, but it was then anticipated that washing and hot sun would enable growers to conquer the attack; but I hear more recently that the yield will probably be seriously damaged. The same report, however, says that whatever may happen to the Oregon crop, the total yield of the U.S. must be much larger than last year, owing principally to the increased acreage.

Nuremberg.

The generally favourable reports received from the plantations, coupled with the gradual increase of stocks caused by the clearing out of the country holdings, and the absence of demand from consumers, are exercising a depressing effect on values. Bohemian buyers are taking small quantities, but other export trade is very quiet, and for the sake of business holders are now very willing to make concessions. It is estimated that from 1,600 to 1,800 bales remain unsold, and it seems to be certain that this quantity will fully suffice to cover the requirements of brewers until the new supplies are available. In Lower Alsace and Styria heavy hail storms have destroyed the plants to a very large extent, but beyond this there is no unfavourable news concerning the coming crop. Rain is, however, wanted in almost every district, in order that the flowering and fruiting may fully develop; therefore, there are still some uncertain features to reckon with before final results can be certainly estimated.

Belgium.

Public information refers in promising terms to the coming crop, the progress of the white bines in Poperinghe towards flowering being very rapid, and the green bines are also well forward. The market is therefore very quiet, buyers awaiting further developments, and prices are somewhat lower. But I have private letters which are not so optimistic with respect to the new crop, my friends being disposed to anticipate that present outlook will not be fulfilled.

The imports of hops into Belgium during the six months ending June 30 were 14,460 cwts., and the exports 6,460 cwts. The latter figure appears in strong contrast to the returns for the same period last year, when Belgium shipped no less than 34,500 cwts. A notable feature of the returns is seen in the Belgian shipments to England during last June, these were only 77 cwts., whereas in the same month England shipped to Belgium about 470 cwts.

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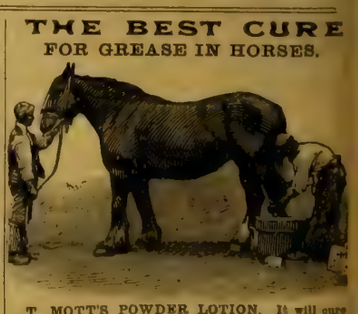
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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

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CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
SHOW at HIGH WYCOMBE,
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905.
OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hacks, Hunters, Jumpers, Harness Horses, Polo Ponies, Jerseys, Butter, and Honey.
For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to
JOSEPH BLISS,
26, High Street, High Wycombe.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.
Stud-Book—Volume XXVIII.
Entries at ordinary fees close on 31st. inst.
Forms and all information from
ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary,
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

COMPTON STUD SHOW AND SALE,
At TEMPLECOMBE,
SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries close August 20th.
THE MANAGER,
Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset

GUILDFORD AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
At GUILDFORD,
AUGUST 30th, 1905,
E. H. ELLIS, Secretary,
Town Hall Chambers, Guildford.

THAME HORSE SHOW.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries close September 2nd.
Double Fees, September 12th.
I. BUSH,
Thame.

BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY,
AUGUST 22nd, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary,
Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

BUXTON HORSE SHOW,
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 1905.
President: Colonel Cotton-Jodrell.
Over £300 in Prizes.
Also Challenge Cups and Gold and Silver Medals.
Fifty-Guinea Challenge Cup for Best Hunter.
Entries close Tuesday, August 22nd.
For Prize List and all information, apply to the Secretaries,
HAMPSON BROS.,
8, The Quadrant, Buxton.

ABERGAVENNY HORSE SHOW & AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION, ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF HORSES AND AGRICULTURAL STOCK.
Special Jumping and Trotting Prizes £40.
Special Timbering Prizes, £24.
Will be held in
BAILEY PARK, ABERGAVENNY, on THURSDAY, the 7th SEPTEMBER, 1905.
Special Attraction: the celebrated Ferndale Prize Band has been engaged for the day.
Entries close Aug. 22nd (double fees Sept 1st.)
Secretaries, Messrs. STRAKER & SON, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, Abergavenny.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD AND LINSLADE FOAL SHOW.
At LEIGHTON BUZZARD,
SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905.
Entries close September 12th; post entries (double fees) September 19th.
WALTER C. PRUDAMES, W. G. W. WILLIS, } Secretaries,
North Street, Leighton Buzzard.

SCALBY AND NEWBY AGRICULTURAL, FLORAL, AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.
SHOW at NEWBY (Scarboro'), on Friday, AUGUST 18th. £300 Prizes for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Leaping, Driving, Yeomanry Class, Plants, Flowers, &c.
Entries close August 10th.
T. FLINTON, J. TICKLE, } Secs.
Scalby, R.S.O.

ARUNDEL AND DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL AND POULTRY SHOW,
At ARUNDEL CASTLE PARK,
AUGUST 23rd, 1905.
Entries close August 15th.
C. BARTLETT, Secretary,
Tuleban, Arundel.

HEANOR AGRICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
AT HEANOR.
AUGUST 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
J. COVEL, Secretary,
Market Street, Heanor.

HAY HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 21st, 1905.
Entries close September 7th; double fees September 13th.
R. MORRIS, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford

STOKESLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
47TH ANNUAL SHOW, 21ST SEPT., 1905.
Prize money, nearly £500. — Open Classes.
Entries close 9th September.
For schedules and entry forms apply to
WM. HODGSON, T. G. EELES, F. WARDALL, } Secretaries, Stokesley, R.S.O.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES

(continued from front page).

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, &c.,

105, Jermyn Street, St. James's, London, S.W.

PRIZES FOR IMPROVED VERMIN TRAPS First, £50; Second, £25.

The Committee of the R.S.P.C.A. have much pleasure in renewing their offer of PREMIUMS for IMPROVED VERMIN TRAPS, calculated to supersede the cruel steel-toothed trap at present used in game preserves. The improved trap must be portable, inexpensive, weather-proof, easy of adaptation to the various requirements of trapping, simple in manipulation, effectual, and humane—killing instantly, or capturing without giving pain. The Committee reserve to themselves the right to refuse to award either or both of the above Premiums, in the event of the aforesaid conditions being insufficiently complied with in the opinion of the judges. Specimens must be sent, carriage paid, on or before the 1st day of JANUARY next, addressed to the undersigned, and stamped with a private mark. A similar mark to be sent in a sealed envelope, enclosed in a letter, giving full name and address of the competitor. Drawings will not be accepted.

G. L. DERRIMAN,
Secretary.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, AUGUST 11.—Mr. A. T. Miles' Flock of SOUTHDOWN SHEEP, and about 50 LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS, at Buckwell, Wye, Kent.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.—Sir N. W. Throckmorton's SOUTHDOWN Flock, at Buckland, Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.—About 60 SHORT-HORNS, bred by the Rt. Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux, at Brougham, Penrith.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—About 50 SHORT-HORNS, belonging to Henry Williams, Esq., at Moor Park, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Third and final portion (about 120 head) of the Whitlingham RED POLLED herd, at Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
IMPORTANT GREAT ANNUAL PRIZE SHOW AND SALE OF PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN SHEEP.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9th next.

For prime quality of both mutton and wool, hardiness of constitution, and early maturity, Southdowns are unsurpassed. First class results obtained when crossed with other breeds.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON beg to announce that present entries for this important great annual fixture, which will be held in the market on the above date, consist of

410 SOUTHDOWN SHEARLING RAMS AND RAM LAMBS,

comprising consignments from many of the leading breeders, including several prize winners at the leading shows, and forming altogether the largest and best selection of Southdown Rams and Ram Lambs to be offered anywhere this season.

5,500 SOUTHDOWN EWES,

including a grand show of shearlings, and ewes of all flock ages, from a large number of well-known registered flocks.

Commissions carefully executed.

Catalogues on application to the Auctioneers, 63, East Street Chichester.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12TH, 1905.

BRITFORD FAIR,
One Mile from Salisbury.

THE CHILMARK FLOCK.

MESSRS. WATERS and RAWLENCE are instructed by Mr. JAMES FLOWER to LET and SELL by AUCTION, in the above Fair, on SATURDAY, AUGUST 12th, 1905, at 10.30 o'clock,

100 RAM LAMBS,
2 SHEARLING RAMS, and
100 GRAND BREEDING EWES

from his renowned Registered HAMPSHIRE DOWN FLOCK.

For many years Mr. Flower has enjoyed an important and almost unparalleled prize-winning career in all the Showyards of England, and this season the Chilmark Flock has fully maintained that high position which it has so deservedly won in the Hampshire Down world. The Shearling Rams, Pens of Shearling Ewes, and Pen of Ram Lambs which have gained such distinction have been pronounced most perfect as rams, with that beauty of feature, depth of flesh, and symmetrical form which have made them such noted prize winners; all these essential points will be found in the Ram Lambs and Ewes to be offered at Britford, when the Sale should again prove a record one.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Canal, Salisbury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

200,000 FIDLER'S ECLIPSE Cabbage Plants, 3s. 1,000. W. HORSLEY & SONS, Cliffe, near Rochester, Kent.

Mark Lane Express

SCALE OF ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES.

PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

1 insertion	8/-
6 insertions at	7/- each.
13 " "	6/- "
26 " "	5/- "
52 " "	4/- "

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, and Farms to Let, Sixpence per line. Paragraph Advertisements at foot of reading matter, One Shilling per line per insertion.

☞ Small Advertisements of Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Situations, &c. (under classified headings and set in body type), are charged at the rate of three words a penny (only when accompanied by remittance).

Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MY SPECIALITY.—Imperishable IRON SHEETS, as supplied for 25 years to largest Estates. Once fixed, these are everlasting. Full particulars and prices free. The old house for cheapest Iron Fencing, Gates, Wire Netting, Tanks, Felt, Iron Tubes, and General Estate Requisites. Terms cash.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

SAVE MONEY by writing us for Implements of every description; largest and most complete implement depot in the Midlands; all the leading makes of Mowers, Binders, Horse Rakes, Swath Turners, &c., in stock, for inspection and immediate delivery. Repairs by experienced workmen.—CANNOCK AGRICULTURAL CO., Limited (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock and Stafford.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same material and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 12s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK COVERS (quite new, all sizes), 6 by 6 yards, 21s.; 7 by 6 yards, £1 4s. 6d.; 8 by 8 yards, £1 17s. 4d.; 10 by 10 yards, £2 18s. 4d.; or any size to order at 7d. per square yard; good hemp rope fitted; cash returned if not approved; carriage paid.—From H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

RICK SHEETS! Rick Sheets!! Best Heavy Canvas, roped complete, 8 × 6yds., 30s.; 8 × 8yds., 39s.; 10 × 8yds., 48s.; 10 × 10yds., 59s. Carriage paid. Samples free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

BINDER TWINE! Best quality. 5-ply Jute, 36s.; Manila (mixed), 47s.; (pure), 48s. per cwt. Carriage paid. Samples Free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

FACTORY TO FARM.—Mowing season, 1905. Best Reaper Knife Files 4s. 6d. doz; Sections 2s. doz., Rivets 7d. lb., Fingers 12s. doz. Carriage paid. Cash with order.—JOHN PEACE & SONS, Algoma Works, Sheffield.

DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.—Improved Waterproof Oil Sheets, guaranteed, 1s. 5d. and 1s. 10d. per square yard; any size supplied; galvanised sheep netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 17 gauge, 6s. 3d. per 50 yard roll, other gauges proportionate prices; galvanised wire netting, all widths and meshes at lowest prices; galvanised corrugated sheets, finest quality, 5ft. 1s. 1d.; 6ft. 1s. 3½d.; 7ft. 1s. 6d.; 8ft. 1s. 9d.; 9ft. 2s. 1d.; 10ft. 2s. 5d.; galvanised rick covers, all sizes, at lowest prices; galvanised steel cisterns, 50 gals. 12s. 6d.; 100 gals, 19s. 6d.; 150 gals. 30s.; 240 gals. 46s. All cisterns carriage paid. All sizes stocked. Send for new catalogue

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2d.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 30s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 6d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d.; 8 ft., 1s. 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 30 gals., 8s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineer's' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS—New Sheets, perfect and sound, but slightly soiled by sea water, 3 ft. 6d., 4 ft. 9d., 5 ft. 1s., 6 ft. 1s. 2d., 7 ft. 1s. 4d., 8 ft. 1s. 6d., 9 ft. 1s. 9d., 10 ft. 2s. each; extra strong sheets, 24 w.g., 10s. cwt.; Best New Sheets, 24 w.g., 11s., 26 w.g., 12s. 6d. cwt.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

PLAIN FENCING WIRE, GALVANISED.—English made, perfect but slightly discoloured, 6, 393 yds, 7, 467 yds, 9, W. Gauge, 700 yds. to cwt., 9s. per cwt. Wrought Iron Standards 1s. each.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Estab. 1828.

LATE PURPLE FLATPOLL CABBAGE SEED, for Cattle. Heavy cropper and late keeper; special stock; 6s. lb. —ROSSITERS, Ltd., Seed Growers, Paignton.

THOUSAND HEAD KALE SEED (new), selected pedigree stock, 12s. per bus., cash. Samples free. Rye and rye straw.—BAKER, Meopham, Gravesend.

SEED POTATOES.—Prospective purchasers are invited to inspect trials and crops on my farms, during the season, by appointment.—W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

BASIC SLAG, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phosphates; also 38 to 45 and 30 to 35 per cent. qualities. KAINIT, MOSS LITTER, &c.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent., phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

BASIC SLAG. All qualities at lowest prices, delivered to any station. —PHŒNIX OIL MILL, Liverpool.

PHŒNIX Compound Cakes and Meals for fattening and dairy purposes. The choicest qualities at lowest market prices —PHŒNIX OIL MILL, Liverpool.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading

LAITA.—The best milk substitute for calves, and best results; popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., Carriage paid.—Send 12s. 6d. for a sample bag to R. J. NELL & CO., Ltd., Spiced Food Mills, Louth, Lincs. Agents wanted.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

VESICO SUDORIFIC, for lame and unsound horses, has become a famous and most reliable remedy for Weak Joints, Strained Sinews, Diseased Bone, Puffy Swellings, and other defects. Sold in pots, 2s. 6d, or 5s., through Chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

PUBLICATION.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

EDUCATIONAL.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE CIRENCESTER.

PATRON—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.

FARMING AND COLONIAL BRANCH. ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND FORESTRY BRANCH.—For Land Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc. For Prospectus, with particulars of Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, etc., apply to the Principal. NEXT SESSION begins TUES., OCTOBER 10, 1905.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.

Eighty-third Session.

Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh. The only endowed Veterinary School in Great Britain. Under arrangements, which are now being made, the equipment of the College will be strengthened and modernised, and the teaching facilities greatly increased. An Examination in General Knowledge, for intending students, will be held on JULY 6th, 7th, and and 8th, on SEPTEMBER 7th, 8th, and 9th. Next Session commences TUESDAY, 3rd OCTOBER, 1905. Further particulars may be learned on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

ARMSTRONG COLLEGE NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

(In the University of Durham.)

Professor of Agriculture: Professor DOUGLAS A. GILCHRIST M.Sc.

Secretary: F. H. PRUEN.

For full particulars of B.Sc. (Agriculture), College Diploma, and courses in Agriculture, Forestry, Estate Management, and Dairy Farming, apply to the Secretary.

Session commences September 25th, 1905.

HERIOT-WATT COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.

FERMENTATION AND INDUSTRIAL BACTERIOLOGY.

A Laboratory has been opened under the superintendence of Dr. Emil Westergaard (formerly assistant to Professor Alfred Jorgensen, Copenhagen) for instruction in the Bacteriology and Mycology of Agriculture, Dairying, Fermentation, Tanning, Preserving, Starch, and Sugar Making.

For details of Classes, Fees, &c., please apply to the Principal at the College.

PETER MACNAUGHTON.
S.S.C., Clerk.

20, York Place, Edinburgh.
28th July, 1905.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARMS to be LET in Sussex and numerous other counties. Dairy, Flock and Poultry Farms. 2 to 900 acres. Send 2d. stamps for list, and state requirements to GLADDING & CO., Farm Specialists and Valuers, Hove, Sussex.

FOR SALE, in a port of Manche, a BED of BONE FOSSILS, soluble at 85 per cent., and a CHEMICAL MANURE FACTORY, authorised by the French Government.—Address Mr. MELLET, Carrentan (Manche), or at l'Union des Industries, 83, Rue d'Hauteville, Paris.

GREAT Railroad and Industrial Enterprises are making the Southern States of America the most desirable and attractive location for farmers, stock-growers, gardeners, and fruit growers. The rapid increase in the number of industrial establishments gives to farmers located on the lines of the Southern Railway System the highest range of prices for farm products demanded in that country; at the same time it offers the best bargains in land values; publications sent free.—WM. V. RICHARDS, land Agent, Southern Railway, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

SOUND AGRICULTURAL FREEHOLD FARM of 188 acres, CROSS-BANK FARM, BURNT FEN, about two miles from Burnt Fen or Shippea Hill Stations, and 22 miles from Cambridge. This valuable freehold property of about 188 acres, in a high state of cultivation, with a frontage of about a mile to a main road. There is a capital house, together with stabling, buildings. The outgoings are very low. At present let to an excellent tenant at a rent of £350 per annum.—NICHOLAS DENYER & Co. will SELL, the above by AUCTION shortly, at Bury St. Edmunds. Meanwhile particulars can be had of the Auctioneers NICHOLAS DENYER & Co., 43, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Registered under "The Companies Acts." Established in 1836.

Capital £8,000,000, in 100,000 Shares of £80 each.

REPORT ADOPTED AT THE HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 3RD AUGUST, 1905.

The Hon. GEORGE JOACHIM GOSCHEN, M.P., in the Chair.

The Directors, in submitting to the Shareholders the Balance-sheet for the half-year ending 30th June last, have to report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and allowing £23,256 2s. 11d. for rebate on bills not due, the net profits amount to £264,065 17s. 1d. From this sum has been deducted £50,000 carried to Reserve Fund (raising it to £1,400,000), leaving £214,065 17s. 1d., which, with £66,391 1s. 3d. balance brought forward from last account, leaves available the sum of £280,456 18s. 4d.

The Directors have declared a Dividend for the half-year of 10 per cent., which will require £200,000, leaving the sum of £80,456 18s. 4d. to be carried to the Profit and Loss New Account.

The Directors have appointed Charles John Hegan, Esq., to a seat on the Board, in the place of William Anastasius Jones, Esq., whose decease was referred to at the last General Meeting.

The Dividend, £2 per Share, free of Income Tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the Branches, on or after Monday, 14th August.

BALANCE SHEET

Of the London and County Banking Company, Limited, 30th June, 1905.

DR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Capital subscribed, £8,000,000. Paid up		2,000,000 0 0
Reserve Fund		1,400,000 0 0
Due by the Bank on Current, Deposit, and other Accounts, including provision for Contingencies		44,813,391 7 3
Liabilities on Acceptances, covered by Cash, or Securities or Bankers' Guarantees		2,322,237 12 10
Rebate on Bills not due carried to next Account		23,256 2 11
Net Profit for the Half-Year, after making provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	264,065 17 1	
Carried to Reserve Fund	50,000 0 0	
	214,065 17 1	
Profit and Loss Balance brought from last Account	66,391 1 3	
		280,456 18 4
		£50,839,342 1 4

CR.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash at the Head Office and Branches, and with Bank of England	7,992,034 13 2	
Loans at Call and at Notice, covered by Securities	3,412,986 5 6	
		11,405,020 18 8
Investments, viz.:— Consols registered and in Certificates (at 85), New 2½ per Cents., and National War Loan (£6,894,491 7s. 11d., of which £343,000 0s. 0d. Consols is lodged for Public Accounts); Canada 4 per Cent. Bonds, and Egyptian 3 per Cent. Bonds, Guaranteed by the British Government	6,660,943 6 7	
India Government Stock and India Government Guaranteed Railway Stocks and Debentures	1,021,911 5 9	
Metropolitan and other Corporation Stocks, Debenture Bonds, English Railway Debenture Stock and Colonial Bonds	1,694,639 5 3	
Other Securities	16,744 13 5	
		9,395,293 11 0
Discounted Bills Current	8,784,327 4 3	
Advances to Customers at the Head Office and Branches	18,115,973 16 5	
		26,900,301 0 8
Liabilities of Customers for Drafts accepted by the Bank (as per Contra)		2,322,237 12 10
Bank Premises in London and Country, with Fixtures and Fittings		816,488 18 2
		£50,839,342 1 4

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Interest paid to Customers		94,691 2 1
Salaries and all other Expenses at Head Office and Branches, including Income Tax on Profits and Salaries, Auditors' and Directors' Remuneration		321,828 13 9
Carried to Reserve Fund		50,000 0 0
Rebate on Bills not due, carried to New Account		23,256 2 11
Dividend 10 per cent. for the Half-Year	£200,000 0 0	
Balance carried forward	80,456 18 4	
		280,456 18 4
		£769,632 17 1

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Balance brought forward from last Account		66,391 1 3
Gross Profit for the Half-Year, after making Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts, and including Rebate £27,434 10s. 0d. brought from 31st December last		703,241 15 10
		£769,632 17 1

Examined and audited by us,

(Signed) J. ANNAN BRYCE, GEORGE J. GOSCHEN, W. HOWARD. } Audit Committee of Directors.

G. J. RODOLPH, Head Office Manager.
RICHD. LEMON, Country Manager.
G. K. SMITH, Chief Accountant.

London and County Banking Company, Limited,
17th July, 1905.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with, and we report that we have examined the Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account, dated the 30th June, 1905, have verified the Cash-Balance at the Bank of England, the Stocks there registered, and the other investments of the Bank. We have also examined the several Books and Vouchers and certified Returns showing the Cash-Balances, Bills and other Amounts set forth, the whole of which are correctly stated; and in our opinion the said Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account are properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs as shown by the books of the Company.

(Signed) GEO. H. FABER, HY. GRANT, THOS. HORWOOD, } Auditors.

London and County Banking Company, Limited,
20th July, 1905.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company at the rate of 10 per cent. for the Half-Year ending 30th June, 1905, will be PAYABLE to the Shareholders either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard Street, or at any of the Company's Branches, on or after Monday, the 14th instant.

21, Lombard Street, 4th August, 1905.

By order of the Board,
F. J. BARTHORPE, Secretary.

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TENDER.

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THE WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL is prepared to receive TENDERS for the Supply of HORSE PROVENDER at the Council's Stables at Clapham, Putney, and Wandsworth, for a period of six months, from the 30th September next. Tenders must be delivered here sealed and endorsed "Tender for Provender" on or before MONDAY, the 4th SEPTEMBER next.

Forms of Tender may be obtained at this office. The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender

HENRY GEORGE HILLS,
Town Clerk.

Council House, Wandsworth S.W.,
2nd August, 1905.

POULTRY.

EGGS.—Champion winners of White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks, White, also Brown, Leghorns; 2s. 6d., sitting.—POULTRYMAN, Nafferton Hall, near Hull.

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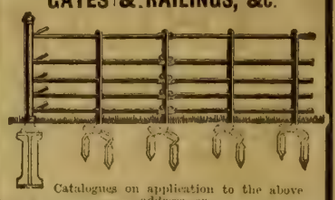

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Indigestible Woody Fibre ...	19·28	Woody Fibre	15·36
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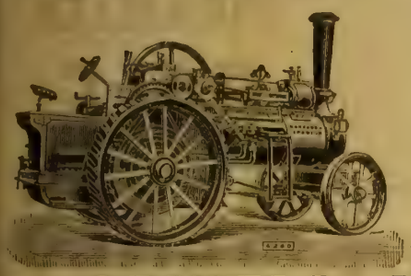

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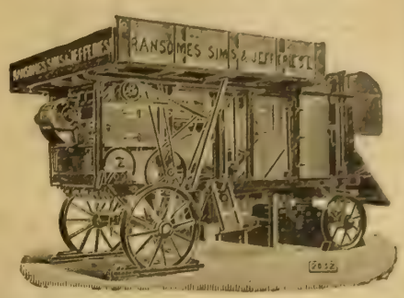

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AUGUST 7, 1905.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER "Mark Lane Express" 1 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE FOOD COMMISSION—THE GOVERNMENT AND BRITISH WHEAT.

On Wednesday last, the long-expected report of the Food Commission was presented to Parliament. The labours which August 2, 1905, ended, were commenced more than two years ago, but the agitation out of which the Commission itself sprang began—at least as early as 1887. The need of a national granary first occurred, in modern times, to the late Captain Bedford Pim, M.P., a versatile and able man, who failed to exert the influence to which he was entitled owing to a love for exaggerated statement.

To-day, when a very important Commission has presented its report, the worthy Captain may be said to be justified, for while a strong minority recommend "immediate practical precautions," a majority, headed by the Prince of Wales, "do not discourage an experiment in the direction of national grain storage." It is true that the majority conclude that "there is no serious cause for public apprehension," but this deals with matters as they stand, and not with matters as they may very quickly come to be. It is a pity that the Commission is not unanimous, but the minority report, signed by the Duke of Sutherland, Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Wharton, Sir. H. Seton-Karr, and Mr. Conynghame, is simply the voice of the majority uttered in a somewhat higher key.

The three points which the Commission may be said to have seen made are: (i) The ability of our Navy to convey all necessary grain imports; (ii.) the very crippling effect that such a duty would have on the same Navy as an offensive weapon against the foe; and (iii.) the ease with which, if grain storage were decided upon, the grain itself could be procured. The Commission speaks with a less certain voice on the cost of the storage exeriment, on the keeping of the grain, and on the relative urgency of the menace. We cannot, of course, expect all things even from the most important Commissions; but the naval experts might have told us more clearly how many battleships and cruisers would be needed to guard our grain against a first-class Power, and the owners of elevators and warehouses might have helped matters by bonâ-fide tenders for actual storage. In London it costs about fifteenpence a month to store 500 lb. of wheat, while for a whole year storage in a warehouse not actually in London five shillings a year is spoken of as ample. A clear understanding of the real cost of the national storage scheme has yet to be arrived at.

Meanwhile, there is one form of national storage which is admirably practical, and needs no elevators or warehouses. The Government can at any time like the present, when the home harvest is in progress, buy the newly-cut wheat of the farmers at a moderate fixed price, say, 30s. per quarter for fair average quality, the farmer to hold it in stack or barn to the order of the Government. If held for six months, 32s. might be paid for it, as the seasoning of holding over winter would add at least a florin to its market value, and this extra price would recoup the farmer for any loss on the bulk of fair average quality grain itself. The Government, of course, could not be expected to take anything below milling quality; but the chicken wheat would equally, of course, be no very great loss to the farmer, seeing that every year the great value of wheat as egg-producing food for poultry becomes manifest. If the Government held the bulk of the home crop, say six million quarters, the importers would be left free to buy and make their own warehouse arrangements. We fancy that they would make large use of the great fleet of unfreighted sailing ships, which is the result of the unusual call for speed and consequent preponderance of steamers. Grain stored in sailing ships pays no rates beyond moorings, and is ready to be towed round to any port where the market is good. The Government, we take it, would put their old wheat on sale about midsummer, when the Board of Agriculture would not only know the acreage of the new crop, but also its prospects. Thus, in a wet and poor season, when, say, only one million quarters were promised from a small acreage, it would be inadvisable to sell out more than four millions, while at a midsummer like that of this year six millions could safely be dispensed with, seeing that at least that quantity of new wheat will clearly be available. If the Government dates of sale and re-sale were fixed by Statute, the trade would be rather steadied than upset by such transactions.

The above considerations are submitted rather to open up discussion than to lay down any fixed rule of policy; this, however, may be firmly indicated, that if the Government takes to buying wheat, the first person to have the right of selling to the Government must be the British farmer.

Our Food Supply in the Time of War.

The Prince of Wales and all the other members of the Royal Commission on Food Supply in Time of War have signed the report which that body has now presented to Parliament. The Commissioners have been engaged nearly two and a half years in their onerous work, having been appointed in April, 1903. Although laid in dummy upon the Table of the House of Commons, the report is still in the hands of the printers, by whom it is expected to be issued next week.

It is understood that the main report, drafted by Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and in which all the Commissioners concur, is, on the whole, reassuring. Allusion is made to the sense of comparative safety derivable from the fact that the whole coasts of these islands could not be blockaded by any enemy, and that the ordinary laws of supply and demand might be trusted under almost every conceivable state of things to ensure us ample importation of food stuffs. It is said that the Commissioners do not discourage an experiment in the direction of storage of grain for times of emergency, but on the whole they conclude that there is no serious cause for public apprehension or uneasiness upon the important subject referred to them.

Whilst all the Commissioners sign the main report, most of them have added separate comments or reservations. One of the most important of these, which may be regarded as almost amounting to a minority report, is signed by the Duke of Sutherland, the Right Hon. H. Chaplin, the Right Hon. J. L. Wharton, Sir H. Seton-Karr, M.P., and Mr. H. S. Conynghame, C.B. There is reason to believe that this reservation takes a more alarmist view of the position, and urges immediate practical precautions. It is pointed out by this minority that at certain seasons of the year there is little more than five and a half weeks' reserve of grain supplies stored in this country, and that, in the event of our becoming engaged in war at such a period, the available supplies of food would soon become exhausted, and famine prices would prevail. It is, therefore, suggested that we should adopt a national system of grain storage, which the signatories in question believe could be provided for at a comparatively moderate cost to the Exchequer.

The Right Hon. Sir Bernhard Samuelson, Bart., P.C., F.R.S., for many years M.P. for Banbury, of 5a, Princes Gate, and Bloxore Grange, Oxford, left estate of the gross value of £755,793, of which £697,225 0s. 9d. is net personality.

Seasonable Topics.

The tropical weather experienced during the past month has brought on the corn amazingly, and everywhere both ear and straw have assumed that hue of rich golden brown which tells of harvest. Indeed, there is certain overlapping in some places, and while we still hear the rattle of the mower on the one hand, the sharp click-click of the reaper and binder is getting to be a familiar sound on the other. A resort to figures, of course, reveals the fact that Great Britain is no longer a corn-growing country in the old sense of the word, and the millions of its population depend more for their grain on the virgin soils of the Far West. But, in spite of this, grand fields of corn prove the fact that the soil of the Old Country has not lost its capacity for growing cereals, neither has the hand of the British farmer lost its cunning in this direction. He has let corn go because opposing forces were too great for him and the crop did not pay. In short, he could not afford to continue playing a losing game, but the interest in British corn-growing is by no means dead. In fact, it seems to be assuming more vigorous life than it has displayed of late, and were we gifted with powers of looking into the future we might see many of the grass fields, which show by the way they are ridged and furrowed, that they were once under the plough, rippling again, a sea of golden corn.

The Corn Harvest.

* * *

A chat with any old countrywoman of the labouring class reveals the fact that women do not take anything like the same share in farm work as they used to do, and, what is more, if the statements of the grandmothers in these days be true, the lives of labourers' wives are light in comparison to the old days. Machinery has, of course, done away with female labour to some extent, but there is neither the necessity nor the inclination on the part of women to go to work in the fields as there was in the youthful days of our grandmothers. In the first place the wages of the men have increased, while the cost of living has been reduced, and therefore there is less need for wives and mothers to be actual earners. Where would have been the chances of bread half a century ago without the gleanings of the wives and children; and if they had not earned a few shillings a week in addition it is hard to know how the family could have lived at all? The style of farming in the district has more to do with the demand for female labour than anything, and in Kent women are probably more in request than anywhere. From the time the first growths need tying till picking is over there is employment for women in the hop gardens, and for the particular kind of work they do they are much better adapted than men. Women, too, are particularly in demand for fruit-picking, and their operations are not wholly confined to bush and ground fruit, as the women scale the long ladders in the cherry orchards with quite as much confidence and agility as the men. Indeed, considering the demand in the hop gardens and fruit plantations for female and juvenile labour, the wage-earning facilities of the farm-labouring class are far greater in Kent than in many other agricultural counties.

Female Labour on Farms.

* * *

On some estates, unfortunately, the preservation of game for sporting purposes seems to be the end and aim of everything, and the interests of the farmers are sacrificed in order that the landlord and his friends can secure record bags on shooting days. It is not surprising if the farmers in such cases chafe, because their position is not unlike that of the man who has some choice bred fowls killed by foxes and is compensated by the hunt at the same rate as if they were mongrel farmyard poultry. Happily there are many estates on which the landlords get abundance of shooting, and this without the tenants suffering material loss through damage done by game, and these are the instances in which the farmers do all they can to provide sport for the owner. Gamekeepers can do much to maintain happy relations between landlords and tenants in regard to game, and where these individuals display reasonable tact there is rarely any friction. In fact, it is wise of the keeper, on behalf of his master, to seek the co-operation of tenant farmers in the preservation of game, because the latter can be of material assistance in this matter. Being continually about his land the farmer often knows of the presence of pheasants' nests and broods of young partridges that are overlooked by the keeper. If encouraged to do so, most farmers will take the trouble to look after the birds on their holdings, and it is a source of pride to many tenants when the landlord gets a good bag on their farms. We delight in seeing these friendly relations between landlords and tenants, because sport and game preservation are beneficial to agriculture up to a certain point, and it is when the interests of the latter are sacrificed for the sake of the former that the wrong comes in.

The Care of Game.

* * *

Of all the public holidays in the year, that which falls on the first Monday in August is doubtless the most popular, because it comes at the height of the summer, when outdoor pleasures may be enjoyed, and a brief respite be taken from the work which has been made oppressive by the tropical weather experienced of late. Of course, Bank Holidays do not affect agricultural workers to the same extent as other people, but the spirit of holiday making on the first Monday in August makes itself felt even in rural districts. We see men who cannot afford the whole day knocking off a little earlier in the afternoon in order to take part in some local amusement, and some of those to whom Bank Holiday makes no difference seem to go about their duties in a half-hearted manner which suggests that they would rather be elsewhere. We know several local but very go-ahead agricultural societies that make a rule of holding their shows on August Bank Holiday, and they gain by doing it, because on that day they obtain the nimble shilling or sixpence of the working men, who would probably be absent if the show were held on any other day. Bank Holiday, again, is the day of village flower shows, and probably more cottage-grown flowers, fruit, and vegetables are displayed in competition on the first Monday in August than any other day in the year. We should like to say a word here in support of these institutions, because we consider that they have a beneficial effect on agriculture. In other words, we want to encourage cottage gardening through the medium of horticultural societies, shows, and other means, because our experience teaches us that the labouring men who take keen interest in the fruit, flowers, and vegetables in their gardens and allotments are invariably good workmen, valuable servants to their employers, and respected members of the local community. For the simple reason that village flower shows encourage cottage gardening, and men who have good gardens which they take a pride in show no restless anxiety to leave their cottages and villages, we hope that climatic conditions on Bank Holiday will contribute to the success of local flower shows.

Bank Holiday.

* * *

It may be observed that there is a growing tendency on the part of townspeople to spend their holidays quietly in the country in preference to long touring journeys and overcrowded seaside resorts. This tendency can be quite understood, because holidays are supposed to be taken for the purpose of change and rest, and what rest there can be when all the day and the greater part of the night are spent in exciting amusement we fail to see. What better place can a jaded city man have in order to obtain that repose of mind and body which he needs than a country farmhouse, which is far removed from busy scenes of turmoil and commercial strife? Here he can do as he likes, dress how he likes, go where he likes, and be sure of getting good, wholesome food to eat. In addition to this, he can often get a little quiet sport, and with mind severed, for the time being, from business responsibilities, it is a wonder if he does not go back to town in every respect a better man. We would urge, however, that this tendency for country holiday-making be encouraged by those who have the necessary accommodation to offer. There are hundreds of big, roomy farmhouses in the country in which apartments could be let for a few weeks in the summer without inconveniencing the family household to any extent, and there are plenty of townspeople who would be glad of such accommodation if they knew where they could get it on reasonable terms. Be it far from us to suggest that the farmer's wife should develop any of the grabbing propensities of the average seaside lodging house keeper, but there are scores of farmers who are not so wealthy that they can afford to discard opportunities of earning an honest shilling, and the letting of apartments during the holiday season certainly offers a chance. Indeed, we know a few farmers' wives, who are no longer tied hard and fast to the dairy on account of all the milk going to London, that put a nice little bit in their pockets by taking holiday boarders. The latter enjoy the change and the rest, and the free country life, and the former find the money useful; so both are satisfied.

Holidays at Farmhouses.

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With the disaster of Park Royal still fresh in the mind, and particulars coming regularly to hand of provincial shows in which the stock is above the average, implement yard up to date, amusements abundant, prizes liberal, and yet a falling off in the attendance, we are inclined to ask whether these gatherings are not getting so common and numerous that the ordinary visitor whose presence contributes to make up the necessary crowd is not growing tired of them. As a matter of fact, you must be an agriculturist to appreciate more than one agricultural show, and this being the case, societies must look to the farming community for support, rather than to the man in the street. But even the enthusiast does not want to go to too many agricultural shows in the course of a season, and it is possible that if two or three societies were to join hands and have one large show, instead of several medium-sized ones, they would all benefit. We do not think that exhibitors would mind so much, particularly the stock breeders, who seem to rely more on foreign markets than showyard triumphs. In fact, foreign cattle-raisers realise that pure-bred British stock is indispensable to them, and animals raised by noted breeders do not need to be boomed at exhibitions. We notice, by the way, that the Gloucester and Wilts Agricultural Societies have respectively decided to withhold their shows next year and to unite in making the Bath and West Show at Swindon a big affair. We cannot help thinking that the decision of both the county societies is a wise one, and in view of the heavy expenses connected with the holding of agricultural shows, and the increasing want of interest on the part of the visiting public, it might be well if some other county societies were to consider the question of amalgamation A straw indicates which way the wind blows, and it is useless to persist in playing a losing game till bankruptcy stares one in the face. Indeed, it seems as if fewer shows at greater intervals must be the order, at any rate for the next few years.

Should Agricultural Societies Combine?

Successful Appeal Against Assessments by the Duke of Grafton.

At the Ixworth Sessions, on Monday, an appeal was entered by the Duke of Grafton against the Assessment Committee of Thetford Union. It transpired that the appeal was in respect of those portions of the Duke's estate which are situated in the parishes of Barnham, Fakenham, Honington, and Sapiston. The magistrates decided to hear the case as regards Barnham first.

It was stated that 4,815 acres were open land, and 318 woodland. The assessment as to the 4,815 acres was disputed. The Duke's assessment as to the parish of Barnham, it was stated, which at one time was £243, had been increased to £729, practically from 1s. an acre to 3s. per acre, which was considered "grossly unfair." His Grace thought the valuation in respect of his hereditaments was unfair and incorrect, the assessment being too great, as the hereditaments were assessed at a higher amount than the net annual value thereof, the rateable value being too high.

Mr. Herbert Trustam Eve, of Bedford, rating surveyor, gave evidence showing that, as to the parish of Barnham, he valued the sheep walks (1,333a. 0r. 24p.) at 9d. per acre, thus amounting to £50; the grass lands (545a. 3r. 3p.) at 1s. per acre, £27 6s.; the brook plantings (79a. 1r. 20p.) at 2s. 6d. per acre, £10. As to the arable land, which included 227a. uncultivated, at 1s. per acre, the amount was £11 7s.; the cultivated arable land (2,629a. 3r. 15p.), at 1s. 6d., £197 5s. He thus reckoned that, for the total of 4,815 0r. 29p., the rating value was £295 18s.

Mr. R. Menzies, of 17, Victoria Street, S.W., stated that he was well acquainted with sporting rights in Norfolk and Suffolk, and knew the light land at Barnham. He agreed with Mr. Eve as to the valuation.

Mr. Frewer, of West Rudham, near King's Lynn, gave similar evidence.

Ultimately the magistrates reduced the assessable value to £420, and ordered costs to follow.

The hearing of the Duke's appeal as to the parishes of Sapiston, Fakenham, and Honington was adjourned until October.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

I pray that the new Poor Law Commissioners will not disregard the necessities of the rural poor. As you listen to the wild tirades and rumbustious prophecies and declamatory assurances of the gentlemen who live out of town-politics, you would imagine that the divine assurance that "The poor ye shall always have with you," meant that "The poor are only deserving of sympathy, and of legislative sympathy, when they are the street-corner loafers of the towns and cities." Providence, according to these gentlemen, meant, in its prophetic declaration, only those ne'er-do-wells who prefer to kick their heels to the heavens in London's parks or Manchester's open spaces, and who in the intervals of doing nothing yawningly denounce the conditions of society which refuse to offer them the work they loathe. The agitation which has led to the promise of the appointment of this Commission was inspired, manœuvred, and machined by men who only care for the agricultural labourers or the derelicts of rural society so long as they can be made pawns in the game of a fellow at the docks who loves work so much that he would lie down by the side of it, or a loafer in the parks who prefers to sleep while work is being done by somebody else, or a gentleman who only dislikes unemployed processions because they give him something to do and require him to exert himself. What are the men interested in rural areas doing? Have they already seen to it, or are they already seeing to it, that the evidence shall not only concern the wastreldom of the city, but shall concern the whitened old fellows whose sin has been agricultural depression and whose only frailty has been to have a cheap and palatable glass of beer in the intervals of a strenuous life? Mr. Balfour is said to be not too friendly to agriculture. He has to obey the prayers placed in the lion's mouth, the hopes offered at the Temple of Apollo! What prayers and hopes have yet come from agriculture?

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A correspondent has written to me to ask my view of the personnel of the Departmental Committee to consider Mr. Rider Haggard's proposal in reference to the establishment of farm colonies. Frankly, I cannot wax enthusiastic over it, a reason why I refused even to reflect upon it last week. First of all, the restrictive character of its operation is an anomaly, and it reveals the fact, despite official phraseology, that the intention of the Government has no sympathy with the anxiety to establish training rural colonies in England. So far as we are concerned, the purpose is not even to inflict a vicarious advantage on agriculture. Its aim is to establish farm colonies in Canada. And the members of the Committee are more or less pedants and officials.

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'Tis a pity that so great a work as this of Mr. Rider Haggard's should be doomed to so poor a result, but if I can read aught of omens, the report of this Departmental Committee is fated to fall on sterile ground. The pedantic element will be supreme; the practical element will be hesitant; the official element will be—well, very official. A very poor prospect, very poor. My condolences to Mr. Rider Haggard. 'Tis an impoverished return for his excellent work. Will Mr. Sidney Webb draft the report? He has skilled in the report, and the reports fill a usual place in the national archives. Will they have any other value?

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I have been reducing adipose tissue for a week—aye, even been away from the House of Commons—in that calm and somnolent area of romance, Hampshire. Report says—the report, that is, of the politicians—that the rural labourers are stung into revolt by the indignant scentiment inspired by the suggested tax upon articles of food. It may be so, but not even an echo of the turmoil reached me, not even a breath. "I sought the brae and bracken through and through, the thorny thicket and the meadow too"; but to tell truth no reverberating rumble of a popular discontent reached me. I might have been in Bœotia, and all around the dull monotony of apathy and somnolence. Mr. Chamberlain may take heart of grace, so far as this fact is concerned. This experience has at least led me to the conviction that if Liberal victories have been won in rural areas—and most assuredly they have been won—it has been because of other issues beside the economic.

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One old labourer did say, "Well, if they be gayng to put the price on bread so that we may have a bit more wages, I'd like to have the bit more wages fust, like, to be safe." This, however, was the only evidence of the great economic issue having seriously infected the Hampshire mind. But, most excellent messieurs of the Conservative headquarters, doesn't this suggest to you the wisdom of at once shaping your faith in the direction of rural sympathy? Do for the town unemployed what thou wouldst, but think of the grievances of the rural areas. As a mere speculative investment it would pay. You have neglected those areas, and, short-sighted in your self-opinion, you have given the Radicals a good chance. Let us be frank and ask ourselves the question, Would they not be fools if they didn't accept it?

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"He did not think that the British farmer could throw any stones nowadays at the landlord because the rents are too high." A sentiment from Lord Wenlock's recent speech at the Malton show. I will go farther, and declare that it would be impossible to find in any section of the British community any other body who would so willingly relinquish a serious part of their income in order to benefit and relieve the anxieties of men on whose regularity of payment their income depends. Let us for a moment contrast the attitude of the landlords of this community with the attitude, say, of the anti-landlords—let us take, for instance, the attitude of the paid professionals among the urban working-men advocates. Do you ever hear of the latter summoning the men together who pay them their incomes and saying, "My dear fellows, I know you cannot meet your responsibilities. Let me ask you to pay me a third less salary than ever you have done before. Believe me, that when you have 'docked' my wages in this fashion, I shall ever esteem, honour, and love you." If we did meet a romantic fellow of this texture we should love him with an affection ever enduring. But yet, my Lord Wenlock—"but yet," as Shakespeare said, "is a monstrous malefactor"—there is the fact that all landlords are not cast in the same divine mould. There be landlords, and there be landlords. The latter, who exact the uttermost farthing, are in the minority; and the question arises, What shall we do with these? Good sirs, we can do naught. I can hear Lord Wenlock asking me what I would suggest to adjust the situation? I answer that I can suggest nothing; but I do say that the differentiation of treatment in this matter constitutes a grave and almost a potent question. Why not, then, introduce land courts? The fact is that neither landlords nor farmers are anxious for a disciplinised system of revising rents. It is out of harmony with the English rural sentiment; and this fact is of more significance than all the perfected sentiments of those Olympian gentlemen who know no more about land than they do about heaven.

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I do not know what provision the State makes for its older rural postmen. This week, whilst luxuriating in the environs of the New Forest—I was at a quaint little place called Chandler's Ford, and was happy after having enjoyed a most succulent chop at that comfortable hostelry, The Hut Hotel—when I met, trudging sturdily along the road, the postman. His immediate destination was, I think, Eastleigh. A silvered haired old fellow, bearded not quite like the pard, himself still alert, and possessing that agility which comes from lithe sinew and that contented mind which comes from good health. Twenty-five years had he been in the State's service, twenty-five years with only a day or so for the luxury of illness. How many miles a day had he trodden? Beshrew me, but I think he told me not less than eighteen or twenty. "I be paid, ye see, for twelve and a half miles; but, ye see, I 'a' to go up and give in the letters. Why, everybody got a bit a-garden, and sometimes 'tis a bit more. I must go up here—good day." And the old fellow left me, speaking in that fine vernacular which, with the burr, is the very reflection of the strength of the Hampshire character, to follow an avenue of fifty yards, may be a hundred, to deliver a letter.

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Redolent of the clay he came from was this old Hampshire postman! Who knows but that it was his ancestor who sang—was I not in the district of the novelist's heroes?—Conan Doyle's melody, "The Song of the Bow"? "I been here always," had said he, "and my forbears afore me." Who knows but that his forbears were the men of Crecy, of Poictiers, of Agincourt, the Hampshire clothshaftsmen who made England great? And what is the State going to do for him by-and-bye, he who is doing that State an honourable service in the interest of civilisation and of comfort? Honest, silvered, bent old man, your future will not be made as fragrant as it might be by a State proud of your fidelity! "As excellent an official as ever post-office had!" This was the verdict of mine host at the Hut when I returned another day to enjoy another well-cooked chop. A cynical world, my masters—a cynical world!

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Well in advance of the season—and it is always best to order early—Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, the King's seedsmen, Carlisle, have issued their bulb catalogue for 1905. It contains nothing strikingly new, but gives details of some reliable bulbs, especially recommended for early flowering, and other varieties of plants.

A practical farmer needs not to be told the advantage of book-keeping, but there are many agriculturists who are unacquainted with this useful business method, and to them "Principles and Practice of Booking for the Farm, Garden, Dairy, and Estate," by J. O. Peet, B.Sc., and H. Taylor, will prove of immense value, whilst it should prove of the utmost service to students attending courses of instruction in agriculture, horticulture, etc. It is published at a moderate price by Mr. H. Taylor, Broadway Buildings, Reading.

Lord Hawke, the captain of the Yorkshire Eleven, has written an article on cricket in the "Unwritten Laws of Sport" series for the August number of the "Badminton Magazine of Sports and Pastimes." There is no greater authority on cricket living than Lord Hawke, and his remarks on the etiquette of the game are well worth the attention of every cricketer, who will also be interested by a paper from L. C. Braund, the famous all-round Somerset player, on "The Importance of Fielding." In the "Royal Homes of Sport" series "The Schorfheide" is described by permission of the German Emperor, who has also allowed several photographs from his private collection to be reproduced in the article. "The Cost of Shooting," by Percy Stephens is a particularly careful paper on the economy of the sport, and grouse shooting in Scotland and in Norway is contrasted by Nicholas Everitt. The series of photographs of the Devon and Somerset Stag Hounds give a good idea of a day with this well-known pack. The editor writes on "The First Half of the Racing Season," and there is a continuation of the discussion on "A New Seat for Race Riding," bridge, etc., and a further instalment of the "Strange Stories of Sport."

At Blackenbrae Farm, Kenmure, Bishopbriggs, near Glasgow, on Tuesday, three stacks of hay became ignited, and damage was done to the extent of £150.

Drought in the North Riding of Yorkshire.

SIR,—The prospects this season are the worst in this immediate district that I can remember.

The hay crop was all well got, but the quantity about one-half the usual one. Turnips are very scarce—indeed, many farmers have ploughed them out. Calving cows are selling well, but young stock can hardly be cashed.

There is at present no fogg, but should rain come this should be remedied. Many of the fields, viewed from a distance, resemble arable land rather than grass. I am afraid the back-end promises very badly. This part has, I think, had the least rain of any. I have heard and seen wet within thirty miles of this part, but none has come here. Many springs are dry, and cattle have to be taken in many places some distance to water. T. F. K.

August 1, 1905.

Prospects in the Westmorland Lake District.

SIR,—The hay crop here on the low lands is good, but I hear of bad crops in the hilly lands owing to the dry May and June.

Our turnips here are also good, but in Cumberland and parts of Westmorland they are very deficient; here we have had just enough rain to keep them going, though the first sowing had to be resown, as the fly took them. Potatoes are being bothered by the rooks a good deal; I suppose this also is because of dry weather.

The corn is fairly promising, straw not very long, of course.

The lamb crop has been a fairly good one, and sheep are doing well. Milking cows are cheap, as they have been now since last autumn. The mutton trade is good.

The wool trade is quiet at present, and prices offered have dropped slightly during the last fortnight, but farmers are holding out, expecting a firmer tone again. B. F.

August 1, 1904.

Harvesting in Herefordshire.

SIR,—The wheat is healthy, but many fields will cut up very light. I think it will not be more if an average crop. Barley is fully an average crop, and unless we get bad weather the quality will be very good.

Oats will not be an average. Winter oats very heavy, but much laid. Spring oats are the worst crop we have. Beans are very good—considerably over an average.

Peas are a fair crop, but not many grown. Not many potatoes grown except for our own consumption; not a good crop.

The hops everywhere look very well, and so far are generally free from disease.

Roots vary very much, but on the whole are not an average.

The hay crop was generally a light one, and grass is short, but the pastures are not burnt up much as yet, but want rain badly.

The apple crop is a poor one, about one-third crop. Beef and mutton has been selling badly the last two or three weeks, partly, no doubt, owing to the hot weather.

Harvest has begun generally. D. E.

August 1, 1905.

Want of Water in Westmeath.

SIR, Up to a few days ago the season has been marked by great heat and drought, such as has not been for at least eighteen years.

In consequence, many districts are suffering from want of water, supplies, never in living memory having failed, being now quite dry.

The hay harvest is well advanced, quite three-quarters of this crop being saved, though both old and new meadows were much below average.

Pastures are in many parts very dried up and burnt, though cattle spared them in the hot days, being unable to venture out of shelter until late in the evening, and where not sheltered were exhausted with running to escape the swarms of flies. It is a pity there is not some reliable and lasting smear or dip the application of which would ensure the cattle a little freedom from the attacks of these pests.

The harvest will be in full swing by the middle of next month. The oat crop looks well, though the straw, especially on light land, is very short.

Wheat, though early, looks very well.

Potatoes promise to be a record crop, and have been selling at excellent prices.

Turnips and mangels, where not sown before the late frosts, are doing very well. Many farmers, tempted by the fine weather, sowed too early, with the result that second and even third sowings were frequent.

Beef continues to be at a very bad price, and with the high prices of stores last spring, the profits to the feeder will be very small.

July 31, 1905. R. R.

Sussex.

Sir,—The hay crop is generally a good one, and all well harvested. Wheat is the best crop, heavy in most places. Corn, where early sown, is also a good crop, and barley; but where late planted it is short and, and this hot sun has forced it to ripen too quickly. The corn and barley will be light per bushel. Very little of the late-planted oats will make over 37 lb. the bushels. Mangels look well where early planted, backward where late sown.

I have not seen a good field of swedes anywhere, the land being far too dry. They do not grow after being singled; the hot sun shrivels them up. Pastures are also getting bare.

Potatoes are good where planted early, but there are not many planted in the fields in this district.

JOHN CAMPBELL.

August 2.

Hants.

Sir,—The best crop of the year is wheat. I have not seen it looking better for many years. Barley looks fairly well. Oats put in early are good, but those put in late are very short in straw and uneven.

Upland hay is light, but owing to the beautiful rain in June, the meadow hay is quite an average crop. Roots are doing well. There are no beans grown about here, and very few peas.

Sheep have done well, and there has been a fair trade for good quality lambs. At the recent fairs ewes and lambs made 2s. to 3s. per head more than last year. Cattle have done well, but there is a very poor trade for fat cattle, except those that are of the very best quality.

Hops are very promising.

One of the most remarkable features of the season has been the extremes of weather. Previous to June 6 the weather was much against all growth. The eight nights' frosts in May were followed by dry winds, and everything was deteriorating daily, but the splendid rain in the second week of June, which continued for a week, quite altered the situation, there now being a promise of good average crops all round.

FREDERICK CORYTON.

August 2, 1905.

Harvest in Hampshire.

SIR,—Wheat and oats are nearly all cut in this district, but the fine rain we are having to-day will stop all harvest operations for a day or two. Wheat generally is above an average. Winter and February sown oats are good, but later sown pieces are generally light and cut down very disappointingly. Barley an average crop, but I think it has ripened too quickly to be a good sample, and will be ready for the binder in a few days: I heard of one piece being cut on the 1st. Hay (clover, mixtures, and sainfoin), although only two-thirds of an average crop, was generally well secured, and, with a quantity of old hay on hand, we are well provided for another winter.

Sheep and cattle have done well. Lambs are specially dear, and, with an improved prospect of roots after to-day's rain, they are likely to become more so. J. H. G.

August 3, 1905.

Messrs. Alexander Cross and Sons, Ltd. of Glasgow, who handle the production of basic slag (Thomas Phosphate Powder) in Scotland, have just entered into a contract with the Cargo Fleet Iron and Steel Company, of Middlesbrough, to dispose of their make. It is expected that the production will begin in September, and will be from 10,000 to 15,000 tons for the first year, increasing to 30,000 to 40,000 tons during the succeeding years. Large though these figures are, this is not really a great quantity of this valuable manure material, the efficacy of which is daily being more seen and understood by agriculturists throughout the country. It is, therefore, anticipated that the whole make will go into consumption round the seat of production. Mr. R. G. Hill, of Hull, has been appointed manager of the grinding plant at Cargo Fleet and salesman, and will shortly open an offices there.

OBITUARY.

Mr. J. A. Hempson.

We regret to record the death of Mr. J. A. Hempson, of Arwarton Hall, Suffolk, who was well known in agricultural circles in East Suffolk. His form had been a prominent aand familiar one for many years at the various meetings of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture, and other county and local organisations more or less intimately connected with the great agricultural cause.

The late Mr. Hempson had attained the ripe age of eighty-three years, and much sympathy will be felt with his family.

Proposed Agricultural Organisation Society for Scotland.

The agricultural organisation and co-operation movement is growing strong in Scotland, and it has been decided to form a Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society on similar lines to the English association. At a recent meeting of the Preliminary Committee (Sir John Gilmour of Montrave, Bart., in the chair), it was announced that guarantees had already been received from landed proprietors and farmers to the amount of £647 per annum towards meeting expenses for each of the first three years.

It was decided, however, to make an effort to increase the guarantee fund to £1,000 per annum, for the double purpose of spreading the interest in the movement and enabling the committee to make the calls on the individual guarantors as low as possible. The meeting resolved to take immediate steps to appoint a secretary, and also to hold a meeting in the beginning of November for the purpose of formally inaugurating the society.

The Park Royal Shows: Some Suggestions.

A correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," writing under the nom de plume of "Popularity," makes the following interesting remarks concerning the Royal Shows at Park Royal, and we think there are many who will agree with him in his proposal re the Crystal Palace. He says:

"Why is Park Royal not successful in drawing a good 'gate'? It is because the fact is not boldly recognised that the sightseers of the metropolis take a superficial interest in agriculture. But the London public will attend an exhibition which promises them entertainment as well as instruction. And Londoners do not stand alone in this respect. Park Royal, in fact, in order to draw more visitors from all parts of the country, must offer extraneous attractions. Tring Park Show sets the example—it 'descends' to fireworks even. I use the word 'descend' because I am afraid that the Royal Agricultural Society may consider it beneath their dignity to adopt a popular programme. Then, too, there is the question of ways and means, the suitability of Park Royal for an agricultural fête, and the aptitude of its staff to become showmen in the ordinary entertaining sense.

"But there is an alternative. I would suggest that the society sell Park Royal. The 100 acres as a building estate would bring in the £30,000 which they cost. The next step would be to open up negotiations with the directors of the Crystal Palace. If automobile exhibitions can be so largely attended at Sydenham, and football contests draw thither immense crowds, it is equally possible an agricultural show would also be immensely successful.

"In any event, the society need run no risk. The Crystal Palace Company, no doubt, would pay for the privilege. The building offers unexampled facilities for such a show, and the grounds are all that could be desired, with space for cattle pens and arenas for horsemanship displays already laid out. Run upon popular lines, with the regular programme of the Crystal Palace to supplement it, and including special firework displays, I can readily conceive that an agricultural show of an up-to-date character would prove not only useful, but remunerative."

Leeds Municipal Milk.—At a meeting of the Leeds City Council, on Wednesday, the Lord Mayor stated that as a result of a consultation which the Town Clerk had had with eminent counsel they had come to the conclusion that the Corporation had no legal power to proceed with a municipal milk depot. Believing, however, in the desirability for the establishment of such an institution, he was prepared to give £200 towards the formation of such a depot on voluntary lines pending the obtaining of the necessary legal powers to found a municipal milk depot.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

PARK ROYAL SHOW. ... ... Expenditure £19,000. Receipts ... £11,200.

ADJOURNED ANNUAL MEETING.

The adjourned annual general meeting of governors and members of the Royal Agricultural Society was held at 13, Hanover Square, London, W., on Tuesday last, Sir John Thorold, Bart., president, in the chair. There were present:—Earl of Feversham, the Earl of Jersey, Lord Middleton, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, Sir Walter Gilbey, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., and Sir John Gilmour, the attendance numbering upwards of one hundred and fifty.

After the Chairman had called upon the Secretary (Sir Ernest Clarke) to read the notice summoning the meeting, he explained that the ordinary business of the society was transacted at the meeting at Park Royal, and they were assembled that day in exceptional circumstances in order to enable the new Council, elected for the first time in the several districts, to get to work as soon as possible. They hoped to have the advantage of the exceptional experience of the Earl of Onslow as president this year, but he had come to the conclusion that the demands likely to be made on his time would keep him fully occupied, and that considering his duties elsewhere he had better be excused. They would still, however, have his assistance and advice as an elected member of the Council. They might think themselves fortunate in the fact that they were able to propose for the presidency Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, of Linton Park, Maidstone. He was well known for his countesy, patience, clear-headedness, and insight into affairs—qualities which would be invaluable during the somewhat critical times on which the society had entered. He moved that Mr. Cornwallis be elected to hold the office of president until the next annual meeting.

Mr. Lawrence Hardy, M.P., seconded the motion, and it was carried with much heartiness.

Mr. Cornwallis, in responding, said he trusted that by their united efforts they would once again be able to estabusn the society on a sound and hopeful basis.

The following were elected as trustees for the ensuing year:—The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Bedford, Earl Cawdor, the Earl of Coventry, the Earl of Derby, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Sir Walter Gilbey, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton, Earl Spencer, and Sir John H. Thorold.

The President, in submitting the names of eleven governors for election as vice-presidents made feeling allusion to the death of Sir Jacob Wilson.

The following were elected vice-presidents, the president intimating that the appointment to the vacancy caused by the death of Sir Jacob Wilson would be made by the Council:—Prince Christian, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Mr Henry Chaplin, M.P., Mr. P. Crutchley, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, Mr. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P., the Earl of Feversham, the Earl of Jersey, the Hon. Cecil T. Parker, and Mr. C. Whitehead.

The President next announced the names of the ordinary members of Council who had been elected to represent the several divisions of the society. Of the forty-eight divisions entitled to representation on the Council four were given two members, and one (London) three members, the rest having one each. Four vacancies for Cornwall, Dorset, Essex, and South Wales were still to be filled, and this would be done by the Council, as no effective nominations had been made. In eleven districts contested elections had taken place, and of the fifty members elected to the Council twenty-six were old members and twenty-four.

The full list of the new Council appeared in our issue for July 31, page 148.

Park Royal Deficit.

The President made a statement as to the loss on the show held at Park Royal a month ago. "You will understand," he said, "there is a good deal to be settled by various committees who will not, in the exceptional situation arising out of the operation of the new by-laws, have an opportunity of meeting until the new Council is duly constituted and come into office, as it will do immediately after this meeting. It is estimated that the total expenditure on the show will be £19,000, of which only £11,200 will be covered by the receipts of the show itself. The donations and guarantees promised to the show fund will yield about £6,300, so that the difference of £7,800 between expenditure and receipts will be reduced to some £1,500—a charge which must of course, fall upon the society's general fund, already largely depleted by heavy losses on shows of previous years. The situation requires patience and calmness, if the best interests of the society are to be safeguarded, and I feel confident it will be your wish to give the new Council, reinforced as it has been by so many fresh members, adequate time to consider in all its bearings the difficult, but, I hope, not irremediable position in which the society after two generations of usefulness now unfortunately finds itself." (Hear, hear.)

In response to the usual question put from the chair as to whether those present had any suggestion to make,

Surgeon-Major Ince advised that they should get rid of Park Royal and should take steps to dispose of the palace in which they were then sitting. Other quarters would serve the purposes of the society, and he suggested that they might resume at 12, Hanover Square, where they were sufficiently well housed for a number of years.

Mr. E. Hamlyn, one of the candidates for Surrey, said he was much struck during his candidature at the number of landowners, masters of hounds, and others in Surrey who were not members, and had not been asked to become members. What the society needed was more members, and he suggested that each County Committee should act as a recruiting committee. Rather than give up the fine building the society possessed, he advocated that it should be converted into a club-house, which could be done at little expense, and in that way many new members would doubtless be induced to join.

Mr. Packard regarded the present buildings as unnecessarily extravagant. If the new Council succeeded in giving some evidence of improving the affairs of the society, many life members would, he believed, be willing to forego their privileges as such, and become ordinary members. Park Royal, from the exhibitor's point of view, had been a greater success than any other locality ever selected for the show, and that, he submitted, ought to be considered in dealing with the future of the society. Drastic economies were imperative. Mr. Packard also asked if the Secretary would undertake the editorship of the society's journal in addition to his present duties.

The Chairman replied that that was a matter which would come under the cognisance of the new council.

Mr. Simmons advocated that the society should give up its premises, fix the secretary's salary at £500 a year, limit the expenses to £2,000 a year, have a show "pure and simple," and sell the estate at Park Royal for building purposes.

Sir Wilfrid Lawson, in moving a vote of thanks to the president, congratulated the meeting on the peaceful way in which the proceedings had been got through, and regarded the circumstance as a happy augury of a successful issue from their difficulties.

Mr. E. Hamlyn seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Sir John Thorold, in replying, pointed out that if they sold that house the debenture-holders would have to be paid, and they would have to take another place. It might be possible to let off some rooms to other societies, and probably that would be the most economical course. He was sure that whatever differences of opinion there might be, they were all actuated by the one desire to do the very best that could be done for the future success of the society and to meet all difficulties with spirit and good temper.

The Council Meeting.

A monthly council was held on Tuesday, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (President) in the chair.

The President, in opening the proceedings, said that as by the goodwill of the general body of members he had been called upon to take the Chair at a crisis of the Society's history, he would like to take advantage of the opprtunity of first addressing the Council, not only to thank the Society for this mark of its confidence in electing him as President, but of asking—as he knew he would not do in vain—for their kindness and consideration if he fell short of all that was expected in the occupant of the Chair. Those of them who had had seats on the old Council were glad to have their ranks reinforced by the fresher minds of so many new colleagues. They cordially welcomed them all, and felt sure that their help and counsel would be of the greatest possible service to the Society at large. Their first duty would be, in the words of the report presented to the general meeting last December, "to deliberate and decide as to the future of the Society's shows, and as to the character and scope of the Society's other operations." These were matters which would obviously demand their immediate and serious attention, though it would not be expected that they could come to any decision without careful deliberation and, doubtless, prolonged discussion.

The Late Sir Jacob Wilson.

The President said it was his melancholy duty to notify to the Council a vacancy in the list of Vice-Presidents, caused by the lamented death of Sir Jacob Wilson. The eloquent testimony borne by Sir John Thorold at the general meeting of members, held that morning, to the great esteem and personal affection which they all had for Sir Jacob, was so fresh in their minds that he would only ask to be allowed to say that they associated themselves with every word that fell from Sir John Thorold.

In accordance with the Standing Orders, the vacancy would be referred to the Committee of Selection, who would, at a later date, present to them a recommendation on the subject.

Finance—Loss on the Show.

Sir Nigel Kingscote reported from the Finance Committee that the accounts for the period ended July 29, 1905, as certified by the Society's accountants, showed receipts amounting to £6,438 6s. 8d., and expenditure amounting to £7,146 15s. 2d. Accounts amounting in all to £12,035 12s. 5d. relating to the recent show (including cheques for the prizes awarded), and to £1,671 8s. 11d., relating to the ordinary business of the Society, or £13,707 1s. 4d. in all, had ben passed and were recommended for payment. The Committee also presented a special report, giving particulars of the Society's obligations, and stating that, irrespective of the Guarantee Fund, the actual receipts for the show of 1905 were £11,200, while the expenses would be some £19,000, or a deficit of £7,800. The donations of £6.300 would reduce the actual loss, which would fall on the Society's general funds from the holding of the show of 1905, to about £1,500.

Appointment of Standing Committee.

Sir John Thorold, pursuant to notice, moved for the appointment of a committee consisting of old and new members of the Council, with the President, ex-officio, to consider the composition of each of the Standing Committees, such committee to be asked to sit after the rising of the Council.

Colonel Curtis-Hayward seconded the motion for the appointment of the committee.

Mr. C. W. Wilson thought the committee proposed was too small, and suggested the appointment of a General Purposes Committee of business men capable of grasping the whole situation, which would obviate the appointment of some of these committees.

Mr. Harrison thought the work of appointing committees should be done by the Council themselves, and wished to move an amendment that the appointment of committees should be proceeded with at once.

Earl Spencer said he had much experience in various capacities as to the formation of committees, and he considered the best course would be for the Council to appoint a Committee for this purpose.

The Earl of Onslow entirely agreed with Lord Spencer's views. It would be very invidious, extremely difficult, and not at all satisfactory to endeavour to elect all the committees of the Council at that meeting. At the same time, he agreed that a committee of eight members, with the President, would be too small, and he would ask Sir John Thorold whether he would agree to enlarge his proposed committee to sixteen members, or even more.

Sir John Thoroid said that what he had suggested was in effect that the Council should delegate to a committee the duty of reconstructing the various Standing Committees, and he was quite willing that such committee should be enlarged to sixteen members, or any other number that might be preferred. The Standing Committees as reconstituted by the Special Committee would all be summoned as usual to meet on the day before the next Council, and the first item of each of their reports would be a mention of the names of those composing the committee. It would then be open to any member of the Council to move an amendment to the constitution of such committee if he wished to do so.

Mr. Aveling thought there might be hesitation in moving such an amendment in Council.

Mr. Howard suggested that members who desired to be on particular committees should communicate with the Secretary, in order that such requests might be duly considered.

Mr. Ralph Palmer said he was convinced that

an executive committee was the proper solution of the Society's difficulties in managing its business, and he desired an opportunity of taking the sense of the Council on the subject.

After some further discussion as to the proposed committee and the composition thereof, the appointment of a committee of sixteen members was unanimously agreed to, and the committee was constituted as follows:—

The President, Lord Middleton, the Hon. Cecil Parker, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Sir John Thorold, Bart., Mr. Adeane, Mr. Aveling, Mr. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Carr, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Forrest, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Ingram, Mr. Rowell, M. Stratton, Mr. Thornton, Mr. Wheeler.

This Committee sat after the Council, under the chairmanship of Sir John Thorold, and completed its labours. It was agreed that the first meetings of the Standing Committees as reconstituted should be held on October 3.

Vacancies on the Council.

The President reported that no representatives had been elected to serve upon the Council for the Electoral Districts of Cornwall, Dorset, Essex, and South Wales, and he suggested that the question of filling up these vacancies under By-law 90 should be referred to the Committee of Selection. This course was, after a short discussion, agreed to.

Suggested Show at Blackpool.

A letter from the Town Clerk of Blackpool, inquiring "if it would be convenient at any and what date for the Society to receive a deputation from the borough with a view to the show of the Royal Agricultural Society being held at Blackpool at a date to be arranged," was postponed for future consideration.

The Position of the Society.

The Council then resolved itself into Committee for the purpose of discussing the general position of the Society.

Mr. Bowen-Jones said he had received a letter from Mr. Ryland, who, he was sorry to say, was too unwell to attend their meeting that day, putting forward certain suggestions. Mr. Ryland suggested that an entirely independent Committee of old and new members of the Council qualified by practical business knowledge should be forthwith appointed, with power to call for any information from officials, and to employ professional assistance, if they consider it necessary, from accountants, solicitors, and valuers, to thoroughly investigate the entire position of the Society, and to make a report to the Council as to what reforms and economies they considered desirable to put the Society on a sound footing again.

Mr. Forrest having seconded the motion for the appointment of such a Committee,

Mr. Stratton said he desired strongly to support the proposition made by Mr. Bowen-Jones. He thought that a Committee of the kind mentioned was most desirable in order to restore the confidence of the members. He thought it would be expected of the members of the Council that they would ventilate their views with regard to the future of the Society. They were undoubtedly in a serious position, but a Society like theirs with 10,000 members had not lost its prestige, and would go on and prosper provided they started on economical lines. The show had, unfortunately, been a great source of loss for some years, so far as making money at the gates was concerned; but so far as general business was concerned, and the quality of the exhibits, they had never had a better show than that held at Park Royal this year. That view was endorsed by the implement makers, as well as by the exhibitors of stock, and he maintained that there lay the element of their success. He was of opinion that those who profited by the show should pay a larger share of the expenses. They could not be continually appealing to the public to carry on the show. Those who exhibited gained benefit by the show, and every owner of pure-bred stock was a great gainer. If the show ceased to exist, the value of pedigree stock would go down throughout the country. He had always been of opinion that it was necessary to offer high prizes, and to have small entry fees, but he was bound to admit that high prizes were not necessary to secure a first-class show. He must also admit that they could not get low entrance fees; it was the duty of exhibitors to pay higher fees. He maintained if they could not do that they could not have the show. The show would, he believed, be none the worse if they charged double the present fees. Another question was with regard to the size of the show. It seemed to him that the ground might be very considerably curtailed, and they might let off a portion, if not sell a portion, and possibly better terms could be arranged than those offered at the present time.

He was aware that it was said that as they had borrowed money on low terms on Hardwood House it did not cost them much more than ordinary offices would cost. He could not help thinking, however, that members looked upon that house as a standing hindrance to economy. The house was certainly a most valuable asset, but to continue to use it as offices for the Society in its present position was certainly the reverse of economical. It was necessary to dispose of the house to propitiate their members, and unless they were propitiated the Society would never be successful. The sooner the public knew they were going to work on those lines, the sooner their membership would increase.

With regard to the Journal, the general opinion was that it was not worth the money it cost, and if they had to curtail anything, they must curtail expense in that direction.

Sir Walter Gilbey felt that he must disabuse Mr. Stratton's mind on one point. He was certain that they could not increase their income by increasing the entry fees for the show. He was persuaded that few even of those present were aware of the great cost that every agricultural show entailed. He had had the honour of being President of the Society for the Leicester Show, and he thought it would surprise them to know how much money was locally subscribed, not only coming out of the pocket of the Mayor, but money from the district to secure the show being held.

Mr. Harrison said he had supported the show going to Park Royal this year, as they were aware, although at the present time he was in favour of the migratory shows; and he would like to explain why he supported going to Park Royal this year. It would be in the remembrance of many members that they had called a meeting of the Implement Exhibitors to consent or otherwise to a show being held. The only possible place at which a show in 1905 could be held was Park Royal, and, after some difficulty, the Implement Exhibitors decided to go there. He might say now, however, that he feared Park Royal would not receive the same support again from Implement Exhibitors. He thought that if any sensible man would look at the facts, he would see that Park Royal as a site for the show was doomed. With respect to migratory shows, he was not at all in agreement with Sir Walter Gilbey. He (Mr. Harrison) was fully of opinion that if they went back to the country, and associated themselves with the county societies, they would get invitations to hold the show in the country. The great question was finance, and the acquisition of new members. To his mind, the show was the practical expression of the Society, and if the show did not exist, the membership would fall down, and Hanover Square could not exist. The administrative expenses might be said to be a perennial question, but it was a vital question. He quite agreed with a previous speaker that the new Council would have to act very drastically with the expenditure at Hanover Square. He could say at once that he knew of five or six towns where there was a site available for the show, if they would go backto the provinces. Park Royal was, he hoped, their great asset. Although they might not hold another show at Park Royal, they should try to retain the land at Park Royal as a land speculation, and he believed that even with the interest paid, by the time the right of pre-emption expired, they would get such a sum as would leave a good profit.

Mr. Mathews said he thought the Committee ought to know the view of the members generally, because he thought that was a mistake they made some time ago, when they decided to have a permanent show at Park Royal. He would like a circular sent to every member of the society, to include a number of questions as to whether:

1. The member is in favour of holding a show in 1906?

2. If so, whether it should take place at Park Royal or elsewhere?

3. If in favour of the show, he would contribute, in the case of a life member £1, and in the case of an ordinary member £2, towards the show?

4. If not in favour of continuing the shows, what should the society do to keep itself in evidence before the members?

He suggested that each member of Council should undertake to send out such a circular to the members of the society resident in his own county. The answers should be sent to the member of Council, and he should be asked to analyse them, and send the results to the Special Committee, as it would be a great help to the Committee in coming to a decision with regard to the show. His own impression was that the majority of replies would be in favour of a show somewhere next year.

Colonel Curtis-Hayward said that before a committee set to work on the question as to how to put their house in order, he thought they ought to decide the question as to whether or not a permanent showyard was the best for the society. He believed that the majority of their members considered that the whole of their disasters were caused by their having given up the migratory show, but he thought that they could not sufficiently have read the report of the committee, which showed the failure of the migratory show system. A suggestion had been made that day that they should call a conference of representatives of the local agricultural societies. If this proposal was adopted, the Council could ascertain authoritatively whether there were any sites in the different districts for the society's show, whether the county societies were prepared to co-operate, and whether they would give up their own shows at the time that the Royal came into their neighbourhood. The Council would then know whether a return to the system of migratory shows was possible. Until that was decided the Special Committee could not tell in what directions they were to reform.

After some further discussion, Mr. Bowen-Jones formally moved, and Mr. Forrest seconded, the following resolution, which, on being put, was declared by the President to be carried unanimously:—"That a Special Committee be appointed, with power to call for any information from officials, and to employ professional assistance, if they consider it necessary, from accountants, solicitors, and valuers, to thoroughly investigate the entire position of the society, and to make a report to the Council after the recess as to what reforms and economies they consider desirable to put the society on a sound footing."

This committee was constituted as follows:—The President, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. R. Forrest, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. W. Harrison, the Earl of Jersey, Mr. Christopher Middleton, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, Mr. Richard Stratton, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. John Thornton, and Mr. C. W. Wilson.

(This committee subsequently held a preliminary meeting and decided to sit again on September 20 and 21.)

The Council then adjourned until Wednesday, October 4 next.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended July 29, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	12,600	10,417	Wheat ...	1,808,900	2,864,600
Sheep.....	3,466	1,855	Flour.....	257,600	145,500
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	586,700	217,700
Horses ...	623	132	Oats	252,300	554,100
			Peas	36,670	106,056
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	50,370	12,620
Beef	40,752	76,064	Maize ...	1,140,900	650,700
Mutton...	93,928	46,887	Apples ...	13,640	12,758
Pork	2,057	2,955	Apricots		
Bacon ...	121,212	120,939	&Peaches	461	1,676
Beef, salt	2,252	2,481		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	35,114	42,063	Bananas	90,016	174,020
Pork, salt	5,446	4,732		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	12,601	10,582	Cherries	7,349	4,046
			Currants	7,141	6,703
Do. pres.	17,923	11,774	Goosebr's	870	43
Butter ...	86,700	85,798	Grapes ..	22,673	17,837
M'rg'rine	16,894	16,717	Lemons...	17,810	15,859
Cheese ...	89,105	73,880	Oranges	6,475	4,513
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Pears	21,749	11,612
			Plums ...	64,203	51,530
			Oth'r Fr't	64,837	38,752
drums.	45	—		Tons	Tons.
Milk, Cream	140	84	Hay	3,753	2,906
			Straw ...	1,993	2,223
			MossLitt'r	—	1,800
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	14,170	18,541	Hops	389	155
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	538	70	Locust Beans	16,899	562
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	166,479	161,683
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Eggs	414,665	422,266	Potatoes	106,440	35,350
			Tomatoes	49,457	40,705
Poultry& Game	Value.	Value.	Other Veg'bles	Value	Value.
	£8,121	£2,567		£5,685	£9,669
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	4,655	841
Rabbits...	1,809	738	Pres'v'd by canning ..	1,201	2,69
Lard	49,018	31,696			

London and County Bank.—The half-yearly meeting of the London and County Bank was held at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Thursday, and was presided over by the Hon. G. J. Goschen, M.P., who said the report was highly satisfactory. The net profit had been £264,065, as compared with £265,809 at the same date last year. During the past six months, however, the Bank rate had been £2 13s. 8d., as compared with £3 11s. 11d. last year. The discount rate for three months' bills had been £2 4s. 6d., as compared with £2 13s. 10d., and the average rate for daily money £2 1s. 8d., as compared with £2 8s. They had placed £50,000 to reserve fund, which now stood at £1,400,000, as compared with £1,300,000 a year ago. Customers' balances were £44,615,591, showing an increase of £1,287,826. This was probably the most satisfactory feature of the report, especially when they remembered the times through which they had gone. The directors had declared a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half year, which left £80,456 to be carried forward. The report was approved.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1, Essex Street, Strand, Friday, August 4th, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general character of the weather has temporarily become windy and showery, owing to the arrival of a deep cyclonic system over Ireland from the S.W., and its passage north-eastwards across the British area.

During its transit and departure within the ensuing three days the sequence will be: Over England and Scotland, strong to fresh S.E. to S.W. and W. winds, showers at times in most districts, particularly Nos. 2, 7 and 4, Wales and Scotland. Later S.W. to W. or N.W. fresh to moderate winds, fairer more generally, especially in Districts 3, 4, 5 and 8. Finally, W. to S.W. winds, freshening, fair to cloudy, some showers in Ireland, South and West, Wales, and Districts 7 and 8. For Ireland in detail, see District 6. The temperature will be mostly mild to cooler, and then mild or warm

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—S.E. to E. and N. to N.W. and W. winds, strong to fresh and then moderate; cloudy and showery at first, then fairer with passing showers; finally fair to cloudy; temperature, normal to cool and then milder.

„ 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings). —The same as No. 1, but with winds changing from S. to S.W. and W. and temperature mild to normal or cool, and then milder.

„ 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—The same as No. 2, with only temporary showery spells.

„ 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford-Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, York, shire (West Riding).—At first some rain at times; later fairer; finally fair to cloudy; wind and temperature as in General Prediction.

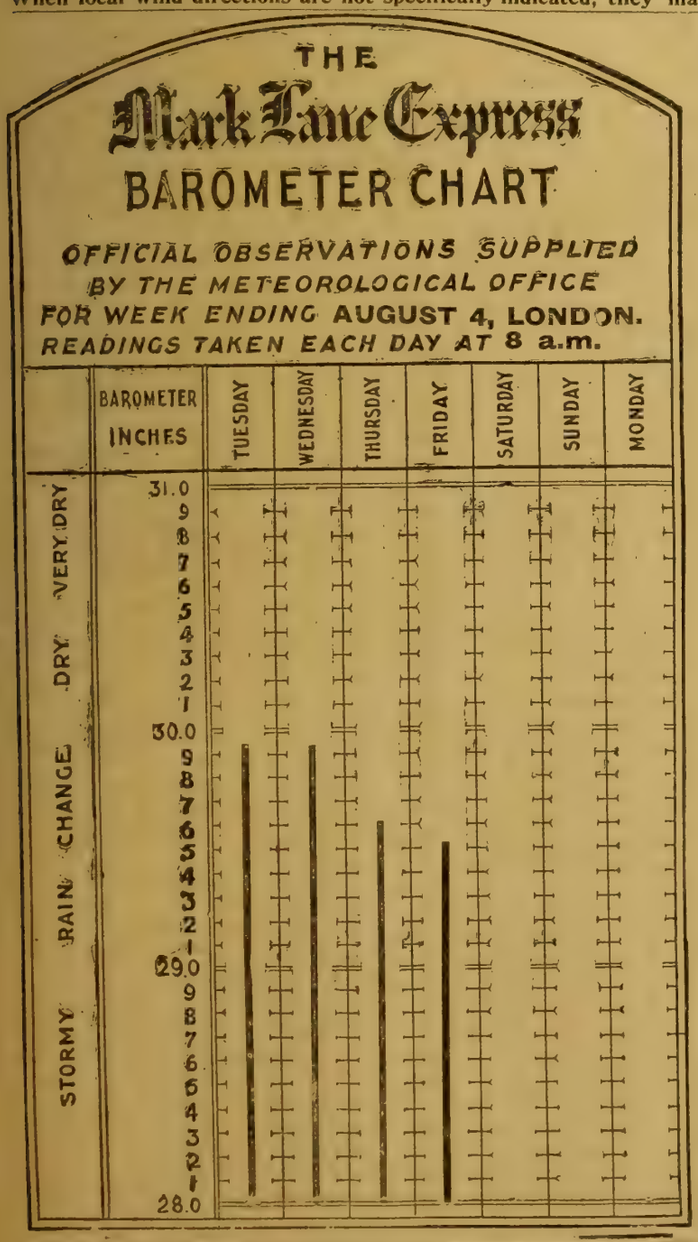
No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—At first showers and bright intervals; later fairer; the temperature generally will be warm or mild; in other respects similar to No. 4.

„ 6.—Ireland.—At first variable S.E. to N.W. strong and fresh winds; rain at times; later N.W. to W. winds and fairer; finally W. to S.W. or S.E. winds, fair to cloudy and some showers, chiefly in the West.

„ 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—At first winds varying from S.E. to N.W., strong to fresh, some rain at times; later N.W. winds, fresh to moderate, some passing showers to fairer; finally S.W. to S.E. fair to cloudy. Temperature mild to cooler, and then normal to mild.

„ 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—At first strong to fresh S.W. to W. winds, cloudy and showery at times, with bright intervals; later W. to N.W. winds, moderating; some showers to fairer; finally W. to S. winds; fair to cloudy; some showers.

When local wind directions are not specifically indicated, they may be taken to approximate to those under General Prediction.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express.*)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday	(Aug. 1) ...	29·95
Wednesday	(„ 2) ...	29·93
Thursday	(„ 3) ...	29·61
Friday	(„ 4) ...	29·52

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	4.30 a.m.
„ Sets...	...	7.42 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	8.20 a.m.
„ Sets	...	9.26 p.m.

Age of Moon—Four days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Friday, August 4th.

GENERAL INFERENCE. The deep depression which is now centred over the St. George's Channel appears likely to travel in a Northerly direction. The strong winds may, therefore, be expected to subside gradually during the ensuing 24 hours and the general character of the weather to improve.

SCOTLAND, N. and E.—Increasing winds from between South-East and North-East; dull, rainy.

ENGLAND, N.E.—Fresh or strong to moderate winds, mainly Southerly; changeable, showery, warm.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Southerly winds, strong to moderate, squally, occasional showers, otherwise fair; warm.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland, N. and E.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—South-Easterly to Southerly or South-Westerly winds, strong to moderate, rainy, then improving.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Southerly and South-Westerly winds, very strong to moderate, changeable, showery.

IRELAND, N. and S.—Fresh or strong winds between North-East and North-West, rainy intervals, cool.

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PATENT
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PROPER COMBUSTION OF SULPHUR
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Free Sulphur.
SOLE MAKERS—
DRAKE & FLETCHER,
ENGINEERS,
MAIDSTONE.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

It is with much regret that I find myself unable to speak of any improvement in the situation of the market. Like Paddy's wages, the rise is downhill, as the continued favourable reports from the plantations have apparently excited a panic amongst the free holders, who, to use the words of one of our merchants, are "almost tumbling over each other in their anxiety to realise." But we know that there are other reasons: the picking time is rapidly approaching, money is required for the coming crop, and it is not every planter who can afford to be indifferent to the claims of his future engagements. With regard to the prospects of the crop, all observers agree that the amount and strength of the bine is almost phenomenal, but it does not necessarily follow from this fact that the yield of hops will be proportionately great. There are many contingencies that may, even in the short interval that remains, yet interfere with the full development of the cones. It is an old saying that "we cannot weigh the crop till we have the pockets filled." Therefore, until that time has arrived, it appears to be foolish to anticipate, and to throw away good stock that may yet be more valuable than present quotations suggest. In the meantime there is sufficient willingness to buy, to furnish a fair number of inquiries, from which sales result, if buyers can induce holders to accept their offers. The business done has, however, not been large; but it is sufficient, as I think, to demonstrate that the stocks of consumers cannot be more than are required for early use. It is therefore expected that when the new hops come forward, brewers will be very ready to operate, and, as yearlings are necessary in certain proportion, we may fairly conclude that they will probably retain their present value, and, possibly, considering their scarcity, realise higher prices than are quoted at present.

Foreign Crop Prospects.

America.

The situation is practically unchanged. From all districts the reports of the growing crops are favourable, with the possible exception of Oregon, from which State there continue to be rumours of the presence of lice, which seem to be sufficiently plentiful to make the estimates somewhat uncertain. The general outlook, however, favours a full yield, as there appears to be no hindrance at present observable to the progress of the growth in California, Washington, or New York State. Consequently the markets are very quiet, and the tendency of values is rather in a downward direction.

Nuremberg.

The crop outlooks remain very favourable in nearly all districts, but there are some complaints of the want of rain, which is necessary for the full development of the cones. Throughout Bavaria the prospects are very encouraging, a similar condition being general in Bohemia. According to the most conservative estimates, the yield of Germany and Austria will come out from 20 to 30 per cent. in excess of last year. Market values are falling, but at the reduced prices the demand by local consumers is fairly active, and the small stocks are being rapidly reduced.

Belgium.

There is no interruption to the promising aspect of the plantations either in Alost or Poperingbe. All insect pests have entirely disappeared, the burr is fully out on the white bines, and the later sorts are rapidly coming into flower. The weather is just what is desired for the completion of the growth, as the coolness of the soil has enabled the plants to resist the effects of the prolonged sunshine. Demand for hops being somewhat slow, there is some inclination towards lower prices, but this tendency is kept in check by the reduction of stocks, therefore values remain fairly steady on the whole.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

POULTRY.

Special Course For Fatteners.

At the present time there is a very large and apparently increasing demand for working fatters, men who are qualified to deal with table poultry in all its branches, and good wages can be obtained. For good workers, such as sons of small farmers and better-class labourers, this industry offers at the present time an excellent opportunity. The University College, Reading, has therefore arranged for a special course upon the college poultry farm, Theale, designed to meet the requirements of those who have had some experience with general poultry keeping and fattening, and who desire to increase their knowledge.

The course will commence on Thursday, October 5, 1905, and conclude on Wednesday, November 15, 1905.

The class will be limited to twelve students, and only men can be accepted. Should the number of entries be insufficient, the college reserves the right to postpone the course.

The work will be chiefly practical, embracing trough feeding, cramming, killing, plucking, shaping, dressing, and trussing. Training will be given in the making of cages, shaping boards, packages, etc. Occasional lectures will be given dealing with foods and feeding, selection of birds, diseases, and marketing.

Board and lodging for students can be arranged in the village of Theale, by the college, at a cost of 15s. per week.

Registration fee, 1s. Tuition fee for the course, £6, payable in advance to the Registrar.

Applications for permission to attend the course, accompanied by a deposit of one guinea, should be made to the Registrar, University College, Reading, not later than a fortnight prior to the commencement of the course.

Londonderry City fair was held on Wednesday, when there was a very small supply, which met a poor demand except springers, these selling well. Prices:—Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4; yearlings, 1st class, £9; 2nd class, £5 10s. to £6 15s.; two-years-old, 1st class, £11 to £11 15s.; 2nd class, £8 to £8 15s.; springers, 1st class, £16 15s. to £18 5s.; 2nd class, £12 10s. to £14 5s.; 3rd class, £8 5s. to £10 2s. 6d.

THE
UTILITY POULTRY KEEPERS'
ACCOUNT BOOK
will enable you to keep an accurate account of all outgoings and incomings. The method is easy, and your financial position is clearly indicated at all times.
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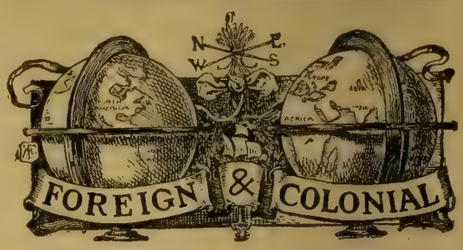


Foreign Crop Prospects.

FRANCE.—Although considerable damage to crops has accrued from storms, it is believed that the loss will not be so heavy as seemed probable two or three weeks ago. Harvest work is being actively pushed on, and is finished in the earlier districts. There is the possibility that after all vicissitudes the yield will not be inferior to that of last year.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—Brilliant weather revived hopes of fair harvest results, but as wheat and barley had suffered from storms sunshine came too late to rehabilitate them, and a shortage in outturn appears inevitable. Potatoes do not promise a good crop.

GERMANY.—Finer weather having succeeded the rain and storms of previous week, harvest has become general, and the general outlook for the crops is more satisfactory.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.—Up to the present only a few samples of new wheat have appeared on Budapest market, the quality generally is satisfactory; although the yield is larger the grain is inferior to last year's. Harvest is almost completed, and farmers are busy thrashing. Rain fell at the end of last week, but more is required for the maize crop.

ITALY. — Now that the wheat crop has been secured in good condition attention is turned towards maize, which requires rain and a quiet time to develop after the recent storms.

SPAIN.—The wheat crop is not equal even to the poor estimate formed early in the season, and harvest has been hindered by storms, hail, and rain.

SWITZERLAND.—Advices from Zurich say that the harvest is in progress, but the yield will not be equal to expectation, as storms laid a considerable area of the grain fields.

RUSSIA.—Taken all round, crop prospects in the Empire of the Czar are as good, if not better, than they were a year ago. According to latest official report winter wheat will exceed an average. Spring wheat is expected to produce an average. Rye will probably be under an average. In the aggregate barley and oats promise to exceed an average.

ROUMANIA.—Advices of 24th inst. stated that wheat is a good average harvest, but the natural weight is below that of last year; it is generally from 74 to 78 kilos, but there is also wheat of from 79 to 80 kilos. The crop of rye is also a good average. Barley about an average yield. Oats have suffered greatly from the excessive heat, and the maize crop stands in need of rain.

UNITED STATES. — The excitement produced by statements of widespread rust in the spring wheat crop was of short duration. Official experts exposed the fallacy of these rumours, and the market sagged down to its former level. It must be taken for granted that the last has been heard of rust scares, as a year ago the "crop blighters" returned to the charge time after time, and their asseverations were partially fulfilled. This season crop conditions are regarded as being more favourable. Winter wheat harvest is completed, and threshing is well under way.

ARGENTINA. — Our cable from Buenos Ayres tells of continued fine weather, and wheat and linseed crop advices are very favourable.

INDIA. — Although the monsoon rains began late, the fall generally was seasonably sufficient and well distributed and agricultural prospects are favourable to fair in all districts except in parts of Madras, South Bombay, and North Rajputana. There is no anxiety respecting famine, as grain stocks are sufficient everywhere, and prices normal.

AUSTRALIA. — The latest information respecting the agricultural outlook is distinctly favourable. Farmers hold the balance of the wheat crop in expectation of better prices in the autumn.—*Dornbusch* (July 29).

CORN MARKETS.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—Samples of new oats, grown in Thanet, were sold at 17s to 18s per qr.; they were of good quality, and weighed 40lb. to the bushel. New peas offered at 52s. No new wheat on sale; old wheat made 32s to 34s. English feeding barley, 25s to 28s; Mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; ticks, 34s to 36s; flat maize, 27s; round, 28s; oats, 20s to 24s per qr.

Banbury. Thursday. Wheat, red, new, 29s to 30s; ditto white, old, 32s to 33s; barley, 24s to 27s; beans, old, 32s to 33s 6d; oats, 18s to 19s; ditto, old, 20s to 24s; peas, old, 30s to 34s per qr.

Birmingham. Thursday.—A very thin attendance at market, and very little business doing. Foreign wheats are quite inactive at the following quotations:—River Plate, 31s to 34s 6d per qr. (496lb.); Russian, 31s 6d to 33s 6d per qr.; Indian, 31s per qr. and upwards, all at Sharpness. Grinding barley is 3d lower at 20s per 400lb. at Sharpness. Plate maize is unchanged at 25s per 480lb. at Sharpness. There are one or two samples of new oats and wheat on the market, but value of same can scarcely be fixed at present.

Boston. Wednesday. A sample of new wheat in good quality realised 32s on rails. Grinding barley 24s to 25s; old oats, 20s to 21s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 25s to 26s per qr.

Bristol. Thursday.—There was a small attendance on market to-day. No English wheat offering as yet. Foreign unchanged. Barley and oats 3d lower. Maize unchanged. Flour firm at late rates.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Chichester. Wednesday. There was a fair attendance considering it was race week, but there was not much trade done. Quotations:—White wheat, 34s to 34s 6d; red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 20s to 23s; English oats, 18s to 23s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 27s to 28s.

Devizes. Thursday.—The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; secondary, 15s to 16s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s 6d; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 22s to 23s; white ditto, 20s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s; best bread, 10d.

Edinburgh. Wednesday.—The supplies and sales were:—Wheat 702 qrs., 377 sold, top price 33s—down 3d; oats 1,848 qrs., 285 sold, top price 23s—down 6d; no barley offered.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat and flour quiet and unchanged, with little business passing. Indian corn and maize 3d cheaper on the week. Other articles of the trade quietly firm at unchanged values.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow. Wednesday. — Wheat dull, and business passing not sufficient to test values. Flour also slow; buyers prefer to await the result of the new crop before adding to stocks. Mixed American maize 3d per 280lb. lower on the week at 14s; round unchanged at 14s 9d. Feeding stuffs easier to buy, except grinding beans, which are held owing to scarcity.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Very small attendance. New grain made its appearance for the first time, parcels of winter oats being purchased at 18s per qr. New wheat expected next week. Old wheat nominally unchanged. Old oats very firm.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—The attendance was small, and there was scarcely any old wheat offering, and very little demand for it. Some new samples were offered in good condition, and of nice quality, having been threshed out of the field in favourable weather; these found buyers at 31s to 32s per 504lb. Oats and lentils were steady; also grinding barley. Beans the turn dearer, and maize steady at 25s to 25s 6d per qr. Oil-cakes, milling offals, and other feeding stuffs firm on the week.

Leeds. Tuesday.—Harvest has commenced throughout England, being so far favoured by the weather. The Wheat trade continues quiet and inactive, buyers operating from hand to mouth; prices, however, remain steady. Holders are by no means anxious sellers, as many ups and downs are possible during the next few weeks. Maize, 6d lower; beans and oats steady. — DUNNS AND CO.

Louth. Wednesday.—Though harvest operations have commenced in this district, most kinds of grain are not ready for the market. The first new samples of the season were shown to-day, and consisted entirely of winter oats, which realised 17s to 18s per qr.

Manchester. Thursday.—English wheat was in small supply at full rates. Foreign was steady, and unchanged on the week. Flour fairly firm. Indian corn: Mixed American quoted 5s 4½d to arrive; Plate about 1d lower. Oats rather dull. Foreign barley easier, and feeding stuffs unchanged.

Newark. Wednesday.—Wheat a nominal trade at about last week's prices. A few samples of new oats showing; prices irregular. Quotations: White wheat, 34s to 36s; white oats, 19s to 22s; old beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Ripon. Thursday.—A very dull market. Maize shows a downward tendency. Fair attendance. English wheat 33s 6d to 34s; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23 to 24s; oats, 20s to 21s; round maize, 26s to 27s; flat maize, 26s to 27s per qr.

Plymouth. Thursday. The attendance on our market to-day was very good, but little business doing. Wheat unchanged. Maize scarce; on spot firm. Barley on spot firm, and oats easier.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday. There was a small attendance, and but little business was transacted. Quotations: Wheat, 13s to 14s per 476lb.; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb.; oats, 13s 6d per 196lb.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Very poor attendance, and very little grain on offer. White wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; red wheat, 32s to 33s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; white oats, 22s to 24s; black oats, 20s to 22s; round maize, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 26s to 27s; beans, 36s to 37s per qr.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	8	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, July 29, 1905:—

Wheat	2,864,660	cwts.
Wheat-flour	141,500	,,
Barley	217,700	,,
Oats	551,100	,,
Maize	660,700	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,808,900	2,220,477	1,835,193	1,876,800
Wheat-flour	257,600	435,516	321,674	880,100
Barley	530,700	230,807	40,879	140,800
Oats	252,300	430,754	271,350	635,500
Maize	1,140,900	1,645,229	1,033,778	805,500

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to July 22, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	45 748¾	28	10	409½	23	10	3,453¾	19	4
1901	18,666½	27	6	250⅜	23	1	3,219⅛	20	0
1902	12,113⅜	31	8	186⅜	25	0	1,586½	22	10
1903	18,028½	28	11	493¾	21	0	6,050½	18	6
1904	21,778¼	28	0	509½	19	9	8,046⅞	17	10

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,505,000
Barley	,,	437,000	633,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	335,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	53,000
Oats	,,	334,000	388,000	258,000
Maize	,,	30,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	32	0
May 31 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

		London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.	
September	1 (per sack)	31	0	(per sack)	28 0
October	10 (,,)	31	6	(,,)	28 6
,,	19 (,,)	31	0	(,,)	28 0
March	31 (,,)	30	6	(,,)	27 6
May	3 (,,)	30	3	(,,)	27 3
June	7 (,,)	30	0	(,,)	27 0

No change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 0	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1			
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	6	23	6	30	0
March	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	25	3	23	9	22	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	32	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	6	23	6	23	6	34	9
July	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	24	6	24	6	24	0	34	6
August	25	6	26	6	24	9	22	9	25	3	24	0	24	9	33	6
Sept.	30	0	27	0	25	0	23	3	25	3	22	6	23	6	32	6
Oct.			27	0	24	9	22	9	24	6	22	3	23	3	31	3
Nov.			26	9	24	3	22	9	24	6	21	6	22	3	30	3
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	3	24	6	21	9	22	3	30	3
Yrly. Avrg.	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2	22	4	23	0	31	6

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	29	0	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7
Feb.	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4
March	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1
April	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3
May	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0
June	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	8
July			29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0
August			30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6
Sept.			31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0
Oct.			31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6
Nov.			32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3
Dec.			31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0
Yrly. Avrg.	30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6	26	9	25	0	35	0

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

July 26 to August 2, 1905, inclusive.

		British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	390	167,300	167,690
Barley		1,500	7,000	8,500
Malt		22,300	...	22,300
Oats		123	148,000	148,123
Beans		206	361	567
Peas		64	1,642	1,706
Maize		...	25,582	25,582
Linseed		...	11,992	11,992
Rapeseed		...	3,000	3,000
Cottonseed		...	1,618	1,618
Rye		...	2,400	2,400
Dari		...	3,650	3,650
Dholl		...	496	496
Flour	sacks	18,800	19,200	38,000
Ryeflour		...	1,000	1,000
Riceflour		...	12,000	12,000
Oatmeal		...	700	700

BUTTER.

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Boston: 1s and 1s 2d. Colne: 1s 1d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s to 1s 3d. Holsworthy: 1s 2d. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 1d. Knaresborough: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per 24 oz. roll. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Newton Abbot: 1s 2d to 1s 5d. Northallerton: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per roll of 24 oz. Truro: 1s to 1s 2d. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 11d to 1s. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Evesham: 10d to 1s. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. North Tawton: 1s 2d. Penistone: 1s 1d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Price at 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 11 and 12. Boston: 14. Colne: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Goole: 13 and 14. Hereford: 12 to 14. Holsworthy: 14. Keighley: 11 and 12. Kirbymoorside: 13 and 14. Knaresborough: 12. Market Drayton: 13 and 14. Newton Abbot: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Northallerton: 11. Truro: 9d to 10d per dozen. Uttoxeter: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per score.

Thursday.—Axminster: 8d to 9d per dozen. Birmingham: 10 to 12. Brigg: 12 to 14. Driffield: 15 and 16. Devizes: 14 to 16. Evesham: 10½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 14. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 12. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 12. Scarborough: 11. Wellington (Salop), 12 and 13. Wetherby: 12 and 13.

CHEESE.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Fine arrivals, and business fair to good for both Cheddars and Dunlops; prices 2s per cwt. dearer. Cheddars, 54s to 58s per cwt. Dunlops 2s less. Canadians are still quoted about 1s 6d to 2s 6d under this side.

Newport. Wednesday.—Quotations:—Cheddars, 48s to 54s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 56s to 58s; factories, 52s to 58s; Derbys, 57s to 58s. A supply of about eight tons was notified.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield. Thursday.—Fair supplies were to hand, but met a quieter demand. Quotations:—Fowls: Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 3s; Essex, 2s to 2s 8d; Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s to 3s 6d; Sussex, 3s to 3s 3d; Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; geese, 5s to 6s each; ducks, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; Barbaux pigeons, 11d to 1s 1d; cauliflower, 9d to 1s 1d; Aylesbury ducks, 3s to 3s 3d; country, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; wild rabbits, 6d to 8d each; tame, 1s 3d to 1s 6d each; Australian, 6s to 8s per dozen; venison, haunches, 15s to 20s each; horsepartners, 3d per lb.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather of July was extremely hot all over Europe, and the mean temperature in Great Britain was two to three degrees above the average. The British Isles, therefore, lay on the edge of a great heat wave without being submerged thereon. The extra temperature was enough to help the wheat and other cereal crops, without being too exhausting either for wheat or barley. On oats the effect was sometimes too great, but this was only on soils where the cultivation of this cereal is seldom to be recommended. The July record of weather thus runs for Middlesex and Surrey:—

1905	Rainfall inches.	Sunshine hours.	Warmth degrees.	Character of month.
January	1·03	45	38·0	Fine
February	0·70	61	42·5	Dry
March	3·70	103	48·0	Showery
April	1·80	90	47·5	Chilly
May	0·81	215	52·0	Dry
June	4·50	171	59·0	Wet
July	1·17	240	65·0	Hot

The counties of Buckingham, Oxford, Leicester, Northampton, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, a very important cereal-producing region, had, in July, an average rainfall of only half an inch, but the region where the Surrey-Middlesex average was exceeded included Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire, as well as the customarily wetter South-West, West, and North-West.

Since August came in, we have had both sunshine and showers; the latter will benefit the barley and the later-sown oats. The harvest is in full progress south of the Thames, both for wheat and spring oats, but will not start, as a rule, in East Anglia until Tuesday the 8th. The first offers of new winter oats at Mark Lane were made on Wednesday, and prices made ranged from 18s. to 20s. per 336 lb. We only note in this connection samples with a certain bulk of grain for delivering behind them. Rubbed out samples, and samples where no delivery can be made, are interesting as crop evidences, but have no market position.

Spring wheat has begun to be reaped in Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa, and farmers are in excellent spirits. The discovery of falsified accounts in the American Board of Agriculture Cotton Department has been the subject of extravagant writing even for the American Press. The evil is one that no government department can hope to be absolutely protected against so long as men are liable to succumb to temptation. There is, we understand, no substantial reason to suspect the present rectified cotton reports, nor has the trouble touched the side of the office which deals with cereals. The enormous crops with which the Bureau at Washington has to deal are liable to be made the subject of excessive generalisation, but this is practically inevitable, and is corrected later by the careful returns collected on the basis of actual threshings.

The latest estimates of the French crops are more favourable than those current in July, and it is now believed that Germany, Austria, Hungary, Roumania, and Servia have decidedly over-average wheat yields when considered as a united area under the title of Central Europe. The Russian wheat yield is provisionally estimated at 80,000,000 qr., against 84,000,000 last year, and the Italian wheat yield is put at half a million qr. more than last year; on the other hand, a comparatively large deficiency is revealed in Spain, estimates for the Iberian Peninsula being as follows:—

	Quarters.
1905	16,500,000
1904	13,500,000
1903	14,000,000
1902	14,500,000
1901	15,100,000

Requirements have never been estimated officially, but are put by the trade at 15,000,000 qr. In this case the not inconsiderable imports of 4,500,000 qr. are forecast, but the Spaniards are a frugal people accustomed to live hard, and it is probable that they will reduce their consumption of bread in a bad year. We doubt if more than three millions will actually be imported.

Supplies of grain on passage to the United Kingdom since the new year came in have been as follows, the unit in each case being thousands of quarters:

1905	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Maize	Linseed
1 Jan.	2,400	540	218	770	155
1 Feb.	2,666	520	155	720	294
1 March	4,003	470	260	437	405
1 April	3,996	400	450	325	288
1 May	3,336	400	325	450	270
1 June	2,636	296	382	725	382
1 July	2,076	230	370	835	280
1 Aug.	2,666	196	317	1,025	216

The present expectations are very small of barley, but decidedly large of maize. The other items do not differ greatly from the average.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since September 1 have been as follows:—

	Per Qr.
This Season, 1,613,000 qrs., at	30s. 9d.
Last Season, 2,040,000 quarters, at	27s. 1d.

The advance on the twelvemonth is 3s. 8d., while the last recorded average showed 4s. 3d. improvement from the like date in the preceding year.

The sales of British barley have been good, and yet the price made exceeds that of the preceding season. We seem to be gradually getting out of the protracted period of low prices, for barley, and the moderate imports of that cereal, are encouraging to English growers.

	Per Qr.
This Season, 3,132,000 quarters, at	24s. 9d.
Last Season, 2,774,000 quarters, at	22s. 0d.

The sales of British oats for the two seasons thus compare:—

	Per Qr.
This Season, 1,131,000 quarters, at	17s. 1d.
Last Season, 2,774,000 quarters, at	16s. 4d.

The price of oats in the country is now 19s. 3d., but August usually witnesses a good price made for the old and seasoned corn of the previous year's harvest.

Of other British crops it may briefly be remarked that tares and buckwheat are decidedly dearer from a year ago, that new rapeseed and trefoliumseed are meeting with appreciation, and that both beans and peas are firm with a slight tendency to advance.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 669,000 quarters; an extraordinary supply.
Flour, 56,400 sacks; a third of an average.
Barley, 61,000 quarters; half an average.
Oats, 204,000 quarters; a very large arrival.
Maize, 152,000 quarters; under an average.

The arrivals of foreign breadstuffs since harvest have been as follows:—

	Quarters.
Wheat	22,488,000
Flour	3,401,000
Breadstuffs	25,889,000

In the like period of last cereal year the total imports were 25,900,000 qr., so that the very large imports of wheat have been balanced by the striking diminution in the use of imported flour. Our mills have done a magnificent trade, and have been enjoying a period of prosperity unrivalled since the great year 1875, when the roller-mill came into use.

The sales of foreign feeding stuffs since September 1 have been as follows:—

	This Season. Quarters.	Last Season. Quarters.
Barley	5,574,000	8,265,000
Oats	5,819,000	5,146,000
Maize	8,901,000	11,097,000

On the whole, our supply of foreign feeding stuffs has been below the average.

London averages since New Year's Day are as follows:—

1905.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
Jan.	31s. 0d.	24s. 1d.	17s. 6d.
Feb.	31s. 10d.	24s. 5d.	17s. 10d.
March	32s. 1d.	24s. 1d.	17s. 10d.
April	30s. 11d.	22s. 10d.	17s. 7d.
May	31s. 10d.	23s. 0d.	18s. 7d.
June	32s. 3d.	—	20s. 2d.
July	33s. 0d.	—	20s. 1d.

Wheat will be seen to have advanced from January 1 to August 1 2s. per qr., and oats 2s. 7d. per qr. The decline of 10d. in barley is regrettable, but is a very slight matter as against the very natural changes for the better in established quotations.

Top-price flour is 1s. cheaper from January 1. Household flour is 1s. 9d. cheaper, and Iron Duke flour is 3s. 9d. down. The fall in American is, of course very noticeable.

Maize on August 1 was 2s. dearer from the opening of the year, an event against which the betting on New Year's Day would have amounted to long odds.

Some minor imports into London for the month of July were 827,300 qr. of malt, 2,400 qr. of beans, 8,000 qr. of peas, 106 qr. of tares, and 14,500 qr. of various seeds.

Eleven months' imports of flour into the great estuaries were: The Clyde, 1,391,000 sacks, against 2,500,000 sacks last season; and the Mersey, 1,044,000 sacks, against 2,107,000 sacks last season.

July shipments of wheat from the chief exporting countries were as follows:—

	Quarters.
From America	190,000
,, Argentina	1,310,000
,, Russia	2,376,000
,, Roumania	507,000
,, India	919,000
,, Australia	138,000
Total	5,340,000

This total is a good deal above the average.

LATEST MARKETS.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY, August 4.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market was very firm for Old English wheat, of which, perhaps, not more than 300 quarters were available for delivery. A sample or two of new wheat from Essex was offered at 32s. to 33s.; but new wheat is not yet really "on the market." Foreign wheat was the turn in buyers' favour; 31s. 6d. was accepted for some Indian white, 32s. 3d. for some Buenos Ayres, and 34s. for good Baltic Russian. Some offers of American red at 33s. per 480 lb., for delivery after the 7th, were made. Some barley from Nicolaieff fetched 20s. 3d. per 400 lb., thereby giving an indication of values for feeding type generally. There were buyers of screened Ouchak at 30s., of unscreened Smyrna at 24s., and of English chicken barley at 26s. Oats freshly arrived from Baltic ports were pressed on sale at 14s. 6d., with buyers at 14s. per 304 lb. Clipped American were slow at 16s. 3d per 320 lb. Argentine, at 15s., were in fair request. Swedish and Dutch sorts were very scarce. Maize reached 24s. 6d. without difficulty for either flat or yellow corn, while round sorts remained as they have now done for months, beyond the ideas of all ordinary buyers. Split Egyptian beans, at half a guinea for the 160 lb. bag, sold rather well; so did green Indian peas at 22s. 6d. cash; and Dun peas (English) at 31s. each per 504 lb.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s. d.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	35 — 37
Red	,,	35 — 36
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	none
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none
Brewing	,,	none
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	none
,,	(per 400 lb.)	none
,,	(per 336 lb.)	26 — 27
MALT, Pale		25 — 30
Brown	,,	31 — 33
Black	,,	32 — 34
Crystallized	,,	none
OATS, Best Scots	,,	none
Old Black Winter	,,	none
Old Grey Winter	,,	none
Old Black Tartary	,,	none
,,	(per 320 lb.)	none
New Winter	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 20
,, Black Tartary	,,	none
,,	(per 312 lb.)	none
,, New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	none
RYE	(per 480 lb.)	23 — 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38 — 40
Pigeon	,,	40 — 42
Tick	,,	38 — 40
Winter	,,	33 — 34
Spring	,,	32 — 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	none
New Unpicked ,,	,,	none
Partridge	,,	44 — 46
Dun	,,	30 — 31
Maple	,,	33 — 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72 — 82
(English ,,)	,,	56 — 64
(Winter)	,,	48 — 52
(Spring)	,,	40 — 44
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	30 — 31

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
M'itoba Best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, ,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	33	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	30	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 28
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 20 5
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 23
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
French	none	
Russian	23	— 24
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	27	— 28
Turkish	26	— 27
Morocco	25	— 26
Indian	25	— 26
American	24	— 26
Argentine	24	— 26

	s.	s.
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15 6	— 16
Revel (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Turkish (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	33	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	40	— 41
Red	22	— 26
Yellow	19	— 20
Sorghum	18	— 19
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	29	— 30
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY, August 4.

While the finest Household flour made 26s., a shilling under that level continued to command fair average quality. No. 1 Supers made 29s. 9d., and Paste flour was obtainable at 21s. 6d. per sack. "Cascadia" and "Granardia" realised 25s. to 26s. per sack. Country flour was unchanged, so, too, were the Hungarian, Australian, and Argentine sorts on offer. American was neglected, and barley as good in selling value as on July 31. The new flour from Red Winter wheat is offered for September shipment at 26s. 6d. Maize flour was held for 17s. 9d. per sack; maize starch for 9s. per cwt., and American maize cones fetched 17s. per 280 lb. Farma or potato flour was held for ten guineas per ton, but there was quality obtainable for 30s. under this price. Rye flour was quoted 21s. 6d. per sack for finest, 19s. 6d. for Konigsberg, and 17s. 6d. for common Russian. Oatmeal made £15 10s. per ton for finest special Midlothian, £12 for "Calmila," and £12 5s. for Deeside. Oat flour realised £16 10s. per ton for finest Midlothian, £11 12s. 6d. for Aberdeen, and £12 5s. for Deeside. Ground linseed cake made £8 per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31	0
Town Whites	,,	28	0
,, Households	,,	25	0
No. 2	,,	22	0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	26	0
,, No. 2	,,	24	0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	none
,, Second Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	none
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	none
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32 — 33
,, 1	,,	31 — 32
,, 2	,,	30 — 31
,, 3	,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27 — 28
,, 1st Grade	,,	26 — 27
,, 2nd Grade	,,	25 — 26
,, Common	,,	20 — 21
,, "Saturno"	,,	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	12
Pollard	,,	11	12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	28
,, Seconds	,,	25	26
Barley Meal	,,	14	15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	35
Groats	,,	34	35
Oat Flour	,,	35	36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	14
,, Cones	,,	18	19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	19
Rye Meal	,,	17	18
Pea Meal	,,	19	20
Bean Meal	,,	18	19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9	10
Rice Flour	,,	20	22
Rice Cones	,,	18	20
Ground Rice	,,	22	23
Feeding Rice	,,	17	19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Friday at the close of the week's trade were:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 8d.	Aug.	delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Sept.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 6d.	Oct.	,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Aug.	de'ivery.
,,	4s. 8d.	Sept.	,,
,,	4s. 7d.	Oct.	,,

These are not official prices, but will, we believe, be found practically correct. Official quotations, we hear, are likely to be resumed very shortly.

The market will be closed until the 8th inst. It will be seen that the value both for wheat and maize futures is a penny per cental lower on the week.

WHEAT: COUNTY PRICES AND MEAN RANGE OF MARKETS IN 1904.

(Compiled from Board of Agricultural Reports.)

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Middlesex	28	7	to	29	8
Essex	28	4	,,	29	1
Hertford	28	5	,,	28	11
Bedford	28	9	,,	28	10
Huntingdon	28	1	,,	28	6
Cambridge	27	4	,,	28	8
Suffolk	28	8	,,	29	5
Norfolk	27	7	,,	29	2
Lincoln	27	2	,,	27	11
Yorkshire	27	2	,,	29	1
Notts	27	7	,,	28	6
Leicester	28	7	,,	29	1
Northampton	27	5	,,	28	9
Warwick	28	8	,,	30	6
Oxford	28	4	,,	28	10
Bucks	28	6	,,	29	2
Berks	29	1	,,	30	6
Surrey	28	9	,,	30	9
Kent	29	0	,,	30	11
Sussex	28	3	,,	29	5
Hampshire	27	10	,,	28	10
Dorset	25	7	,,	28	4
Devon	27	9	,,	29	8
Cornwall	26	4	,,	27	1
Somerset	27	8	,,	29	2
Wilts	27	9	,,	28	1
Gloucester	27	10	,,	28	8
Monmouth	27	2	,,	28	8
Hereford	28	8	,,	29	0
Worcester	28	8	,,	28	9
Shropshire	27	10	,,	28	8
Stafford	28	3	,,	28	10
Durham	26	8	,,	28	3
Northumberland	25	7	,,	27	2
Cumberland	25	9	,,	31	5
Lancashire	28	1	,,	28	10
Denbigh	28	1	,,	28	9

There being but one statute market in the following counties that market average is the average for the county:—

	s.	d.		
Derby	28	10	..	Derbyshire.
Oakham	28	9	..	Rutland.
Chester	28	3	..	Cheshire.
Welshpool	28	5	..	Montgomery.
Haverfordwest	33	2	..	Pembroke.
Cardiff	27	10	..	Glamorgan.
Brecon	31	10	..	Brecknock.

During 1904 no wheat sales were recorded in the counties of Westmorland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, and Cardigan.

Wheat sales were under 100 quarters for the year at Brecon, Denbigh, Penrith, Cockermouth, Carlisle, Alnwick, and Ludlow.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargo sales since the close of July include Australian arrived at 31s. 9d. per 480 lb. and on passage at 32s., Bahia Blanca at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb. on passage, Rosario at 29s. 9d. on passage, and Santa Fé at 29s. 6d. on passage. Three cargoes of White Calcutta have been placed for August shipment at 30s. 9d. per 492 lb., and two cargoes of new Roumanian crop for September export found buyers at 30s. per 492 lb. There were no transactions in American, Californian, Canadian, or New Zealand wheat cargoes to record before the adjournment for the Bank Holiday. Prices of wheat cargoes on August 1, 1905, and 1904 thus compare:—

	1905.		1904.	
Russian Winter	34s.	0d.	33s.	6d.
Odessa Ghirka	32s.	0d.	32s.	0d.
Australian	31s.	9d.	31s.	9d.
Argentine	30s.	0d.	31s.	6d.
White Calcutta	30s.	9d.	29s.	6d.

Maize cargoes since July 31 have realised 22s. 9d. per 480 lb. for La Plata, the sale reported in the *Times* of Thursday of 4,300 tons at 32s. 1½d. is not authentic, but we are unable to trace the error. No sales of Russian or American cargoes were reported. The following is a comparison of maize prices on August 1 this and last year, prices, that is to say, for which cargoes are held:—

	1905.		1904.	
Argentine	22s.	9d.	21s.	0d.
American	22s.	9d.	21s.	9d.
Russian	27s.	0d.	23s.	0d.

No fresh transactions in barley are reported, but the present value of Russian on passage is about 18s. 9d. per 400 lb., as compared with 16s. 6d. at this time last year. A steamer just left Archangel with White Sea oats was placed on Thursday at 13s. 7½d. per 304 lb., and a cargo of Argentine linseed on passage made 39s. 3d. per 416 lb.

MARKET REPORTS.

LINCOLN (August 4).—A few samples of excellent new wheat were shown at market to-day; 32s. was made. For old wheat trade was quiet.—(Special to *M.L.E.*)

LIVERPOOL (August 4).—Market less depressed from Tuesday. American red winter wheat 6s. 7d. to 6s. 9d. per cental; American mixed maize 4s. 9d. to 4s. 11d. per cental.—(Special to *M.L.E.*)

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester. Wednesday.—Hay, old, 5½d; ditto new, 4¾d to 5d; clover, old, 5¾d to 6½d; ditto new, 4¾d to 5½d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat ditto, 3½d to 3¾d per stone.

Whitechapel. Thursday.—Trade proved of a quiet nature this morning, and heavy supplies were submitted, while prices were easier for the better kinds of hay. Quotations: Best clover, 75s to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 77s; good ditto, 53s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and Sainfoin, 67s to 75s; and straw, 30s to 42s per load.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

There was a slightly larger supply of both prime and second quality beasts at Islington, of which the majority arrived from the Midlands (as is usual at this season of the year); amongst the arrivals were 15 Devons; Scotch, however, were conspicuous by their absence. Trade on the first market day of the week was of a very disappointing nature, rates ruling 2d. per 8 lb. in favour of the buyer; but on Thursday, partly owing to a brisk trade at the Dead Meat Market, prices were firmer here, and were quoted 2d. higher all round. The Irish arrivals on Monday comprised 70 Dublins (10 of which were Black Polled beasts) and 42 Waterfords; these shared in the general depression, rates ruling from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. lower. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with little enquiry on Monday by both town and country buyers, but were brisker on Thursday.

At Deptford there was a fair average supply and a fairly steady trade, consequently rates were well upheld. The total number of beasts on offer up to the time of our going to press, which is early on account of the holiday, was 1,050 British (increase 100), 1,047 from the United States, and 694 Canadians. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): 80 to 90 stone Black Polled Dublins, 4s. 5d.; 80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. ex., 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 10d.; 90 stone States, 4s.; Canadian, 3s. 10d.

The trade for both wethers and ewes was of a very sluggish nature on the first day, but brisker on Thursday with an advance in value. Scotch and Yorkshire breeds are now falling off in point of number. Lambs on Monday were in excess of the demand at 2d. less money, but on Thursday were quoted 2d. higher. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, 263 Canadian sheep were offered for sale and met with a fair enquiry. The total number penned at both markets was 10,743, consisting of 10,480 British and 263 Canadian, up to the time of our going to press. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 2d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s.; 9 stone Yorkshires, 4s. 8d.; 8 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 5 stone Fat Down Lambs, 6s. 4d.; 6 stone Half-bred ditto, 6s.; 6 stone Irish Lambs, 6s.

Calves numbered 60. Trade slow, best making from 4s. 10d. to 5s. 2d. per 8 lb.

No pigs on offer.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer this week was rather larger. Everything of a good class met a better inquiry, and prices would be 10s. a head higher. A large show of fat cows, and they met a similar trade. Sheep in fair numbers, but the supply of the better class was limited. These sold well at about 1s. a head more, and secondary sheep maintained previous rates. Ewes, owing to their scarcity, made from 1s. to 2s. a head more. Fat lambs in large supply, and a fair trade was experienced without change in prices. A very large supply of fat calves, which made less money. Owing to the restrictions, there was a very short supply of pigs, and they made the highest prices for several months. Very few store cattle on offer. The demand was excedingly dull, and few sales were effected. Store sheep in moderate numbers, and they got well cleared out at previous prices. There was a large supply of milch cows, and they met a very bad trade, with part left unsold. Quotations:—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s.; current from 35s, to 36s.; mutton to 8¾d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

bded ditto, 6s.; 6 stone Irish Lambs, 6s.

Trade in the West.

The local markets continue to be more than adequately supplied with store stock of all kinds, and there are also full deliveries of sheep at the summer fairs, as well as the special sales now in progress at many of the chief centres. In support of our assertion that the trade is by no means unsatisfactory we may state that draft ewes are bringing from about 36s. for ordinary runs to 51s. each for more useful grades; two-teeth ewes, 45s. up to 56s.; four-teeth, 53s. to 55s.; grazing ewes, 28s. to 38s.; mixed lambs, 44s. to 49s. for best, and 25s. to 39s. for plainer; working wether lambs, 28s. to 36s. 6d.; ewe lambs, 27s. to 34s. 6d.; and couples, 52s. to 58s. In some cases where there is something special the foregoing

rates have been exceeded. But very few sheep or lambs remain over unsold at any of the markets, showing that the demand still keeps pace with the supply, and, should the corn harvest only prove equal to confident anticipations, no doubt the autumn fairs will be productive of satisfactory prices as far as sellers are concerned. Milch beasts have jumped up to no small extent within the last fortnight or so (the rise during the past week alone amounting to from 20s. to 30s ahead) in consequence of many milk purveyors being obliged to make extra purchases, owing to the dry weather, to keep their milk supplyup to its ordinary level.

There is nothing specially to comment upon in regard to fat stock, either beasts or sheep. Supplies of really prime fat bullocks come very sparingly to hand, and, as a consequence, experience keen competition, well-finished steers and heifers of small or medium weights making £17 up to £23 apiece (or quite 11s. to 12s. per score for the best quarters) and nothing under. Fat cows of heavy weights or coarse bulls are but little wanted this hot weather—though the heat has somewhat modified—and unless butchers can buy on very reasonable terms, say 9s. to 9s. 9d. per score, they are not particularly anxious about purchasing. Calves have somewhat recovered from the decline recently recorded. Once more best vealers are making 8½d. per lb. and over for medium weights; heavier calves being less saleable at 7½d. to 8d. In mutton, wethers continue to meet by far the best trade at prices ranging from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., or up to 58s. each; young ewes, 7d. to 7¼d.; old ewes, 6d. to 6½d. Fat lambs have a wide range in value, small weights bringing 30s. to 40s. (or 10d.), and heavier kinds (young mutton) bringing 9d. to 9½d. All the neater weights in pigs continue to meet a good demand at 9s. to 10s. per score; but coarse weights are not in very general demand, current rates being from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Arrivals of beasts consisted of forty fat butchering cows and bulls from the Midland Counties, which experienced a fairly good demand with an upward tendency in values, choice grades making 1d to 2d per 8lb improvement; inferior, 2s 10d, second 3s 6d. Sheep entries mark a decrease of 1,280, the supply including a few lambs, which had a firm trade at an advance of 2d to 4d per 8lb. Both wethers and ewes were in steady request, the former ruling 2d per 8lb. higher; inferior sheep, 3s 8d; seconds, 4s 10d; firsts, 5s 8d; inferior lambs, 5s 4d; seconds, 6s 2d; firsts, 6s 6d. Quotations:—7½ to 8 stone downs, 5s 8d; 9 st, 5s 6d; 10 st, 5s 4d; 10 st half-breds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10 st down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5 st fat down lambs, 6s 6d; 6 st half-breds, 4s 2d. Calves selling readily at fully last currencies; inferior, 3s 8d; second, 4s 10d; first, 5s 6d. Beasts 40, sheep and lambs 2,400, and calves 40.

London (Central), Thursday.—Heavy supplies were forthcoming, but a very slow inquiry again predominated all round, at about late rates. Arrivals of beef included 40 tons Scotch, 1,150 Liverpool sides, 2,000 hindquarters, and 850 forequarters American refrigerated, also 900 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; extreme, 4s 6d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; English, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; American Deptford killed, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; Liverpool sides, 3s 1d to 3s 5d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 6d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s to 2s 3d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; forequarters, 1s 6d to 1s 8d, Mutton: Scotch range from 4s 4d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d, extreme 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Dutch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 6d, Lamb: English, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; Dutch, 4s 8d to 4s 10d. Veal: English firm, and Dutch 3s 4d to 4s 6d; Irish, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Pork: English, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade quiet, at unchanged rates; best making up to 4s 10d per stone. Mutton fell 2d per stone; Down wethers making 6s 2d to 5s 8d; and neat Kents, 4s 8d to 5s. Lamb cheaper, 6s 2d to 6s 10d. Pork firm at 4s for prime small porkers, and 3s. 6d to 3s 8d for large hogs.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 23 fat beasts, 57 calves, 487 fat sheep and lambs, 166 pigs, and 96 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Devon steers made up to £19; cows, £16 5s; Shorthorn steers, £19 5s, cows up to £14 10s; West Highland steers, £19; Polled steers, £17 10s; fat calves, 50s to £5 5s; small, 20s to 50s; fat porkers, 30s to 65s; store pigs, 10s to 20s; dairy cows, £10 10s to £21 15s; prime Down wethers and young ewes, 56s to 58s, small, 45s to 48s, six months old lambs, 42s to 50s; small, 30s to 38s; three months old sucking lambs, 22s to 40s; old ewes, 36s to 46s; rams, 42s to 52s, three months old Southdown lambs, 50s to 54s crossbreds, 44s; small crossbred lambs, 27s to 28s. A short supply of fat beasts met a slow trade, the best lots making about last week's figures. A good show of fat sheep and fat lambs attracted a good company of buyers from local and distant markets. Prime choice lambs and small prime sheep were cleared at an advance, but the demand for big, overfed sheep and old ewes was an indifferent one and satisfactory sales were difficult to make. A good number of the best lambs were taken by south-coast buyers. There was a brisk inquiry for all the best dairy milch cows, which sold readily at satisfactory prices. Store cattle, owing to continuous dry weather, met with a little demand. Fat calves a slightly better trade than of late markets. Fat porkers of medium weights found buyers at recent quotations. Store pigs sold readily, with a good demand. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7¼d; Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6¾d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb.; best quality fat sheep and big lambs, 8½d to 9d, ditto 7¾d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6¾d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10½d per lb., fat calves, 6½d to 7d per lb.; fat porkers, 8s 6d to 10s per score.

Bath Wednesday At the fortnightly market the following were the prices realised:—Fat steers., £17 10s to £22; fat heifers, £17 to £18 15s; fat cows, £15 5s to £18; cows and calves, £13 to £15; fat calves, 79s to 100s; weaning calves, 35s to 53s; fat sheep, 46s to 54s; fat lambs, 32s 6d to 66s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A fair number of cattle on offer, but demand quiet. Best Herefords, 6¾d to 7d; Shorthorns, 6¼d to 6¾d; bulls and cows, 4¾d to 5¼d; wether sheep, 8d to 8¼d; ewes and rams, 6d to 7d; lambs, 8d per lb. A short supply of pigs, but trade good; bacon pigs, 9s 8d; porkets, 9s 9d; sows, 7s 3d to 7s 6d per score.

Boston, Wednesday.—A small show of cattle. Stores £16 and £16 10s, young beasts £12 to 12 10s, milch cows £18 to £20; best beef 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone, wether mutton 8d, and ewe mutton 5½d per lb.

Bristol, Thursday.—The market was of a very average character, and trade quiet. Beef, which was in fair quantity, was not in much demand, and trade was dull at prices slightly less than last week. There was about the usual supply of sheep and lambs, and steady business was done without any quotable alteration in values. Pigs in decreased numbers, and prices of porkers fell slightly.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
&c. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9 6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	9 0
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	8 6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supply of stock, but, the attendance of buyers being poor, there was a slow trade. Prices all round had a lower tendency, and in some cases substantial reductions were made to induce business. Prices:—Milch cows, £16 to £21; calves, £14 to £18; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; and stirks, £6 to £10. Sheep made 16s to 37s, but many remained unsold.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Messrs. Stride and Son held their third special sale of about 2,000 Southdown and other lambs and sheep, and their usual fortnightly sale of fat and dairy cattle. Owing to the Goodwood Races and the very fine weather for harvesting, there was not so large an attendance as usual, and trade for sheep was rather lifeless at about late rates. Quotations: Prime Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; prime Sussex steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime polled Scotch steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; best Southdown sheep, 6s 2d to 6s 4d; best West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; fat lambs, 7s 2d to 7s 6d; veal, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; porkers, 3s 8d to 4s; store pigs, 15s 6d to 23s.

Doncaster, Tuesday.—The supply of beef was well up to the average and met with a fair demand. There was a slight upward tendency perceptible in prices on the week. The attendance of butchers was also much larger than has been the case of late. Beef was quoted at 7s 6d per stone for the best qualities, and from 7s to 7s 3d for secondary sorts. The supply of mutton was rather in excess of requirements, but the quotation remained at 8d per lb. Veal was also a slow trade at 8d per lb, and lamb was very stagnant at 9d.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Full supplies at to-day's market, and a good demand. Calves ruled firm, and made up to 8¼d per lb. for the best; coarser calves, 7d to 7½d. Best wether mutton a ready sale at 8d per lb.; coarser mutton a dragging trade. Lambs made 10d per lb. and over, and plainer kinds 9½d. Small porkers and neat baconers made 9s to 10s per score; heavier pigs met a dragging trade.

Dorchester, Wednesday. — Heavy fat calves were again slow, the range in value being from £3 15s to £5 5s each; medium size a good sale, at 52s to 70s each (or 8d to 8½d per lb for best and 7d to 7½d for seconds); rearers in less demand, at 20s to 35s. Wether mutton, best, made 8d to 8¼d (or from 46s to 54s each); fat ewes slow sale, except for young animals, which brought 7½d, and coarse sheep 6½d to 7d. Small lamb, 7½d to 10d per lb (or from 32s to 38s each); heavier lamb 39s to 41s (or 9s). Small neat porkers made 40s to 52s each (or 9s 6d to 10s per score); baconers, 57s to 92s (or 8s 6d to 9s); sows from £4 to £15 17s 6d; heavy pigs being a dragging trade, owing to the heat.

Dublin, Thursday.—Beasts 8,470, increase 293; sheep 8,354, decrease 434; calves, 49, decrease 3. Trade for cattle again ruled slow and dragging; choice qualities with difficulty bringing last week's rates, and rough sorts moving in favour of buyer. Sheep and lambs easier sold at last week's prices. Cattle (best), 30s to 32s 6d per cwt.; secondary and inferior qualities, 26s to 30s per cwt., Mutton, 5¾d to 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Dumfries, Wednesday.—Good show of prime fat stock, but sheep were in shorter supply. A brisk demand prevailed for both beef and mutton at late rates. Crosshorned bullocks sold up to £20 5s; polled ditto, to £19; Galloways, to £20 5s; Ayrshire bullocks, to £17 10s; Ayrshire calving cows, to £18 12s; Galloway calving cows, to £14; calved cows and heifers, to £14 12s.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—A fair show of sheep, with a slow trade; half-breds sold to 39s and Cheviots to 36s. each. Cattle slow of sale; horned bullocks to £10 17s 6d, polled bullocks to £11, bulls to £10, and Shorthorn cows to £23 per head.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Top Scotch cattle scarcer at 63s. to 65s.; secondary, 60s. to 62s.; Irish, 57s. to 59s.; Canadian and States 20s per head dearer at 54s to 56s per cwt. Home sheep more plentiful, but prices sustained, top, 8½d to 8¾d; lambs dearer at 8¾d to 9d per lb. Dead meat steady; top beef, 5¾d to 6d; mutton 7½ to 7¾ per lb.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The beef trade showed a light improvement, although the quality was chiefly medium; best bullock and heifer 6d to 6¼d per lb, fat cow 5d to 6d per lb. A good supply of fat calves sold well at 6d to 7d per lb. Sheep were also in demand, wethers at 7¾d to 8d per lb., ewe 6d per lb. Fat lambs, also a good supply, did not go so well at 8d to 8½ per lb. Trade was fair for ashort supply of store lambs. Porks were slow at 5d to 5¼ per lb. No bacons on offer. Store cattle a fair supply, with moderate trade.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Supplies larger than last week, except beasts, which were 202 fewer. Trade slow. Quotations: Beasts, 5d to 6½d; sheep, 5d to 7¾d; lambs to 8¾d; calves to 7d per lb; pigs to 6s 6d per stone. At market: Beasts, 483; sheep, 2,550; calves, 20; pigs, 27.

Leicester, Wednesday In view of the holidays there was a short supply of beef, and trade was the turn firmer; best sorts made 6¾d to 6¾d, secondary 6d, and cows 5d to 5¾d per lb. A moderate show of mutton, for which the demand was slower; top 7¾d to 8d, heavier sorts 7d to 7¼d, and ewes about 6d per lb A fair supply of lamb at 8d to 9d; veal, 7¼ to 7¾d per lb. Pork in small request at recent rates.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A large show of fat beasts made late rates, 7s to 7s 3d per stone. Very few store beasts, and sold at £6 to £11 each. Average show of fat sheep, trade slow, about 8s 9d to 9s per stone. Store sheep 33s to 44s; store lambs 25s to 30s; fat lambs 35s to 40s each.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—Rather short supply of cattle. Best beef, 7s 6d to 7s 9d; second quality, 7s to 7s 6d; cows and bulls, 6s 9d to 7s. Fair show of sheep; best small weights, 8¾d; large weights, 8d; ewes and tups, 6¾d to 7d; good show of lambs at 9¼d and 10¼; calves, 8d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade slow; Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce; trade better, at 4s 8d to 4s 10 per stone. Sheep in short supply; average trade: Best sheep 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lamb trade better, at 6s 6d to 6s 8d per stone. Slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade quiet.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a very large show of all descriptions of stock, and, with a capital attendance of buyers, chiefly from Aylesbury, Wycombe, Oxford, and the river towns, a clearing trade ruled throughout, although it was difficult to maintain late rates. Best quality cattle were in demand. Cows were difficult to dispose of. Veal in request. Bacon and pork selling readily at advanced figures. Messrs Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 102 fat beasts, 416 fat and store sheep, 48 fat and weaning calves, and 44 pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £22; fat heifers, £15 to £18 17s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 52s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 52s; fat lambs, 30s to 42s 6d; fat calves, £3 to £5; weaning cow calves, 32s to 56s; bull calves, 15s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5; porkers, 26s to 46s; store pigs, 10s to 22s.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—There was a fairly brisk inquiry for choice young sheep, which made 7¼d to 8d; heavy sheep met with a somewhat slow demand at 6d to 7d, and ewes and tops moved off very slowly at 5d to 5¾d per lb. A quiet trade for lambs at 8d to 9d per lb. Choice young heifers and bullocks met with a fair inquiry at 6d to 6¼d, beasts of secondary quality 6¼d to 5¾d, inferior sorts 5d to 5¼d, and calves 6d to 7¼d per lb., a few stores being sold at 18s to 24s each. Milch beasts made £15 to £21, stores £9 to £13, and laying-off cows £15 to £20 each. Store pigs 15s to 50s each, and porkers 6s to 6s 6d per stone.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A small supply, and slow trade all round. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 7d per lb.; mutton, 6¼d to 8¼d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

York, Thursday.—There was not a big show of shearling sheep, but a very good trade up to 45s per head. Lambs were in good supply, but it is a little too early to expect any great demand, especially when the dried-up condition of the pastures is taken into account, and trade was very slow at 22s to 29s per head. Practically no English store cattle on offer, and only a handful of Irish. Buyers were also conspicuous by their absence, and trade was really at a standstill. There was a large offer of calving and milch cows, but the majority were of inferior quality. Very few off buyers were present, and trade was very bad, with the result that sales could only be effected at a reduction of 20s to 30s per head, and even then many were left unsold. Really good animals made in a few cases up to £21 10s. but the general run of prices was from £14 10s to £18 10s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

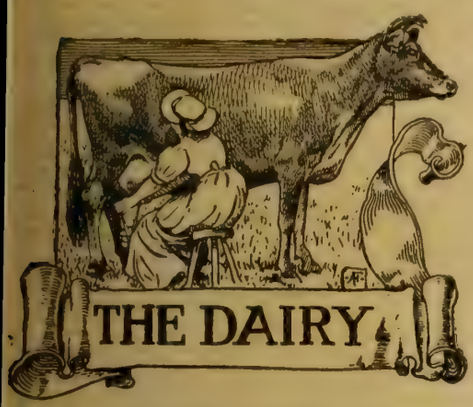
London, Thursday.—Linseed: The market has been very depressed during the week owing to pressure by Plate shippers, but this being withdrawn the tone has improved, and values have partly recovered. Calcutta-London: Spot, June-July and July-August 39s 3d, August-September 39s 6d, September-October 39s 9d. La Plata, July-August 38s 6d. Hull: A good business has been done at the decline. La Plata spot38s 3d, passage 39s 3d, July-August 38s 9d, August-September 38s 6d, September-October 38s 9d. Rapeseed has contined very inactive, and prices continue nominal. Brown Cawnpore, August-September 35s; brown Calcutta, August-September, afloat 33s 9d; Cottonseed: The market has been slow at a slight decline in values. London: Passage £5 13s 9d, August £5 13s 9d sellers, September Fayoumi £6, November-January £6. Hull: Spot and passage and August £5 12s 6d, September, Fayoumi buyers £5 18s 9d, November-January £5 18s 9d Linseed oil has experienced a smart drop, but some improvement has taken place from the lowest point touched. We quote spot and month in pipes £1 8Ts 6d, barrels £18 10s, August £18 10s, September-December £18 17s 6d, January-April £19 5s. Hull naked spot £18 2s 6d, August £18 5s, September-December £18 15s. Rape oil steady but quiet. Brown oil naked in all positions £19 15s. Refined £22 10s in casks. Ravison oil £18 17s 6d naked nearest value on the spot, and £18 10s forward. Cotton oil inactive. Crude on the spot £16 10s. Refined spot £17 to £19 10s, according to make and package. Hull, spot naked £16 7s 6d, August £16 7s 6d, November-April £16 7s 6d. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm. London made £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Cotton cakes firmer. London made £4 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards, £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

WOOL.

Glasgow and Leith.—The activity reported in our last circular has been continued during July. At the Leith sales on 11th and 12th, as well as at Glasgow on 25th and 26th, values were well maintained. Compared with the same period last year, values at these sales, as well as at the principal country markets, showed a substantial advance all round. Now that a considerable quantity of all kinds has changed hands, there is likely to be a decreased volume of business for a time, although it is not expected that there will be any giving way in prices. Indeed, in some cases notably in Cheviot hoggs of fine staple prices have been improving. Not much change can be reported in half breds, but crosses are a shade easier. Blackfaced is now coming forward in considerable quantity, and is being taken up to a moderate extent, both by home and foreign buyers, at current rates. Stocks of all classes are very firmly held.—J. AND W. GREIG.

London, Friday Fleeces. South Down hoggs, £12 10s to £11; half bred hoggs £12 10s to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £12 to £13 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 to £12 10s; Colonial per lb—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 3½d; N.S.W., scoured average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11d to 11½d; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured average, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece average, 9½d to 10d; greasy average, 7¾d to 8¼d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8¾d to 9¾d, crossbreds-grs. Vic., good to super, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; ditto medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1d; ditto coarse, 10d to 11d.



Bath and West Cheese School.

The first draft (nearly 31 cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the month of April at the Cheese School carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council, at Glendale Farm, Wedmore, has been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evereech, at 56s. per cwt. of 112 lb. 3,701 gallons of milk made 3,655 lb. of green cheese, which, when sold in the middle of July, weighed 3,453 lb. The school has been well attended by students, 30 having already entered, while other applications are still being received.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

There was an average pitch of sixty-nine tons on Wednesday, and the general quality was good. Buyers were anxious to do business at prices a shade over previous quotations, and all the lots were cleared quickly. Best qualities realised 53s. to 58s., and medium and lower grades 45s. to 52s. per cwt.

Edinburgh's Milk Supply.

Sir Henry Littlejohn, Medical Officer of Health to the city of Edinburgh, has prepared for the Health Committee of the Town Council a statement regarding a motion by Councillor Wilson that depots for the sale of milk should be established in the poorer districts of Edinburgh. Sir Henry reminds the committee that the connection of milk with such diseases as diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhoid, and tuberculosis is now fully recognised; but in the manufacturing districts of England, with their dense and imperfectly housed population, there are special circumstances which have led to the use of processes for preserving milk, and thus preventing it undergoing those changes which in the case of infants have led to a large mortality. Depots have been established in the English towns for the purpose of supplying pure milk to the artisans, and processes of sterilisation and Pasteurisation have been adopted for the purpose.

It has been found that the usual process of sterilisation has not been attended with satisfastory results, for, while those bacilli which are regarded as harmful are no doubt removed, the other bacilli which are useful in aiding the digestion of the milk are destroyed. Medical officers of health have reported that the use of sterilised milk, instead of being beneficial, is, in their opinion, the cause of the prevalence of rickets in such circumstances. Pasteurisation, on the other hand, merely raises the temperature of the milk to 194 degrees (Fahrenheit), and there can be no doubt, the report continues, that the supply of such milk, so treated, has in the Midland counties been attended with good results.

The question, the report proceeds, is whether there is any urgent necessity for the introduction of this system into Edinburgh, where milk is abundant and of good quality even in the poorest districts, the only adulteration being the "occasional admixture of water," though even this is kept in check by the sanitary inspector and his staff. "I am satisfied from my inquiries," Sir Henry continues, "that the artisans and the respectable poor have no cause to complain of their milk supply, either as regards quantity or quality." For some time past Sir Henry has conducted inquiries in certain districts of the city as to the milk supplied to the poor, and has taken supplies from thirty-two dairy shops, sixteen of these in the High Street, Canongate, and immediate neighbourhood; and sixteen in the Cowgate, Grassmarket, and immediate neighbourhood. In no single case has the bacillus of consumption or other noxious organism been detected. The specimens of milk were otherwise, to taste and appearance, perfectly satisfactory.

With the prospect of the important step about to be considered by the Health Committee—i.e., hospital provision for advanced cases of consumption, when they are most infectious, and which will entail considerable expense, Sir Henry is unable to advise the committee to undertake the sale of milk in various districts of the city, and possibly at the same time to provide this free of charge to the very poor.

National Diploma in Dairying.

The National Agricultural Examination Board announce that the annual examination of candidates for the national diploma in the science and practice of dairying will be held, for English students, at the Reading College from September 18 to 21, and for Scottish students at the Dairy Institute, Kilmarnock, from September 25 to 28. The last date for the receipt of applications to sit at either of these centres is August 31. The subjects of examination are the general management of a dairy farm, the management of a dairy, chemistry and bacteriology, practical skill in dairy work, and capacity for imparting instructions to others. Forms of entry and copies of the regulations may be obtained of Sir Ernest Clarke, 15, Hanover Square, London, W., or Mr. James Macdonald, 3, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh.

Kent's Fruit Crops: Poor Yields.

"A bad year" is the Kentish fruit-growers' verdict with regard to 1905. Soft fruits, the season for which is now practically at an end, were generally disappointing alike in quantity and quality. As the returns we published in June went to show, cherries, the most esteemed of all the Kentish soft fruits, were sadly deficient in both respects, strawberries, so extensively cultivated in Kent, being also lacking in flavour, though more satisfactory in point of bulk. These two crops are the governing factors in the soft fruit position, and their failure this year to come up to standard means that the soft fruit season has proved far from prosperous to those concerned as growers. Fortunately, the exceedingly favourable weather which has attended the marketing of the crops has made some amends for the shortcomings of the orchards and plantations, and with a good demand nearly all the time, growers must have done better than could have been expected at the outset.

In regard to bulk, the crops of hard fruit are in much the same condition as were the crops of soft fruit. We have collected returns from growers in nearly fifty parishes, and the position these returns reveal is in some respects truly depressing. The apple crop is a grievous disappointment, being, generally, as much as 75 per cent. below the average. There are rare instances where half a crop may be gathered, and even a three-quarter crop is looked for in one parish, but on the other hand two or three returns are as low as 10 per cent. of the average. Pears vary surprisingly. As in the case of apples, there are some districts in which the crop is almost a total failure, yet in four parishes an average or even more is expected from the orchards.

On the whole pears come out rather better than apples, but it is to the commoner sorts that the advantage is attributable. Plums vary considerably, but not to so striking an extent as pears, the returns pointing to a yield equal to about three-quarters of an average crop. Damsons are about in the same position, with a tendency in the right direction, but this is a crop which, owing to it unremunerativeness, is far less extensively grown than was the case a few years ago, thousands of trees having been grubbed.

The cultivation of cob-nuts on a large scale is not general, the plantations being confined to soils considered specially suitable. This fact explains the absence of returns for this particular crop from several parishes. The outlook in regard to yield is not very rosy, but the majority of growers expect half the average, and in a few favoured situations there is a promise of something like an abundance, the top figure being 120. — *South-Eastern Gazette* (August 1).

Preferential Railway Rates: Railway Official's Views.

The Earl of Jersey's Committee, inquiring into the alleged preferential railway rates to foreign and Colonial over home agricultural produce, had before them on Tuesday Mr Robert Millar, the general manager of the Caledonian Railway Company, who replied to the evidence given by Mr. Drysdale, the president of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture. Witness's argument was to take rates between Leith and Glasgow and claim similar rates between other places on a basis proportionate to the distance; but these rates were actually fixed by a compromise with the traders, and embodied in an Act of Parliament of 1892. That scale was made in the interests of the public, so as to enable Leith to compete as a port, and not to give a monopoly of certain traffics over certain districts to the port of Glasgow, thereby holding the balance between ports on the east and west of Scotland.

It was a common error of those who complained of railway rates to overlook the extra services given in the one case and not in the other. It did not matter to the railway company whether the goods at Leith were home or foreign; they were charged alike for similar services under similar circumstances. Equal mileage rates had been suggested, but if it were carried out it would restrict a great deal of commerce to purely local markets. As to railway rates preventing the Scottish farmers from competing with foreigners in *petit* culture, the farmers did not worry themselves about it, but devoted their attention to raising large crops. There was no home sale for produce in butter, eggs, or poultry which was at all comparable to that which would be imported.

University College of North Wales.

The college authorities have appointed Mr. Robert George White, B.Sc., to the vacant Assistant Lectureship in Agriculture. Mr. White was educated at the Archbishop Holgate's School, York, where he was successful in gaining one of the major scholarships awarded by the North Riding County Council, and proceeded to the Yorkshire College, Leeds. He took the course for the degree of B.Sc. of the Victoria University in Agriculture, and graduated in 1904, being placed in the first division. After graduating Mr. White returned to college and devoted himself to analytical work in connection with manures and food stuffs, and in May of the present year he obtained the National Diploma in Agriculture with honours. He has since made a special study of dairying.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The summer term of this college closed on Wednesday, when the principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas, scholarships, and other honours on the successful students. Referring to the agricultural education and forestry exhibition at Park Royal, he said it was of interest to them that the Royal Agricultural College was the only college in the country that contributed to both departments of that exhibition, and had done so for two years, the results of their manurial experiments on grasses being of especial value. Referring to their old students, he said Messrs. Matthews, Browne, and Leech had passed the examination for the professional associateship of the Surveyors' Institution, Mr. Matthews obtaining the Beadel prize. Mr. Muir Mackenzie, M.R.A.C., had been appointed an ordinary member of the Council of the Government of Bombay. The principal alluded in feeling terms to the death of their distinguished old student, Sir Jacob Wilson, and announced that Mr. J. Bowen Jones, M.R.A.C., had succeeded him as corresponding member of the College Board of Studies. The chief awards in the classes were as follows: —

Honour diploma of membership (maximum marks 2,100, qualifying marks 1,400):—Eric C. Barker, The Cedars, Esher, Surrey, 1,721; Alan Peter Slingsby, Scriven Park, Knaresborough, 1,519.

Scholarships (open to the whole college, maximum marks 3,900, qualifying marks 3,250): — First scholarship, £25: Albert Sasson, Alexandria, Egypt, 3,672. Second and third scholarships, £10 each: Miles Ponsonby Knowlby, Steeple Ashton Vicarage, Trowbridge, 3,545; Robert Henry Price, Cloudesdale Road, Balham, 3,515.

Proxime accessit:—Akers.

Honourable mention on the term's work (in alphabetical order):—Archer, Dobbs, Henniker, Joynson, Parry, Waller, Whittington.

Live Stock Record.

SOME FORGOTTEN BREEDS OF SHEEP.

The breeds of sheep in England were once much more numerous than they are at the present period. A century ago almost every English county had its own particular variety, and some big counties owned two or three sorts. Devon, indeed, had three kinds, the old Bampton, in the northern part, from which has descended the modern Devon long-wool; the South Hams, now termed the South Devon; and the Dartmoor, which derived its name from its native mountain. Parkinson, whose "Treatise on Live Stock" was published in 1810, enumerated thirty-seven breeds of English sheep as existing in his time, and he expressed the opinion that "any unprejudiced man who looks into the Book of Nature will perceive in the long run that the sheep found in the different counties will, in a general way, prove by continuance the most healthy and profitable, although by proper crosses they may be improved."

No doubt many who read this dictum of Parkinson will desire to know how it happens, if it be held to be correct, that so many of Parkinson's thirty-seven breeds have long since become extinct, and the greater part of the remainder derived such complete transformations by crossings that their characteristics have very little in common with the races from which they originally sprang. But the Lincoln breed maintains dominion over the broad Fens from Peterboro' to the ocean, just as the Southdowns do on the Sussex hills. The rule asserted by Parkinson must be accepted in its general outlines For instance, no one would expect Lincoln sheep to retain their immense substance or wealth in either flesh or wool production if transferred to the Sussex Downs, or the native breed of the latter climate yield profit if kept in any low-lying marshes.

The late Colonel Luttrell once tried an experiment by placing Southdowns and Devon longwool sheep to graze together in the Somerset Fens. But during the summer he sent to the butcher three successive lays of longwools, while the Southdowns remained with little more flesh than they had at first. Parkinson relates a very similar fact, in which two breeds were not so dissimilar as those above mentioned figured. At the time he wrote his treatise the landed gentry, with King George III. at their head, were using every effort to get Merinos bred in England. Mr. Bridge was a distinguished breeder of Dorset Horns, but that he might supersede them by Merinos or their crosses the King made him a present of a Merino ram. After making endeavour to go with the stream, and give the fashionable sort a fair trial, Parkinson states that "he was obliged to banish and do away with not only the breed itself, but every cross of it."

Further, it is as necessary as ever it was for those who would derive profit from sheep in any district to adopt the kinds which have yielded the best returns in the past. Those that have done so in modern times are perhaps very dissimilar from those which were kept even fifty years since. But most probably the changes in their forms and characteristics were gradually, not suddenly, effected. And we may be well assured now that if any breeder desires to effect changes to-day he must likewise work gradually and very cautiously, for whenever any race has become thoroughly acclimatised and inured to peculiarities of soil, situation, and climate, it thrives all the better for it, and hardihood and thrift might be sacrificed if quality were infused too hastily.

Most of the old breeds which appear to be extinct have their blood still transmitted by amalgamation with other races. The Berks and Wilts were allied, the West-country Down being the offspring, which after refinement by Southdown ram agency produced the modern Hampshire. A century ago nearly all the mutton marketed was from longwool sheep. Southdown mutton was a luxury for the rich, just as Mountain mutton is now. Thus the sheep that would yield the biggest and weightiest carcasses were the most valuable. Parkinson wrote: "I have not met with any breed of sheep brought to fair sale at Smithfield that equalled Mr. Chapman's, of the Hertford breed. In 1807, he sold 207 crocks for £5 2s. 11d. each. They must therefore have weighed about 146 lb. a carcass. There is another instance of forty-five Lincoln sheep weighing 140 lb. a carcass."

This condition of things got to be completely changed before the middle of last century, and graziers on all medium-class soils had to cross longwool ewes with Down rams to satisfy their customers, and when the town artisans and the agricultural labourers became mutton eaters, even they insisted on small joints with lean flesh. The comparatively new breeds of the Shropshire, Hampshire, Oxfordshire, and Suffolk now supply the want, but they have had gradual creation by the amalgamation of the older breeds.

Prominent British Breeders.

Mr. G. TALFOURD INMAN,
Highmoor Hall, Henley-on-Thames.
BREEDER OF BERKSHIRE PIGS.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

We would remind intending exhibitors at the Birmingham Autumnal Shorthorn Show and Sale that the entries close on Thursday next, 10th inst. Prize lists and entry forms may be obtained from Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham. Eight prizes are offered in four classes for cows, heifers, and heifer calves, and for bulls from twelve to eighteen months old there are five prizes ranging from £15 to £3. In addition there is also an extra stock class for bulls and bull calves of any age.

Volume II. of the South Devon Flock-Book, just issued, is one on which the South Devon Flock-Book Association is to be congratulated, for it bears eloquent testimony to the progress of the new venture. A comparison between the members' roll published in the initial volume and that of No. 2 shows a notable increase in the latter, whilst the flocks entered also are more numerous; in fact, it is said that practically none of the leading flocks of South Devons remain unregistered now, and to have secured this result in so short a time is a triumph the Society can afford to be proud of. Volume II. is well arranged, nicely printed, and altogether a good one. Applications for copies and all details relating to it must be made to the secretary and editor, Mr. W. W. Chapman, 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

I learn that a very fine Large White boar and an unrelated sow from the Holywell Manor herd have recently been forwarded by Messrs. Sanders Spencer, and Son to a very old customer in France, Monsieur Guy de Valence, who inspected the large herd in the small county of Huntingdon many years since, and who periodically places orders for Large White pigs to keep up his herd to the high state which it has held for a very long time as one of the best in France.

Starting nine years ago with a very primitive exhibition, and a total prize value of £160, the Mid-Cheshire Farmers'. Association have gradually increased their prizes and extended their area until for this year's show, their tenth venture, they are able to offer a sum of over £800 in class prizes, and in addition numerous specials, etc. The show has, on its merits alone, grown each year in favour, and the event on Saturday next, September 2, should prove the most successful of the series. Classes are provided for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, farm and garden produce, poultry, pigeons, dogs, implements, etc., so that all sorts of tastes are catered for. A new feature is a scheme for the encouragement of nature study amongst children, prizes being offered for the best essays on the subject, the competition being confined to children attending the elementary schools within the area of the show district. The entries have already far exceeded the most sanguine hopes of any member of the association, for over 800 essays, etc., have been sent in so far, in addition to others from schools outside the show area, which cannot, of course, take part in the competition; but I understand they may be recompensed in some tangible way. Evidently nature study is not a neglected subject in Cheshire, and the essays should provide interesting reading. The show will be held in a field near to Blue Bell Farm, Manchester Road, Knutsford, on the date mentioned above (September 2), and entries close on Wednesday, August 23, with the secretary, Mr. W. Page, Lower Peover, Knutsford.

Prize-money to the extent of £500 is offered for competition at the show of the Stokesley Agricultural Society, at Stokesley, on September 21, and there are numerous open classes, so that entries from districts outside the Society's area may be expected. Entries close on September 9 with the secretaries, Messrs. W. Hodgson, T. G. Eeles, and F. Wardell, Stokesley, R.S.O., from whom entry forms, prize schedules, etc., can be obtained.

On account of all the farms on the estate having been let, the Hon. Henry Cubitt, M.P., has instructed Messrs. Strude and Son to dispose of his entire flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep, and the sale will take place at the Home Farm, Birtley, Bramley, Surrey, on Thursday next, the 10th inst. The stock consists of about 1,000 head, in ages as follows:—160 shearling ewes, 110 four-teeth ewes, 93 six-teeth ewes, 139 fullmouthed ewes, 45 draft-ewes, 204 ewe lambs, 232 wether lambs, and six rams. The flock was founded in the year 1882 by the purchase of ewes from some of the best Hill Flocks in East Sussex, and the rams used have been chiefly selected from the famous prize-winning flocks of Mr. Edwin Ellis, Mr. William Toop, Messrs. Murrieta, Mr. Geo. Peel, Mr. Alfred Heasman, and Mr. F. N. Hobgen. The Birtley ewes thus embrace some of the best and most fashionable strains of Southdown blood.

Volume XVII. of the Oxford Down Flock-Book contains entries of rams from No. 4242 to 4503, and ewes 1536 to 1616 inclusive, whilst in addition there is the usual details concerning the society, a show record of the breed for the year 1904, and other data. Copies of the book, which is published at 10s. 6d. by the Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association, can be had on application to the secretary, Mr. A. F. Milton Druce, Estate Office, 11, Queen Street, Oxford.

The entire flock of pure-bred Southdown sheep belonging to Sir N. W. G. Throckmorton, Bart., is to be dispersed by auction on Friday, the 18th inst., at Buckland, Faringdon, Berks, the auctioneers being Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. The history of the Buckland flock would virtually form a brief history of Southdown sheep, for the flock has been in existence since about the year 1800, when Sir John Throckmorton, Bart., purchased ewes direct from the Sussex Downs—the home of the breed; also from the famous flock kept by Francis, fifth Duke of Bedford, at Woburn, and from Mr. Williams, grandfather of the present agent at Buckland, who kept a flock at Ashtree Farm, Buckland, and who, in the year 1850, exhibited three twenty-months-old Southdown wethers at the Smithfield Show, taking the first prize of £20, and the gold and silver medals. Sales and lettings of rams were commenced as far back as the year 1814, when sheep from Buckland were the means of great improvement in other varieties. Prizes were won at the Smithfield Club Shows early in the last century, and at many shows of the Royal Agricultural Society since its formation in 1839. In tracing the lengthy pedigrees of prize sheep it is noticeable how many of them go back to this old source of Southdown blood that has been preserved in its purity at Buckland for so many years. The flock has never been kept to a large size; it is now in good natural breeding condition, and will be unreservedly sold in consequence of the proposed letting of the Home Farm.

The Richmond (Surrey) Horse Show Society, Ltd., have fixed Friday and Saturday, June 15 and 16, 1906, as the date for the next Royal Horse Show at Richmond.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth, announce that on Tuesday, September 26, they will dispose of a number of the Rev. C. Bolden's pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus cattle at Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire. This will be the fifth auction sale held at Preston Bissett, and each of the animals to be sold has been bred by Mr. Bolden, who has won numerous prizes at the shows of the Highland, the Royal, the Bath and West, and the Royal Counties Agricultural Societies. All the animals catalogued are young, and will be offered in natural breeding condition. Included in the sale will be five yearling heifers sent by Mr. Bridges from his well-known and old-established herd at Horley, in Surrey.

Few local one-day shows can afford £1,350 in prize-money, but this will be given at Tring on Thursday next in the quiet little nook concentrated in Lord Rothschild's park, not far from Tring station, thirty miles from Euston. The London and North-Western Railway, besides their frequent service, are sending two specials from Euston at 10.20 and 11.40, which will give cross-country passengers ample opportunity to run down quickly (convenient trains run them back at night), also a largely increased local train service. The entries all stand their ground, and are excellent throughout. To lovers of sheep-dog trials none better exist out of Wales than those carried out at Tring Show, and, apart from anything else, are worth a visit alone. There are so many attractions outside the agricultural section that it may almost be termed a ladies' day, as the park, looking now at its best, the gardens, the museum, the music, the kangaroos, ostriches, and emus in a free state in the adjoining park are all to be enjoyed after once entering the gates. Exceptional arrangements are made to make all visitors enjoy their day at Tring, the catering being not the least item towards this end. It cannot be said of Tring that it is the same old show, as visitors from year to year always find fresh items, and, if possible, improved accommodation.

To our already large list of flock, herd, and stud books I suppose we shall soon have to add another, for the exhibition of Welsh Mountain sheep at the Welsh National Agricultural Society's Shows have been such good ones that a wish has been expressed that a Welsh Mountain Sheep Flock-Book should be started. At the show last week a representative meeting of breeders was held at which it was unanimously resolved that the time had arrived to form a flock-book on the same lines as the Kerry Hill Flock-Book. It was decided to leave the drawing-up of the rules to the chairman, in consultation with other members present, and a meeting to discuss these will be held at the Corwen Show on September 22.

This year's Buxton Horse Show will be held on Friday, September 1, under the presidency of Colonel Cotton-Jodrell. Over £300 is offered in prizes, and in addition challenge cups and gold and silver medals; whilst for the best hunter there is a 50-guinea challenge cup. Entries close on Tuesday, August 22, with the secretaries, Messrs. Hampson Bros., 8, The Quadrant, Buxton, from whom forms, prize schedules, etc., can be had.

The date of the Thame Horse Show is Thursday, September 14, entries closing on September 2, and at double fees on September 12. Mr. I. Bush, Thame, is the secretary.

The New South Wales Government Statistician reports that 7,152,700 lambs were marked in New South Wales as the result of the autumnal lambing, as against 6,651,216 marked last year. The pastures are reported to be in excellent condition.

Our Australian Colonists have recently been shipping a good many first-class cattle and horses to the other side. The Wilcannia carried a number of Shorthorn cattle, some Shropshire rams, and a couple of Berkshire pigs for Adelaide.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence have been instructed by Mr. James Flower to let and sell by auction, at the famous Britford Fair, on Saturday next, 100 ram lambs, two shearling rams, and 100 grand breeding ewes, from his registered Hampshire Down flock. As all sheep breeders are aware, Mr. Flower has for many years enjoyed an important and almost unparalleled prize-winning career in all the showyards of England, and this season the Chilmark flock has fully maintained that high position which it has won in the Hampshire Down world, and the animals to be sold on Saturday will be found worthy representatives of the flock.

Notes and Jottings.

Since last week the country, as regards its more northerly and midland section, has been visited with some very grateful rains, which are freshening the pastures, and will be of immense worth to the root crops, though they have proved rather damaging to the corn crops by knocking them down badly in places. Roots were in many cases completely set fast for moisture, and it is now quite probable that we shall see a revival in the cattle trade as well as in the grass and roots that they feed upon; indeed, some of the beef markets have shown quite a tendency to become more brisk since the highest temperature passed away. The air has now become much cooler and clearer, the nights being quite chilly and autumnal.

Two or three very important shows of cattle were held during last week; indeed, two of the most important in the country in some respects. These were the Welsh National at Aberystwyth and the Royal Lancashire at Liverpool. The former show was celebrating it second anniversary and had an excellent entry of cattle, the total being very much in excess of the opening show of last year. Shorthorns, despite the tedious journey and long distance from their homes, were in great force, and there was a very close battle between some of the leading animals. Mr. Stratton's fine bull, Great Mogul, however, secured the first prize in his class, as well as the male championship; his symmetry and the evenness of his flesh are quite a pleasing feature, and in addition to these points he has a dairylike appearance.

Mr. R. P. Cooper's Meteor, though milk white, has so much style and quality about him, mellow flesh and substance that he took the second place; and Lord Powis's Alastair, who has several times been first this year and champion upon one or two occasions, made a famous third. He is very big and massive at the present time, and is proving a good sire. It is not often that three such bulls as these meet in competition in any show, and it is a triumph of Shorthorn breeding that after such a demand from foreign breeders there should still be so many high-class animals left at home. It is well, however, that this should be so, and that our leading breeders should have the courage to refuse the high prices that this class of bulls would readily fetch, and so add to the future prospects of the Shorthorn at home.

Herefords were also quite an extraordinary display at the Welsh National, the classes being quite as good or better than at the earlier shows of the season, even at that of the Worcester and Hereford, their stronghold. The young stock, of both sexes and the cows, too, were most satisfactory, but when it comes to criticising the aged bulls one's mouth almost becomes sealed. It is many years since two such bulls of this famous white-faced beef-making breed have been before the public as Mr. Peter Coates's Evedale, bred by his owner, and the get of Comerie, who won the first prize, and Mr. C. T. Pulley's Eaton Champion, by Protection, bred by Sir Joseph Pulley, Bart. The wealth and mellowness of flesh on each of these animals is quite wonderful.

Evedale is a larger bull, perhaps, than his opponent, and the famous loin, the beautiful symmetry, and the level evenness of his flesh are of surpassing beauty. His weight, too, must be enormous, yet he walks with the greatest ease and activity. The second bull, Eaton Champion is big and massive, coming almost to the ground, and he, too, carries a wealth of mellow flesh evenly laid on. He has fine Hereford character, too, and, like the first prize one, is very active. When the famous Archibald was in the midst of his successful showyard career his breast was but a few inches from the ground, and it was said that, after he was exported to Buenos Ayres, an operation was performed upon him to relieve this enormous chest weight.

The native Black Welsh cattle were in strong force at this same show, and these were of much improved character. Several breeders were exhibiting whose names are not known in the ordinary course of the show season, and some of the animals from the herds of these new exhibitors were quite of a more true Welsh type, some of the cows had also very good legs. The rather plain shape of some of them, the want of neatness at the setting on of the tail, and the comparatively bad handling were the greatest failings (and bad enough these, it may be said) in these cattle, but these sore points do not affect the weighing or the butchering value to any appreciable extent. A little more quality would be of advantage to a great many of our store cattle of all breeds.

Before we bid adieu to the white faces, or rather the feeding breeds, reference may be made to a letter that has been going the round of the agricultural papers to the effect that some Hereford cows in Ireland have been unable to bring up their offspring for lack of a better supply of milk. It is a matter of surprise that when cows are bred, turned out in the foldyard or the fields to bring up their own calves generation after generation, that they should eventually almost cease to give milk at all, indeed, it is a wonder that even the calf can get a draught. Milk soon ceases when animals are put upon feeding treatment only, and the fact of the calf biting and pulling the teats giving great pain often to the cow, has the effect of making them hold up their milk, and so speedily become dry.

The management of dairy cattle is a point that should receive more attention than is devoted to it at the present time. Particularly is this so with the young stock, and experience has proved over and over again that, however well heifers may be bred for milk both on the side of the sire and dam, if they are allowed to become as may be said completely fattened up whilst young, the chances are nine to one that they will never become great milkers afterwards. Abundance of exercise, and feed that will assist in growth and muscle are the best things to assist in making heifers become great milkers when they have arrived at maturity and are brought into the dairy.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending July 29, 1905 :—

			Period.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection. No.	Outbreaks. No.	Outbreaks Reported. No.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls. No.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs. No.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked. No.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks. No.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked. No.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks. No.	Anthrax. Animals Attacked. No.	Anthrax. Outbreaks. No.
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No. 127	Week ended July 29, 1905 ...	41	20	2	...	...	55	46	...	...	31	16
			Corresponding week in 1904	104	19	1	...	...	47	30	...	...	7	5
			Corresponding week in 1903	103	39	1	...	...	47	29	...	...	24	15
			Corresponding week in 1902	102	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			Total for 30 weeks in 1905 ...	2,405	515	648	...	...	1,249	715	...	...	846	594
			Corresponding period in 1904	4,238	895	1,060	...	...	1,693	908	...	...	967	591
			Corresponding period in 1903	4,853	979	1,164	...	...	1,305	800	...	...	732	475
			Corresponding period in 1902	4,931	1,071	1,107	11	12	1,206	670	1	1	696	426

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Chard August Fair. This important West Country Fair was held on Wednesday, and, considering the dry season, trade was particularly brisk, and excellent prices were realised for all kinds of stock. Buyers were present from all parts of the West of England, and there was a good entry of stock for sale at the two auctions held by Messrs. Jeffery and Simmons, and Messrs. H. M. Hext and Sons. Cows and calves made from £15 2s. 6d. to £18 15s.; store steers up to £14; fat heifers, £15 to £18. Veal averaged 7½d. per lb. There was a good demand for sheep. Off ewes realised from 41s. to 48s. 6d.; lambs, 2os. 6d. to 3os. 6d.; rams from 5½ guineas to 7½ guineas; wethers from 38s. to 43s. Swine ships from 2os. to 40s.; fat pigs up to £4 15s.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

A few days ago I happened to be in the company of some men who were discussing the burning question of the day—the increasing expenditure of governing bodies, and the means to be adopted to raise the necessary money. After some time had been spent in discussion, one man soberly proposed that all horses should be taxed, whilst all taxation should be taken off motor vehicles of all sorts. Another gentleman immediately endorsed his opinion. I mildly inquired where the cavalry horses were to come from in another war. "Oh," said one gentleman, "we leave that to you." "And," said the other, "there are plenty of horses in Canada—get them in Canada"; whilst a third said that the omnibus horses that were requisitioned in the late war were of no use.

I made a somewhat emphatic protest against providing the country with horses at regulation prices and paying a tax on them as well, as may be readily imagined. Looking back on that conversation I can scarcely think the gentlemen who made the observations I have quoted were speaking seriously; indeed, I scarcely thought that they were at the time, for they are men of sense. Indeed, I do not know that I should have taken any further notice of the conversation had it not been brought back to my memory by the very excellent article in the current number of *Baily's Magazine*, entitled "Are we a horsey nation?" from the pen of my esteemed friend, "Borderer."

I am no pessimist; I do not always agree with the gloomy views on horse breeding entertained by "Borderer" and other of my friends, as those who read these columns will scarcely require reminding. But in answering the question, "Are we a horsey nation"? I must join my friend "Borderer" in an emphatic NO. We were a horsey nation once, but for the last twenty-five years we have been going from bad to worse in this respect. Our gilded youth, and even our youth that is not so very much gilded, "has become conversant with ease and idleness," and horsemanship, if a labour of love to the horseman, is none the less a labour for all that. One only has to look with an observant eye over the ordinary hunting field to see how we have degenerated as horsemen. "Borderer" tells us the young man of the present day will not ride a four-year-old even cub-hunting. But this is not all, the young man of the present day, if his purse be long enough, will not take pains to accustom an older horse to his handling.

There can be no doubt whatever that, as a nation of horsemen, we are resting on the traditions of the past. We believe we are a nation of horsemen, but we are nursing an illusion. How many gentlemen "make" their own horses nowadays compared with the number that made them in the days gone by? A scanty few indeed. Then, a crucial test, compare our gentlemen riders not the few who come to the front but the rank and file of them with the rank and file of fifty years ago. In the hunting field you will see more men ride hard for a bit than was the case half a century ago. But, as "Borderer" points out, they are nearly all on "made" horses. There is also another thing to be borne in mind, and that is that the country is not so difficult to cross as it was. There are fewer fences they are not so rough and the going is better.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

To what, then, is due this decadence? Is it to any sudden dislike which people have taken to horses? I think not. It is, in my opinion, due, in a great measure, to the "soft" bringing up of our modern youth. Fifty years ago boys were expected to rough it, and did rough it, and were all the better for it. But increasing wealth has brought increasing luxury and ease. When a horse was the only means of transit in country places, it was essential that a boy should be a horseman. He rode accordingly, and even if he did not ride to hounds, he could handle a horse without appearing ridiculous, and he was proud of his accomplishment. But as one cannot play bowls without rubs, so one cannot ride a horse without falling sometimes, and without occasionally getting hurt. And one would think, to hear some people talk, that a broken collar-bone was one of the most serious things on earth. It is painful, it is true, and rather more inconvenient than painful; I have had some experience and I know; but a man is no worse for it, and he is all the better for risking it. "Borderer" says that the motor-car and golf are at the bottom of our no longer being a nation of horsemen. I do not quite agree with him. The motor-car may have something to do with it; but it is, I think, the love of ease and the hatred of taking trouble that is bringing us down from our high position as the most horsey nation in the world.

What is the remedy, then, for the existing state of things? Or is it beyond remedy? I would like to hope that it is not, for the manliness of a nation must deteriorate when its men go in for a life of self-indulgence. But the remedy lies in the young men of the rising generation, and the boys who are growing up after them. It can come from no outside source. There may, however, be an outside influence. It is noted by "Borderer" that as there are not the number of capable horsemen that there ought to be, so there are far more capable horsewomen than there were. It is to them, then, that we must look, and one of the most pleasing things I saw last hunting season was a lady showing her son how to go to hounds; telling him what to do when in difficulties, and encouraging him when he had rather an awkward spill. I do not know which was the most pleasing sight, the keenness of the teacher or the keenness of the pupil. But some of our modern mothers would have been hysterical if they had seen a son of theirs and his pony all in a tangle at the bottom of a deep bluish ditch, and would have ruined his nerve for ever.

The best type of heavy horse has always been a subject of considerable discussion, and men have held and do hold tenacious opinions about it, and sometimes are found to argue in a vicious circle as well as with considerable rancour when the subject crops up for discussion. At one time the respective merits of the Clydesdale and Shire horse were eagerly argued, and the admirer of one breed had little good to say of the other. Many of the criticisms of each which found plenty of justification in those days would be altogether wrong now. For instance, the Clydesdale has much increased in weight and substance. Yet in some places there are to be found Clydesdales which are on the light side, and which make up for their lack of weight by their increased activity. Such are the Clydesdales that are to be found in Cumberland, many of which were shown on the 29th ult. at the Cumberland show at Carlisle. They are admirably fitted for the country in which they have to do their work, and a lighter, active horse, with not too much feather about his heels, is the horse best adapted for work amongst the hills.

There is great reason to regret that the old Northumberland Vardy horse was bred out. It is long since the breed became practically extinct, but had a determined effort been made it might have been preserved. The Vardy was a short-legged, compact, and active horse, capable of trotting his eight or nine miles an hour without fatigue, and capable, also, of doing all the work of any hillside farm. There was no hair about his heels, and the mares were well adapted for breeding weight-carrying hunters. This and the growing fashion for a heavier type of horse to do farm work was no doubt the cause of the undoing of the Vardy.

The Vardy was undoubtedly a good foundation for the breeding of troopers if all we are told about him is true, and so is the Cleveland Bay. I had a letter from a breeder of wide experience a few days ago in which he advocated the crossing of thoroughbred mares with Cleveland sires as the best means of breeding cavalry horses, and his argument appears a reasonable one. The weight carrying qualities would come from the Cleveland sire, whilst from the thoroughbred dam would come the stamina, which is so essential in a troop horse. From the Cleveland

Bay would also come a little action, than which there is nothing more desirable when one goes on a long journey on horseback.

But though this may be a good way to breed troopers, it is not the cross I should suggest for a horse to carry a man to hounds. A trooper's horse wants a certain amount of pace, but he does not require so much as a hunter. Neither has he to spread himself over big fences with a heavy weight on when he is going at top speed. No doubt I shall be told that excellent hunters have been bred from the Cleveland sire and thoroughbred mare. That is true enough. Indeed, I have had one myself. But I am of opinion that it is the exception that proves the rule.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Suffolk Horse Society's Sale.

The annual sale of pedigree Suffolk horses, held under the auspices of the Suffolk Horse Society, took place on Monday, in the new large covered-in sale yard of Messrs. Spurling and Sons, at Ipswich, and, as usual, great interest was evinced in the sale, there being a large attendance of gentlemen whose names have been long and closely identified with the Suffolk horse as a distinctive breed. The sale was preceded by a luncheon, at which Mr. R. Eaton White, the vice-president of the society, presided, and in giving the toast of "Success to the Suffolk Horse Society," he said the demand for the chestnuts was on the increase, and the secretary had informed him that the export trade was specially good. That locality was regarded as the home of the Suffolk, and, remembering the state of agriculture, and that the trade in Suffolks was likely to continue to increase, it was advisable that they should do all they could to make that trade worthy of itself, as they had in that district something in regard to which no other country could compete against them. Let them, therefore, set to and produce the best Suffolk horse they could. There was at the present juncture a great demand for Suffolk geldings, but as the demand for stallions was considerable, they had not been able at present to provide sufficient geldings to meet the demand. It was to be hoped, however, that with the increased production of Suffolks they might be better able in a short time to satisfy the demand for geldings.

The nomination foals were judged during the morning, the gentlemen acting as judges being Mr. Samuel Toller and Mr. W. R. Hustler, J.P. The first prize went to a choice horse foal belonging to Mr. W. S. Pipe, Framlingham, which obtained distinction at the recent show at Framlingham, whose dam was purchased at the Suffolk Horse Society's sale two years ago; the second to a filly sent by Mr. W. Thompson, Dallinghoo; the third to another filly bred by Mr. W. Durrant, Butley; and the reserve to a filly bred by Mr. H. Burrows, Dallinghoo.

The auctioneers were Mr. Alfred Preston and Mr. Fred Smith (the secretary of the society), the former gentleman wielding the hammer, and he was faced by a large company. Some fairly good prices were realised, Sir Cuthbert Quilter purchasing the first prize nomination foal for 33 gs., as well as other lots. The top figure of the sale, however, was given by Lord Derby, who had to bid 61 gs. before he could secure Mr. Herbert Turner's Bures Belle, by Hewitt's Mars. The other chief lots were as follows:—

NOMINATION FOALS.

The property of the Suffolk Horse Society.

	Gs.
Albert .....Mr. Carlyle Smith	15
Filly foal, f. March 23 (3rd prize); s. Smith's Prince Horse foal, f. March 19; s. Smith's Prince Albert Messrs. Pratt and Sons	11
Filly foal, f. April 21 (2nd prize); s. Smith's Prince Albert .....Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.	19
Horse foal, f. March 29 (1st prize); s. Dennington Cupbearer .....Sir Cuthbert Quilter	33
Filly foal, f. April 6 (reserve); s. Boulge Conqueror Mr. J. C. Dawson	14
Filly foal, f. April 4; s. Smith's Saturn Mr. Gerald A. Smith	16½
Halesworth Emperor (Mr. H. S. R. Stanford's), f. April 1, 1905; s. Smith's Prince Albert Mr. Dennis Clarke	32
Horse foal (Mr. H. Hawes's), f. April 8; s. Pratt's Golden Grain .....Mr. Arthur T. Pratt	24

MARES AND FOALS

Woolverstone Countess (Mr. C. H. Berners's), f. 1900; s. Berners' Windsor Chieftain..Mr. Arthur Pratt Her filly foal, f. April; s. Berners' Sunshine Sir Cuthbert Quilter	34
Beevedor (Mr. Berners's), f. 1891; s. Lofft's Bacchus Mr. H. Cross	21
Her filly foal, f. March; s. Berners' Sunshine Mr. W. F. Barns	29
Vaccination (Mr. J. Toller's), f. 1901; s. Sir Cuthbert Quilter's Prince Wedgewood .....Mr. H. Fulcher	15
Her horse foal, f. 1905; s. Rendlesham Goldsmith Mr. C. F. Marriner	29
Kingston Belle (Mr. F. Smith's), f. 1901; s. Smith's Saturn .....Mr. Roland Partridge	11
	35

MARES AND FILLIES.

Scott (Mr. W. Leggett's), f. 1899; s. Cook's Border Minstrel .....Mrs. Gooden	50
Beatles Betty (Exors. of Mr. E. F. Quilter), f. 1900; s. Biddell's Valiant ..Walthamstow U. D. Council	40
Normanla (ditto), f. 1901; s. Wilson's Conqueror Mr. Cowles	41
Bentley Minx (ditto), f. 1902; s. Bentley Warrior Mr. C. W. Ransome	26
Bentley Roundhead (ditto), f. 1903; s. Cook's Ironside Mr. Marriott	23½
Moggy Darling (ditto), f. 1895; s. Pratt's Eclipse Dr. Lynne Stevens	99
Empress (ditto), f. 1894; s. Cook's Border Minstrel Mr. Garrard	41½
Bures Belle (Mr. H. Turner's), f. 1900; s. Hewitt's Mars .....Lord Derby	61
Stratford Joselyne (Sir Gorell Barnes's), f. 1902; s. Smith's Saturn .....Mr. Marriott	39
Boulge Moggy (Mr. R. Eaton White's), f. 1905; s. Boulge Conqueror .....Mr. Wm. J. Catchpole	52
Darby (Mr. J. Clarke's), f. 1903; s. Cook's Record Mr. J. Cordle	41
Valhalla (Mr. J. Toller's), f. 1903; s. Colonial College's Sydney .....Mr. A. T. Pratt	35
Botany Bay (ditto), f. 1903; s. Colonial College's Sydney .....Mr. Joseph Freeman	

STALLIONS.

Stratford Victor (Sir Gorell Barnes's), f. 1905; s. Smith's Prince Albert .....Mr. Frank Smith	40
Vicar (Mr. J. Toller's), f. 1903, s. Colonial College's Sydney .....Mr. S. Balls	54
Prince Harold (Mr. J. Rose's), f. 1904; s. Cook's Border Minstrel .....Mr. C. F. Marriner	15

Notes and Jottings.

A visit to Devonshire enabled me to visit the ram show and sale at Totnes last week, an event arranged and carried out under the control of the South Devon Flock Book Association. This important sale will be found dealt with elsewhere, and, therefore, no remark in respect to this is needful, save to mention the fact that, by holding here and elsewhere combination sales of this description, the council of this society is doing an excellent work, and probably affording its members the very best possible means of making their flocks more uniform, and, at the same time, giving opportunity for comparison of one flock with the others in a manner that can only be possible under circumstances similar to those which control these sales. One special matter, however, in connection with this sale not dealt with by your sale report deserves notice being taken of it, namely, the idiotic manner in which many of these rams were coloured. In many cases it was absolutely impossible to judge with any degree of certainty the character of the fleece. This objectionable practice has become so pronounced that one of the auctioneers called special attention to it, and said he considered that the practice as carried out at the present time was excessive and entirely beyond reason.

The above is an instance of the abuse of the use of colouring matter, but we have now to deal with a time when its proper use will be of the greatest benefit and service to all flockmasters. We allude to the use of colour in the rams' breasts at service time, and in many flocks this is used simply to denote the ewes that have been served and also those that return to service. This use is, of course, quite right, but it is not all it should be. If the rams are to be with the ewes for six weeks then the colours should be red for the first fortnight, blue for the second, and yellow for the third, leaving black to be used in the last resource, namely, on the ram left with the flock to stop any that may have been missed at the former service. Wherever this practice is adopted, or any variation of it as may be necessary, it will result in an immense saving of trouble, etc., at the lambing time.

Worked as indicated above, it will mean that only one-third of the flock will need being taken to the lambing pen at a time; this must be a very great advantage, and yet how few practise this. There is no extra trouble or extra expense incurred. The attention of all flockmasters is asked because from constant observation we are fully convinced the practice is not at all generally adopted.

The ram sale season is now in full swing, and the results are certainly good. Amongst the most notable advance in the average list is Mr. H. C. Stephens, whose grand and successful sale, reported elsewhere, shows just clearly how well it pays to do anything, no matter what it may be, thoroughly and well.

We have in more than one district recently observed a considerable number of cases of lame sheep. In some cases it is undoubtedly foot rot; but in others hardly so. In the latter cases it would be an assistance to drench the lambs with a dose or salts, and give them a bit of powdered sulphur with their food. For many of the lamenesses, particularly of a temporary character, arises from the blood and the need of a cleansing draught than is generally understood. Whether or not the time will arrive when foot rot will be treated as a scheduled disease we know not, but one thing is perfectly clear, and that is this: That any flock owner who knowingly allows sheep visibly affected with foot rot to be driven along any public road, or exposed for sale or otherwise in a public market, should be liable to a heavy fine. It is not that the particular flock owner who owns the sheep suffers, but by exposing his sheep in the market or through driving them along the roads, etc., he renders it possible for any other sound sheep that may follow to become infected also.

There is a difference of opinion on this matter many urging that the disease will break out almost spontaneously and without any apparent reason, and thus urge why should any flock-owner be thus penalised when he is not in the least to blame. It is not that any one who has the disease should be penalised, but that those who have got the disease should not be allowed to give it to either their neighbours or others.

There are many methods advocated for the prevention of the disease, and amongst them experience has shown us that it pays well to have every sheep's hoofs properly pared at least twice in the year. Some flock-owners will say mine never want doing; this may be so, but such cases are few and far between. It may be that there is not much to take off, or perhaps but few that want attention; it is however just this: it may be in a small minority wherein lurks the danger. Once let the disease start, and then it may not be the work of a few hours only, but of months, or even years before the clearance is secured. Well pare the hoofs and run the sheep through a trough with any one of the usual preparations in, and it will be found the expense and trouble will be thoroughly compensated for in any farm or holding where the disease is known to be likely to break out.

South Devons at Totnes.

One of the results of the formation of the South Devon Flock Book Association has been the establishment of a series of special ram sales limited to the sale of registered rams. The above sale, which took place on Monday last, was the first, the others being held later at Liskeard and Truro. The best average this year was made by Mr. E. H. Hoskin, who sent eight, and sold them all at £15 6s. 3d., the range of prices being 20 guineas to 7½ guineas. Two rams made the top price, Messrs. G. A. Northey and T. Wakeham being the purchasers. Messrs. Mathews gave 17½ guineas, Mr. R. B. Trant 17 guineas, Mr. Jas. Turpin 15½ guineas, and Mr. Helmer 12½ guineas for others. Mr. J. P. Mathews averaged £14 8s. 9d. for eight, with a range of from 28 guineas to 7 guineas, Mr. E. H. Hoskin taking one at 28 guineas, Mr. W. Vosper one at 20 guineas, and Mr. Lakeman one at 17 guineas. Mr. J. S. Hallett, for a dozen, realised an average of £13 8s. 3d., meeting with a real good demand, Mr. W. H. Pain taking the highest-priced one (29½ guineas) that was first prize at Tavistock Show, Mr. Solley gave 20 guineas for the first prize at the Devon County Show, and Mr. J. Stook 19½ guineas for the one that took similar honours at the Yealmpton Show this year. Mr. R. H. Ward took a fine ram to Cornwall at 14½ guineas, another making 12½ guineas to Mr. Rogers, from which price the remainder ranged down to 6½ guineas. Two two-shear rams were also sold, Mr. Hellier giving 11 guineas for one, and Mr. Walke 7 guineas for the other.

Mr. W. H. Pain's were a nice even lot, the range of value here was from £15 15s. to £7 7s., giving for the ten sold the capital average of £11 11s. Mr. J. Maddicott gave 15 guineas (the best price), Mr. Whiteway gave 14 guineas for the next sheep, two others made 13½ and 13 guineas, another 12 guineas, and two others 10½ and 10 guineas each. Eight from Mr. J. Stooke's flock were in good request, and ranged from 20 to 7 guineas each, the average working out at £11 7s.

Two from Mr. E. Cornish averaged £10 10s. Mr. Herman Evans had nine sold, here the range of price was from 22 guineas to 7½ guineas, making the average £10 9s.

Mr. H. Fairweather sent forward fourteen, all of which were sold readily at the excellent average of £10 2s. 6d., the prices ranging from 18½ to 6 guineas each.

Mr. Jas. Turpin's lot were in request, and sold

well at from 15½ guineas to Mr. Elliott to 7 guineas, making an average of £10 1s. 3d. Mr. J. H. Cornish sent ten, which were all wanted. These ranged in prices from 20 guineas to 5½ guineas, and made an average of £9 17s. 4d.,

Mr. E. Stooke's lot were very level and good here. The nine offered were all sold at from 13½ to 5½ guineas, making an average of £9 16s. 2d. Messrs. J. and H. Rossiter, who sold at this sale for the first time, secured the capital average of £9 7s. 6d., with a range of prices from 14 guineas to 4½ guineas. Mr. T. S. Walter Symons had a very level lot of rams entered. These ranged from 12½ to 6 guineas, and averaged £8 15s. 6d. Messrs. R. E. and W. Paige sold five at from 16½ to 5 guineas, making the average £8 18s. 4d. Mr. H. Tope averaged £8 13s. 4d. for five, top price 14 guineas. Mr. John Hoare £8 11s. for seven, top price 11 gs. Mr. A. Gilland averaged £7 12s. 3d., top price 8 guineas; Messrs. J. M. Peeke and Sons averaged £7 3s. 6d. for nine, 12 guineas being the top price; Messrs. Wintle and Sons averaged £6 16s. 6d. for four, 9 guineas being the top price; and Messrs. Baron and Sons averaged £6 13s. for six, 12½ guineas being the top price. The respective averages of the other consignors were as follows: —Messrs Harold Pearse 6½ guineas, J. Wood 6 guineas, T. Beams £6 2s. 6d., W. Bastard 5½ guineas, P. Priggs ditto, G. A. Northey 5 guineas, and E. B. Luscombe £5 1s. 11d.

In addition to the rams, there were also sold about 3,000 ewes, which came from many of the leading flocks in the district. The demand was not considered quite so keen as had been the case, but for the best there was a capital demand, prices ranging from 57s. per head.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Mr. H Lambert's Hampshire Downs.

Messrs. Chalk, on Thursday, conducted their twentieth annual sale and letting of Mr. Henry Lambert's pure-bred Hampshire Down rams and ram lambs. The sale was a successful one, the average prices of the whole being £8 10s. The highest price for the letting lambs was 28 gs., and the highest for lambs sold 23 gs. Nine shearlings averaged £7 17s. 6d. The principal buyers were: Messrs. Flower (Chilmark), Goodchild (Haverhill), W. Seabrook (Berden), Hanbury Burdas (Lowthorpe), G. H. Francis (Longstanton), H. Gee (Bishop Stortford), Pain's exors., Jackson (Fowlmere), Bennett (East Dereham), Graham (Ipswich), Howard (Matching), Sheldrick A. Spencer (Melbourn), Spicer (Saffron Walden), F. Smith (Linton), Lanvon, Measures, B. J. Chaplin (Fulbourn), A. Tebbit (Toft), Nash (Fowlmere), L. Wallis (Haslingfield), Death (Hunsden), T. F. Buxton (Ware), T. B. Fulcher (Elsenham), the Rev. C. H. Brocklebank (Bartlow), and others.

Suffolks at Ipswich.

The annual sale of Suffolk sheep commenced at Ipswich on Wednesday, when Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice, sold the ewes and ewe lambs. There were no sensational prices, but the averages on the whole came out very well. One pen of ewe lambs, bred by and the property of Messrs. S. and F. Traylen, Honington, made the record price for the year so far—viz., 75s.—to Earl Cadogan, K.G., the president of the Suffolk Sheep Society. The sale opened with shearling ewes forty the property of Mr. Benjamin Nott, Mount Bures, making 70s. and 65s. in lots of twenty. Thirty belonging to Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Livermere Park, went at 79s. and 75s. The consignment of Mr. J. D. Cobbold, Holy Wells, Ipswich, made similar prices. Eighty shearling ewes belonging to Mr. E. Ward Snell, Darmsden Hall, averaged 65s. 6d., with a top price of 68s. Mr. T. M. Rudland, Woolverstone, had sixty shearling ewes, the first ten going at 100s., and the next lot 70s., the average of sixty being 73s. The Chesterford Park flock, the property of Major J. E. Platt, was next submitted. Two lots of ten shearling ewes fetched 61s. and 52s., and the two-shear ewes ranged from 65s., 125 ewes averaging 57s. Mr. H. N. Dunnett, of Dedham, sent a number of two-shear and three-shear and older ewes, as well as several lots of selected ewe lambs. Thirty two-shear went at 72s., three-shear at 63s., twenty ewe lambs at 47s. 6d., the average of ninety-four ewes being the satisfactory one of 58s. 6d.

Rain was experienced at the second day's sale, but this did not affect the attendance of buyers, which was very large, and business was brisk throughout the day, very few lots remaining unsold. Over 500 rams were offered, and the work of selling was divided between Mr. Robert B. Bond and Mr. Ernest Prentice. Space forbids a detailed list of the lots sold and prices realised, but the little table appended will give a good idea of how prices went. The rams offered were from the flocks of well-known breeders, and were keenly sought after, with the result that double figure prices were quite common, a large number ofanimals realising over 20 guineas a-piece The best price of the day was 44 guineas, or two guineas more than the highest price at last year's sale. This sum was obtained by Mr. H. G. Smith, whose Walton Grange flock has won for itself a name in all parts. The lamb which realised 44 guineas was by Grange Persimmon, and was bought by Mr. Abbott Green. Another ram lamb from the same flock fetched 35gs., and others up to 22 guineas. The following table gives some details of the principal lots sold:—

	No. Sold. Rams.	Highest Price Gs.	Aver. £ s. d.
Herbert Smith	20	44	16 18 1
S. R. Sherwood	23	20	12 4 8
D Abbott Green	17	25	12 0 3
Thomas Keeble	18	21	11 18 7
J. R. Keeble	9	14	10 4 2
S. and F. Traylen	7	12	10 2 6
J. W. Eagle	36	26	9 12 6
A. H. Stanford	9	12	8 8 0
A. J. Smith	19	11	7 18 0
M. G. Hale	10	11	7 7 0

Sale of Mr. R. J. Colman's Southdowns.

On Thursday Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. disposed of the flock of Southdowns bred by Mr. Russell Colman, at Crown Point Park, Norwich, and although the weather was not favourable to the sale, its importance attracted many buyers, not only from different parts of East Anglia, but from various parts of the country, and, considering that none of the sheep included in the catalogue had been shown, and that they had to rely upon their predecessors for their reputation, the sale was a most successful one. The flock was kept at Easton until the late Mr. J. J. Colman's death in 1899, and then the whole flock was dispersed with the exception of about 100 of the old ewes over four years. These were retained and put on to the Crown Point Park, and, somewhat remarkable to relate, in five years another flock, numbering nearly a thousand, was raised from these hundred ewes, and a few ewes bought of Sir Humphrey de Trafford, the Duke of Richmond, and Sir Thos. Lennard, none of which were sold. It was on this occasion that their produce by the old Easton rams were offered, expert breeders of Southdowns attending the sale acknowledging the great excellence of the flock, which was really a resurrection of the old flock Mr. Garrett Taylor had raised 30 years before, for the late Mr. Colman, an effort which showed remarkable judgment in selection and breeding, resulting in the rearing of a fine flock of Southdowns of true character, from what might almost be called the ashes of the old flock that was sold years before.

The first lot to come into the ring on Thursday were five yearling ewes bred from the late Mr. J. J. Colman's ewes. The first lot, two of them being sired by Colman's General, fetched, after some spirited bidding, 130s., for his Majesty the King; whilst a similar amount was given by Mr. Cazalett for a choice pen of five ear-marked yearling ewes. This, however, was not the top figure, for a remarkably choice pen, for which there was rapid bidding, and the five—three of them by Colman's Swafield II. and two by Colman's General III., went to the bid of Mr. Cazalett at 160s.. Other yearlings made up to 90s. The best of the two-year-old ewes were secured by the King at 150s.; others realising up to 83s., whilst the three-year-olds fetched up to 115s., the four-year-old ewes up to 75s., and ewe lambs up to 43s.

The rams made high prices. The King gave 115 guineas for Colman's Favourite, the sire of his Majesty's champion ram at the Royal. Mr. Adeane, Babraham, 18 guineas for Colman's Favourite II., five years old, and 15 guineas for a three-year-old by Colman's General Favourite. The Duke of Devonshire paid 25 guineas for a two-year-old ram by Colman's General, and Mr. Adeane gave 26 guineas for one by Colman's Swafield. A choice yearling by Colman's General Favourite went to the bid of the Duke of Devonshire at 40 guineas. Some of the ram lambs also sold well. One by Colman's Swafield was knocked down at 20 guineas, but there was a dispute, and the bidding went up to 51 guineas to his Majesty the King, for whom the next one was secured at 15 guineas. Wether lambs fetched from 35s. in lots of ten.

Weyhill.

The great annual summer sheep fair at Weyhill attracted its usual large attendance of buyers from all parts, but the entry was somewhat smaller than usual, something under 2,000 sheep being penned in the open fair, but upwards of 10,000 ewes and lambs were penned for auction, together with about 200 ram lambs for letting and sale.

The auctioneers found that recent prices for ewes and lambs were well maintained, a good fast trade being done, while a complete clearance was all but effected. Business was practically the same as at Overton and Alresford, and a good deal quicker than at Stockbridge. Ewes appeared to be in greater demand than lambs, but for ram lambs there was a particularly good trade. Some of the chief transactions are appended:—

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury, conducted three important lettings and sales of ram lambs. A draft of fifty ram lambs from the Cholderton Lodge flock, the property of Mr. H. C. Stephens, were first submitted, and of these seven were let at from 20 to 120 guineas, the average being £47 2s., while the selling lambs made from 6 to 140 guineas, the average being £16 10s. From the Marquis of Winchester's Amport flock sixty highly-bred ram lambs were offered—eight to be let, and the remainder for sale. The former were readily hired at prices ranging from 10 to 76 guineas, the average being £35 14s., while those for sale realised from 5½ to 12 guineas, averaging £10 16s. 6d. There were also entered thirty ram lambs from the flock of Mr. Frank A. Holman, of Dunley Manor. Four of them were let at an average of £21, the best price paid being 42 guineas. The remainder were sold at from 5½ to 18 guineas, the prices realised averaging £8 13s.

Messrs. F. Ellen and Son, of the Auction Mart, Andover, conducted a sale of about 7,000 ewes and lambs, 14 rams, and 33 ram lambs and two-tooth rams, and the following was the general run of prices:—Two-tooth rams, 24s. to 60s.; four-tooth rams, 45s.; wether lambs, 34s. to 41s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 22s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.; chilver lambs, 36s.; two-tooth ewes, 43s. to 57s.; two-tooth wethers, 37s. 6d. to 47s.

In addition to the above, Messrs. Ellen offered to competition thirty ram lambs and three two-tooth rams from the well-known flock of Mr S. H. Allen, of Eastover. The former sold for 4, 4½, and 5 guineas each, one or two being withdrawn at 3½ guineas, and the latter were knocked down at 3½, 4, and 5 guineas respectively.

Mr. Allan Herbert, Andover, submitted a catalogue of 2,000 ewes and lambs. Regular draft ewes made 43s.; draft ewes, 25s. 6d., 28s. 6d., 30s. 6d., 34s. 6d., and 35s.; two-tooth ewes, 41s. 6d. to 51s. 6d.; five-tooth ewes, 45s. 6d.; two-tooth and four-tooth wethers, 40s., 41s., and 45s.; wether lambs, 23s. 6d. to 34s.; ewe lambs, 31s. 6d. to 33s.; and mixed lambs, 22s. to 32s.

Alresford.

The supply of sheep at this well-known fair was smaller than last year, but the quality, generally speaking, was superior. There was a large attendance of buyers, and trade was a little brisker, perhaps, at the commencement than towards the conclusion of the fair, but, taken as a whole, it compared favourably with last year's fair, and practically everything entered changed hands. The prices realised were good, a firm trade being done at about the same standard as the recent Overton Fair. Better-class sheep were not, perhaps, as much sought after as last year, but lambs were a trifle dearer, and ewes about the same.

Messrs. James Harris and Son, Winchester, disposed of about 10,550 ewes and lambs, and a number of ram lambs. For the former a good trade was experienced at satisfactory prices, whilst as to the ram lambs, these included thirty from the pure-bred Hampshire Down flock of Mr. Donald Nicoll, of Burntwood, and a second draft of Hampshire Down ram lambs from the flock of Mr. E. A. Philippi, of Crawley Court, a first draft from which was sold at Overton Fair. Mr. Nicoll's lambs sold readily at an average of £5 14s. 2d., the prices realised ranging from 4 to 11½ guineas. The draft from Crawley Court made an average of £3 15s. each, and for both consignments the demand was good.

Messrs. Hall, Pain, and Goldsmith, Petersfield, had again entrusted to them the sale of the annual consignment of ram lambs from the Blendworth flock, the property of Mr. James Goldsmith. The catalogue included some seventy-two lots of lambs, containing all the qualities for which the flock is so well known. The quality of the lambs was better, if anything, than last year, but the sale effected was not quite such a good one. The top price realised was 13 guineas, and several changed hands at 10 and 11 guineas. The prices realised on the whole ranged from 4 guineas up to 13 guineas.

The annual letting and sale of Mr. J. A. K. Falconer's ram lambs took place as usual at this fair, when 60 lambs of nice quality and excellent breeding were submitted by Messrs. Waters and Rawlence, of Salisbury. Six lambs were first let at 20, 15 (twice), 9 (twice), and 7 guineas. The selling lambs made 19, 16, 12, 11, 8½, 8, 7½, 7 guineas, etc., the average of those let and sold being £7 17s.

The Royal Lancashire Show at Liverpool.

The Royal Lancashire has for several years been one of the most go-ahead and energetic of our many societies. The management invariably gives satisfaction, the district in which the society operates is a wealthy one, both as regards live stock and the wherewithal to carry them on, so that all things, so to speak, conspire to make this show a great success. The opening day was Thursday last, and the morning opened with a heavy downpour of rain, which continued more or less until after luncheon, so that, with the heavy traffic, the ground began to cut up in places very badly. In the afternoon the sun asserted itself, and brightened up matters very considerably, so that it must be hoped the loss to the society would not be so heavy as the morning would lead one to anticipate, and with a more favourable state of things on the remaining days, may have a record gate. The live-stock section of the show is very satisfactory throughout, as is usually the case at this show.

Cattle, the most part of which are of the Shorthorn breed (though Jerseys and the little Irish breeds are provided with classes, and fairly well supported) are one of the best collections that have been out this year, there is no doubt—at least, at a county show. show. Both the open and restricted classes of this breed are quite first-rate, and the dairy classes as good or better than those that are open to the beef section only, which is usually much the best. Some of the leading bulls of the latter section were absent from the competition, but, generally speaking, the leading members of the community this season were well in evidence. The first class of Shorthorn bulls was not quite as well filled as some of the later ones, only five entries of these being catalogued, Mr. Peter Blundell having the winner in Montcalm, a massive and level bull, and Mr. J. A. Brown's Micklethwaite Warrior second; another first-class bull followed. Mr. T. Miller's Irish-bred bull, Limepark Champion, who has done a good deal of winning since the Dublin Spring Show, and is in very good form, scored a victory over Mr. R. P. Cooper's white bull, Meteor, who has been very successful throughout the season, and was only just off a long journey from the Welsh National. A class of fourteen entries of well-grown yearling bulls came forward, and both first and second prizes were accorded to bulls from Lord Brougham's herd near Penrith. These are of very good quality and first-rate symmetry, and are half-brothers, being by Stoneytown Pride. Cows in milk calved prior to 1901 was a well-supported class, Messrs. Silcock and Sons being first with their famous dual-purpose cow Clementine, whose udder is proverbial; and Mr. George Harrison's Ursula Raglan, who has been the recipient of many prizes this year, and a rattling good cow, came in second. Sir Oswald Mosley's well-known white, Yours Faithfully, and Mr. William Bell's Ratcleugh Witch, another second-prize winner, were at the head of the three-year-old heifer class. Then Mr. F. Miller's Lady Amy 7th, of Royal fame, came to the front in the two-year-olds, Mr. Alfred Hayley's Bright Jewel 6th, and the Earl of Sefton's Winter Rose 2nd, being the winners, as named, in a very good class of fifteen yearling heifers. The Earl of Lathom and Mr. Rothwell were at the head of the Shorthorn (Coates') dairy class. The series of classes open to the County Palatine, as it is styled, followed on, and in these several of the winners already mentioned repeated their victories.

The dairy cattle classes proper, without restrictions as to breeding, gave quite an extraordinary show of milk and beef—the true dual-purpose kind—but these were not judged until after the other sections. Jerseys are not a large show, but several of the leading breeders were represented, the chief winners being Lady de Rothschild, Mrs. C. McIntosh, Mr. W. J. M. Townley, Lord Cadogan, Lord Ancaster, and one or two others, several of the cows being especially good.

Kerries and Dexters were both breeds remarkably well brought out and strong in numbers. Lady Greenall and the Duchess of Newcastle divided the chief prizes in the former breed, and the cows showed excellent udders. The bulls were not as strong a section. The Duchess of Devonshire and Mr. B. de Bertodano were each of them very strongly represented in Dexters, both in the male and female classes, and the latter, like the Kerry cows showed extraordinary milking points.

Light Horses.

This section of the show commenced with the hunters, which, though good, were not exceptionally strong. There was a good entry of brood mares, Sir Merrik R. Burrell taking the first prize with his mare Speculation. Of the male hunters, Mr. Stokes's Januris, many times winner and champion, Gold Reef, was first in the heavy-weight class, which had but three entries. Whisky, from the same stables, carried off the first honour in the light-weight class. Both are just as good horses as can be found in a day's march. Mr. F. B. Wilkinson's Jupiter, also a well-known winner, got by Johnny Morgan, won the first in the three-year-old class; and his stable companion, Destruction, by Havoc, was the best of fifteen entries of two-year-olds. Mr. William Butler, with a good colt, by Surbiton, was awarded the first prize for yearlings, the class containing eight entries. Hackneys were well shown as regards quality, some of the best steppers being present, but in numbers the classes were not too well supported. Mr. W. B. Tubbs's beautiful quality horse Administrator, by Garton Duke of Connaught, was able to hold his own against all comers in the stallion class foaled before 1902; and in the three-year-old class Mr. Stephen Cliff's Newfold, a very nice colt by Goldfinder 6th, was awarded the premier position. Mr. W. R. Lysaght's Amberly Sir Adam, one of the smart sons of His Majesty, came out at the top of the yearlings. Hackney brood mares had eight entries and had foals at foot; the class included several well-known winners. Three-year-old fillies were also capitally represented, but Messrs. Carr and Co. carried off the first prize in the class with Yapham Molly, by Cornfactor, bred by Mr. Stewart. Two-year-olds were more in number than the three-year-olds, and their quality was very good. Sir Walter Gilbey's Dashing Princess was accounted the best of these, and Mr. R. P. Evans's Cristolia, a daughter of Polonius, headed the yearling fillies. Altogether the breeding section of the hackneys created a good deal of interest, and, in addition to these classes, the harness classes of all sizes were very strong in the sensational steppers of the day. These are judged at various times during the continuation of the show.

Heavy Horses.

Shires were one of the great features of this section of the show. The classes were not only well filled, but the best animals from the Royal and other leading shows were present, and for the most part well brought out. Lancashire, and especially the Liverpool side of the county, contains some of the very best Shire horses the country can produce. In the aged stallion class, for horses foaled in or before 1901, Lord Egerton's Tatton Friar, who ran the London champion very closely the other year, was placed at the head of affairs. He is very weighty, put together properly, and his quality is good too, so that it is not to be wondered at that he took the championship also. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons had a very good horse following in their five-year-old Ring and Bells, a son of Whitstone Ring and Bells, at one time a famous horse in Mr. J. Mucklow's Cornish stud. Three-year-old stallions came out very strong with ten entries, and though the first and second retained their places, as at the Royal, some of the others lost caste rather. The winners were Lord Rothschild's Delamere Chorister and Mr. R. N. Sutton Nelthorpe's Souldern Scylex. The judges, however, were unable to agree respecting the placing of these two horses, so that an umpire had to be requisitioned. Two-year-old stallions, with five entries, were numerically small, but again the Royal winners were included in the company and were once more placed as in London. These were Lord Rothschild's Childwick Champion and Mr. James Gould's Lynn Champion. The former colt looks perhaps quite as much the cart-horse; but the build and quality, as well as style of the latter make him a very close competitor. Mr. Gould was at the head of the yearling stallions with Catterall Black Prince, a carty and good colt by Westminster 2nd; and Mr. J. W. Kenworthy's Delamere Lad, by Delamere Surprise, was accorded the second honour.

Brood mares were about as good a class for their numbers as have been out this season; and, with Tatton Tapestry at their head, made quite an excellent display. This mare has developed the last year or two into quite a Shire mare of the first water. Fillies, three-years-old, were big and good. Lord Rothschild's rare limbed and mighty Rickford Farewell was quite at the top of them, though opposed by some other extra good fillies. Mr. T. Simpson Jay's Johnson Fairy Queen, who has been very much in the luck at recent shows, was awarded the first here in the two-year-old class; and Lord Egerton's Father May Queen was once more able to vanquish all her opponents in the yearling class.

Sheep.

The Shropshire breed comes first in this section, and Mr. R. P. Cooper, whose flock has been such an outstanding one in this season's show-yards, was once more equally well in evidence taking first. In shearling rams, shearling ewes, and ram lambs Mr. Walter C. W. Gretton was also showing some capital sheep, and beating the Shenstone flock in the ewe lamb class with a pen of high quality and breed type.

Oxford Downs were in the hands of Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, Mr. Gibson Heslop, and Mr. H. L. Storey, and some good pens were shown; and in the fast coming popular Wensleydale breed Lord Henry Bentinck and the executor of the late Mr. Thos. Wilks divided the money between them. Herdwicks and Lonks were quite as well and extensively shown as usual. Mr. W. J. Crossly and Mr. James Todd took the first prizes in the former breed; and Mr. John Wrigg, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Hague, and Messrs. Snowden and Sons were the chief exhibitors of the latter.

Pigs.

Pigs were one of the strongest features of the show as they have been in a general way, and all the different breeds were well represented. Lord Ellesmere and Sir Gilbert Greenall were the chief winners with their well-known Large Whites; and Sir Gilbert Greenall, Mr. L. Paget, and Mr. Simpson Jay in Middle Whites; Mr. Jefferson and the Duchess of Devonshire having their usual quality of Berkshires, and sharing the prizes with Mr. Ibbeton, securing every red card in the Tamworth section; whilst Large Blacks, which were very well shown, and the best of them from Mr. Mariner's herd that has done so well at the Eastern Counties shows, and turned out pigs of quite remarkable dimensions and quality.

JUDGES.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Mr. Richard Strarren, The Dutfryn, Newport, Mon.; Mr. John W. Barnes, Aikbank, Wigton, Cumberland. Dairy: Open and county—Mr. Sam W. Gould, Foxley Hall, Lymm; Liverpool cowkeepers' classes—Mr. George Holden, Daisy Hill, Westhoughton, near Bolton. Jersey: Mr. T. H. Weetman, Atherstone, Warwickshire. Kerry and Dexter: Mr. John B. Ross, Lyndale, Rockfield Road, Hereford.

HORSES.—Hunters: Mr. H. M. Wilson, M.F.H., The Hermitage, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire; Mr. Charles M'Neill, M.F.H., Broadway, Worcestershire. Polo and Riding ponies: Mr. Charles M'Neill, M.F.H., Broadway, Worcestershire. Hackneys, riding and driving competitions, and local trade turnouts: Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Waltonhall Warrington; Right Hon. Fredk. Wrench, Killacoona, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin. Shires and agricultural horses: Mr. H. Percy Taunton, Redlynch, near Salisbury; Mr. C. W. Tindall, Wainfleet, Lincolnshire. Jumping competitions: First day—Colonel Wm. Hall Walker, M.P., Gateacre Grange, Liverpool; Mr. A. T. Neilson, Halewood, Liverpool; second day—Lieut.-Colonel Wm. Lee Pilkington, J.P., Edenhurst Roby, Liverpool; Mr. Henry Baxter, The Tower, Rainhill, near Liverpool; third day—Mr. George H. Warren, Strawberry Field, Woolton, Liverpool; Mr. T. P. Powell, Watling Road, Fulwood, Preston; fourth day—Mr. T. B. Sykes, Breck House, Poulton-le-Fylde; Mr. F. Clunie Dale, Plymyard Tower, Bromborough, Cheshire. Lancashire tenant farmers' classes: Cattle—Mr. George Cook, 25, Hardman Street, Liverpool; Draught horses—Mr. James Whinnerah, Warton Hall, Carnforth. Parade of Liverpool cart horses: Mr. Peter Entwistle, Elm Street, Liverpool Road, Manchester; Mr. E. F. Laird, horse superintendent, Messrs. Courage and Co., Ltd., London.

SHEEP.—Shropshire and Oxford Downs: Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury; Wensleydales—Mr. A. Ewan, Gooda, Westhouse, Kirkby, Lonsdale; Herdwicks and Lonks—Mr. George Dewhurst, Lonk Villa, Portland Street, Southport.

PIGS.—Whites: Mr. Herbert H. Owtram, Newland Hall, Ellel, Lancaster; Mr. J. Ashforth, Dronfield, Sheffield; Berkshires—Mr. William A. Barnes, Hasluck's Green Farm, Shirley, Birmingham; Tamworths—Mr. A. J. Tomlinson, Bubnell Hall, Baslow, S.O., Derbyshire; Large Blacks—Mr. Horace W. Packard, Over Hall, Shotley, Ipswich.

PRIZE LIST.

Cattle.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, calved in 1901 or 1902: 1, P. Blundell, Ream Hills, Kirkham; 2, J. A. Brown, Ridley Hall, Tarporley; 3, Wm. Graham, Eden Grove, Bolton, Penrith.

Bull, calved in 1903: 1, F. Miller, La Belen, Clifton Road, Birkenhead; 2, R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield; 3, S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire.

Bull, calved in 1904: 1 and 2, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Brougham, Penrith; 3, G. Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington.

Cow, in milk or in calf, calved in or before 1901: 1, R. Silcock and Sons, Poulton-le-Fylde; 2, G. Harrison; 3, Capt. W. B. Harrison, Aldershaw, Lichfield, Staffs.

Heifer, in milk or in calf, calved in or before 1902: 1, Sir O. Mosley, Bart., Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent; 2, W. Bell, Ratcheugh, Alnwick; 3, C. Bell, Norley Hall, Norley.

Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, F. Miller; 2, T. Atkinson, Rivales, Bury; 3, Sir O. Mosley, Bart.

Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, A. A. Haley, Whitewall, Malton, Yorks; 2, Earl of Sefton, Croxteth Hall, Liverpool; equal 3, T. Atkinson and C. Bell.

Dairy cow in milk, of any age: 1, Earl of Lathom, Lathom House, Ormskirk; 2, R. R. Rothwell, Estate Office, Miller Arcade, Preston; 3, W. Bateman, Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.

Bull, two years old and under five years: 1, P. Blundell, Ream Hills, Kirkham; 2, T. R. Wilkins, The Grove, Longton, Preston; 3, J. Haslam, Starkies, Bury.

Bull, one year old and under two years: 1, F. Ellis, Minster Lodge, Ormskirk; 2, Mrs. M. Blackburn, Moss Hall Farm, Out Rawcliffe, near Garstang.

Bull, five months old and under twelve months: 1, P. Blundell; 2, T. Atkinson; 3, E. T. Hemelryk, Woolton Heyes, Woolton.

Cow, in milk or in calf, calved in or before 1902: 1, Silcock and Sons; 2, W. Bateman; 3, Earl of Lathom.

Heifer, calved in 1903: 1, T. Atkinson; 2, J. H. Maden, J.P., Rockcliffe House, Bacup; 3, W. Heaton, Lostock, Bolton.

Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, Earl of Sefton; 2, T. Atkinson; 3, M. Lewtas, Stalmine Grange, Stalmine, Poulton-le-Fylde.
Bull, calved in 1904: 1, P. Blundell.
Cow, in milk or in calf: 1, W. Bateman.
Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1, T. Atkinson.

JERSEYS.

Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903: 1, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring, Bucks; 2, Earl of Ancaster, Normanton Park, Stamford; 3, Right Hon. Earl of Cadogan, K.G., Culford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.
Bull, calved in 1904 or 1905: 1 and 3, Mrs. Charlotte M'Intosh, Havering Park, Romford, Essex; 2, James Joicey, Poulton Priory, Poulton, Fairford, Gloucester.
Cow, in milk or in calf, calved in or before 1902: 1, Lady de Rothschild; 2, Mrs. C. M'Intosh; 3, J. Joicey.
Heifer, in milk or in calf, calved in 1903: 1, Mrs. C. M'Intosh; 2, Bishop of Ipswich, Burgh House, Great Yarmouth; 3, W. G. M. Townley, Hard Cragg, Grange-over-Sands.
Heifer, calved in 1904: 1, J. Joicey; 2, Lady de Rothschild; 3, W. G. M. Townley.

KERRY.

Bull, calved in or before 1903: 1 and 3, Lady Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington; 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle, Clumber, Worksop.
Cow or heifer, in milk, calved in or before 1902: 1 and 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle; 3, Lady Greenall.
Heifer, calved 1903 or 1904: 1 and 2, Lady Greenall.

DEXTER.

Bull, calved in or before 1903: 1, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, Compton Place Eastbourne; 2, H. M. Gibbs, Barrow Court, Flax Bourton, near Bristol; 3, Baldomero de Bertodano, Cowbridge House, Malmesbury, Wilts.
Cow or heifer, in milk, calved in or before 1902: 1, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire; 2, Baldomero de Bertodano; 3, H. M. Gibbs.
Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904: 1, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire; 2, Baldomero de Bertodano; 3, the Countess of Sefton.

HORSES.

HUNTERS.

The "Manchester" Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best brood mare or filly in the show: Sir Merrick R. Burrell.
The "Manchester" Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best mare or gelding, 4 years old or upwards, shown in saddle: John H. Stokes.
Gold medal, or £5 and a bronze medal, for the best hunter brood mare (by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire): Capt. Heywood-Lonsdale.
Silver medal, or £1, for the best hunter filly by a thoroughbred horse or registered hunter sire, not exceeding 3 years old: John Prescott.
Silver medal, or £1, for the best hunter mare or gelding of any age: A. L. Goodson.
Hunter mare, with foal at foot: 1, Sir Merrick R. Burrell, Knepp Castle, Horsham; 2, Capt. Heywood-Lonsdale, Shavington, Market Drayton; 3, C. Schwabe, Arden.
Hunter foal, in previous class: 1, H. L. Storey, Bailrigg, Lancaster; 2, Miss Hick, Mytton Hall, Whalley; 3, F. B. Wilkinson, Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe, Newark.
Mare or gelding, 4 years old and upwards, to carry up to 15 stone (shown in saddle): 1 and 2, J. H. Stokes, Nether House, Great Bowden, Market Harborough; 3, F. B. Wilkinson.
Mare or gelding, 4 years old and upwards, to carry up to 12 stone (shown in saddle): 1, J. H. Stokes; 2, A. J. Brown, The Grove, York Road, Doncaster; 3, A. L. Goodson, Heathfield, Knutsford.
Filly or gelding, 3 years old: 1, F. B. Wilkinson; 2, J. H. Stokes; 3, A. J. Brown.
Filly or gelding, 2 years old: 1, F. H. Wilkinson, Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe, Newark; 2, Mrs. Blockley, Moor Hall, Madeley, near Newcastle; 3, E. S. Jackson, M.D., Carnforth.
Filly, gelding, or colt, 1 year old: 1, W. Butler, Hordley, Ellesmere, Salop; 2, Mrs. Blockley; 3, E. Barton, Warton Grange, Carnforth.
The "Ainscough" Gold Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best Hackney stallion in the show.—Walter Burnell Tubbs.
The "Foyds" Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best Hackney mare or filly in the show.—Walter Burnell Tubbs.
The Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal for the best Hackney stallion, entire colt, or colt foal (registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book).—James K. Ford.
The Hackney Horse Society's Silver Medal for the best mare, filly, or filly foal (registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book).—Messrs. Carr and Co.
Hackney stallion, foaled in or before 1902.—1, W. Burnell Tubbs, The Paddocks, Mill Hill, London; 2, J. K. Ford, Chellaston, near Derby.
Hackney stallion, foaled in 1903.—1, S. Cliff, Wyndham Hall, Crayke, Easing Wold, Yorkshire; 2, A. A. Haley, Whitehall, Malton, Yorkshire.
Hackney stallion, foaled in 1904.—1, W. R. Lysaght, Chepstow, Mon.; 2, R. P. Evans, Woodhatch House, Reigate, Surrey.
Hackney brood mare, with foal at foot.—1, W. Burnell Tubbs; 2, Cockayne Bros., Sheffield Lane, Paddocks, Sheffield; 3, H. Watson, Newton Kyme, Tadcaster, Yorkshire.
Foal in last class (by registered sire).—1, J. K. Ford; 2, H. Watson; 3, T. B. Sykes, 13, Huskisson Street, Liverpool.
Hackney filly, foaled in 1902 (by registered sire).—Messrs. Carr and Co., Clyde Vale Stud, Carluke, N.B.; 2, S. Cliff; 3, Sir Walter Gilbey, Elsenham Hall, Essex.
Hackney filly, foaled in 1903 (by registered sire).—1, Sir Walter Gilbey; 2, J. W. Astley, Nelson, Lancashire; 3, R. P. Evans, Woodhatch House, Reigate.
Hackney filly, foaled in 1904 (by registered sire).—1, R. P. Evans; 2, W. R. Lysaght; 3, T. B. Sykes.

SHIRES.

The "Derby" Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best stallion: Earl Egerton of Tatton.
The "Greenall" Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best mare or filly: Lord Rothschild.
Gold Medal, value £15, for the best mare or filly exhibited in the Shire classes: Earl Egerton of Tatton.
Stallion foaled in or before 1901.—1, Earl Egerton of Tatton; 2, J. Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark; 3, J. W. Kenworthy, Hurst Hall, Ashton-under-Lyne.
Stallion foaled in 1902.—1, Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring, Herts; 2, R. S. Sutton-Nelthorpe, Scawby, Lincoln; 3, J. Gould, Model Farm, Lymm, Cheshire.
Stallion foaled in 1903.—1, Lord Rothschild; 2, J. Gould; 3, A. Grandage, Bramhope, Leeds.
Stallion foaled in 1904.—1, J. Gould; 2, J. W. Kenworthy; 3, R. W. Hudson.
Brood mare foaled in or before 1902, with foal at foot.—1, R. W. Hudson, Dunsfield, Marlow, Bucks; 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton; 3, P. Stubs, Blundellsands, Longhope.
Foal in last class.—1, Sir Oswald Mosley; 2, P. Stubs, Blundellsands, Longhope; 3, R. W. Hudson, Dunsfield, Marlow.
Filly, foaled in 1902.—Lord Rothschild, Tring Park, Tring; 2, J. Gould, Model Farm, Lymm; 3, A. Grandage, Bramhope, Leeds.
Filly, foaled in 1903.—1, T. S. Jay, Warren Farm, Wimbledon; 2, Earl Egerton of Tatton; 3, J. Gould, Model Farm, Lymm.
Filly, foaled in 1904.—1, Earl Egerton of Tatton; 2, J. Hutchence, Catterall Hall, Garstang; 3, R. Hornby, Ribby Hall Farm, Kirkham.

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Barren mare, any breed, for draught purposes, foaled in or before 1901.—1, Sir Oswald Mosley, Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent; 2, A. Grandage, Bramhope, Leeds; 3, Earl Egerton of Tatton.
Gelding, any breed, foaled in or before 1901.—1 and 3, A. C. Sparkes, Oldfield, Altrincham; 2, Liverpool Corporation.

RIDING AND DRIVING CLASSES.

Hack mare or gelding, foaled in or before 1901, and over 15 hands.—1, W. B. Tubbs, The Paddocks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.; 2, T. B. Sykes, 13, Huskisson Street, Liverpool; 3, J. Kerr, M.P., Gaddesden Place, Hemel Hempstead.
Harness pair of geldings or mares or gelding and mare, any height.—1, W. S. Cunard, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell; 2, J. Kerr, M.P., Gaddesden Place, Hemel Hempstead; 3, W. E Inman, Westfield Lodge, Huddersfield.
Harness pony, mare, or gelding, over 12 hands 2 in., and not exceeding 14 hands.—W. S. Cunard, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell; 2, C. Clark, Bothomes Hall, Whalley Bridge; 3, W. Ferguson, Prestbury Stud, Macclesfield
Hack mare or gelding, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands.—1, W. J. Milton, Castle Hotel, 131, Chester Street, Birkenhead; 2, J. H. Peck and Co., Ltd., 26, Vauxhall Road, Liverpool
Harness cob, mare, or gelding, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands.—1, J. S. Sykes, 13, Huskisson Street, Liverpool; 2, J. H. Ainsworth and Sons, 26, Great George Road, Waterloo, Liverpool; 3, W. J. Milton, Castle Hotel, 131, Chester Street, Birkenhead.

SHEEP.

SHROPSHIRE.

Shearling ram.—1, R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield; 2, Victor Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall; 3, J. W. Kenworthy, Hurst Hall, Ashton-under-Lyne
Shearling ewes.—R. P. Cooper; 2, F. Bell, Norley Hall, Cheshire; 3, J. W. Kenworthy.
Ram lamb—1, R. P. Cooper; 2 and 3, Victor Cavendish, M.P.
Ewe lambs.—1, Victor Cavendish, M.P.; 2, R. P. Cooper; 3, F. Bell.

OXFORD DOWN.

Shearling ram.—1, E. Gibson Heslop, Langton, Gainford, near Darlington; 2 and 3, H. L. Storey, Bailrigg, Lancaster.
Shearling ewes.—1, Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury; 2 and 3, E. Gibson Heslop.
Ram lamb.—1 and 2, H. L. Storey; 3, E. Gibson Heslop.

WENSLEYDALE.

Ram (two-shear or over).—1 and 2, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale.
Shearling ram.—1 and 2, Executors of the late T. Willis, Manor House, Carperby, Aysgarth Station, R.S.O., Yorkshire; 3, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.
Shearling ewes.—1, Executors of the late T. Willis; 2 and 3, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.
Ram lamb.—Executors of the late T. Willis.
Ewe lamb.—1 and 2, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P.

HERDWICK.

Shearling ram.—1, W. J. Crossley, Pullwoods, Ambleside; 2 and 3, J. Rothery, Waasdale Head Hall, Gosforth S.O., Cumberland.
Shearling ewes. — 1, W. J. Crossley; 2, J. Todd, Roughholme, Bootle, Cumberland; 3, J. Rothery
Ram lamb.—1, J. Todd; 2, W. J. Crossley; 3, J. Rothery.
Ewe lamb.—1, J. Todd; 2, W. J. Crossley; 3, J. Rothery.

LONK.

Shearling ram.—1, D. Hague, Spread Eagle, Whalley; 2, J. Hague, Spread Eagle, Whalley; 3, J. Akrigg, Moorcock Inn, Walsden.
Shearling ewes.—1, D. Hague; 2, J. Blackburn, Deerplay Inn, Bacup; 3, J. Akrigg.
Ram Lamb.—1 and 2, D. Hague; 3, R. H. Crabtree, Hey Fold, Foulridge, near Colne.

PIGS.

The British Berkshire Society's Silver Challenge Trophy for the best Berkshire pig.—P. J. Jefferson.
Silver Cup, value £5 5s. for the best Large or Middle White pig.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
Gold Medal, value £3 3s., for the best animal in the Large White classes.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
Gold Medal, value £3 3s., for the best animal in the Middle White classes.—Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart.
Piece of Plate, value £5, for the best animal in the Tamworth classes, under twelve months old.—R. Ibbotson.
Gold Medal, value £3 3s., for the best animal in the Tamworth classes.—R. Ibbotson.

LARGE WHITES.

Boar, farrowed previous to 1904.—1, The Earl of Ellesmere, Worsley Hall, Manchester; 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington; 3, R. R. Rothwell, Fulwood Hall, Fulwood, Preston.
Boar, farrowed in 1904.—1 and 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; 3, the Earl of Ellesmere.
Boar, farrowed in 1905.—1, The Earl of Ellesmere; 2, D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, Nottingham; 3, T. Simpson Jay, Warren Farm, Wimbledon.
Sow, farrowed previous to 1904.—1 and 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; 3, the Earl of Ellesmere.
Sow, farrowed in 1904.—1 and 2, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; 3, R. R. Rothwell, Fulwood Hall Farm, Fulwood.
Sow, farrowed in 1905.—1, 2, and 3, the Earl of Ellesmere.

MIDDLE WHITES.

Boar, farrowed previous to 1905.—1, 2, and 3, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.
Boar, farrowed in 1905.—1, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; 2, T. Simpson Jay; 3, L. C. Paget, Harewood, Leeds.
Sow, farrowed previous to 1905.—1, L. C. Paget; 2, Sir G. Greenall; 3, Sanders Spencer and Son, Holywell Manor, St Ives, Hunts.
Sow, farrowed in 1905.—1 and 2, T. Simpson Jay; 3, Sanders Spencer and Son.
Large or Middle White sow and litter of pigs, under eight weeks old.—1, Sir G. Greenall, Bart.; 2 and 3, the Earl of Ellesmere.

BERKSHIRE.

Boar, above nine months old.—1, J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester; 2, Lord Calthorpe, Elvetham Park, Winchfield, Hants; 3, the Duchess of Devonshire, Compton Place, Eastbourne.
Boar, not exceeding nine months old.—1 and 2, Duchess of Devonshire; 3, J. Jefferson.
Sow, farrowed previous to 1905.—1, Duchess of Devonshire; 2, Lord Calthorpe; 3, J. Jefferson.
Sow, farrowed in 1905.—1, J. Jefferson; 2, Duchess of Devonshire; 3, Lord Calthorpe.

TAMWORTH.

Boar, farrowed previous to 1905.—1, R. Ibbotson, The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire; 2, D. W. Philip, The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham; 3, H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, Salisbury.
Boar, farrowed in 1905.—1, R. Ibbotson; 2 and 3, A. C. Stephens.
Sow, farrowed previous to 1905.—1, R. Ibbotson; 2, D. W. Philip; 3, H. C. Stephens.
Sow, farrowed in 1905.—1, R. Ibbotson; 2 and 3, H. C. Stephens.

LARGE BLACKS.

Boar, farrowed in 1903 or 1904.—1, C. F. Marriner, Thorpe Hall, Hasketon, Woodbridge; 2, K. M. Clark, Sudbourne Hall, Oxford, Suffolk; 3, J. Jefferson.
Boar, farrowed in 1905.—1 and 2, C. F. Marriner; 3, K. M. Clark.
Sow, farrowed in 1901 to 1904.—1, C. F. Marriner; 2, G. Pedley, The Lowe Farm, Buglawton, Congleton; 3, R. R. Rothwell.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Shirley Horse.

The twelfth annual show of the Shirley Horse Show Society, held on Monday, was for once in a way favoured with fine weather, and consequently a larger attendance of visitors, and there was much to interest them for a record entry was received, 220 animals being forward, and the quality was all round good. Agricultural horses made a nice display, all the classes being well filled, and some notable animals were forward. The chief winner was Mr. F. E. Muntz, he carrying off the whole of the first prizes and the majority of the seconds. The classes for hunters were also well patronised, and the competition, generally speaking, was keen. The jumping classes were well filled, but there was a poor entry in the local coach class, and also in the open pair-horse class. There was also a falling off in the entries in regard to tradesmen's turnouts, the cause being generally put down to the prevailing bad trade.

Wellington Farmers' Club.

Brilliant weather, a large number of entries, and a good attendance favoured the annual exhibition held under the auspices of this club at which some of the best animals seen at many of the agricultural exhibitions in the Midlands were forward. The champion prize to the winner of the greatest number of points at the show in horses, cattle, and sheep classes, was again secured by Mr. R. H. Gwynne, of Haygate, and the Shire Horse Society's cup and medal were awarded to Mr. J. M. Belcher. The dairy produce and poultry classes were well filled, and competition was much keener than at previous shows promoted by the Society. An interesting feature of the Society's work is the encouragement given to long service on the part of agricultural labourers, and this year prizes were given to eighty servants, whose total years of service were 2,553, or an average of thirty-one years eleven months. No less than twenty had seen between forty and fifty years of service, and one had been in one employment for fifty-nine years, and another for fifty-eight years.

Harrogate.

For their fourth annual show, the Harrogate and District Agricultural Society offered about £500 in prizes, and this liberal sum drew 336 entries, a slight falling off compared with previous years, but the sections all round were well supported, and the quality was high. Hackneys were a splendid display, and the heavy horses were not far behind them as regards merit, whilst of hunters it may be said they were a credit to the district, though one would have liked to have seen more than were forward. Mr. Harrison, of Gansford Hall, known the country over for his Shorthorns, sent a number of splendid animals, thus making the section a worthy one, and we may add he won with everything he showed, taking precedence in the young bull class with Royal Ensign, by Royal Edward—Rosetta; in the two-year old bull class with Pioneer, which also gained a special prize; in the heifer class with Waterloo Princess, in the two-year old heifer class with Dalmeny Veronica, and in the older female class with Ursula Raglan. The only other first prize takers were the President of the Society (Mr. Henry Williams), whose Waterloo Princess II. headed the yearling heifers, and Mr T. R. D. Wright, who showed the winning bull calf in Lord Raglan, a son of Brigadier and Louise Raglan. Of sheep there was a nice display, the feature of the department being the Wensleydales and crossbreds, whilst other interesting features of a good show were satisfactory displays of pigs, poultry, butter, and eggs.

The Welsh National at Aberystwyth.

That the establishment of the Welsh National Agricultural Society, to use an old phrase, "supplied a long-felt want" was quite evident from the success which attended the second annual show held at Aberystwyth on Tuesday and Wednesday last, and, although only in its infancy, the show has already become to the Principality what the Royal is to England and the Highland to Scotland. The Welsh farmer has readily tumbled to the fact that the show is one worthy of his support, and to his own as well as to the general farmer's interest, and he is therefore giving the Society his whole-hearted support. This is shown by the fact that something like 50 per cent. of the exhibits at this show came from the tenant farmer's class from all parts of Wales, every county in Wales and Monmouth being represented by exhibits from tenant farmers. This is very encouraging, and should do much to improve the farmers' stock.

The Society offered the handsome sum of £1,200 in prizes, besides numerous specials, and this liberality attracted, as it deserved, a most satisfactory entry, the total showing an increase on last year's, whilst there was a better entry in nearly every section, the only decline being in ponies and cobs, which were five fewer than in 1904. The respective figures were as follows:—

	1905.	1904.
Shire horses	56	45
Hunters	19	19
Hackneys	36	31
Ponies and cobs	96	111
Shorthorns	69	—
Welsh Black Cattle	79	56
Herefords	48	29
Sheep	140	117

In addition, there were good displays of butter, cheese, etc. As to the quality of the exhibits, this was, generally speaking, of a high order, and the opinion was freely expressed that the show was a great improvement on the initial venture, and gave promise of becoming a large and important fixture, worthy and representative of Wales. A word as to the attendance of visitors may be added, for this is an important item in the success of a show. The weather was showery on the first day, but beautifully fine on the second, and on both days the number of people who passed the turnstiles was most satisfactory, close on 10,000 visitors paying for admission during the two days.

We append a list of the prizes so that in our description of the various sections we need not go into the details of all the awards, but generally summarise the sections as a whole. First of all came the Shire horses, and of these there was a large and representative display; and, to the satisfaction of home breeders, Montgomeryshire exhibitors came out well in the competition, which in some classes was particularly keen. Stallions and mares were equally good, but the pick of the section was the fillies, who made a really excellent show. There were four classes for hunters, but they were by no means well patronised, there being only eight mares or geldings foaled in 1902, half a dozen brood mares with foal at foot, two fillies or geldings foaled in 1902, and three foaled in 1903. This was disappointing, for in addition to the class prizes no fewer than six specials were offered in the section. Hackneys made a much better show in every respect, the stallion class in particular being a very fine one. The cobs and ponies were in strong force, but the opinion was expressed that they have not made the progress they should have done.

In the cattle section the feature was, of course, the classes for Welsh Blacks, and they made one of the best shows of the breed ever seen; in fact, the judge, Mr. York, said they were the best collection he had ever seen together in a showyard. All the bulls were good, and the cows were also a fine lot. Of course, there was considerable difference in type, some being large and what might be described as coarse, and others were small, fine animals. The judge's difficulty came in discriminating between these two types, of both of which there were some excellent specimens.

Shorthorns suffered somewhat from the show being so close to that of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society; but, nevertheless, they made a most creditable display; whilst of Herefords nothing but praise can be said, for they made indeed a magnificent collection, and the lot of the judge who made the awards was by no means an envious one, but his awards gave general satisfaction.

Mr. W. E. Williams, Gwerclas, Corwen, who judged the Welsh sheep, said he had never stood over a better lot of sheep, and he had been judging at a good many shows during the last few years. There were six classes, and in none of these were there less than nine entries. Some idea of the judge's difficult task may be gathered from the fact that he was occupied four hours in selecting the winners. In the class for Welsh mountain ram, any age, the decision at the Royal show was reversed, Mr. Owen Price, Nantyrharn, being placed first and Messrs. Gratton, Abergele, second, and there seemed to be a consensus of opinion that this was the correct award.

Pigs, though not particularly numerous, were a nice lot, whilst other sections included displays of butter, cheese, and implements.

In pursuance of the original arrangement that the show should be held for the first three years at Aberystwyth in order that it should be put on a sound foundation, next year's show, which will be the third year of the society's existence, will be held at the same place; but there seems to be a strong feeling amongst the members of the council in favour of making the show a migratory one, but the matter is one which will, of course, have to be decided by the members of the society as a whole. At the council meeting held during the show the matter was discussed, but no resolution was passed. There is but little doubt, however, that the show will not always be held at Aberystwyth, which certainly has some drawbacks in the matter of accessibility.

Judges.

HORSES.—Shires: Mr. Bonnar Barling, Bollitree, Ross-on-Wye. Hunters: Mr. R. H. Harris, M.F.H., The Croft, St. Clears, Carmarthen. Hackneys: Mr. Alexander Morton, Gowan Bank, Darvel, Ayrshire. Ponies and Cobs: Mr. W. Forrester Addie, Powis Castle Park, Welshpool. Welsh Mountain Ponies: Mr. D. Rees, Brynbedw, Taylorstown. Harness Classes: Messrs. W. Forrester Addie and Alexander Morton.

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: Mr. Walter Crosland, Buscot Park, Faringdon. Welsh Black: Mr. John Chambers, Holdenby, Northampton. Herefords: Mr. Francis Evans, Bredwardine, Hereford.

SHEEP.—Other than Welsh or Kerry Hill: Mr. Thomas Ewart, Dunsmore, Rugby. Kerry Hill Sheep: Mr. Richard Morgan, Bahaillon, Newtown. Welsh Mountain: Mr. Williams, Gwerclas, Corwen.

PIGS.—Mr. T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

PRIZE LIST.

Horses.

SHIRES.

Stallion, any age: 1, Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys, The Gaer, Forden, Welshpool (Hendre Baronet); 2, Mr. E. Green, The Moors, Welshpool (Moors Waggoner); 3, Mr. T. Green, Bank, Pool Quay, Welshpool (Nil Desperandum); r., Mr. J. Lewis, Trwstllewelyn, Garthmyl, Mont. (Arrowside Duke); h.c., The South Rheidol Shire Horse Society, Cambrian Chambers, Aberystwyth.

Stallion, foaled in 1903: 1, Messrs. E. Jones and Sons, The Bank, Pool Quay (Marble Arch); 2 and 3, Mr. E. Green (Moors Harold and Moors Chief); r., Mr. T. Green (Jack Tar); h.c., Mr. F. Lloyd, Eaton House, Wrexham (Eyton Drayman).

Brood mare, any age, and foal at foot: 1, Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys (Darby II.); 2, Messrs. E. Jones and Sons (Queen Bertha); 3, Mr. P. Coats, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire (Clifford Duchess); r., Mr. I. Jones, Cefnllwynpiod, Llanilar (Ilar Violet).

Special prize for the best exhibit, owned by a bona-fide farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales: 1, Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys (Darby II.); r., Mr. E. Jones and Sons (Queen Bertha).

Special prize for the best exhibit in the previous Class 3, owned by a bona-fide farmer or occupier making his living by farming within the Union of Aberystwyth: 1, Mr. I. Jones (Ilar Violet); r., Mr. W. Richards (Reginald Bonny).

Mare, foaled prior to 1902: 1, Sir Alex. Henderson, Bart., M.P., Buscot Park, Faringdon (Argent); 2, Mr. T. Green (Childwick Moss Rose); 3, Mr. P. Coats (Duchess of York); r., Mr. J. W. Phillips, M.P. (West Riding Bute).

Mare, foaled in 1902: 1, Sir A. Henderson (Ivy Fashrion); 2, Mr. J. Lewis (Severn Belle); 3, Mr. P. Coats (Clifford Dinah); r., Mr. J. W. Phillips (Bodenham Lady).

Filly, foaled in 1903: 1, Messrs. E. Jones and Sons (Princess Bertha); 2, Mr. E. Green (Willaston Countess); 3 and r., the Earl of Powis, Welshpool (Welsh Girl and Nelly Grey); h.c., Mr. J. Lewis (Severn Princess); c., Mr. H. Lloyd (Eyton Starlight).

Filly, foaled in 1904: 1, Sir A. Henderson (Buscot Fantasy); 2, Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys (Garthmyl May); 3, Mr. E. Green (Moors Starlight); r., Mr. J. W. Phillips (Lydstep Bloom); h.c., Mr. P. Coats (Clifford Kelpie).

Colt, foaled in 1904: 1, Mr. J. Lewis (Severn Melton); 2, Mr. S. Jones, Penygraig, Llanfarian (Ystwyth Triumph).

Special prize of £3 3s. given for the best Shire filly or colt, owned by a bona fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales: 1, Messrs. E. Jones and Sons (Princess Bertha).

The Bodnant Silver Challenge Cup, given for the best Shire mare or gelding, any age, in above classes (conditions as in previous special): 1, Mr. W. Jones (Lockinge Perfection).

Shire Horse Society's gold medal, for the best Shire mare or filly exhibited in the above classes: 1, Mr. W. F. S. Humphreys (Darby II.).

HUNTERS.

Brood mare and foal at foot: 1, Mr. J. W. Phillips (Utilist); 2, Mr. J. H. James Moore, High Ercall Hall, Wellington (Bandy); 3, Mr. W. Till, Tremorgan, Ross, Hereford (Aroma); r., Mr. T. C. Downes, Court House, Richards Castle, Ludlow (Rustic Gem); h.c., Mr. F. S. Morris, Old Hall, Sarn, Newtown (Marjorie).

Special prize of £5 given for the best exhibit in the above class, owned by a bona fide tenant farmer making his living by farming in Wales: 1, Mr. F. S. Morris (Marjorie).

Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal for the best hunter brood mare: 1, Mr. J. W. Phillips (Utilist); r., Mr. J. H. James Moore (Bandy).

Mare or gelding: 1, Mr. W. Till (Satisfaction); 2, Mr. J. W. Phillips (Treffgarne Boy); 3, Mr. J. Williams, Ethinduonisaf, Mydrin, St. Clears (Charlie); r., Mr. H. R. Evans, The Hill, King's Pyon, Woobley, Herefordshire (His Excellence).

Hunter filly or gelding, foaled in 1902: 1, Mrs. Grismond Phillipps, Cwmgwilly, Carmarthen (Balmoral).

Special prize of £5 for the best unbacked exhibit in the previous class, and £2 for the second best, provided they are prize-winners: 1, Mrs. G. Phillipps (Balmoral).

Filly or gelding: 1, Mr. J. Williams (Dinna); 2, Mr. T. Green.

Special prize of £3 3s. for the best exhibit in the two previous classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales: 1, Mr. J. Williams (Dinna).

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for the best hunter mare or gelding the property of a member: 1, Mrs. G. Phillipps (Balmoral); r., Mr. W. Till (Satisfaction).

HACKNEYS.

Stallion, any age, over 15 hands: 1, Mr. T. [illegible], Hall Green, Birmingham (Sensation Hackney); 2, Mr. D. Evans, Newcastle Emlyn (Jumbo Junior); 3, Mrs. Ward, Morta, Old Colwyn (Lord Derby); r., Mr. James Davies, M.P., Gregynog, Newtown (Merry Duke); h.c., Messrs. Jenkins, Llanwnnogandd, Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire (Denmark Bright).

Brood mare, any age, 15 hands or over, and foal at foot: 1, the Hon. Mrs. Ward, 2, Mr. A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham (Lady Warwick); 3, Mr. C. W. Powell, Brynygog, Tregaron (Cors Bren); r., Mr. S. Davies, Coedpark, Derry Ormond, Lampeter (Linda); h.c., Mr. J. Parry, Glanpath, Aberystwyth (Young Lady Wake).

Special prize of £5 for the best hackney brood mare: 1, Mr. S. Davies (Linda).

Special prize of £2 for the best hackney brood mare owned by a bona fide farmer, etc.: 1, Mr. [illegible] (Polly).

Mare or gelding, foaled in 1902: 1, Mr. D. L. [illegible] (Peter Simmon); 2, Mr. E. D. McNaughten, Milnthorpe, Westmorland (Endora); 3, Messrs. D. Davies and Sons, Newcastle Emlyn (Angel Swell); r., Mr. W. Lewis (Kitty).

Filly or gelding.—1, Messrs. E. R. Owen and Sons (Garthmyl Merry Duchess); 2, Mr. A. W. Hickling (Adbolton Princess); 3, Mr. J. J. Rees, Llwynfortune, Nantcaredig, R.S.O. (Bashful Katie); r., Mr. C. W. Powell, Brynygog, Towyn (Squire); h.c., Mr. W. Richards, Cefnhendre, Aberystwyth (Delham Pat).

Colt or filly, foaled in 1904.—1, Mr. W. Richards; 2, Messrs. Davies and Sons; 3, Mr. H. P. Edwards; h.c., Mr. R. Morgan Jones; r., Mr. T. Price, Llanybyther, R.S.O.

Special prize of £3 3s. for the best exhibit in the previous classes, owned by a bona fide farmer, etc.—1, Mr. W. Richards; r., Messrs. E. R. Owen and Sons.

COBS AND PONIES.

Cob stallion, over 14 hands and not exceeding 15 hands.—1, Mr. T. James, Llechryd, Boncath, R.S.O. (Severn End); 2, Mr. J. Jones, Llandyssul (Guinea Gold); 3, Mr. E. Jones, Manoravon, Llandilo (Confidential); h.c., Mr. D. Jones, Trefedlin, Llanfarian (Edlin Briton).

Stallion, any age, over 13 hands and not exceeding 14 hands.—1, Mr. D. Lloyd Lewis (Cardia Wonder); 2, Mr. W. S. Miller, Brecon (Forest Adbolton); 3, Mr. W. Morgan, Bankymansel, Llanarthney (Lord Mansel Skewbald).

Stallion, over 13.2, and not exceeding 14.2, entered in one of the published volumes of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society's Stud Books.—1, Mr. T. James (Trustful); 2, Mr. R. Alderson, Welshpool (George Horace); 3, Mr. W. Morris, Brecon (Usk Valley Squire).

Stallion, any age, over 12 hands and not exceeding 13 hands.—1, Mr. J. Thomas, Tre'rddol (Klondike); 2, Mr. C. Murless, Wrexham (Prince of Cardiff); 3, Mr. H. Davies, Tymawr, Abergwesin, Garth, R.S.O. (Gwesyn Flyer); r., Mr. S. Davies, Coedpark, Derry Ormond, Lampeter (Prince Nithdale); h.c., Mr. J. Evans, Doleithwen, Caersws (Model King).

Welsh Pony and Cob Society's prizes for the best pony stallion, over 12.2 and not exceeding 13.2, entered in one of the published volumes of the Society's Stud Books.—1, Mr. M. Dugdale (Llwyn True Blue); 2, Mr. S. Morris, Sarn, Newtown (Firebrand); 3, Mr. C. H. Lloyd Edwards (Berkley George); r., Mr. W. S. Miller, Brecon (Forest Goldstone); c., Mr. S. Morris (Mountain Fox).

Welsh Pony and Cob Society's silver medal for the best exhibit in the two previous classes.—1, Mr. T. James (Trustful); r., Mr. C. H. Lloyd Edwards (Berkley George).

Welsh mountain pony stallion, not exceeding 12.2.—1, Mr. E. Jones (Grey Light); 2, Mr. Marshall Dugdale (Llwyn Prince of Wales); 3, Mr. R. Campbell Davys (Mallaen Merry Boy); r., Mr. T. Williams, Llangadock (Brigant); h.c., Mr. R. C. Davys (Mallaen Sirocco).

Pony brood mare.—1, Mr. N. Bennett Owen, Gwernafon, Llanidloes (Glanyrafon); 2, Mr. B. H. Sampson, Pontardulais (Inholmes Princess); 3, Mr. H. P. Edwards (Lady Corsica).

Pony brood mare, with or without foal at foot, over 13.2 and not exceeding 14.2.—1, Mr. J. Owen, Builth Wells, Breconshire; 2, Mr. S. S. James, Ystrad Rhondda, Glamorganshire; 3, Mr. N. Bennett Owen; h.c., Mr. H. P. Edwards; r., Mr. David Davies.

Pony brood mare, any age, over 12.2 and not exceeding 13.2, and foal at foot.—1, Mr. W. Morgan, Llanarthney (Lady Mansel); 2, Mr. W. R. Jones, Llanfihangel, Borth (Lively Girl); 3, Mr. J. Hughes, Garthfawr, Llanilar (Bett); r., Mr. J. Jones (Jenny); h.c., Mr. I. Jones (Bess).

Special prize of £3 for the best exhibit in the previous class, owned by a bona fide tenant farmer, etc.—1, Mr. W. Morgan (Lady Mansel); r., Mr. W. R. Jones (Lively Girl).

A special prize of £2 for the best exhibit in the above special class, owned by a bona fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming within the Union of Aberystwyth.—1, Mr. W. R. Jones (Lively Girl).

Welsh Pony and Cob Society's prize for the best pony brood mare, with or without foal at foot, over 12.2 and not exceeding 13.2, entered in one of the published volumes of the Society's Stud Book.—Mr. Marshall Dugdale.

Pony brood mare, any age, not exceeding 12.2 and foal at foot.—1, Mr. Marshall Dugdale; 2, Messrs. Davies and Sons (Lady Gweneg); 3, Mr. E. Edwards (Llorence); r., Mr. Owen Morris (Bess).

Mountain pony brood mare, not over 12.2 and foal at foot.—1, Mr. D. Davies (Mountain Lass); 2, Mr. W. S. Miller (Queen); 3, Mr. I. Evans (Parke Lass); r., Mr. R. H. Sampson (Merlyn-y-Mynydd); h.c., Mr. W. S. Miller (Young Matchless).

Cob, any age, not exceeding 13 hands, to be ridden in saddle.—1, Mr. W. Foster (Mel Valley Silver Wedding); 2, Mr. J. Edwards (Cefngwyn Hall Prince).

Pony, mare, or gelding, any age, not exceeding 13.2, to be ridden.—1, Mr. W. Foster; 2, Mr. C. W. Jones, Talybont (Bess); 3, Mr. E. J. Williams (Queen Bee); r., Sir Pryse Pryse, Bart. (Lady Mary).

Pony, mare or gelding, any age, not exceeding 13 hands, to be ridden by boys or girls, not exceeding 15 years of age.—1, Mr. W. S. Miller (Fmlyn Midget); 2, Mr. H. P. Edwards (My Honey); 3, Mr. G. Ford (Lord Grey); r., Mr. C. W. Powell (Hafod Lass); h.c., Mr. T. R. Lewis, Ferrum (Queen).

Pony, filly, or gelding, foaled in 1904, to be shown in hand.—1, Mr. E. Jones (Bledwena); 2, Mr. L. O. Williams (Swallow); 3, Mr. D. Bodvel Morgan (Coedmore Lad); r., Mr. J. Roberts, Towyn (Travelling Tom); h.c., Mr. R. C. Davys (Fire Fly).

Pony, filly, or gelding, foaled in 1904, to be shown in hand.—1, Mr. C. W. Powell; 2, Mr. J. Scott; 3, Mr. W. Rowlands; h.c., Mr. Marshall Dugdale; h.c., Mrs. Annie Williams, Frongoch, Glandovey, R.S.O.; h.c., Mr. E. J. Williams; r., Mr. D. L. Jones.

Pony, colt, or filly, foaled in 1904, to be shown in hand.—1, Mr. H. H. Lloyd; 2, Mr. D. Evans; 3, Mr. F. S. Morris; h.c., the Rev. T. Manuel, Aberdare; r., Mr. J. Roberts.

Special prize of £3 given for best pony, colt, filly, or gelding.—1, Mr. J. Scott; r., Mr. W. Rowlands.

Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for best hackney or pony mare, filly or filly foal.—1, Mr. T. Smith (Viscount Hopwood); r., Mr. T. James (Severn End).

HARNESS CLASSES.

Farmer's turn-out, confined to the Union of Aberystwyth.—1, Mr. W. R. Jones (Lively Girl); 2, Mr. H. P. Edwards; 3, Mr. E. M. Jones; h.c., Mr. Wm. Jones (Lady Cleveland).

Exhibit in single harness, not exceeding 12.2 hands.—1, Mr. E. Jones (Greylight); 2, Mr. W. Foster (Mel Valley Silver Wedding); 3, Mr. J. M. Dugdale (Llwyn Nell); r., Mr. C. W. Powell; c., Mr. L. R. Lewis; h.c., Mr. G. Ford.

Exhibit in single harness, not exceeding 14 hands.—1, Mr. W. Foster (Mel Valley Treasure); 2, Mr. W. S. Miller (Forest Adbottom); 3, Messrs. E. R. Owen and Son; h.c., Mr. W. R. Jones.

Hackney mare or gelding, in harness, any age, over 15 hands.—1, Mr. A. E. Evans, Bronwylfa, Wrexham (Princess 15065); 2, Mr. D. Evans; 3, Mr. R. Falkener, Bwlch, Abergwili, Carmarthenshire (Amman Empress); r., Mr. E. Jones.

Cattle.

SHORTHORNS.

Bull, two years old or over.—1, Mr. R. Stratton, Newport, Mon. (Great Mogul); 2, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Lichfield (Meteor); 3, The Earl of Powis, Welshpool (Alastair); h.c., Mr. J. A. Brown, Tarporley, Cheshire (Micklethwaite Warrior 2nd).

Bull, above one and under two years old.—1, Mr. J. E. Footman, Hafodwen, Carmarthen (Towy Cashier); 2, Mr. R. P. Cooper (Shenstone St. Clair); 3, Mr. J. A. Brown, Tarporley, Cheshire (Excelsior); r., The Earl of Powis (Baron Kendal); h.c., Sir A. C. Stepney, Bart., Llanelly (Prince of Latton 8th).

Bull calf, not exceeding twelve months.—1 and 2, The Earl of Powis (Alastair 2nd and Handicrof); 3, Mr. J. E. Footman, Carmarthen (Towy Spectre); r., Sir A. C. Stepney (Fitz Augustus).

Special prize of £5 for the best exhibit in the above three classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales.—1, Mr. D. Evans (Pitlivie Governor); r., Mr. J. E. Footman (Towy Cashier).

Special prize of £5 for the best exhibit in the above three classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in the county of Cardiganshire.—1, Mr. D. Morgan (Towy Combination); r., Mr. T. Lewis (Telegram).

Shorthorn Society's champion prize of £10 for the best Shorthorn bull exhibited, entered in or eligible for Coates' Herd Book.—1, Mr. R. Stratton (Great Mogul); r., Mr. R. P. Cooper (Meteor).

Cow, in calf or in milk.—1, The Earl of Powis (Lady Sybil); 2 and 3, Lord Tredegar (Ruby 20th and Rosaline 2nd); h.c., Sir A. C. Stepney (Challenge).

Two-year-old heifer.—1 and 2, Lord Tredegar (Tulip 20th and Lady Llangibby); 3, Mr. J. Lloyd Morgan Rhiwfelin, Carmarthen (White Heather); r., Mr. R. P. Cooper (Ada 3rd); h.c., Mr. D. Rees, Tynpark, Borth (Tulip).

Special prize for the best exhibit in classes 39 and 40, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales.—1 and 2, Mr. J. Morgan (White Heather and Lady of the Valley).

Yearling heifer.—1, Earl of Powis (Welsh Maid); 2, Mr. R. P. Cooper (Aldboro' Missil 2nd); 3, Mr. W. A. H. Bass, Burton-on-Trent (Whitewall Anna); h.c., Capt. D. H. Mytton, Garth, Welshpool (Sample).

Heifer calf, not exceeding twelve months old.—1, Mr. R. C. Cooper (Shenstone Superb 4th); 2, Earl of Powis (Lady Augusta); 3, Major J. J. Bonsall, Fronfraith, Aberystwyth (Nonpareil Lady 5th); c., Mr. E. Lewis (Apricot) and Mr. D. Morgan, Crosswood (Fair Ellen); h.c., Sir A. C. Stepney (Truth) and Lord Tredegar (Tredegar Grace Lass).

Special prize of £5 given for the best exhibit in the two previous classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales.—Mr. J. Lloyd-Morgan (Lady Hamilton).

WELSH BLACKS.

Bull, two years old or over.—1, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Penrhos, Holyhead (Ap Klondike); 2, Mr. J. Scourfield, Blaenwernddu (Whitland Lloffwr); 3, Mrs. Wynne, Bettws-y-Coed (Cramp); h.c., Lord Harlech, The Glyn, Talsarnau (Tudor).

Bull, above one and under two years old.—1, Mr. J. Owen, Llwynderw, Whitland (Derw Boy); 2, Mr. R. W. Pritchard, Coedmarion, Carnarvon (Marion Prince 3rd); 3, The University College of Wales, Aberystwyth (King of the Blacks); c., Mr. J. Roberts (Marion Idwal); c., Mr. R. M. Greaves (Wern Defender); h.c., Mr. R. Thomas, Great Pale, Whitland (Prince Arthur).

Bull calf, not exceeding twelve months old.—1, Mr. T. Roberts (Berw Aber); 2, Mr. J. B. Owen (Cadfridog); 3, Mr. J. J. Davies (Cardi); h.c., Mr. J. B. Owen (Brython).

The Ysguborwen challenge cup, value £25, for the best Welsh Black bull.—Lord Stanley (Ap Klondike).

Special prize of £5 for the best Welsh Black bull owned by a bona fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales.—1, Mr. J. Owen (Derw Boy).

Steer, any age.—1, Mr. R. Roberts, Bronygadair (Jack); 2, Mr. R. M. Greaves (Twrch); 3, Mr. D. Jones (Twm Shon Catti); r., Mr. Owen Morris.

Special prize of £5 given for the best Steer owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales.—1, Mr. D. Jones (Twm Shon Catti).

Cow, in calf or milk.—1, Mr. R. M. Greaves; 2, Mr. W. Jones (Llwyngwyn Lass); 3 and r., Mr. J. B. Owen (Blodwen and Brythones); h.c., Mr. R. M. Greaves and Mr. O. Parry Jones.

Two-year-old heifer.—1, Mr. W. Jones; 2, Mr. R. M. Greaves; 3, Mr. J. Roberts; h.c., Mr. R. W. Pritchard (Marion Blodwen).

Special prize of £5 given for the best cow or heifer in two previous classes.—1, Mr. W. Jones (Llwyngwyn Lass).

Yearling heifer.—1, Mr. R. M. Greaves; 2, Mr. J. W. Griffiths, Penally; 3, Mr. T. Roberts, Aber, Bangor; h.c., Mr. R. W. Pritchard (Marion Queen); h.c., Mr. R. Thomas, Whitland.

Heifer calf, not exceeding 12 months old: 1, Mr. R. Thomas; 2, Mr. T. Roberts (Gelliwan VI.); 3 and h.c., Mr. O. Parry Jones (Plas Abel and Plas Kitty); r. and h.c., Mr. J. Scourfield, Blaenwernddu, Whitland (Gwennie).

HEREFORDS.

Three years old or over: 1, Mr. P. Coates (Evedale); 2, Mr. C. T. Pulley, Lower Eaton, Hereford (Eaton Champion); 3, Mr. G. D. Faber, M.P., Wallingford, Berks (Prime Minister); r., Mr. T. Jones, Kerry (Prince Richard II.).

Two-year-old bull: 1, Capt. E. L. A. Heygate, Buckland, Leominster (Primate); 2, Sir J. R. G. Cotterell, Bart. (Priam); 3, Mr. P. Coates (Golden Valley).

Bull, calved in 1904: 1 and h.c., Capt. E. L. A. Heygate (Coronet and Cameronian); 2, Mr. A. P. Turner, Pembridge (Antonio); 3 and c., Mr. A. E. Hughes (Premier and Pearl King); r., Mr. Lawton Moore, Brampton Brian, Herefordshire (Brampton Banner); c., Mr. J. Smith, Monkton, Hereford (Forest Lad); Sir J. R. G. Cotterell (Rameses 2nd).

Bull calf, not exceeding 12 months old: 1, Mr. H. R. Hall, Orleton (Vendale); 2, Mr. Lawton Moore (Brampton Bonaza); 3, Mr. W. M. Price (Briton); r., Mr. W. H. Davies (Obelisk); c., Mr. W. M. Price (Breconshire).

Special prize given for the best exhibit in the above four classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming in Wales: 1, Mr. T. Jones (Prince Richard II.); r., Mr. W. M. Price (Briton).

Cow in calf or milk: 1, Mr. W. M. Price, Great Weston (Spangle 5th); 2, Mr. P. Coates (Pearl 15th); 3, Mr. G. D. Faber (Ivy Lass); r., Mr. W. M. Price (Primrose 3rd).

Two-year-old heifer: 1, Mr. A. E. Hughes (Ivington Plum); 2, Mr. J. R. Hill (Western Star); 3, Mrs. Hamlen Williams, Hereford (Vega); r., Mr. P. Coates (Dewy May).

and Kirsty).

Special prize of £5 given for the best exhibit in the two previous classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer: 1, Mr. D. Pryce (Spangle 5th); r., Mr. W. M. Pryce (Primrose 3rd).

Yearling heifer: 1, Mr. C. T. Pulley, Lower Eaton (Ashleaf 3rd); 2, Mr. Lawton Moore (Brampton Agnes); 3, Mr. P. Coates (Pearl); r., Mr. J. Smith (Ashleaf 3rd); h.c., etc., Mr. D. Pryce (Claribel and Noblesse); Mr. A. G. Montford, Churchstroke (Mime); Mr. W. H. Davies (Longsides).

Heifer calf, not exceeding 12 months old: 1, Mr. W. M. Price (Bella).

Special prize of £5 given for the best exhibit in the two previous classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer, etc.: 1 and r., Mr. D. Pryce (Noblesse and Claribel).

Sheep.

ANY PURE BREED, EXCEPT WELSH MOUNTAIN AND KERRY HILL SHEEP.

Ram, of any age: 1, Mr. P. Lichfield; 2, Mr. J. Rees, Llanybyther (Heredity); 3, Mr. D. Morgan, Crosswood (Crosswood Swell); r., Mr. W. H. Davies, Hereford (Monark).

Pen of three ewes: 1, Mr. R. Cooper; 2, Mr. R. Williams, Anglesey; 3, Mr. W. H. Davies; r., Mr. J. Thomas, Llanfallteg; h.c., Mr. A. N. Henderson, Lutterworth.

Yearling ram: 1, Mr R. P. Cooper; 2, Mr. J. Thomas (Norton Bay); 3, Mr. J. Rees (Perhaps); r., Mr. A. N. Henderson; c., Mr. R. Williams (Manchester Guardian 3rd).

Pen of three yearling ewes: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 2, Mr. J. Rees; 3, Mr. D. Price; r., Mr. W. H. Davies.

Ram lamb: 1 and 2, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 3, Mr. J. Rees (Radium); r., Mr. R. Williams (Sherlowe Gem 3rd); h.c., Mr. D. Pryce.

Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 2, Mr. J. Rees; 3, Mr. D. Price; r., Mr. W. H. Dayes; h.c., Mr. R. Williams.

Special prize of £2 for the best exhibit in the first three sheep classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer, etc.: 1, Mr D. Morgan (Crosswood Swell).

Special prize of £2 for the best exhibit in the ewe classes, owned by a tenant farmer, etc.: 1, Mr. R. Williams; r., Mr. J. Rees.

Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock-Book Society's gold medal to the exhibitor winning the greatest number of points for prizes won by the Shropshire sheep in the above classes: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper.

Special prize of £5 5s. for the best Shropshire yearling ram exhibited in class 57: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper.

Special prize of £5 5s. for the best three yearling Shropshire ewes exhibited in Class 57: 1, Mr. R. P. Cooper.

KERRY HILL.

Ram, of any age: 1, Mr. J. R. Bache, Knighton (Ragdon Adamant); 2, Mr. T. Jones, Gwernybuarth, Llandyssil (Heirloom); 3 and h.c., Mr. Lawton Moore (Brampton Dictator and Brampton Challenger); v.h.c., Messrs. G. B. Price and Sons, Leintwardine, R.S.O. (Bahaillon Chancellor); h.c., Messrs. J. and R. Phillips, Llwynybrain, Caersws (Llwynybrain Speckleface); c., Mr. J. R. Bache (Bahaillon Defiance); and Mr. P. Coates (Up-to-date).

Pen of three ewes: 1 and 3, Mr. J. Venables, Pengelly, Kerry; 2, Mr. T. E. Kinsey, Maesmawr, Caersws; h.c., Messrs. J. and R. Phillips; c., Mr. J. C Jones.

Yearling ram: 1, Mr T. E. Kinsey (Marker); 2 and h.c., Messrs. Phillips (Carnedd and King George); 3, Mr. Lawton Moore (Brampton Emblem); h.c., Mr. W. Alderson (Bahaillon Elevator).

Pen of three yearling ewes: 1, Mr. J. Venables; 2, Messrs. J. and R. Phillips; 3, Mr. Lawton Moore.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. Phillips (Carnedd Edward VII.); 2, Messrs. J. and R. Phillips (Llwynybrain National A1); 3, Mr. P. Coates; v.h.c., Mr. T. E. Kinsey (Meditation).

Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, Mrs. Phillips, Carnedd, Caersws; 2, Mr. J. C. Jones, Llanfair; 3, Mr. T. E. Kinsey; v.h.c., Mr. P. Coates.

Special prize of £2 for the best exhibit in the three previous ram classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer, etc.: 1, Mr. J. R. Bache (Ragdon Adamant).

Special prize of £2 for the best exhibit in three previous ewe classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer, etc.: 1, Mr. J. Venables.

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Kerry Hill Flock-Book Society's Challenge Cup for the best male exhibited in above classes: 1, Mr. J. R. Bache (Ragdon Adamant).

Challenge Cup, value £5 5s., for best three females exhibited in the above classes: 1, Mr. J. Venables.

WELSH MOUNTAIN.

Ram, any age: 1, Mr. Owen Price (Twm-or-Nant 2nd); 2, Messrs. Gratton, Abergele (Hero); 3 and h.c., Mr. W. Conwy Bell, Brynffynon, Rhuddlan; r., Mr. W. Morgan (King of Hero); c., Mr. E. Mirris.

Pen of three ewes: 1, Messrs. Gratton; 2, Mr. W. Conwy Bell; 3, Messrs. Gratton; r., Mr. H. O. Ellis; h.c., Mr. R. W. Pritchard.

Yearling ram: 1, Mrs. Wynne Finch (Tim); 2 and 3, Mr. W. Conwy Bell; r., Mr. Owen Price (Tywysog); h.c., Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale (Llwyn Fancy); c., Mr. T. Jones (Robinson).

Pen of three yearling ewes: 1, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale; 2, Messrs. Gratton; 3, Mr. W. Conwy Bell; h.c., Mr. H. O. Ellis; c., Mr. J. Jones, Corwen.

Ram lamb: 1, Mr. W. Conwy Bell; 2, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale; 3 and c., Messrs. Gratton; r., Mr. H. O. Ellis (Moelwr Bach); h.c., Mr. R. W. Pritchard.

Pen of three ewe lambs: 1, Mr W. Conwy Bell; 2, Messrs. Gratton; 3 and h.c., Mr. Owen Price; r., Mr. W. Pritchard.

Special prize of £2 for the best exhibit in the Welsh Mountain ram classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer, etc.: 1, Mr. W. Conwy Bell; h.c., Messrs. Gratton.

Special prize of £1, for the best exhibit in Welsh Mountain ram classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer or occupier making his living by farming within the Union of Aberystwyth: 1, Mr. W. Morgan.

Special prize of £2, for the best exhibit in the Welsh Mountain ewe classes, owned by a bona-fide tenant farmer, etc.: 1 and v.h.c., Messrs. Gratton; h.c., Mr. R. W. Pritchard; c., Mr. H. O. Ellis.

Pigs.

WHITE BREEDS.

Boar: 1, the Earl of Ellesmere (Roger); 2, Capt. Lloyd Hughes, Llanrhystyd (Llwyd Llwynog).

Sow, in pig, or with pigs: 1, Earl of Ellesmere (Sowerby Sunbeam); 2, Capt. Hughes (Llwyd Countess); v.h.c. and h.c., Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale.

BLACK BREEDS.

Boar: 1 and r., Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire (Polgate Domino and Polegate Dictator).

Sow, in pig or with pigs: 1 and 2, Duchess of Devonshire (Polegate Dulce and Polegate Daffodil).

Challenge Cup, value £10 and one guinea for the best Large White pig, any age or sex, bred by the Earl of Ellesmere, the property of a resident in the Principality of Wales: 1, Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale.

Cumberland.

The Cumberland Agricultural Society was unfortunate, so far as the weather was concerned, for their seventy-third annual show, for rain fell nearly the whole of the morning, and undoubtedly kept many visitors away. In the afternoon finer weather prevailed, and a large attendance was recorded, but not so good as in some previous years. The show itself was one of the best the Society has yet held. The entries were about fifty short of last year's total of 1,190, but there was an all-round advance in the quality of the exhibits, and in every section the visitors found many very excellent examples.

The agricultural horses were of fine quality, but the number was only 185, comparing with 242 last year. Clydesdales find favour in Cumberland, and as far as quality goes the show has seldom been equalled, but there have been years when heavier animals have been shown. The object at present appears to be to rear animals of purity in character and clean bone, breeders being content to wait till this object has been attained before striving after greater substance. The champion of the section was a three-year-old filly, Lady Domino, shown by Mr. Mansell, Crossrigg. She has already had several successes in the showyard. Reserved for the championship was a two-year-old filly, Fair Lowthian, the property of Mr. Wilson Hodgson, Burgh-by-Sands, an animal of outstanding merit in her class.

Light horses were more numerous than last year—viz., 285, as compared with 236 entries, and both in the driving and riding classes there was a distinct improvement on last year's show. In the hunter classes, the judges surprised the spectators by placing Mr. Andrew Saunders' Scotch March, a medal winner at the Highland and champion at Longtown, in the second place, putting in front of her in the two-year-old filly class Mrs. Johnston's Hollyhock, from Broadholm, Lockerbie, an animal which was only highly commended at the Highland. Neither of these, however, was adjudged champion of the light horse section, the honour being conferred on a two-year-old gelding belonging to Mr. James, of Oughterside Mill, which had never previously come into competition at the shows in the county. He is a nice colt by Belville out of Patience, both Mr. Parkin Moore's animals, but in the opinion of men of experience it is doubtful whether he is superior to Mr. Saunders' Scotch March. The improvement in the harness horse section was specially noticeable in the older classes, whilst the farmers' turn-outs gained high approval. A better show of hackneys has never been seen at the Cumberland. Mr. M'Naughton and Mr. T. C. M'Kibbin, The Heaning, showed with conspicuous success, and Mr. T. H. R. Threlheld, The Grange, was also a first prize winner.

The Shorthorn cattle made a fine display,

the pick of the lot being the yearling bulls, which were both numerous and excellent in quality. The first prize in the class was won by Mr. T. J. Sowerby, Long Meg, with Merry Prince, a roan which was fourth at the Highland, and which was eventually picked out as the champion of the cattle section here. Another class of more than ordinary interest was the class for groups of three Shorthorns for the challenge cup given by Mr. Watt, Knowefield. This prize was also won by Mr. Sowerby, who showed his yearling bull, yearling heifer, and a cow, all of which had headed their classes. The reserve for this championship was awarded to Mr. Joseph Harris, Brackenburgh Tower, who showed a heifer which was fifth at the Royal. Galloways were a record show, both in quality and numbers. The best aged bull was shown by Mr. A. H. Fox-Brockbank, Kirksanton, which was first at the Highland at Glasgow, and second at the Royal. Of yearling bulls the best was a specimen shown by the Countess of Carlisle, which was purchased at Castle Douglas this spring, and bred by Mrs. Wilson, Craighouse. Cows or heifers were a very good class, the best of them being that of Messrs. Stothert, of Cloughfoot, Haltwhistle, a very easy first.

The sheep section was filled principally by Border Leicester, which were very good in quality. The principal exhibitors were Mr. Joseph James, Oughterside Mill (who won the championship for sheep with a shearling tup), Messrs. Faulder, Oakbank, and Mr. William Bell, St. Martin's Terrace, Brampton. The blackfaced sheep prizes were won chiefly by Mr. Robson, of Newtown, Bellingham, and those for Down sheep by Mr. Toppin, Musgrave Hall, whilst Mr. William Richardson, Kendal, had the best of it with cross sheep. Mr. George Graham, Marshall Hall, and Mr. Robert Watson, Stone House, Hayton, were the chief exhibitors of pigs. In addition to the show of stock, a large dog show was held, embracing 220 entries, the feature of which were the bulldogs, these including some famous exhibits.

Whitchurch (Salop).

The Whitchurch and District Agricultural Association held their second annual show on Wednesday, when there was a large number of entries, and the quality generally was regarded as very superior. The principal prizes were as follows: —

AGRICULTURAL HORSES.

Shire stallions.—1, Captain Heywood-Lonsdale, Shavington (Severn Melbourne); 2, George Perry, Cholmondeley (Willaston Portland).

Pair of cart mares or geldings (four years old).—1 (silver cup), Messrs. G. Lunt and Sons, Higher Morrey; 2, J. Simister, Calverhall; 3, H. Lea, Wem; r., Thos. Wilson, Whitchurch.

Single cart mare or gelding (four years).—1, J. Broad, Worthenbury; 2 and 3, Messrs. G. Lunt and Sons.

Single cart mare or gelding (three years).—1, T. Hulse; 2, J. H. Large, Horseman's Green; 3, H. Lea.

Mare and foal.—1, Captain Heywood-Lonsdale; 2, T. Lea, Ellesmere; 3, T. Hulse.

Foal.—1, N. Forwood-Burleydam; 2, A. O. Lakin, Marbury.

Two-year-old gelding or filly.—1, H. H. Lloyd, Eyton; 2, W. Allen, Church Farm, Adderley; 3, John Broad.

Yearling colt.—1, J. Simister; 2, H. H. Lloyd; 3, Messrs. Lunt and Sons.

Shire Horse Society's Silver Medal. — W. Allen, Adderley.

HUNTERS.

Mare or gelding (four years).—1, W. Brown, Nantwich; 2, Noel Forwood; 3, W. Butler, Hordley.

Mare or gelding (three years).—1, A. Shone, Malpas; 2, N. Foxwood; 3, A. D. Purgold, Whitchurch.

Mare or gelding (two years).—1, Mrs. S. J. Major, Adderley Lees; 2, E. Davies, Eyton Farm.

Yearling.—1, W. Butler; 2, J. Horton, Tilstock.

Mare and foal.—1, Captain Heywood Lonsdale; 2, E. Davies, Hordley.

HACKNEYS.

Best cob.—1, W. Heath, Market Drayton; 2, R. V. Eardley, Colehurst Manor; 3, W. Hitchin, Quoisley.

Best pony.—1, W. Owen, Ellesmere; 2, M. A. Purcell, Ash.

Hackney mare and foal.—1, Mrs. Ravenshaw, Bridleway Gate; 2, H. D. Evans, Whixall.

Hackney Society's Silver Medal.—W. Bibby, Ellesmere.

CATTLE.

Best bull.—1, T. Parton, Crewe; 2, T. Hollins, Crewe; 3, J. Hobson, Audlem.

Pair of dairy cows.—1, S. Chadderton, Peplow; 2, W. Sunnerley, Belton; 3, R. Davies, Tilstock.

Best dairy cow.—1, S. Pierpoint, Worthenbury; 2, S. Chadderton; 3, A. Blake, Malpas.

Best heifer, calved 1903.—1, H. Green; 2, S. Chadderton.

Best heifer, calved 1904.—1, E. K. Bickley, Newtown; 2, S. Chadderton.

Cottagers' class.—Best dairy cow: 1, H. Hall, Whitchurch; 2, S. Powell, Whixall; 3, H. Ashby, Coton.

SHEEP.

Shropshire shearling ram.—1, J. Barnett, Market Drayton; 2, S. F. M. Nevett, Yorton.

Three Shropshire ram lambs.—1, S. F. M. Nevett; 2, W. Sunnerley.

Five Shropshire ewes.—1, S. F. M. Nevett; 2, J. Barnett.

Five Shropshire yearling ewes.—1, J. Barnett; 2, R. C. Price, Harmer Hill.

Five Shropshire ewe lambs.—1, R. C. Price; 2, J. Barnett.

Five wether lambs, any breed.—1, W. J. Powell, Stanton; 2, T. W. Higginson, Ashford Grange.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Adlington.

The thirteenth show of the Adlington and District Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday. There was a good show all round, light and heavy horses, hunters, cattle, and turnouts being the most important features. The number of entries was 1,540.

Penrith.

For over sixty years there has been an annual agricultural show at Penrith, and that it is still as popular as ever was proved by the good entry and large attendance of visitors at the sixty-second show held on Tuesday. On paper the display fell behind the shows of the last few years, but duplication of entries having been dropped, the decline was more seeming than real. As was to be expected in such a famous country for its Shorthorns, these animals made quite the feature of the show. Few better collections of stock have been brought together this year for £300. Shorthorns very nearly reached high expectations. The classic herds of Eden Grove, Moresdale Hall, Wigton, Inglewood, Brougham, Calthwaite, Stainton, Great Strickland, Musgrave Hall, Eden Hall, Kirkby Thore, and Lamonby Hall, were represented by something of their best, and in at least half the classes the competition was extensive and close. Nineteen bulls of from one to two years entered, and there were several other large classes, both in the tenant farmer section and divisions with more scope. Cumberland Show winners were thickly scattered through all departments. Agricultural horses were not so numerous as on some previous occasions, but the quality was right, and the same might be said of the light horses; whilst sheep fell somewhat short of anticipation, still they were a nice lot.

Thorney Shire Foal.

Thorney Foal Show Society occupies an unique and pre-eminent position in the Shire horse breeding world, and its remarkable exhibition on Tuesday week again demonstrated the fact that, with the exception of Peterborough, it provides a display hard to equal in any other part of the country. Flourishing in the very heart of the great Fen breeding country, the ducal parish possesses a body of farmers whose studs have turned out some of the best Shire horses that have been seen in the show ring during recent years, and the animals they placed in the ring this year were, if possible, superior in quality and type to any previous shows, though the numbers were not quite so large as in some previous years.

Rural Education.

Mr. T. S. Dymond, his Majesty's Inspector for Rural Education, speaking at a teachers' conference at Gloucester, said children should be taught the geography of their own villages, and even in the teaching of history they missed, he believed, the opportunity of making rural life more dear to the people. There was no school subject which more needed adapting to rural life than arithmetic, which, as generally taught, appeared to be the first subject to be forgotten on leaving school. They needed to deal with shillings and pence rather than with thousands of pounds, with the penny bank rather than the Stock Exchange, with bushels of corn, trusses of hay, cords of wood, hundredweights of manure, acres, roods, and perches of land. It was also necessary to teach decimals.

Mr. H. W. Household (secretary to the Gloucestershire Education Committee), in urging that local geography and history should be first taught, said there were more important matters for the children to learn than the length of the Brahmaputra or the height of the Andes.

Miss Kate Tummey (Bagendon), describing her efforts in a small rural school to give appropriate instruction, said she set the boys to work in her own garden. The lads took great interest in the pursuit, and their fathers often supplied them with seeds and showed them the proper distances apart to plant them.

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SOCIETIES.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the council was held on July 26, the Earl of Coventry (vice-president) in the chair.

The noble chairman said he was sure they would feel, as he did, very deep regret in the deaths of Earl Cowper and Sir Jacob Wilson, K.C.V.O., vice-president of the club. The late Earl Cowper, although not seen very frequently at their meetings, was an excellent landlord, and was very well known in the agricultural world. Of Sir Jacob Wilson he could say that it was his good fortune to meet him on this council, and on the councils of the Royal Agricultural Society and the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, and therefore he could claim to speak of the good services Sir Jacob rendered, and testify to the pleasure it was to meet him on all occasions.

Mr. R. W. Hobbs reported that the Stock Prize Committee had selected judges for the forthcoming show, with reserve judges in case any of the gentlemen selected were unable to act, such list to be published when all the judges had signified their acceptance. This report was adopted.

Mr. Martin J. Sutton reported that the Selection Committee recommended that Mr. J. Bowen-Jones be elected a member of the committee in the place of the late Sir Jacob Wilson. This report was adopted.

Mr. J. Harold Howard reported that the rules and regulations and form of application for space at the forthcoming show had been considered and passed by the committee. This report was adopted.

The council then adjourned until November.

British Dairy Farmers'.

A meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, W., on Wednesday, Sir George Barham, J.P., Vice-President, in the chair.

On behalf of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mr. Page reported that the balance at bank on current account on July 31 was £454 17s. 8d., against which payments were recommended amounting to £162 0s. 3d. The Committee submitted a return showing that in the eight weeks ended July 29 the imports of fresh milk into the United Kingdom amounted to 45 cwts., compared with 81 cwts. in the corresponding weeks of last year. In the same period the quantities of cream imported reached a total of 1,032 cwts., compared with 1,670; of preserved milk 266, against 931 cwts.; and of condensed milk, 131,826, compared with 134,215.

Mr. Ashcroft, as Chairman of the Education and Journal Committee, reported the arrangements for the examination of candidates for the society's certificates, to be held at Reading on September 7, 8, and 9; and also the committee's proposals with regard to the contents of the next issue of the society's journal. The report was agreed to, with the addition of a suggested subject for a further paper.

The Show Committee brought up a series of recommendations with regard to matters connected with the Dairy Show to be held on October 3 and three following days, the schedule of prizes for which has now been issued. It was resolved to open the show at nine o'clock on the first day instead of ten o'clock, as in previous years.

On the motion of Mr. W. J. Grant, seconded by Mr. John Welford, Mr. E. W. Caddick, Caradoc, Ross, Herefordshire, was elected a member of the Council to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. J. B. Ellis.

A letter was read from the Board of Agriculture, enclosing a copy of one from the Prime Minister, the purport of which has already been published in the agricultural press, giving reason for not acceding to the suggestion that he should receive a deputation from those who are concerned in securing the enactment of the Butter Bill.

An invitation was received from the Organising Committee of the Second International Congress on Dairying, which will meet in Paris from October 16 to 19 next, to nominate one or more representatives of the Association. The Council agreed to take action in this direction.

A discussion, initiated by Mr. A. L. Alexander, took place relative to the difficulties in the milk trade caused by the present standard laid down by the Board of Agriculture, as regards the percentage of fat in milk. No resolution was passed, it being left to Mr. Alexander to again raise the question if he wished to do so.

The other business transacted was of a formal character.

Suffolk Sheep.

At the last Council Meeting of the Suffolk Sheep Society, Mr. W. Reeve presided in the absence of Lord Cadogan. After

the minutes had been read and confirmed, Mr. F. H. Roberts said that he thought it would be only right, before proceeding with business, to make some references to the sad losses which the Council had sustained since their last meeting. The late Mr. Slater was well known to them as one who, with all deference to others, might be regarded as the most useful member of the Council, and, with regard to Mr. Lewin, they missed him all the more because he was in full collar right up to the time that he was taken away. He proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting of the Council of the Suffolk sheep Society hereby records with deep regret the loss the Society has recently sustained through the deaths of Mr. F. S. Lewin and Mr. S. W. Slater, who for eleven and eighteen years respectively had rendered most valuable services as members of the Council."

The motion was seconded by Mr. S. R. Sherwood in sympathetic words, and carried in silence.

The Committee appointed for the purpose of considering the holding of Annual Flock Competitions made the following recommendations:—

1.—That flock competitions be held annually, the last day for entry to be September 15, and the judging to commence on October 1, or as soon after as may be practicable.

2.—That in lieu of Districts there be two Divisions as follows:—

Division 1.—For flocks which have previously won a cup.

(a) Flocks exceeding 240 ewes.

(b) Flocks not exceeding 240 ewes, and not less than 120 ewes.

Division 2.—For flocks which have never won a cup.

(a) Flocks exceeding 240 ewes.

(b) Flocks not exceeding 240 ewes, and not less than 120 ewes.

3.—That there be no restriction as to the number of entries required in order that any competition takes place.

4.—That competitors owning more than one registered flock must enter and show all the Suffolk breeding ewes comprised in such flocks.

5.—That the other rules of competition remain as heretofore.

Mr. Thomas Keeble formally proposed the adoption of this report, and invited criticism upon it. The Committee had considered the matter very carefully, he said, and this report represented the conclusions at which they arrived.

The only point that evoked any debate was the fourth regulation—"That competitors owning more than one registered flock must enter and show all the Suffolk breeding ewes comprised in such flocks."

Mr. J. R. Keeble said it had always been a bone of contention hitherto that big flocks could be shown against little flocks.

The Secretary: On the other hand you may cut off most of the large flocks under this new regulation, which provides that an owner shall show all the breeding ewes he has got.

Mr. Robertson: Why?

Mr. S. R. Sherwood: The answer, I suppose, is that a second flock is generally a second-rate flock.

Mr. D. Abbott Green, speaking as one of the Committee, said he was quite sure the regulation in question would have the effect of shutting out certain gentlemen who might otherwise compete. His idea was that, as they fixed a minimum number in the one division, so they should fix a maximum number in the other. Five hundred ewes (say) were enough for any judge to look over.

A good deal of conversation followed, but eventually the report of the Committee was adopted.

The Chairman announced that he should be very pleased to give a cup in Division II. (applause), and it appeared that other cups had been given or promised by Lord Bristol, Sir Frederick Adair, Colonel Davies, and Colonel Baird.

Bath and West.

A Council meeting of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society was held in London, on Tuesday week.

The President (the Earl of Radnor) was in the chair, when six new members were elected.

The Earl of Radnor, on taking his seat for the first time as President, expressed his sense of the honour which had been conferred upon him, and his desire to do everything he could during his year of office for the promotion of the best interests of the Society. He regarded his election not only as a great compliment to himself, but also to the Wilts Agricultural Association, of which he was also president.

Mr. Napier, on behalf of the Finance Committee, brought up the quarterly statement of accounts, and reported that cheques for the prizes awarded at the Nottingham meeting had been sent to all prize winners, with the exception of those with respect to whose animals some further qualification was necessary. On the motion of Mr. Napier, seconded by Mr. Sillifant, the report was adopted.

Swindon Show.

Mr. Edwards, on behalf of the Show Dates Committee, reported that after careful consideration of all the circumstances, and consultation with the local authorities, the committee unanimously recommended that the 1906 exhibition at Swindon be opened on Thursday, May 31, and closed on Tuesday, June 5, the opinion of those well acquainted with the locality being that these were the most suitable dates available.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Colonel the Hon. C. Byng, and agreed to.

Letters were read from the Wilts Agricultural Association and also the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, stating that both these organisations had unanimously resolved to suspend their shows in 1906 and to join forces with the Bath and West Society, on the terms granted by the latter Society to County Societies within the district of the show. The letters expressed much goodwill towards the Bath and West Society, and promised hearty co-operation in everything which could promote the success of the Swindon meeting.

Mr. Latham said that these communications spoke volumes with respect to the feelings with which the Society was regarded by kindred bodies, and moved that the privileges usually granted to members in such cases be conferred upon the Societies in question. This was seconded by Captain the Hon. J. C. Best and agreed to.

Experiments and Education.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, as chairman of the Experiments and Education Committee, reported with respect to the cheese school conducted by the Society for the Somerset County Council at Wedmore, that there had been a good attendance of students, thirty having, since the opening of the school in April last availed themselves of the advantages it offers, whilst the first draft of cheese had been sold at a satisfactory price.

On the motion of Sir C. T. D. Acland, seconded by Mr. G. Herbert Morrell, M.P., the report was adopted.

Experiments having for their object the ascertaining of the influence of various manures upon the production of mutton were proceeding, and the committee proposed to institute a series of experiments with a view of demonstrating the effects of lime upon certain soils.

Science and Art.

Mr. Farwell, as chairman of the Science and Art Committee, reported that the committee recommended that steps be taken to hold the following exhibitions in connection with the Society's 1906 meeting at Swindon, viz.:—

(a) A nature study exhibition, on somewhat similar lines to those held by the Society during the last three years.

(b) An exhibition of specimens and appliances illustrating the educational work carried on by colleges and kindred institutions.

(c) An exhibition of specimens, appliances, and methods in connection with British forestry.

On the motion of Mr. Farwell, seconded by Sir J. R. G. Cotterell, the report was adopted.

Dairy Conference.

A communication was read from the president of the Committee formed to promote the holding of an International Dairy Conference at Paris, in October next, inviting the Society to be represented thereat. Mr. G. E. Lloyd Baker, Mr. F. J. Lloyd, F.C.S., and the secretary were nominated, but at the request of the latter his name was withdrawn, as at that time important matters in connection with the Society would need his attention at home. Messrs. Baker and Lloyd were then appointed as the Society's representatives.

The Butter Bill.

A letter addressed by the Prime Minister to the president of the Board of Agriculture, and forwarded by the latter in response to a resolution from the Society urging the importance of the Sale of Butter Bill being passed into law this session, was read. In it, Mr. Balfour expressed his anxiety to see this measure, so desirable in the interests of the agricultural community, become law, and his regret at the impediments which obstructed its passage. The letter explained the practical impossibility, in view of the differences prevailing in connection with the Bill, of finding time for its discussion before the termination of the session, and heartily sympathised with the president of the Board in the disappointment of his hopes concerning it, whilst acknowledging his efforts to compose the differences referred to. Sir E. Strachey, M.P., expressed his great regret that the Bill had been shelved.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

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TRADE EXHIBITS.
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Schedules of
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Wendover. Hon. Secretary.

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R. MORRIS, Secretary,
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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.
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BARNSLEY AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At QUEEN'S GROUNDS, BARNSLEY,
AUGUST 22nd, 1905.
Entries close August 9th.
F. C. BROWNE, Secretary,
Westgate, Barnsley, Yorks.

ARUNDEL AND DISTRICT HORSE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND POULTRY SHOW,
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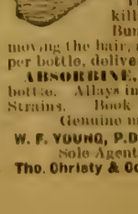

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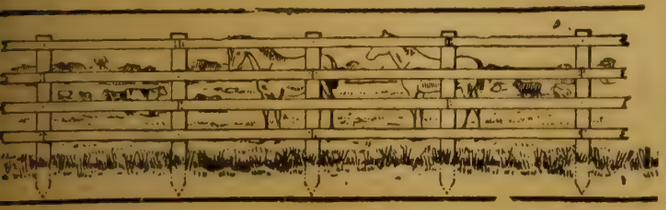

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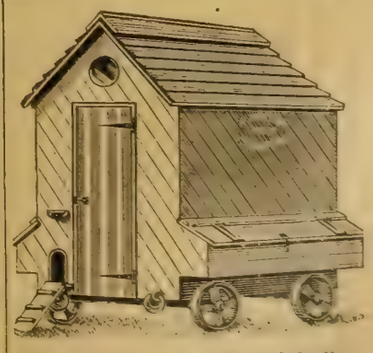

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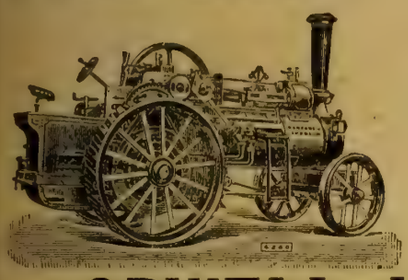

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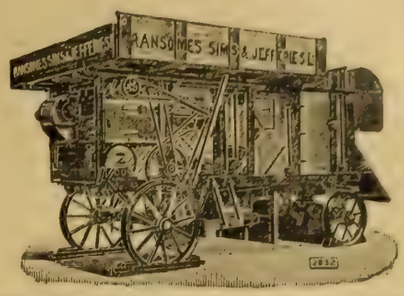

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HOLD THE HARVEST.

Year after year, as October comes round, a word of caution to farmers is called for concerning the inadvisability of selling the new crops too freely, and for too low a price. The tendency was much commented on even in the old Protectionist days, and it has naturally not been diminished by the general impoverishment of cereal farmers, which has been a feature of the quarter of a century since the famous, or, rather, infamous year of agricultural disaster in 1879. In the present year the caution is needed two months earlier than usual—in August instead of October. The tendency to buy forward has extended in a remarkable manner from foreign to English wheat; and several weeks ago we had to note that there are buyers of English crops for September and October delivery. Farmers to-day are being visited by travellers and agents, and are being told that unless they sell their new corn before the foreign crops, stated to be extremely plentiful, get into motion, they will get exceedingly low prices for them. The pleading is specious; but on examination its arguments will be found lacking in real weight. To begin with, barley may be ruled out altogether, no prospects of large foreign supplies are to be discerned. Then, in the case of oats, the unfortunate probability of the home yield of 1905 being a good deal below that of either 1904 or 1905 counterbalances the effect of a good crop in America and of good prospects in Russia. The term "corn," generally used by would-be be buyers, therefore, comes down to wheat, and we have to see if there is much real fear of home markets after October being so swamped by foreign wheat supplies that sales even at a sacrifice had better be put through before Michaelmas.

In the case of wheat, it cannot be denied that the American crop of nearly ninety million quarters is an event of the first magnitude. It would be thoroughly unwise to ignore this. But, on the other hand, the American merchants and shippers are capitalists and men of spirit, and their "record" for the last thirty years at least is of far more firmness in holding wheat for a fair price than the English farmer himself has been in a position to show. The American merchant is not likely to "give the situation away" so long as his hand is not forced by injudiciously heavy deliveries of new English wheat. The need of the new home crop is general and obvious. The fact that farmers are solicited to sell in a way they seldom have been before carries its own suggestion with it. The fine quality of the new wheat makes it fit for prompt use in the mill, and for that advantage the consumer should be prepared to pay. The country is not at all overstocked with foreign wheat, and the oats most nearly competing with English of fine quality are distinctly scarce. The farmer in the past has had to fight his battles with singularly little aid from the banks, but the examples from Russia and elsewhere have latterly shown to our financial magnates that the harvested crops constitute an excellent security in the main, the cases of fraudulent selling of stocks and stores on which money has been advanced being so low a percentage as to represent a minimum of what may be termed fraud-risk.

Wheat held over the four coldest months in the year is worth intrinsically fully two shillings per quarter more money than wheat threshed and sold in the autumn. This rise on four months' holdings—i.e., from November 1 to February 28—represents 20 per cent. per ann. on a thirty-shilling per quarter value. If a farmer thinks that October, or earlier, markets will yield him a better price than March or April ones will do, let him back his own opinion by all means. But let him not sell at a sacrifice without so much as consulting his banker first. The present political situation needs very little comment here; farmers nowadays read a daily paper, and will know for themselves that France and Germany have recently been nearer to war than in any year since 1870, that the war between Russia and Japan still threatens the world with the gravest complications, and that Russia, the second-largest wheat-producing country in the world, is in the throes of home troubles which may have a paralysing influence on her export trade. If 1905 is not "the 1789" of Russia, the prologue to a veritable revolution, whether pacific or otherwise, then all our politicians, irrespective of party, are grievously misreading the signs of the times.

There remains to be considered the great instructive feeling of all countries which have been depleted of grain to renew their private stores out of a good new crop before they think of selling their surplus. America has not been so short of wheat for many years as she has been during the last few months. All precedent points to a country in this position devoting its first energies, so to speak, to good provision against local exhaustion of stores. We should not be at all surprised if the cry a few months hence was not, "What a big new crop America has!" but "Where is the new American crop concealing itself?" in which case it will be our duty as much to remind readers that stored corn is not lost corn as it is now our task to point out that until a substantial proportion of that new crop has actually crossed the Atlantic the English farmer would be unwise in accepting a single shilling less money for his wheat on the ground of American surpluses and American competition.

A Commission to Consider the Motor Question.

At the instance of the President of the Local Government Board a Royal Commission has been appointed to inquire and report as to—

(1) The working of the Motor-car Acts, 1896 and 1903, and of the regulations under them;
(2) The law and practice in relation to motor-cars in the principal foreign countries;
(3) What amendments, if any, should be made in the Motor-car Acts, and the regulations under them;
(4) The injury to the roads alleged to be caused by motor-cars; and
(5) Whether any, and, if so, what, additional charges should be imposed in respect of motor-cars, and how any money thus raised should be applied.

The Commission have power to issue an ad interim report on the first three heads, if that course should appear desirable.

The King has been pleased to approve of the following as Commissioners:—Viscount Selby, Chairman; the Marquess of Winchester (Chairman of the County Council for Hants); Sir William Bower Forwood (late Lord Mayor of Liverpool and Chairman of the Lancashire Quarter Sessions); Mr. H. C. Munro, C.B. (one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Local Government Board); Mr. E. R. Henry, C.B. (Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police); and Mr. W. J. Mure, C.B. (formerly Legal Secretary to the Lord Advocate). It is proposed to add to these a seventh Commissioner.

Mr. Arthur W. Dean, of Dowsby Hall, the well-known South Lincolnshire agriculturist and breeder of long-wool sheep and Shorthorn cattle, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace. Mr. Dean has qualified to sit on the Bench by making his declaration before Mr. Justice Lawrance.

Seasonable Topics.

A Summer Gale.

There was no mistake about the wind being in a frolic on one or two days during the first week in August, and the way in which it hurled things about reminded one of a March gale more than anything else. We have not heard of any serious damage being done, but large trees were uprooted in several places, while scores of specimens came out of the ordeal minus several limbs. The wind seemed to find considerable amusement in the cornfields by scattering the sheaves that had been set up in shocks in all directions. The greatest misfortune, however, was the way in which unripe apples and pears and green plums were torn from the trees and spread on the ground beneath. This would have been bad enough had crops been plentiful, but in a season when the above fruits are scanty, and only trees here and there are bearing, the loss is all the greater. It is not a difficult matter to set up corn-sheaves again that have been blown over, but it is a thing impossible to replace unripe fruit when it has been severed from the branch.

Birds and Farm Crops.

Various comments have been made in different quarters of late about the damage done by birds to farm crops, and it is thought by some that we are growing a little too sentimental in our views about the protection of the so-called "farmer's friends." We have no sympathy with ruthless destruction of feathered life purely for the sake of doing it, but crops have to be protected, and we have little patience with those individuals who persist in contending (in spite of overwhelming evidence to the contrary) that the birds which the farmer complains about are more his friends than his enemies. As a rule, these well-meaning persons are not either farmers, gardeners, or fruit-growers, or they would know that under certain circumstances common birds represented in excessive numbers can be the cause of considerable damage to crops. Just to show what different views are taken of this matter, we may add that we visited a plum plantation some time ago in which nearly every bud on the trees had been taken by bullfinches. When we asked why no measures had been taken to check the damage we learned that the owner of the plantation is a bird lover, and will not have one killed on any account. We also learnt that he has plenty of money, and it makes no difference to him whether his fruit plantation returns a profit or not, but we are inclined to think that if he had to depend on his plums for a living his views regarding the protection of bullfinches would undergo a radical change. Perhaps the cosmopolitan sparrow is the greatest offender, and it must be said of him that he is protected the least by sentiment, but in their several ways finches, larks, starlings, and rooks are sources of considerable loss and annoyance. Weather, of course, has something to do with the injurious operations of birds, and during the dry weather in July apples, green and unripe, were pecked and spoilt in large numbers. It was of course the moisture in the fruit that the birds wanted, and it has been noticed that since the rain came very little damage has been done. Of course, a good deal can be said to show that birds are farmer's friends, but it is largely a question of numbers, and when injurious members of the feathered tribe get too thick on the ground some combined effort must be made to thin their ranks.

Northern Star Potato.

No potato ever introduced caused such a sensation as Northern Star. Its introduction marked the beginning of the famous boom in varieties, and seed tubers of Stars were sold at prices unheard of before. All this is past history, and we ask what figure is Northern Star cutting in the potato world just now? The boom is over, things have come down to their normal level again, and while some of the potatoes which came out when fortunes were being made out of new varieties are working their way into general cultivation, others seem to have dropped out altogether. Though Northern Star can hardly be classed amongst the latter, it certainly has not upheld its early reputation, and its existence promises to be as short lived, as its advent was exciting. In other words, Northern Star has proved to be disappointing, and its short reign of popularity appears to be nearing its end. Last year Stars did not come up to expectations, and this season it is still more unsatisfactory. At the outset Northern Star was a very vigorous grower, but we have noticed several patches this year with weakly, stunted tops, showing an obvious want of vigour. It is, of course, too early to speak of the crop, but no great things can be expected when the growth is so unsatisfactory. Whatever may be the ultimate fate of Northern Star, its comparative failure so soon after its introduction will tend to shake public faith in any boomed varieties that may appear in the future. It was urged, when Northern Star was being cracked up to the skies, that Up-to-date was worn out and done for, but we have seen a quantity of Dates of late, grown from Scotch seed, which, if appearances are anything to go by, will give points to Northern Star and several other boomed varieties, and beat them hollow.

Lamb Sales.

The predominating item of importance to sheep-breeders just now is lamb sales, and it is satisfactory to learn that these have opened in a favourable manner. At the first of the big Kentish sales, which took place at Ashford, upwards of 9,000 heads, chiefly Kent and half-bred lambs, were disposed of. It is interesting to know the lambs were in excellent condition, bidding was brisk, and a large number of buyers were present. We learn that though no very high prices were realised, sellers had every reason to feel satisfied, as a good average was maintained at a substantial advance on the prices of last year. Lamb sales in Kent are important gatherings about this time of the year, and in the neighbourhood of the celebrated Romney Marsh thousands of heads pass under the hammer and change hands. In some seasons we have known lambs to be passed from sale to sale and then they had to be disposed of at a sacrifice, but things promise better this year, and sheep, wool, and lambs are bright items in the affairs of farmers just now.

A Chance for the Royal.

Almost before the Royal Agricultural Society has had time to turn round after the calamity at Park Royal, and before the future policy is decided, there comes an offer from Blackpool to send a deputation from the borough with a view to arranging for the show of the Society being held at the famous Lancashire holiday resort. The moment, of course was not opportune for deciding anything, and the matter was postponed for future consideration, but we think that if there is any place in Great Britain that could make the show a success, so far as attendance is concerned, it is Blackpool. By adopting a policy of progress and enterprise Blackpool can justly boast of being the most popular holiday resort in Great Britain, and largely on account of the attraction it offers in the way of amusement and recreation the place is visited every season by record crowds. Blackpool is in a position now to make almost anything succeed that it takes in hand, and the Royal Agricultural Society might do worse than to associate itself with the spirit and enterprise of the Brighton of Lancashire.

Trials of Skill.

Not the least interesting and useful features of many agricultural shows in the provinces are the competitions of skill in connection with various agricultural operations, because this kind of thing is a means of encouraging good workmanship. Take a shoeing competition for instance. It is a goodly sight to observe a dozen brawny smiths strip to their shirts and set about making shoes and attaching them to the feet of the horses provided for the purpose. It is extremely important that country forges should be controlled by good shoeing smiths, and competitions of the kind referred to are excellent means of testing skill. Not that the best men always do themselves justice at showyard competitions, because, though they are strong of arm, smiths, like other men, have nerves, which occasionally fail them at a critical moment in trials of skill. Most agricultural societies provide competitions for females, and it is an interesting sight to watch a troup of dainty dairymaids making butter in competition before a crowd of critical spectators. In view of the fact that many farmers' daughters are ignorant of butter making nowadays, these trials of skill cannot fail to be beneficial. To pluck and truss a chicken may not be a fine art, but there is a right and a wrong way of doing it. Poultry instructors teach their pupils the proper way and opportunities are afforded them of testing their skill at agricultural show competitions. Occasionally there are not many entries in the trussing class on account of feminine reluctance to appear in public, but all girls are not troubled with nerves, and we have had the pleasure of watching some members of the gentle sex go through their task in front of a gazing crowd as quietly and confidently as if they were performing on the kitchen table at home. Expert milkers, again, are given opportunities of displaying their powers in open competition at shows and in several other ways is the skill of workers tested. These competitions are by no means novel, but they are homely and useful, and they all help to add interest to agricultural shows.

Rainfall and Evaporation.

The news that the monsoon in India has proved rather disappointing will be received with regret, and when the figures are given (they are not published in the official telegrams) will cause surprise as well. The rainfall which Indian farmers regard as insufficient amounts to 23 inches, or an ample fall to give us in England excellent cereal results. The reason of its insufficiency is, of course, the evaporation, which in India is much greater than in the temperate zone. But the circumstance gives us cause to reflect on a serious weakness in our own meteorological returns. The Meteorological Office is admirably efficient—as far as it goes—but it needs extension. Our rainfall records for an example are adequate, 300 stations are quite enough, and a new one has only just been opened in St. James's Park. But there seems to be no correcting observation of the evaporation which in January may be inappreciable, but in August very material. Thus the whole fall in January may be debited to the soil, but a greater fall in August may enrich the earth to a less extent. The Indian monsoon returns in warning us of this well-known but much neglected natural law may therefore claim to be of interest beyond the confines of India.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 5, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,131	9,355	Wheat ...	1,741,600	2,309,000
Sheep.....	5,384	858	Flour	200,600	231,800
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	270,200	247,500
Horses ...	310	94	Oats	290,500	467,900
			Peas	111,520	29,875
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	14,480	16,840
Beef	34,336	128 017	Maize ...	981,600	1,077,600
Mutton...	29,237	90,320	Apples ...	22,830	19,467
Pork	2,766	3,812	Apricots		
Bacon ...	92,946	128,142	& Peaches	418	2,226
Beef, salt	3,379	2,932		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	17,215	29,506	Bananas	123,227	164,155
Pork, salt	3,339	4,463		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	8,172	10,875	Cherries	4,197	1,817
Do. pres.	7,762	17,224	Currants	3,650	4,224
Butter ...	77,662	90,424	Gooseb'r's	177	20
M'g'rine	13 397	20,982	Grapes ..	34,385	30,302
Cheese ...	50,107	69,899	Lemons..	25,934	16,152
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Oranges	3,720	2,663
			Pears	49,150	27,313
			Plums ...	81,062	79,867
			Oth'r Fr't	51,932	40,471
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	4,392	4,213
Milk, Cream	117	81	Straw ...	1,552	2,022
			MossLitt'r	—	1,429
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	16,908	16,082	Hops	1,195	327
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	49	70	Locust Beans	1,740	—
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	163,612	142,549
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	86,367	27,788
Eggs	220,049	330,223	Tomatoes	30,762	37 074
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£7,711	£10,977
	£6,659	£1,903		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	5,774	4,840
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	7,869	15,809	by canning ..	2,361	3,906
Lard .	31 035	28,350			

Cheaper Railway Rates for Farmers.—The London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post* understands that there is to be held a meeting of railway managers at an early date for the purpose of considering what steps may be taken, in conjunction with the Board of Agriculture and the canal authorities, for assisting the movement for the cheaper carriage of agricultural produce to the markets. There is a distinct feeling, especially after certain utterances of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, the President of the Board of Agriculture, that by combination among the several authorities interested much might be done to cheapen and assist the transport of not only grain, but fruit, to London and other great centres.

AGRICULTURAL POLITICS.

By A LOBBYIST.

I fear me that no distinct advantage will accrue from the labours of the Royal Commission on the Supply of Food and Raw Material in Time of War. The fate of the portentous tome in which the Commissioners record their reports, their reservations, and their dissensions is to be placed upon the shelf and occasionally consulted by scholars, pundits, and pedants. It deserved a nobler doom. There have been few national inquiries conducted with greater dispassion or marked by a more sagacious temper, or inspired by a more patriotic resolve than this. Its very characteristics have, however, acted as a solace to our legislators—that is, where its conclusions have not been a disappointment—rather than as a warning, as an inspiration to a new effort of preparedness, rather than as a pessimistic assurance that there may come a time when a merciless foe may command the seas. The report is a soporific rather than a tocsin. Certain of those legislators whom I have spoken to on the subject justified their intended preoccupation in other problems by declaring that if the main report proved anything at all it proved that there was no real danger of even a successful foeman being able to starve these islands. This view was by no means confined to the Liberals. There were Conservatives—mostly the representatives, by the way, of urban constituencies—who readily repeated it. Of course, there are men who are, as I have said, disappointed—the Parliamentarians who are in favour of the establishment of granaries and the payment of a small bounty to farmers as a compensation for keeping grain longer in the rick, and thus guaranteeing to keep up a wholesome supply in the granaries. These men, however, are not destined to influence Parliamentary thought. Their protest was but a murmur, and was soon submerged in the complacent gratulations of the optimists.

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The three assurances which may specifically be described as the parents of this satisfied mood are: (1) That the wheat supply of the United Kingdom at its maximum is enough for the normal consumption of seventeen weeks, and never falls below sufficient for the supply of seven weeks; (2) That there is likely to be a very rapid enlargement of the sources whence we draw our supply; (3) That there is little likelihood of food being declared contraband in time of war because of the fact that the neutral Powers affected by such a proceeding would inevitably bitterly resent the policy and lodge a protest, which, if disregarded, might extend the area of war. I repeat that I heard several members of Parliament declare explicitly that what this report proved was not the necessity of establishing a national and subsidised system for the storage of grain, but the absolute impossibility of famine being a sequel to war, however protracted that war might be. They declared that the selfish anxiety of Powers not warring with us to reap advantage from the trade which would be withdrawn from our rival belligerent would operate to our own safety and surety. Others Powers would refuse to permit food to be regarded as contraband, not from any overwhelming affection for Great Britain or any diplomatic predilections, but because of their resolve not to have their trade jeopardised.

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The more significant suggestions which were evidently present to the mind of those Commissioners who were headed by the Duke of Sutherland and Mr. Chaplin have not served to seriously disturb this complacence. What if war broke out in the months, say, from June to September, when our resources are at their lowest ebb? What would be the costs of freights and insurances during the progress of the war? How should we recompense owners of ships carrying grain—and indemnity against capture by the enemy is a generally accepted proposition—against the danger which must menace them? Apart from the attitude of neutral Powers trading with us, it is evident that a certain percentage of the two thousand steamers and innumerable sailing vessels would be doomed to capture, if only because of the fact that they would be British-owned and would fly the British flag. Supposing that the enemy gained an initial success, or our own fleet failed to secure a triumph, what height would the price of wheat—the supplies, mind you, having been already reduced to a minimum—attain? We need not stay to examine the assertion of certain witnesses before the Commissioners that it would reach two hundred shillings per quarter. At all events, we are entitled to entertain the fear that the price would be enormous, by the fact that during the Russian crisis of 1877—when war hung in a very delicate balance—there was an advance of no less than fifteen shillings. A large section of the population—that section thrown out of employment by the difficulties attending importation and by the trade-depression invariably following an outbreak of hostilities—would soon be brought to the very verge of starvation, and would, in their misery be a handicapping force upon the Government. Should these thoughts conduce to a serene and happy temper? If only the most modest portion of our commercial fleet were to suffer from hostile depredations, the market would inevitably be rendered the victim of morose speculative fear and the price of food would assuredly go up.

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These points were recapitulated by certain Parliamentarians and by myself with the object of emphasising the necessity of taking steps with a view to diminishing the effect of stringent prices and of—this, indeed, was the more important object—increasing the permanent reserves in this country. It was not necessary in this connection to accept what I may call the storage proposals of which the small minority, headed by the Duke of Sutherland and Mr. Chaplin, are the authors; it was not necessary to accept the calculation that an annual payment of £25,000 a year would lead to an extra week's supply being located in this country; it was not necessary to point out that the augmentation of our reserves to the position of almost complete security could be effected at a cost of about one per cent. of our naval estimates; it was not necessary to reveal that a system of national storage might be an encouragement to the British farmer, and might result in an increase of the wheat-growing area. The majority of our legislators were simply anxious to lull themselves into a conviction of security; and they selected the special features of the report which enabled them to realise the mood. "We must have further inquiry at once," said an intelligent publicist on the morrow of the publication of the report, "with the purpose of adopting the best expedient for averting the most imminent and awful of a great war's contingencies." I repeated this demand again and again. Occasionally there was an expression of sympathy; but, generally speaking, the mood was rather one of we-have-enough-on-our-hands-already, or we-are-perfectly-safe-so-why-bother. The Commissioners have accomplished a great work. Alas! that it should be foredoomed to sterility. We have to educate our Parliamentary masters, and the process should not be delayed.

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It is a pitiable and a depressing fact that the chief value of the report lies, in the esteem of a number of Parliamentarians, in the fact that one assertion of the majority appears to strike a blow at Mr. Chamberlain's colonial-preference ideal. As a fact, it would almost seem to the signatories of the report that colonial preference would constitute a danger. Heed this declaration: "It may also be said that the more numerous the neutral Powers supplying our wants, the less probable is the violation of international law by our enemies. There is, therefore, a certain advantage to us in the fact that the supplies of our principal foodstuffs are drawn in a great proportion from foreign countries than from British possessions." I do not think this statement will evoke any enthusiastic sympathy in the patriotic bosoms of the neo-Protectionists. And yet its common sense justification must be apparent. Colonial vessels laden with colonial wheat would fly the British flag, and would naturally be justifiable objects of capture. Foreign vessels laden with foreign wheat would only—unless the international law were violated and our enemy were willing to provoke the resentment of other countries—have a neutral interest for our foe. Many of the Radical antagonists of Mr. Chamberlain in the House of Commons refused to regard the Commissioners' report as having, as a whole, any vital or vivifying moment; but these particular sentences they rolled upon their tongue as though they were the most delicate and appetising morsels ever offered for their digestion. "I tell you what it is," said a Liberal member for a South of England constituency to me; "this declaration kills the colonial-preference project! How can the Tories, who proclaim themselves to be the only patriots, support the colonial preference policy, when, if carried to the extent Mr. Chamberlain desires, it might mean a menace to these islands in time of war—when it might mean the exclusion of a necessary food supply." Of course, I do not go so far as this enthusiastic anti-Chamberlainite. All the same, the very character of this Commission, and the fact that it included notable Chamberlainites, will invest this assertion with an emphasis and force that will require a good deal of oratorical declamation to subdue. Our home markets are not yet entirely given over to the colonist. The pity on't, though, is that with a report of this gravity, this desultory declaration should have so much importance attached to it to the disregard of its more profound and vital conclusions.

• • •

I hope the organisations associated with county government and rural interests will not disregard two of the duties which have devolved on the Royal Commission on Motor Cars. The first is to inquire into "the injury to the roads alleged to be caused by motor cars." The second is to inquire "whether any, and if so, what additional charges should be imposed in respect to motor cars, and how any money thus raised should be applied." The first purpose of these organisations is by concerted action to see that adequate information is submitted to the Commission. A bitter, but somewhat inarticulate anti-motor cry has gone up from the county councils; this should be formulated and defined and supported by a sufficiency of evidence. Those county councils which declare that the advent of motor cars has mulcted them in a much larger sum for road maintenance, should take care that clear and disciplined evidence is submitted. This Commission will have a character which does not always belong to Commissions. It will be the assured precursor of legislation. The public sentiment in favour of dealing with the problem is fully ripe. To neglect, therefore, the opportunity provided by the inquiry would be something very like a sin.

• • •

Shall we have an election in October? Whether in October is debatable. That it will take place in a few months is apparently certain. Several of the speeches of Ministers delivered in the last days of the Session were undeniably of the nature of valedictory addresses. I instance in particular the speeches of Mr. Balfour, Mr. Arnold-Forster, and Lord Stanley. We are on the eve—that is, if portents go for aught—of the electoral Armageddon.

Ashburton Fair.—At this fair on Thursday there was a large supply, and the demand for bullocks in good condition was good. The sheep trade was very good. Cows off calf made from £14 to £23; cows and calves, £14 to £21; rearing calves, 44s. to 70s.; bulls, £12 to £15; two-year-old steers, £10 to £13; grazing steers, two-and-a-half years old, £12 to £15 10s.; younger steers, £7 to £10; grazing heifers, £11 to £19 2s. 6d. Sheep: Breeding ewes, 35s. to 46s.; store wethers, 35s. to 43s. 6d.; wether lambs, 24s. to 30s.; fat lambs, 33s. 6d. to 38s

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

If the unexpected frequently happens in social life, how much more likely is it to occur in matters relating to farming. To day we can see throughout the Eastern Counties the cereal harvest in full swing; in fact, in the southern portion of Essex few fields of corn are now upstanding, the reaper having already done most of the work required, and in this connection one cannot but help noticing that the self-binder this season has been in much greater evidence than in previous years. So expeditiously has been the ingathering of the corn that in a few days we are to have the feast known from time immemorial as the "Harvest Home." Thus we have to record a fairly early harvest, instead of a late one as was expected last June.

It was at Braintree that the first sample of new wheat was sold in East Anglia, and that was on the 26th of last month, when 33s. per qr. was given. Since then new wheat and oats have been hurried forward on to the various markets. Prices, therefore, have fallen both at Colchester, Cambridge, Norwich, Yarmouth, and elsewhere, as the quality had not had time to become fixed. It was not until the Ipswich market on Tuesday week last that any sample of new wheat was shown, and then it was only to show the quality of the grain for this season. There were, however, several samples of new winter oats offered that made 18s. per qr. Now as regards the period to market grain, it is well here to note that wheat improves with keeping, as it has to be severed from the root before it is ripe for milling or marketing purposes, and in this connection we would remind our readers that although there is no particular time that can be named for the business of threshing, inasmuch as the condition in which it was gathered into the stack and state of maturity has to be thought of, still we should note that an old writer of the sixteenth cenury gives the following recommendation:—

"Such wheat as ye keep for the baker to buy
Unthreshed till March, in the sheaf let it lie;
Lest foistiness take it, if sooner ye thresh it,
Although by oft turning ye seem to refresh it."

In these ancient days it was the baker who was master of the mill, and the miller was a subjugated trade. What a difference now, especially in the case of the London bakers! Millers now rule our provincial markets, while they do not forget to hold their tied houses strictly in subjugation, if possible to squeeze the farmers.

The Mayor of King's Lynn presided at a meeting of the Local Committee of the Norfolk Agricultural Show that was held recently, when a most satisfactory statement of the local receipts and expenditure was presented and passed. The total receipts amounted to £419 18s. 1d., comprising £11 19s. 7d. balance brought from the 1898 account and £407 18s. 6d. subscriptions received this year. Of these amounts £150 was the guarantee paid to the Norfolk Agricultural Association, £59 10s. was expended for local prizes, and after payment of all necessary expenses a balance of £50 remains in hand, that has been placed on deposit at the bank.

On August 1, in the days of the Druids, it was the custom for the ancient Britons to present to their gods a loaf made of new corn, in the hope that this offering of the first fruits would secure to them a good harvest. When the country became Christian the custom was continued, and the day came to be called Loaf mass, which in turn was corrupted to Lammas, from the Anglo-Saxon hlaf (loaf or bread), mæsse (feast).

It is some time since we have heard of any extensive damage to cattle from eating the deadly yew, but the writer has just learned of such a case from Lincolnshire. For, while grazing in Blankney Park, a herd of cattle broke into an adjoining plantation and ate freely of some yew trees, with the result that nine of the animals have since died, and the others are very ill from the effects of their poisoned meal.

Steam and power threshing is supposed to have so rapidly displaced the flail, and an old Suffolk farmer to the writer on Tuesday at the Ipswich market, that unequivocal success is claimed for it. So far as present methods of barley threshing are concerned, the claim cannot be admitted without very material reservation, for we have not met finality in relatively any minor detail. And then my Suffolk friend waxed warm on the superior work done by the flail, and said that he had been last March in out of the way Robertson Watson near Narberth (Wales), where the flail is still used, corn threshed in a way that one could be proud of.

A curious find is reported from the sea coast village of Brancaster, Norfolk this week, for while Mr. Thomas Farmer was walking through a field of barley cultivated by himself he noticed what he thought was a stem with twin heads, but on plucking it found that there were four separate ears carried on one straw, and that the largest of the ears contained twenty-four grains. It should be mentioned that Mr. Farmer is nearly eighty years of age, so that this discovery speaks well for the keenness of his sight, and he states that although he has been engaged in agriculture all his life he had never before seen or heard of such a specimen.

Tring Show.

How popular this excellently managed show has become was made perfectly clear at the sixty-sixth annual fixture held on Thursday in Lord Rothschild's beautiful park at Tring, as the attendance was a remarkable one and could not have been far short of 23,000. Every spot of the show had its vast concourse of spectators, but the best idea of the attendance was gained in the afternoon, when the crowd gathered round the special ring to witness the jumping, driving, and other contests. Although each year the size of this ring has been increased every available space was occupied, and drags, carriages, motor cars, etc., many numbers deep, extended nearly the whole of the distance not taken up by the grand stands. The accommodation here was considerable, spacious erections having been constructed, but they proved all too small, large numbers of visitors being unable to gain admission. Such an attendance was very gratifying to the officials of the Society, but they thoroughly deserved the success, for the show is undoubtedly one of the best-managed and most interesting of the one-day fixtures held in this country, whilst it can give points to many of the county shows. The officials of the society, and above all their excellent Secretary, Mr. Frank J. Brown, are always on the *qui vive* for new ideas, with the result that as show succeeds show the organisation advances a stage or two nearer perfection. One of the chief improvements made this year was in the stabling of the agricultural horses. Hitherto they have been tethered in substantial, but not altogether elegant, standings, but this year they were accommodated with conveniently-arranged stabling of converted timber painted white throughout, adding not a little to the general effect of the showyard. The collecting ring for the big ring was also altered by setting it further back and giving more room for carriages between the two, and providing a more level portion of the park for the purpose. In the butter tent an entirely new feature was introduced, the fresh green beds of grass upon which the exhibits have been staged hitherto having been replaced by a miniature water-lily bed, formed by a table with 9 in. of water, having water lilies and leaves on the surface, surmounted by white marble slabs resting on stone blocks just above the water. Upon these the butter was displayed.

The following is a comparative statement of entries for the past four years:—

	1905	1904	1903	1902
Cart Horses	186	197	228	220
Nags and Hunters	214	219	220	273
Shorthorns	94	96	78	94
Jerseys	114	88	119	92
Sheep	60	64	66	37
Pigs	59	71	50	54
Butter and Honey, Poultry	113	121	114	101
Milk and Butter Tests	85	103	93	80
Dogs	113	80	--	—

The gentlemen officiating as judges in the chief sections were:- Shire and Cart Horses—Mr. E. H. Cartwright, Louth; Mr. Peter Davies, Warburton, Cheshire; Mr. James Gould, Lymm; and Mr. E. Green. Hunters, Hacks, and Jumping, etc.—Mr. J. Clem Barton, Fairford, and Mr. J. T. Rogers, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham. Shetland Ponies—Captain and Mrs. Hope Johnstone, Polebrook, Kent. Harness Classes—Mr. W. S. Hall, Watton, and Mr. Alfred Rowell, King's Lynn. Polo Ponies Lieut.-Col. Renton. Shorthorns—Mr. W. Crosland, Buscot Park, Faringdon, and Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Fairford. Dairy Cattle—Mr. G. Taylor, Cranford. Jerseys—Mr. G. P. Mead, Bicton, Shrewsbury, and the Hon. Alex. E. Parker, Doveridge, Derby. Milk and Butter Tests—Mr. E. Mathews, Amersham. Sheep Mr. A. F. T. Drake, Salisbury, and Mr. J. M. Eady, Kettering. Pigs—Mr. J. Hallas, Warrington, and Mr. J. Watts, Chipping Norton.

Shire horses were a magnificent lot, and some were of the opinion that a better group has not been seen at any show in the South this year. The best of the mares foaled previous to 1902 was Sir Alexander Henderson's Argent, a massive and well feathered daughter of Harold and Ivy. Fashion, from the same stud, headed a small class for three-year-old mares. Mr. T. Simpson Jay's Johnson Fairy Queen was the best of the two-year-old fillies, his Majesty's Fascomia being third; but in the yearling class Lady Constance, bred at Wolferton, was an easy winner in spite of the very keen competition. The winning colt was the Messrs. W. and J. Thompson's Derford M.D., and Mr. Hamer Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia was the best of the mares with foal at foot. A very promising foal is Dunsmore Jameson, bred and exhibited by Sir P. Albert Muntz; he headed quite a large class. The winning filly foal was Sir A. Henderson's Buscot Vera.

The principal prizes in the open classes for hunters were taken by Mr. J. H. Stokes, Mr. J. Drage, Messrs. W. C. and A. J. Flowers, and Mr. C. N. Manning. Local exhibitors also entered an exceptionally good lot of animals. Mr. G. A. Elliott won the three medals given by the Hunters' Improvement Society, with Venus, Pierrette, and Fairplay. Mrs. A. J. Beale was the most successful exhibitor of Shetland, and Miss L. Standish, the Hon. Mrs. Ives, Mr. J. Barker, and the Rev. D. B. Montefiore of polo ponies. In the open harness classes Mrs. Hartley Batt won again with Heathfield Squire, a horse that has taken no less than thirty-one first and champion prizes, besides twenty cups and two gold medals this season; Mr. W. S. Cunard, with Wild Lucy, also a well-known winner; while Lord Jersey and Sir Horace, a pair that made their first appearance yesterday, won in tandems for Mrs. Hartley Batt.

The Tring Show has always been noted for its fine cattle section, and this year the entry was more representative than usual. The Shorthorns were, however, not quite up to the standard of excellence which has been often reached at Tring There were, notwithstanding, several admirable specimens of the breed, notably Mr. C. Birdsey's Primrose, an excellent red and white dairy cow, to which the judges awarded the champion cup. For this honour, Mrs. R. Buckmaster's Braile's Chorus 3rd was reserved, the same exhibitor obtaining various other distinctions. Only four exhibits came before the judge in the pedigree Shorthorn cow class, wherein Messrs. Sherriff and Sons, with Lucella, an animal which undoubtedly answered the requirements of milk, quality, and flesh, were awarded the first prize. Mr. H. S. Leon's grand heifer Roseleaf, was placed first in her class, with the same exhibitor's Silver Florence second; whilst Mr. Leon was also first for heifer calved in 1903 with Lancaster Lass; and his Bletchley Challenger was first for young bulls under one year, and he also supplied the first prize Shorthorn heifer calved in 1902.

Jerseys were as good this year as they have ever been. Most of the leading prize-winners of the year were present excepting those belonging to Lord Rothschild, who does not compete at Tring. The first prize animal in the cow class was the winner of the first prize at Somerset, on May 11, a first at the Bath and West, and a first at the Royal. She is a beautiful cow, and has not been beaten. Bulls were a strong class, especially in the yearling section, and the yearling heifers, too, were very promising. The representatives of the breed at Tring show signs of steady improvement.

There was a creditable show of sheep in both the open and district classes. In the open the leading prize-winners were Mr. R. P. Cooper and Mr. R. Barclay. Mr. J. Williams won Lord Rothschild's special prize, and Mr. R. P. Cooper the cup given by Mr. R. A. Cooper, which, however, he relinquished in favour of Mr. Barclay, who was reserve. Mr. R. W. Hudson, Mr. R. E. Horwood, Mr. A. D. Acland, Mr. T. Henson, and Mr. R. A. Ayre took firsts for pigs, the last-named also winning the champion cup and the two silver medals.

As usual, the sheep dog trials for prizes presented by Mr. Rothschild, M.P., aroused great interest among the visitors to that part of the park which was set apart for their decision being the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Roumania. Their Highnesses evinced the greatest in the work of the cleverly trained dogs, which were directed in their tasks by some of the best known handlers in the country. Mr. Barcroft, Lord Derby's shepherd on the Scout Moors, near Bury, Lancashire, gave an especial exhibition for the benefit of the Royal visitors with the famous dog Scot. The task which was set each of the eighteen dogs was to gather sheep released from a deer cart, four hundred yards from where the handler was obliged to stay and direct his charge, work the sheep through three sets of hurdles, each in the shape of a false fence, through others in the form of a Maltese cross, and up to the pen, the latter, of course, having a narrow opening. A time limit was set by Mr. R. S. Piggin, the judge, but the bulk of those which penned their sheep averaged but 14 minutes, and the prize money was divided between Mr. T. Dixon's (Kirby Stephen) Swallow, Mr. W. Akrigg's (Sedbergh) Lady, Mr. G. Barcroft's (Bury) Dust, and Mr. J. Mose's (Oswestry) Lassie. The latter was awarded a special prize which was offered for the best-looking working sheep dog.

(*Reports of other Shows will be found on pages* 199, 200, *and* 205 *to* 208.

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Points of Leicester Sheep.

SIR,—Please answer this question: "What is the colour of the head of a Leicester sheep?" I take in your paper. W. M.

Season in North Wiltshire.

SIR,—The summer has proved far more favourable than seemed probable at the time of my last report, when the cold night-frosts, and dry, harsh winds of May had given the county such a sterile appearance that hopes were abandoned of the hay crop, and the fate of the roots was also hanging in the balance. Then the splendid rains of June worked wonders, and farmers are everywhere expressing satisfaction at the season. The hay—about three-fourths of an average crop—has been well and cheaply made, but the ricks remain mostly unthatched. A large quantity, however, is safe under hay-barns, which are rapidly springing up on every side.

On a large estate in North Wilts no farm is without one, and it is estimated that, compared with thatching, a return of 20 per cent. is made on the outlay—saved in the cost of straw and labour alone.

The corn harvest had well begun and was proceeding smoothly, until the sudden change from beautiful weather to wind and storms of almost autumnal violence caused a check. Many fields are badly laid, and reaping-machines must now give way to hand labour, for which a great cry already goes up. Wheat and barley are good, and should yield well, oats are fair, and roots will be good, though mangolds are either late or show a ragged plant.

Milk has fallen off greatly, but the supply in London is sufficient for the holiday time, and a further glut may be expected after the rains. Graziers are having another bad year; but pigs are profitable both in breeding and fatting.

R. P.

August 8.

Crops in Kerry.

SIR,—On the whole, except in a few places, this may be considered a fair year, hay, although short in quantity, is excellent in quality; at least what was cut early. Early sown roots are doing well, the late rains having much improved them.

Potatoes never looked better, and ought to turn out an excellent crop. Pastures a bit short in keep, but after grass doing well. A plentiful supply of fuel (peat) cut and well saved. The trade for store cattle almost at a standstill. Corn promising well, a bit short in straw, but good in grain.

J. E. B.

August 8, 1905.

Promising Season in Dorset.

SIR,—The season on the whole has been a very satisfactory one. Fine weather is badly needed now to finish harvest. The root crop before the recent rains was in rather a critical state. Now a fair crop of roots is pretty well assured.

Wheat is a heavy crop of excellent quality. The barley crop is quite up to average in quantity. Cannot say yet what the quality will be. The oat crop is the worst. Very few pieces are heavy; all the late sown are very light. Hay is not a heavy crop, but it is unusually well made.

Sheep have done well, and prices have been good. Just at present the mutton trade is rather quiet, but the best quality makes 8½d. per lb. Wool made about 2d. a lb. more than in 1904.

Cow stock have done very well. Milk was scarce in July but now is more plentiful, as London trade has fallen off owing to holidays. If the corn crop can be secured without damage, this will be the best season farmers have had for some years.

G. E. R

August 9.

Crops and Stock in Hampshire.

SIR,—The season so far has been an improvement in most respects in comparison with the last three years. Live stock have done very fairly well, but the prices of summer beef have been somewhat disappointing—demand being very limited, and, on the whole, quite a halfpenny a pound less than a year ago; mutton also is 5 per cent. cheaper, but store sheep have been selling very well indeed all through. Pigs remain cheap.

The hay crop, although not quite an average, has been well secured. Roots are very variable, charlock having in many places starved the young plants beyond all hope of recovery. Mangold cannot be said to be an average, as many pieces had to be ploughed up, and many others are a poor plant; but the crop has grown very much during the last six weeks, and is still thriving fast.

The cereal crops are making a much better show on the whole, but the last seven days have been very showery, and, although not much harm has been done to the crops, fully two-thirds of that time has been lost; but, given another fortnight of fine weather, very little harvesting will be left to be done in this neighbourhood.

The crop of wheat promises to be from two bushels to four bushels over an average, which represents from two to three sacks more than last year, which turned out a miserably low yield.

Barley promises to be rather over an average, and with nice weather good quality. Oats.—Winter oats are the best grown for several years, the area, however, is barely an average. Spring oats, where well farmed and sown during the capital season in February, are a good crop; but those sown later are generally a poor crop; taken all round the crop will not be an average one.

The young grass seeds in corn stubbles appears to be a poor plant, and probably suffered very much from the May drought. On the whole, if prices would only keep to a decent level, things would appear better; but when one hears of the prevailing prices for new rye, winter barley, and winter oats, one does not feel very much encouraged to be optimistic.

E. E.

August 9.

Prospects from Hampshire.

SIR,—The wheat in this district is very good and above the average. Barley looks very well very little cut owing to the unsettled weather. Oats are also very good, except the late sown, which is very short in the straw. Mangold has improved wonderfully of late, the plant in some fields is rather thin and uneven.

Sheep feed promises well, swedes, rape, and turnips are growing well since the rains, except where the fly has almost cleared the young plants. The long spell of dry weather has scorched up the pastures, consequently the supply of milk has fallen off considerably. Sheep and cattle are doing very well, and prices for lambs have been better than last year; this was all the more satisfactory as there was a larger crop of lambs; there was also a very noticeable rise in the price of wool.

The hay crop was under the average, some second cuts have been secured in good condition. A fine spell of sunny weather is now much to be desired, as a great deal of corn in the district is still standing waiting for the machines; very little corn carting has been done.

M.

August 10.

Cattle Poisoned with Weed-killer in Somersetshire.

SIR,—The harvest is now nearly finished, and very good crops are being secured. The storms of last week did some damage and delayed the work somewhat, but as the rain was badly needed for the root crops and the pastures, there was compensations; before that time many had to cart water for the cattle, and as a caution to those who may have to do so again, I desire to report a very regrettable circumstance which has happened near here.

A farmer had some valuable grazing cattle in a field where the landlord was doing some wall building, and for the purpose water had to be carted and run off into a tub for the convenience of the masons. This was done in the field where the cattle were; by and by some of them died, the others being removed, as might be expected. Experts were obtained and poison detected, but how it came there occupied the interested parties a long time, until some one recollected that the water-cart used to bring the water to the field had previously been used by the estate men to distribute a weed-killer on the drives, and as some of it had doubtless been left in the cart, hence the supposed cause of the mischief; it is due to the landlord to state that when these facts were brought to his notice, he at once compensated the tenant.

I recollect another case where a gardener who was using a watering pot to apply some weed-killer to the paths, and while passing the stables with his pot full, turned in to the harness-room to speak to the coachman, and, to ease his arm, stood the pot on the corn bin. When he came to pick it up again he found it had been leaking, and some of the weed-killer had run through a crack in the cover of the bin. Knowing the danger, he cautioned the coachman, and advised him to take out the corn and destroy it; this was done only partially, the consequence was the loss of two valuable carriage horses.

R. B.

August 10.

Berkshire.

SIR,—The warm forcing weather in July brought harvest on rapidly, and winter oats, which are grown to a much greater extent than formerly were cut in some places soon after the middle of the month. The crop was generally good, but much laid by the rain.

Wheat cutting commenced about July 26. The crop is generally good, and quality excellent; not much has yet been stacked, as the heavy rain of August 5 soaked the shocks, and several days since have been more or less showery.

Barley is a fair crop, but in some cases the July heat caused it to ripen prematurely, which will make a thin sample. Spring sown oats never recovered from the drought in May, and are a light crop.

Last week's rain was of great benefit to the roots, which were beginning to give up; they now promise to be a good crop, although on some farms, probably from want of hands, hoeing has been neglected. The rains have also much benefited the pasture which on dry soils were beginning to look brown.

The sheep trade at Ibsley on August was rather slow, especially for ewes, which were in large supply; lambs, which were less numerous, sold better.

R. O

August 10.

BAKER & LING'S
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Home Notes.

Imports and Exports.

Again, the official returns mark a great falling off in the quantity of imported hops. In June the figure was 1,521 cwt., but last month it dwindled down to 522 cwts., of which America sent in only 43 cwt., and other countries 479 cwt. Comparing July, 1905, with the same month in the two previous years, we find that the most recent figure is a little more than one-sixth of that returned in 1904, and less than one-tenth of the figure of 1903. Our total imports for the first seven months of this year are 32,808 cwt., against 98,790 cwt. in corresponding period of last year, and 52,916 cwt. in 1903.

Turning to our exports, I find that we shipped last month 603 cwt. of English and 597 cwt. of foreign hops, so that our outgoings exceeded our arrivals by 522 cwt. Further examination of our foreign transactions for the seven months ending July 31 shows that in the current year we have exported 11,807 cwt., against 11,035 cwt. in 1904 and 7,598 cwt. in 1903, the net additional supplies being, for seven months, in 1903, 45,318 cwt.; 1904, 87,755 cwt.; and 1905, 21,001 cwt. These figures prove that foreign reserves must now be reduced to the lowest possible point, and suggest that whatever may be this season's yield of plantations abroad the great bulk will probably be required to meet the demand of local consumers.

The Coming Crop.

The atmosphere of "l'Entente Cordiale" that now surrounds us must be my excuse for introducing a quotation in French. It is taken from *Le Petit Journal du Brasseur*, in the last issue of which, my friend the Editor, remarking upon the difficulty of reconciling the hop reports with actual experience, says: "Ceci montre combien le Petit Journal a raison de ne donner dans ses rapports que des faits constatés, et de s'abstenir d'en déduire des prévisions toujours aléatoires." In these words he claims that he is right in only giving "ascertained facts" in his journal, and in avoiding any deductions, or attempting to formulate therefrom any illusive forecasts. My friend is undoubtedly on the safe side in thus deciding but his difficulty, as well as mine, is found in the answer to the question, 'Where are the ascertained facts in connection with hop growing and the hop trade?' For example, can we obtain from any source reliable facts concerning the growing crop? The grower desires to minimise as far as possible the effect of a large yield upon values, speaks eloquently enough about the great growth of bine, but moderates his enthusiasm, as he suggests the possibility of hail storms, the risks of mould and late blight, and the thousand and one other dangers to which the plant is still exposed. He honestly believes what he says, and to him his words are "ascertained facts." But quite another story is heard in the Borough. The merchant refers freely to a phenomenal crop, and does not hesitate to predict an unprecedented yield. Some of the estimates are positively startling, and they are given with such confidence that one cannot but assume that they are "ascertained facts" in the mind of the speaker.

The factor is generally more cautious, although I have heard from some of them some very factlike and bold expressions. He agrees with his client, but does not dispute with his customer. And then, after the season's business is practically settled, appear the belated official estimates, which nobody believes in, but everybody ridicules. Therefore, my editorial friend, while I agree with your wise determination to "stick to facts," I must ask you to tell me where I can find them, and whether I can be sure of their identity when I think I have secured them. We are compelled to deal with a large proportion of supposition in this world, and I fear that we must be content to surmise and to deduce, so long as we see only "as through a glass darkly."

To come to the important problem. Have we any facts to guide us? Yes, there is one that is indisputable. The bine is strong, plentiful, and healthy; every garden in every district testifies to this truth, and if the weather continues favourable a full crop may be safely expected. What weight we shall actually gather depends upon unforeseen contingencies. In many plantations the laterals are disappointing in their promise of hops, and it appears to be generally considered that we shall have to depend mainly upon the top of the bine. This is necessarily exposed to all climatic changes. It is very sensitive to alterations of temperature, the sun scorches it, and cold nights check its development, high winds knock it about, and hail drives upon it with unmitigated force. Therefore a top crop is the most risky, and we have yet to see whether Nature will be sufficiently favourable as to enable us to realise our anticipations. Estimates are therefore at present absolutely unreliable, and cannot be brought into the category of facts. Nevertheless, although the position is certainly somewhat critical, we may assume from present appearances that we can reckon upon a fairly bounteous yield, and expert observers are making their calculations in accordance therewith.

The Borough.

is waiting further developments. Trade is quiet, but there are indications in frequent inquiries that consumers are wanting hops. Of course, values of available stocks are being lowered by the reduced bids of buyers, but there still remain some holders who are willing to abide by their past firmness, and to refuse to accept the very low offers that are made. In another week or two we shall be better informed as to actual prospects; in the meantime, it is wise to abstain from too certain anticipations, and to be prepared for the issue of events, whatever it may be.

Hop Report.

THE VALLEY OF THE MEDWAY (August 12).—The Bramblings are turning fast from burr into hop; they have been in the burr stage a long time, and some mould has appeared as they turn into hop. The Goldings and later sorts are now in burr, but in all the heavy-bined pieces it will be only a top crop. It is estimated by growers in this valley, which, by-the-by, was most fortunate last year, that this year's crop will not exceed last year's; but this, either way, is still uncertain till the Goldings are out in full hop. Picking will not commence much before the end of the month.

Foreign Notes.

U.S.A.

Evidently the opinions of experts as to the crop prospects are not identical. The following reports, recently to hand, show how very far apart are the estimates made by observers, who are each entitled to claim reliability, by reason of their opportunities and their experience. From one source I hear that the conditions are on the whole most excellent. The outlook in California, Washington, and New York could scarcely be better. The estimates are, for California, 70,000 to 75,000 bales, Washington, 45,000, and New York State, 70,000 to 75,000 bales. Oregon has been visited by severe aphis blight, which is said to have been conquered by washing, and although the results are somewhat uncertain, it is calculated that in any event from 100,000 to 120,000 bales may be expected from this State. Thus, according to these figures, the total crop of the U.S.A. is estimated by these correspondents at something like 500,000 bales, or about 25 per cent. in excess of last year.

Now for the other side. A Californian reporter says that in Sacramento County the outlook is poor, owing to unusual weather conditions, and that it does not indicate more than a half crop, similar information coming from Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. At Wheatland, after examining some 1,500 acres, he is opinion that the best grounds show no improvement, and in a large proportion of yards there are unmistakable signs of deterioration. Speaking of one well-known ranche of between 500 and 600 acres, my correspondent says the prospects are as unfavourable as he has seen in California for twenty years, and does not believe that the average of the whole will exceed 1,000 pounds per acre. Quoting an Oregon correspondent, who writes concerning Polk County, where the principal hop yards are found, it is said that the lice are as thick as they can be, and the honeydew is dripping from the leaves, and that unless conditions become more favourable the crop of 1905 cannot possibly be as large as was the 1904 crop. Summarising this information and including that which comes through the same channel from New York, it would appear that the U.S.A. total yield will not exceed that of last year, and will probably fall short of it.

"Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" I will not attempt to reconcile these great differences, but will leave to my readers the task of settling the matter, and forming their opinions accordingly.

There is, however, one point that materially affects the position, and is worthy of notice. I am informed that the amount of hops used in the U.S.A. during the past fiscal year was only 180,000 bales, or 40,000 bales less than was estimated. This is explained by the fact that brewers are reducing the amount of hops per barrel, as beer drinkers seem to prefer lighter beer, and thus a big saving is effected. Should this smaller consumption be continued, it will certainly result in the balance available for exportation being much larger than has heretofore been calculated upon, and if this inference is correct, growers must naturally anticipate that their day of high prices and big profits will soon be concluded. The future of the U.S.A. hop industry is therefore very uncertain, and cannot safely be predicted.

Bavaria.

Spalt.—Early hops are developing, and the later sorts are in burr. A thunderstorm has softened the soil and the plants have been refreshed. If weather continues favourable the crop will be of fine quality. Last year's hops are cleared out.

Pleinfeld.—The condition of the plants is generally good, but there are some weak yards. All are sound, free from blight, and rapidly developing.

Schnattach (Hersbruck). — The hops have recovered from previous unfavourable weather and are generally in good condition, some being very good. Harvesting will begin from the 20th to 25th August.

Neustadt (Aischgrund).—Hops are making good progress, and the early sorts are forming cones. Everything looks very promising.

Wolnzach (Hallertau).—The gardens are coming on nicely, weather being very favourable. All are in burr, and some are showing hops. There is no disease to be seen. Picking will begin about 23rd inst.

Pfaffonhofen (Hallertau). The condition of the hops is good and they are well forward. The harvest will be nearly equal in quantity to last year.

Kinding.—The condition of our hops is unequal. Some have reached the tops of the poles and have very fine laterals with many hop cones. On the other hand, some are of small, weak growth, and have not any laterals. The crop will be smaller than last year.

Belgium.

The development of the plantations both in Alost and Poperinghe is progressing satisfactorily, and the outlook favours a fairly abundant yield. Demand for 1904's is very slow, and prices of available hops are rather weaker. Quotations for October November delivery of new crop are distinctly lower.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

British Possessions
beyond the Seas
AND THEIR
London Representatives.
NOVA SCOTIA.
Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, MR. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1. Essex Street, Strand, Friday, August 14th, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The slow spread of anti-cyclone North-eastward over the British area, following the recent extensive showery cyclonic system, now over Eastern Russia, is favouring a further short spell of fair weather. The first changes to more unsettled weather may be expected to set in over West Scotland and the S. and S.W. British coasts. The general weather sequence will be as follows:—For the first day or two mostly fine or fair with light breezes, Easterly in the South to Westerly in the North and normally mild to warm. For the remainder of the period, fair to cloudy in the Eastern half of the entire area. Cloudy and some showers in the Western half and Southern districts, wind freshening; temperature warm to cooler.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first cloudy, some showers in the north, fair elsewhere, normal; later, fair to cloudy and some showers in the West, milder. Finally, some passing showers chiefly in the North and West, and cooler. Wind chiefly S.W. to N.W.

„ 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—Mostly fair, with some probability of showers in the latter part of the period. Wind S.E. to S.W. and W; light to moderate. Temperature normal to warmer and then cooler.

„ 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—The same as No. 2, but with less probability of showers.

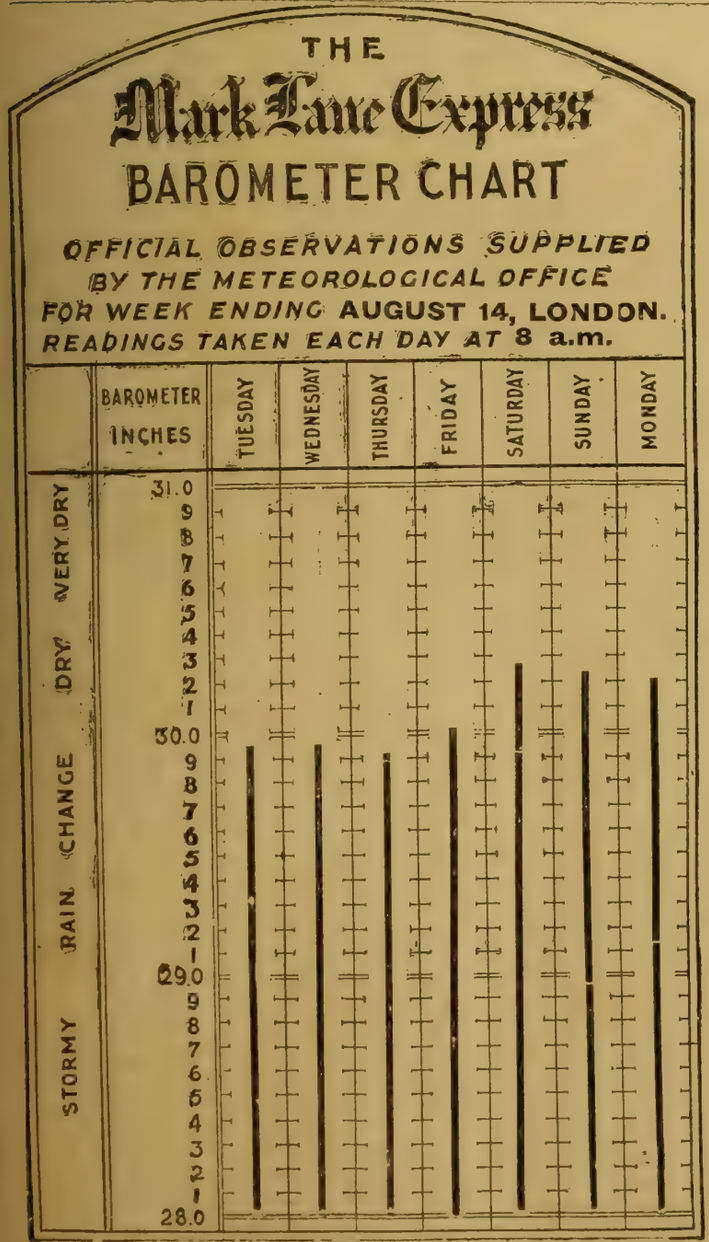
„ 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford-Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, York, shire (West Riding).—Fine or fair at first and later fair to cloudy. Finally some showers probably with thunder at first. Temperature mild to warm. and then cooler. Wind E. to N.E. and S.E. or S., and finally S.W. Light to moderate and then freshening.

No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—The same as No. 4.

„ 6.—Ireland.—At first fine or fair with S.W. and S.E. winds; later fair to cloudy and some showers in the North Western and Southern borders; finally some more general showers at times. Temperature normal to mild and then cooler.

„ 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—At first fair and mild to warm with E. to N.E. and S.E. light winds; later S.E. to S.W. winds, fair to cloudy and warm; finally S.W. to W. winds, freshening some showers and cooler.

„ 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—At first fine or fair with light S.E. and N.E. winds; later fair to cloudy; finally some showers. Temperature mild to warm and then normal.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express.*)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday	(Aug. 8) ...	29·96
Wednesday	(„ 9) ...	29·97
Thursday	(„ 10) ...	29·93
Friday	(„ 11) ...	30·01
Saturday	(„ 12) ...	30·27
Sunday	(„ 13) ...	30·22
Monday	(„ 14) ...	30·20

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	4.45 a.m.
„ Sets...	...	7.25 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	7.5 p.m.
„ Sets	...	3.48 a.m.

Age of Moon—Thirteen days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, August 14th.

GENERAL INFERENCE. The anti-cyclone centred over north-western Europe is drifting slowly northward but it is likely to maintain its influence over our Island during the ensuing 24 hours. Fine and rather warm weather may accordingly be expected to continue.

Scotland, N. and E.—Light variable to Westerly breezes, fair or fine generally, rather warmer.

England, N.E.—Variable to Easterly breezes, fine, rather warm inland.

England, E., Midland Counties, and England, S. (London and Channel).—Light Easterly breezes, fine, rather warm.

Scotland, W.—Same as Scotland, N. and E.

England, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Variable to Easterly breezes, fine, rather warm.

England, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Same as Eng. E., Mid. Counties and S.

Ireland, N. and S.—Same as England N. W. (and N. Wales.)

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane. Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at about late rates. Foreign, American offered ex ship, to arrive, at rather lower rates. Russian and Indian, ex quay, unchanged. No. 2 Club Calcutta quoted at 31s 6d to 32s. Russians, 31s 6d to 35s. Plata, 32s 6d to 34s. No. 3 Northern Manitoba at 32s 6d to 33s. Flour dull, unchanged. Hungarians quoted at 30s; Pillsbury's Gilt Edge at 20s 3d. Maize steady, quiet. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 23s 9d; landed at 24s 6d; and La Plata, ex ship, at 23s 9d. Barley dull. Odessa-Nico-Kherson, July shipment, ex ship, quoted at 19s 6d. Oats slow, unchanged prices. Common sorts quoted at 14s 6d to 15s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet at about late rates; Whites quoted at 32s to 35s; reds, 31s 6d to 34s 6d; foreign held at Wednesday's prices, but demand very limited. South Russians quoted at 31s 6d to 35s; Plata, 31s to 34s; choice white Kurrachee at 30s 9d; No. 2 Northern Manitoba at 35s. Flour slow, unchanged prices; Hungarians quoted at 30s 6d; Iron Dukes at 21s. Maize steady at fully late rates, but inactive; mixed American, landed, quoted at 24s 6d, and River Plate at 24s 3d. Barley firm, but quiet; Odessa-Nico-Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 19s 6d; and landed at 20s 3d. Oats dull, unchanged; common sorts quoted at 14s 3d to 14s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—One sample of new white wheat, in poor condition, made 31s; new oats were quoted at 17s at 18s. The market was of a holiday character. Prices for old corn: Wheat, 32s to 34s; English feeding barley, 25s to 28s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 35s; maize, 27s to 28s; black oats, 20s to 22s; white oats, 21s to 24s; flour, white, 31s; seconds, 28s; sealing, 26s per sack.

Banbury. Thursday. Wheat, red (new), 28s to 30s per quarter; barley, 24s to 28s; beans (old), 32s to 34s; oats, 18s to 20s; ditto (old), 20s to 23s; peas (old), 29s to 33s.

Berwick. Saturday.—Attendance small. No change in the prices. No new grain offered.

Birmingham. Thursday.—A very slow market, the attendance being small and buyers scarce. River Plate wheats about 6d per quarter dearer on the week, other descriptions of foreign being about unchanged in value. Plate maize offered at 24s per 480lb. at Sharpness, being 1s down; flat ditto, 24s 3d per quarter at Bristol. Grinding barley offered at 19s 6d per 400lb. at Sharpness, being 6d under last week. There were a few samples of new English wheat on the market, value of same being about 11s 6d per bag (196lb.). Several samples of new oats, which made from 17s to 17s 6d per quarter (312lb.).

Brighton. Thursday.—Very quiet trade and small attendance. There were a few samples of new wheat offering at 31s to 33s. Grinding barley, 22s to 24s; new oats, English, 18s to 19s; old ditto, 20s to 22s; peas, 20s to 31s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Bristol. Thursday.—A quiet holiday market here today. Some few samples new English wheat showing; condition poor owing to damp weather. Foreign wheat unchanged. Barley 6d lower. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour steady at late rates. GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds. Wednesday. There was a moderate supply of new wheat on the market, generally in good milling condition, but some of the samples offered were soft, and should have been stacked for a time before being brought to market. Useful reds and whites met a fairly steady demand at 29s to 30s per 504lb. Oats and beans firm. New peas sold at 28s to 28s 6d per qr. Maize quiet at 26s per qr. Grinding barley steady for spot, easier for forward delivery. Feeding stuffs all firm.

Cambridge. Saturday.—During the week good progress has been made with the harvest, but the weather has been showery, and wheat is not in first-class condition. At this market there was a fair quantity of new grain offering, but condition was lacking in some samples. Wheat made 28s to 29s, damp and inferior rather less. Oats 8d to 9d per stone, old up to 10d. A few lots of barley offering, but quality not good, and prices not settled. Red wheat, 28s to 29s; and white, up to 30s per

Canterbury. Saturday.—Some of the new wheats were threshed too soon, and prices have receded; values range from 31s to 32s, at which figure lots scaling 65lb. are selling. New grey peas seldom fetch more than 30s, and 19s is the price for oats weighing 44lb. to the bushel.

Chester. Saturday.—Market quiet, with fewer samples on offer, and no new fluctuations in value. A fair demand for feeding stuffs. Indian corn the turn easier on the week. Quotations: Wheat, 4s 6d to 4s 8d per 75lb.; old oats, 2s 9d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; beans, 5s 9d to 6s 6d per 20lb.; Egyptian beans, 17s 6d to 18s per 240lb.; Indian corn, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb.

Chichester. Wednesday.—Small attendance, probably owing to the sheep sale. A few samples of new wheat, new oats, rye, and barley on offer. Slow trade. New white wheat, 31s to 32s; new red ditto, 31s to 32s; old red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; winter barley, 25s to 24s; grinding barley, 20s to 20s 3d; oats, English, 16s to 22s; rye, 22s to 24s; tares 4s 6d to 7s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 27s to 28s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a moderate supply of new wheat here to-day. Farmers were disappointed at the price offered by millers, and had to submit to a reduction of 1s to 2s per quarter from the prices current last week; condition varied. Oats were not freely offered; values unchanged. Peas scarce and inquired for. JOSEPH WILLS AND SON.

Coventry. Friday. There was not a large attendance, and business ruled quiet. Quotations were as follows: Old wheat, 14s to 15s per 504lb.; new wheat, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.; barley, 29s to 32s per 448lb.; oats, 5s to 5s per 304lb.; beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 496lb.; peas, 15s 6d to 16s per 496lb. The shows of wheat was of a poor character. A few samples of new wheat were tendered, and the quality was good. Oats were scarce, the new crop not a fine one so far as can be judged by the few samples.

Derby. Friday.—No old wheat on offer, but there were a few samples of new wheat shown at late prices. Spring corn nominal. White wheat, 34s to 35s; red, 33s to 34s; malting barley, 30s to 34s; beans, 30s to 32s; oats, 16s to 18s.

Devizes. Thursday.—There was a very small supply of corn, the broken weather of the past week having hindered harvest work. Prices unaltered. The following were the quotations: Best old wheat, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 15s to 16s; new wheat, 12s to 16s; new barley, 13s to 16s 6d; best barley, 20s to 22s; secondary ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 18s to 19s; white ditto, 20s to 22s; malting barley, 20s to 22s; beans, 30s to 32s; tares, 4s to 5s; new flour, 24s to 26s; old flour, 27s to 28s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Harvest being in full swing in the neighbourhood, the attendance was small. No new local grain showing. English wheat firm. The demand in foreign wheats is chiefly for Indians, which are 6d per quarter dearer. Feeding stuffs firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Market only slowly attended, consequent on farmers being in the thick of harvest, which is progressing very satisfactorily, despite occasional interruptions by rain. The few new samples of wheat as yet offering are of good quality, and make from about 29s to 32s. Buyers of foreign were able to acquire their supplies at lower rates. Grinding barley also favoured buyers to a trifling extent; maize, on the contrary, which is none too plentifully offered, brought 3d to 6d per quarter more money.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 18s to 20s; barley, 11s to 12s; ditto malting, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 11s 3d to 14s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s 6d to 13s; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Corn slow. English wheat scarce and rather dearer for old sorts; new sold about 3s 9d. Barley 6d cheaper. A few samples of new English barley were shown, but no price can be quoted for a week. Maize unchanged. Old oats firm; new made rather more money. Flour steady. English wheat, 4s to 4s 3d; superfine flour, 26s to 28s; fine, 23s 6d to 26s.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Wheat and flour quiet on spot, and nominally unchanged on the week. Maize, 3d dearer. Indian corn unchanged, with quiet business passing. Oats 3d to 6d cheaper. Other articles of the trade quietly firm at unchanged values. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday. Market easy. Wheat dull, and prices the turn lower. Flour steady on spot, but easier forward, with only a small business passing. Mixed American maize steady at 14s to 14s 1½d per 280lb. Oats pressed for sale at last market-day's prices. Feeding stuffs quietly steady. A few samples of new oats were on offer.

Grantham, Saturday.—Harvesting being in full operation, there was no great bulk of corn on the market. There was a small supply of new wheat, and this was only in fair condition, and commanded 28s to 30s per quarter. Some new black winter oats were also offered, and changed hands at 16s 6d to 14s 6d per quarter. Blue peas of this season's growth were not of very good quality, and 35s to 40s per quarter was paid. Only one sample of new beans was shown, which realised 32s per quarter. No old corn was placed on the market.

Gloucester, Saturday.—A few lots of English wheat offering, reds making 3s 9d per bushel. Foreign steady and unchanged on the week. Maize firmer. Barley 3d lower. Oats unaltered.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Harvesting operations interfered with the attendance, and the recent wet weather prevented new samples being shown. In the absence of business prices remain nominally as last week. Whole sale quotations: Wheat, 3s 10d to 4s per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 4s per 56lb.; oats, 2s 3d to 2s 9d per 40lb.; beans, 3s 9d to 4s per 65½lb.; vetches, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb. 3s 9d to 4s per 65½lb.; vetches, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—There was only a small quantity of new wheat on the market. Many of the samples were in really nice condition, but others were too soft for milling, and ought not to have been threshed at present. Useful parcels made 31s to 31s 6d per quarter. Grinding barley steady for spot, but somewhat easier for forward delivery; English, 26s to 28s; dressed Russian, 24s to 25s per 448lb; ordinary, 21s to 21s 6d per 400lb. Oats, beans, and peas, old corn, firm; new hardly offering yet. Maize unchanged at 25s per quarter, with only a moderate demand. Feeding stuffs all firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—A good deal of rain has fallen since Wednesday, delaying harvest work, though very acceptable for root crops and pastures. Although shipments continue liberal and American advices come weaker under better crop reports, wheat must be quoted rather dearer, Indians being 3d to 6d better, but the market is of a holiday character. Maize 6d lower. Beans and oats steady. —DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds. Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats fully maintained. Tuesday's prices, with a firm tendency. New English was in fair condition at from 30s to 32s. There was no change either in malting or feeding barley, but maize was the turn lower. Beans, peas, oats, and flour were without change.

Leicester, Saturday.—Improved attendance of buyers and dealers, with large supplies of new season's home-grown wheats, but the samples came to hand in rather variable condition. Trade ruled steady at firm rates. Old wheat, red, 33s to 35s per 36 stones; white, 34s to 36s per 36 stones; new wheat, 34s 6d to 35s 6d per 36 stones; new oats, 20s per 26 stones; old oats, 24s to 25s per 26 stones.

Lincoln. Friday.—Farmers being busy in the harvest fields, there was only a limited attendance at market, and trade was somewhat quiet. A fair number of new locally-grown wheats came to hand, and realised from 30s to 31s per qr., delivered. A few new black oats were also shown, making 16s 6d to 17s 6d per qr., on rail. Other feeding stuffs quiet and unaltered.

Liverpool. Friday.—Wheat: The market has had a small attendance, but there is a better demand for Argentine wheat at unchanged prices; other sorts are quiet except Indians, which are firm at ½d advance owing to growing scarcity. Flour in quiet demand,, but no actual change is quoted in values of either foreign or home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is very steady, and meets a fair demand at ½d under last Tuesday; Plate ½d lower, but there is a good inquiry at the decline; European sorts are steady without change. Barley: Malting steady, unchanged; feeding is quiet at ½d to ½d decline. Beans are firm at full prices owing to new forward offers. Peas rather more inquired for, and firmly held at late prices. Oats in somewhat improved demand at about recent rates. Oatmeal firmly held at late currencies, but inactive. Oilcake: A quiet trade at late quotations. —SECOR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone. Thursday.—Some of the samples of new wheat are good quality, but others not in such dry condition as could be expected after the fine harvest weather. Probably showers affected them. Prices were about 30s to 32s per qr. Very little other new grain on show at present, except a few about the value for yearling stock.

Manchester. Thursday. There was again a small attendance, and the general tone was quiet. Little or no English wheat was offered. Foreign was unchanged on the week, except Russian, which ruled rather in sellers' favour. Flour quiet at late rates. Indian corn favoured buyers. Mixed, to arrive, 5s 5½d to 5s 4d; Plate easier, at 5s 7½d to 5s 5d., to arrive. Oats steady and unchanged. Little new on offer. Barley quiet.

Newark. Wednesday. A small show of new samples, quality good, prices firm, owing to small quantity offering. New oats rather easier, other leading corn unchanged. Wheat, 31s to 34s; oats, 17s to 20s; beans, 34s to 36s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday.—A slow demand for wheat at unchanged prices. Maize firm on spot, easier to arrive. Foreign oats steady at last week's prices. Scotch slow to move, and lower prices taken to make sales. Peas firm at last week's quotations. Beans steady, unchanged in values. Barley quiet. JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy with the harvest. The few samples of new wheat on offer made 28s in the mills. Other prices were: Malting barley, 26s to 32s; barley, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; new black oats, 16s to 18s; old beans, 32s; flour, 25s to 29s.

Norwich, Saturday.—There were a good many samples of new wheat on offer at our market to-day, the condition being variable, which made from 29s to 30s per quarter. Cooler weather has prevailed during the past week, and harvest is progressing satisfactorily. Wheat, 220—31s. 7½d. —J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Several samples of new wheat offering; the condition and quality good. Prices ruled from 30s 6d to 31s. Grinding barley a little easier. A few new oats offering; fair condition, 18s, 19s., 12 net. Old beans firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was only a small attendance at to-day's market, and very poor demand was experienced all round. Wheat sold up to 30s.

Peterborough, Saturday. — A fair quantity of new wheat offering to-day, quality and condition mostly good, and prices generally 28s to 28s 6d per 36 stone. New oats are disappointing in quality, and made 16s 6d to 17s 6d per 24 stone.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a small attendance on our market to-day. Wheat quiet. Barley 6d lower. Maize firm owing to scarcity on spot. Oats easier.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—The market was poorly attended. The inclement weather has prevented threshing of new grain, and consequently there was nothing doing. Flour was unchanged. During the week the market has been slow, the weakness in America being fully reflected. Sellers of wheat have had to concede 1d to 2d per cental to do business. Maize was also easier, but not quite to the same extent as wheat; prime mixed American was rather scarce. Other articles fully as dear. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 13s 9d to 14s 6d; ditto red, new, ditto, 13s 6d to 14s; flour, extra superfine, per pack of 240lb., 26s to 26s 6d; ditto superfine, ditto, 24s to 24s 6d ditto, best fine ditto, 22s 6d to 23s; oats, old,, per bushel, 3s to 3s 3d; beans, per windle of 220lb.; 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—There was again a spare attendance, owing to harvest operations. Wheat trade was transacted was at following prices: Wheat, 32s to 34s; barley, 23s to 26s; old oats, 19s to 22s; new oats, 17s to 19s; pear, 28s to 32s; beans, 33s to 36s; flour, 24s to 27s.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The following were the quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d; old white oats, 16s to 17s; peas, 13s 6d to 14s; beans, 17s to 17s 6d 225lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Owing to harvest operations the attendance was rather smaller than usual, and very little grain on offer. Without showing any quotable increase wheat well maintained its value, making 32s 6d to 34s per quarter. Maize still continues scarce, and small quantities changed hands for immediate consumption, at 27s to 28s per 34 stones; grinding barley, 24s 6d; English beans, 32s; black oats, 19s to 20s; white ditto, 21s to 22s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday.—A few samples of new wheat, but little business was done. Both round and flat maize show a downward tendency. Prices: English wheat, 33s 6d to 34s; ditto, foreign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; oats, 20s to 21s; maize, round, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; ditto flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Southampton. Saturday.—A few samples of new English wheat selling at 30s. to 32s. Foreign firm. Barley 3d cheaper on the week. Oats and maize unaltered. Flour steady trade and a shade dearer.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO.

Stamford, Friday. — Fair attendance, but a poor trade. Wheat, new, 28s to 30s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; old oats, 24s to 25s per qr. Maize unchanged.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers, being engaged with harvest work, are not offering any grain at present, and there was no business passing at to-day's market. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 1,200 quarters; foreign, wheat, 9,692.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 31s to 32s; new red ditto, 30s to 31s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 19s to 21s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Few samples of new wheat and oats on offer; condition very variable. Prices about 11s per bag. No old grain on offer. Feeding stuffs slightly easier.

Wisbech, Saturday.—At market to-day several samples of new wheat were on offer; quality and condition mostly good. Prices ranged from 28s 6d to 30s. New oats variable in quality. Prices 16s to 18s.—JAS. FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday. — There was a moderate attendance and trade was quiet. Quotations: Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 216lb.; English beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 196lb.; new oats, 11s to 11s 6d; old oats, 13s to 14s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance. Small show of grain, which made practically last week's prices. White wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; red wheat, 32s to 33s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding ditto, 24s to 25s; white oats, 22s to 24s; black ditto, 20s to 22s; round maize, 27s to 29s; flat maize, 25s to 27s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Many samples of new season's corn on offer, but the condition left something to be desired. This particularly applies to the wheat, which in several instances was quite unfit for milling. Best samples of the new crop made from 31s to 33s 6d per qr.; secondary making 28s 6d to 30s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s 6d; secondary, 20s to 24s; foreign grinding, 18s to 20s; old white oats, 18s 6d to 22s; new ditto, 20s 6d; old black oats, 20s to 22s 6d; new ditto, 20s 6d to 22s; Irish black, 17s 3d to 17s 9d; tares, spring, 40s to 42s 6d; tares, winter, 47s to 51s; rye, 22s to 24s; beans, 32s to 35s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour sold slowly, without change in values, fine making 26s to 28s; extra fine, 28s to 31s. Millers' offals sold freely, and a good inquiry for meals.

York. Saturday. Farmers are busy harvesting, and there was only a small attendance at the market. There was no change in the price of corn, and very little on offer. Fine white wheat, 34s to 35s; red, mixed, 31s to 34s per quarter of 504 stones. Oats steady; White Tartary, 18s to 19s; black, 18s to 19s; white Garton, 20s to 21s per quarter of 24 stones. Peas, beans, and maize no change.

FOREIGN

Hamburg. Saturday. The weather continues rather unsettled, and barley still in the fields are suffering so that the colour get spoiled. Of new Saale, the samples which have been shown looked rather poor, and also a good many of the Bohemian looked weathered; whilst of Slovacian some really choice samples are shown, but the prices asked for such are extremely high. Of new Hungarian the offers are quite general now, and they seem to be the best value, although for the present there seems to be no demand from England. FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather changeable. We had some sunny days, but also frequent heavy showers, interfering with harvest work. Market quiet for wheat and rye, but firm for feeding stuff. Offers of new wheat are increasing, and fine 61 62lb red Holstein has been sold at 30s 6d to 31s, 60 61lb red Saale to arrive per barge is offering at 31s 6d to 32s per 504lb f.o.b.; American red winter No. 2 August September is held at 29s, hard winter No. 2 30s 3d, 80 ko. River Plate 29s 9d to 30s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet; 9 20 25 South Russian afloat is offering at 24s to 24s 3d, 9 15-20 August-September at 25s 6d per 4801b c.i.f. Hamburg. Good stout Bohemian barley to arrive per barge has been sold at 32s 6d to 33s 6d, common new Saale, rather discoloured, is offering at 29s to 32s per 448lb f.o.b. Fine Chevalier Saale not yet offering. Good new Mecklenburg is selling at 27s 6d to 29s 6d per 448lb f.o.b. Fine Slovakian to arrive per barge is held at 35s to 36s 6d, good middling quality at 31s 6d to 33s, fine stout Bohemian at 34s to 36s per 448lb f.o.b. Feeding barley in better demand; 60-61 ko. South Russian on the spot is selling at 18s. August shipment 17s 3d, September-October at 16s 9d per 4001b c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm; mixed and River Plate on the spot 23s 6d, July-August 22s 6d to 22s 9d per 4801b c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday. The provincial markets continue inactive, offers are increasing, but business is very difficult, farmers having taken up a firm position, while millers will not pay the prices asked. Business at the Bourse de Commerce remains inactive. Sellers are very reserved, whilst buyers are in no hurry to do business, and, as offers are fairly regular in the spot market, the tendency was heavy throughout the day, and prices fell off from 20 to 25c. for flour and from 10 to 15c. for wheat. Rye: Nothing doing, prices nominal. Oats, calmer, with a fall of 5c. in price. At the weekly spot market business in home-grown wheat is becoming brisker, and prices are falling in consequence of larger offers. In rye flour the market is firm, with only little business passing. There is regular inquiry for offals, especially for prompt parcels; prices remain firm. Rye offerings are fairly numerous, but the prices asked cause buyers to hesitate. There are no old oats left now, or, in any case, too small a quantity to cause a reaction in this situation, and new oats will not arrive for about another fifteen days. Barley is being harvested, but operations in the west are being retarded by storms. Some offers are now being made; qualities will only be ordinary upon the score of colour.—*Dornbusch*.

THE BALTIC.

The market for wheat cargoes has been slow in resuming after the Bank Holiday, and very little had been done when the week's trade ended at 1 p.m. on Saturday. We note, however, a cargo of Australian arrived sold at 32s. 6d. per 480 lb., which is a rise for that type, and of Argentine sold at 30s. per 480 lb., which is a slight fall. A cargo of new Roumanian has made 30s. per 492 lb. for October shipment, and No. 3 Manitoba on passage has realised 31s. 3d. per 480 lb.

Maize is firm, 23s. 3d. paid for arrived La Plata, and 23s. on passage—480 lb. Oats have made 14s. 6d. per 304 lb. for prompt shipment of Vologda, and barley is quoted 17s. 9d. per 400 lb. for prompt shipment of Azoff. A cargo of white Calcutta peas sold on Saturday for 28s. per 504 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 8 wheat (2 Adelaide, 1 B. Blanca, 2 Geelong, 1 Melbourne, 1 Port Pirie, 1 Port Wakefield), 3 linseed (1 Buenos Aires, 2 Rosario)—Total 11.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 1 Cardiff, 1 Dublin, 1 Glasgow, 1 Grimsby), 2 linseed (1 Harburg, 1 Rochester)—Total 7.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 253 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 43 linseed—Total 333.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 157 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 31 barley and wheat, 15 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 23 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—Total 241.

The London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards of Indian shipments for May have been made up:—

Wheat.—New and old crops: Choice White Kurrachee, Soft Red Kurrachee, Choice White Delhi from Kurrachee. New crop: Choice Red Kurrachee, Choice White Bombay, Atbara from Bombay, Soft Red Bombay, Soft Red Calcutta (April-May). Crop 1905 or new crop: No. 2 Club Calcutta, Atbara from Calcutta. Pease.—Crop 1905 or new crop: White Calcutta, Green Calcutta, Dun Calcutta. Gram.—Kurrachee.

The Association c.i.f. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contract, are as follows:—Calcutta Club, 31s. 3d.; Soft Red, 30s. 3d.; Bombay Soft White Delhi, 31s. 6d.; Kurrachee Soft White Delhi, 31s. 6d.; Kurrachee—Choice White, 30s. 6d.; Soft White, 30s.; Soft Red, 29s. 6d.—all per 492 lb.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	21s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 12, 1905:—

Wheat	2,186,000 cwts.
Wheat-flour	141,800 ,,
Barley	152,000 ,,
Oats	408,000 ,,
Maize	828,800 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,581,200	1,861,610	1,647,281	1,888,466
Wheat-flour	316,000	337,349	317,466	427,860
Barley	614,500	348,273	240,482	94,000
Oats	326,800	407,166	145,170	418,600
Maize	821,700	806,318	1,022,626	737,600

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to August 12 in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	52,817½	28	10	609½	23	3	3,503½	19	11
1901	22,617½	27	4	2204½	27	2	5,982½	18	9
1902	8,928¾	31	7	2562½	24	9	1,029½	22	2
1903	18,097½	29	11	24½	21	3	4,892½	18	10
1904	16,784½	28	4	408¼	19	9	8,117¼	17	7

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,605,000
Barley	,,	437,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	365,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	63,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	254,000
Maize	,,	80,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	32	0
May 31 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	31	0	(per sack)	28 0
October 10 (,,)	31	6	(,,)	28 6
,, 19 (,,)	31	0	(,,)	28 0
March 31 (,,)	30	6	(,,)	27 6
May 3 (,,)	30	3	(,,)	27 3
June 7 (,,)	30	0	(,,)	27 0

No change since last date given.)

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
August 2 to 9, 1905, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	871	75,493	76,364
Barley	7,0	2,500	3,200
Malt	18,512	...	18,312
Oats	670	117,141	117,811
Beans	679	37	716
Peas	12	3,826	3,838
Maize	...	9,547	9,547
Linseed	...	1,732	1,732
Rapeseed	...	1,068	1,068
Buckwheat	...	487	487
Cottonseed	...	8,958	8,958
Canaryseed	...	587	587
Hempseed	...	200	200
Coriander	...	553	553
Carraways	...	100	100
Flour sacks	19,340	40,300	59,640
Ricemeal	...	5,000	5,000
Oatmeal	...	1,248	1,248
Ryeflour	...	510	510

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 13	16,754½	28	4	468¾	19	9	8,117¼	17	7
,, 20	19,209½	28	8	1,640¾	22	5	19,632½	18	6
,, 27	31,132½	29	5	4,701¾	23	2	26,042½	18	6
Sept. 3	32,021½	30	2	12,370¾	25	3	31,506	16	3
,, 10	46,116¾	30	0	22,[illegible]	24	10	31,506	16	1
,, 17	51,459½	29	7	45,[illegible]	24	9	37,351½	15	11
,, 24	58,304	29	10	89,597½	25	10	47,641½	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	113,[illegible]	25	5	44,796½	15	8
,, 8	54,647½	30	2	152,[illegible]	25	6	42,[illegible]	15	9
,, 15	47,192½	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,[illegible]	16	3
,, 22	45,961½	30	4	213,[illegible]	25	5	31,[illegible]	15	11
,, 29	47,947½	30	6	221,911½	24	11	29,[illegible]	16	10
Nov. 5	43,313½	30	6	205,[illegible]	25	0	35,145½	16	9
,, 12	43,740½	30	3	204,446½	24	6	32,[illegible]	16	11
,, 19	41,924½	30	2	178,[illegible]	24	5	31,[illegible]	16	9
,, 26	41,309½	30	5	177,[illegible]	24	4	34,[illegible]	16	1
Dec. 3	45,913½	30	4	166,[illegible]	24	6	35,[illegible]	16	2
,, 10	50,748½	30	4	165,[illegible]	24	4	36,[illegible]	16	2
,, 17	44,715½	30	4	130,563½	24	4	8,[illegible]	16	2
,, 24	33,336½	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,[illegible]	16	1
,, 31	21,163½	30	4	60,817½	24	8	13,[illegible]	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757½	30	4	45,191	24	4	16,230½	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754½	16	3
,, 21	45,646½	30	5	90,169½	25	0	32,957½	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,496½	25	1	41,604½	16	7
Feb. 4	49,412½	30	6	75,347½	25	0	41,186½	16	7
,, 11	50,858½	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,[illegible]	16	8
,, 18	44,195½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	38,[illegible]	16	9
,, 25	42,165½	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,645½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188½	30	8	49,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	38,118½	30	9	23,418½	25	2	24,870½	16	10
,, 18	31,769	30	10	18,412½	24	11	20,572½	16	10
,, 25	32,271½	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910½	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235½	25	1	17,793½	16	11
,, 8	25,660	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,699½	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,450	17	6
,, 22	24,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871½	17	5
,, 29	24,776	30	9	3,184½	24	1	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183½	30	8	3,941½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	53,146½	27	1	4,172	19	10	10,340	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,802½	18	5
,, 27	21,508½	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017	18	3
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942½	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,116½	18	1
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,292½	19	1
,, 24	11,571½	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031½	18	1
July 1	9,579½	31	4	289½	23	2	3,48[illegible]	19	7
,, 8	7,8 4½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,542½	19	6
,, 15	4,884½	32	3	34½	23	10	1,922½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	52½	23	7	2,434	18	1
,, 29	7,69[illegible]	32	3	24½	19	9	3,005½	17	1
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	57½	22	0	4,344½	18	0
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	548½	22	5	8,974½	16	1

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended August 12, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	8,181½ qrs.	30s.	5d.
Barley	548½ qrs.	22s.	5d.
Oats	8,974½ qrs.	16s.	11d

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 8, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	635	6	1,006	18	5	1	11	8
Barley	Nil.							
Oats	324	1	578	10	3	0	17	2

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers as usual at this time are quiet. The trade in feeding stuffs is inactive and likely to be so until the corn harvest is all gathered, yet there are a few inquiries already from dealers and this points to a brisk demand as likely this coming autumn. Both importers and home producers are firm and offer in quantity with caution, under the belief we shall see higher prices in the near future. Present values are as per subscribed:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, 16c, guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £12 5s to £10 10s; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s 6d to £2 5s; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £5 17s 6d; linseed cake, American thin sliping, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 15s; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £8 to £8 10s; ditto foreign round, prime, soft, in bags, £7 17s 6d to £8; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, fair to soft, in bags, £6 15s to £7 2s 6d; ditto English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s 6d to £7 7s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 17s 6d; cottonseed, crushed, 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6; coco oil cake, prime, in bags, £6 to £6 2s 6d per ton; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 9s 6d per qr. 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 3d per gal.; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 p.c., in bags; ditto ditto guaranteed 30 to 34 p.c., in bags; ditto ditto guaranteed 35 to 38 p.c., in bags; [illegible] prime quality, guaranteed 36 to 38 per cent. phos., in bags; ditto prime quality, guaranteed 35 to 38 per cent. phos., in bags; ditto finest quality, guaranteed 45 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags—in metal. H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Strawberries are in good supply and steady demand; cherries are plentiful and prices moderate. Quotations are: English pines, Queens, 3s 6d to 9s per pound; grapes, 2s to 3s per pound; 3s 6d per half sieve; peaches, 2s 6d to 5s per dozen; nectarines, 2s to 15s per dozen; melons, 1s to 4s each; cucumbers, 3s to 4s 6d; plums, 1s to 3s per basket; greengages, 4s 6d to 5s per bag; damsons, 3s to 3s 6d per bag; Duke cherries, 2s to 3s per dozen pounds; Morello cherries, 2s to 3s per dozen; ditto, 1s 6d to 4s per bag; [illegible] 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; vegetable marrows, 1s to 3s per dozen; pumpkins, 1s to 3s each; parsley, 2s 6d to 3s per bag; radishes, 2d to 3d per bunch; lettuces, 1s to 2s per dozen; tomatoes, 1s to 1s 6d per pound; cauliflowers, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen; scarlet runners, 3d to 1s; French beans, 1s to 1s 3d per [illegible]; horseradish, 3s to 10s per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 7s to 15s per 12lb; potatoes, 3s to 5s per ton.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The excellent promise of the British wheat fields early in July has been transmuted into excellent results a month later in the counties south of the Thames. The rest of the country is only now beginning harvest in earnest, but the grain is ready for the self-binding harvest machines, of which, as of manual labour, there seems this season to be a happily adequate supply. According to the exhaustive survey appearing in the leading journal for the 11th inst., wheat is especially good in Berkshire, Cheshire, Cumberland, Derby, Dorset, Durham, Essex, Gloucester, Kent, Lancashire, Leicester, Northampton, Nottingham, Somerset, Stafford, Sussex, Warwick, Wiltshire, and Yorkshire. These counties are so representative of England as a whole that we may fairly regard the above detached advices as admitting of a synthesis in which the wheat crop of England as a whole will come out decidedly in excess of an average yield.

Barley is of excellent promise in Huntingdon and Northampton, and a full average in East Anglia and Lincoln. It is less satisfactory in Cheshire and Wales, and is also disappointing in parts of Surrey, though in the S.E. angle of England, Kent, and Sussex it is mostly a full yield.

Oats are rather under an average, but the rains since August came in have added to the crop in all the counties where the grain was not ripe when the month came in. There is a fair hope, therefore, that reports collected on the first inst., which showed a crop 32 points in the thousand, and the average will be agreeably falsified on threshings. For the rest it may be observed that beans have improved very remarkably since midsummer; while field peas have not done so. Thus the prospects of July 1 for these two crops are now, in many counties, reversed. Hops should be a very good crop in Kent, Sussex, and the West, but roots, while not at all disastrously bad, are rather disappointing in the majority of counties. They are, however, a crop for which the next six or seven weeks may do much, and there is also time for the ordinary crops of potatoes to come on well.

The American winter wheat crop is put by the Bureau of Washington at 424,400,000 bushels, or 14.3 bushels to the acre. States peculiarly favoured have been Nebraska, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, while singularly poor results are said to be following on threshings in Texas and Missouri. The Kansas crop, though 1.6 bushels better than last year, is not at all equal to the reports published a month ago, when harvest was just beginning.

The spring wheat in America is thus estimated:—

1904	875 points in 1,000
1905	892 points in 1,000
1903	771 points in 1,000
1902	897 points in 1,000

The American 1,000 points or ideal crop is put at 15 bushels, so that 892 points stands for 13.38 bushels per acre. This is less than had been looked for, though it will be seen to show a very great change for the better from 1903, and to be a slight but appreciable improvement on last year. States where the yield is excellent include Dacota and Washington, but Iowa and Minnesota appear to have lost ground since July 1.

Maize in America is of extremely high promise, and if the outlok as officially reported on 12th inst. is fulfilled in October, a yield of 2,693,116,000 bushels, or 28.7 bushels to the acre, should be secured. The barley crop is said to have been over-estimated by about 2 per cent., but it is undoubtedly a better yield than in either 1904 or 1903.

Oats are put at 908 points out of an ideal 1,000, as compared with 866 points a year ago and 795 points in 1903. The crop, roughly speaking, is therefore 4 per cent. above the yield of last year, which was reckoned a full average.

Sales of English wheat at the 187 statute markets have been as follows:

This season, 1,613,000 quarters at 30s 9d per quarter.
Last season, 2,093,000 quarters at 27s 2d per quarter.

The net rise of 3s. 7d. is gratifying, the more so as the price of 30s. 9d. is itself fair. With respect to barley, a rise of 2s. 9d. will be seen to have occurred, but as it has only carried value to 24s. 8d., which is 4d. below the average of the last twenty-five years, it is not so good as the wheat price, which is 9d. above the mean. The following are the returns for barley:—

This season, 2,154,000 quarters at 24s 8d per quarter.
Last season, 2,774,000 quarters at 21s 11d per quarter.

The returns for oats are:

This season, 1,135,000 quarters at 17s 1d per quarter.
Last season, 1,079,000 quarters at 16s 4d per quarter.

The price of oats has now been quite a disappointment for two seasons, but 18s. 4d., which was arranged last week, is a step in the right direction.

Imports of cereals last week into the United Kingdom were as follows:—

Wheat, 539,000 quarters; a very large supply.
Flour, 92,400 sacks; a small supply.
Barley, 70,000 quarters; a very small supply.
Oats, 173,000 quarters; a large supply.
Maize, 252,000 quarters; large arrivals.

In the forty-nine completed weeks of the cereal year the imports of breadstuffs have been as follows:—

	Quarters.
Wheat	23,027,000
Flour	3,478,000
Breadstuffs	26,505,000
Last season	26,373,000

The close similarity in the supply will be noted, also the slight increase this year, but there is no increase in our total stocks of breadstuffs:—

	Quarters.
Decrease in English wheat	445,000
Increase in imports	132,000
Net decrease in stocks	313,000

The imports of spring corn for the 49 weeks were 9,152,000 qr. of maize, 5,647,000 qr. of barley, and 5,991,000 qr. of oats.

Supplies on passage include an average quantity of wheat.

	Quarters.
American	60,000
Russian	265,000
Indian	807,000
Argentine	790,000
Australasian	540,000
Various	50,000
Total	2,512,000

No new crop shipments are as yet reported from California. Of flour, 108,000 sacks are on passage. This is an extremely small quantity.

Expectations of wheat are now so much above the average that holders on spot must feel their position to be one of some difficulty. Nevertheless, maize for August delivery was 3d. dearer on the week.

	Quarters.
Flat corn	300,000
Round corn	20,000
Yellow corn	1,000,000
Total	1,320,000

Of barley, the quantity on passage is a bare third of an average:—

	Quarters.
Russian	125,000
Californian	10,000
Persian	10,000
Smyrna	15,000
Roumanian	5,000
Total	165,000

Of oats, however, the quantity coming (420,000 qr.) is above the average. Other quantities on the high seas are 240,000 qr. of linseed, 23,000 tons of cottonseed, and 59,000 tons of rice.

Maize shipments for the seven completed months—January 1 to July 31, 1905—are thus returned:—

	Quarters.
America, to U.K.	3,453,000
America, to Cont.	4,687,000
Argentina, to U.K.	3,500,000
Argentina, to Cont.	1,900,000
Russia, to U.K.	181,000
Russia, to Cn.	397,000
Turkey, to U.K.	122,000
Turkey, to Cont.	109,000
India, to U.K.	22,000
Total	14,371,000

In the same period of 1904 total shipments were 11,700,000 qr. only, but in 1903 the total was just on 15,500,000 qr. Argentine shipments in 1905 have already been a good deal in excess of any previous year, and this year yellow corn serves most of the purposes for which maize is required.

Since August came in the great shipping countries have been doing a fair business in the export of wheat, but very little barley has been shipped. Of maize shipments, Argentina is the leading source; while for oats September will have to look almost exclusively to Russia. Actual returns of exports are:—America, 55,000 qr. of wheat, 157,000 qr. of maize, and 35,000 sacks of flour; Argentina, 155,000 qr. of wheat, 419,000 qr. of maize, and 26,000 qr. of linseed; Russia, 310,000 qr. of wheat, 41,000 qr. of barley, 40,000 qr. of rye, 324,000 qr. of oats; and 22,000 qr. of maize; Roumania, 75,000 qr. of wheat; India, 123,000 qr. of wheat and 23,000 qr. of linseed; Australasia, 75,000 qr. of wheat; and Turkey, 26,000 qr. of wheat.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—Light supplies were submitted this morning, and trade ruled steady at recent prices. Best clover, 75s to 85s 0d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 77s; good ditto, 65s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 14.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Regular quotations were possible to-day for the first time this season for new wheat, which has opened at about half-a-crown below the level of the old. Quality and condition are satisfactory on the whole; there are some really fine Red lots offering. Foreign wheat was the turn dearer for Australian and Russian, but rather lower for La Plata and Indian, other sorts being unchanged on the fortnight. Maize was 6d. dearer on spot. For Russian barley 3d. less money was accepted. No English or Californian transactions were recorded. Oats were less depressed from the close of July, and beans favoured holders, but on peas a slight decline was allowed. New rye made 21s. to 25s. per qr. Linseed and cottonseed favoured buyers, as did the oils from the same seeds. Rapeseed, poppyseed, and canaryseed, on the other hand, were held for more money on the fortnight.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	36	— 37
New White	,,	32	— 34
Old Red	,,	35	— 36
New ,,	,,	31	— 33
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	none	
,,	(per 400 lb.)	none	
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	,,	26	— 30
Black	,,	31	— 33
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	none	
Old Black Winter	,,	none	
Old Grey Winter	,,	none	
Old Black Tartary	,,	none	
,,	(per 320 lb.)	none	
New Winter	(per 336 lb.)	18	— 20
,, Black Tartary	,,	none	
,, ,,	(per 312 lb.)	none	
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	none	
RYE, Old	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
New	,,	21	— 25
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter	,,	33	— 34
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	none	
New Unpicked ,,	,,	none	
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	30	— 31
Maple	,,	33	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 52
(Spring)	,,	40	— 44
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	30	— 31

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496 lb.	s.	s.
M'itoba Best White	36	— 37
,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29	— 30

BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
(400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
(400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	9 — 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16

MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36

RYE, per 480 lb.:		
French	none	
Russian	23	— 24

MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	27 6	— 28
Turkish	26 6	— 27
Morocco	25 6	— 26
Indian	25 6	— 26
American	24 6	— 25
Argentine	24 6	— 25

OATS:	s.	s.
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Revel (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Turkish (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16

BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	33	— 35

LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1

PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 41
Canadian	39	— 41
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 33
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25

MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	22	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21

DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26

BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 35
Russian	29	— 30

TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

HOT WEATHER WAS AGAINST THE MARKET, BUT WHEAT WAS FAIRLY STEADY, AND THERE WERE NO CHANGES IN BARLEY OR OATS. FOR MAIZE THERE WAS LESS INQUIRY AT THE CLOSE, BUT PRICES WERE AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 14.

No price changes in Town Whites or Households occurred to-day. Roller Whites from East Anglia made 23s. to 24s. for ordinary. American on spot was unchanged; for October shipment it is said that 28s. c.f.i. would be taken for grades of which the spot value is 30s. This requires confirmation, but may be correct. New Kansas flour made from red winter wheat was definitely offered for September shipment at 23s. 9d. c.f.i. Australian flour tended to fall in price, and so did Hungarian. Values were unaltered for French, Argentine, and Russian. Coarse middlings had a fair sale at £5 per ton, while fine middlings went a sovereign per ton beyond the coarse in price. A sufficient offer of bran and pollard at a moderate price was recorded.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31 0
Town Whites	,,	28 0
,, Households	,,	26 0
No. 2	,,	22 0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	26 0
,, No. 2	,,	24 0
Paste Flour	,,	22 0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	none
,, Second Patents	,,	29 — 30
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	none
,, Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	none
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32 — 33
,, 1	,,	31 — 32
,, 2	,,	30 — 31
,, 3	,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27 — 28
,, 1st Grade	,,	26 — 27
,, 2nd Grade	,,	25 — 26
,, Common	,,	20 — 21
,, "Saturno"	,,	17 — 18

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	14 — 15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26 — 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34 — 35
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	35 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13 — 14
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21 — 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 22
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 20
Ground Rice	,,	22 — 23
Feeding Rice	,,	17 — 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s.	7d.	Sept. delivery.
,, ,,	6s.	7d.	O.t. ,,
,, ,,	6s.	7d.	Nov. ,,

Nearer dates have declined a little, and further dates have improved, so that for the moment we have an unusual parity of values for three months ahead.

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s.	9d.	Sept. delivery.
,,	4s.	7d.	Nov. ,,
,,	4s.	5d.	Jan. ,,

The changes in maize futures since the 4th inst. are rather significant, near dates being firmer than ever, while remoter futures favour buyers very decidedly.

There are buyers to-day of Red Winter wheat for December delivery at 6s. 7d. per cental, and of American maize, also for December delivery, at 4s. 9d. per cental. Maize for February delivery is offered as low as 4s. 4d. per cental, but as yet there are few, if any, buyers for so remote a future.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The demand fairly steady; prices continue in buyers' favour.

Offals.—Bran fairly active for this season of the year, and owing to increased local demand and from the Continent, prices generally tending upward. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There is an easier feeling all round owing to lower wheat prices, and 6d. per sack less is taken for flour. Grain.—Although prices to arrive are easier, American corn maintains last week's prices on spot. Fine oats are unchanged, but 38 40 lb. quality is 3d. lower. Barley, owing to arrivals, is down to 15s. 6d. per 320 lb. Pease rather easier. Beans unchanged. Oilcake firm. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and Thirds firm at 82s. 6d. to 85s. per ton.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour has met a quiet demand to-day on the spot at about late prices. Forward offers are easier. Kansas flours are well on the line, whilst Minnesotas are almost within the reach of buyers. —T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Milling Offals.—All milling offals are in fair demand, with prices against buyers.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: The improvement in demand is well mantained both for spot and forward. London made is the turn dearer, with prices of foreign about unchanged. Undecorticated cotton cake: Trade quiet, but stock being small full prices are asked. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Inquiry is very good, and values are well maintained. Linseed: After dropping the greater part of the week the market has recovered, and is now 3d dearer.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
,, Western ,,	ex quay	7 7 6	
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 15 0	
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 15 0	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 13 9	
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 17 6	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 17 6	
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 9 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	to 2 7 0
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.			
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London		
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,,			
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Cargoes of wheat, linseed, and peas favour buyers, those of maize are firm near at hand, but decidedly lower for winter shipment. Steady trade is reported of oats; barley is not lower, but the market lacks strength.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Red Kurrachee, 30s per 492lb., prompt shipment; No 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 3d per 480lb., November shipment; Australian, 32s 3d per 480lb., arrived; Santa Fé, 29s 9d per 480lb., arrived; Bahia Blanca, 30s 3d per 504lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480lb., prompt shipment; American, 23s per 480lb., prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s per 400lb., prompt shipment; Azoff, 17s 3d per 400lb., November shipment; Kustendje, 19s per 416lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—American, 13s 9d per 304lb., prompt shipment; Petersburg, 13s 6d per 304lb., prompt shipment.

PEAS.—Green Calcutta, 22s 6d per 504lb., prompt shipment.

BMEANS.—Smyrna, 30s 6d per 480lb., prompt shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Bombay, 39s 6d per 379lb., on passage.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 38s per 416lb., on passage; Calcutta, 39s per 410lb., September shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Bombay, £4 15s 3d per 2,250lb., October shipment.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H and .H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The very low prices now being accepted to clear out what remain of the 1904 English growth is attracting the attention of brewers, and fortunate indeed is the consumer who is in a position to buy now. The imports of hops for the month of July, 1905 were 522 cwt.; for the corresponding month last year, 3,014 cwt.. The total imports from January 1 to July 31, 1905, were 32,808 cwt.; less foreign hops reshipped for same period, 6,699 cwt. Total, 26,109 cwt. The total imports from January 1 to July 31, 1904, were 98,790 cwt.; less foregn hops reshipped for same period, 2,776 cwt.; Total, 96,014 cwt. The exports of hops for the month of July, 1905, were 1,200 cwt.; for the corresponding month last year, 541 cwt.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield. Saturday.—A dull demand for a fair supply. Prices:—Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Russian fowls, 1s 9d to 2s; goslings, 4s to 5s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; spring, 1s to 1s 4d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 7d to 9d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 8s per dozen. Venison: Haunches, ,6d; forequarters, 3d per lb.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Aug. 14, 1905. British	Total.	Monday, Aug. 7, 1904
Beasts	900	900	1,150
Sheep and Lambs	7,200	7,200	7,540
Calves	19	19	5
Milch Cows	59	59	55

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d	4s 4d	4s 8d
Sheep	4s 8d	5s 6d	6s 0d
Lambs	5s 4d	6s 2d	6s 6d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals included as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 27; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 861; Devon, 15; Ireland, 67.

We note to-day an increase of 200 head compared with Monday last, due to heavier arrivals from the Midland Counties. Ireland was fairly well represented with 60 Dublins and 7 Waterfords, no stores, however, were included. The Irish trade was a disappointing one nevertheless late rates governed all sales. For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade was dull with a downward tendency in value, although not quotably so. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a decline of 2d per 8 lbs in value. A clearance is not expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 15, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Herefords	4s 6d ex 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 0d ex 4s 6d	4s 4d ex 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d ex 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d ex 4 4
Irish	4s 0d ex 4s 2d	—
Fat Cows	3s 4d ex 3s 6d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was an increase of 2,390 in the sheep market compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of an exceedingly slow nature, late currencies being only with difficulty maintained, wethers, however sold best. Scotch met a fair enquiry at late currencies whilst Irish on the other hand met a decline in value of 2d. per 8 lbs. Lambs being in excess of the demand, sellers had to accept a decline of 2d. to effect sales. A clearance is extremely doubtful.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, August 15, 1904
7 to 8 st Scotch	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11 st Half-bred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	6s 2d to 6s 4d
6 st Half-bred ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 10d to 6s 0d

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs on offer.

London (Central), Monday. — Fair supply; trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 0d to 3s 8d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 7d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Lamb: English, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal: 3s to 4s 4d. Pork: 3s 8d to 4s 2d per 8lbs.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 149; sheep and lambs, 1,669; pigs, 293. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9d and 10d; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Fat cattle, sheep and pigs, and store sheep, and pigs good demand. Store cattle fair demand. Milch cows short supply; middling trade. Prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,960. To-day's supply compared with Monday last showed an increase of 1,043 head. Trade was of a slow and dragging nature at a decline of 1d. per 8 lb. on States beasts. Canadians were quoted at late currencies; besides the above, 500 more States cattle were withheld from sale. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; seconds, 3s. 6d. to 3s 8d; Canadians, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 8lbs. (offal given in); 274 Canadian sheep were offered for sale and quoted from 42s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb. On Saturday 1,489 beasts from the United States and 511 from Canada were offered for sale, and met with a slightly better trade, prices being well upheld. Besides the above, 800 more were withheld. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 8d to 3s 11d; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 9d per 8lbs. (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Few more cattle in market to-day. Demand better at the full rates current last week. Considerable increase in sheep and lambs in consequence. Trade was very slow, and to effect sales lower prices were accepted. Heavy sheep in particular were difficult to cash. Beef, 6½d to 5d per lb.; mutton, 8d to 6d; lamb, 8½d to 7d. At market: 813 cattle and 11,668 sheep.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—A fair trade passing for the time, both early and late. Prices firm. Winter tares are now offering, but holders' ideas seem inflated. New trefoil selling freely at reasonable rates. There is no special call for spring sowing seeds.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The imports of bacon for the last fortnight were from Ireland 1,[illegible] cwt., and from abroad. With an improved demand and better supplies the bacon market was strong last week, prices showing considerable increase in most sorts, more particularly in the cheaper classes of meat. Prices ranging for:—Irish from 54s to 72s up to 74s; Danish, from 56s to 72s up to 74s; Canadian from 48s to 56s up to 64s, and quoted to 66s. Butter: Taking it all round the butter market was decidedly quieter, the advance in prices tending to check the trade quite as much as daily from exporting standpoint at recent prices. Prices range for:—French, 88s up to 120s; Danish, 104s up to 124s; Russian and Siberian, 80s up to 96s; Irish, 80s up to 116s; Colonial, 90s up to 120s. Lard: The lard market was stronger, with prices ranging for Irish from 48s to 57s, and American from 38s 3d to 40s 9d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

There was a rather smaller number of beasts on offer at Islington during the past week, this being chiefly attributable to the fact that Monday last was a Bank Holiday, and, in consequence, most families were out of town. The supply, as usual at this time of the year, consisting chiefly of consignments from the Midlands, and comprised Herefords and runts. Irish arrivals, though short, were of rather better quality, some choice Black Polled cattle being included in the consignments. Trade for all descriptions of both prime and second quality English beasts was of a slow but steady nature, with a slight upward tendency in regard to value, in some cases to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb.; this remark applies equally to Irish descriptions, anything choice finding ready purchasers at fully last week's quotations. Fat shed cows were in very short supply, and met a limited demand from both town and country buyers; nevertheless, late currencies governed all sales. Fat bulls, on the other hand, experienced a slightly better inquiry, an advance of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. being made on most transactions. On Thursday, which for beasts is practically a "dies non," trade was confined entirely to fat butchering cows and bulls at about last Monday's values.

At Deptford during the early part of the week, a slow trade was experienced, but brisked up towards the end. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,730, as against 2,792 during the preceding week, consisting of 830 British (decrease 220) and 3,900 Foreign (increase 2,158), comprising 3,268 from the United States and 632 from Canada. Quotations were as follows:—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Lincoln Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 80 to 90 stone Black Polled Dublins, 4s. 4d.; 95 stone ordinary ditto, 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 11d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade was confined entirely to the Islington market. Trade for all descriptions of both wethers and ewes was of a firmer and steadier nature, with an upward tendency in regard to value to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions also shared in the generally better tone of the trade, last week's valuations being well maintained. Of lambs, there was a very short number on offer, which met a firm inquiry, all on offer being quickly disposed, rates favouring the sellers to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb.

On Thursday trade was again firm, an early clearance being effected at late currencies. The total number penned consisted of 7,090, as against 11,338 during the previous week. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 7 to 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s.–4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 8d.; 6 stone halfbreds ditto, 6s. 2d. to 6s. 4d.; 6 stone Irish, 6s. 2d.

Calves numbered 45, the best on offer to dress from 144 to 166 lb., and were quoted at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. (sinking the offal), an early clearance being effected. No pigs on the market for sale to day

Trade in Ireland.

There was a smaller supply of cattle in Dublin market last Thursday, being 41 less than the previous market, but the supply of sheep was again larger by 545 head. There was a good attendance of buyers for home and shipping requirements, and a firmer and more buoyant tone for both beef and mutton was noticeable. For cattle there was a stronger demand, and any depression of the past week was wiped off, and an early clearance effected. The number of cattle offered for sale was 2,570, and of sheep 8,899. Best heifer and ox beef sold at from 59s. to 54s., and extra lots up to 57s. 6d. per cwt.; good second class beef from 46s. to 50s.; and inferior from 44s. to 46s. per cwt.

In the sheep department business was of a healthier tone, in spite of the much larger supply. Medium and light weight wethers were most sought for by butchers for home consumption, at the full prices of last day. Heavy wethers were rather neglected, and were found difficult to clear. There was an improved demand for shipping hoggets for the English markets, but there was no improvement to note in rates. Coarse sheep were slow and irregular, as such descriptions were not wanted. The lamb trade is on the wane, and the supply smaller. Lambs of choice finish sold readily at previous full rates. Best wether mutton, 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 7d.; and inferior, from 5d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets were worth from 44s. to 56s. each; small to medium hoggets from 32s. to 42s. Large fat lambs made from 35s. to 38s.; other sorts from 20s. each upwards.

There was a fuller supply of veal, and a slow trade, except for prime calves, which made from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; coarse calves sold at from 6d. per lb. upwards. Milch cows were in fair supply, but demand was slow and prices lower than at the previous day's market. Good springers were quoted at from £15 to £20, and other sorts at from £8 upwards.

Store cattle continue a moderate trade. Graziers are holding back stock now that there is a better prospect of pasturage from the recent rains. Some sales of store cattle were held after the market was over, and a fairly good business was done. In the market itself yearlings were the only stores offered for sale. Large sales of rams and ewes are advertised to take place shortly. The country fairs for the last few weeks have been dull and spiritless.

At the Dublin pig market on Thursday large arrivals of hogs and the absence of a number of buyers made trade disappointing, and sales were effected at a reduction of fully 4s. per cwt. on the week, and a clearance could not be made. A bad day like this is the thing of which sellers complain, as by the Swine Fever Order they are practically compelled to sell for anything buyers like to offer, or are obliged to hold their pigs for at least four weeks before again putting them on the market. Nice light weight pigs made from 48s. to 50s. per cwt.; coarse pigs from 34s. per cwt.

Trade in the West.

There has been a trifling recovery in values, but hardly to the extent to justify a quotation, though now that the land has in most places had a good soaking, we may expect a more pronounced rise in values, unless the rain should now unfortunately prove excessive, to the detriment of what, up to this week, promised to be one of the most satisfactory harvests for several years past. Stock heifers continue to find a very fair sale at from £8 to £13 or £14 a-piece for forward grades; and there is likewise a demand for yearling heifers at from about £9 10s. to £12 per pair for ordinary runs, animals showing promise going beyond the prices quoted. The poor outlook for keep up to the advent of the rain, of course, had an adverse influence on the sheep trade, and although prices on the whole have been difficult to maintain, except in the matter of Down lambs, which are more in demand than almost anything else, still there has been no very material "drop" in prices, except at the great fair at Ilsley, where competent judges quote a decline of 1s. to 2s. a head. Store pigs are keeping up in price, and with the extra demand there will now be for "stubbling" purposes, we shall possibly see them still dearer yet. The weather up to the closing part of the week continued rather "catchy" though not to the extent to seriously delay harvesting as a rule.

There are moderate supplies of beef coming out, including a few really well finished steers and heifers, but the trade continues quiet, except for the very choicest grades, for which there are plenty of buyers at from £17 up to £22 a-piece (or from 11s. to 12s. per score) for these qualities only, fat cows making only 54s. to about 56s. per cwt. Though sheep keep within moderate bounds, the trade is inactive for everything but the best, the best class of Downs making 8d. to 8¼d.; other good qualities, 7d. to 7¾d.; and heavy sheep and ewes, 6d. to 7d. The best qualities of lamb make up to 10½d. per lb., several lots coming under our notice making 49s. up to 52s. a-piece; more ordinary grades selling from 9d. to 9½d. Fat calves, though again meeting a pretty general inquiry, are ½d. to 1d. per lb. cheaper than they were a little while since, the very choicest seldom making 8¼d. now, a more average range being 7¾d. to 8d. Pigs, from what we can glean, are none too plentiful anywhere, and nice well-finished porkers command a quick sale up to 10s. per score and over; and baconers 8s. 6d. to 9s. 3d.; heavier pigs according to their value.

LONDON.

Islington. Thursday.—Beast supply, as usual on a Thursday, consisted almost entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls from the Midland counties, mostly of good quality. Trade was fairly steady, last Monday's currencies governing all sales, an early clearance being made. Top value: Fat cows, 3s. 6d.; fat bulls, 4s. 10d. to 5s. 2d. per 8lb. Decrease of 310 in number penned in sheep market. The supply included 200 Scotch Cheviots, which sold at slightly advanced rates. Trade for both wethers and ewes was brisk at an advance of fully 2d. per 8lb. on last Monday's quotations. Lambs were in short supply and made 2d. per 8lb. more money. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows:—7 stone Scotch, 6s; 7 to 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10 stone half breds, 5s 4d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s 8d; 6 stone half bred ditto, 6s 2d to 6s 4d. Calves met fairly good inquiry at late rates. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 4s 8d to 5s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 6d; lambs, 5s 4d to 6s 8d. Total supply: Beasts 50, sheep and lambs 2,090, calves 40, and milch cows 5.

London (Central). Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow, but prices fairly firm: English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 8d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 6d to 4s; ditto seconds, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; ditto forequarters, 1s 8d to 2s 2d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ditto tegs, 4s 10d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s 4d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. English pork, 3s 6d to 4s; Dutch ditto, 3s 4d to 3s 8d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—The first of the store lamb fairs was held. Kent lambs fetched 21s to 27s, and half-breds to 28s per head. Good trade for beef at 4s 6d to 4s 10d. Mutton 2d dearer on the week, making up to 5s 10d for Downs and 5s for Kents. Veal dearer, 5s to 5s 6d. Pork also advanced, roasters making up to 4s 2d per stone.

Basingstoke. Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 22 fat beasts, 67 calves, 794 fat sheep and lambs, 53 pigs, and 86 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Devon steers made up to £20 5s. Shorthorn steers £19 10s, good Welsh runts £18 10s to £19, polled steers £18 15s, fat calves 60s to £5 5s, small 20s to 55s, fat porkers 38s to 55s, store pigs 8s to 14s 6d, dairy cows £11 to £19 16s, prime Down wethers and young ewes made from 50s to 68s, small 45s to 48s, six months' old Down lambs 42s to 50s, small 32s to 38s, cross-breds up to 32s, old ewes 34s to 38s, choice three months' old sucking lambs 32s to 38s, Southdowns 30s 6d, rams and ram lambs 40s to 52s, store four-tooth Down ewes up to 51s, two tooths 52s. There was not much demand for the short supply of fat beasts, sales being difficult to make, with prices in favour of the buyer. A good show of fat sheep and lambs met a satisfactory trade, big sheep and big lambs making an advance in price; choice sucking lambs selling well, and high prices made of them. The milk trade was lower all round to-day, the best milch cows realising less money than quoted at recent markets. Store cattle met with little inquiry, and what few were on offer met with slight attention. Fat calves met a firmer trade at an advance upon late quotations. Fat porkers, with a short entry, met a brisk trade. Store pigs are also selling well. Ruling values:—Best beasts, 6¾d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb; best quality fat sheep, 8¾d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 7¼d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9¾d to 10¼d per lb; fat calves, 7d to 8¼d per lb; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 11s per score.

Berwick. Saturday.—Small show, over 40 short of the previous week, 61 cattle being penned. The attendance was poor, and little or no business was transacted.

Birmingham. Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Prices:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb; a few Herefords, 7d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb; veal, 6d to 7¼d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to £10 per score; sows, 7s 10d per score.

Bristol. Thursday.—There was a moderate supply of beef but limited enquiry, and business was slow at late rates. Full average quantity of mutton and lamb on offer, but demand by no means brisk and trade quiet, values being unchanged. Pigs were again not numerous, and quotations were unaltered.

Calne. Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	10	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	10	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	9	6
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	9	0

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury. Saturday. — A large number of lambs were offered. Average quality working lambs were worth from 20s to 21s, but the best went up to 27s, and small specimens as low as 11s 6d per head. Good wether tegs, 51s to 44s; rough old sheep, 18s 6d to 38s per head.

Carlisle. Saturday.—The supplies on the Sands were rather small, but generally the consignments were good of Irish heifers. Buyers were sparsely represented, and business was slow. Wintering heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; heifers for finishing off, £12 10s to £14 10s each.

Chester. Thursday.—The large and excellent supplies of cattle had little attraction for the small attendance of buyers, and business was disappointing. In some cases there was a drop in prices, but on the whole they were unchanged. Milch cows £16 to £20, calvers £15 to £18, heifers £8 to £15, barrens £9 to £12, and stirks £6 to £10.

Colchester. Saturday. There continues to be a poor supply. Grass beef sold at 4s 4d to 4s 6d a stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; lamb, 6s to 6s 8d; and pork, 8s 6d to 9s a score.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Small supply of cattle, but a large number of sheep, chiefly lambs. Yearling stores made £5 to £16 for strong bullocks; dairy cows, £11 to £22; lambs, 28s to 34s each.

Dorchester. Wednesday. — A brisk business, and prices advancing with the cooler weather. Calves ruled firm, and made up to 8¾d per lb. for the best; seconds, 7d to 8d. Lambs a brisk trade, and made 10d per lb. for choice lots, and inferior kinds 7¾d to 8¼d. Ewe mutton, 6¾d to 7d per lb. The pig trade was buoyant. Porkers made up to 60s, and baconers 90s (or 9s to 10s per score); fat sows, £5 to £5 12s 6d.

Dorchester. Saturday. At the fortnightly sale at the Dorchester Repository to-day there were fair average supplies on offer, for which there was a steady, not to say fast, trade; but Messrs. Ensor were able to clear their stocks, fat and store alike. Milch beasts showed an improvement in values, sellers hardly making the money they expected in some cases, to-day's range being from £11 15s up to £19 for cows and heifers with calves. Barreners, too, were quiet, in spite of the good keep promises, from £5 to £9 4 per pair being the range for the best. Fat beasts sold from £15 15s to £1 9each (or 10s to 11s per score). Mutton quiet trade at unchanged rates, 7d to 8d for best qualities, and 9d to 9¼d for lamb (or 32s to 35s per head).

Dublin. Thursday.—There was a better attendance of buyers, and more animation was shown in the bidding for choice cattle, which realised somewhat higher prices. Rough and unfinished sorts still hard to move. A very

choice lot of Angus cross bullocks, fed by Mr. Persse, were much admired, and brought about top price for their class. Sheep easier sold, choicest lots favouring sellers. Lambs unaltered in value. Cattle, live weight (best), 30s to 32s per cwt. Exceptional for Angus crosses up to 34s per cwt. Secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb. GANLY, SONS AND Co.

Edinburgh. Wednesday. Lighter supplies and slower trade. Polled bullocks, £14 14s to £15 15s; others, £9 9s to £12 12s; halfbred lambs, 25s to 28s; halfbred sheep, 30s to 36s; best shorthorn cows to £25; Ayrshires, £20; and crosses, £23 5s.

Exeter. Friday.—Usual number of fat beasts on offer, and very quiet trade, prices tending lower; 11s top price for heifers and steers; some unsold. Large supply of sheep of all kinds; wethers, 8d; ewes, 6d. The supply of breeding ewes much too large for the demand, and a great number unsold. Prices lower (from 36s to 42s). Lambs scarce and dear, at 10d to 11d. Calves, 7d.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Sheep and lambs less plentiful and prices firm. Cattle in fair supply and prices steady. Scotch cattle scarce, and fetched up to 64s; secondary, 58s to 60s; best Irish, 56s; States and Canadians, 54s to 55s per cwt.; best home sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d per lb; secondary, 1d less; top lambs, 9d; secondary 8¼d.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—60 cows and calves and in-calvers, most of which were sold, with trade hardly so good. A short supply of store cattle, with very little demand.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Owing to the weather and the harvest there were small supplies and a dull market. The beef trade was middling at late rates, best quality at 6d to 6½d; cow beef, 5½d to 6d. Mutton also a quiet trade; wethers, at 7½d to 8d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d per lb. Fat lambs, a fair supply, were in good demand at 8d to 8½d per lb; store lambs a quiet trade. Fat calves, by no means a brisk trade, 6½d per lb; store calves down. Pigs a small supply. Porks went better than expected, at 5½d per lb. Store cattle met with a bad trade, very few changing hands.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate attendance of buyers and dealers, with a restricted supply of home-bred stock. Trade ruled sluggish, at a further decline of 10s per head. Choice milch cows, £18 to £20; good useful lots, £16 to £17; inferior, £13 to £15; Irish bullocks, £13 to £14; Welsh cattle, £9 to £10; young stock, £7 to £8; calves, 15s to 30s each.

Lincoln. Friday.—Poor show of horned stock, and a slow trade at last week's prices. Fair supply of sheep, with a medium sale. Ewes, 36s to 42s; lambs, 26s to 36s each.

Lynn. Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade slow. 7s to 7s 3d per stone. Scarcely any store beasts. £6 to £11 each. Fat sheep average show, trade slow. 8s 9d to 9s per stone. Few store sheep, 36s to 44s. Store lambs, 25s to 32s. Fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester. Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5¾d; second-class, 4¾d to 5d; third-class, 3¾d to 4d per lb. Mutton: First-class, 7¼d; second-class, 6¾d to 7d; third-class, 5½d to 6d. Veal: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 5½d to 5¾d; third-class, 4½d to 4¾d. Lamb: First-class, 7½; second-class, 7d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fairly brisk trade for fat beasts at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Store cattle offered in small numbers, but the quality was quite sufficient to meet a slow demand; values ranged from £6 to £14 per head. Smaller number of store sheep on offer; trade quiet, lambs making 25s to 35s per head. Breeding ewes, for which there was a better demand, made 36s to 57s per head. Trade for fat sheep was firm at 9s to 10s per stone, but the supply was not up to the average. Hardening of prices for fat pigs, which were quoted at 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone; a few store pigs sold readily.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a very short supply, owing to the harvest. Prices ruled about at last week. Best milch cows, £17 to £20; incalf heifers, £14 to £18; strong heifers and steers, £10 to £13; younger beasts, £6 to £9; calves, 25s to 50s.

Retford, Saturday.—At this store stock market only the pick of the milch beasts were looked at, and were worth £18 to £20; secondary sorts were difficult to sell at £14 to £16; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 35s to 45s each.

Romford. Wednesday. Large supply of fat beasts; average trade. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 5s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves scarce and trade better, at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade better. Best sheep, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; middlings, 6s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Lambs scarce; better trade, at 6s 4d to 6s 8d per stone. Pig trade slow.

Thame. Tuesday.—Quite an average attendance of buyers, but farmers, being busy with the harvest, supplies of stock, did not meet the demand. Beef met a ready sale at better prices than on previous weeks. Mutton in great request, realising top figures for everything, not one pen remaining unsold. Bacon and pork continue scarce and dear. Fat calves in demand, but weaning calves slightly lower. All store stock selling well. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 78 fat beasts, 192 fat and store sheep, 54 fat and weaning calves, and 58 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £18 to £21 12s 6d; fat heifers, £15 15s to £20 7s 6d; fat wether sheep, 48s to 58s; fat lambs, 35s to 39s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 55s; fat calves, £3 5s to £5 14s; weaning cow calves, 40s to 59s; bull calves, 12s to 45s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £4 15s; porkers, 28s to 42s.

Truro. Wednesday. Business fairly brisk; attendance fair. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt.; cows and calves, £12 to £15; rearing calves, 25s to 30s; wethers, 7d to 7¼ per lb; ewes, 5d to 5¾d per lb; lambs, 7½d to 8d; large pigs, smaller pigs, and suckers, 7s 9d to 5ls each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 4½d to 5¾d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 260; calves, 25; sheep, 320; pigs, 143; horses, 2.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—Beasts slow trade; moderate supply. Sheep and lambs moderate trade; fair demand. Calves small supply. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6¾ to 8¾d per lb.; lamb, 8¼ to 8¾d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, with a fair trade for beef and mutton. Beef made 7s to 7s 6d per stone for best; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 7s; best Southdown and crossbred sheep, 8d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill. Monday.—Small supplies of American and Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, only 269 head being penned in the lairages. There was an average attendance of buyers, but business was somewhat slow throughout the day, although clearances were effected early at all the stances at rates on lines similar to those prevailing during last week. Bullocks of useful weight and sizes sold from 56s to 57s per cwt., deadweight, with a number of really choice beasts up to 58s per cwt., and rough and coarse sorts from 54s to 55s per cwt. deadweight. Bulls were easy at late rates, prime animals realising up to 46s per cwt., and rough and heavy sorts down to 44s per cwt.

Yorkhill. Tuesday. To-day a supplementary sale was held, at which 729 Canadian and American cattle were offered in the presence of a large company of buyers. Business at the outset was somewhat slow, but latterly more animation was displayed, and though prices were generally lower than those current on the previous day, transactions were of a heavier character, the consequence being that clearances were early effected at all the stances. Useful bullocks sold at from 56s. per cwt. deadweight, while the better qualities changed hands up to 57s per cwt. Secondary and rough, coarse qualities realised from 52s to 54s per cwt. deadweight. Bulls were a really choice lot of prime animals, the best of which realised from 46s to 48s per cwt. deadweight, and a few heavy sorts were sold down to 44s per cwt.

MILK.

London, Saturday.—For the week ending August 11 there was not a great demand for milk, but 7d to 7½d per imperial gallon was obtainable.—THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

BUTTER

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Boston: 1s 1d and 1s 2d. Colne: 1s 0½d to 1s 1d. Dorchester: 11d to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Holsworthy: 1s 2d. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 2d. Knaresborough: 1s 9d to 1s 1d per 24 oz. roll. Louth: 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d. Market Weighton: 1s to 1s 1d. Newton Abbot: 1s 5d to 1s 7d. Northallerton: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per roll of 24 oz. Stockton: 1s to 1s 3d. Truro: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 11d to 1s. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. North Tawton: 1s 2d. Penisone: 1s 1d. Penzance: 11d to 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d. Chester: 1s 2d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 2d Derby: 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Knutsford: 1s 2d. Leyburn: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 11d to 2s per 24 ounce roll. Redruth: 1s 2d. Runcorn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 3d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number is 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 10 and 11. Boston: 13 and 14. Colne: 1s 9d to 1s 11d per score. Dorchester: 1s 0½d to 1s 3d per dozen. Goole: 13 and 14. Hereford: 12 and 13. Holsworthy: 13. Keighley: 10 and 11. Kirbymoorside: 12 and 13. Knaresborough: 11. Louth: 14 to 16. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Market Weighton: 15. Newton Abbot: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per dozen. Northallerton: 12. Stockton: 10 and 11. Truro: 10d to 11d per dozen. Worksop: 2s per score.

Thursday.—Axminster: 9d to 10d per dozen. Birmingham: 10 and 11. Brigg: 12 and 13. Driffield: 15 and 16. Devizes: 14 and 16. Kidderminster: 12. North Tawton 12. Penistone: 12. Penzance: 10d to 1s 2d per dozen. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 11. Scarborough: 10. Wetherby: 11 and 12.

Friday.—Altrincham: 9. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Barnstaple: 12 to 14. Camelford: 14. Chester: 10 and 11. Crewe: 10. Congleton: 10 and 11. Derby: 11 and 12. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Knutsford: 10 to 12. Leyburn: 11 to 12. Lincoln: 11 and 12. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 10. Nantwich: 12. Northwich: 10 and 11. Otley: 11. Redruth: 11d per dozen. Runcorn: 9. Stamford: 13 and 14. St. Austell: 13. Stockport: 9. Tavistock: 10 and 11. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 and 12. Berwick: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 12. Carlisle: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 12 and 13. Grantham: 12 to 14. Howden: 13 and 14. Ipswich: 11 to 13. Malton: 11. Pontefract: 11 and 12. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 12. Shrewsbury: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 12 and 13. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 10. York: 12.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies of Cheddars and Dunlops large, and demand fair. Sellers held for firm prices. Cheddars and Dunlops fetched 50s to 56s per cwt. Little doing in New Zealands.

Newport. Wednesday.—A good supply pitched. An average attendance and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 50s to 56s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 57s to 59s; truckles, 54s to 58s.

WOOL.

Canterbury. Saturday. Trade slow, but prices well maintained: Kent fleeces, 11½d to 1s, and lamb wool 8d per lb. Half-bred fleeces are quoted from 1s to 1s 0½d; Downs, 1s 1d per lb.

London. Saturday.—English—per pkge. of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £12 10s to £14; halfbred hoggs, £12 10s to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £15; Kent fleeces, £12 to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £12 to £13 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.—Vic.: Fleece super., 1s 11 to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d. N.S.W.: Second average, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11d to 11½d. S. Aust.: Greasy average, 9d to 9½d. N.Z.: scoured average, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d; greasy average, 10½d to 11¼d. Cape: Scoured super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece average, 9½d to 10d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d. Natal: Scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic.: Good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d. New Zealand: Fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull. Tuesday.—Linseed: During the early part of last week the market was very flat and 6d to 9d accepted for Plate on all positions to September-October. Sellers have again withdrawn their offering prices and do not seem to mind [illegible]. Russian Plate for spot, 29s 9d August-September, 29s 6d September-October, and 29s 3d seed. The market has been quiet and easier at £5 12s 6d spot and afloat, and closes nominal from £5 13s 9d for August-September [illegible] buyers do not respond, and there are no sellers [illegible]. Bombay sold at £5 13s 9d and £5 14s August-September, £5 14s 6d September-October, and [illegible] December-January and January-February. Egyptian easier at £5 11s 3d passage and August, £5 [illegible] December-January. Offered rather freely [illegible] but not much demand. Cotton cakes [illegible] better demand. KEIGHLEY MAXTED AND Co.

London. Thursday. Linseed: The market is flat and in spite of their being little pressure to sell, continue to droop on account of the absence of demand. Calcutta London, spot 30s 9d, and July-August 30s August-September 29s 3d, September-October 29s 6d. La Plata, July-August 30s. Hull: Little enquiry, except at lower prices. La Plata, spot 30s 6d, passage 30s, August-September 30s, September-October 30s. Rapeseed has continued very inactive, and prices are nominal. Brown Cawnpore, August-September 35s. Brown Calcutta, August-September about 33s 9d. Cottonseed: Market is quiet, and values have again declined for old crop, but new is [illegible] offered. London: Passage £5 12s 6d, August £5 12s 6d sellers, September-Fayoumi £5 12s 6d sellers, September-Fayoumi 50s, November-January 50s. Hull: Spot and passage and August £5 11s 3d, September Fayoumi buyers £5 17s 6d, November-January £5 18s 9d. Linseed oil has again declined in value, and quotations are lower in all positions. We quote spot and month in pipes £18, barrels £18 2s 6d, September-December £18 2s 6d, January-April £18 5s. Hull, naked spot £17, September-December £17 7s 6d, January-April £18 5s. Oil cakes.—Linseed cakes: Firm. London made £7 12s 6d to £7 15s. Cotton cakes firmer. London made £14 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane. Monday. Linseed cakes: There is no improvement to note in the demand, which is particularly small and which, to a great extent, may be attributed to the present ruling high values, causing a restricted consumption, at the same time the market is in no way affected and, in consequence of light shipments, is well supported. Russian and American remain unchanged. East India seed parcels have been sold at £7 10s to arrive. London-made maintain their value at an advance of 2s 6d per ton, but fail to attract much attention. Cotton cakes: Egyptians are in small supply and, with limited stocks, prices are firmly held up at last week's prices, with sellers in November-April position at the same figure. English remain unchanged. Decorticated London-made are in good request, considering the time of the year, both for cake and meal, but prices as well as American are practically unchanged. Rape cakes: Neglected. East India 2s 6d less money. Maize germ meal: Some business is reported in white American at £5 10s, c.i.f. terms, and English make are slightly easier. Maize gluten meal has been sold at £5 10s for autumn delivery. Rice meal is scarce on spot, but for arrival £4 10s ex ship terms would still be accepted for a limited quantity. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is relatively good value at £4 15s per ton. Molascuit cattle food goes steadily into consumption at £4 10s per ton. Locust beans find rather more inquiry at £5 5s for whole and £5 10s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is unaltered at £10 17s 6d per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 6
in mats	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 12 6	to 4 13 0
"		
English	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 2 6	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 15 0	
" " " Meal	6 15 0	
" Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	6 12 6	to 6 17 6
" Meal "	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American ..... (c.i.f.)	5 10 0	
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 10 0	to 5 15 0
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive	4 10 0	
" ..... ex warehouse	4 12 6	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 17 6	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday.—Moderate supplies were brought forward this morning, but the demand proved slow. English, 50s to 55s per ton.

Goole. Wednesday.—Practically nothing being on the wholesale market, most of the regular dealers being in attendance at the Yorkshire Show. In consequence prices ranged from 5d to 9d per stone.

Spitalfields. Saturday. Supplies were fair in extent, but experienced a slow trade. Per ton: Yorks, 90s to 95s; Puritans, 65s to 75s; Scots, 75s to 85s; Dons, 65s to 70s; Beauty of Hebrons, 65s per ton.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—The recent rains have done good to the plantations, which are now being freely into hop. The winds last week are stated to have of the laterals in exposed places, but no damage was done generally. Trade has continued quiet since the holidays, and little will be done before the new crop comes to market except for present requirements.—CHARLES FARAM AND Co.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Berkeley Hunt.

The fourteenth annual show of the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society, held under the shadow of the historic Berkeley Castle on Bank Holiday, was one of the best of the series, and was certainly an attractive one, there being a good attendance of visitors all day long. The entries on the whole showed an advance upon those received last year, although in some of the classes a diminution was noticeable. Horses and cattle both maintained the high average of this show, and the dairy tent was very well filled, there being a considerable increase in the butter and cheese classes, while poultry and eggs were also in excess of last year. As usual, the big crowd were kept continually interested in the jumping, driving, and racing during the afternoon. Some of the animals performed capitally, taking the difficult obstacles in a manner which greatly pleased the onlookers.

Brentor and Lydford.

The seventeenth annual show of the Brentor and Lydford Pony Society was held at Brentor on Monday, and was one of the best on record, the entries being more than on any previous occasion, whilst the quality was, if anything, above the average. The entries, as compared with last year, showed an increase of 14, and totalled 315, a record. The total in 1903 was 311, and in 1904 301. The show of Dartmoor ponies was an excellent one, and showed a great a great improvement in the breeding. Mares and foals made some very strong classes; and among them were real stamps of the Dartmoor breed. Hacks and hunters were well represented. The colts sired by Turgot were undoubtedly a wonderfully good lot, and the strongest class of the day. The prize-winners have every promise of being exceptionally valuable hunters. The jumping classes contained a number of well-known animals. The horses took the obstacles well, but would have done better but for the heavy showers, which made the ground slippery. There were three strong driving classes, and some very clever and well-mannered horses were exhibited. Polo-bending competitions attracted considerable attention, and the animals, as a whole, did their work well. Lydford show is noted for the excellence of the Dartmoor sheep sent to it, and this year's exhibition proved no exception to the rule.

Central Banffshire.

No fewer than 2,025 entries were received by the Central Banffshire Farmers' Club for their show at Keith on Tuesday, the number being considerably in advance of last year, whilst as to the general quality this was perhaps the best ever seen at Keith. Shorthorns were a splendid lot, and we should think made one of the finest displays ever seen here. Aberdeen-Angus were fairly good, and included some well-known winners; whilst there was a really capital display of tenant farmers' cattle. As to the horses, it was generally conceded that they showed a great improvement on previous shows at Keith. The weather was fortunately most favourable and the attendance of visitors good, so that the show may be written down a complete success.

Chatteris.

The nineteenth annual show of the Chatteris Shire Horse and Hackney Society took place on Monday at Manor Park, and proved a good holiday attraction, and the visitors were well catered for, there being a good entry in all sections. Mr. Wm. Richardson was the most successful exhibitor in Shires. In open colt foals he was first with a colt foal of Normoor Statesman, which was third at March, and looks like a stallion maker, another animal by the same sire, a filly out of Boro' Starlight, being in second place. In the tenant farmers' class Mr. Richardson was to the front again with a nice bay by Normoor Statesman Boro' Starlight; and third with another Normoor Statesman bay, whilst he was first and second, too, in brood mares, his first performer, Boro' Starlight, also securing the Shire Horse Society's medal. Sir Walter Gilbey's champion cup for hackneys went to the Halloo Garton Dane filly. Hackney mares were headed by Sir Walter Gilbey's Bold Princess; Mr. John Rowell's well-known Bury Duchess and Mr. W. Simpson's Linasol following in order. Mr. Wm. Morton's Afterthought won in harness, and in the filly or gelding class Messrs. A and L. Beldam had an easy win with a brown filly by Rocellan. Bold Princess was awarded the Hackney Society's medal.

Keele.

For their show at Keele Park, near Newcastle-under-Lyme, on Thursday, the Keele Agricultural and Horticultural Society offered a prize schedule of £600, and though it attracted a goodly entry (631 in the agricultural section), it was not so large as on some previous occasions. Still it was a most creditable show. A feature of the show was the excellent lot of horses exhibited. Both heavy and light animals showed improvement in quality, and the numbers were also more than maintained. Lady Mary, a mare which has only been once or twice beaten, won in an open class of hunter brood mares that produced a really high-class lot, and took the Hunters' Improvement Society's medal. The Wigginton stud were first with an animal that has been doing well in the show ring throughout the season. Cattle were a poor section, there being only seventeen entries compared with forty-two last year. There was a small show of sheep, but the quality was good, and a series of excellent pens of Shropshires, shown by the executors of W. Ball, Norton, Stone, almost swept the board. There were three classes of pigs, and breeding sows were a splendid lot. Other sections included creditable shows of cheese, butter, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, cats, and dogs. The horticultural section was notable for the excellence of the cottagers' exhibits, which were far above those of amateurs, especially as regards vegetables.

Ludlow.

The fifty-sixth show of the Ludlow Agricultural Society was held in Ludford Park on Bank Holiday, and at the outset the weather was unfavourable but afterwards turned pleasantly fine, and the horse leaping, turnouts, etc., took place under the most favourable conditions. Probably the doubtful weather of the morning affected the attendance, and accounted for a slight falling off as compared with last year. The entries this year showed an advance in some sections, and in the aggregate they compared well with those at previous meetings. Cart horses were represented by some animals of the best type and all round the quality was very good and in advance of that seen at previous shows. Some particularly nice hunters were shown in the hunter classes, and the judges were at some trouble in apportioning the awards. The cattle classes at Ludlow are always well and worthily filled, and this year there was no falling off noticeable. Herefords, of course, predominated. The weakest point in the sheep section was the wether lambs, there being only one entry, and that not of any great merit. In the other classes the competition was very good.

Newcastle Tenants.

Thanks to the great interest taken in all things agricultural and in the welfare of the show itself by the Duke of Newcastle and his popular wife, the Newcastle Tenants' Agricultural Society's annual display at Chamber Park has won a high place among agricultural exhibitions that are entirely suported by the tenantry of some of the larger estates. Occuring as it does on the August Bank Holiday, the show is usually patronised by a considerable gathering of visitors, who are given the opportunity of admiring the beauties of the famous park, and it, moreover, forms a fitting prelude to the somewhat larger show held by the Duke of Portland's tenants at Welbeck. The number of entries was in excess of those of former years, with the single exception of those in the poultry section. Agricultural horses were numerously represented, and many of them showed exceptional quality; whilst hackneys and harness horses made a very creditable display, as did also the cattle and sheep; whilst pigs, poultry, butter, and eggs were all well represented, some of the classes devoted to cottagers' produce being particularly encouraging.

South Brent.

At the tenth annual show of the South Brent Dartmoor Pony Society, held at South Brent on Wednesday, there were one hundred and eighty-two entries, a new record for the exhibition, and most of the classes were well filled. Brood mares were for the most part of good quality. Two silver medals were given by the Polo Pony Society, that for the best stallion going to Mr. John R. T. Kingwell, of Brent, and the other for the best mare to Mr. E. W. Mead, also of Brent, who exhibited a fine two-year-old. A set of very capable hunters were entered, the chief award going to Mr. S. Cockrem, who entered a beautiful gelding, Sweet Briar. Some smart turnouts were entered for the driving competition, whilst the jumping contest produced plenty of excitement. Most of the hunters negotiated the hurdles and banks with ease, but some of the ponies refused the bank..

United Counties.

The annual exhibition of the United Counties Agricultural Society, which embraces Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, and Cardiganshire, was held in Carmarthen Park on Thursday, when the entries were considerably fewer than last year, being 560, as against 617, but the latter is the largest number which the association has placed on record. The show is entirely confined to the three counties, except an open £10 prize for Shorthorn bulls and an open £10 prize for Shire mares. The entries at the first show totalled 408. The winners of that year would undoubtedly be left entirely in the cold now, the type of animals seen at Carmarthen on Thursday being altogether different, and more valuable in every way. A point of interest is that there were this year 237 tenant farmers against 26 exhibitors who are not so classed. The show of stock was, all round, good; the Welsh cattle were excellent, and the best show seen here, whilst Shorthorns also did credit to the society and exhibitors. The agricultural horses, although not a large collection, were full of quality, especially the brood mares and geldings, whilst the ponies were very good indeed. The experiment which the society made in offering a prize for mountain sheep seems to have proved a failure, as there were only two entries, and they were by the same exhibitor.

Waltham Cross.

Although the weather was not of the best by any means, the annual show of the Waltham Cross and Three Counties' Horse and Foal Society, held at Waltham Cross on Bank Holiday, proved successful, both as regards the attendance of visitors and the show of stock, though the former was hardly so good as last year. The society, which really was started to improve the breed of cart horses in the neighbourhood, has thoroughly fulfilled its object, as the tenant farmers' classes were deserving of very great praise, and the farmers took the principal prizes. A better display of Shire horses is not often seen at country shows, those sent by tenant farmers being especially good. The hunters, both for light and heavy weights, were capital, and the young hunter stock showed a marked improvement. The Hackneys in the riding and driving classes were good.

Worthing.

Unfortunately for the success of the show of the Worthing and West Sussex Horse Show Society at Worthing on Wednesday, rain fell heavily at intervals throughout the day, whilst the fixture clashed with the Brighton races, and these two circumstances had a most prejudicial effect on the attendance, the result being that the "gate" was a very poor one. This was all the more regrettable in that the show itself was a particularly good one, the entries showing an advance on last year, whilst the quality was very good. Altogether the entries numbered 120, many of the best known owners of horses in Sussex competing. There were fourteen entries for hacks not under 14 hands, and 10 for the best horse 15 hands and over. The strongest section was that comprising the riding, driving, and jumping competitions. There were no fewer than eighteen entries in the jumping competition for the £30 prize. The weather improved a little when this class was in progress and the jumping was witnessed by a fashionable assembly, the stands being well filled. The winner was Mr. A. Nixey Smith's bay gelding Monarch, the same exhibitor's Grasshopper being second.

It is announced that the price of the London and North Western Railway pictorial postcards to the trade, showing the Royal saloons in colours, Royal trains, locomotives, places of interest, etc., on the system, has been reduced from 1½d. to 1¼d. per packet of six cards, or 15s. per gross packets, for all orders received after August 7th. The cards are of first-class quality and up to the end of June last over two and a half millions have been sold. New sets, in colours, showing views in North Wales, The Lake District, Scotland and Ireland, have just been published, and as the cards are nicely printed there is bound to be a big demand for them.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD, LTD.

THE ANNUAL SALE OF PEDIGREE CLYDESDALE MARES, FILLIES and FOALS, also HACKNEY PONIES, CATTLE and SHEEP, will be held at Seaham Harbour, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

Catalogues in preparation. Apply R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, At BALA,

SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905.

Entries close August 12th. Jumping and Trotting, September 9th.

E. M. ROBERTS, Secretary, Tremeirion, Talsarnau, Merioneth.

SOUTH TYNE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

At BELLISTER PARK,

SEPTEMBER 9th, 1905.

Entries close August 31st.

W. S. CROUDACE, Secretary, Rosevean, Haltwhistle.

In writing to advertisers readers will confer a favour by mentioning "Mark Lane Express" as the source of their information.

RABBIT NETTING.—Best twine, tanned, not proof; 100 yards, 1s. 6d.; 75, 1s.; 50, 9s.; corded complete. Purse Nets, 5d., 6d., 7d.; 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 5s. 6d. dozen; large, well made. New catalogue, Nets, Traps all appliances. Id.—SAMUEL YOUNG, Net Trap Manufacturer, Crewkerne, Somerset. Mention paper.

Live Stock Record.

HEREFORDS AS MILKERS.

A subject of importance to breeders of Hereford cattle has recently received public attention. Mr. Preece, the well-known Shrewsbury auctioneer, a few years since executed a commission to select a few Hereford heifers from English herds for an Irish agriculturist, who desired to breed grazing steers from them. The order was duly executed, and the heifers, at three years old, bore calves; but the enterprise came to grief, according to the Irish breeder's statement, owing to the heifers yielding insufficient milk to rear their calves. The latter would have been starved, he said, if other milk had not been given them, and in the issue he was compelled to abandon the enterprise. Mr. Preece has made known these facts in the interest of the breed and of the grazing stock trade, he having always understood that Hereford cows and heifers in England rear their calves admirably. He believes this experience to be exceptional; and, if so, this should be made fully known, as "Irish Hereford crosses always command top prices at Shrewsbury store-stock sales."

In reply to this a letter from Mr. W. J. S. White has appeared in print pointing out that when Hereford heifers fail to yield milk the fault must be in their training. "This is proved," he writes, "by the fact that a large herd of pure-bred Herefords has been in existence at Zeals since 1819, kept for dairy purposes, and that in competition with other breeds this herd obtained a third prize in the class for dairy herds at the recent Royal Counties Show." This dairy herds' competition was a highly important one, inasmuch as there were seventeen in the class, all having over forty cows, and the radius of thirty miles for eligibility included the far-famed Vale of Blackmoor. Mr. A. Hiscock's Shorthorns were first, and Mr. Kilminster, who keeps deep milkers on the borders of Bournemouth to supply the teeming population of that place with the lacteal fluid, won second prize. That a herd of pure-bred Herefords should have been third is indeed clear proof that it is only by bad education that Herefords lose dairy property, especially as two of the other herds in competition were so good that extra prizes, on the recommendation of the judges, were awarded.

The fact may not be generally known that the cross of the Hereford on the Shorthorn often produces a better dairy cow than can be obtained from either pure breed. This was the discovery of the late Mr. E. C. Tisdall, of Holland Park Dairy, Kensington, who about a quarter of a century ago, compiled a milk record of sixty of his best milkers for the British Dairy Farmers' Association. The cow that gave most was "Old Hereford," so called from having the form, colour, and type of a Hereford, although possessed of a cross of Shorthorn. During her first month in profit her yield was twenty-three quarts per day; in the second and third months, twenty-two quarts; and for eleven months, an average of fifteen quarts per day. Two other Shorthorn-Herefords also had notable records, one of 14.61 quarts per day for nine months, and the other 10.68 quarts per day for eleven months. On the First Prize Royal Warwickshire Farm of 1902 a leading feature was the large herd of Hereford-Shorthorn dairy cows, which were found to be of even type as well as great merit. It had been customary for many years to give a three-years' term of service by a pure-bred Shorthorn bull, followed by a similar length of service by a pure-bred Hereford, which was perfectly successful in preserving uniformity of type.

Prominent British Breeders.

MR. W. A. TREWEEKE,
Ryne Hill, Kingham, Chipping Norton.
BREEDER OF OXFORD DOWN SHEEP.

Mr. Alfred Apperly, J.P., of Rodborough Court, Stroud, has recently shipped ten of his prize rams from his celebrated registered flock of Hampshire Down sheep from Hyde Farm to Mr. James Cullen per s.s. "Highland Hope," to Buenos Ayres.

Volume XVI. of the English Herd Book and Register of Pure-bred Jersey Cattle has just been issued, and it gives the pedigrees of 1,188 cows and 354 bulls; also lists of births in the herds of members of the Society, prize winners at the principal shows and butter test awards of 1904, results of Jersey sales, and other information of interest to Jersey cattle breeders.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The agricultural shows of this country have of late received a good deal of attention and consideration on the part of agriculturists, but if the *Agricola Journal* should happen to meet the eye of a very enthusiastic temperance reformer, the said shows will doubtless be shortly receiving the careful thought of the temperance societies for in the journal named a writer on "The Shropshire Farm Labourer" declares that "the Agricultural Show is a frequent cause of intemperance"; and, after all, perhaps he is right. As he says: "When an animal wins, the success must be celebrated; if the animal loses, there is sorrow to be drowned. In either case, it not uncommonly occurs that the stockman is led back to the farm in the early hours of the morning by the very animal which is the indirect cause of his deplorable condition." This, by the way, does not, I am afraid, apply to Shropshire only!

I have recently received a copy of the prize schedule for the British Dairy Farmers' Association's thirtieth annual Dairy Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on October 3, 4, 5, and 6, and on comparing it with last year's schedule, notice quite a number of alterations, and find that the classes number ninety-seven, as against 107 in 1904, these figures not including the poultry, pigeon, and rabbit departments. The falling off is not in the chief sections, and where it occurs will be seen later on, for I purpose dealing with the changes I have noticed in the order in which they come in the prize schedule. First of all I see that the standard up to which an animal must come before a milking trial prize will be awarded has been lowered in three classes, viz., the standard for non-pedigree Shorthorns has been reduced from 120 to 110 points, Guernseys from 90 to 85, and Ayrshires from 100 to 90 points. The other breeds remain as last year, namely, Shorthorns 85, Jerseys 95, Red Polls 90, and Kerries and Dexters 75. There is also another change to be noted in the milking trials, and that is that this year the Shorthorn and Red Polled heifers will be allowed to compete, the prizes for the former breed being £7, £4, and £2 respectively, and for Red Polls, £5, £3, and £2. This innovation will doubtless be much appreciated, as will also that which provides for a first prize of ten guineas, a second of five guineas, and a third of three guineas for competition only by bonâ-fide tenant farmers exhibiting in the two classes for Shorthorn cows. A bonâ-fide tenant farmer is understood to be one whose principal occupation is farming, and whose income is mainly derived from the land which he rents, and regular cattle dealers are not eligible to compete. The prizes will be awarded on the joint points for inspection and making trial. The inspection prizes in the two Shorthorn heifer classes have been reduced somewhat, they now being £5, £3, and £2, instead of £7, £4, and £2. The usual and well-known challenge and champion prizes in the cattle classes are again offered.

In the goat section the classes are as last year, and the British Goat Society's 60-guinea

challenge cup is again offered, but instead of the British Dairy Farmers' Association's silver medal for the goat winning the highest number of points in the milking and inspection classes, we have a handsome challenge cup offered by the Baroness Burdett-Coutts. Coming to the cheese department, I first notice that the champion cup offered by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London is this year for the best Stilton, and not Cheddar, so that each make is getting its turn. Then I notice that soft cheese is this year divided into two classes, one for unripened and the other for ripened, and in both cases prizes of £1 and 10s. are offered—the amount given in the one class at the last show. The cheese fair is as usual, and the class for collections of British and Colonial dairy produce is retained, though it only attracted one entry last year. The bacon and ham classes are as in 1904, whilst in the butter section there is only one change, so far as I see, and that is that the class for fresh butter, open only to students of the British Dairy Institute has been withdrawn.

The cream, skim milk bread, and scones classes are the same as at the 1904 show, but the honey section has undergone a couple of changes. The class for twelve sections of honey, other than 4¼ by 4¼, and that for twelve sections of heather honey, being deleted, whilst in the class for wax, not less than 3 lb., the third prize has been increased from 5s. to 7s. 6d., and the exhibits are to be shown in shape, quality, and package suitable for the retail trade. The root classes show no alteration, but when we come to the "invention" section there are considerable changes to be noted, and these will be found dealt with in our Implement Supplement. Finally I come to the butter-making contests, and here, too, I notice considerable change. Last year two of the classes were divided into three sections—A, B, and C—and one into two sections, and in each three prizes (value £3, £2, and £1) were offered; but this year there is only one section to each class, and the prizes remain the same in value, so that should the same number of competitors enter, the judges will have a by no means enviable task in making their awards. A separate schedule is published for poultry, pigeons, etc., and this has not come to hand, hence my remarks do not include these sections. Entries for cattle, goats, provisions, etc., close on Sept. 4 with the Secretary, Mr. W. C. Young, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., and from him can be obtained the necessary entry forms, prize schedules, etc.

Mr. R. J. Moss, Agricultural Registrar of the Royal Dublin Society, has asked me to contradict the absurd rumour that the horse show held annually by the Royal Dublin Society, and commonly known as the Great Irish Horse Show, is to be abandoned this year owing to an outbreak of disease. There is not the slightest truth in the rumour, and the show will open on the date originally announced, August 22, and will be even larger than that of last year, for there are 1,222 entries, representing 1,156 horses, whilst in 1904 there were 1,219 entries, representing 1,150 horses. A most attractive programme has been arranged, and the show promises to be as successful as, even if not more so than, its immediate predecessors.

The Abergavenny Horse Show and Agricultural Association have prepared a goodly prize schedule for their annual exhibition of horses and agricultural stock at Bailey Park, Abergavenny, on September 7. In addition to the class prizes and specials, they offer special jumping and trotting prizes of £40, and special timbering prizes of £24, whilst as a special attraction the celebrated Ferndale Prize Band has been engaged for the day. Entries close August 22 (double fees September 1) with the secretaries, Messrs. Straker and Son, auctioneers, valuers, and estate agents, Abergavenny.

At the Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Association's show at High Wycombe on Wednesday, September 13, there will be open classes, with liberal prizes, for Shire horses, hacks, hunters jumpers, harness horses, polo ponies, Jerseys, butter, and honey. Schedules and entry forms can be obtained from the secretary, Mr. Joseph Bliss, 26, High Street, High Wycombe.

Welbeck Tenants Show.

We should be pleased to see a few more such exhibitions as that of the Welbeck Tenants' Agricultural Show, for it is an exceedingly pleasing event, not only for the excellent show, but for the good feeling that prevails there, particularly between the owner of the estate (the Duke of Portland) and his tenants. For the success of the show chief credit is due to his lordship, who, with his popular wife, has most liberally contributed towards the prize schedule every year, and in other ways promoted the welfare of the show. The result is that the exhibition is now one of which any society can be proud of, and that held last week gave excellent testimony to the good influence it has had on the live stock of the district. A sum of nearly £1,000 was offered in prizes, and this drew a goodly entry, as the following table of the chief sections will show. The figures for the four preceding shows are given for comparison:—

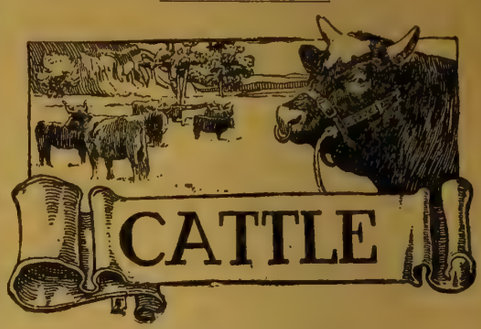
	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901
Horses	281	338	342	341	459
Cattle	79	95	92	75	109
Sheep	155	153	181	109	143
Pigs	22	33	37	32	33
Wool	20	25	25	12	21
Dairy Produce	62	74	74	77	52
Poultry	164	163	160	—	153

The agricultural horses were, as usual, the feature of the show, and a fine lot they were. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal was awarded to a two-year-old bay filly owned by Mr. Cox, of Chesterfield, who was first in her class; whilst reserved for the honour was the seven-year-old brown mare, Weston Pink, the property of Mr. Stretton, of Newark. A gratifying feature of the agricultural horse section was the satisfactory manner in which the classes for youngsters were filled. Nor was there any fault to be found on the score of quality. Amongst the half-bred horses a goodly share of the prizes was carried off by Mr. Wilkinson, of Edwinstowe. His aged brown mare, Miss Melbourne, who easily headed her class, subsequently took the leading special prize offered by the society for the best mare. The same exhibitor secured the first of the special prizes offered by the Duke, and the second went to Mr. Crossley, of Newark. A championship cup was carried off by Mr. Bingley's three-year-old, White Star, a brown gelding that has already taken several honours.

Of the cattle, the best bull was found in Cotham Sunshine, belonging to Mr. Waddington, of Newark, and the reserve card for the champion cup was handed to Mr. Arthur, of Whitwell, for a fine three-year-old bull bred by Mr. Foljambe, while the female champion cup was secured by Mr. Stretton, of Newark. Sheep made a good show—long wools, short wools, and cross-breeds being all well represented. The special prizes went to Mr. Robson, of Horncastle, and to Mr. Rhodes, Waterhouse.

A luncheon was served in the famous riding school, at which a large and distinguished company was present. The Duke of Portland presided, and, in replying to the toast of his health, made an interesting speech concerning the horse-breeding industry and motor cars, and in the course of his remarks said:—I, for one, as an owner of these malodorous, but certainly most useful conveyances (motor cars) heartily welcome the Royal Commission which it is proposed to appoint to inquire into the subject. If the result should be to make more stringent the powers of the law to deal with the many abuses which no doubt exist, I am sure we shall all most heartily rejoice, and I most devoutly hope that means may be found to check the superfluous energy of those drivers who are most aptly and fittingly called road hogs. With regard to the connection between motors and horse-breeding, he could not, his Grace proceeded, help feeling more strongly that they were very closely connected, and that the coming of the motor car, and it had certainly come to stay, could not help having a very weakening effect on the horse supply and the horse breeding industry of our country. It behoved every one interested in the matter, the Government included, to do what they could to foster this industry, not only for the sake of the farmer, but also for national purposes. One way of doing so would be for the Government to buy their young stock at three years old, that was, off their three year old grass, instead of at four years old, as was now the practice. His reason for saying this was because the difficulty of farmers keeping their growing horses until they had turned four years old, and then selling them to the Government for remounts, was well known to be very great. The farmer in many instances, or in most cases, could not afford to do this, as the price he got for his horse rising five years old was one which did not usually pay him a due return for all his time and trouble, and after three years the young horse became troublesome, and it was necessary to break him, which nowadays he was very often unable to do himself.

His idea was that the Government should pay about the same price for an animal rising four as they did for one rising five. It might cost a little more money, but the great advantage that the Government would gain was that they would obtain an unbroken animal, which could be broken according to scientific principles, and the requirements of the present day, instead of a half-broken brute, which most probably had acquired every kind of bad habit most difficult to cure, and which sometimes rendered it totally useless for all practical purpose.



Notes and Jottings.

During the past ten days or so observations have been taken of our cattle in several districts of the country somewhat wide apart, and in a good number of instances the animals do not present anything like the bloom that they did a few weeks earlier. A good deal of this is due naturally to the season of the year, still it is to be feared that the bare and brown pastures that meet one's eye everywhere, except in a few low-lying meadows, have a good deal to do with the matter, and it is to be feared that great numbers of young cattle have received a check that will be difficult to make up for afterwards. The prospect of roots for winter, however, has very much improved over the country generally, and if these are carefully used they will be a great help at a time when it is much needed.

The new Council and Committee that have been appointed to look into the circumstances of "The Royal," and advise thereon, have a difficult task before them. The troubles that beset the Society, however, it must be admitted, and is admitted by one and all, are mainly deficiency of funds. The showyard was visited by a great many people this year who are prone to complain, but even these could scarcely find cause for a single adverse word or sentence as to the arrangements and general efficiency of Park Royal, and its buildings for accommodating the show; and on the question of display, not a dissentient voice could be heard when it was said that the display of live stock at the 1905 show was one of the best ever held in the annals of the Society.

Further, all stock exhibitors go to the expense of getting up and exhibiting their wares for the purpose of advertising them, so that when the time arrives that they wish to dispose of certain cattle they are much assisted in doing so by their animals having been seen at the Royal. As a place for selling cattle and for obtaining future orders practically every exhibitor agrees that the London show has never had an equal, whilst for the accommodation of visitors it is quite certain no other city or town in the United Kingdom can compare with the Metropolis, so that it is to be hoped that any idea of taking the Royal back to the country will not for a moment be entertained.

There is one other point, too, that should receive consideration at the hands of the committee, should any of them lean to the desire of a few breeders and members who are in favour of a site somewhat northward, and that is, the preponderance of breeds from the south, as compared with the north, and also the fact that when the show has been held very far northwards, the Scottish breeds were scarcely more in evidence or not so much so as they have been at Park Royal. All roads in Great Britain, it may practically be said, lead to London, and all lines of rail give travellers to London their fastest and most comfortable trains to travel by. There are therefore many reasons why the committee should favour a continuance at Park Royal.

Whilst upon the subject of railway comforts, which by the bye are as important to cattle as to their owners, I notice considerable agitation is now taking place in America with regard to the transit of cattle by rail, favouring the

bringing into effect what is called the "twenty-eight hour law," by which companies are compelled to detrain, feed, water, and rest all cattle at intervals of not more than twenty-eight hours. Where long distances have to be traversed as is the case in the Western Continent, this course may be necessary, but there are many drawbacks to such a law; first there is the delay that such a course would incur in the animals getting to their destination; then there is the abuse (necessary) that the animals must be subjected to in reloading, and further, the fact that under such conditions there are always a number of timid cattle that would not be benefited in the least.

There was a time the writer well remembers when such agitation was very prominent in England; that the various railway companies should be compelled to provide water and feed for the stock at certain times; nothing, however, resulted from such agitation in the way proposed, but the alternative of running quicker trains and conveying the animals to their destination in a shorter time was taken into consideration by most of our companies and far greater good to all interested in cattle has resulted. Accelerated train service and more careful attention to delays in shunting have pretty well supplied all that is needed in England to-day for the welfare of our dumb animals and their owners.

As an instance of what is now accomplished in this respect, I may mention that very recently a special lot of cattle were purchased on a Friday morning in the West of Ireland (County Galway), arrangements were at once made for their transit to Mid-England (Leicester), and so well and efficiently were the arrangements carried out that these cattle reached their destination before midday on the Saturday, the actual time occupied being as nearly as possible twenty-six hours. The cattle were conveyed by the London and North-Western system via Dublin (North Wall), Holyhead, Crewe, and Stafford, so that the time mentioned included detraining and shipping at North Wall and unshipping and retraining at Holyhead. The animals, it may be added, arrived in the best possible condition.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Aug. 5, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	67	100	131	132	2,472	4,338
								4,590
								5,062
	Outbreaks.	No.	21	20	35	30	536	915
								1,014
								1,107
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	2	1	1	2	650	1,061
								1,165
								1,109
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	38	35	60	26	1,287	1,668
								1,424
								1,292
	Outbreaks.	No.	30	22	37	14	745	930
								867
								684
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								120
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	16	35	18	10	861	942
								750
								706
	Outbreaks.	No.	15	19	11	7	607	610
								486
								434

Period.	
Week ended Aug. 5, 1905	...
Corresponding week in	1904 / 1903 / 1902
Total for 31 weeks in 1905	...
Corresponding period in	1904 / 1903 / 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Agricultural Imports in July.—According to the Board of Trade Returns for July, issued last week, there was an increase of £1,404,000 in the imports of wheat in that month, when compared with the same month last year. The largest quantity came from India, whence we have imported 15,153,000 cwt. since January 1, compared with 15,035,000 cwt. from Argentina, and 14,211,000 cwt. from Russia. We also paid £391,000 more for oats, but £290,000 less for barley, and there was a decline of £263,000 for fresh mutton. Imports of butter in July were £135,000 above those of 1904; whilst cheese showed an increase of £138,000. Receipts from Denmark are still far in excess of those from any other source, but they tend to diminish, while those from Canada are rapidly increasing.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

At the luncheon at the Welbeck Tenants' Show the Duke of Portland had a good deal to say about motor cars and the effect they were likely to have on horse-breeding. He pointed out that in a few years we might expect to see nothing but motor omnibuses and motor cabs in our big cities, and that consequently there will be no use for the 'bus horse or van horse, and that fewer horses will be bred. He pointed out also that these omnibus horses had been of the greatest use during the South African war, and if they disappear from our economy altogether, as there is some likelihood of them doing, we should be in a difficulty in case of war.

The question is a very serious one. When, however, we come to consider it carefully we find that for many years the demand for horses in our cities and large towns has been steadily decreasing. Birmingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Edinburgh, Glasgow—nearly every city or town of importance has its electric trams. And had it not been for this it is difficult to say where the horses would have come from to carry on the modern traffic of cities. I should say offhand, and without any statistics to refer to that London is practically the only place in which horses are still largely used in omnibuses. Should this be the case, the introduction of motor omnibuses will scarcely have the effect which the Duke of Portland seems to think. Electric trams have already done much to decrease the supply of horses in the metropolis, and as the introduction of motor traffic is likely to be gradual a panic in prices is improbable. There can, however, not be the least doubt that the price of second and third class horses has been considerably affected by motor cars, and what may be classified as motor traffic generally.

Coming as a curious commentary on the Duke of Portland's prophecy respecting motor cars is a statement I heard made at Hull. I give the statement for exactly what it is worth, but I may say that the gentleman who made it is always well informed, and has peculiar facilities for obtaining knowledge. The statement was to the effect that fashionable carriage horse dealers are finding their business increasing by leaps and bounds. Many people are beginning to put down their motor cars, or only to use them "as a means of getting from one place to another when no other way is convenient." What the reason for this change may be it is not for me to say, but my informant was very insistent that the change is not only imminent, but is actually taking place. He hinted that the certainty of more stringent regulations for the benefit of the scorcher was one reason, but it is difficult to think that that has anything to do with the change. The scorcher is far more likely to defy the law than give up his amusement; and besides, one would like to think that the scorcher is, after all, in a minority, if we do hear so much about him.

In early railway days an impression prevailed that once railways were established there would be no longer any necessity for Cleveland Bays and Yorkshire Coach horses. What is now called a "slump" in horse-breeding set in, and our astute neighbours were not slow to avail themselves of this. Good judges were either appointed as agents to buy up the mares, or a few clever men speculated in them for the foreign market. Only a week or two ago I had a letter in which the writer told me that hundreds of valuable mares were sent out of the country at that time at from £30 to £35 each—mares such as we should be only too glad to have back now, and over the loss of which countless jeremiads have been uttered. It is worth while remembering for a moment that many a much greater proportion than most people imagine of the fashionable harness horses that are seen in the park are descended from those mares.

If we profit by past experience, which is perhaps too much to be expected of us, we shall not give up horse breeding all at once because motor traffic is likely to supplant horse traffic in the metropolis. We shall remember before we do so that somehow horses have always been wanted, and that, after all, the railway movement was a much greater revolution of traffic methods than was the motor car. It is quite possible, therefore, that though the prices of second and third-rate horses may decline to a certain extent, the prices of high-class horses will increase, and it must be borne in mind that it is the object of the breeder, or should be, to breed high-class horses, and not misfits.

The Duke of Portland suggested that it would be a good thing if the Government would take their remounts at three years old instead of at four years old. In this I quite agree with his Grace. To an ordinary farmer by which I mean a small farmer who is not much of a horseman, and whose time is fully occupied in tilling his acres, keeping a horse from three to four years old is a serious expense and trouble; and the breaking him in is not altogether a labour of love; the remount, moreover, if broken in a military riding school would have nothing to unlearn—a very important consideration.

But the present regulation price—£40—is not sufficient to tempt men to breed horses for remounts. The margin of profit is infinitesimal, and is easily absorbed with a very little bad luck—that very little bad luck which always is expected by the horse breeder, and which is never expected in vain. Let the man who thinks differently about the profit of a three-year-old—which for army purposes would mean three and a half years old—at the regulation price just count the cost, and I think he will come to the same conclusion as I have done.

The question where we are to get our remounts from when they are wanted, in case the Duke of Portland's forecast about horse breeding is correct, is one which will take some answering. "Get them from Canada," says A. "Fall back on the farmers and horse breeders; leave the horse supply to them," says B. Excellent plans both of them from the standpoint of A and B sitting in their club smoking-room, discussing the affairs of the nation over long drinks and cigars the size and thickness of an ordinary hedge stake.

But there are two sides to every question. It is quite possible to imagine a state of things in which, in case we were at war with one or more great Powers, we might not have the undisputed command of the sea. So that even if the horses in Canada were everything we required, and there was no chance of immense fortunes being realised by the purchase of them in a few weeks, it is just possible that they might not be available when they were wanted. As for the other suggestion, that of falling back on the farmers and horse breeders and horse owners, that means in plain English, commandeering horses when they are wanted. That is all very well in a way; but it is just as well to point out that there is a limit to one part of the community bearing their own burthens and a considerable portion of their neighbours' burthens as well. There is not much sense of fair play—not even of common honesty—in the man who, for his own selfish ends, neglects a duty and then fines his neighbour for his own negligence. For practically that is what requisitioning horses amounts to. For commandeering means taking a horse, no matter what his value, without a "by your leave," and paying the regulation price for them—£40, or at most £45.

Of course, if this were to be the plan of any government, it would soon defeat itself, for farmers would, in a great measure, give up horse breeding, and when the remounts were wanted they would not be there at all to requisition. So, if the Duke of Portland is correct in his conclusions, we are likely to find ourselves in an awkward situation. One would like to think that he is taking a gloomy look of things, and that the opinion I heard expressed at Hull is more likely to be correct. But it is just possible that he may be right, and that, as in the early railway days, there was a period when horse breeding was neglected to the serious loss of the nation, so may we have a similar neglect of horse breeding owing to the increase

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of motor traffic in towns. It is of the greatest importance that important decrease of our horse stock should be carefully watched, and means taken to stop it.

The question naturally arises, what means? It would almost point to the forming of government studs. This is a plan to which I have the greatest objection. We have had so much experience of government management (?) that we may well wish to avoid government studs. But it is within the range of possibility that we may have to depend on them to keep us out of a worse evil, and it will be just as well to accustom ourselves to the idea. For my own part, if the Duke of Portland's forecast should prove to be correct, I can see no alternative.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Report of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

The Royal Commission on Horse Breeding have just issued their tenth annual report to his Majesty the King, and, following custom, it is written in the quaint legal style that characterises such documents. The report states that since the Commission issued its last report in July, 1903, two shows have been held in London during the years 1904 and 1905, and twenty-eight King's premiums of £150 were awarded at each show. The report continues:—

The number of stallions competing in the district classes, and also the quality of the exhibits remains good, and in this connection we quote the reports of the judges at the last two shows, as follows:

"1904 Show.—As judges of the thoroughbred stallions we consider that, taking the show all over, the horses shown are suitable for the purpose for which they were exhibited; but the various classes, were by no means equal in quality. In some cases, notably E (comprising the districts of Yorkshire) and F (comprising the districts of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and South Wales), which stood prominently forward, most of the stallions shown were good, but in other classes the exhibits were decidedly poor. We found the information given by the Commission as to the length of time the stallions had been in training, and their performances on the turf, to be of much assistance in enabling us to form an estimate of their natural soundness and constitution."

"1905 Show.—The judges have the honour to report to the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding that, compared with previous exhibitions, they have every reason to be satisfied with the general merit of the competing stallions. Some districts were represented by better horses than others, as it is manifestly impossible that a level degree of merit can be maintained, and whereas Yorkshire had a very good entry of horses of substance and quality, Class G (comprising the districts of Cheshire, Lancashire, and North Wales) suffered in comparison, but to counterbalance, the judges thought the Scotch entries were individually better than they have been on many occasions. It was very gratifying to the judges to find that the efforts of the Royal Commissioners to ensure that none but sound stallions should be exhibited, has been so entirely successful, very few indeed of the horses sent to be examined failed to satisfy the veterinary surgeons. Finally, the judges desire particularly to express their gratification that the Royal Commissioners have allowed the turf careers of the competing stallions to be somewhat taken into account when awarding the premiums. By this means, horses that probably from some natural defect of limb, or temper, which effectually prevented their appearance on a racecourse, have been in some instances passed over in favour of others which have been able to bear the test of training. The judges did not consider it necessary that the horses competing should have actually won a race, but considered it much in their favour if they have been able to run respectably for a certain period."

As stated in our last report, your Commissioners have considered the desirability of giving the judges an account of the racing careers of the horses exhibited, and it is gratifying to note that the judges have found these particulars useful in making their awards.

From the animals exhibited, suitable horses have been selected and located in the various districts in England, Wales, and Scotland.

Your Commissioners have much pleasure in reporting that out of a total of ninety-four stallions entered for exhibition at their last show (ninety being present), forty-eight had been exhibited before, and forty-two were new entries. Of these fifty-six were sent for veterinary examination, and fifty-one were passed sound. Of the new exhibits, eleven received premiums, and of the old, seventeen.

We consider it a satisfactory sign that the percentage of horses rejected for unsoundness, shows a great diminution compared with the early years of our work. When the first show was held at Islington in 1889, of ninety exhibits, seventeen were rejected as unsound, whilst in the present year out of ninety exhibits only five failed to pass the veterinary examination. From a total of seventy-five horses exhibited in the English classes, only one horse was rejected.

Since our last report one stallion has been debarred from further competing for King's premiums, having failed for two seasons to get the average percentage of foals required.

The question of purchasing horses for remounts between three and four years old is one which has been recommended by us from time to time in our reports, and we cannot state too strongly, that in our opinion, great benefit would accrue to the public service, and much encouragement would be given to breeders to use only sound stallions producing horses fit for use in the British Army, if the breeders knew that the Remount Department were purchasers of their young stock.

Your Commissioners have urged in their report to your Majesty from time to time the necessity for having their grant increased, and, as stated in our last report, the small sum at our disposal is totally inadequate to our needs. We believe the time has come when something more should be done to improve the quality of the mares. There is no doubt that much good could be done in this direction by your Commissioners, but with the small sum available for our use, we find ourselves unable to deal further with this matter.

As appendices to the report are given a table showing the number of prizes awarded in the years 1902, 1903, and 1904 to the stock of the premium stallions at the different summer meetings at which medals are awarded by the Hunters' Improvement Society; a table showing the number of mares and average number served in each district class for the five years from 1900 to 1904, together with a summary of these tables; and some information referring to the work of the Commission since the publication of their last report.

Sale of Mr. Minton's Shropshires.

Mr. T. S. Minton held his twenty-fifth annual sale of Shropshire rams and ewes at Montford on the 4th inst. The flock is one of the oldest extant, and its successes in all the principal breeding and fat stock shows for a long time past was again demonstrated this year at the Royal Show by a pen from Montford taking the first prize for ewe lambs. As usual, the sale was conducted by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Company, of Shrewsbury, and the following were the prices:—Shearling rams: 26 guineas, Sir Walter Corbet, Bart.; 50 guineas, Mr. F. Bibby; 8 guineas, Mr. Nuttall; 8 guineas, Mr. M. Williams; 13 guineas, Mr. Caessares. Pasture rangers: 10 guineas, Mr. Garner (to let); 8½ guineas, Mr. Rooth; 7½ guineas, Mr. Humphreys; 7 guineas, Mr. Roberts; 7 guineas, Mr. Goodall; 5½ guineas, Mr. Eddowes; 6 guineas, Mr. Richards; 5½ guineas, Mr. Bircham; 6 guineas and 6 guineas, Major Allford; 17 guineas, Mr. Everall (to let); 17 guineas, Mr. Witchdale; 17 guineas, Mr. Henderson; 6 guineas, Mr. W. B. Nevett; 5½ guineas, Mr. Rogers; 6½ guineas, Mr. Webster; 10 guineas, Mr. T. Frank; 9 guineas, Mr. Lewis. Pens of five shearling ewes made the following prices: 180s., Mr. Richards; 105s., Mr. Caessares; 75s., Mr. Owen; 60s. and 55s., Mr. Roberts; 55s., Mr. Tudor.

Mr. J. H. Dibden's Hampshires.

The letting and sale of ram lambs from the well-known Bishopstone flock of Hampshire Downs belonging to Mr. J. H. Dibden, took place at the Market Place, Salisbury, on Tuesday, Messrs. Waters and Rawlence being the auctioneers. There was a large and representative company of buyers present, but as, at so many other sales, an entire clearance was not effected. The catalogue comprised 100 ram lambs and one shearling, and were generally considered to be as good a lot as Mr. Dibden has brought out for several years past. Six lambs were first let at an average of £24 17s.; Mr. Edwards' hiring, No. 1, at 19 guineas; Mr. H. Marner, No. 2, at 9 guineas; Mr. T. Coles, No. 3, at 18 guineas; Mr. Kerr (for Mr. H. C. Stephens), No. 4, at 54 guineas; Mr. J. Dean, No. 5, at 16 guineas; and Mr. Allen, No. 6, at 26 guineas. The selling lambs made from 5 guineas to 30 guineas; Mr. G. Judd buying at 30 guineas, 24 guineas, and 15 guineas; Mr. J. B. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce) at 20 guineas; Mr. W. Green at 16 guineas and 10 guineas; Mr. H. Warner at 15 guineas, 10 guineas, etc.; Mr. Maslen (for Sir Richard Ryecroft) at 15 guineas, 10 guineas, 9 guineas, etc; and others at prices from 13 guineas downwards. The average of the eighty ram lambs let and sold was £10 10s.

Notes and Jottings.

The work commenced, according to the general acceptance of the historians of the improvement of sheep, by Bakewell in the Longwools and Ellman in the Southdowns, was by no means completed by them. Other equally keen and industrious successors followed, most of these are unknown to fame, and even record, at the present day. However, as one visits different flocks, more particularly those old-established ones, it is surprising how much interesting and, to the breeder, valuable information is gained in those ever-delightful chats around the cheery fire, with pipe and grog in the winter, or under the shade of the well-grown garden tree in the cool of the summer evening. It is a matter of regret that such chats of old times and doings of sire and grandsire cannot be recorded. Interesting and most instructive are many of these tit-bits of information—how in the year —— my father or my grandfather went and secured such and such a ram; a ram, for instance, that was the sire of or the pet of some notable name: a name to which all who can do so are happy to trace back their pedigree. "What's in a name" many of our present-day youngsters at the business have often said to the writer? Why that ram and its breeder have been dead and forgotten years ago. Perhaps this may be so if viewed in a general way, but not so to the true breeder. These are but few, but wherever found are owners of flocks of high merit. It is within this small but select circle that the true appreciation of the work of those great breeders of former years, and their life work is given its true acknowledgment. There are many of the present-day breeds which most of the owners are ever ready to say are pure-bred, etc., but yet how few—very few, indeed—are the flocks, no matter what may be the breed, but that have had at some time or other just a dash, it may be, but still a stain of some alien blood or other. 'Tis well it was so, for without it most of the leading strains of blood in practically all our so-called pure-bred flocks would not be in existence.

In pre-registration days this method of breeding was far more common than is generally supposed, but the evidence of this is only come-at-able when the evening's chats are on. A breed that at the present day holds a foremost place in the world—the Lincoln—unquestionably owes a large part of the merit that at the present day makes it so largely popular to the judicious infusion of the choicest strains of Leicester blood by the fathers and grandfathers of the present-day breeders. History records the fact that for 1,000 gs. hire for a season a Bakewell ram was hired for service in flocks, the descendants of which at the present day are recognised as being the leading Lincoln flocks of the present time.

This is, of course, but one of many instances in which the combination of the Bakewell or Dishley blood with the Lincoln sheep was effected. This fact in no way affects the merit, etc., of the Lincoln sheep of the present day, for they have been bred sufficiently long as pure-bred sheep; and mention is made of this fact, by the way, to illustrate the continuation of the work of improvement commenced by those great men named at the commencement of our notes.

Amongst the matters of historical interest in connection with sheep-breeding seen recently at Mr. T. C. B. Dixon's home at Brandesburton, now owner of a first-class Lincoln flock, was a painting of the head of that 1,000 gs. Leicester ram. Over a century has passed since this figure was paid for its season's hire, and yet the record then made remains a record still. Unquestionably the blood of this ram still runs in the veins of the Lincoln sheep, and, what is likewise a fact, that amongst these are flocks of the highest repute. Mention of that grand old ancestral home of Mr. Dixon reminds me that he is, like many of our leading flock-owners, the third in direct succession. A visit was made to the older homestead, near Keeling, where his grandsire commenced business in the early part of last century. Many bits of information concerning the history of that time were given during the enjoyable drive to

and from the old homestead. This all tended to show then, as now, the flock was well and carefully tended. Mr. Dixon enjoys the results of the care and labour of those long since gone years, and all who go to his forthcoming annual sale on August 18 will find the present owner is a worthy successor of the grandsire who founded the flock.

Another instance of this continuity of ram-breeding was afforded the other day at Totnes ram sale. The father of the Brothers Cornish, Messrs. E. and J. H., met the writer there, and said how pleasant it was for him to find his sons were taking up the work that he and his father before him had done, namely, selling South Devon rams; for, said he, we, the three generations, have missed but one year at this sale since 1820. Again, in another district, we have a record of almost as much length, namely, that made by Mr. H. Rigden, who sold for sixty consecutive years rams in his Ashford sale; an occupation only ended by his death two years since, and now, we are pleased to note, being continued with equal success by his son and successor.

Other examples might be given of the continuity of the work of ram breeders in the breeds mentioned, as well as in those not mentioned, but sufficient has been said to show that the work of improvement commenced by Bakewell and Ellman is still being continued. Perfection cannot be secured, and well it is not so, because, if it were, then an inducement to improve, etc., would be ended. Fashion changes, and so do the requirements of the market. In former years a large quantity of fat was desired, and large joints with good fleeces; nowadays, smaller joints, with earlier maturity and more rapid developments, are the essential points. What may be the requirements of the future time alone will decide, but be these what they may, the evidence of the past all points clearly to the fact that no matter what may be required, the present and future flock-masters will be fully able and competent to provide.

An interesting chapter could be written of the doings that used to take place at the old lettings of sheep in the North Country. "Our old letting used to commence," said a breeder still alive, "on the Thursday, and it was well if all the intending purchasers, or hirers, as they were in those days, were got rid of by the Saturday night." What a contrast to the present day, when under the procedure now generally adopted, these annual sales open after one o'clock lunch, and all are over in from two to three hours. At the recent Riby sale thirty-one yearling rams were disposed of in little more than an hour at £90 0s. 7d. per head. Fifty years ago this would have taken at least two days, if not more. Such is the difference of the present-day method of business. Whether it be better than the old one we do not know, for those who have experienced the older method will give no definite opinion. It may, however, be taken as a fact that each successive age or period so arranges its methods and work as are the best fitted for it, and thus, despite the unquestionably pleasant and enjoyable meetings the older method brought about, it is certain, with the present-day facilities, etc., for travel and movement, that system would not in any sense be either convenient or desirable.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Blandford.

At the August sheep fair held at Blandford on the 3rd inst., the lamb trade was not quite so fast. Ewes sold very well, the best making from 35s. to 50s.; grazing ewes, 25s. to 35s.; lambs, 35s. to 42s.; secondary, 26s. to 32s.; best wether lambs up to 52s. Messrs. Ensor and Son offered 2,500 Down sheep and lambs in the presence of a large company of buyers. The lamb trade was not quite so good, but there was a fair trade for ewes. Lambs showing good condition sold best and were most in request. For working lambs there was not so fast a trade. Best ewes made from 35s. to 46s., and fat ewes made up to 52s. This same firm also brought under the hammer about 300 grand registered Hampshire Down ram lambs from the best breeding flocks of the district, this number beating all previous records, and the quality of the entries was good throughout. The trade was brisk from start to finish, and almost every lot was cleared at satisfactory prices ranging from 20 gs. down to 4 gs.

Carlisle.

The opening special sale of lambs at Carlisle took place on the 5th inst., when buyers were numerous, and trade ruled brisk at prices similar to those obtained last year. At Harrisons' Mart half and three quarter bred made up to 27s. 3d., cross Devons to 32s. 6d., Leicester crosses to 22s., and Cheviots to 12s. 6d. Feeding sheep: Half-bred hoggs to 31s. 9d., crosses to 35s. 6d., and Cheviots to 29s. 6d. Hetherington's best prices were:—Feeding sheep: Half-bred shearlings 35s. 9d., black-faced 19s. Lambs: Half-bred 25s. 9d., and crosses 20s. 6d.

Castle Douglas.

Mr. William Wallet held his annual sale of top lambs at Castle Douglas on Monday, when about 10,000 were forward, and the ring was crowded with customers, including several English buyers. Owing to the cold spring some of the flocks were scarcely shown in such fine condition and bloom as last season. For top half-bred lambs the high rates obtained at this market last year were well maintained, while secondary lots were down about 1s. 6d. a piece. Prices ranged from 25s. to 32s. per head.

Chichester.

The annual show and sale of Southdown sheep held at Chichester by Messrs. Stride and Son took place on Wednesday, the catalogue consisting of about 6,000 ewes and 410 shearling rams and ram lambs. Challenge cups were offered for the best five shearling rams, the best five ram lambs, and the best fifty regular draft ewes from registered flocks. The entries in each class were very large, and the judging was very satisfactorily carried out by Mr. J. H. Jennings, of Bury St. Edmunds, and Mr. W. Massie, of Shillinglee Park, Petworth.

The champion cup for shearling rams went to Mr. Edwin Ellis, of Summersbury Hall, with a pen of beautiful quality, the Duke of Devonshire's pen being highly commended, and the Duke of Richmond's commended. For five ram lambs the challenge cup went to the Duke of Richmond, who showed a pen of well-grown, deep flesh lambs, while Colonel Hammond, of St. Alban's Court, Dover, was highly commended, and Mr. John Tompkins, of Angmering, commended. The winner of the challenge cup for fifty regular draft ewes was also the Duke of Richmond, whose pen of typical Southdown ewes was closely followed by a pen from Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, of Ham Park, Angmering,

There was a large attendance of buyers from all parts of England and also from Wales at the sale, and a steady selling trade prevailed throughout for both ewes and rams. The top price for shearling ewes was 84s., which was secured by the Duke of Richmond, while the highest price given for a shearling ram was 32½ gs., given for one entered by Mr. Edwin Ellis. A great number of rams sold from 15 to 25 gs.

The Chitterne Hampshire Downs.

The sale of a choice portion of this well-known flock, the property of Mr. J. Dean, at Chitterne, attracted a goodly company of buyers, but trade was not very keen, and a number of animals remained unsold. Prices for the lambs ranged from 13 gs., 9½ gs., 8½ gs., 8 gs., 7½ gs., to 4½ gs., and for the shearlings 5 gs. to 6 gs. Three hundred two-tooth ewes were next sold at 67s. 66s., 65s., 64s. 63s., 62s., 61s., 60s., 59s., 58s., and 57s, the average being 61s.; 270 four-tooth ewes made 102s., 72s., 71s., 70s., 69s., 68s., 67s., 66s., 65s., 64s., to 56s., average 66s.; 250 six-tooth ewes made 74s., 70s., 69s., 68s., 67s., 66s., 65s., 64s., to 57s., the average of those sold being 64s.; the ewe lambs made 90s., 70s., 62s., 50s., 49s., and 48s, the average of those sold being 55s. 6d.

Mr. C. Coles' Hampshire Downs.

The annual letting and sale of ram lambs and rams from the celebrated flock of Hampshire Downs belonging to Mr. Cary Coles was held at Winterbourne Stock, on the 11th inst., in the presence of a large attendance of breeders. Ninety three ram lambs and two rams were submitted, and these were generally allowed to be about the best lot Mr. Coles has ever presented to the public, and the result fully justified that opinion, for a record price was established for the lot of a ram lamb, 2[illegible] gs., Mr. Mason of Winchester paying this sum.

Ten lambs were first sold, Mr. W. T. Harding hiring No. 1 at 20 gs., Mr. C. Bugg No. 2 at 28 gs., Lord Rothschild No. 3 at 70 gs., Mr. J. Flower No. 5 at 90 gs., and No. 8 at [illegible] gs., Mr. Kerr (for Mr. H. C. Stephens) No. 6 at 22 gs., Mr. Drake No. 7 at 80 gs., Mr. Holman No. 9 at 22 gs., and Mr. Hurford (for Mr. T. F. Buxton) No. 10 at 50 gs. The grand average for the ten lambs was £69. Of the selling [illegible] Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce) secured No. 15 at 46 gs., Mr. H. Lambert No. 37 at 38 gs., Mr. Richards No. 18 at 30 gs., and No. 21 at 24 gs, Mr. Falconer No. 20 at 30 gs., the Marquis of Winchester No. 27 at 23 gs., Mr. Lunn (for Lord Ashburton) four lambs at 22 gs. each, Mr. Bugg bought at 24 gs. and 23 gs., and others from 21 gs. downward. Several of the younger lambs were not sold, but the average for seventy-eight let and sold was the excellent one of £20 10s.

Mr. G. L. Dean's Hampshire Downs.

Fifty ram lambs from the Homington flock of Mr. G. L. Dean were offered at the Market House Yard, Salisbury, but the attendance of buyers was not large, and the larger portion of the lambs were not sold. Those disposed of made from 4½ gs. to 18 gs.

Dorchester.

The annual sales of Dorset, Down, and Horn sheep at Dorchester took place on the 5th inst., when a number of important consignments were sold by auction by various firms. For ewes trade was good at prices ruling at the July fair; but for the Dorset Down lambs a decline of 1s. 6d. per head was generally admitted. Quotations: Dorset Horn ewes, 41s. to 46s.; registered Dorset Horn ewe lambs, 30s. to 44s.; Dorset Horn and cross-bred wether lambs, 28s. to 38s. 6d.; Dorset Horn wethers, 41s. to 48s.; Dorset Down ewes, 38s. 6d. to 48s.; Dorset Down flock ewes, 48s. to 62s.; Dorset Down wethers, working lambs, 29s. to 36s. 6d.; Dorset Down mutton lambs, 38s. 6d. to 44s.; Dorset Down ewe lambs, 28s. to 34s.; Dorset Down wethers, 39s. to 45s. Messrs. Duke and Son offered upwards of 130 Dorset Down ram lambs from the old-established registered flocks of Messrs. T. N. Bartlett, West Knighton; G. W. Homer, Athelhampton; H. Duke, Martinstown; and Mrs. Hooper, Winfrith. Mr. Bartlett sold thirty-five lambs at an average of £4 15s. 7d., the prices ranging from 3½ gs. to 7½ gs.; Mrs. Hooper sold thirty-two at an average of £5, the prices being from 3½ gs. to 9 gs. Twenty-two of Mr. G. Wood Homer's draft of thirty-eight were sold at an average of £7 1s. 9d., prices being from 3½ gs. to 11 gs. Mr. H. Duke's draft of twenty lambs were all sold at an average of £6 16s. 6d. per head, the prices ranging from 4 gs. to 14 gs. Messrs. Roberts, Son, and Tory submitted twenty-five grand two-teeth rams from the flock of Mr. J. E. Tory, Turnworth. The wealth of flesh, quality of wool, size, and the kindly character of the sheep caused favourable comment, and resulted in keen competition and a satisfactory sale. Mr. Wolland was a large purchaser, paying 14, 9½, 6½, 6, and 5½ gs. for some typical West Country Downs; and Mr. Candy, for the Earl of Eldon, secured capital sheep at 10½ gs. Other prices ranged from 4½ to 9½ gs., and the sale resulted in the satisfactory average of 8 gs.

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
August			
15	Southdown Sheep... ..	Various	Lewes, Sussex.
16	Kent and Half-Bred Sheep and Lambs	Various	Ashford, Kent.
17	Shropshire Sheep	Mr. T. A. Buttar	Corston, Coupar Angus, N.B.
17 & 18	Horses	Various	Crewe.
18	Southdown Sheep	Sir N. W. G. Throckmorton	Buckland, Faringdon, Berks.
18	Lincoln Long-Wool Rams	Mr. T. C. B. Dixon ..	Brandesburton, Bard, near Beverley, Yorkshire.
18	Kent and Half Bred Sheep and Lambs	Various	Westenhanger, Kent.
18	Cobs, Ponies, and Young Stock	Mr. G. Lauder and Mr. C. Y. Kinloch	Dunblane, N.B.
22	Shropshire Sheep	Sir P. A. Muntz	Dunsmore, near Rugby.
22	Cart Horses	Mr. P. H. Case	Salisbury.

Eggesford.

The annual ram sale at Eggesford was conducted on Wednesday by Messrs. Hannaford and Son, who had for disposal about forty rams, sent in by Messrs. J. Cowle, Winkleigh; S. Stevens, Eggesford; J. Harris, Coleridge; R. W. Vicary, Burrington; Tucker, Monkokehampton; and Heaman, Dolton. Mr. Cowle's fourteen rams averaged £6 8s. 3d. each, the prices ranging from 5 gs. to 9½ gs.; Mr. Tucker's averaged £6 5s. 6d. each; and the others made from 4 to 6 gs.

Ilsley.

The annual sheep fair at Ilsley was well supplied, and some important transactions took place, well-known breeders of Hampshire Downs sending goodly supplies for sale by auction. Trade, however, was very slow, and on most lots sold there was generally a reduction of 1s. to 2s. per head on the prices made at the late fairs. Two-tooth ewes made the highest prices, and may be quoted up to 54s., and stock ewes from 30s. to 46s.; and lambs from 25s. to 36s. The principal feature of the fair was the sale of ram lambs from celebrated Hampshire Down flocks, details of which are appended.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence offered a very useful consignment of forty ram lambs from Mr. R. L. Ovey's Badgemore flock, but unfortunately sufficient buyers were not present to effect a clearance, and those disposed of made from 5 gs. to 7 gs. each. Mr. A. C. Hall, of the Manor, Great Rollright, Chipping Norton, sent ten well-bred lambs, but buyers were not forthcoming for them. Messrs. Waters and Rawlence had less difficulty in disposing of the grand ram lambs from Sir W. G. Pearce's Chilton Lodge flock, their excellence and the exceptional prize-winning record of the flock during the present season attracting considerable attention and competition. Eight lambs were first let, No. 1 being hired by Lord Rothschild, at 48 gs.; No. 2 and No. 7 by Mr. Hanbury, at 18 gs. and 10 gs.; No. 3 by Mr. Judd, at 44 gs.; No. 4 and No. 5 by Mr. Nichol, at 17 gs. and 36 gs.; No. 6 by Mr. Notley, at 20 gs.; ; and No. 8 by Mr. Cripps, at 20 gs.; the average being £28. Of the selling lambs Mr. Hanbury secured No. 13 at 23 gs., and Mr. W. T. Hall No. 22 at 21 gs., others making 12 gs., 11 gs. (twice), 10½ gs., 9 gs., 8½ gs., 8 gs., 7½ gs., 7 gs., etc., the result of the whole being that forty-five lambs were let and sold at an average of £11 11s.

Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton offered twenty-five Hampshire Down ram lambs from Mr. H. L. Cripps, Shifford, thirty Hampshire Down ram lambs and three rams and 140 two-tooth ewes from Mr. H. N. Carlisle's Moulsford flock, and also tried an experiment by selling by auction 140 stock ewes and 165 store lambs from C. Morrison, Esq., Basildon Park. In spite of the drought and consequent short supply of keep, which doubtless had an ill-effect on all trade at the fair, the results may certainly be considered satisfactory. Mr. Cripps' ram lambs were nearly all sold, and made from 4½ gs. to 21 gs. (the purchaser of the latter being Sir W. Pearce, Chilton Lodge, Hungerford). Mr. Carlisle's thirty-three were all sold, and made from 3 to 5 gs., averaging 3½ gs. Two-tooth ewes from the same flock made from 51s. 6d. to 55s. The store ewes and lambs consigned by Mr. Morrison met a brisk trade, and were all disposed of at satisfactory prices, wether lambs making from 33s. to 34s. 6d., and stock ewes 40s. to 42s. 6d.

Inverness.

Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., held their first annual lamb sale for the season at Inverness on Tuesday, when the numbers on sale were 2,026 lambs and sheep, and also some cattle. The show of lambs was somewhat similar to the corresponding sale of last year, and were shown in very good bloom. The attendance of buyers was certainly the largest that has been forward here at an opening sale, and the lambs, which were mostly crosses and half-breds, met an animated demand at a rise of 1s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per head over last year. The following are the principal lots of lambs and the prices realised:—Gask, 27s.; Tomich, Oxford crosses, 32s. 3d.; Dochfour, crosses, 25s. 9d.; Redcastle, half-breds, 25s. 9d.; Faille, crosses, 23s. 6d.; Bindal, half-breds, 30s. 9d.; St. Vincent, 26s. 3d.; Bunloit, crosses, 22s.; Culcadock, half-breds, 24s.; Essich, half-breds, 23s. 9d.

Mr. Judd's Hampshire Downs.

The annual sale and letting of rams and ram lambs from Mr. G. Judd's Hampshire Down flock attracted a goodly company to Cocum, but trade was far from good. Of the six rams to be let for one month, five were withdrawn, only one being let for 18 gs. The auctioneer next proceeded to sell 94 ram lambs, of which three were withdrawn. One sold for 12 gs., two for 10½ gs. each, one for 9½ gs., four at 9 gs. each, eight at 8½ gs., seven at 8 gs., sixteen at 7½ gs., eleven at 7 gs., eight at 6½ gs., ten at 6 gs., ten at 5½ gs., four at 5 gs., and nine at 4½ gs. Six shearling Hampshire Down rams next went through the ring, and five of them sold—at 9½ gs., 6½ gs., two at 5½ gs., and one at 4 gs. Some of the regular draft ewes were put through the ring, but ultimately were all withdrawn.

Lindfield.

This well-known Sussex sheep fair was held on Tuesday in dull weather, but was largely attended. Over two thousand sheep and rams were forward, and at the outset met a slow trade, flockmasters holding on for best prices, but as the morning advanced there was an easiness in price rather than an inclination to take the lambs home again, and a number of transactions took place. The top price given for lambs was 39s., at which price Mr. A. Wadman, of Firle, sold a pen of 103. Other prices were 37s., 36s., 33s. 31s. 6d., 29s., 28s. 6d., and 25s., the demand being greater for the moderate-priced lamb rather than the best. Tegs sold at 48s. to 39s., and ewes 48s. to 30s.

Oxford.

The annual ram fair at Oxford was held on Wednesday, when the number of rams consigned to the various firms of autioneers was about equal to that of recent years, but in the stock sheep there was a considerable falling off. There was, however, a very numerous attendance of purchasers—breeders, farmers, and dealers—and with a keen demand for sheep the trade was brisk throughout, with consequently improved prices as compared with those realised at the fairs of the last few years. The highest price of the day was secured by Messrs. Paxton and Holiday for an Oxford Down shearling ram bred by Mr. John Worley, of Brizenorton, which was purchased for 70 gs. by Mr. Horlick, of Cheltenham. One of the noted flock of Mr. A. Brassey, M.P., Heythrop, was knocked down by the same auctioneers at 45 gs. to Mr. J. T. Hobbs, Maiseyhampton, and they also obtained 46 gs. for an animal bred by Mr. J. Bryan, Southleigh, the purchaser being Sir Michael Hicks Beach, M.P.

For Oxford Down ram lambs Messrs. Franklin and Jones were credited with the highest figures, two of Mr. A. H. Wilsdon's, of Dornford Park Farm, Woodstock, being bought at 31 gs. and 30 gs. respectively by Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, Winchendon, and Mr. Robert Hobbs, Maiseyhampton.

Messrs. Franklin, Gale, and Newton, of Wallingford and Reading, also had large consignments of Hampshire Down rams and ram lambs, numbering about 250, as well as a number of stock ewes and store lambs, which they offered by auction, and for most of which very satisfactory prices were realised. The best of the ram lambs from the principal flocks created brisk competition, a remarkably fine ram lamb from Mr. H. L. Cripps's Shifford flock being purchased by Mr. John Thomson at 20 gs., and the same price being paid by Mr. A. C. Hall, Great Rollright, for another ram lamb from Mr. Basil Hanbury's Kineton flock.

Space does not permit of details of the various lots sold, but it may be mentioned that practically all the well-known breeders of Oxford Downs sent consignments, and that some good prices were realised, quite a large number of animals selling at 20 gs. and over. The result was that some satisfactory averages were recorded, among the best being those of Mr. Worley, £12 13s., and Mr. Brassey, M.P., £12 5s.

Mr. A. Tanner's Shropshires.

Shrawardine is one of the centres where the Shropshire sheep as at present known was developed and perfected, and from thence many sires famous in the show yard have emanated, while representatives purchased for exportation have made the flock equally celebrated abroad. It is not surprising therefore that the sales held here always attract a large number of buyers, as did that which took place on Thursday. Messrs. A. Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury, were the auctioneers, and they brought under the hammer a splendid lot of sheep, for which some good prices were realised, as follows:—Shearling rams, 40 guineas (to let), withdrawn; 20 guineas, Mr. Whitmore; 6½ guineas, Mr. Bayley; 30 guineas, Mr. C. Blatherwick; 19 guineas, Messrs. Jones and Moore, Hinwood, Dilwyn, Herefordshire. Pasture rangers: Two-shear ram, 7½ guineas, Mr. C. Lewis. Shearling rams, 11 guineas, Mr. Hamar, The Bach; 23 guineas, Mr. Jos. Everall; 6½ guineas, Mr. Roberts, Well House, Saltney; 10 guineas, Mr. F. Bach; 8 guineas, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 11 guineas, Mr. Jos. Everall; 7½ guineas, Mr. Duddleston, 14 guineas (to let), Mr. Bell; 15 guineas, Mr. Reynolds; 6 guineas, Mr. Hiles, Shawardine; 10 guineas, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 16 guineas, Mr. Bach; 8 guineas, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 11 guineas, Mr. Morris; 12 guineas, Mr. Lewis; 7 guineas, Mr. W. Richards; 6½ gs., Mr. Davies, Broad Oak, Brompton, Chester; 7½ guineas, Mr. Maxwell; 7½ guineas, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 7½ guineas, Mr. E. Powell; 8 guineas, Mr. E. Instone; 7 guineas, Mr. Webster; 6½ guineas, Mr. Jesse Haynes; 7½ guineas, Mr. D. Morgan. Shearling ewes, in pens of five, made 125s., 115s., 110s., 95s., 60s., 59s. 6d., 57s. 6d., and 55s.

The Townshend Manor Hampshires.

On Wednesday Messrs. Waters and Rawlence brought under the hammer at Townshend Manor, Over Walton, Hants, over 600 Hampshire Down ewes and lambs, belonging to the Dowager Countess of Portsmouth, all being brought out in the best of condition, and they sold well, the average working out at 62s. per head. The sale commenced with 180 two-teeth ewes, which made an average of 64s. 3d. per head, chief prices being 125s., 106s., 100s., 84s., 70s., 66s., 64s. One hundred and fifty four-teeth ewes sold at an average of 71s. 3d.; 140s., 120s., 104s., 102s., 74s., etc., being top prices; whilst 130 six-teeth ewes realised an average of 62s. 3d., values ranging from 102s. to 52s. For the 200 ewe lambs an average of 52s. was got, the price per head ranging from 100s. to 42s.

Messrs. Treadwell's Oxford Downs.

Following their annual custom, Messrs. J. and S. Treadwell, Upper Winchendon, held a sale of rams from the famous flock of Oxford Downs, and, as on former occasions, there was a large attendance of breeders. Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, of Bicester, were the auctioneers, and they brought under the hammer fifty splendid rams, typical representatives of the breed. Only one of the fifty failed to find a purchaser, the others selling at prices ranging from 8 to 80 gs. Mr. J. M. Eady, Thorpe Mastor, Kettering, paid the latter figure, Mr. Horrocks, for the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, M.P., gave 40 gs., and Mr. J. P. Case, Bertram Abbey, Norfolk, 50 gs., and Mr. Bambridge, Northumberland, 30 gs., other chief prices being 28 gs. (twice) 26 gs., 20 gs. (twice), and 16 gs. The average for the forty-nine rams sold was £16 3s. 9d., against £14 19s. 7d. last year, £11 12s. 2d. in 1903, and £10 17s. 7d. in 1902. The result may therefore be considered very satisfactory, as this year's was the highest price paid for some years past.

Col. F. A. Walter's Southdowns.

A portion of the well-known prize flock of Southdown sheep bred by Col. A. F. Walter, of Bearwood, Wokingham, Berks, was sold by Messrs. Thornton and Co. on the 4th inst. There was a very small company, but no very high prices were realised, though some of the best sheep were purchased to go into several of the leading flocks. Sir James Blyth, Bart., was an extensive buyer, securing eight pens of yearling ewes at 45s. to 51s., and three pens of ewe lambs at an average of 36s. each. Mr. R. Burra, of Stratford-on-Avon, got one excellent pen of shearlings at 70s., and three others at 63s., 60s., and 55s. Lord Calthorpe took two show-pens of a similar age at 57s. and 60s. Mr. G. Perry and Mr. E. Hobbs were the chief buyers of the remainder at from 45s. to 50s. The seventy-five flock ewes all went to Mr. E. Hobbs at an average of 35s. each. Among the rams, which averaged about 10 gs., was the first prize and champion sheep at the Gloucestershire Show this season, which went to the Right Hon. W. F. D. Smith at 24 gs. Mr. L. E. Swindell paid 14 gs. for a good shearling ram, and Mr. E. B. Crisp 15 gs. and Lord Calthorpe 14 gs. for others. The total realised by the sale was £717.

The Whiston Shropshires.

Shropshire sheep breeders assembled in large numbers at Whiston Hall, Albrighton, on Tuesday, on the occasion of Mr. Matthew Williams's annual sale. The catalogue included about 30 rams of splendid type and 44 shearling ewes, and, judging from the briskness of the bidding, there is still an eager demand for such animals as were put before the visitors. The sale was conducted by Mr. Alfred Mansell, and the prices and purchasers were as follows: Shearling rams, 150 guineas, Sir P. A. Muntz, M.P.; 12 guineas, Mr. Caessares (South America); 40 guineas, Mrs. Inge; 17 guineas, Mr. F. Bibby; 70 guineas, Mr. Oliver; 16 guineas Mr. Caessares; 16 guineas, Mr. Barnett; 13 guineas, Mr. Caessares; 8 guineas, Mr. Corden; 11 guineas, Mr. Smedley. Pasture rangers: 9 guineas, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 8 guineas, Mr. R. P. Cooper; 6 guineas, Mr. Dyas; 7½ guineas, Mr. Lloyd; 32 guineas, Mr. W. L. Naper; 30 guineas, Mr. Dean; 11 guineas, Mr. Caessares; 13 guineas, Mr. W. H. Hill; 10 guineas, Mr. J. Ikin; 9 guineas, Mr. Clarke; 10 guineas, Mr. T. Scott; 7 guineas, Mr. Banton; 10 guineas, Mr. Scott; 8½ guineas, Mr. Jodrell; 8 guineas, Mr. Murray; 5 guineas, Mr. Jones. Shearling ewes made 80s., 57s. 6d., 55s., and 52s. 6d. each.

Great Yorkshire Show at Hull.

The annual show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society opened inauspiciously at Hull on Wednesday. Heavy rain fell all the morning of the opening day, and although the ground was well-drained, many visitors were kept away by the inclement weather. The two following days were much brighter, however, and a good attendance was secured, as the following figures show:—

	1905 Hull	1904 Hudd'rsfi'ld	1899 Hull.	Av'r'ge f'r 5 years
First day... ...	4 145	5,998	6,546	5,662
Second day ...	33,087	30,800	41,948	29,722
Third day.. ...	12,719	16,549	11,065	10,847
Total ...	49,951	53,407	59,559	46,321

The Council held a meeting on Wednesday. A deputation from Middlesbrough was introduced to the Council by Mr. Whitwell, with the object of inviting the Council to hold next year's show at Middlesbrough. The Mayor of Middlesbrough said that, on behalf of the Borough of Middlesbrough he desired to extend a hearty invitation to the Council to visit that place next year. They were good enough to visit Middlesbrough thirteen years ago. Since then their population had increased by 20,000, and the population of the Parliamentary borough was about 120,000, in addition to which they had the surrounding populations of Stockton, Thornaby, Redcar, and Darlington to draw upon, and these would easily make another 100,000, so that there should be an excellent attendance. A splendid field would be at their disposal. A railway ran by the site, and a siding would be placed into the field so as to enable them to land the stock and the implements. They had prevailed upon the Middlesbrough Town Council to give £250 to the funds, and he had no doubt they would be able to raise a considerable local fund. The Earl of Feversham proposed that the invitation be accepted. He was very glad that there was a prospect of the show once more going into the North Riding. Mr. Whitwell seconded, and the motion was then carried.

The entry of stock, as will be seen from the figures below, was a satisfactory one:—

	1905. Hull.	1904. Hudders-field.	Average for last 5 yrs.
Cattle	203	249	221
Sheep	122	103	120
Pigs	99	112	two yrs. 93
Horses	443	377	463
Total ...	867	841	

Cattle.

The show of Shorthorns was not remarkable, the feature of the section being the family classes, Lord Calthorp winning in a strong class of ten. Only a couple of old bulls were forward, and His Majesty the King won, while there were nine two-year-old bulls, Mr. F. Miller's Limepark Champion, first at the Royal Lancashire Show, where he took the male championship, was relegated to the fifth position. Mr. R. P. Cooper's Meteor, which was behind Limepark Champion at Liverpool, being the leader, followed by Mr. Mills's King Christian of Denmark, and Messrs. Dean and Sons' Imperial Favourite, the reserve ticket going to Mr. George Harrison's Pioneer, bred by the King at Windsor. The yearling and calf classes were well filled, but do not call for special notice. The best class among the female section was the yearling heifers, Mr. Haley winning with Bright Jewel 6th, while Mr. Harrison's heifer calf, Waterloo Princess, is full of promise.

The Jersey classes showed a falling off in numbers, but there were some animals of excellent type in the ring. Lord Cadogan was a first prize winner with a bull of two and a half years, and Lord Rothschild won three other first prizes, together with the Blythwood Challenge Bowl, which was awarded last year also to an exhibit from Tring Park.

There was an excellent entry of Aberdeen-Angus. Mr. C. Calder, of Ponteland, Northumberland, sent down a fine young bull, Perfection of Sands, which won a first prize and the Polled Cattle Society's gold medal for the best breeding animal. The English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association medal was awarded to a Darlington exhibitor, Mr. C. E. Hunter, who secured three first prizes with four exhibits.

HORSES.

The horse section has ever been an all-important one at the shows of the Great Yorkshire Society, and, judging from the enthusiasm displayed at the ring-sides on Wednesday last, there is no fear of the tastes of the Yorkshire people being alienated from their favourites, either by time or any other substitute that invention may bring out to try to displace these faithful servants and pleasurable companions. This is as it should be, and it was quite a treat to be present to witness the judging at Hull in spite of the drenching showers of rain that now and again somewhat interfered with business. The interest taken in this department, too, was very equally bestowed upon each of the different breeds represented.

Hunters.

There is no denying the fact that the foreigner has for years been lessening our supply of these useful horses by purchasing freely of the mares that breed them, and also that they have taken many of our best. A reaction, however, now seems imminent in favour of a vastly increased stud business being done in breeding horses of the hunter type: the prices obtainable for good horses are an incentive to this, as well as the awakening that has seized many of our friends in high positions as to our necessity for a much larger and better supply of military horses which must ever come from this source. The classes of this section at Hull were stronger numerically than they have sometimes been, and the quality could not be complained of: many of the best animals of the class that the country possesses were taking part in the competitions.

The first class was for thoroughbred stallions restricted practically to local exhibitors. The winners in these were Lord Middleton's premium stallion Wales, who is well known, both personally and as a sire, The Dempster, from the same stables, placed third, and Messrs. Wickham Boynton's and H. Cholmondely's Pax, who divided the two Birdsall horses. For heavy-weight brood mares the competition was pretty keen, Mr. Cholmondely's Irish-bred mare Cigarette, who possesses all the qualifications for breeding weight-carriers, headed the list; Mr. Sylvester Leaf's Edna May and Mr. Watson's Kilfinora (Irish bred) were also capital mares. Mr. Wilkinson's well-known and beautiful-quality mare Glassport headed the light-weight class, in which some of the entries were rather weighty. Yearling colts were strong, and a number of h.c.s were distributed as well as the prizes, the first of which went to Mr. Swallow's Vigo, by Congo, a very promising yearling, that had a hard nut to crack in Mr. Wilkinson's The Colonel, a stylish yearling, and with bone. Fillies were more numerous than the males, Mr. Robinson, Messrs. Bradley, Mr. Hodgson and Lord Middleton has such capital representatives in the class. Two-year-old geldings and fillies were also a good lot, though the latter were only four in number. Mr. Wilkinson's Havre colt Destruction, which has been very successful this summer, was best in the males, and Mr. Mullen's Paleface in the females. Three-year-old fillies, like the two-year-olds, were numerically very weak, but their style and quality were such as to leave a wish that they may be retained for the stud; Mr. Wilkinson's, Lord Middleton's, and Mr. Brown's names, who were the owners of these, are a guarantee for the right kind. Three and four-year-old geldings were very strong in numbers, and some rattling good horses were included in the ranks. Mr. Stokes, it may be said, never shows a bad one, and he headed both these classes with Artist and Dervische. Messrs. Brown, Cheny, Snowden and Sons, and Rickaby were also in the winning line. Several of the same exhibitors were also prominent in the four-year-old mare classes, and the heavy-weight class of five or six-year-olds of either sex was extra good, so fine a horse as Mr. Stokes's well-known and several times champion Gold Reef only being able to rise to the reserve place. The light-weight class contained twenty entries; Mr. Stokes's Whisky, whose quality and hunter-like build have already secured for him several championships this year, was first, and also received the championship later. The Countess of Ravensworth had a capital gelding second in Schism.

Hackneys.

These were quite up to the general quality of the Yorkshire exhibits; indeed, we thought them better than we have many times seen them. There were ten entries of stallions, four years old and upwards, in which Mr. Haley's Moncrieffe Vengeance by Rosador, who made a very good show, came to the front. Sir Walter Gilbey's Brave Member and Mr. Asery's Buckthorpe Victor followed for the other prizes. The contest was very keen in the two or three-year-old section, in which Mr. Arthur Fewson's two-year-old Hedon Comedian by St. Thomas managed to take the lead over Mr. Evans' Evanthius three-year-old, who has been a great favourite, and justly so, as he carries himself well and goes evenly and quick. Several well known members of the Hackney tribe were present in the brood mare and foal class. Mr. R. Tubbs' Rosadora, however, was not to be beaten, a grand type of harness mare. Mr. Astley's Panic, Mr. Watson's Queen of Newton, and Messrs. Cockayne's Paddock Queen were next in order as named. There was a very promising class of yearling colts, the best of which were sired by Garton Duke of Connaught, Royal Danegelt, and His Majesty, shown by Mr. Evans, Sir Walter Gilbey, and Mr. Lysaght. Mr. Evans' Cricklow by Polonius, a smart filly, headed a good class of yearlings of this sex, both Mr Hall and Mr. Whitworth also being in the running, the latter exhibitor being first for two-year-old geldings, the class a small one. Two-year-old fillies were a good section, Mr. Buttle's Boquhan Sunrise getting ahead of Mr. Evans' smart goer, Pollinara; most of the eleven entries in this class were noticed. Three-year-olds were developing well, several very strong geldings competing in this class, and in females of that age Sir Walter Gilbey's Mitre, Mr. Cliff's Crayke Czarina, and Mr. Hall's Copmanthorpe Princess were the winners, all well known for their breeding and performances. Four-year-old geldings or mares up to 15 stone were not plentiful. Mr. Fewson, however, sent a gelding, Prince Edward by Cornfactor, who was so good as to take the lead against Mr. T. B. Sykes' Fylde Zazara, who is a harness mare of the best style and nature. The light-weight class was a small one, but with two or three very strong representatives, Mr. S. R. Tennant's Authority and Mr. Oates' Ryburn Rosebud, carried off first and second honours.

The cob and pony section was not as well filled, but with such fine goers as Mr. Franklin's Grand Duchess Gobang, and others of similar style, they were a very attractive feature.

Cleveland Bays.

These beautiful horses formed a great attraction, their style and quality, as well as their size, are all in their favour, yet for some reason or other they failed to make a display numerically. There were six entries of two or three-year-old stallions, Mr. Scoby's Beadlam Fred, Mr. Knaggs' Saltburn Favourite, and Mr. Scoby's Far Away carrying off the money. Of the three brood mares shown, Mr. Wilson Horsfall's Lady Salton, bred by Mr. Stevens in the south, was the best, and carried off the special prize also. Mr. Bateman's Queen of Beadlam and Mr. G. Gradage's Lady Toft followed in the order named. Two or three-year-old fillies were also entered by the rule of three, Mr. Grandage's Woodland Briar being the best of a beautiful trio. Mr. Butter's Cholderton Farndale and Mr. Welford's Grange Lucy were the other representatives.

These horses carry a good deal of substance, and for high-class harness work so far as appearances are concerned, look difficult to beat. On the whole they made a better show than the fine Clevelands. Mr. George Burton's Willoughby Emperor was the best of the aged stallions, which totalled seven entries. Mr. Reader's Beacon Prince, another fine looking horse, with style and substance followed. In a strong class of three-year-olds, Mr. Letts' Special Delight, who has retained his splendid form wonderfully, added one more first to his many victories, and also carried off the special. Mr. Stericker's Aneroid was another capital colt in this section, he came second. There were only two entries of yearling colts, but Mr. Sylvester Leaf's Star of Escrick and Mr. Elder's Aislaby Champion placed as sound and bonny colts. All the brood mares secured honours. Mr. Wilson Horsfall's Perseverance, so well known and a very grand type of mare, was given the first position; Mr. Elder's Aislaby Beauty second, and Mr. Butter's Chorlderton Princess third; reserve going to Mr. Thompson's Lavender. Mr. Lett's Special Flower came to the front in a small class of yearling fillies, and her stable companion, Madeline (half-sister), was first of three two-year-olds. Three-year-old fillies had also but three representatives, Mr. Sylvester Leaf's Floradora, Mr. Grandage's Woodland Beauty, and Mr. Varley's Lady May. Three-year-old-geldings gave a very good display, ten were entered, most of them being first-class representatives of the high-class and valuable harness horse. Mr. Kitching's Wonderland, by Barnaby was awarded first prize.

Shires.

This section of the show, though fully up to or above the average at the meetings of this society, was still comparatively weak in so large a county. The quality generally was very good, but with only four entries in several classes it gives but a limited display. The first class was for stallions four years old and upwards. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons had a famous stallion herd that easily took the lead with Ring o' Bells, very weighty and clean in bone, also active. Lord Middleton's Normoor Victor and Earl Egerton's Tatton Chief took the other prizes. These two were weighty, good horses. Two or three-year-old stallions were also a good class. Sir W. Cooke's Doncaster Menestrel, a son of Lord Middleton's Menestrel, and a very shapely horse with rare limbs and feet was first. Mr. R. N. Sutton Nelthorpe's Souldern Sylax, who was second at the Royal, and a colt of very good quality and also full of substance stood second; and a very smart two-year-old of Mr. Grandage's, that promises well for another year, came third. Brood mares were a

weak class of but four entries, and though good in quality, were not especially outstanding. Merit appeared to be very even in these, so far as the judges were concerned, for they were a long time settling and eventually required an umpire. Mr. E. Cartwright's Croft Lily, Mr. W. Jackson's Enfield Poppy, and Mr. H. W. Kearns' Tatton Magpie were placed as named, the last mare being the most roomy and weighty Shire. The reserve mare, Mr. Atkinson Jowett's Summer Queen, a very smart mare, was reserved. Sir W. Cooke was also at the front in the yearling colt class with Redlynch Forest King, a famous stamp of Shire in every respect. Lord Middleton and Mr. Grandage followed with very promising colts. Yearling fillies were only four in number. Mr. Jackson's Knottingley May Queen, a straight, good-quality filly, by Wharton Drayman, was awarded first position; Mr. T. F. Foster taking second, and Mr. E. W. Stantforth third with very lively and useful stamp of fillies. Two-year-olds were one of the best classes of females. Lord Egerton's Dunsmore Nougat made a very fitting best, having style and weight; Lord Middleton had a well-grown shapely one second; and Mr. Walter Johnson was third with a filly that has every appearance of making an excellent brood mare. There were but three out of the four catalogued entries of three-year-olds present. These, however, were an undeniably good trio. Lord Middleton's Birdsall Coralline, by the stud horse Menestrel, made an excellent first, and also carried off the Shire Horse Society's gold medal. She is moulded upon the best possible lines, and with real Shire character and good quality, as well as correct limbs, is a hard nut to crack. Messrs. Forshaw and Sons, with Willow Holt Pansy, another fine type and valuable filly, and Mr. Grandage's Bramhope Lily, also a beautiful mare and close up to her companion, was second and third.

Sheep and Pigs.

Sheep and pigs formed a very considerable section of the show. The best Leicester ram was Mr. G. Harrison's, of Darlington. The championship for Lincoln Longwools goes to Mr. Henry Dudding, of Grimsby, with Messrs. R. and W. Wright as reserve, and the Wensleydale championship was won by the Exors. of the late Mr. T. Willis, Aysgarth.

Two exhibitors were notably successful in the pig classes—the Duchess of Devonshire and Sir Gilbert Greenall. The Duchess of Devonshire's Berkshires have carried all before them, except in one class, where Lord Calthorpe has taken a first prize. Sir Gilbert Greenall has secured with his large white pigs five first and five second prizes.

Miscellaneous.

Classes were provided and were generally well filled for cheese, honey, buttermaking, and horse shoeing competitions.

Cheap Cottages.

A novel feature of the showyard was an exhibition of cheap cottages. Prizes of £40 each were offered, and two typical structures have been erected. The single cottage was built by Mr. J. Wilcock, of Pontefract, and is of red wood on brick foundations, with a roof of galvanised iron sheets. The cost of its erection is estimated at £116, exclusive of bricklayers' work, which is put down at £38, and it is claimed by the exhibitor that the building could be erected in brick and tile for £15 extra. There are three bed-rooms, two 10 ft. square, and one 10 ft. by 12 ft., and kitchen, 12 ft. by 12 ft. 6 in. There is a good entrance and pantry 6 ft. 6 in. by 3 ft. 6 in., and the outbuildings include a wash-house 8 ft. by 7 ft. The double cottage, estimated to cost £160, or two for £300, was erected by Messrs. P. T. Kettlewell and J. Taylor and Son, of Hull. There is a living room and kitchen combined on the ground floor, as well as scullery, washhouse, and pantry, and on the upper floor three good-sized bed-rooms. Both of the structures are on the same lines as those at Letchworth which have already been described in these columns.

JUDGES.

CATTLE: Shorthorns, Robert Bruce, Leinster House, Dunbar, William Wright, Scrambleby House, Hermeastle, Lincolnshire; Dairy, William Foster, Linton, Skipton; Thomas E. Lodge Wood Hall, Aysgarth, R.S.O. Jerseys: The Hon. A. E. Parker, The Cottage, Deveridge, Derby. Aberdeen Angus: C. Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SHEEP: Leicester, H. Humphreys, Woodhouse, Loughborough, Leicestershire; David Linton, Low Street, Barwell, Hinckley, Leicestershire; Thomas B. Fredbury, South Somercotes, Louth, Lincolnshire; Henry Goodacre, Wensleydale Farms, Lincolnshire; Wensleydale, Richard Cowton, Low Moor Farm, Ripon; Scotch Mountain: John Wood, Nether Kennetmuir, R.S.O.

PIGS: Peter Greenall, The Chimes, West Tanfield, Ripon; George White, Rowcliffe, Skelton Road, York. Hackneys, Light Harness and hunters (chosen by the Hon. H. D. Addeley, Charlthorpe Manor, Alford, Lincolnshire; C. H. Scott Plummer, Sunderland Hall, Selkirk, Hunters (chosen by), George Dove, Whitehouse, Bewerley, Bowes, Yorkshire; C. Kendall, Stratford-on-Avon. Jumping competitions: Richard Beith, Wardaby, Scampton, Lincoln; George B. Pearson, Baldersby, R.S.O.

Hackneys, cobs and ponies, and harness horses: A. W. Hickling, Adbolton, Nottingham; W. Campbell Wood, Wooton Dale, Ulceby, Lincolnshire. Cleveland Bays, Yorkshire coach horses, and class 78 (three-year-old harness geldings): F. E. C. Dobson, Dromonby House, Stokesley, R.S.O.; Edward Hall, Barton, R.S.O. Shire: Bentham King, Ashdale House, Helmsley, R.S.O.; F. W. Griffin, Peterborough.

PRIZE LIST.

SHORTHORN CATTLE.

Class 1.—Family of Shorthorns to consist of cow of any age, and two or more of her produce in direct line of descent on the female side: 1, Lord Calthorpe (Sweetheart—Elevetham Monarch and bull calf); 2, Philo L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham (Countess Farewell 5th—King Christian of Denmark, Ruddington Prince Christian, and Denmark's Heir Presumptive); 3, His Majesty the King, Sandringham, Norfolk (Cecily Waterloo—Royal Carlisle, Lord Cecil, and Baron Cecil); r., Henry Williams, Moor Park Harrogate (Augusta 110th—Augusta Mary, General Bruce, Captain Bruce, and Augusta Olive).

Class 2.—Shorthorn bull of any age above three years old: 1, His Majesty (Royal Carlisle); 2, Henry Williams (General Bruce).

Class 3.—Shorthorn bull, above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, R. P. Cooper, Shenston Court, Lichfield (Meteor); 2, Philo L. Mills (King Christian of Denmark); 3, S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Bourne, Lincolnshire (Imperial Favourite); r., George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington (Pioneer); h.c., F. Miller (Limepark Champion).

Class 4.—Shorthorn bull, above one and not exceeding two years old: 1, Lord Calthorpe (Elvetham Monarch); 2, Lord Polwarth, Mertoun House, St. Boswells (British Renown); 3, George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington (Royal Ensign); r., Philo L. Mills (Ruddington Prince Christian); h.c., F. Miller, Clifton Road, Birkenhead (Moonrise).

Class 5.—Shorthorn bull calf, above five and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Charles O. Hall, Settrington House, Malton (Fairplay's Star); 2, George Harrison (Gainford Land Agent); 3, Alfred A. Haley (Whitewall Ringleader); r., George Harrison (Gainford Silver King); h.c., Frederick Platt, Barnby Manor, Newark (Royal Waterloo).

Class 6.—Shorthorn bull, calved in 1904.—Shorthorn Society's County Prize: 1, Charles A. Hirst, Crake Hall, Allerston Marshes, Pickering (Golden Spur); r. Alfred A. Haley (Whitehall Archer).

Class 7.—Shorthorn cow of any age above three years old, in calf, or having produced a fully-matured calf since August 1, 1904: 1, George Harrison (Ursula Raglan); 2, Lord Calthorpe (Sweetheart); 3, Captain William B. Harrison, Aldershaw, Lichfield (Elderberry 4th); r., William Snowball, Knapton Carr, York (Cambridge Waterloo 3rd); h.c., Lord Middleton (Twinkle); c., Lord Middleton (Pierrepont Hazeltop).

Class 8.—Pedigree Shorthorn dairy cow, in milk, of any age: 1, George Harrison (Barbara); 2, William Bell, Ratcheugh, Alnwick (Pierrepont Lady Barrington 4th); 3, Captain William B. Harrison (Daisy Mintcroft); r., Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Underlay Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale (Heroine 5th); h.c., The Earl Manvers (Lady Dorothy 39th); c., William Snowball (Derwent Waterloo 3rd).

Class 9.—Shorthorn heifer, above two and not exceeding three years old, in calf or milk: 1, William Bell (Ratcheugh Witch); 2, The Rt. Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe, Osberton, Worksop (Rosa Ragusa); 3,, Isaiah Eurdass, Lowthorpe, Driffield (Lady Annie 5th); r., George Harrison (Dalmeny Veronica 3rd); h.c., Mrs. Cass, St. Helens, Ribston, Wetherby (Margery Moore).

Class 10.—Shorthorn heifer, above one and not exceeding two years old: 1, Alfred A. Haley (Bright Jewel 6th); 2, T. Atkinson, Redvales, Bury (Towy Princess); 3, William Bell (Belle of Alne); r., F. Miller (Lady Hermoine); h.c., Charles A. Hirst, Allerston Marshes (Marigold 47th); c., Alfred A. Haley (Queen of Ankness).

Class 11.—Shorthorn heifer calf, above five and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, George Harrison (Waterloo Princess); 2, Alfred A. Haley (Whitewall Anna 2nd); 3, Mrs. Cass (Duchess of Lorn); r., Captain William B. Harrison (Aldershaw Primrose 2nd); h.c., Lord Brougham and Vaux, Brougham, Penrith (Braik's Duchess 4th).

JERSEYS.

The "Blythwood" Silver Challenge Bowl for the best cow or heifer, in milk, bred in Great Britain or Ireland: Lord Rothschild (Oxford Snowdrop); r., Captain L. G. Gisborne (Curly).

Class 14.—Jersey bull, above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, The Earl Cadogan, Culford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds (Topper); 2, Percy G. Challinor (Lorenzo); 3, Captain L. G. Gisborne, Home Farm, Allestree, Derby (Theresa's King); r., Richard J. Streatfeild, Rossington Hall, Bawtry (Minervis).

Class 15. Jersey bull, above one and not exceeding two years old: 1, Lord Rothschild (Orlando); 2, Captain L. G. Gisborne (Beta's King); 3, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Mona's Warder); r., J. Selwyn Rawson, Sowerby, Halifax (Golden Glory).

Class 16.—Jersey cow, of any age above three years old, in calf, or having produced a fully-matured calf since August 1, 1904: 1, Lord Rothschild (Daystar); 2, Lord Rothschild (Golden Stream); 3, Captain L. G. Gisborne (Curly); r., The Earl Cadogan (Lady Honey).

Class 17.—Jersey heifer, not exceeding three years old, in calf or milk: 1, Lord Rothschild (Oxford Snowdrop); 2, Mrs. Charlotte McIntosh (Inyate); 3, Lord Rothschild (Venecia); r., The Earl Cadogan (Garantie 13th); h.c., Captain L. G. Gisborne (Doreen).

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

Champion Gold Medal for the best breeding animal.—C. Calder (Perfection of Sands).

Silver Medal for best animal of opposite sex to Gold Medal winner.—C. E. Hunter (Ruritania).

Class 18. Aberdeen Angus bull, above two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Charles Calder (Perfection of Sands); 2, Thomas H. Bainbridge (Idelamere); 3, Charles E. Hunter, Gainford, Darlington (Velasquez); r., John McIntyre, Theakston, Bedale (Jim of Auchtendoch).

Class 19. Aberdeen Angus bull, above one and not exceeding two years old. No entry.

Class 20. Aberdeen Angus cow, of any age above three years old, in calf or having produced a fully matured calf since August 1, 1904: 1, Charles E. Hunter (Estimation); 2, Thomas H. Bainbridge (Gabrielle); 3, Thomas H. Bainbridge, Felton, Northumberland (Black Empress 4th); r., George Hoyles (Miss Maurice 4th).

Class 21. Aberdeen Angus heifer, above two and not exceeding three years old, in calf or milk: 1, Charles E. Hunter (Ruritania); 2, John Brennand (Lady Eileen of Hornby); 3, George Hoyles, Skidby, Hull (Dainty Duchess); r., Thomas I. Earle (Agnes of Kirkbridge).

Class 22. Aberdeen Angus heifer, not exceeding two years old: 1, Charles E. Hunter (Eyelid); 2, Thomas H. Bainbridge (Elvina); 3, John McIntyre (Naughty Pride of Theakston); r., Thomas I. Earle (Perilla 2nd of Kirkbridge).

LEICESTER SHEEP.

Class 23.—Leicester two-shear ram: 1, George Harrison; 2, W. D. Megginson, Towthorpe, Fimber Station, York; 3, John Cranswick, Field House, Hunmanby, R.S.O.

Class 24.—Leicester shearling ram: 1, Ernest F. Jordan, Eastburn, Driffield; 2, George Harrison; 3, Ernest F. Jordan; r., James E. and Charles H. Simpson, Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, R.S.O.

Class 25.—Three Leicester shearling rams: 1, Ernest F. Jordan; 2, George Harrison; 3, James E. and Charles H. Simpson; r., W. D. Megginson, Towthorpe, Fimber Station, York.

Class 26.—Leicester ram lamb, dropped in 1905: 1, 2, and 3, George Harrison; r., Ernest F. Jordan.

Class 27.—Three Leicester shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, Ernest F. Jordan; 3, John Cranswick.

Class 28.—Three Leicester ewe lambs, dropped in 1905: 1 and 2, George Harrison; 3, Ernest F. Jordan; r., James E. and Charles H. Simpson.

LINCOLN SHEEP.

Class 29.—Lincoln two-shear ram: 1, Henry Dudding, Riby Grove, Grimsby; 2, S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall (Dowsby 2nd Nottingham); 3, Thomas C. B. Dixon, Brandesburton, Hull (Barff Riby).

Class 30.—Lincoln shearling ram: 1, Henry Dudding; 2, R. and W. Wright; 3, Charles E. Howard, Nocton Rise, Lincoln; r., h.c., and c., Thomas C. B. Dixon, Brandesburton, Hull; c., S. E. Dean and Sons and George Marris, Kirmington, Brocklesby.

Class 31.—Three Lincoln shearling rams: 1, R. and W. Wright; 2, Henry Dudding; 3, Thomas C. B. Dixon; r., Charles E. Howard; h.c., S. E Dean and Sons; c., George Marris and Frederick Ward, Quarrington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire.

Class 32.—Lincoln ram lamb, dropped in 1905: 1 and h.c., H. Dudding; 2, R. and W. Wright; 3, S. E. Dean and Sons; r., H. Smith, junior, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

Class 33.—Three Lincoln shearling gimmers: 1 and 2, R. and W. Wright; 3, Henry Dudding.

WENSLEYDALE SHEEP.

A Champion Prize for the best pen of Wensleydale rams: Executors of the late T. Willis.

Class 34.—Wensleydale long-wool two-shear ram: 1 and 2, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland (Blue Hero and Moore's Blue); 3, Edward Horseman, Broken Briar Farm, Richmond (Park Royal).

Class 35.—Wensleydale long-wool shearling ram: 1 and 3, The Executors of the late Thomas Willis, Manor House, Carperby, Aysgarth, R.S.O.; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland (Blue Fashion); r., Edwin K. Cleasby, The Rush Farm, Carlton Miniott, Thirsk (Cliffe Hall).

Class 36.—Three Wensleydale Shearling rams: 1, The Exors. of the late Thomas Willis; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck; 3, Edwin K. Cleasby; r., Edward Horseman.

Class 37.—Wensleydale ram lamb, dropped in 1905: 1, The Exors. of the late Thomas Willis; 2, Lord Henry Bentinck; 3, The Exors. of the late Thomas Willis; r., Lord Henry Bentinck.

Class 38.—Three Wensleydale Shearling gimmers: 1, The Exors. of the late Thomas Willis; 2, John Hargrave; 3 and r., Lord Henry Bentinck.

BLACK-FACED SCOTCH MOUNTAIN SHEEP.

Class 39.—Black-faced Scotch Mountain ram of any age, dropped previously to 1904: 1, J. Dargue, Burnside Hall Kendal; 2, John Robson, Newton; 3, John Robson; r., Walter N. Cochrane, 2, Dr. Johnson's Buildings, Temple, London, E.C.

Class 40.—Black-faced Scotch Mountain Shearling ram: 1 and 3, John Dargue; 2 and r., John Robson.

Class 41.—Three Black-faced Mountain Shearling gimmers: 1, John Robson; 2, John Dargue; 3, Walter N. Cochrane.

PIGS.

Gold Medal for the best animal in the Large White Classes: A. Duckering and Son (Barkwith Joe); r., W. H. and E. Wherry (Bourne Bonny Boy).

Gold Medal for the best animal in the Middle White Classes: Sir G. Greenall (Walton Dainty 3rd); r., Sir G. Greenall (Walton Rose 47th).

Gold Medal for the best Tamworth: H. C. Stephens: r., Robert Ibbotson.

A piece of Plate for the best Tamworth in Classes 55 or 57: H. C. Stephens (Cholderton Fancy); r., H. C. Stephens (Whitacre Bounder).

Class 42.—Boar of Large White breed, above twelve months old: 1, A. Duckering and Sons, East Barkwith, Lincoln (Barkwith Joe); 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Jerry); 3, A. Duckering and Sons (Barkwith Sam); r., C. J. Tong, Towbrick Farm, Hambleton, Poulton-le-Fylde (Shard Rodger); c., Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton King 5th); R. R. Rothwell, Fulwood Hall, Preston (Fleetwood Duke).

Class 43.—Boar of Large White breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, W. H. and E. Wherry (Bourne Bonny Boy); 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Earl 2nd); 3, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Jerry); r., Sanders Spencer and Son, Holywell Manor, St. Ives.

Class 44.—Sow of Large White breed, above twelve months old, in pig or milk: 1 and 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Lindsey A. and Walton Lady Jane).

Class 45.—Sow of Large White breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, R. R. Rothwell; 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Baroness 14th); 3, Sanders Spencer and Son (Holywell Huddersfield Lass); r. and h.c., W. H. and E. Wherry (Bourne Choice 3rd); c., Sir Gilbert Greenall.

Class 46.—Boar of Middle White breed, above twelve months old: 1, 2, and 3, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Dainty 3rd, Offley John, and Walton Turret 7th); r., Sanders Spencer and Son (Holywell Rosario).

Class 47.—Boar of Middle White breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 2, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton John 5th and Walton John 6th); 3 and r., Sanders Spencer and Son.

Class 48.—Sow of Middle White breed, above twelve months old, in pig or milk: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Jewel 2nd); 2, Leopold G. Paget (Holywell Barbara); 3, Sanders Spencer and Son (Holywell Carlisle Victoria); r. and h.c., Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Rose 22nd); c., Leopold C. Paget, Harewood, Leeds (Holywell Rosadora).

Class 49. Sow of Middle White breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Rose 37th); 2 and 3, Sanders Spencer and Son; r. and h.c., Sir Gilbert Greenall (Walton Rose 38th); c., Leopold C. Paget.

Class 50. Boar of Berkshire breed, above twelve months old: 1, J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester (Peel Champion); 2, the Duchess of Devonshire, Compton Place, Eastbourne (Polegate Dollar); 3, Lord Calthorpe (Manor Grand Duke); r., the Duchess of Devonshire (Polegate Decimal).

Class 51. Boar of Berkshire breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, 2, and 3, the Duchess of Devonshire; r. and h.c., Lord Calthorpe.

Class 52. Sow of Berkshire breed, above twelve months old, in pig or milk: 1, Lord Calthorpe (Compton Dolly); 2 and 3, the Duchess of Devonshire (Polegate Dido and Polegate Dance); r. and h.c., J. Jefferson.

Class 53.—Sow of Berkshire breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, 2, and 3, the Duchess of Devonshire; r., Lord Calthorpe.

Class 54.—Boar of Tamworth breed, above twelve months old: 1, H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, Salisbury (Whitacre Bounder); 2, Robert Ibbotson, The Hawthorns, Knowle, Warwickshire (Knowle Bounder).

Class 55.—Boar of Tamworth breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Robert Ibbotson; 2 and 3, H. C. Stephens; r., Robert Ibbotson.

Class 56.—Sow of Tamworth breed, above twelve months old, in pig or milk: 1 and 2, H. C. Stephens (Cholderton Favourite and Cholderton Fancy); 3, Robert Ibbotson (Gun Hill Coronation); r., Robert Ibbotson (Knowle Nancy).

Class 57.—Sow of Tamworth breed, not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 3, H. C. Stephens; 2 and r., Robert Ibbotson.

HUNTERS.

Class 58.—Thoroughbred hunter stallion, which shall have served halfbred mare in the County of York: 1, Lord Middleton (Wales); 2, T. Wickham-Boynton and H. Cholmondeley, Burton Agnes, Driffield (Pax); 3, Lord Middleton (The Dempster); r., James S. Darrell (Hali); h.c., T. Wickham-Boynton and H. Cholmondeley (Toledo).

Class 59.—Hunter brood mare, up to 15st., and foal: 1, H. Cholmondeley, Sledmere, York (Cigarette); 2, Joseph Watson, Wood Hall, Wetherby (Kilfinora); 3, Sylvester Leaf, Escrick, York (Edna May); r., James S. Darrell (Patti); h.c., Sir Merrik R. Burrell (Speculation).

Class 60.—Hunter brood mare, up to 13st., and foal: 1, F. B. Wilkinson, Edwinstowe, Newark (Glasspore); 2, A. J. Brown, Doncaster (Rosalinda); 3, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (The Witch); r., J. A. Mullens, Longcross, Surrey (Glowworm); h.c., W. B. Swallow, Wootton Lawn, Ulceby (Tugela).

Class 61.—Yearling hunter colt or gelding: 1, W. B. Swallow (Vigo); 2, Frank B. Wilkinson (The Colonel); 3, Edward Hodgson (Dignity); r., William Grayson, Sinnington, R.S.O. (Fog Signal); h.c., William B. Brown, Southolme, Slingsby (Kilworth); c., John H. James-Moore, Wellington, Salop (Dog Star); and W. B. Swallow (Red Morn).

Class 62.—Yearling hunter filly: 1, T. F. Robinson, Preston, Hull (Vixen); 2, G. and E. Bradley, Newton, Great Ayton (Elsie); 3, Edward Hodgson (Daisy); r., Lord Middleton (Symphony).

Class 63.—Two-year-old hunter gelding: 1, Frank B. Wilkinson (Destruction); 2, Lord Middleton (Scrambler); 3, Edward Hodgson (Fearless); r., W. B. Brown; h.c., F. J. Grainger, Driffield (Sugar Loaf).

Class 64.—Two-year-old hunter filly: 1, John A. Mullens (Paleface); 2, Frank A. Rickaby (Watercress); 3, Thomas B. Newton (Lady Gilling).

Class 65.—Three-year-old hunter gelding: 1, John H. Stokes (Dervische); 2, A. J. Brown (First Wrap); 3, Frank A. Rickaby (Splasher).

Class 66.—Three-year-old hunter filly: 1, F. B. Wilkinson (The Duchess); 2, Lord Middleton (Mercy); 3, A. J. Brown (Mullingar).

Class 67.—Four-year-old hunter gelding: 1, J. H. Stokes (Artist); 2, W. B. Brown (Royal Oak); 3, L. Snowden and Son, Starbeck, Harrogate (Silver Thorne); r., W. and J. A. Cheney (Money Spinner); c., W. B. Brown (Anchor).

Class 68.—Four-year-old hunter mare: 1, J. H. Stokes (Lady Belle); 2, W. and J. A. Cheney (Casual); 3, F. B. Wilkinson (The Lady).

Class 69.—Hunter, gelding or mare, five or six years old, qualified to carry 15 stones with hounds, and which has been regularly hunted during the season 1904-1905: 1, J. H. Stokes (Baronet); 2, A. J. Brown (Mallow); 3, J. Brown; r., J. H. Stokes (Gold Reef).

Class 70.—Hunter, gelding or mare, five or six years old, qualified to carry 12st. with hounds, and which has been regularly hunted during the season 1904-1905: 1 and championship, J. H. Stokes (Whiskey); 2, Countess of Ravensworth (Schism); 3, A. J. Brown (Kilmalloch); r., J. H. Stokes (Rosebud).

HARNESS HORSES.

Class 75.—Harness gelding or mare, exceeding 15 hands, and not exceeding 6 years old: 1 and special, A. D. Oates, Halifax (Ryburn Empress); 2, T. Bailey Sykes, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire (Fylde Carniola); 3, W. E. Inman, Huddersfield (Scotch Laddie); r., Robert Beswick, Langton, Malton (Mischief); h.c., Richard Ford, Garton, Driffield (Sportsman); c., John Kerr, M.P. (Forest Fireaway) and Leonard Snowden and Son, Starbeck, Harrogate (Belmont Prince).

Class 76.—Harness gelding or mare, not exceeding 15 hands, and not exceeding 6 years old: 1, T. Bailey Sykes (Fylde Sabrinetta); 2, Leonard Snowden and Son (Belmont Star).

Class 77.—Pair of any age, both horses being the property of the same exhibitor: 1, W. E. Inman, Huddersfield (Scotch Laddie and Silver Ness); 2, John Kerr, M.P. (Advertisement and Paddock Wildfire); 3, Leonard Snowden and Son (Belmont Prince and Belmont Duke).

Class 78.—Three-year-old Harness gelding: 1, James Johnson (Express); 2, John Scaife, Scrayingham, Stamford Bridge (Advance); 3, Sylvester Leaf (Bill Bailey); r., E. Connell, Heslington, York (Primrose Lord).

HACKNEYS.

Class 79.—Hackney stallion, four years old and upwards: A. A. Haley (Moncrieffe Vengeance); 2, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart (Brave Member); 3, W. Asbery, Stamford Bridge, York (Buckthorpe Victor); r., C. S. Fletcher, Ingram, York (Meanwood Maltine); h.c., A. Fewson, Hedon, Hull (Hedon Prince); c., T. Binnington, North Dalton, Driffield (Prince Edward II.).

Class 80.—Hackney stallion, two or three years old: 1, A. Fewson (Hedon Comedian); 2, R. P. Evans, Reigate, Surrey (Evanthius); 3, A. E. Haley (Hiawatha); r., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Kirkby Sensation); h.c., M. Wray, Beverley (Warrington); c., F. T. Cook, Fimber Station, York (Cook's Royal); c., W. P. Kirby (Masterful), and F. H. Stericker, Pickering (Derwent Duke).

Class 81.—Hackney brood mare and foal: 1, W. B. Tubb, Mill Hill, N.W. (Rosadora); 2, J. W. Astley, Nelson (Panic); 3, H. Watson, Tadcaster (Queen of Newton); r., Cockayne Bros., Sheffield (Paddock Queen); h.c., J. Wreghitt, Market Weighton (Londesborough May Queen); c., W. H. Clark, Winstead, Hull (Winsett's Lass), and Right Hon. F. Wrench, Ballybrack, Dublin (Bright Garton Duchess).

Class 82.—Yearling hackney colt or gelding: 1, R. P. Evans (Woodlands Cornaught King); 2, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Bouncing Danegelt); 3, W. R. Lysaght, Chepstow (Amberley Sir Adam); r., W. H. Dent, Atwick, Seaton, Hull (Atwick Astonishment); h.c., J. G. Atkinson-Jowett, South Cave (Drewton Masher); c., E. Dickinson, York (Lord Charles), and W. H. Wilcox, Bishop Wilton, York (Wilton Denmark).

Class 83.—Yearling hackney filly: 1, R. P. Evans (Cristella); 2, Thomas Hall (Copmanthorpe Duchess); 3, Robert Whitworth (Miss Baldwin); r., W. R. Lysaght (Halcyon); h.c., W. H. Clark (Skefling Belle); c., John and Herbert P. Webster (Brampton Brunette).

Class 84.—Two-year-old hackney gelding: 1, R. Whitworth (Towthorpe Prince); 2, S. Leaf (Bob Black); 3, Cockayne Brothers (Paddock Beau).

Class 85.—Two-year-old hackney filly: 1, F. W. Buttle, Driffield (Boquhan Sunrise); 2, R. P. Evans (Pollinaria); 3, J. Beal (Queen of the Rye); r., J. R. Fox, Morton, Gainsborough (Margaretta); h.c., J. W. Astley (Actonia), and Sir Walter Gilbey (Dashing Princess); c., S. Cliff (Empress Maud) and W. R. Lysaght (Wyelands Mary).

Class 86.—Three-year-old hackney gelding: 1, James Scott, Burnby, York (Gold Dust); 2, Cockayne Brothers (Paddock Performer); 3, John W. Featherby, Market Weighton (Barrister); r., James Jebson (Radiant); h.c., William Richardson (Bonwick Major).

Class 87.—Three-year-old hackney filly: 1, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart. (Mitre); 2, Stephen Cliff (Crayke Czarina); 3, Thomas Hall (Copmanthorpe Princess); r., D. S. Carr (Yapham Molly); h.c., John Kerr, M.P., Hemel Hempstead (Coldspring Evaline).

Class 88.—Hackney gelding or mare, four, five, or six years old, and up to 15 stone: 1, A. Fewson (Prince Edward); 2, T. B. Sykes (Fylde Zazara); 3, J. Verity, Harrogate (Wenlock's Pride); r., R. Ford (Bashful Ruth); h.c., H. Watson (Newton Surprise); c., F. Wood (Alderman Fry).

Class 89.—Hackney gelding or mare, four, five, or six years old, and up to 12 stone: 1, S. R. Tennant (Authority); 2, A. D. Oates (Ryburn Rosebud); 3, P. Cautley (Gentleman Leinster); r., A. P. Sowerby (Miracle).

COBS AND PONIES.

Class 90.—Cob, gelding or mare, any age,, above 13.2 but not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, A. Taylor, Hull (Peacock 2nd); 2, H. Rodnell, Hull (Kingston Queen); 3, J. Jebson (Brave Lady); r., Menzies Brothers, Altrincham, Cheshire (Newton Swell).

Class 91.—Polo pony, gelding or mare (suitable for playing polo), any age, and not exceeding 14.2 hands: 1, R. G. Brooksbank, Walkington, Beverley (Cobweb); 2, Captain Olive H. Wilson, Tranby Croft, Hull (Westwood).

Class 92.—Pony, gelding or mare, any age, not less than 12.2 and not exceeding 13.2 hands: 1, G. E. Franklin, Derby (Grand Duchess Gobang); 2, T. P. Robinson, Wiggington, York (Pinderfields Mezaina).

Class 93.—Pony, gelding or mare, any age, not exceeding 12.2, suitable for children: 1, F. Greayer, Hull (Susan); 2, W. Greaves, Heaton, Bradford (Racket); 3, B. Haworth-Booth, Hornsea (Brilliantine); r., C. Foster (Miss Rose).

CLEVELAND BAYS.

Class 94.—Cleveland Bay stallion, two or three years old: 1 and silver medal, George Scoby, Beadlam Grange (Beadlam Fred); 2, Thomas Knaggs, Marske-by-the-Sea (Saltburn Favourite); 3, George Scoby (Far Away); r., Frank H. Stericker (Radium).

Class 95.—Cleveland Bay brood mare, and foal by a registered Cleveland Bay sire: 1 and special, F. Wilson, Horstall, Northallerton (Lady Salton); 2, Frank Bateman (Queen of Beadlam); 3, G. Grandage, Yeadon, Leeds (Lady Toft).

Class 96.—Cleveland Bay filly, two or three years old: 1, George Brandage (Woodland Briar); 2, Charles Butters (Cholderton Farndale); 3, John Welford, Loftus, R.S.O. (Grange Lucy).

YORKSHIRE COACH HORSES.

Class 97.—Coaching stallion, four years old and upwards: 1, G. Burton, Thorpe Willoughby (Willoughby Emperor); 2, Joseph Reader, Hôlme, York (Beacon Prince); 3, Sylvester Leaf (Star of Yorkshire); r., Frank H. Stericker (Bathurst).

Class 98.—Coaching stallion, two or three years old: 1 and challenge plate, John Lett, Rillington, York (Special Delight); 2, Frank H. Stericker (Aneroid); 3, James Smith (Lord Protector); r., O. Foxton, Escrick, York (Royal Ensign).

Class 99.—Yearling Coaching colt: 1, Sylvester Leaf (Star of Escrick); 2, John W. Elders, Aislaby, Whitby (Aislaby Champion).

Class 100.—Coaching brood mare and foal: 1, F. Wilson Horsfall (Perseverance); 2, George Elders (Aislaby Beauty); 3, Charles Butters (Cholderton Princess); r., George Thompson (Lavender).

Class 101.—Yearling Coaching filly: 1, J. W. Lett (Special Flower); 2, George Grandage (Woodland Marquise); 3, George Elders, jun. (Aislaby Queen).

Class 102.—Two-year-old Coaching gelding: 1, James W. McNeil, Danby, Grosmont, R.S.O. (Santoy); 2, H. Hart (Weatherwise).

Class 103.—Two-year-old Coaching filly: 1 and plate, John Lett (Madeline); 2, George Grandage (Woodland Star); 3, George Scoby (Beadlam May 2nd).

Class 104.—Three-year-old Coaching gelding: 1, Bert Kitching, Pickering (Wonderland); 2, Marshall Porritt, Grosmont, R.S.O. (Humewood); 3, Sylvester Leaf (Elegance); r., Frank H. Stericker (Curzon); h.c., William D. Tasker (Sportsman).

Class 105.—Three-year-old Coaching filly: 1, Sylvester Leaf (Florodora); 2, Geo. Grandage (Woodland Beauty); 3, Nathaniel Varley (Lady May).

SHIRE HORSES.

Class 106.—Shire stallion, four years old and upwards: 1, James Forshaw and Sons, Carlton-on-Trent, Newark (Ring o' Bells); 2, Lord Middleton (Normoor Victor); 3, Earl Egerton of Tatton (Tatton Chief); r., R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe, Scawby (Sea Dog); h.c., Francis Dunn, Withernwick, Hull (Shipton Harold); c., Walter Johnson, Hatfield, Doncaster (La Pryme).

Class 107.—Shire stallion, two or three years old: 1, Sir William Cooke, Wheatley Park, Doncaster (Doncaster Menestrel); 2, R. N. Sutton-Nelthorpe (Souldern Scylax); 3, A. Grandage, Bramhope, Leeds (Bramhope Gay Duke); r., Clement Keevil, Ellington, Leighton Buzzard (Bladgon Benefactor); h.c., Earl Egerton of Tatton (Eastoft Royal Lad).

Class 108.—Shire brood mare and foal: 1, E. H. Cartwright, Louth (Croft Lilly); 2, William Jackson (Enfield Poppy); 3, Henry W. Kearns, Willcross, Gisburn (Tatton Magpie); r., S. Atkinson-Jowett, Oldcoates Manor, Rotherham (Summer Queen).

Class 109.—Yearling Shire colt or gelding: 1, Sir William Cooke (Redlynch Forest King); 2, Lord Middleton (Birdsall Metric); 3, A. Grandage (Bramhope Maximus); r., A. Grandage (Bramhope Mars); h.c., William Jackson (Knottingley Chief); c., Lord Middleton (Birdsall Candidate).

Class 110.—Yearling Shire filly: 1, William Jackson (Knottingley May Queen); 2, Thomas F. Foster, Sowerby, Bridlington (Sowerby Moss Rose); 3, Edwin W. Stanyforth, Kirk Hammerton Hall, York (Kirk Hammerton Emblem); r., John H. Tilburn, Shelley, Huddersfield (Ratcliff Sweet Violet).

Class 111.—Two-year-old Shire filly: 1, Earl Egerton of Tatton (Dunsmore Nougat); 2, Lord Middleton (Birdsall Candy); 3, Walter Johnson (Hatfield Pride); r., Lord Middleton (Birdsall Coral); h.c., Joseph Cranswick, Rudstone, Bridlington (Rudstone Roseleaf).

Class 112.—Three-year-old Shire filly: 1 and Shire Horse Society's Medal, Lord Middleton (Birdsall Coralline); 2, J. Forshaw and Sons (Willow Holt Pansy); 3, A. Grandage (Bramhope Lily).

ROYAL LANCASHIRE.

The Concluding Days.

On account of the necessity of going to press earlier than usual in view of the Bank Holiday, our last week's report of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's Show at Liverpool only dealt with the first day's proceedings, and we now make good the deficiency. The show itself was, as we have previously stated, a very good one, and the society was extremely unfortunate in experiencing such wet weather, for there is little doubt but that the attendance of visitors would have been a record one had the weather only been fine each day. As an example of how they patronise a really good show the people of the district on Monday last turned up in their thousands, and the society, who seem extremely fond of making new records, added another to their list, the Bank Holiday gate being the best recorded, for no fewer than 42,339 people paid for admission, as against the previous best of 33,375 in 1899, and had it not been for a heavy storm about six o'clock, the total would undoubtedly have been considerably greater. The attendance on the other days was not so large as in some previous years, but considering the inclement weather the totals were very good, and it is estimated that the financial result of the show will be a most satisfactory one. With a view of spreading the interest over the whole of the show the society so arranged it that some classes were judged on each day, whilst for the final day they provided a dog show, and for this they received no fewer than 11,000 odd entries, the largest number on record, and certainly one of the best canine displays ever seen in the North.

Second Day.

Among the classes judged on the second day were those for polo and riding ponies, and though the entries were rather on the small side, the quality was all round exceptionally good. Liverpool has long been a centre for the breeding of these animals, and the neighbouring polo clubs rank highly in the world of sport. However, the premier awards fell to a southerner in the person of Mr. John Barker, of Bishop's Stortford, who swept the board, he taking practically no less than two special and three first prizes, the specialists being Sapphire (the best polo pony brood mare) and Antree (the best polo pony stallion). Both these animals presented the acme of fitness, and their points were eulogised by critics and common folk alike. Some little consolation for the isolation of Liverpool in the way of fortune's favours was afforded by the carrying off by Mr. R. R. Heap—a well-known member of the Liverpool Polo Club—of the society's silver medal with his handsome chestnut Goldfinch. Another medallist was the Rev. D. B. Montefiore, of Oxford, with a beautiful-looking filly, Delightful,

Dairy cattle were also judged on the second day, and it was the general opinion that they made one of the best shows ever seen at this society's exhibition. They were certainly a remarkably good lot. In the open class for cow of any weight, Mr. Raingill, of Altrincham, carried off chief honours and the Peck Challenge Cup with his peerless roan Dot. This animal has never been beaten in her class, and has obtained first distinction at the Royal, the Royal Lancashire, the Yorkshire, and many minor exhibitions up and down the country. Dot has won the Peck Cup two years in succession, and as Mr. Raingill won it in 1903 with his cow Pet, the trophy now becomes his property in accordance with the conditions. Among the heavy weights were a number of good animals, quite a dozen of them worthy to be in the honours list. Messrs. J. and R. Atkinson, of Wavertree, beat Mr. Raingill in the class for cow in calf, which was a creditable achievement, considering that the animal they won with was a town dairy cow. Liverpool dairymen did well in the dairy classes of this show, which is the more praiseworthy because the class of animal they necessarily possessed must first and foremost be serviceable.

Other classes judged on the second day included another butter-making contest, which, as always, attracted a large and interested crowd; a jumping competition, of which the same remark might be made; some poultry and bee classes, and finally a new class in the shape of a poultry trussing competition. It was open to the United Kingdom, and the society offered three prizes. Of the fourteen entrants thirteen put in an appearance, and all but one were students at the County Council Farm at Hutton, whilst the birds trussed came from the same place. The winner was Miss Edith A. Ayres, Fair Mount, Cadley, Preston, whose manipulation and finish was excellent, and commanded the highest points given by the judge.

Third Day.

On the third day (Saturday) the weather was still boisterous at the outset, but improved later on, and the attendance of visitors in the after-

noon and evening was on a large scale, though not quite up to that at Liverpool in 1899. There was again much to interest all classes, but the feature of the day was a parade of Liverpool carthorses, for which the town has long held a high reputation, and certainly to the "strangers within the gates" the magnificent horses which came under their inspection must have considerably surprised them. One hundred and thirty-six animals were paraded, and the show was one which it would be hard, if possible, to beat in any part of the kingdom. The average height of the horses was about 16.3, and what was most noticeable was the wonderful cleanness of limb, great scale, and exceptionally good, hard-wearing feet. The Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society's silver medal was awarded to the representative of each contingent of the parade, and the Shire Horse Society's medals, for the three best groups, were won by the Liverpool Corporation, the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, and the London and North-Western Railway Company. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company's group won Alderman Grant's Challenge Cup, valued at 50 gs., at the last May-day show.

After the parade the judging in the pair of carthorse classes took place. For the best pair, the property of team-owners, the whole of the prizes, first, second, third, and reserve, went to Mr. Thomas Edwards, of Litherland. His first prize winners were a pair of Shire geldings, standing 16.3, and eight years and eleven years respectively, firmly set, active movers, with excellent feet, while the second prize winner was his grey gelding Redlynch Duke, 17 hands, a famous prize winner, which had as his companion a blue roan standing 16.3. In the class for a pair of carthorses owned by others than team-owners, the Liverpool Corporation were awarded first honours for a pair of six-year-old bays standing 17 hands, both of remarkably good texture, and winners at the London Shire Horse Show. The second prize went to the London and North-Western Railway Company for a couple of finely-built horses, which, like the rest of the horses in the competition, are worked daily on the streets.

The judging in the riding and harness classes was watched by a large concourse of spectators, who witnessed an exceedingly fine collection of riding horses. For hack mare or gelding, rising five, Mr. W. S. Cunard's Wild Lucy carried off chief honours. She is an elegantly-built hack, very level, beautiful shoulders, and a free, forward action, and has won distinction elsewhere. Marie Tempest, with which Mr. Charles Radcliffe took second prize in this class, has also obtained a fair number of prizes at various exhibitions. First for the hack pony went to Messrs. John Jones and Sons' Welsh Princess, a beautiful type of Welsh pony, which has won a large number of honours, and was sold at the Dynarth sale for a large figure. In the local class for hack ponies (nine miles radius of Liverpool), Mr. T. B. Sykes's Fylde Forester, a handsome grey pony, of beautiful quality and a fine mover, was the judges' selection for first place. Messrs. J. H. Ainsworth and Sons' Our Gert, which was second, was third at the Royal Show. Mr. Charles Radcliffe's Phœbe Walton was a comfortable winner in the harness class between 14 and 15 hands. This charming chestnut mare has won over 700 first prizes and many specials. Wild Lucy was second and Mr. J. Sadler Sykes's Fylde Sabrinette third—a Lancashire bred mare, and winner of a championship at the Spring Show at Islington and at The Hague. In the tandem class, Wild Lucy and Jenny Lind were beaten by Mr. Charles Radcliffe's Phœbe Walton and Marie Tempest. The winners went more evenly and harmoniously together.

The President of the Board of Agriculture (the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes) was expected at the show on Saturday, but found that his departmental duties necessitated his remaining in London, and therefore sent to represent him Sir Thomas Elliott, Chief Permanent Secretary to the Board, who arrived at the showyard at noon, having driven from Knowsley, where he had been the guest of the Derby family. He was received by Mr. Windham E. Hale (Deputy Vice-chairman of the Council of the Society) and Mr. W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes (president of the Lancashire Farmers' Association), and after a look round the exhibition proceeded to the grand stand, and appeared to take a keen interest in the judging of the riding classes. Subsequently he held a private and informal conference in the council pavilion with local correspondents of the Board of Agriculture and other prominent agriculturists, and took his departure at four o'clock.

Final Day.

The final day's weather and attendance have been already described, and all we need say here is that the vast concourse had much to keep them amused all day. The display of dogs was an exhibition in itself, but in addition there was a champion leaping competition, the chief prize in which was a handsome 50-guinea challenge cup (won by Mr. G. Ledson, Swallowbeck, Lincoln); a championship butter-making contest, won by Mrs. Comer, Farnshaw Farm, Hertford, who gained 94 points out of a possible 100; and the judging of half-a-dozen classes for tenant farmers' cattle, seven classes of tenant farmers' draught horses, and a number of local trade turnouts. Both the cattle and horses did credit to their exhibitors, as also did the majority of the turnouts. Great interest was evinced in the special harness competition for the Manchester Champion Harness Cup for the best turn-out in the show. Mrs. Bratt, of London, was the winner with her celebrated Heathfield Squire, which gave one of the finest displays of pace and action seen in any showyard in the kingdom. The Acting Lady Mayoress (Miss Morgan) presented the cup in the presence of the Lord Mayor, and heartily congratulated Mrs. Bratt, who came off the grand stand to receive the trophy.

This brings us to the end of our description of a show upon which the Royal Lancashire Society has every reason to look back with pride, and particularly on the way in which it was managed, for despite its bigness, not a single hitch occurred. Before giving the additional awards to complete the prize list of our last issue, we would mention that at a meeting of the Council of the Society, held on the second day, the Mayor of Lancaster (Mr. J. Heald) extended a cordial invitation to the Society to hold its show in 1906 in Lancaster, on land midway between Lancaster and Morecambe—a position which would be convenient for the inhabitants of both boroughs and for the visitors at Morecambe. He mentioned that it was seventeen or eighteen years since the show was held in Lancaster. On that occasion bad weather interfered with its success, but in the year 1878 the show in Lancaster was a great success. Lancaster was the centre of a prosperous agricultural district, and the Society would not regret paying the borough another visit. The invitation was supported by the Mayor of Morecambe (Mr Birkett), the ex-Mayor of Morecambe (Mr. Barnsbee), Messrs. George Jackson (President Lancaster Agricultural Society), and others, and was unanimously accepted by the Council, whilst a hearty vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool and the Local Committee for their work in connection with the show was passed with acclamation.

Additional Prize Awards.

The following is a list of the awards made after we went to press with our last issue:—

POLO AND RIDING PONIES.

Best polo pony brood mare or filly.—J. Barker.
Best polo pony stallion.—J. Barker.
Best polo pony brood mare.—R. R. Heap.
Best polo pony filly.—Rev. D. B. Montefiore.
Stallion, not exceeding 14.2.—1, J. Barker, The Grange, Bishop's Stortford; 2, S. H. Moorhouse, Woodlands, Stockport; 3, J. Oscar Muntz, Goodameavy, Yelverton, Salop.
Mare, not exceeding 14.2, with foal at foot.—1, J. Barker; 2, S. H. Moorhouse; 3, R. R. Heap, Blackmoor, West Derby, Liverpool.
Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1902, not exceeding 14.1½.—1, J. Barker; 2, J. Oscar Muntz; 3, Earl of Lathom.
Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1903, not exceeding 14.3.—1, Colonel E. N. Henriques, Mursley Stud, Winslow, Bucks; 2, G. Norris, Midwood, The Grange, North Rode, Congleton; 3, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, Lelip Polo and Riding Pony Stud, Oxon.
Colt, gelding, or filly, foaled in 1904, not exceeding 13.3.—1 and 3, Rev. D. B. Montefiore; 2, R. R. Heap.

HACKNEYS AND HARNESS HORSES.

Pony, mare, or gelding, foaled in or before 1901, over 12.2 and not exceeding 14 hands.—1, T. B. Sykes, 13, Huskisson Street, Liverpool; 2, E. C. Thwaites, Churchtown Corn Mills, Southport; 3, W. C. Cunard, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell.
Harness mare or gelding, over 15 hands.—1, Mrs. Hartley Butt, 20, Westbourne Street, Hyde Park, London, W.; 2, C. Radcliffe, 40, Newport Road, Cardiff; 3, W. E. Inman, Westfield Lodge, Huddersfield.
Harness novice mare or gelding, not exceeding 14.2.—1, J. Makeague, Golborne Park, Newton-le-Willows; 2, W. J. Milton, Castle Hotel, 151, Chester Street, Birkenhead; 3, J. H. Ainsworth and Sons, 26, Great George's Road, Waterloo, Liverpool.
Hack mare or gelding, over 14 hands.—1, T. B. Sykes; 2, T. Chapman, 79, Tiber Street, Liverpool.
Harness mare or gelding, over 15 hands.—1 and 2, T. B. Sykes; 3, T. Chapman.
Hack mare or gelding, foaled in or before 1901, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands.—1, W. S. Cunard, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell; 2, C. Radcliffe, 40, Newport Road, Cardiff; 3, Menzies Bros., Ellesmere Lodge, Altrincham; r., John Jones and Son, Dinarth Hall Pony Stud, Colwyn Bay.
Hack pony, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 12.2.—1, John Jones and Son, Dinarth Hall Pony Stud, Colwyn Bay; 2, W. Wainwright, The Vine, Moorland Road, Burslem, Staffs; 3, R. T. Evans, 11, Dale Street, Liverpool; r., W. Greaves, Bankfield, Heaton, Bradford.
Harness tandem team, under 15 hands.—1, C. Radcliffe; 2, W. S. Cunard.
Harness novice mare or gelding, exceeding 14.2.—1, T. B. Sykes, 13, Huskisson Street, Liverpool; 2, T. C. McKibbin, The Heaning, Windermere; 3, G. Pimlott, Stamford Stud, Altrincham.
Harness mare or gelding, over 14 and not exceeding 15 hands.—1, C. Radcliffe; 2, W. S. Cunard; 3, J. S. Sykes; r., C. Radcliffe.
Hack pony, mare, or gelding, not exceeding 14 hands.—1, T. B. Sykes; 2, J. H. Ainsworth and Sons, 26, Great George's Road, Waterloo; 3, H. Foster, 90, Grange Road, Birkenhead; r., Hayes Bros., Larchwood Farm, Bebington, Cheshire.
Harness pony, mare or gelding, 14 hands and under.—1, T. B. Sykes; 2, J. H. Ainsworth and Sons; 3, H. Foster; r., Hayes Bros.
Pair of cart horses, mares or geldings, or gelding and mare.—1, 2, 3, and r., T. Edwards, Spring Bank, Litherland; h.c., C. O'Shaughnessy, Whithorn Street, Liverpool.
Pair of cart horses, mares or geldings, or gelding and mare.—1, Liverpool Corporation, Municipal Buildings, Liverpool; 2, London and North-Western Raiway Co., Waterloo Station, Liverpool; 3, Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co., Liverpool; 4, I. Dilworth, 1, Childwall-road, Wavertree; h.c., Liverpool Corporation and Midland Railway Co., Victoria Street, Liverpool.

DAIRY CATTLE.

The "Peck" Silver Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas, for the best dairy cow in the show.—Sam S. Raingill.
Cow, in milk (any weight).—1 and 2, Sam S. Raingill, The Grange, Ringway, Altrincham; 3, C. E. Bateman, 16, Aigburth Vale, Liverpool.
Cow, in calf, to calve within three months after the show (any weight).—1, J. and R. Atkinson,, Dunbabin Farm, Wavertree; 2, Sam S. Raingill; 3, G. B. Nelson and Son, Cockerham Hall, near Garstang.
Cow, in milk, over 11 cwt.—1, C. E. Bateman; 2, T. Backhouse, 8, Tetlow Street, Liverpool; 3, R. Cock, Rossall Grange.
Cow, in milk, not exceeding 11 cwt.—1, E. Farrow, Lower Moss-side Farm; 2, J. W. Astley, Nelson, Lancashire; 3, J. and R. Atkinson.
Cow, in calf, to calve within three months after the show.—1, J. and R. Atkinson; 2, G. B. Nelson and Sons; 3, R. Batty and Sons, 57 and 59, Arundel Avenue, Sefton Park, Liverpool.

TOWN DAIRY COWS.

Cow, in milk or in calf, over 11 cwt.—1, J. and R. Atkinson,, Dunbabin Farm, Wavertree; 2, R. Batty and Sons, 57 and 59, Arundel Avenue, Sefton Park, Liverpool; 3, C. E. Bateman, 16, Aigburth Vale,, Liverpool.
Cow,, in milk or in calf, not exceeding 11 cwt.—1, J. and R. Atkinson; 2, T. Chapman, 79, Tiber Street, Liverpool; 3, W. T. Dean, 8, Attwood Street, Liverpool.
Pair of dairy cows, in milk or in calf (any weight).—1, J. and R. Atkinson; 2, C. E. Bateman; 3, R. Batty and Sons.

JERSEY CATTLE.

Special prize, cow or heifer in milk.—Lady de Rothschild.
Bull, calved in 1901, 1902, or 1903.—1, Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring, Bucks; Earl of Ancaster, Normanton Park, Stamford; 3, Right Hon. Earl of Cadogan, K.G., Culford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.
Bull, calved in 1904 or 1905.—1 and 3, Mrs. Charlotte M'Intosh, Havering Park, Romford, Essex; 2, J. Joicey, Poulton Priory, Poulton, Fairford, Gloucester.
Cow, in milk or in calf, calved in or before 1902.—1, Lady de Rothschild; 2, Mrs. Charlottee M'Intosh; 3, J. Joicey.
Heifer, in milk or in calf, calved in 1903.—1, Mrs. Charlotte M'Intosh; 2, Bishop of Ipswich, Burgh House, Great Yarmouth; 3, W. G. M. Townley, Hard Cragg, Grange over Sands.
Heifer, calved in 1904.—1, J. Joicey; 2, Lady de Rothschild; 3, W. G. M. Townley.

KERRY CATTLE.

Bull, calved in or before 1903. 1 and 3, Lady Greenall, Walton Hall, Warrington; 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle, Clumber, Worksop.
Cow or heifer, in milk, calved in or before 1902.—1 and 2, Her Grace the Duchess of Newcastle; 3, Lady Greenall.
Heifer, calved 1903 or 1904. 1 and 2, Lady Greenall.

DEXTER CATTLE.

Bull, calved in or before 1903.—1, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, Compton Place, Eastbourne; 2, H. Martin Gibbs, Barrow Court, Flax-Bourton; near Bristol; 3, Baldomero de Bertodano, Cowbridge House, Malmesbury, Wilts.
Cow or heifer, in milk, calved in or before 1902.—1 and 3, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire; 2, Baldomero de Bertodano.
Heifer, calved in 1903 or 1904. — 1, Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire; 2, Baldomero de Bertodano; 3, Countess of Sefton, Croxteth Hall, Liverpool.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
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CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

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E. M. ROBERTS, Secretary,
Trem-Eivion, Talsarnau, Merioneth.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THAME HORSE SHOW.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.

Entries close September 2nd.
Double Fees, September 12th.

I. BUSH,
Thame.

CHILTERN HILLS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
WENDOVER.
THE ANNUAL SHOW
of
HUNTERS AGRICULTURAL HORSES, HORNED STOCK, SHEEP, PIGS, CORN, ROOTS, BUTTER, EGGS, POULTRY, &c., will be held at
HALTON PARK, BUCKS,
On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 1905,
JUMPING COMPETITIONS.
TRADE EXHIBITS.
Entries close Thursday, August 17th.
Schedules of
CHARLES E. FREEMAN,
Wendover. Hon. Secretary.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD AND LINSLADE FOAL SHOW.
At LEIGHTON BUZZARD,
SEPTEMBER 26th 1905.
Entries close September 12th; post entries (double fees) September 19th.
WALTER C. PRUDAMES, } Secretaries.
W. G. W. WILLIS, }
North Street, Leighton Buzzard.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT HORSE SHOW.
At KINETON,
SEPTEMBER 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 31st.
E. KNOTT, jun., Hon. Secretary,
Burton Dassett, Leamington.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
SHOW at HIGH WYCOMBE,
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905.
OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hacks, Hunters, Jumpers, Harness Horses, Polo Ponies, Jerseys, Butter, and Honey.
For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to
JOSEPH BLISS,
26, High Street, High Wycombe.

COLESHILL HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 11th, 1905.

£150 in Prizes.

JUMPING, DRIVING, HUNTERS, AND TURNOUTS.
Entries Close August 28th, 1905.
W. H. M. BARTON,
Coleshill, nr. Birmingham. Secretary.

SPALDING AND DISTRICT MARE AND FOAL SHOW ASSOCIATION.

President: A. H. CLARK, Esq.

The ANNUAL SHOW will be held in Cley Hall Park, Spalding
(by kind permission of Hy. Clark, Esq.),
On WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th.

Challenge Cup £25 (open to all England).
Challenge Cup £10.
Challenge Cup £5 5s. (for 50-acre Farmers).
Shire Horse Society's Gold Medal (£10).
Breeder's Prize (£5).
Entries close SEPTEMBER 12th. For Schedules and particulars apply
JOE LONGSTAFF,
Spalding. Hon. Sec.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

AYR RAM SOCIETY.—SHOW & SALE of Pedigree Blackface and Border Leicester Rams and Lambs, CATTLE MARKET, AYR, 13th & 14th SEPT. 1905. JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

AUCTION SALES.

AMBERSTONE GRANGE, HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.

1½ miles from Hailsham Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE OF A PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK (Registered No. 163), comprising about

630
HEAD,
as follows:—
80 SHEARLING EWES,
85 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
117 SIX-TEETH EWES,
120 FULL-MOUTHED EWES,
120 EWE LAMBS,
80 WETHER LAMBS,
and
13 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS,
Also
FIVE CAPITAL CARRIAGE HORSES (four being six years old),
TWO THOROUGHBRED MARES,
and TWO DAIRY COWS, due to calve, which

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON are favoured with instructions from H. M. SIMMONS, Esq., to SELL by AUCTION, without reserve, owing to his having given up his flock farms of Amberstone Grange, Hailsham, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 31st, 1905.

This flock was established by the purchase of ewes from Mr. W. Toop, Mr. J. N. Tompkins, and Messrs. Emery, while the rams used have been selected from the flocks of His Majesty the King, Mr. J. J. Coleman, Mr. W. Toop, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. H. Padwick, Mr. W. P. Hampton, Sir James Duke, Bart, &c.

They are a genuine, hardy, constructive lot of sheep, sure to thrive well in any district to which they may be sent, and possess the quality, type and characteristics which have distinguished the famous flocks from which they are descended.

Luncheon by ticket only at one o'clock.

Sale to commence punctually at two o'clock.

Conveyances will meet trains at Hailsham.

The flock is open to inspection at any time, by appointment with the Owner.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, 68, East Street, Chichester.

(Auction Sales continued at page 240.)

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.—About 60 head of first-class SHORTHORNS, from the extensive herd bred by the Rt. Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux, at Brougham, Penrith.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—About 50 head from the first-class herd belonging to Henry Williams, Esq., at Moor Park, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Third and final portion (about 120 head) of the Whitlingham RED POLLED herd, at Crown Point Park, Trowse, Norwich.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.—The late Mr. W. J. Buckley's SHORTHORNS, at Penyfai, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Mr. Evan Jones's SHORTHORNS, at Manoravon, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Sir Jacob Wilson's SHORTHORNS, at Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Mr. F. Bachard's herd of JERSEYS, at Horsted Place, Uckfield, Sussex.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's SHORTHORNS, at Tring Park.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. Rowland Wood's Shorthorns, at Clapton, Thrapston.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Sir Alexander Henderson's, Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Buscot Park, Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.—About 60 SHORTHORNS from Mr. W. Bateman's prize dairy herd at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(The principal centre in England for the sale of Southdown Sheep).

GREAT ANNUAL SECOND SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN RAM LAMBS, RAMS, EWES AND LAMBS.

For prime quality of both mutton and wool, hardiness of constitution and early maturity, Southdowns are unsurpassed. Best results obtained when crossed with other Breeds.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30th, 1905.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON beg to announce that the entries for their Great Annual Second Sale, which will take place in the Market, Chichester, on the above date, comprises :—

150 SOUTHDOWN RAM LAMBS and SHEARLING RAMS, forming a grand selection, including consignments from his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon; the Rt. Hon. Earl Cadogan, Culford; Sir. Thomas Gooch, Benacre Hall; Mr. Edwin Ellis, Summersbury; Mr. Edwin Henty, Ferring; Mr. Thomas Miles, Buckwell; Col A. F. Walter, Bearwood; Mr. Cottrell Dormer, Cockthrope; Mr. F. Stanford, etc.

2,000 SOUTHDOWN EWES AND LAMBS, comprising entries from a large number of the principal flocks in the district.

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First edition catalogue will be ready about the 21st inst., and may be had on application to the Auctioneers.

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Commissions carefully executed.

STRIDE & SON, Auction Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

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SALE OF SHIRE HORSES.

MESSRS. BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER will SELL by AUCTION, at the Manor Farm, Wantage, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1905, 13 Pedigree Shire Mares and Colts and the Stallion Rampton Conqueror 12044. The Mares were purchased by Mr. Croker at the Lockinge Sale, 1903, and the Colts are their produce. Rampton Conqueror 12044 was purchased at the S.H.S., London, the same year, and has been a most successful Sire.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Wantage, Berks.

PUBLICATION.

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Session commences September 25th, 1905.

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RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
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A. VIAN, *Secretary*.
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Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
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TENDERS.

PROVISIONS.
TENDERS WILL BE RECEIVED until NOON on WEDNESDAY, the 30th AUGUST, for the Supply, for Twelve Months, from 1st October next, of MEAT, FLOUR, CONES, VEGETABLES, and MILK for the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich.
Forms of Tender, containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed "The Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."
Applicants should state for what place and article they desire to Tender.
Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and reserve to themselves the power of accepting any part of a Tender.
W. C. B. HALL,
Director of Navy Contracts.
Contract Department,
Admiralty, London, S.W.
August, 1905.

TENDERS.

NAVY CONTRACTS FOR MEAT, LIVE CATTLE, SHEEP, AND VEGETABLES.

TENDERS will be received until NOON on WEDNESDAY, the 30th AUGUST for the supply of FRESH BEEF, MUTTON, and VEGETABLES for TWELVE Calendar Months from the 1st October next to H.M. Ships at the usual Ports in England, Scotland and Ireland, and for the supply of Cattle and Sheep to H.M. Victualling Establishments at Chatham, Portsmouth, Portland and Plymouth.
Tenders will also be received for VEGETABLES at Chatham for a standing contract for two years commencing 1st April, 1906.
Forms of Tender, containing Conditions of Contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at this Office, or by letter addressed to "Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."
Applicants should state for what place they desire to tender.
Their Lordships do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and reserve to themselves the power to accept any par of a Tender.
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Contract Department, Admiralty,
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August, 1905.

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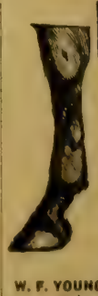

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"DAIRY" CAKETTES
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If Dairy Cows are allowed to go off their milk at this time of the year, nothing will bring them on again; hence the importance of keeping up the supply by timely attention to Rule 3.

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NOW is the time for the farmer to give a little Cake to the young Steers, if he wants them to come into the auction-ring in the autumn in fresh, thriving condition, with good bright coats on them, and looking big and well. It pays to do them well.

The Heifers, also, which are intended for the dairy, should have a little . . .

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
AUGUST 21, 1905.

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VALUE OF CORN-SHEDS AND RICK COVERS.

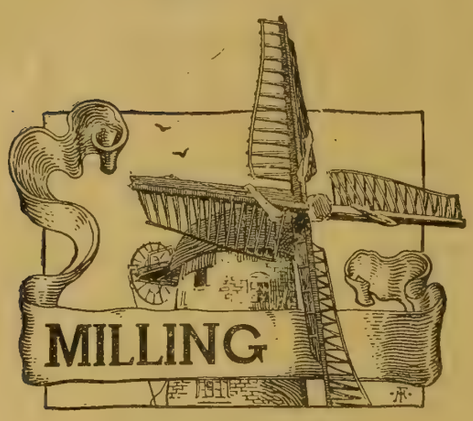
Modern appliances for saving manual labour in harvesting, however grandly effective in self-binding reaping machines, are incomplete without a lofty corn-shed at the homestead to receive the sheaves after being conditioned in the fielder in the absence of any such permanent structure, galvanised roofing, or still cheaper canvas-sheet covering, fitted to poles with a pulley, all of which provisions save the tedious and costly labour of making straw-thatch and thatching. The wonder-working efficacy of the self-binding reaper would be a threadbare, oft-told story were we to enlarge upon it, and we can only express regret that so many small and medium-class occupiers of cornfields are still destitute of the invaluable aid of the machine. A still smaller number have corn-sheds at their homesteads, for those constructed wholly of iron are costly, and even if poles be substituted for the iron pillars, unless landlords erect them and charge their tenants interest on the outlay as additional rent, few farmers could afford to erect them at their own cost.

Still, every succeeding year makes it more apparent that the old system of making straw-thatch, and sparring it down over the roofs of corn-ricks, is a non-economical and most objectionable one, which ought, if possible, to be done away with. No doubt it is much more so to some farmers than others. But even those who grow most straw of the kind available for thatch, and can best afford to make use of it for the purpose, too often find that they have to take their labourers away from performing important duties to prepare the material. Further, the ricks, after being made, remain often uncovered for several days, and sometimes a week, before the professional thatcher can attend to the technical work of laying on and sparring-down the thatch. There is some art in laying on the covering evenly, and in so inserting the spars that the rain shall not run into the rick through the holes they make. Owing to this, the ordinary labourers shun having anything to do with the operation, and a great deal of spoilation is sometimes suffered by storms happening to cause rain to percolate into the ricks before they can be thatched.

On many farms very little wheat is now grown, rendering straw fit for thatch to be a scarce article. In other cases it can be marketed at a high price, or is too valuable for stock-feeding to be used either for thatch or litter. Farmers in these times find it wise to send to market whatever will sell best; and there are numerous cases of the old course of things being reversed by the straw being marketed and the grain having consumption at home. Fortunately, there are resources to fall back upon where straw is a scarce article, besides erecting a permanent corn-shed, although, if the tenant-farmer can get his landlord to build one, he could well afford to pay 5 per cent. on the outlay, and be deeply grateful for the boon conferred as well. But there are also corrugated iron sheets turned out by some of our agricultural engineers which fit into one another so as to be readily strung by any labourer over the roof of a rick. A set for an ordinary-sized one might cost seven or eight pounds, but when once possessed it would last, with care, a considerable number of years. When taken off the rick for the latter to be thrashed the sheets have only to be stored carefully in any odd place, and they would be available for the following year.

Still cheaper, but very durable, waterproof

rick-coverings are manufactured by some eight or ten well-known exhibitors at the Royal and other leading shows, which are fitted with eyelet holes and ropes for fixing to poles and ground studs. A rick underneath one of these tarpaulins is said to be as safe for weeks or months together as one built beneath galvanised iron. But no doubt great care has to be taken of the cover when out of use to render it available for a lengthy series of years. Some term their canvas covers "rot-proof," others provide a composition wherewith they are to be painted when age-worn to preserve durability. Most likely the saving in the cost of making thatch and thatching would in about a couple of years prove an equivalent for the purchase of any of them.



New English Wheat.

The demand for flour during the past few weeks, that is to say, round about the Bank Holiday, has been very quiet, and at the present time prices have a downward tendency. The price of baker's grade flour varies in different parts of the country from 23s. 6d. to 25s. Offals of all kinds may be quoted unchanged in most districts; in others they have slightly appreciated in value. Some of the port millers are doing a good trade with the Continent in bran.

Small parcels of English wheat have been on offer; but, as might be expected at present, the condition varies a great deal. Some lots, however, which have been ground turned out as well as could be expected. Up to the present the grindings have been more experimental than anything else. In cases where the wheat has been threshed too soon, it is decidedly soft. By the end of September it will have had more time to dry and mature, and there is every probability that country millers will have a finer grist than they have had for some years. This may, to some extent, help them to contend with the competition to which they are subjected by the large millers. Given a good harvest season, those members of the trade who are situated in the midst of the wheat fields should do well.

Foreign Wheats Available.

The chief foreign sorts available now are Manitoba, Australian, Indian, Plate, and Russian. The first-named is not the highest grade, but No. 2 has been making up to 33s. 6d. per 480 lb., compared with 30s. to 32s. for good samples of English. The old wheat which is left is worth a good deal more than the new this year. The Indian wheats available are white Bombay of very good quality, and white and red Karachi. Some of the latter can be obtained for about 28s. 3d. per 480 lb., but such wheats are of no use to country millers; they require too much treatment before grinding. The South Russian wheats which are now arriving at British ports vary as to quality in a remarkable degree; in some cases there is a difference of as much as 3s. 6d. per quarter. Some of the poorest samples can be bought for 30s. 6d. per quarter of 480 lb.; others are of really good quality and approximate with Manitoba wheats in price. Plate is always a useful wheat for mixing; but, like Russian, it varies a great deal this season.

MILLER FARMER.

An interesting article on "Methods of Cleaning English Wheat" will be found in our Implement Supplement.

Horncastle Horse Fair. The show of animals at the Fair on Tuesday was the smallest on record, and all the [illegible] animals were quickly disposed of. [illegible] Buchanan and Russell, Gosberton, sold a brown colt, six years, for 38 gs., and a black mare for 45 gs.; while Mr. J. E. Walker, Horncastle, sold a chestnut filly for 41 gs.; Wycliffe, by Wolfe's Crag, Naiade, for 25 gs.; and a bay colt for 25 gs.

SEASONABLE TOPICS.

We are so used to hearing people abuse the clerk of the weather that it is strange to think of the community in general as being on good terms with the above imaginary individual. Yet such is the case, for both farmers and holiday-makers are glorying in the delightful August weather which we are enjoying at the moment of writing. It is refreshing in the early morning, when the dewdrops stand on the grass in the fields, and though the days are growing perceptibly shorter, there is an invigorating coolness in the evening air which was wanting during those hot, sweltering days in July. The weather is responsible for the early harvest, and bare stubble prevails where a week or two ago standing corn rippled in the breeze. Still more gratifying is the fact that corn is good. We have not had better wheat for some years, taking the country through, and we are having grand harvest weather for getting it in. For once in a way farmers have little room for grumbling, and perhaps the only man who is not quite satisfied is the sportsman who has the first of September in view, and thinks of wild partridges, bare stubbles, and scanty cover.

Harvest Weather.

A few days ago we were at lunch at a somewhat important agricultural show in the very heart of a famous dairying district, and, tell it not in Gath, the only cheese which appeared on the table was made on the other side of the Atlantic. One farmer tried a bit, turned up his nose, and then expressed himself in strong terms on the comparative merits of foreign and home grown produce. He thought that in the circumstances the caterer might have put a bit of home-made cheese on the table, to which view we all agreed, and then fell to discussing the well-worn topic of foreign competition. "It's no good, with land at 30s. an acre, trying to compete with land at half a crown" was the view of one man who had evidently made up his mind that this disparity was at the bottom of the whole business. "It's my opinion," observed another, who evidently knew a thing or two about cheese, "that uniformity has more to do with the foreigner getting such a foothold in British markets than anything. American cheese isn't very good, neither is it very bad, but it's uniform, and you can always depend on a certain standard of quality." We could not help thinking that there was a good deal in this remark, and our opinion was strengthened when we tasted cheese of vastly varying quality in the exhibition tent close by. Not only is the stamp of uniformity unmistakably fixed on foreign cheese, but it is the same with foreign butter, bacon, lard, fruit, and other commodities received from abroad. Compared with the best of our own produce, the quality is not high, but neither is it very low, and, above all things, it is even, and the purchaser can rely on what he is buying. Co-operation on the part of producers is doubtless responsible for this uniformity and so long as British farmers act as units, each one working independently of the other, it is unreasonable to expect that we shall ever acquire that same uniformity in home productions.

Uniformity.

Bearing on the above subject, what individual who is in the habit of buying butter from a local dairy has not heard from time to time from the maker that the butter is not quite up to the mark this week, with expressed hopes that it will be better next? Reasons are given for the falling off, for which the maker does not appear directly responsible, so the consumer overlooks it as a trifling matter, but when it comes to be a frequent occurrence for the butter not to be up to the mark (as it does in some cases), one cannot be surprised if the purchaser decides to have done with English produce entirely in favour of Danish butter, which, above all things, is reliable. There are still many small farms in the country where from one to a dozen cows are kept, and where butter making is the chief industry. We have every reason to encourage this industry, and would like to see it developed; but the butter must be good and uniform, or the small maker will go under. In the old days our grandmothers had often to guess at the cause when the butter was not up to the mark, and adopt primitive methods to improve it. Those methods will not do in these days. Science has done a good deal for the butter-maker, and though the principles of manufacture remain the same, we have modern appliances of untold value in the dairy. If the butter-maker of the future is to produce an article which can be relied on week after week, and if that common excuse about the butter not being quite up to the mark is to be heard no more, it is obvious that our dairy folks must be eager to acquire and make use of knowledge, and the apparatus used must be of an up-to-date character. It is true that the wives of hundreds of farmers and small holders can make butter equally as good as any which comes from abroad, but what they want to acquire is the secret of uniformity.

The Uncertainty of Home-Made Butter.

In many respects the farmer is a victim of circumstances, and perhaps this has helped to make him something of a fatalist. Whether he carries this characteristic to an unreasonable extent is an open question, but the fact remains that instead of fighting to prevent or defeat the forces which oppose him, he is more inclined to hope that the evil will pass him by; but if this does not happen he exclaims "Kismet!" and bears the burden in a philosophical way that is peculiarly his own. How often does one hear farmers complaining about the burdens of high rents, excessive rates, and foreign competition, but heaven and earth could not move many of them to take combined action in removing the evils. Everyone knows how much agriculturists suffer at the hands of insect and other pests, and how puny, when one comes to look at it, are the efforts made to cope with them. This year a crop escapes from some living evil which the farmer comprehensively terms "blight," and the man is thankful. Next year the same crop suffers severely or is destroyed, and the farmer accepts the loss as part of his fate instead of being up and doing to prevent or check the trouble. Towards the end of last May we had a killing frost which played havoc with the fruit blossom, and on its account many growers have nothing to pick. The fatalism of the home grower tells him that there is no means of coping with these spring frosts, but the fruit-farmer in Florida and California knows better. He has established a systematic communication with the Meteorological Department, which informs him when he may expect frost. During the trying season of blossom he has "smudge" fires prepared underneath the trees, and, when necessity demands it, these are lighted, and the smoke and vapour rising through the branches protect the tender blossoms from frost. The same spirit of self-protection has prompted foreign farmers to study the habits of insect pests, and learn what other creatures feed on them. The latter are then encouraged for the sake of destroying the former.

Farmers as Fatalists.

At all agricultural shows in the West of England there are, of course, classes provided for the common beverages of the district—cider and perry. Expert judges are engaged to select the best liquor, but, after they have made their awards and the prize-cards are fixed, a second judgment is made, and the cider-tent is the gathering-place for an interested number of tasters. Considering how palates vary, and how opinions differ as to what good cider or perry should really taste like, the judges are wise if they absent themselves when the public tasting is on, that is to say, if they do not wish to hear their decisions publicly criticised, for if there is one judge above another at agricultural shows who can never hope to please everybody it is he who makes the awards in the cider class. We do not mean to say that all the people who stroll into the cider-tent and sample the cider are in a position to question the decision of the judges, and the sole idea of many of the tasters is to get a drink of the refreshing beverage, but in the circumstances they feel it to be expected of them that they shall smack their lips, shake their heads, look wise, and pass opinion on the contents of the various casks and bottles.

Sampling the Cider.

A difference of opinion has arisen between the Board of Agriculture and potato growers in a discovery recently made of a preventive of potatoes turning black after boiling. The Board has declined to take the matter up on the ground that the discovery does not pertain to agriculture. Growers, on the other hand, attach much importance to it, and a petition to the President embodying their views has been influentially signed at Peterborough Market.

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

Have any new reputations been established in the last session among the band of politicians representing rural interests? Well, undeniably the most distinctive personality who has emerged from that band is the Minister for Agriculture. Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes' courtesy has had a most fragrant expression; but in alliance with this courtesy has been a receptiveness of intelligence, a practical grasp of responsibilities and an optimistic hopefulness that have shown him to possess the qualifications of real statesmanship. Baulked in his legislative ambitions —I am alluding in particular to his common-sense Butter Bill—he has not permitted himself to relapse into a morose temper of petulant disappointment. It may be that he will himself not have the opportunity of carrying the Bill into effect; but he has already equipped himself—I am anticipating, in fact, that a General Election will take place before the next session of Parliament, and that the Liberals will be returned to power—for the rôle of critic of a laggard Government.

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The other Parliamentarians directly associated with the rural movement have been quiescent rather than active. Mr. Channing has been engrossed chiefly in the evolution of his Bills dealing beneficially with the small holder and providing for a desirable reform in the tenure-law. This absorption will be profitable. I believe it has meant the foundation of a scheme of Liberal reform. Whether it will mean an immediate Liberal Act is another matter. Liberalism has too many interests to conciliate ere it can pay attention to the necessities of the somnolent and meek tenant-farmers. Mr. Jesse Collings has been enraptured with his new Quixotry (is it Quixotry, after all?)—the voluntary buying-out by the aid of the State and with the assent of landlordism of the present owners of our farmsteads and recalling the race of yeoman-owners. Mr. Spear, the tenant-farmer who represents the Tavistock division, has done good useful work in representing the moderate agrarian view to Ministers. Modest and practical, he has helped to convince the Government that rural areas and farmers have grievances despite their refusal to proclaim them aloud from the house-tops. Mr. George Lambert has revealed a development of Parliamentary aptitude, but he has still shown that characteristic unwillingness of his to crib and cabin himself to mere agrarian problems. He has still shown that predilection to roam the Parliamentary world from China to Peru. Still, I think, he is more definitely marked out than ever for the Liberal portfolio of agriculture. True, Lord Burghclere has shown a marked propagandist activity, but I doubt that Liberalism would dare select a peer for the control of so distinctly administrative a department.

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Mr. Fletcher Moulton, representative though he be of the Callington platform in the House of Commons, has directed his activities into other channels. Sir Edward Strachey has been more reticent than of yore, but he has been a force in bringing us a step nearer a solution of the railway rates' problem—nay, to him may be attributed the wisely-revised scale which certain railway companies have adopted. Mr. Jedburgh has admirably pursued his ideal of a co-operative system of rural distribution; and, if his scheme of agricultural banks has had less significance in his beneficient efforts, he has let us see that he has not relinquished it. Sir Carne Rasch has been, perhaps, too absorbed in the task of dealing with buffets under his opponent's fifth rib, but he has none the less let it be perceived that he will be an active reinforcement of the agrarian advocates when on the Opposition benches. Sir Cuthbert Quilter and his Pure Beer Bill have subsided into innocuousness and their agitation has not even now the poor quality of tepidity.

No new men have passed the agrarian-cum-political horizon. No man has presented himself to our gaze of whose qualities we have not been aware before. Mr. Chaplin, indeed, has returned to first-class political eminence; but this is because he has, in a more or less degree, forsaken pastoral meads in order to walk the more lurid fields of imperial economics. (When, by the way, is he going to answer the question as to how the British farmer is to benefit by an encouraged Canadian competition which may, by reason of its no-rent-to-pay advantage, be able to undersell the British farmer?) The last session was, indeed, characterised chiefly by that indifference towards the needs and necessities of agriculture which the complacent acquiescence of the farmers and of the farmers' societies justified. The vehement expostulation which came from Professor Long disturbed a ripple on the placid surface of our emotions—a very evanescent ripple; but that was all. Does the next session promise a brighter prospect? Frankly, I fear me not. When the passive resister has been rejoiced and the brewer been punished, the voice of the professional Labour agitator will be heard in the land. His bold, resonant, aggressive tones will drown the piping appeals made on behalf of the British farmer.

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I am not going to deal in any critical mood with assertions made before the Earl of Jersey's Committee, which is inquiring into the incidence of railway rates. Such criticism would be unfair until the full report is before the public. Are, however, the railway authorities quite generous in insisting that the Board of Trade is a preferable authority to the Board of Agriculture in determining matters in dispute between agriculturists and the companies? Many of these matters must concern points entirely outside the purview of an ordinary commercial and industrial organisation. It must concern points for whose adequate solution a direct scientific and professional knowledge is necessary. With the Board of Trade as the court of reference, the inquiry must inevitably in some cases be prejudiced to the disadvantage of the farmer. I do not mean, in making this assertion, to accuse the Board of Trade of any native unfriendliness. The Board of Trade, must however, in the absence of direct experience, rely to a considerable degree upon the experience and representations of the railway authorities. Whether it is wise to have a duplication of authorities is another matter—whether it may not confuse the general machinery is a debatable suggestion. That, however, the Board of Trade is a preferable body to the Board of Agriculture in the interest of the farmer, which, after all, is the first thing to be considered, is assuredly not a debatable matter. That the Board of Trade is absolutely impartial in dealing with matters arising between railway companies and the general traders I readily assent. It has not, however, the necessary knowledge to be equally impartial in regard to farmers. It must trust to information and assertions which may not always be quite dispassionate.

• • •

Can it be that the Radicals have shed their old-time and traditional view of the country-squire, of the old-fashioned landlord, and have brought themselves to believe that he may be quite a desirable personality in our economy and civilisation? I am induced to this inquiry by an article in one of the magazines by a writer of ardent Radical sympathies—an article endorsed by the anti-landlord *Daily News* one of whose themes is the difference between the old landlord and the modern landlord. By the "modern landlord" I mean the plutocrat from the big town, the money-bagged gentleman having no inherited association with the estate, who is heedless of the traditions connected with it, who does not recognise that as a landowner he has any responsibility but to minister to his own enjoyment, and who from the first is absolutely indifferent to the ties which helped in other days to weld the labourers, the farmer, and the squire, into one community. "All the new landlord wants as a rule," quoths the *Daily News*, "is such a setting for his prosperous career as a park, a well-ordered estate, good shooting, and a footing in 'the county' will secure him. He is there for pleasure every bit as much as the holiday crowd, and not least for the pleasure of self-importance, which he cultivates by enlarging his game preserves and turning out the villagers to make room for his retinue of keepers, gardeners, and stable hands. Agriculture is of no account to the new landlord." What a change this from the high-toned pictures in which the old landlord was depicted as a remorseless tyrant, whose method was black coercion, relieved only by an arrogant charity! It was the ancestors of the new landlords—the manufacturers and well-to-do middle-class men of the Manchester school who were often the authors of these grotesquely over-done oratorical frescoes. Time brings strange revenges, but few so piquant as this.

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The trend of a certain section of Radicalism is evidently against the small freeholder. This is another evidence of a revolutionary change in the attitude of Radicalism. The author of this magazine-article to which I have alluded suggests the establishment of a central department of Government which should be charged with the purchase of estates and their division among the small cultivators. 'Tis a pleasing prospect this of a London executive body making intermittent excursions through the country, buying up an estate whenever they came upon one which satisfied their vision, and then dividing it up at a price among clamorous applicants. This section of Radicals is afraid, however, of what the ultimate fate of that small freeholder would be—they are afraid that, victimised by his own want of money, he would simply provide food for the grasping moneylender. That this has been largely the experience in Ireland is undeniably the case. The gombeen-man in the EmeraldIsle is often the embodiment of the most ruthless tyranny that extortionate avarice could produce. Hence it is that these Radicals would prefer infinitely to establish small holders cultivating under economic conditions, which should permit him freedom of sale and absolute fixity of tenure. It will be well to remember the anxiety of these men when we formally discuss the legislative proposals evolved from the somewhat incohate suggestions now being proclaimed from Liberal platforms. Give the tenant absolute security, give him freedom of sale, protect him from the caprice of landlords, give him a rent which shall be revisable at stated periods by a proper authority influenced by current prices—this would be infinitely better than giving him a false importance as an owner in which he would be the victim of an English edition of the gombeen-man. This epitomises the view of these reformers.

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I find that there is to be a revival of the agitation against the rating of machinery. I ask those rural politicians who have objected to the exemption of machinery from rating to consider whether the policy of opportunism rather than one of determined antagonism might not be the wiser? The promoters of this agitation rely, as do the rural advocates of a readjustment of the incidence of taxation, upon suggestions of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation. These suggestions practically advise that only that machinery should be rated which is let with the premises, which is inherent to the hereditament. In other words, the claim is sustained by means of the Royal Commission that it is no more right to tax other machinery than it is to tax household furniture introduced into a house for the purpose of equipping it for the object for which it was originally designed. We live in a political age in which it is very difficult to exercise what I may describe as the recalcatory spirit, and in which it is very easy to raise it. If rural Parliamentarians refuse to accept the position adopted by the Royal Commission in connection with machinery, the industrial Parliamentarians of the north, and more particularly of Lancashire and Yorkshire, will no doubt ask that the same antagonism should be extended to the proposals affecting rural rating. They will contend—I do not, of course, say that complete logic will be on their side—that if the suggestions of the Royal Commission are in-

admissible in one instance, they should be inadmissible in all. We may be exclusively benefiting the textile and industrial districts by the exempting of machinery. What, however, we must be careful of is that by a policy of antagonism we do not establish a precedent fatal to ourselves.

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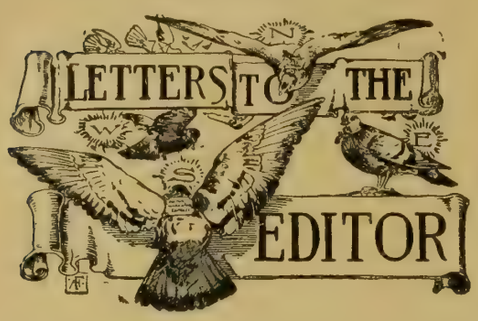
The quidnuncs now give November as the month for the appeal to the constituencies. Well, I give up prophesying. The portents upon which we can only base our prophecies are tantalisingly and mischievously difficult to read. They are as bad as Esperanto or Yiddish.



Early Harvest in Yorkshire (East Riding).

SIR,—An early cutting of corn has been the result of hot, dry weather earlier on, and harvest is general. Wheat is the crop of the year, and barley also is good, but oats, owing to the drought, are short in the straw, and in some places thin. Turnips vary much, the early ones being the best; on late sown land they are backward, and probably will take very little eating.

August 11, 1905. J. B.

Wilts.

Harvest Prospects.

SIR,—The harvest is just at present occupying all our thoughts, and they are very anxious ones. For many of us have a bulky crop of wheat to deal with, much laid, and requiring many hands to cut it. Some have to give 20s. per acre for this operation, and, in consequence of delay in getting it cut, caused by rain and shortness of labourers, the waste and expense will in some instances mount up to about 40s. per acre before it is secured. Binders are doing Yeoman service, but there are limits to their capacity. In this district about half of this crop is cut, none in stack. Winter oats were also generally much laid; these are all cut, and many secured. Oats generally are a small crop, and about a fourth-part cut; many of them are over-ripe. Barley will be left until last, as this crop is improved by extreme ripeness. Harvest is probably ten days earlier than average. Never was fine weather more longed for. Roots are promising, but far from clean. Sheep trade is good, probably about 4s. a head above last year's prices for ewes, and 2s. for lambs.

August 12, 1905. J. S.

The Corn Outlook.

SIR,—The great bulk of corn in this immediate neighbourhood will be carried by the end of this week. The work has been somewhat interrupted at times, but I should say the greater part is got together in fair condition. There is, as a rule, an abundance of wheat straw, but the yield of corn will not be so good as was at one time anticipated.

Barley very variable as to crop, and first-rate quality an exception. Oats, maize, and peas very thin, the latter sown having been attacked by wire worm.

Swedes and turnips not by any means universally good, being in many instances greatly thinned by grub, which is still continuing its depredations, and in others choked by weeds of all descriptions. Mangel very good as a rule.

The price of sheep at the late fairs does not say very much from last year. In some cases ewes have made a little less, and lambs a trifle more, money for same quality.

J. C.

August 16, 1905.

Hants: Wheat 64 lbs. to the bushel.

SIR,—The farm prospects of this district have much improved since the last week in July, when we had a fine day's rain. After two months of drought. A few showers since have much improved the prospects of the root crop, though the grub were doing their work. There is now a prospect for an average crop. Wheat and barley will prove a good crop, the wheat I thrashed last Monday weighing 64 lb. per bushel, this from light, gravelly soil. This week will see the crops well secured in this neighbourhood.

Sheep have done well, as they always do in dry seasons, though the bite is short on these downs, with mutton and wool looking up, arable land may pay a small rent, which is more than it has done in many past years.

T. S. R.

August 17, 1905.

East Yorks: Wool the best for years past.

SIR,—We are having splendid weather for the harvest, the cutting is about done, and we are busy with the stacking, and if the present fine weather continues, by the 26th or the end of the month the harvest will be over. The wheat crop is a good one, I think above the average; barley fairly good, and oats under average, very short in the straw, but may yield fairly. The turnip crop has improved in last fortnight. White turnips will be, I think, now an average crop, but swedes will only be half a crop. What with the dry weather, rooks, wireworm, caterpillar of the diamond-backed moth, they have had numerous enemies to contend with. Wurzels are far above an average with some, and very poor with others.

Grass and seed pastures are very bare now, and lamb meat will be very scarce until turnips are ready. The young clovers amongst the corn are very weak, but may improve when the corn is got off them.

Both mutton and wool have sold well this season, especially the latter. The mild, dry winter was most favourable for sheep. They fed well, and sheared more wool in weight and better quality than I have ever known them.

We must hope that corn will make last season's prices or more, and then it will be a satisfactory season on the whole.

August 17, 1905.

The Barley Crop in Hunts.

SIR,—With a continuance of the wonderfully fine weather we have lately experienced, most of the corn will be stacked on the high lands before the end of next week. Threshing machines appear to be fully employed, with the certain result—a glut of wheat at market, and the forcing down of prices. The yield is variously described. On the whole, it may be written as quite an average on the high lands. The wheat crop was rather disappointing in appearance as to bulk when stacked up, but the dry May, subsequent drought, and the self-binder had much to do with it.

There are some wonderful pieces of barley on the well-farmed lands which were not drilled too early. This appears to be a season when the earliest seeders were not the most successful. Much of the barley will be light in colour, a portion of it steely from having been cut before it was thoroughly ripe; mayhap the maltsters will seek for yellow barley or declare that they require it. The increase should be great, as there can be little moisture in the barley already carted. Drought is still holding sway.

August 16.

P.S.—We have to-day been blessed with that rain for which the roots and grass have been sore in need for some time. The fall has not been heavy, so that no harm but good will have been sustained by the corn, which is still uncarted; this may amount to about a third of the acreage. We shall now have some yellow barley, and thus be able to supply both white and yellow, as

August 18, 1905. S. S.

The Outlook in Aberdeenshire.

SIR,—In the earlier portions of the country cereal crops are making rapid progress towards harvest, while in exceptional cases the machines are already busy at work in barley fields. If the weather should be bright and sunny there will be a large extent of barley in the stook in the course of ten days. Generally, barley may be considered the crop of the season, but, on the whole, it is to be feared that it will be under an average. Oats are very variable, depending greatly on whether the district was fortunate or not in getting the showers of rain which were somewhat scarce all over the county, and particularly scarce in certain portions which usually do not suffer severely from drought. Fodder will be remarkably scarce during winter; and this season is not like last year, which, although unfortunate in having a short crop, was fortunate in having a pretty liberal store of old straw to commence the season with.

Turnips, generally, of late have been doing well. There are many fields to be seen with a very promising appearance, where there is every reason to look for a bumper crop; but, on the other hand, there are to be seen numerous fields where the prospect is anything but promising, and it is to be feared that difficulty will be experienced in pulling the stock through the winter season.

Meantime, farmers are busy securing the hay by stacking. The crop has grown into a greater bulk than could have been anticipated in the early portion of the season. It may be noted, however, that this remark applies with greater cogency in the later districts where the rains fell in time to do the crops good. Pasture grass is becoming scarce, and, although the fields will freshen a bit, much growth cannot be looked for after this season of the year.

Potatoes everywhere look well and promise to be a heavy crop of good quality, which they never fail to be in a dry and warm season with plenty of sunshine.

August 18, 1905. J. B.

Crops and Live Stock in Wilts

SIR,—Wheat good, above the average, has been harvested in good condition. Barley under average; some of the early-sown barley has been taken well and should be a fair sample, the later sown barley being an indifferent crop and likely to be a poor sample. Oats, early-sown average crop, but late-sown rather poor. Beans an average crop. Hay, sainfoin, and clover an average crop secured in good condition, but dry pastures very light, the rain not coming in time for them. Roots: Mangolds, early-sown good, late-sown poor. Other roots a good plant, and growing well since the rain, a fair prospect of an average crop. Sheep: A good breed of lambs, healthy, and doing well, selling at about 1s. to 2s. more than last year, and ewes at about the same as last year. Wool 2d. per lb. rise. Cattle healthy, have milked well; heifers and calves sold well. Labour more plentiful than it was. Taking all together, it certainly looks a little more promising than last year, though the price of corn does not go up, and rates and taxes keep increasing.

August 19, 1905. E. R.

Sale of the Buckland Southdowns.

On Friday the entire flock of Southdown sheep, with the exception of the ewe lambs, the property of Sir N. W. G. Throckmorton, Bart., was dispersed at Buckland, Faringdon, Berkshire. Mr. Jonas Webb, of the firm of Messrs. Thornton and Co., acting as auctioneer. There was a fairly good company, and although no extreme prices were realised, the sale appeared on the whole to be satisfactory. The highest priced pen of shearling ewes was bought by Mr. W. M. Cazalet at 77s.; the same buyer giving 90s. for a level pen of four-tooth ewes, and 56s. twice for a pen of six-tooth ewes. Mr. Miller Hallett paid 64s., 60s., and 53s. for shearlings, 46s. for four-tooth, and 42s. for a pen one year older. Some of the other shearlings made 50s. (A. Carter), 66s. (J. Joicey), 50s. (W. T. Drake), 57s. (G. S. Harris), and 63s. (Colonel Bates van de Weyer). The four-tooths went at 50s. (J. Joicey), 51s. (Colonel Brymer), 50s. (R. N. Byass); the remainder making from 40s. to 48s. per pen. The pick of the three-year-old sheep went to Mr. C. Adeane at 52s., who also gave 90s. for a very good pen of full-mouth ewes. The full-mouth ewes, besides those already mentioned, realised from 41s. to 50s., the latter figure being paid by Mr. F. H. Jennings.

The best prices of the rams were as follows:—Full-mouth ram, O. J. Williams, 18 gs.; four-tooth ram, Hon. Mrs. Howard, 8½ gs.; shearling ram, J. Cottrell Dormer, 12½ gs.; shearling ram, E. Carter, 25 gs.; shearling ram, H. C. Wentworth, 14 gs.; shearling ram, Colonel Goldsworthy, 13 gs.; shearling ram, Mr. Hall, 20 gs.; shearling ram, Right Hon. W. F. D. Smith, 21 gs. Ram lambs sold as follows:—H. F. Plumptre, 5½ gs.; C. H. Berners, 15½ gs.; F. H. Jennings, 5 gs.; Colonel Brymer, 8 gs.; and H. F. Plumptre, 7 gs.; the remaining eight making from 2½ gs. to 3½ gs. each. The total of the sale was just under £1,100.

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State of the Crops and Live Stock.

A GENERAL SURVEY.

The season has now sufficiently advanced for us to take a brief review of matters agricultural from observations taken whilst travelling in various directions over a considerable extent of the country, the chief items not yet sufficiently matured being the various root crops.

Wheat, the Crop of the Season.

To begin with, the great crop of the season appears to be wheat, which is universally one of the best crops for many years past; indeed, in most districts it is questioned if better crops of this cereal have been grown all round since the memorable harvest of 1868. Would that prices were as good now as then! The weather of the past twelve months has been very nearly perfect for the sowing, growing, and harvesting of this crop. Owing to the favourable seed time a much larger breadth (from appearances) must have been planted. The comparatively dry winter caused but little loss from the plant perishing, whilst the amount of sunshine during the blossoming and ripening period must have ensured thorough development of the grain and the beautiful colour of the ripened crops bespeaks a fine sample as regards quality. In a few districts storms caused the heavy crops to lodge a little early, and in such cases it is not unlikely that there may be a rather larger percentage of light corn than is desirable. Straw in most instances is abundant, and this product, now that compressing is so cheaply carried out, is of considerable help in rent paying, baled straw being carried by rail at a very small cost.

The next best crop generally appears to be

Barley, Next Best,

barley. This, however, is rather more variable. The earliest sown went into an even and suitable seed bed and did capitally. Later a rather wet period intervened, and some of the later sown was planted in less favourable condition, and with less successful results. In many instances, however, the crops are very heavy, and the grain matured evenly, which gives a better malting sample. Oats generally are the most indifferent of the white straw cereals, and these are very variable, some crops and districts being all that could be desired, many others being deficient in straw, and also thin on the ground. Some very good crops of winter beans are seen in places, and also peas and spring beans, the latter not all round quite of the best. Coming to the root crops, the season has in most of the midland and northern districts been quite dry enough for swedes, and a number of fields are very gappy; recent showers, and, in many places, second sowings over the gaps have assisted in giving a general cover; but a favourable autumn will be required if these are to be heavy yielders. Mangolds started rather badly in a number of districts, but the great heat in which this plant delights, has worked wonders, and there will be many very heavy crops of this most valuable root to be camped for winter, spring, and summer use. Kohl rabi is doing well, too, and becoming more generally cultivated.

Potatoes are now very extensively grown in several districts, and either from a more delicate constitution in some of the varieties grown, or from other causes, are very variable, fields adjoining each other being in one case a deficient and weakly crop, in the next strong in the haulm and of a rich and healthy colour.

Grass Land.

The season in most places cannot be called a good one for the grass farmer. The deficiency of rainfall at the time when growth was needed to make heavy hay crops caused a great deficiency here, and in many upland meadows little more that half a crop was harvested, though in the best possible condition. Water meadows gave a good return, and some splendid stacks of hay were secured from these. Pastures for grazing have been, on the whole, much too dry in the great feeding districts. A good start was made and the pastures remained sweet and the stock thriving until the end of June. July followed with intense heat and too little moisture, the fields in most cases becoming very brown, and have continued so until the present time, the cattle upon them, except where assisted with extraneous food, having rather an unthrifty look on their coats, and lacking the depth of body and sap that bespeaks great gain of weight. For the above reasons milk and other dairy produce became short in supply much earlier than usual, and are likely to continue scarce for the autumn. In striking contrast to this rather drab-coloured picture are the meadowlands near some of our rivers, and in the rich valleys where throughout the grass has retained a rich verdant hue, the cattle and other live stock on them looking in the finest bloom, and with ample bulk of food to go on with.

Live Stock.

Whatever information the Board of Trade returns may give us, the general aspect as presented to railway travellers is one of shortage rather than any surplus, or even necessary numbers. At the commencement of the season the great summer feeding districts appeared to be well stocked with bullocks, but a great number of these would seem to have been cleared off earlier than usual, and, it is to be feared, leaving little new money behind them. Recent journeys taken through some districts give quite an impression of a deficiency for the autumn. Indeed, it is practically a certainty that the English supply of prime beef between this and Christmas will be very limited; whether the foreigner will come to the rescue sufficiently to cause a low level of prices to continue remains to be seen, but there is little probability of very low prices prevailing for the best-finished cattle. Sheep were at the commencement of the summer season a treat to see, good crops of lambs were general, and the fine weather that suited the wheat crops so well, was equally favourable to our flocks, which could not be healthier or sounder, and with the increased price of wool and good paying prices for mutton and lamb, a good year in this department is quite probable.

Horses, too, appear recently to have taken a fresh lease of life so to speak. Increased attention is being paid to their breeding on all hands, and of all sorts and conditions, the motor scare apparently having had its day, and the highest class of harness horses, hunters, and dray horses seasoned and ready for work are, perhaps, it is safe to say, dearer and more difficult to find than they have ever been. A very dry season, however, is not altogether conducive to the welfare of our equine friends. The hard ground causes many badly broken hoofs, especially where little attention is given to their feet (a too frequent occurrence amongst farmers), and with the young stock the iron-bound surface often causes a straightness and want of elasticity in the joints that is anything but beneficial, and, at such times, growth and general development are considerably checked.

The following notes were made of the various districts traversed, and the date of travelling through them:—

Birmingham to Gloucester and Bristol.

During the latter part of May this district had suffered considerably from late frosts, which had cut fruit and early potatoes badly, as well as vegetation generally, and part of the district being very early, and a good amount of fruit-growing practised, heavy losses in this direction must and have resulted. Wheat in most parts was a good plant, and, on the whole, looking well, though some fields of both wheat and other corn, as well as grass, had quite received a yellowish tinge from the effects of the frost. Many breadths of potatoes were badly cut down, beans looking generally well, and the sowing of swedes was progressing rapidly, pastures and promise of hay very moderate, all live stock looking well, especially upon nearing Bristol, where some of the richest pastures and meadows gave an exception to the look-out of these earlier on the journey.

Northampton to London.

Travelling this route during the first week of June, some very refreshing rains had fallen, and greatly benefited both corn crops and grass. The latter was looking rich, and the quantity good, with the bullocks for which Northamptonshire is famous making rapid progress. Wheat and most corn crops, too, were looking exceptionally healthy and thick of plant, every promise of a good season throughout the length of this journey being apparent. Nearer London the land is of a lighter and less substantial character, but the crops had not then begun to feel any ill effects from drought, and some capital crops of hay on the low-lying meadows were ready for cutting.

London to Bournemouth.

A journey from London to Bournemouth, June 8, via South-Western Railway, traverses a district widely different in its soil, crops, and farming from districts to the north of the Metropolis. Upon first leaving London, for a considerable distance most land that is not occupied by buildings of one kind or other is given over to gardening purposes for the markets of Covent Garden and elsewhere, and very forward and well cared for were the bulk of such lands. Such things as lettuces, French beans, flowers of various kinds, cabbages, and many other of the thousand and one kinds of vegetation cared for here were quite worth looking at. Further down the line one comes to the West Hire hill, and large tillage and sheep farms, upon which many very extensive flocks of sheep were folded in hurdles over tares, rootons, and other green crops, the numbers of sheep appearing larger than usual. Sainfoin is an important crop in this district, both in hay and feeding green, and some very heavy yields were being cut with the mowing machine in the well farmed land. Corn crops were mostly forward and looking healthy, rather backward. Nearing Bournemouth some fields of wheat, very long in the straw and thin, were badly affected with rust, otherwise the crops promised to be very heavy. A good deal of rain had fallen, and was still falling here, and grass, both in pastures and meadows, was quite abundant. This route does not expose many herds of cattle. What were seen were enjoying themselves as they should be.

[Notes on several other districts will appear in our next issue.—TRAVELLER.]

Foreign Crop Prospects.

FRANCE.—Last week's rains whilst doing some good have interfered with the harvest work in the north. Reports concerning the threshings are contradictory. Some report good results, but the *Petit Journal* says that its special reports show that the yield is not good. Our contemporary says that the worst disappointment is in the north. The accounts are not definite, but it is asserted that the yield per acre and the natural weight are considerably below the average. The conclusion is come to that: "The harvest this year will probably be inferior to our requirements, while stocks carried forward from 1904 are insignificant."

HOLLAND.—Good weather prevails and satisfactory results are being secured with the harvest, although there are some complaints of the quality of the new grain.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.—In spite of the rains reported last week, there still are complaints of too dry weather, and further precipitation is much needed for the relief of the maize crop, while beet, potatoes, and feedingstuffs are also suffering.

SPAIN.—Reports concerning the conditions vary considerably, according to the districts from which they come. There is, however, no doubt as to the failure of the wheat crop in the southern provinces, and of the extreme distress entailing upon the poorer inhabitants. Serious rioting has again been in progress this week, the authorities apparently being unable to alleviate the prevailing distress.

RUSSIA.—The latest official return on the grain crops prevents more favourable features generally than private advices. An approximate average grain yield is expected, with winter wheat above, and spring wheat somewhat below an average. The rye crop, which was recently reported as a serious failure, is said to be probably under an average. Oats and barley are both returned as better than average crops. In Poland wheat and rye are reported as promising very good results, and oats and barley are, on the whole, satisfactory.

ROUMANIA.—The fears entertained of a complete failure of the maize crop have been, in part at least, dissipated by rainfall this week, quite general in extent. It is said to have effected an improvement of fully 15 per cent. in the prospects, bringing the probable yield up to a quantity sufficient for the needs of the country. Wheat threshing is well advanced, and the outturn varies considerably in quality.

UNITED STATES.—The weekly crop report issued by the Government is of a favourable character. The drought recently prevailing in some States has been broken by abundant rains. Spring wheat is reported doing well with only slight injury from rust. The crop has ripened rapidly under the high temperature, and some early sown wheat has been harvested in North Dakota. The Iowa State Board of Agriculture in its monthly report of average conditions gives maize 94, spring wheat 93, and oats 97. The Government report for same date gave the Iowa conditions considerably lower than the foregoing, the figures being maize 89, spring wheat 88, and oats 94.

CANADA.—Reports of damage by rust are still made, but in no direction is any serious result apprehended. The condition in the Dominion generally continues very flattering, and the official bulletin says the July wheat crop in the North-Western Territories is the greatest ever known there. The product of 1,108,272 acres is estimated at 21,725,500 bushels, or 5,000,000 bushels more than last year.

AUSTRALIA.—In some parts an excess of moisture is reported, which is not favourable for the growing wheat crop, but so far there is nothing in the conditions to cause alarm. The situation taken as a whole continues to be favourable, and, in the absence of a serious setback, very satisfactory results are counted upon.—*Dornbusch* (August 18).

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Home Notes.

The Coming Crop.

According to the present general appearances of our plantations, there is hardly any place for doubt that "the bounteous housewife, Nature, on each bush lays her full mess before us." The actual measure of the yield cannot yet be ascertained, and very diverse estimates of the ultimate results are actively circulated in the Borough, these ranging from an average of 10 cwt., to the certainly extravagant figure of 20 cwt. per acre. Before me at the present moment, are very many reports from all districts, and, in addition, I have had the advantage of conversation with several experts, whose observations have been candidly communicated. From these I gather, that a certain proportion of the luxuriant bine is "blind"; that the laterals are, in most gardens, disappointing; and that the crop, as a whole, will consequently be picked from the top. It is, however, admitted that this top crop looks well, there having been a full supply of burr, which, under the influence of exceptionally favourable weather, has developed, or is developing into an abundant fruitage. But there are drawbacks to be set against the brilliant picture thus presented to every planter who surveys the scene from high positions. Internal examination reveals the presence in places of a sufficiently serious run of mould, and the active onslaught of red spider is also evident in many gardens. These facts must be taken into account, even if growers are at present inclined to think of them without apprehension. Their importance depends upon the uncontrollable weather, and none of us can calculate what changes may be wrought, during the passage from summer to autumn, that appears to be now commencing. Before the conclusion of picking, which will begin in a few days, there is the possibility of many a contingency, the outcome of which it is foolish to attempt to forecast. In forming our estimate, we must not omit the consideration of the circumstances surrounding the growth during the past two months, and the influences still in evidence. The exceptional spell of dry weather, favourable as it has been for the production of bine, and as it may still be for the finish of the growth, must, we think, affect the solidity and, consequently, the actual weight of the cones. I am, therefore prepared to hear that while the cribs are being rapidly filled, the yield from the hills is not proportionately heavy, and that the number of completed pockets are disappointing. It appears as if these results are not unlikely. Taking all these points into consideration, it seems to be very probable that the average of the 1905 crop will not be heavier than about 12½ cwt. per acre.

The Borough.

is prepared for the total represented by such an average, and therefore the market is, in the meantime, in a state of comparative suspense, and tending towards slight weakness. But sales of small lots continue to be made at fair rates, and when holders are offered much lower figures, such offers are declined, proving that some confidence in the future still exists, and that there is still a healthy anticipation that a stronger tone may soon be restored.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

Foreign Notes.

America.

Recent information concerning crop prospects continues to be contradictory and difficult of comprehension. Cable messages received this week are as follows:—"Our outlook for crop is very favourable, growers are more willing to sell, the market is weak, and prices favour buyers." Our opinion is that the season is too far advanced for any serious diminution of quantity." On the other hand, the President of the Oregon Hop Holders' Protective Association writes me, under date July 31:—"The Oregon crop is in a bad condition. Five days' hot weather has diminished the vermin greatly, but it has injured the blossoms in all yards, more or less, and has especially damaged the honeydewed yards, the blossoms and buds dropping off. Many yards will produce no hops at all. At present it is impracticable to estimate the probable yield of Oregon. Buyers now estimate from 75,000 to 100,000 bales. But, taking it for granted that none of the hops are lost at picking time, which is very improbable, we think 80,000 to 85,000 bales a full conservative estimate. Many yards which show an enormous growth of vine and foliage will yield lightly, because only a top crop is indicated, as there are no hops on the inside or undergrowth. We have a yard which should make, judging from the growth, 3,000 pounds per acre, but which will in reality only yield 1,500 to 2,000 pounds. All our reports from California estimate crops at less than 1904, which totalled 62,000 bales. Some estimates for this year are as low as 45,000 bales. The estimates for New York State are from one-fourth to one-third short of last year. The Washington crop is generally set at 40,000 bales, but our information from this State places the yield at same as 1904, or not exceeding 36,000 bales. It is a certainty that the United States will not produce as many hops as last year. The market with us shows improvement, this being possibly due to the shortness of brewers' supplies and the bad crop prospects."

Such antagonism of opinion is very hard to reconcile or to adjust. I can only suppose that my correspondents are equally honest in their views, but that they are influenced by the standpoint from which their survey is taken. After comparing these reports with others, and reading between the lines of them all, I am inclined to conclude that the United States will produce a crop slightly in excess of last year, but not superabundant.

Current values of 1904's at New York may be approximately quoted at 23 to 25 cents for choice, 20 to 22 cents for prime, and 19 to 20 cents for medium qualities.

Nuremberg.

New hops are beginning to arrive in sufficient quantities to indicate the probable tendency of this season's trade. Some decent lots of early hops have been readily sold at 100s. to 110s., but the pressure by holders of 1904's to realise before the bulk of the present growth is put on the market somewhat interferes with the strength, which would otherwise be manifest. There are not many yearlings left, and they are now offered at nominal rates, ranging, perhaps, from 75s. to 135s., according to quality. These must soon be cleared, but until such business is finished it can hardly be expected that the market will settle down to the serious work of the present season. The outlook is generally sufficiently satisfactory to traders. Brewery stocks being reduced to a very low point, probably lower than has come within the retrospect of any moderate experience, it is anticipated that a strong demand will set in immediately the market can offer sufficient supplies for important transactions. And, although it appears possible that a full crop will be harvested, it is not expected that prices will be abnormally low. Of course, the figures of last season can hardly be reached, but it is hoped that they will be remunerative to growers, and not oppressive to consumers. Dealers are naturally anxious to persuade growers to contract their hops at comparatively low rates, but the farmers, advised by their Association, are fairly wide-awake, and do not show any present inclination to commit themselves.

Belgium.

The near approach of the harvest is inducing holders of 1904 hops to press them for sale, consequently values have fallen considerably, the most recent quotations for Alosts being about 85 to 90 francs, and for Pops 60 to 65 francs. The development of the new growth progresses favourably and rapidly. Early sorts are fully in hop, and the later ones have put forth abundant burr. A fairly abundant, but not excessive, crop appears to be certain, and, as general health is manifest, it is expected that the quality will be satisfactory. For October-November delivery of new hops, from 50 to 55 francs are being quoted on the Brussels Bourse.

National Poultry Organisation Society.

The annual report of the National Poultry Organisation Society has now been issued, embodying the report of the Central Executive Committee on the past year's operations and a concise record of the various branches and depots affiliated with the parent society, together with a statement showing at a glance the capital, profit or loss, average prices realised, and other interesting items in connection with the operations of the various local societies.

The report records that, notwithstanding the many difficulties necessarily arising from the introduction of a new system among a rural population for the more satisfactory marketing of produce, steady and encouraging progress continues to be made. Perhaps the most interesting part of the report, speaking generally, is that embracing the summaries of the records of the more successful depots. From this statement one gathers that the majority of the local societies have made satisfactory profits, in addition to enhancing local prices. On the other hand, even where a depot has made a loss, the local producers have in every instance benefited by the increase in prices paid, as a result of the competitive factor introduced.

Instances in support of this are indicated in the records of the Street Depot, in Somerset. Established in 1901, it has each year made a substantial profit, and this notwithstanding the increased prices paid to members. The sales at this depot amounted to £1,245, as against £763 last year, whilst a net profit was made of £79. Again, at the Framlingham Depot, in Suffolk, nearly half a million eggs were sold, the members being paid considerably above local prices for their produce. The profit made at this depot was £137, mainly accruing on the egg section. Also, in the report of the Melksham Depot it is shown that, whilst a profit of nearly £10 was made, over and above this no less than £58 more was paid to members than they would have realised had their produce been sold in the local markets, as previously.

The operations and results of the depots here mentioned are but typical instances of what can be accomplished where local management and initiative is efficient, and upon a commercial basis. Perhaps the greatest difficulty against which the society has to contend, in addition to the supply of winter eggs—to encourage which the society is offering a cup and a medal for competition—is the want of local experience in work of that kind.

The society, of which the Marchioness of Salisbury is president, is, without doubt, accomplishing a most valuable work, and it appeals to all who have the welfare of our local communities at heart. The report and other particulars of the society can be obtained on application to the Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Mr. Henry Warren, who has given us so much striking sidelights into the methods of bankers, now gives us a view of brokers, his latest volume being "How to Deal with your Broker," and to those who have anything to do with these sort of persons the information given will certainly be useful, whilst it is also of general interest. It is published at 3s. 6d. by Messrs. Swan, Sonnenschein, and Co., Limited, 25, High Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.

Professor E. Klein, M.D., F.R.S., has been carrying out, on behalf of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, some experiments and observations on the vitality of the bacillus of typhoid fever and of sewage microbes in oysters and other shellfish, and the results of some of his labours are set forth in a work recently issued by the Company mentioned. Although on a subject outside the scope of this journal, the work is one that will interest many of our readers who doubtless participated in the scare raised some time back as to the dangers of eating shellfish.

Harvest Weather.

The "Mark Lane Express" Special Three-Day Forecast.

1. Essex Street, Strand, Monday, August 21st, 1905.

GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general distribution of pressure comprising an anti-cyclonic belt over Continental Europe, and a region of repeated cyclone activity along our North-West borders, is favouring a continuance of the existing S.W. type of winds and weather. The general sequence will be as follows:—At first fresh to strong S.W. winds, fair to cloudy and some occasional showers in the South, centre, and East. Some rain at times in the West and North; chiefly Scotland and N. Ireland. Later S.W. toW. winds moderating, some showers, chiefly in the Northern half of the area. Finally W. to S. winds freshening, fair to cloudy, and some rain, chiefly in the West. Temperature on the whole about normal; mild or normal in the South and East; normal or cool in the North and West; considerable spells of sunshine. The amount of rain falling locally will fairly accord with the annual average law of distribution.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first fresh, or strong S. to S.W. winds; some rain, chiefly in the West and North; later, S.W. to W. or N.W. moderating winds; some passing showers to fairer. Finally, fair to cloudy, with W. to S. freshening winds, some rain in the West.

,, 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings). — **At first fresh S.W. winds; fair to cloudy. Later, S.W. to W. winds, fresh to moderate, some passing showers. Finally, W. to S. winds freshening, fair to cloudy.**

,, 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**The same as No. 2.**

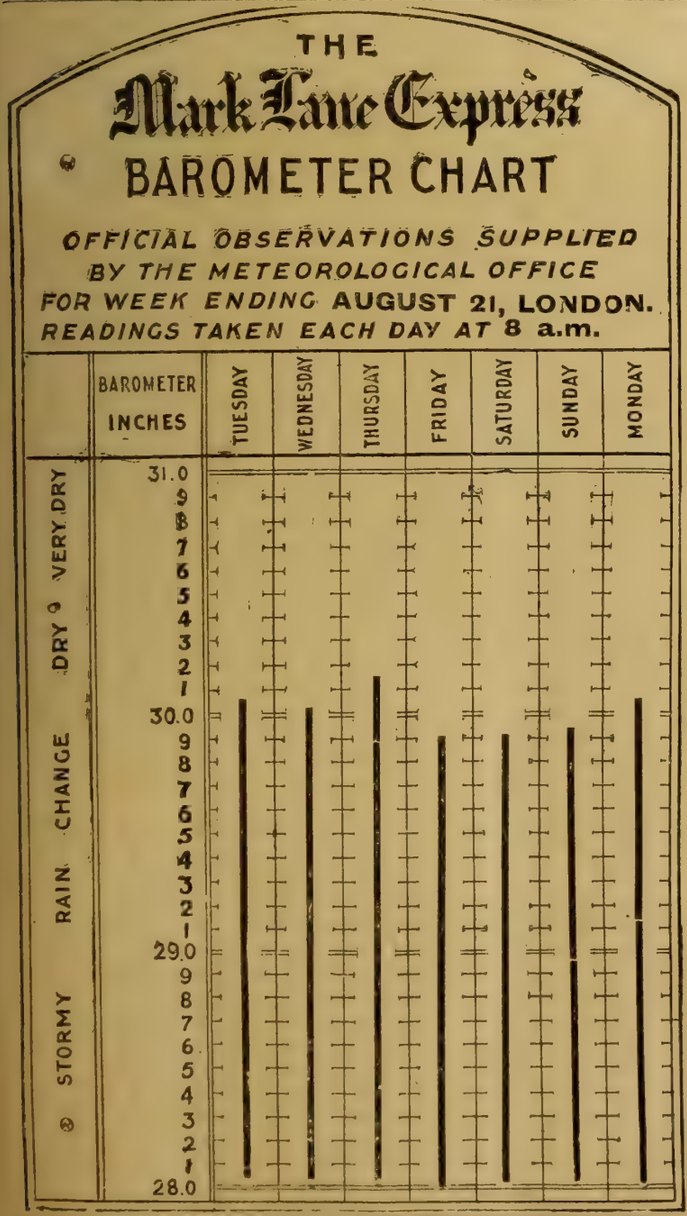
,, 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West — Riding). **At first fresh S.W. winds, fair to cloudy; with some passing showers. Later, S.W. to W. winds, fresh to moderate, some temporary rain to fairer. Finally, W. to S. winds, fair to cloudy and some showers.**

No. 5.—England (South): — Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—**The same as No. 4.**

,, 6.—Ireland.—At first S.W. to W. strong to moderate winds; some showers, chiefly in the North; later W. to S. winds, fair to cloudy and some rain chiefly in the West; finally S.W. to W. winds, showery to fairer. The East and South East of Ireland will have least rain.

,, 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first fresh or strong, S.W. winds and some rain; later S.W. to W. winds, moderating, some showers to fairer; finally W. to S. winds, freshening, fair to cloudy.**

,, 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**Similar to No. 4 only with strong winds on the exposed coasts. The local temperatures can be inferred from what has been said under this head in the General Prediction.**



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express.*)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (Aug. 15)	...	30.08
Wednesday (,, 16)	...	30·02
Thursday (,, 17)	...	30·15
Friday (,, 18)	...	29·91
Saturday (,, 19)	...	29·91
Sunday (,, 20)	...	29·94
Monday (,, 21)	...	30·06

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	4.55 a.m.
,, Sets...	...	7.11 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	9.58 p.m.
,, Sets	...	11.18 a.m.

Age of Moon—Twenty days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, August 21st.

GENERAL INFERENCE. The depression beyond Ireland appears to be travelling on a North-Easterly course but in the course of the day its influence will probably extend to all parts of our Islands, so that freshening South-Westerly breezes and changeable weather are likely to prevail generally.

SCOTLAND, N.—Increasing South-Westerly winds, a gale in the West; changeable, squally, some rain; moderate temperature.

SCOT. E. & ENG. N.E.—Freshening Southerly and South-Westerly winds becoming unsettled, rain at times; moderate temperature.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, and ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Light to fresh South-Westerly breezes, fine at first less settled later, dull and showery; moderate temperature.

SCOTLAND, W. and ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Southerly to Westerly winds, increasing decidedly, a gale in places; changeable, rain at times; moderate temperature.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—South-W. to W. winds, freshening considerably; changeable, rain at times; moderate temperature.

IRELAND, N. and S.—Southerly to Westerly strong winds, a gale at times, moderating later; unsettled, rain at times; moderate temperature,

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday. — Wheat, English, freely offered, and to do business less money would have to be taken. Foreign sellers ask Monday's prices, but demand limited. South Russians quoted at 31s 6d to 35s; No. 2 Club Calcutta at 31s; choice white Kurrachee at 30s 3d. Maize dull, with an easier tendency. Mixed American quoted at 24s 3d to 24s 6d; La Plata, 24s to 24s 3d. Barley steady, quiet, unchanged prices. Odessa-Nico. Kherson, ex quay, quoted at 20s 3d; ex ship, 19s 3d to 19s 6d. Oats dull, unchanged, in small demand; common sorts quoted at 13s 3d to 14s 9d. Flour dull, limited request. Hungarians quoted at 30s 6d; Iron Dukes at 21s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—New wheats came to hand in poor condition, and the demand being dull low prices were accepted. New peas and oats unchanged. Prices:—New wheat, 28s to 30s 6d; new oats, 17s to 18s; new peas, 29s to 30s; new maize, 27s to 28s. Old corn: Feeding barley, 25s to 28s; foreign ditto, 22s; Mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; oats, 20s to 24s per quarter; flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s 6d; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 30s to 31s; ditto (old), 31s to 32s; oats, 18s to 19s 6d; ditto (old), 21s to 23s; peas (old), 29s to 33s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday. — Average attendance. A few samples of new grain were shown, but prices were fixed.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There is an improvement in the attendance at the market, but trade remains rather quiet. Foreign wheats move slowly, and are occasionally 3d lower. There is a more liberal supply of new English grain offering, wheats making from 11s to 11s 3d per bag (186lb), oats 17s to 17s 6d per quarter (312lb), and beans 12s 3d per bag (196lb), delivered Birmingham. Grinding barley has declined 9d on the week, to-day's value being 18s 9d per 400lb at Sharpness. Plate maize is 3d lower at 23s 9d per 480lb at Sharpness. Flat maize is unchanged at 24s 3d per quarter at Bristol.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and small attendance. Wheat in good supply, 2s per quarter cheaper. Grinding barley, 22s to 24s; old oats, English, 19s to 22s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; rye, 23s to 29s; peas, 30s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Bristol, Thursday.—With bright and dry weather since our last, harvesting of English wheat has progressed rapidly, and on our market to-day several lots were offered and found purchasers, condition being exceptionally good. Foreign wheat unaltered in value. Maize 3d to 6d lower. Barley 3d lower. Oats unchanged. Flour rather slow to sell, prices being about unaltered.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices of wheat are lower, and at the close only 30s could be obtained for 65lb. lots. Oats, too, are cheaper, owing to Irish competition, 19s being the top figure for 45lb. samples. New peas, 29s to 30s per qr. New barleys are not of first-class quality.

Chester, Saturday.—No old wheat obtainable, and the quality and condition of the new crop being variable makes prices irregular. Old oats scarce and unchanged, and new crop mostly inferior in quality and condition to previous year's. Indian corn, 3d per sack lower on the week. Quotations: Wheat, white, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; red, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; ditto, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indian corn, new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Large suply of wheat and oats, which was cleared at the following prices. Average attendance. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red wheat, 29s to 30s; old white wheat, 33s to 34s; grinding barley, 20s; oats (English), 16s 6d to 21s; rye, 21s to 23s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 33s; maize, 25s to 26s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was less wheat offering to-day than was expected, and although millers tried hard to buy at 1s. per quarter less than last week the most they could establish was a reduction of 6d. per quarter, and this with difficulty. Barley was very little offered, and prices are not settled. Beans and peas met a steady sale at quotations. Oats moderate supply, and sold quietly at last week's rates.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON.

Coventry, Friday.—Attendance moderate and trade quiet. Quotations:—Old wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 186lb; new wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 186lb; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb; old oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb; new oats, 18s 6d to 20s per 352lb; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb. Prices of wheat were lower, from 1s to 1s 6d per quarter on the week. New wheat shown of fairly good quality generally. Oats firm for prime old qualities, but the new not first-class.

Derby, Friday.—There was no old wheat on offer, and only a few samples of new wheat were shown, these fetching fair prices. Spring corn nominal. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red wheat, 28s to 29s; malting barley, 27s to 28s; beans, 32s to 33s; oats, 20s to 21s; new oats, 18s to 19s.

Devizes, Thursday. There was a considerable quantity of new corn at the market to-day, and the quality of the new crop promises to be good. New wheat has declined 1s per sack, but other corn shows no alteration in value. The following were the quotations:—Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; new wheat, 15s to 16s; secondary, 15s to 16s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 24s to 27s; white ditto, 20s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very few samples of old wheat on offer, an donly moderate attendance, both English and foreign wheat being very firm. Several samples of new wheat were offered, an made 28s to 29s per quarter. The new samples were in fair condition. Some new oats were shown, but prices were not fixed, and not quotable. No new barley shown. All feeding stuff firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Not a very large attendance, but grain of all kind was plentifully offered, especially wheat, of which some rare samples, as regards quality, was shown, but there was more on the market than was readily wanted and this rendered sales somewhat difficult to effect, the general run of prices asked being from 27s to 28s, and some even more. Foreign favoured buyers some very choice samples of malting barley were on offer, the quality of which was all that could be desired, and a great contrast to last year's; but sales have hardly yet begun, and no reliable price can be quoted. Oats are a quiet and somewhat disappointing trade.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s to 20s; malting barley, 17s to 17s; grinding ditto, 15s to 15s; oats, 14s to 14s 6d; oatmeal, extra produced, 11s 6d to 14s; flour, 14s to 15s; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade rather slow; English wheat unchanged; new made from 3s 9d to 4s; foreign firm. Very little doing with English barley, and the samples offered were very variable in quality, the average price quoted being 3s 6d; grinding barley, 3d cheaper. Maize firm. Old oats somewhat dearer; not many new oats on offer. Flour steady. Old English wheat, 4s to 4s 3d; superfine flour, from 26s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The trade during the week has been quiet, with limited business passing. Breadstuffs have been in limited demand, and prices the turn in buyers' favour. Feeding stuffs have been the turn lower. There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat 3d per boll and flour 6d per sack lower on the week. Maize unchanged. Beans 3d dearer. Spot barley firm owing to scarcity. Oats 3d lower on the week. New oatmeal: Very little offering, but no great demand.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market firmer. Beans the turn dearer owing to scarcity, but oats easier. More new oats are now reaching the market. Wheat the turn dearer, but little business passing. Flour slow. Mixed American maize lower at 13s 10½d to 14s per 280lb. Others dull.

Gloucester, Saturday.—There is a fair supply of new English wheat which sells readily at 3s 8d for reds, and 3s 9d for whites. Foreign quiet, and Russians 3d lower on the week. Barley 9d cheaper, but firmer at the decline. Maize unaltered. Oats favour buyers.—MESSRS. WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—Farmers being busy with the harvest, the attendance was moderate. Small supply of wheat, and quotations 2s lower on the week, best samples making 27s to 28s 6; oats, 15s 6d to 17s; beans, 30s; blue peas, 35s to 45s per quarter. No barley yet offering.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Small attendance, but good supply of samples of new grain on offer. English wheats, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 62lb; new oats, 17s to 18s per quarter. Old beans scarce. Old oats firm at recent rates. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 7d to 3s 9d per 62lb; barley, 2s 9d to 4s per 50lb; oats, 2s 3d to 2s 9d per 40lb; beans, 3s 9d to 4s per 65 1-3lb; vetches, 4s 6d to 6s 6d per 65 1-3lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—There was a considerable quantity of new wheat on the market, mostly in nice, useful condition, having been threshed out from the field in excellent weather. A good quantity changed hands at about 1s per quarter below last week's prices. Good samples 28s 6d to 29s 6d per 504lb, delivered at Ipswich. Oats quiet and unchanged; not much new offering. Old beans very firm, at 34s per quarter. New grey peas 28s to 28s 6d per quarter. Maize unchanged, at 25s per quarter. Grinding barley quiet. Oil cakes and milling offals all very firm at last week's prices.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Favoured by magnificent weather, harvest is making rapid progress; both quality and yield of wheat prove satisfactory. Indian meals are 3d to 6d dearer on the week; but all other descriptions have met with a very slow sale at rather less money, new English, in fact, being fully 2s lower on the week. Spot maize 3d dearer; forward unchanged. Beans and oats slow.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance, with larger supplies of new season's wheat, which came to hand in good condition. Trade opened fairly active at 2s to 3s per quarter decline; but the supplies, being in excess of the demand, a further decline of 1s was registered at the close. Fine dry wheats, 29s to 29s 6d; secondary, 28s to 28s 6d per 36 stones; new oats, 18s to 19s; old oats, 23s to 24s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good supply of English wheat, which met with a steady saleat areduction of 2s 6d per quarter on the week, the samples generally being in excellent condition. A few samples of barley came to hand, but insufficient to test values. Oats in moderate supply, and poor demand at unaltered rates. No new beans on offer.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: The market has had a larger attendance, and wheat is very steadily held, with an improved inquiry for Plate and Russian sorts, which are generally ½d dearer; Indian firm at full prices. Flour steady for foreign sorts, but quiet for home-made brands; demand inactive for both. Maize, mixed, meets an improved inquiry, and values are ½d over last Tuesday. Plate is very steady, at ½d advance, with more trade passing. European sorts are quiet, unchanged. Barley, malting, is firm, with a better inquiry. Feeding quiet and favouring buyers. Beans are strong, owing to scarcity, and quotations are 3d to 6d up from last Tuesday. Peas steady at about recent rates, but quiet. Oats, a very quiet trade in foreign, but no actual change is noted in values; English in slow demand, and the turn easier for new crop. Oatmeal steady at recent currencies, but slow to move. Oilcake, a very quiet market, at nominally unchanged prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—New wheat was in good supply, and millers would only buy at about 28s to 30s per quarter. Barley does not come to hand freely, and value of it hardly yet settled. Oats are about as before. Of quite as dear; new, irregular in cost. Beans and peas no change. Maize a trifle cheaper than recently. No alteration in other grain.

Manchester, Thursday.—Fine samples of English wheat, and a fair sale at 30s per quarter here; foreign, under the influence of firmer cables, steadier, but millers hold off. Flour quiet. Indian corn fair demand at about 2d reduction on the week. Foreign barley lower, but beans and peas in seller's favour. Oats: New quoted 2s 5d to 2s 5½d. English bran and thirds held for full rates.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat: A fair supply of new samples on offer, which sold at a reduction of 2s per quarter on the week. New oats, 6d to 1s per quarter less new white oats, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; new to 37s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market, for wheats and new English was offering at 28s per 504lbs. under last Saturday's prices. Other qualities slightly in buyers' favour. Maize steady at last week's prices. Peas and beans firm, with a quiet demand. Oats of all descriptions favouring buyers. No material change in barley.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday. Better attendance, and a fair show of wheat, which made 1s 6d to 2s per qr. lower on the week. Oats abundant at a reduction of 6d per qr. Old wheat, 35s; new, 27s to 27s 6d; barley, 24s to 32s; old oats, 20s to 24s; new, 16s to 17s 6d; old beans, 31s to 34s; old peas, 28s to 33s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Norwich, Saturday. There was a moderate supply of new wheat on offer at our market to-day, which was in better condition, and made from 27s 6d to 28s per quarter. There were a few samples of new barley offering, but no demand for same at present. The weather has been mostly fine during the week, but rain fell yesterday. Wheat, 66lb. 30s.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday. — A fair quantity of new wheat offering of excellent quality and perfect condition; prices ruled at 28s to 29s 504lbs. Grinding barley steady. A few samples of new oats showing quality disappointing, 18s to 19s 336lbs. Oats and beans scarce, and 6d higher.—ROBERT HEMILL.

Oxford, Saturday. There was only a small attendance at this market, and trade ruled slow in all departments. A fair quantity of English wheat was offered, but met with a limited demand at 27s 6d to 28s 6d for reds, and 28s to 30s for whites.

Peterborough, Saturday. — Good progress has been made with harvest this week, and there was again a fair quantity of wheat at market, prices being about 1s. lower than last Saturday. Oats still in poor demand, without quotable change in value.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a small attendance on our market to-day. Wheat quiet. Barley and maize 6o lower. Oats down.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Trade was again slow, at, in some cases, reduced prices. English wheat made from 29s to 32s; barley, 23s to 26s; old oats, 19s to 22s; new oats, 17s to 19s; peas and beans sold at last week's rates, but flour fell to 22s to 25s.

Retford, Saturday.—Owing to rain harvest operations were interfered with. Some new samples of corn were shown in good condition, and prices for wheat averaged about 27s 9d per quarter. Very little new barley was shown. Grinding barley remained firm at 23s to 24s; beans, 32s; oats, 15s to 17s per quarter. There was an upward tendency in the value of maize, which made 26s to 27s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday.—New samples of wheat now on offer, but little business is being done. Both round and flat maize show a downward tendency. New wheat 28s to 30s, wheat (foreign) 32s to 36s, barley (grinding) 23s to 24s, new oats 17s, maize (round) 25s 6d to 26s 6d, maize (flat) 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—The following were the quotations: Wheat (old), 14s to 14s 6d; wheat (new), 12s 6d to 13s per 225lb.; white oats (old), 16s to 17s; ditto (new), 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 228lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; beans, 17s to 17s 6d per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Attendance rather small, and trade quiet, prices showing a downward tendency. Several samples of new wheat were shown, but offers did not come up to expectations, and many farmers took their stock home. Wheat was down 2s on the week, the best making 27s, and inferior 25s 6d to 26s 6d; new oats, 15s to 16s; old oats, to 22s; peas, 32s to 32s 6d. No beans were placed on the market, but large supplies are expected at an early date.

Sunderland, Saturday.—A few samples of old wheat offering, which made late rates. Nothing doing in spring corn. Arrivals coastwise: Oats, 250 quarters; beans, 42 quarters. Feoreign: Wheat, 5,540 quarters.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of new wheat on offer at this market, which sold at 6d per bag below last week. The few samples of new oats made 16s to 20s per quarter. Feeding stuffs in fair demand; prices unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday. — A larger supply of new English wheat, and about a shilling lower on the week. Foreign unaltered. Barley 3d easier. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour fair consumptive trade at late rates. —FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply of grain at market. New wheat and oats generally of good quality and condition. Wheat sold at 28s to 29s; oats at 16s to 17s 6d.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 216lb; River Plate corn, 27s 6d per 480lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb; oats, new 11s to 11s 6d, old 13s to 14s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, farmers being busy in the harvest field. A few samples of new grain on offer in very good condition. Old white wheat, 32s to 33s; new white ditto, 30s to 31s; old red wheat, 30s to 31s; new red wheat, 28s to 30s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; new black oats, 16s to 18s; maize, 26s to 28s; beans, 36s to 38s per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—New crop was freely offered, but the majority of the samples lacked condition. Wheat and barley both fell away 6d, and oats 3d per quarter. Best samples of new wheat made from 30s to 33s; secondary, 28s to 30s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; best barley, 26s 6d to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; foreign grinding, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; oats, Irish black, 17s to 17s 6d; old black, 20s to 22s 6d; new ditto, 20s to 21s 9d; old white, 18s to 21s 9d; new ditto, 18s to 20s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, spring, 40s to 42s; tares, winter, 47s to 50s; rye, 22s to 23s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour a quiet trade, fine making 22bs to 23s per sack; extra fine, 28s to 31s. Milling offals continue a good trade, and meals also sell freely.

York, Saturday.—The attendance was fair. A few samples of new wheat on offer at moderate prices, and, generaly speaking, in excellent condition. Fine white made 28s to 29s; red and mixed, 27s to 28s; feeding barley, 24s to 26s per quarter. New oats met with a very slow trade at 16s to 17s; and old oats, 20s to 21s per quarter; rye made 7d to 7½d; old beans, 11d to 1s per stone.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—Although the weather has improved it is not quite settled yet. Harvest of barley is completed now, but quality has hardly turned out satisfactory, as a good many samples grown in North Germany looked stained, and also the Bohemians look more or less weathered. Some choice Austrian are offering, but the prices asked are very extreme. Fair sales have been made of Hungarian barleys, as they seem to be the best value; the quality is generally very good, and prices pretty moderate.—FRANCIS TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—There is a better feeling for wheat, and, with decreasing offers, we quote: American hard winter No. 2, August-September shipment, 30s 3d to 30s 9d; 80 ko. River Plate, September, 30s 3d per 48lb f.o.b.; 61-62lb fine new red Holstein wheat is selling at 30s 6d to 31s; new Saale is held at 31s 6d to 32s per 504lb f.o.b. South Russian rye, 9 10-15, on the spot, is offering at 24s 3d; 9 15-20 August-September, at 24s per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Good Bohemian malting barley is taken by our brewers at 31s 6d to 34s 6d, but there is as yet no export demand, prices being considered too high for the quality, much of the barley being rather coarse and discoloured. The best Bohemian, Moravian, and Slovakian is held at 30s to 33s; good Bohemian at 31s 6d to 34s. East Russian at 28s 6d to 29s per 448lb f.o.b. Common Saale is selling at 28s 6d to 31s, fine not offering. Feeding barley firmer; 60-61 kg. South Russian near at hand is selling at 17s 6d. September-October at 16s 9d per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize and River Plate on the spot is selling at 25s to 25s 3d, September-October at 22s 3d to 23s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday. Although business has been small in all the provincial markets this is due, not so much to lack of offers as to the holidays. As a matter of fact, farmers are disposed to sell and willing to make concessions. Prices show a decline of 25c. on the average. At the Bourse de Commerce the market still feels the effect of the holidays, and lack of decision remains the keynote of the situation. The market opened heavy and closed

steady. Current wheat remains as of late, while forward parcels have advanced from 5c. to 15c. Current flour is firm, but has advanced from 10c. to 25c. for forward positions, though near positions have lost 10c. Rye is still lacking in interest. Oats: Business restricted, but the tendency is steady at late prices.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

After dull days, from the 14th to the 17th, the cargo market on the 18th and 19th was fairly good for wheat. The American new crop is held so stiffly that the situation is more favourable to holders of cargoes on passage than to buyers, who want delivery this side of Michaelmas. Business put through has included: Fine Russian azima at 33s 6d per 492 lb., Odessa Ghuka at 31s 6d per 492 lb., hard Taganrog at 30s 6d per 492 lb., Australian at 32s. per 480 lb., Argentine at 29s 9d per 480 lb., No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 31s. 3d. per 480 lb., and No. 3 at 31s. per 480 lb. Barley is 3d. dearer for Russian new crop September shipment. The price has picked up from 17s. 6d. to 17s. 9d. per 400 lb. Oats are steady at 14s. 3d. per 304 lb. for Vologda, 13s. 9d. per 304 lb. for American new crop, prompt shipment, and 13s 6d for White Sea cargoes (304 lb.) on passage.

Maize is well held. A cargo of Argentine made 23s. per 480 lb. on Saturday, and 23s. 1½d. is asked for American. Other cargo sales include white Calcutta peas at 28s. 6d. per 504 lb., and a cargo of beans on passage from Smyrna at 32s. per 480 lb. The London Corn Trade Association c.i.f. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contract, are as follows:—Calcutta—Club, 31s. 3d.; soft red, 29s. 9d.; Bombay soft white Delhi, 31s. 6d., Kurrachee Soft white Delhi, 31s6d, Kurrachee — Choice white, 30s. 6d.; soft white, 30s.; soft red, 30s., all per 492 lb. The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Port Wakefield, 1 Rosario, 1 Wallaroo)—total 3. The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Birkenhead, 1 Cork, 1 Leith, 1 Limerick), 3 linseed (Harburg)—total 7. Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 256 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 43 linseed—total 336. Last year during the same time arrivals were 176 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 31 barley and wheat, 15 barley 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 25 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—total 262.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 19, 1905:—

Wheat	1,985,800 cwts.
Wheat-flour	213,800 ,,
Barley	269,600 ,,
Oats	173,100 ,,
Maize	974,300 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,878,800	1,977,386	2,170,775	2,048,300
Wheat-flour	157,100	255,429	365,853	372,900
Barley	257,800	404,894	508,172	162,600
Oats	239,900	215,465	152,795	416,100
Maize	876,700	661,383	962,097	833,200

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to August 19, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	26,427¼	28	10	787¾	24	10	5,349¼	18	8
1901	37,168¾	27	3	976¾	23	7	9,092¼	18	1
1902	7,565¾	31	5	463¼	22	10	1,958¾	21	11
1903	17,541¼	29	9	813¾	20	4	9,287¾	18	6
1904	19,260¾	28	8	1,646¼	22	5	19,632¼	16	7

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	26 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	23 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,705,000
Barley	,,	427,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	385,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	63,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	254,000
Maize	,,	80,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	32	0
May 31 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1	(per sack) 31 0	(per sack) 28 0
October 10	(,,) 31 6	(,,) 28 6
,, 19	(,,) 31 0	(,,) 28 0
March 31	(,,) 30 6	(,,) 27 6
May 5	(,,) 30 3	(,,) 27 3
June 7	(,,) 30 0	(,,) 27 0

No change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1			
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	23 3	30 0
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	30 7
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6	23 1½	25 0
July	25 0	26 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August		26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6
Sept.		27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct.		27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov.		26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	23 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.	25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2	22 4	22 6	29 6½

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.
(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb.	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 [illegible]	28 3	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 [illegible]	40 1
April	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6
July		29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0
August		30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 [illegible]	27 0	31 6
Sept.		31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0
Oct.		31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6
Nov.		32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9	26 [illegible]	24 3	30 3
Dec.		31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.	30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0	

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 20	19,200¾	28	8	1,646¾	22	5	19,632¼	16	5
,, 27	31,432¾	29	5	4,791¾	23	2	26,012¾	16	7
Sept. 3	32,921¾	30	2	12,350¾	25	3	31,597	16	3
,, 10	46,196¾	30	0	22,[illegible]	24	10	31,[illegible]	16	1
,, 17	61,[illegible]¾	29	7	45,918¾	24	9	37,334¾	15	11
,, 24	58,304	29	10	89,[illegible]	25	10	42,[illegible]	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534¾	29	10	119,[illegible]	25	5	44,[illegible]	15	8
,, 8	54,607¾	30	2	153,280¾	25	6	43,[illegible]	15	9
,, 15	45,462¾	30	5	185,[illegible]	25	4	34,[illegible]	15	8
,, 22	45,990¾	30	4	213,[illegible]	25	5	31,445¾	15	11
,, 29	47,947¾	30	6	221,011¾	24	11	29,[illegible]	16	10
Nov. 5	43,313¾	30	6	205,816¾	25	0	35,[illegible]	16	9
,, 12	43,740¾	30	3	204,446¾	24	6	32,[illegible]	15	11
,, 19	41,025¾	30	2	178,529¾	24	5	31,[illegible]	16	0
,, 26	41,359¾	30	5	177,[illegible]	24	4	34,[illegible]	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942¾	30	4	166,[illegible]	24	6	35,[illegible]	16	2
,, 10	50,715¾	30	4	165,[illegible]	24	4	36,[illegible]	16	2
,, 17	44,715¾	30	4	139,563¾	24	4	33,[illegible]	16	2
,, 24	33,336¾	30	3	99,297¾	24	7	28,[illegible]	16	1
,, 31	21,163¾	30	4	60,817¾	24	8	18,[illegible]	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757¾	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,239¾	16	3
,, 14	39,647¾	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,764¾	16	3
,, 21	45,646¾	30	5	90,469¾	25	0	32,957¾	16	7
,, 28	48,869¾	30	6	89,495¾	25	1	41,662¾	16	7
Feb. 4	49,432¾	30	6	75,347¾	25	0	41,486¾	16	7
,, 11	50,585¾	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,[illegible]¾	16	5
,, 18	44,495¾	30	5	51,753¾	25	2	36,[illegible]	16	9
,, 25	42,165¾	30	10	39,509¾	25	0	30,627¾	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188¾	30	8	40,477¾	25	2	30,957¾	16	10
,, 11	35,118¾	30	9	23,448¾	25	2	24,396¾	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,412¾	24	11	20,278¾	16	10
,, 25	32,371¾	30	9	17,425¾	25	2	18,910¾	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,239¾	25	1	17,792¾	16	11
,, 8	25,000	30	9	8,104¾	25	6	15,699¾	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,059	17	6
,, 22	29,984¾	30	8	2,875¾	24	4	14,871¾	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185¾	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183¾	30	8	3,014¾	25	3	11,578¾	18	0
,, 13	53,446¾	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350¾	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003¾	24	8	8,803¾	18	5
,, 27	21,508¾	30	11	761¾	24	4	9,017¾	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,912¾	19	1
,, 10	16,685¾	31	4	247¾	24	0	6,115¾	18	11
,, 17	12,819¾	31	7	1,171¾	26	0	3,393¾	19	1
,, 24	11,574¾	31	7	145¾	23	9	3,931¾	18	11
July 1	9,579¾	31	4	289¾	23	2	3,485¾	19	7
,, 8	7,854¾	32	1	375¾	22	11	2,532¾	19	6
,, 15	4,884¾	32	3	31¾	23	10	1,992¾	19	7
,, 22	6,558¾	32	2	52¾	23	7	2,434	18	10
,, 29	7,691¾	32	3	24¾	19	9	3,965¾	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062¾	31	11	371¾	22	0	4,344¾	18	
,, 12	8,184¾	30	5	548¾	22	5	8,974¾	16	1¼
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,768¾	23	4	13,656½	16	4

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended August 19, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	32,715½ qrs.	28s.	5d.
Barley	1,758¾ qrs.	23s.	4d.
Oats	13,656½ qrs.	16s.	4d

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 15, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	1,539	0	2,243	17	1	1	9	2
Barley	386	3	477	15	0	1	4	9
Oats	2,519	3	2,110	11	5	0	16	9

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
August 9 to 16, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	781	102,000	102,781
Barley	890	17,000	17,890
Malt	14,870	...	14,870
Oats	2,460	93,625	96,085
Beans	198	750	948
Peas	50	3,200	3,250
Maize	...	21,985	21,985
Tares	21	...	21
Lentils	...	4,091	4,091
Linseed	...	30,000	30,000
Rapeseed	100	1,600	1,700
Mustardseed	...	442	442
Dari	...	1,800	1,800
Flour sacks	17,354	26,646	44,000
Maizemeal	...	4,300	4,300
Oatmeal	...	7,000	7,000
Ricemeal	...	4,000	4,000

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday.—Good supplies were available this morning, but met a very quiet sale. English, 55s to 65s per ton.

Goole. Wednesday.—The attendance was only moderate, and the prospects for the new crop was the chief topic of interest. The accounts for the district are that there is a general freedom from disease, although it has made its appearance in one or two places. There seems to be every likelihood of a good crop from the Marsh and district. Quotations were about 55s per ton. In the retail market prices were 6d to 8d per stone. Carrots in this district are not quite ready.

Manchester. Saturday. Cheshire new reds, 4s to 5s; kidneys, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Bedfords, 3s to 5s per cwt; turnips, washed, 90s; carrots, washed, 7s 6d per ton.

York. Saturday.—Steady trade at 2s 6d to 3s per bag, retail, 1s 9d to 2s per hamper or bag respectively.

Spitalfields. Saturday.—Large supplies were on the market this morning, but trade was slow. New Canary, 7s per cwt; Duke of Yorks, 5s 6d to 6s; Percents 5s to 5s 3d; Royal Kidneys, 5s to 5s 6d; Beauty of Hebron, 2s 9d to 3s 3d per cwt.

WOOL.

Canterbury. Saturday.—The market remains firm. Kent wool selling at from 11½d to 1s per lb. with lambs wool at 8d.

Halifax. Saturday.—Though business is much interrupted at present by local holidays there is an encouraging amount of inquiry, and prices have a firm or improving tendency.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Satisfaction continues to be expressed by farmers, and with labour more abundant than it has been for years, the harvest is being secured with unprecedented celerity, yet without undue haste. The farmers within about forty miles of London are exceptions to the rule of good luck over labour, but this is seemingly inevitable; the great magnetic influence of the metropolis must be accepted as a fact. The wheat is mostly up to 62lb. in weight, and 64lb. samples are not rare. Quality is fine, and the heat was never excessive, so that there are no parched or shrunken grains to complain of. The average number of matured grains to the ear is large, and there seems scarcely any doubt as to the wheat yield being decidedly over the average. Barley is ripe, and a better crop by far than was expected. Malting samples will be met with, too, from farms and districts which usually are content with good distilling, or at most with brewing, quality. The oat crop has improved a little, but is not quite an average. Hops may be a record yield, and roots have come on well. They are now nearly an average promise, and sufficient rainfall between now and Michaelmas may bring them up to a full standard.

America is busy securing spring wheat from the banks of the Missouri to the Canadian frontier. In Canada and Manitoba a yield of about 600,000 quarters more than in any previous year is anticipated.

The Russian rye crop, being decidedly under an average, will reduce the export surplus of wheat, but the wheat crop itself is satisfactory. Barley is admittedly above an average yield, and oats, which are now being harvested, should be at least up to last year's standard. Maize in all South-East Europe is of poor promise, so that for the second year in succession round corn, the peculiar product of this region, is likely to be scarce and very dear. The Roumanian prohibition of maize exports was expected to be raised on October 1—after being in force for a clear twelvemonth—but our advices lead us to warn those who need small round corn not to rely on this taking place. In Austria-Hungary and Dalmatia the large yield of wheat has not prevented prices rising in sympathy with maize, potatoes, beet, and oilseeds, short crops of these four branches of culture being anticipated. Italy has good cereal crops well secured, but is not looking for much of a maize crop.

The Board of Trade returns published on 17th inst. show that bread is cheaper now than it was a year ago at Birmingham, but is dearer at Bristol, Manchester, Wolverhampton, Dundee, and Dublin. Why bread should be a halfpenny per quartern loaf dearer at Nottingham than at Norwich, in London than at Manchester, at Edinburgh than at Glasgow, at Dublin than at Belfast, is a trade mystery which the Government might do worse than investigate. The next General Election is likely to be fought on a Tariff issue involving only half this difference.

Flour is thus returned by the Board of Trade :—

	Now.	A Year Ago.
Imported (aver.)	9s 8½d per cwt.	9s 2d per cwt.
Town Households (aver.)	10s 0d per cwt.	10s 0d per cwt.

The average price of English wheat for July, according to the above authority, was 7s. 6½d. per cwt., that of imported wheat being 7s. 1½d. per cwt. These Board of Trade figures are interesting, but a little more light on the reasons for supposing that the average value of the foreign wheat really was 7s. 1½d. per cwt. would be very welcome.

The price of 7s. 1½d. per cwt. equals 32s. per 504 lb., or 30s. 6d. per 480 lb. The fine Argentine wheat weighing 504 lb. has made at least 33s. for weeks past, and we really cannot name the foreign wheat obtainable at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb., except cheap Indian, worth 31s. 6d. per 492 lb., be meant.

Country markets appear of late to have been cheaper for wheat than London, the average at some places, such as Doncaster, being as much as 2s. below metropolitan values. Norwich has ranged 1s., Peterborough 1s. 5d., Lincoln 1s. 6d., and Salisbury 8d. below the London average. Barley in the country has averaged 22s. 9d. both at Norwich and Lincoln. For over a month no English barley has been on sale at Peterborough, Doncaster, or Salisbury. Oats, as usual, have made a good price in London, but at Salisbury the good average of 19s. 11d. has been maintained for a month past, and at Peterborough 19s. 5d. per qr. As usual, oats have been comparatively cheap in East Anglia and in the North, where 18s. 7d. and 17s. 3d. have been the averages.

In France wheat during the past few weeks has receded a trifle in value, the country average showing 2d and the Parisian 1d. decline. Belgium shows the much more material fall of 2s. 8d. per qr. In Germany, however, as in France, the changes are not great; Berlin is 3d. cheaper on the month and Breslau a penny. Barley on the Continent ranges from 24s., averaged in Belgium, to 26s. 2d., averaged in Paris. Ordinary French and German exchanges report mean values intermediate between these extremes. Oats are averaging 22s. 10d. in Paris and 21s. 8d. for rural France, but are below a sovereign per qr. in Germany, possibly owing to imports from Russia. The Paris market for oats reached its highest price about midsummer, and the Paris average for oats for June was as high as 23s. 1d. per 312 lb.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets have been smaller this season than for a good many years. The returns for fifty completed weeks are now available, and are as follows :—

This season, 1,626,000 quarters at 30s 9d per quarter.
Last season, 2,078,500 quarters at 27s 2d per quarter.

Of barley increased sales at a slight rise in price are to be recorded.

This season, 3,133,000 quarters at 24s 7d per quarter.
Last season, 2,776,000 quarters at 21s 11d per quarter.

Oats have been a good local trade, but the prices made in the shires have not been what the good London quotations might have led one to expect. With London's immense weekly consumption of oats (80,000 qr. is the usual reckoning of actual wants) and the willingness of horse owners to pay a very fair price, 18s. to 21s. per 336 lb., it is a great pity that railway freights prevent the West and South-West from sending oats to town. Thus the trade is mostly in imported oats from Russia.

For the whole kingdom the statutory returns are :—

This season, 1,144,000 quarters at 17s 2d per quarter.
Last season, 1,087,000 quarters at 16s 5d per quarter.

The sales of British beans, peas, and tares this season have seen fairly good prices realised, and there has been a decided rise in British buckwheat.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were :—

Wheat, 511,000 quarters; a very large supply.
Flour, 56,760 sacks; a third of a full supply.
Barley, 43,000 quarters; a third of an average.
Oats, 151,000 quarters; over an average.
Maize, 193,000 quarters; nearly an average.

Since the 1st September the imports of breadstuffs have been as follows :—

	Quarters.
Wheat	23,537,000
Flour, equal to	3,525,000
Breadstuffs	27,062,000

In the same period of last season 26,852,000qr. were imported.

Of maize the figures are as follows :—

	Quarters.
This season	9,346,000
Last season	11,518,000

The receipts this season have been slightly below, those of last season were slightly above, the average.

Of barley, our arrivals this campaign have seemed to be small, for those of the previous year were colossal. Return of oats and of barley for the fifty completed weeks of the cereal year are as follows :—

	Quarters. This Season.	Last Season.
Barley	5,686,000	8,513,000
Oats	6,142,000	5,374,000

The supply of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom on 19th inst. was rather below the average :—

	Quarters.
American	45,000
Argentine	755,000
Indian	767,000
Russian	235,000
Australasian	420,000
Various	60,000
Total	2,282,000

It is now seven weeks since the opening of the Californian shipping season, and not a cargo has been exported. This is a condition of things for which there is no recent precedent. As little a time back as 19th August, 1902, we find there were 880,000 qr. of Californian wheat on passage to this country.

Of oats a large quantity, 450,000 qr., is on passage, chiefly from Russia.

The following are the quantities of barley now on passage to the United Kingdom :—

	Quarters.
Russian	98,000
Californian	70,000
American	30,000
Smyrna	25,000
Persian	10,000
Roumanian	15,000
Total	198,000

Of maize, expectations are a good deal above the average; 1,326,000 qr. Of this total over a million quarters are yellow corn.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 21

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was a good supply of new English wheat on offer, and we are very sorry to say that, despite all counsels to the contrary, it was pressed on sale at 2s. per qr. decline. New White was not quite so depressed as new Red. Foreign wheat was the turn lower, in sympathy with English but holders were far from willing sellers at a concession. Barley was very quiet for malting and brewing. In feeding sorts, a steady business passed at about 20s. for Russian. Oats were quoted 18s. per 336 lb. for new White Gartons, 17s. for new winter of the same good weight. There were offerings of new English light oats as low as 16s. per 304 lb. New English Red Trifolium seed made 32s. per cwt. New English Rapeseed made 56s. per qr. for fine black; 49s. for ordinary. Foreign oats were quiet at 14s. to 14s. 6d. for 304 lb.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s. d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.)	35 — 36
New White	,,	30 — 33
Old Red	,,	34 — 35
New ,,	,,	29 — 31
BARLEY, Malting	(per 448 lb.)	none
Brewing	,,	none
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23 — 26
,,	(per 400 lb.)	none
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36 — 37
Brown	,,	25 — 30
Black	,,	31 — 33
Crystallized	,,	32 — 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	none
Old Black Winter	,,	none
Old Grey Winter	,,	none
Old Black Tartary	,,	none
,,	(per 320 lb.)	none
New Winter	(per 336 lb.)	18 — 20
,, Black Tartary	,,	none
,,	(per 312 lb.)	none
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	16 — 17
RYE, Old	(per 480 lb.)	23 — 24
New	,,	21 — 25
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38 — 40
Pigeon	,,	40 — 42
Tick	,,	38 — 40
Winter	,,	33 — 34
Spring	,,	32 — 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	none
New Unpicked ,,	,,	none
Partridge	,,	44 — 46
Dun	,,	30 — 31
Maple	,,	33 — 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72 — 82
(English ,,)	,,	60 — 64
(Winter)	,,	48 — 52
(Spring)	,,	40 — 44
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	30 — 31

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Mitoba Best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
American Red Winter	34	— 36
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Californian	none	
Walla Walla	none	
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 36
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29	— 30
BARLEY :		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Californian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 28
Bohemian (448 lb.)	none	
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19 6	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendjo (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
French	none	
Russian	23	— 24
MAIZE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	27 6	28
Turkish	26 6	27
Morocco	25 6	— 26
Indian	25 6	26
American	24	24 3
Argentine	23 9	24

	s.	s.
OATS :		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Revel (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Novorossisk (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Turkish (304 lb.)	14	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	33	— 35
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Dutch Imperials	64	— 66
,, Crowns	54	— 56
Chillian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	22	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb. :		
French	31	— 32
Russian	29	— 30
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

SOME WINTER BARLEY OF THE NEW CROP WAS ON OFFER AT 24s. PER QUARTER. THE MARKET IN GENERAL WAS IN BUYERS' FAVOUR, BUT MAIZE FOR PROMPT DELIVERY WAS QUITE AS FIRM AS BEFORE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 21.

New country flour from the 1905 wheat crop was the feature of the day; 21s. was accepted for straights and 20s. 6d. for ordinary. Of course, the great bulk of offerings is still of grindings from the 1904 crop. London makes were nominally as dear as on the 14th inst., but the market was decidedly against the sellers. Whole meal was obtainable at a reduction of 3d. per sack. First quality Minnesota patents were said to have been offered to-day for October shipment at 28s. c.f.i., or 2s. 6d. below spot prices. Kansas flour made from new red winter wheat was offered for September shipment at 24s. c.f.i. Iron Duke was sold on spot for 21s. 6d. cash, but 20s. 9d. c.f.i. for prompt shipment was accepted. Milwaukee patents were offered for October shipment at 27s. 9d. c.f.i. Ohio patents were obtainable for September shipment at 25s. c.f.i. Australia is still offering to ship flour and 23s c.i.f. for prompt shipment is a very reasonable price. No changes in Manitoba, Hungarian, or French flour prices were made, but these three sorts were comparatively neglected.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.	d.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31	0
Town Whites	,,	28	0
,, Households	,,	25	0
No. 3	,,	22	0
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	26	0
,, No. 2	,,	24	0
Paste Flour	,,	22	0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24	— 25
Ordinary Roller made	,,	23	— 24
Best Stone made	,,	22	— 23

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	none	
,, Second Patents	,,	29	— 30
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	none	
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
Californian	,,	26	— 27
Canadian	,,	none	
Russian	,,	29	— 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32	— 33
,, 1	,,	31	— 32
,, 2	,,	30	— 31
,, 3	,,	29	— 30
French, Corbeil	,,	24	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	23	— 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	— 22
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27	— 28
,, 1st Grade	,,	26	— 27
,, 2nd Grade	,,	25	— 26
,, Common	,,	20	— 21
,, "Saturno"	,,	17	— 18

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	14	— 15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	— 35
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	— 14
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	— 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9	— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 22
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20
Ground Rice	,,	22	— 23
Feeding Rice	,,	17	— 19

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s.	8d.	Sept. delivery.
,, ,,	6s.	7d.	Nov. ,,
,, ,,	6s.	6d.	Jan. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s.	9d.	Sept. delivery.
,,	4s.	8d.	Nov. ,,
,,	4s.	3d.	Jan. ,,

"Near dates" between 14th and 19th inst. hardened a little, but prices receded for January delivery.

Buyers and sellers of American red winter wheat are fighting to-day over 1d. per cental difference, but 6s. 8d. per cental or 32s. per quarter of 480 lb. is about the real level for autumn and early winter delivery. American maize commands 4s. 8d. per cental, or 22s. 6d. per quarter of 480 lb. for delivery this side of Christmas.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Owing to lower wheat prices, buyers are holding off so that very little business is passing. Prices are 6d. lower. Grain.—Indian corn is more plentiful, with price slightly in buyers' favour—viz., 13s. 10½d. per 280 lb. Oats dull, with Scotch and Irish selling at 15s. to 15s. 6d. per 264 lb. Barley again 3d. easier. Pease unchanged. Beans strong, both on spot and for shipment. Oilcake quiet. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and Common Thirds unchanged at 82s. 6d. and 85s. per ton. Fine Thirds in active demand, so that millers are behind with orders, value 107s. 6d. to 110s.—McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade quiet, and with the weak cables from America prices continue in favour of buyers. Offals.—The demand for bran continues active, and prices generally are 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton advanced.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour on the spot has met a quiet demand at last Monday's prices, for shipment. Hard spring wheat patents are offered on easier terms, and are now reaching a workable basis.—MEDILL AND Co.

Milling Offals.—Prices remain unchanged from last week, with a fair demand.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: The spot demand has much improved, and the strong tendency continues on the part of buyers to secure future requirements of American made. Undecorticated cotton cake: Steady at last week's quotations. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: These are in faid demand, and prices unchanged. Linseed: Market firm and dearer.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7	17	6	to 8	0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, Western ,,	ex quay	7	7	6		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay					
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	10	0	to 7	13 9
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	17	6		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	15	0		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	13	9	to 4	15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	12	6		
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton		4	17	6		
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs. ex warehouse						
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs. ex warehouse		2	9	0		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs ex warehouse		2	2	6		
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs. ex warehouse		2	2	0	to 2	6 0
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.						
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London						
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,,						
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.						

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are steady; nothing doing in American either seaboard, but Russian, Indian, and Argentine all a very fair business. No changes in the demand for cargoes of spring corn; maize is the strongest. Oats are the least strong, as regards the tone of market.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Rosario, 29s 6d. per 480lb., on passage; Bahia Blanca, 30s 6d per 504lb., on passage; Odessa Ghirka, 31s 6d per 492lb., October shipment; Roumanian, 30s per 492lb., September shipment; Australian, 32s per 480lb., on passage; White Calcutta, 31s per 492lb., on passage; Red Kurrachee, 30s per 492.b., on passage; Turkish, 29s per 492lb., prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s per 400lb., prompt shipment; Kustendje, 19s per 416lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—Archangel, 13s 6d per 304lb., prompt shipment; Petersburg, 13s 6d per 304lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 22s 9d per 480lb., September shipment; Argentine, 22s 9d per 480lb., September shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 40s per 410lb., September shipment; Bombay, 41s 6d per 416lb., prompt shipment; Argentine, 39s 6d per 416lb., prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 8s 9d per 2,240lb., on passage; Egyptian, £5 10s per 2,240lb., prompt shipment; Fayoumi; £6 per 2,240lb., September shipment; Fayoumi, £5 18s 9d per 2,240lb., October shipment; Bombay, £4 15s per 2,240lb., September shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 1,761 bales, and from foreign ports 11,224 bales. The bacon market was very disappointing last week, the higher prices having given trade a severe check, resulting in Danish bacon being sold at several shillings less money. Prices ranging: Irish, 66s to 71s up to 74s; Danish, 56s to 68s up to 74s; Canadian, 60s to 64s up to 68. Butter: The butter market was quiet, prices favouring buyers for practically all selections:—French, 90s to 110s; Danish, 119s to 122s; Russian and Siberian, 94s to 102s; Irish, 88s to 114s; Canadian, 106s to 112s; Australian, 100s to 108s; American, 88s to 104s. Lard: The lard market was steady but quiet: Irish, 45s to 57s; American, 40s to 41s 9d.

HAY AND STRAW.

Lancaster, Saturday.—Meadow hay, 5½d; clover hay, 6d; wheat straw, 4½d; oat straw, 4d per stone.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, new, 4½d to 5d; clover, new, 4½d to 5½d; straw, wheat, 4½d; oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday. Supplies this morning were on a fair scale, and met a fair demand at steady rates. Best clover, 75s to 82s 6d; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 77s; good ditto, 63s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 75s; straw, 30s to 40s per load.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Aug. 21, 1905. British.	Foreign.	Total.	Monday, Aug. 22, 1904.
Beasts	1,059	—	1,059	1,199
Sheep and Lambs	7,179	—	7,179	5,440
Calves	6	—	6	—
Milch Cows	38	—	38	69

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d to	3s 6d to	4s 8d
Sheep	3s 8d to	4s 10d to	5s 8d
Lambs	4s 10d to	5s 4d to	6s 2d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £24.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 26; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 972; Devon, 10; Ireland, 102.

In the beast market to-day there was an increase of 80 head compared with Monday last, those of prime quality being in greater proportion, chiefly arrivals from the Midlands, Ireland and Devon; for these trade ruled quiet with a downward tendency in regard to value, though not sufficient to enable us to quote it so. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in slightly larger supply, and met a better enquiry, rates favouring the sellers in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lbs. The arrivals from Ireland to-day consisted of 68 Dublins, 22 Waterfords, and 12 stores, for the latter there was no enquiry, rates in consequence remaining unquotable, the former on the other hand met a steady enquiry at late values. A clearance is considered doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Aug 22, 1904.
Devons	4s 6d ex 4s 8d	4s 8d
Herefords	4s 6d ex 4s 8d	4s 8d
Runts	4s 0d ex 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d ex 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 0d ex 4s 5d	
Fat Cows	3s 4d ex 3s 6d	3s 6d ex 3s 8d

In the sheep market there was a decrease of 220 compared with the corresponding day last week. Trade taken all round was of a disappointing nature, salesmen having to accept 2d. per 8 lbs. less money to effect sales; this remark applies equally to Scotch sheep. Irish on the other hand sold fairly well, last Monday's quotations being well maintained. Lambs were in fair average numbers, but met with little or no demand (the season for these being now about over, and big lambs selling for small mutton), a decline of 2d. per 8 lbs. had to be made. The supply included 500 Scotch, 2,100 Irish, and 505 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance in this part of the market is extremely doubtful.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, August 22, 1904
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 8d
9 st Downs	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d
10 st Half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	6s 4d
6 st Half-bred ditto	5s 8d to 6s 10d	6s 0d

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies, trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; American, 3s 1d to 3s 6d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Lamb: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; English, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; New Zealand, 3s 6d to 3s 10d. Veal, 3s to 4s 6d. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday. — Beasts 113, sheep and lambs 1,348, pigs 345. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s, mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9s and 10s; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Fat cattle, sheep and pigs, and store sheep and pigs, good demand; store cattle, fair demand; milch cows, short supply, middling trade, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,091. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 870 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade was of a much firmer nature at an advance of 1d per 8lb. Best States beasts on offer to dress about 720lb made from 3s 9d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d per 8lb (sinking the offal). Besides the above, about 350 more were withheld. On Saturday 1,616 beasts from the United States and 545 from Canada were offered for sale, and, with a firm, steady trade, were quoted at from 3s 9d to 4s for the former and from 3s 6d to 3s 9d for the latter. There were also 384 Canadian ewes offered for sale, which met a slow but steady trade, best being quoted at 4s 4d per 8lb.

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle, demand good, especially for well-finished quality. Prices, however, unchanged. Sheep and lambs supply considerably smaller; trade very slow; only finished sorts maintained last week's top prices. Strong sheep and middling lambs much lower in price. Beef, 5½d to 5d; mutton, 8d to 6d; lambs, 8½d to 6d per lb. At market: 942 cattle and 10,384 sheep.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The market must again be passed in buyers' favour; the anxiety of holders to clear out before the new crop is here causes prices to give way further, and consumers are availing themselves of this most favourable opportunity to secure the cheap lots as they are offered.

Worcester, Saturday.—The hops have made steady progress this week. The first picked in the new year was received on the 15th, and a few more were brought in today. No transactions have taken place however. Picking will become general about the 29th. There has been more business done in good parcels of last year's hops at the present tempting figures. Seconds and pockets 1904 hops have passed the scales this week.—CHARLES FARAM AND Co.

SEEDS.

London, Monday.—There is a steady demand for trifoliums, early and late, a large quantity of the early English having been exported abroad. Spot stocks are very light. Late seed is now lower than early, and consequently better value. Winter tares are finding buyers at cheaper prices. Rye moving freely. Fine samples, reasonable prices. Rape and mustard firm and unchanged.—JOHN PICARD AND Co.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality at Islington, with a larger supply, was of an extremely slow and dragging nature, with a downward tendency in regard to value, although not sufficiently so to warrant our quoting any lower rates. The consignments consisted chiefly of animals from the Midland counties and Ireland; the poor trade is partly attributed to the holiday season, so many families being out of town. The Irish arrivals consisted of 60 Dublins (five of which were choice Black Polled beasts, and seven Waterfords), no store cattle being offered for sale. Trade for this class of beast was also bad, late currencies being barely maintained.

On Thursday, the second market day of the week, trade was practically confined to fat bulls and rough cattle. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a good supply; trade, however, was of a slow nature throughout the week; nevertheless, on Wednesday, an advance of 1d. per 8 lb. was asked and obtained for States beasts. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,695, as against 4,730 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,010 British (increase 180) and 4,685 foreign (increase 785). These latter comprised 3,216 from the United States and 1,469 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords 4s. 6d., ex. 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts 4s. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States 3s. 8d. to 3s. 11d.; 90 stone Canadians 3s. 5d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday and Thursday was of a very slow nature; on the former day last week's rates were barely maintained, and on the latter we notice a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. on wethers, and from 2d. to 4d. on ewes. Lambs were greatly in excess of the demand, sales being difficult to effect, even at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. Scotch sheep met a fairly good enquiry at late rates. At Deptford a few Canadian sheep were quoted at from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. The total number penned was 10,688, as against 7,090 during the previous week, the supply consisting of 10,030 British (increase 2,940) and 658 foreign. Best pens made, per 8 lb., as follows (offal given in):—7½ to 8 stone Downs 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 7 to 8 stone Scotch 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone Downs 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Halfbreds 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone ewes 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 8 stone Canadians 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs 6s. 4d. to 6s. 6d.; 6 stone Halfbred ditto 5s. 10d. to 6s.

Calves numbered 40, and met with a very slow trade at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. (offal given in). No pigs on offer.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been nearly equal to last week. For the best descriptions previous prices were maintained, but secondary cattle suffered a fall of from 10s. to 15s. a head. Sheep have been shown in average numbers. These met a good inquiry at previous prices. Lambs a very large supply, and these met a decidedly worse market at from 2s. to 2s. 6d. a head reduction. A very small supply of fat calves, which made extreme price. Pigs scarce and dear.

Few store cattle on offer, for which there was very little demand; and to effect sales, moderate prices have to be taken. Rather more sheep than lambs, but owing to the high prices asked, sales were slow, and part left unsold at the finish. Milk cows in smaller numbers, and except for the very best class, these met a dull market.

Quotations.—Top price of cattle per live cwt., 37s. 6d.; current from 35s. to 36s. 6d.; mutton to 8½d. per lb.—John Swanstons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

The dry weather, having continued up to this, is causing much anxiety to graziers, as in many parts of the country the supply of water for stock is running very short and owners have, in places, to drive cattle long distances to give them a satisfying drink. The long spell of dry weather has, of course, made grass scarce also, and beasts are being sent into market before they are fit. There was an increase in the supply of cattle in Dublin Market on Thursday of 6/7 as compared with the previous week, but still the total number—nearly 3,000—is only about normal for this season of the year. For cattle of good finish trade opened with a brisk demand, and all suitable animals met with an early clearance at harder rates than the previous market. For good middling bullocks and heifers there was a quiet sale at about last day's rates, but coarse and inferior classes met with a worse sale at irregular prices. Prime beef sold as high as from 55s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt., but the average was from 52s. to 54s.; good second-class beef from 46s. to 50s.; and inferior from 44s. upwards. There were 243 more sheep offered for sale than on the previous Thursday, and, as both exporters and home buyers seemed very indifferent as to making purchases, trade was of a slow, dragging nature. For choice wethers of the best quality there was a steady sale at the extreme figures of last day, but for all other sorts prices were weaker, though there could not be said to be any quotable change. A large number of ewes and coarse sheep remained over unsold. The inquiry for lambs of good quality was brisk. Prime wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 7d.; and coarse sheep, from 5d. per lb. Heavy hoggets made from 44s. to 56s. each, and small to medium ditto from 32s. to 42s. Lambs ranged from 20s. for small to 38s. each for large fat. Veal made a slow trade, the offerings being in excess of requirements. Some choice calves made from 7d. to 8d. per lb., others selling from 5d. per lb. upwards. Dairy cows were in better supply, and, with a good attendance of buyers, trade was more satisfactory than for some weeks past. The best springers went at from £18 up to £21 each, and other sorts at from £8 upwards. The store cattle trade was really only a nominal feature in the market, and little business was done. Ganly, Son, and Co. held a sale of about 300 store cattle in their auction paddocks, but no sales worth noting were made. The pig market was well supplied, and buyers attended in good force, but business opened very cautiously till later in the day, when things became brisk and the drop in prices of last week was recovered. Store pigs, however, were hard to sell. Best lightweight bacon pigs made from 52s. to 54s. per cwt., coarse from 32s. per cwt. upwards.

Trade in the West.

Trade keeps very quiet, as a rule, for most things, and this, too, in the face of only very moderate supplies of stores coming to hand. Perhaps nothing is more disappointing than the milch beast trade, prices having dropped considerably within the last few days, so much so that it requires an exceptionally good heifer or cow to bring £20; whilst plenty of really good milchers, both heifers and cows, are selling from £16 to £18 each, and not a very fast trade for either at the price, several promising young heifers with their first calves having, to our knowledge, been sold at between £15 and £16, to the no small disappointment of the sellers. Barreners are meeting an equally disappointing sale, from £12 to £13 each being almost the top price, even for really good serviceable grazers—animals, too, a fair way on to beef; whilst anything plain can be bought from £9 to £11 almost in any quantity, and even then without attracting the attention such favourable prices seem to justify.

Sheep, on the other hand, are gradually hardening in value; the late rains and the improved root crop prospects, coupled with the scarcity of sheep, which is being accentuated by so many some cases 1s. a head, sending up prices in some cases 1s. a head compared with Weyhill, Dorchester, and Blandford rates; at least, this is the opinion held by many competent judges, who, at the same time, incline to the belief that, with a favourable time for completing the harvest, sheep will yet be even dearer at the autumn sales.

Good class fat things continue to meet a fairly healthy demand, but trade is by no means fast, even for the best grades of either heifers or steers, which are bringing from about £16 up to £22 apiece (or from 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score, only anything of special quality making 11s. 6d., which is quite an outside figure); and, as for cows, we may quote 9s. 6d. to 10s. 3d. as the ruling price for the best. Calves are selling a trifle better than when the hot weather interfered so with sales; but prices have not regained their old level, the current rates now for best vealers are from 7½d. to 8½d., and 6½d. to 7d. for rough qualities. The demand for mutton keeps slow. The best wethers find buyers up to 55s. apiece, or 8d. to 8½d. per lb., if very choice; other wethers also finding a fair sale at from 7d. to 7½d.; ewes, which are mostly old sheep, 6d. to 6¾d.

Best lambs—small weights—make up to 10½d. in some few cases; but a more average rate is 9d. to 9½d. The markets are not overstocked; therefore, sellers content with a moderate price can depend upon getting purchasers. Pigs, too, are none too plentifully offered, and this gives a very firm tone to the trade, which is duly reflected in the advanced rates now being asked, small neat-handling porkers selling freely from 10s. to 10s. 6d.; and baconers from 9s. to 9s. 6d. even to 12 score weights, it being a long time since a better feeling pervaded the pig trade as a whole.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—The number of beasts marketed consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls from the Midland counties, which had an inactive session at last Monday's quotations. Fat cows, 3s 4d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Arrivals of sheep and lambs made an increase of 550, the supply including 200 Scotch. Trade for the latter was slow but firm, while English sheep of all descriptions prove difficult to vend, even at 2d to 4d per 8lb. reduction. Inferior, 4s 6d; seconds, 5s 4d; firsts, 6s. Lambs were fairly plentiful and in excess of requirements, business ruling exceedingly quiet at 4d to 6d decline. Inferior, 4s 8d; seconds, 5s 4d; firsts, 6s. Quotations: 7½st to 8st. Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 7st. to 8st. Scotch, 5s 10d to 6s; 9st. Downs, 5s 6d; 10st., 5s 4d; 10st. halfbreds, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; 10st. Down ewes, 4s.; 5st. fat Down lambs, 6s.; 6st. halfbreds, 5s 8d. Calves slow of sale, with prices 2d per 8lb. lower. Inferior, 2s 10d; seconds, 3s 8d; firsts, 5s 4d. Total marketed: Beasts, 20; sheep and lambs, 2,640; calves, 30.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef unchanged, but much present was not choice in quality. Top price, 4s 8d; inferior and cow beef, 4s per stone. Mutton sold well at 5s 2d to 5s 10d for Down wethers, and 4s 8d to 5s for Kents. Lambs made 6s 4d to 6s 7d, and veal 5s to 5s 6d. Roasting pigs made up to 4s 2d, and large hogs 4s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday. At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 41 fat beasts, 60 calves, 381 fat sheep and lambs, 122 pigs, and 103 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Devon steers made from £19 10s to £22 15s, shorthorns £18 15s, heifers £16 10s, cows £12 to £15 10s, polled cows £14, fat calves 70s to £5, small 20s to 50s, fat porkers 29s to 52s 6d, store pigs 12s to 20s, dairy cows £9 10s to £18 5s, fat Down wethers and ewes 50s to 58s, smaller 46s to 48s, old Down ewes 38s to 40s, small 34s to 38s, three months' old sucking lambs up to 35s, ditto South Downs 25s to 31s, cross-breds 28s to 34s. The show of fat beasts included some excellent Devon steers, also some good shorthorn steers and cows and a few useful Galloway steers and cows. The prime quality beasts were wanted, but for anything below the best there was a slow trade. Fat sheep and lambs were short in numbers but excellent as regards quality, for which a good trade ruled, with a clearance, and an advance most perceptible on prime heavy Down wethers and big lambs. Trade all round, both for dairy cows and store cattle, was slow, there being little demand. Fat calves met a clearance, last week's prices not being maintained. Fat porkers met a brisk trade at late prices. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6¾d to 7d; ditto shorthorns, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 6d to 5½d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; secondary ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes and inferior, 6d to 6½d; three months old sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 8d per lb; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 11s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—The cattle market was practically empty, only 10 bullocks being penned. No prices were quoted.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade good for bacon pigs; trade slow for beast and sheep. Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 9s 10d per score; sows, 7s 10d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Market quiet, and business done barely normal. Beef in moderate quantity, and values were unchanged. Trade in mutton and lamb, which were in good supply, was quiet at last week's prices. Pigs were in limited number and quotations advanced, baconers making 10s per score, and porkers 10s 6d.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	10	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	10	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in. ...	9	6
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	9	0

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Considerable offering of lambs; superior ewe lambs were worth 30s to 31s 6d.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply on the Sands was small, chiefly mediocre Irish heifers. Buyers were exceedingly scarce, and trade was practically at a standstill. small heifers, £6 10s to £8 10s; best sorts, £10 to £12 10s.

Chelmsford, Saturday.—Supplies were short. Fat pigs sold better. Store sheep and lambs met with a good trade, and milch cows and bullocks sold badly.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies of store and dairy cattle, but a slow trade, there being apparently more sellers than buyers. Prices were somewhat irregular, but on the whole remained much the same as last week. Milch cows made £16 to £20; calvers, £15 to £18; heifers, £8 to £15; barrens, £9 to £22; stirks, £6 to £10. Most of the sheep on offer were Irish whitefaced and horned, and price ranged from 17s to 35s each.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very little supply of cattle, and thin attendance, farmers being busy harvesting. Trade ruled slow at late rates. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £16; stirks, £6 to £8; young stores, £4 to £6 each. Plenty of sheep, but trade showed no improvement, and prices were unchanged. Lincolnshire ewes, 42s to 50s; lambs, 28s to 34s each.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—A very full market to-day and a good attendance. A good business, but little improvement in prices. Wether mutton made 7d to 8d per lb., and ewes 7d. Lambs made 32s to about 43s for these Show. Fat calves ruled firm, and made £4 to £5 10s, and smaller 50s to 76s; rearers, 19s to 36s. The pig trade was good for both baconers and porkers, at 9s 6d to 10s 5d per score; sows, £4 5s to £5 17s.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very good deliveries came to hand at the cattle market to-day, at which sales were held by Messrs. Duke and Son and by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson. Milch beasts met an improved demand, though prices still keep low, as they do for barreners, which are making a very poor price, seeing the good keep prospects there are. A general run for milch beasts is from £15 to £17 5s, and others from £10 10s to £14, barreners ranging £16 to £21 per pair. Stock bulls made £9 5s to £11 10s. The fat was of a uniformly good character, both steers and heifers, the former selling fairly well from £15 5s

to £21, and steers £19 5s to £20 5s (or 11s per score); fat cows, £11 to £14 (or 9s 6d to 10s 6d). In mutton the range for ewes was from 41s to 52s each (or 7d to 7½d); wethers, 47s 6d to 50s (or 8d to 8¼d). Cross-bred lambs made 28s to 36s, and horns 34s 6d to 36s (or 9½d to 10¼d

Chichester, Wednesday. — Fat cattle, in sympathy with other markets, met a dragging trade, except for the very best quality. Best dairy cows and heifers continued in good demand, and the advance in prices was well maintained. Stock at the market: Cattle, 417; sheep, 5,328; pigs, 491; calves, 131; horses, 12; total stock, 6,449.

Dublin, Thursday.- Numbers in market: Beasts, 2,966, increase 537; sheep, 9,142, increase 243; calves, 61, increase 2. Slow, heavy trade for all descriptions of cattle, with prices for best qualities moving in favour of buyers, and rough sorts still more difficult to sell. Quieter trade for sheep and lambs at barely late rates, some rough and inferior lots remaining unsold. Cattle, live weight (best), 29s to 32s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 26s to 28s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5¾d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY SONS AND CO.
for the best).

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There were larger supplies of sheep, but few cattle, and trade was slow. Polled bullocks, to £13; halfbred sheep, 35s; halfbred wedder lambs, 24s to 28s; Cheviot wedder lambs, to £22; best shorthorn cows, to £23; secondary, £16 to £21 per head.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Trade fair and supplies an average. Cattle fetched rather more money for top quality. Top Scotch, 62s to 66s; secondary, 58s to 60s; best Irish, 58s to 60s per cwt. Canadians were generally dearer, and sold up to 58s per cwt.; secondary, 54s to 56s. Home sheep steady; best, 8¼d to 8¾d; best lambs, 8¼d to 9d per lb.

Exeter, Friday.—Not so many fat beasts on offer, and rather better inquiry for best mutton. Heifers and steers, 11s to 11s 3d; cows, 10s. Quite as large a market for sheep as last week, and late prices maintained; wethers, 8d; ewes, 6d. Breeding ewes were much lower in price, and a good many were unsold; top prices, 35s to 40s; fat lambs, 10d. Calves, 7½d to 8d.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sale as follows:—Eighty head of cows and calves and in-calvers, which met a steady market, all being disposed of, cows making up to £22 10s. A short supply of store cattle, with very little demand for yearlings, stronger cattle making fair prices.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of fat cattle for the time of year of superior quality. Trade was firm, with a slight improvement in values. A few lots of grazing cattle were penned, but were not much wanted. There was a good entry of cows and heifers; trade was slow, except for a few of the best animals. Calves in better demand at rather more money; weaners 56s to 36s, fat to £5 12s 6d. Fat sheep were penned in excellent numbers, and met a good trade, prices having an upward tendency. Fat lambs also were in good supply, and met a firm trade. A short supply of fat swine, which met a sharp trade. Stores in good demand. Numbers at sales and market: 440 cattle, 1,861 sheep, and 807 swine.

Hereford, Wednesday.—This was the August fair for store ewes. Sheep, being short in the country, trade was firm. Shropshire ewes ranged from 42s to 46s apiece, and crossbreds from 30s to 40s. A small drove of Shropshire rams sold at 5 guineas a piece all round. Of other stock, both fat and store, there was a smaller supply even than last week, and the demand being fairly good, trade was, on the whole, rather firmer. Bullocks and maiden heifers made 6½d to 7d per lb.; fat cows dragging at 5d to 5½d per lb. Fat sheep were especially short in supply. Wethers and yearlings consequently sold dearer at 7½d to 8d, fat ewes about 6d. Fat lambs were in demand, and a fair supply were speedily cleared at 8d to 8¾d per lb., store lambs also selling well. Fat calves, a moderate supply, were not so keenly sought, and did not make more than 7d. A few store calves went fairly well. Pigs were a larger supply. Trade was firm for porks at 5d to 6d for small ones. Little stores met with a firm trade, although at low prices. Store cattle very little trade. There was practically no business in the horse fair, the harvest requiring all useful animals.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger consignments of home-bred stock. Buyers and dealers were moderately represented, and in spite of the improvement in the pastures trade ruled very flat at fully 10s per head lower. Good milch cows, £17 and £19; secondary, £14 to £16; heifers, £10 to £12; Irish bullocks, £14 to £15; Welsh cattle, £10 to £12 10s; young stock, £5 to £8; and calves, 15s to 35s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair display of horned stock, which met with a moderate trade. Milch cows sold at late rate. Sheep met a slow trade, lambs making 30s to 34s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, 7s to 7s 3d per stone. Scarcely any stores, £6 to £10 each. Fat sheep average show, 8s 9d to 9s per stone; stores 38s to 44s each. Store lambs, 25s to 30s; fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4¾d; to 6d; thirds, 3¾d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, 7¼d; second class, 6¼d to 6¾d; thirds, 5¼d to 5¾d. Veal: Firsts, 6d; seconds, 5d to 5½d; thirds, 4d to 4¼d per lb. Lamb: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¾d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Holiday tone prevailed throughout the market. Fat beasts were in sufficient supply to meet home demands, and trade was quiet at 7s 6d to 8s per stone. The few lots of store animals offered were chiefly Irish, and trade was dull at prices ranging from £5 to £17 per head. Short supply of lambs, at 28s to 35s per head; but very few lots were disposed of. Fair demand for black-faced ewes, which were in good supply, prices being 55s to 64s per head. Fat sheep met with good trade at 9s 6d to 10s per stone, and fat pigs made 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone. Store pigs and calves met with a good trade.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Short supply of stock owing to harvest operations. A better trade was met with. In-calf cows, £15 to £23 each; in-calf heifers, £14 to £17 10s; calves, £1 to 50s per head.

Preston, Wednesday. An excellent show of sheep, and trade was fairly brisk. In consequence of the local holidays the supply of beef was smaller than usual, and trade was rather slow. Calves were difficult to sell. Cows and bulls made 5d to 5½d, with a few at 5¾d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6½d, and in odd cases 6¾d; lambs, 8¼d to 8¾d; hoggs, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 5½d to 6¼d; tups, 5d to 5¾d; calves, 5½d to 7d per lb. Numbers at market: Cattle, 189; sheep, 2,498; calves, 120.

Retford, Saturday.—There was not much stock shown. Milch cows, £18 to £20; steers, £10 to £11; and calves, 30s to 50s each.

Romford, Wednesday. — Short supply of fat beasts; trade bad. Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in average supply; trade about the same at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Sheep in short supply; trade slower. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Ewes in average supply; trade about the same, at 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Short supply of lambs, trade unaltered, at 6s 4d to 6s 6d per stone. A few store beasts on offer; very slow demand. Short supply of pigs; trade slow.

Thame, Wednesday. It is evident that the popularity of Thame market is steadily on the increase. It is remarkable where all the stock is distributed week after week. There was by far the best attendance of buyers for this season. Purchasers attended from Aylesbury, Oxford, Wycombe, Maidenhead, Marlow, Henley, Risborough, Haddenham, Newbury, Didcot, Headington, Wheatley, and surrounding villages. There was a grand show of cattle and an excellent selling trade for the best quality. Fat cows were slow and difficult to dispose of. The sheep pens were well filled; a swift trade ruled throughout, and a clearance effected. Veal, bacon, and pork moved off quickly. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 141 fat beasts, 382 fat and store sheep, 71 fat and weaning calves, and 39 fat pigs. Fat oxen made from £17 to £20 12s 6d, fat heifers £15 to £20 17s 6d, fat wethers 48s to 65s, fat ewes 40s to 67s, fat lambs 30s to 46s 6d, fat cattle £3 to £5, weaning cow calves 30s to 56s, bull calves 10s to 50s, bacon hogs £3 15s to £5 10s, porkets 28s to 45s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £15; rearing calves, 26s to 40s each; wethers, 7d to 7¾d per lb.; ewes, 5d to 5¼d; lambs, 7¼d to 8d; large and small pigs and suckers, 10s to 35s each. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7¼d; ditto (cure), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 262; calves, 63; sheep, 568; pigs, 113; one dog; live ducks, 18.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply; fair trade. Quotations: Best Herefords, 6½d to 6¾d; shorthorn, 6d to 6½d; cows, 5d to 6d; calves, 6d to 7d per lb.; sheep, 6d to 8¼d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 10s; porkers, 9s 6d to 10s; sows, 7s to 7s 6d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small show of beef, and very slow trade. Best qualities, 6s 9d to 7s 3d; secondary, 6s to 7s per stone. Small show of sheep, but more than last week, and trade much better. Best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 9½d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Milkers and in-calvers in good demand, best quality heifers and cows and calves selling at from £18 10s to £22 10s; second quality ditto, £16 to £17 10s; in-calvers, £16 10s to £18; barreners, £13 10s to £15 10s; two-year-old heifers, £10 to £11 10s; yearling ditto, £7 10s to £9 15s; yearling steers, £7 10s to £9 15s; two-year-olds, £9 15s to £12 5s; ewe sheep, 42s 6d to 48s; wethers, 45s to 58s; lambs, 27s 6d to 35s; Hampshire Down rams, 3½ guineas to 5½ guineas.

York, Thursday.—The market was of a holiday character. The attendance of buyers was small, and farmers were too busy harvesting to be present. There were very few English bullocks, and just a fair show of cows. Trade was described as poor. Best cows made £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16 10s; Irish yearlings, £5 to £6 10s; two-year-olds, £8 to £10. For the season of the year there was a very good display of shearlings and lambs. Best twice-crossed shearlings realised 50s, secondary sorts were in demand at 42s to 46s; Masham shearlings, 38s to 44s; North Country lambs, 25s to 32s 6d; twice-crossed lambs, 25s to 30s; South Country lamb made up to 34s each.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday. — At the usual weekly sales of Canadian cattle held to-day at the Foreign Cattle Wharf small supplies were on offer, only 383 head being penned in the lairages. They were all from Montreal, and were delivered in good order and condition. There was a large attendance of buyers, and business, owing to the scarcity of cattle, was decidedly firmer than of late, and advances ranging from 2s to 3s per cwt. deadweight were noted on the day's transactions as against last week's rates. Bullocks of handy sizes and weights from 56s to 58s per cwt. deadweight, and old rough plain sorts realising from 54s to 56s per cwt. Prime bulls made up to 48s per cwt. deadweight, and heavier qualities sold down to 44s per cwt.

BUTTER

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Colne: 1s 3½d. Dorchester: 11d to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Holsworthy: 1s 2d. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kirbymoorside: 1s to 1s 1d. Knaresborough: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Louth: 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d. Market Weighton: 11d to 1s. Newton Abbot: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Northallerton: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per roll of 24 oz. Stockton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Truro: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Uttoxeter: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 10d to 1s. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 11d to 1s. Devizes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Northtawton: 1s 2d. Penistone: 1s 2d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Friday.—Altrincham, 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s to 1s 1d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 10d per 24 ounce roll. Redruth: 1s. Runcorn: 1s 2d. St. Austell: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Stockport: 1s to 1s 2d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 3d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number is 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 11d to 1s per dozen. Birmingham: 9 to 11. Brigg: 12 and 13. Driffield: 14 and 15. Devizes: 14 to 16. Evesham: 11d to 1s per dozen. Kidderminster: 10. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 12. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 9 and 10. Scarborough: 10. Wellington: 11 and 12. Wetherby: 1 0and 11.

Friday. — Altrincham: 9. Barnstaple: 12 to 14. Camelford: 14. Chester: 10 and 11. Crewe: 10 and 11. Congleton: 10 and 11. Derby: 11. Helmsley: 12. Knutsford: 10 and 11. Leyburn: 11 and 12. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Lostwithiel: 16. Macclesfield: 12. Nantwich: 12. Northwich: 10. Otley: 11 and 12. Redruth: 11d per dozen. Runcorn: 9. St. Austell: 12. Stockport: 9. Tavistock: 10 and 11. Totnes: 12 to 14 per dozen.

Saturday. — Appleby: 12 and 13. Berwick: 12 to 14. Bridgnorth: 12. Carlisle: 12 to 14 per dozen. Doncaster: 12. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 12. Lancaster: 9 and 10. Malton: 12 and 13. Pontefract: 11. Retford: 12 and 13. Richmond: 12 to 14 per dozen. Shrewsbury: 9 and 10. Skipton: 12. Stokesley: 12 to 14 per dozen. Whitby: 9. Worcester: 10. York: 12.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. The edge of the market has gone off, and sellers are more disposed to [illegible]. The trend is still in the direction of [illegible] and old dessert prices are not asked for [illegible] from 50s to 56s per cwt., and Cheddars from 62s to 57s.

Newport, Wednesday. About eight [illegible] average attendance, and a good demand for Caerphillies, 48s to 64s per cwt; fancy dities, 56s; truckles, 52s to 58s; doubles, 54s to 56s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed has ruled dull, and [illegible] throughout the week. Rosario Plate spot [illegible], afloat and August-September 38s to 37s 9d, September-October 38s 3d. Cottonseed: With a slow demand and large quantity of Egyptian seed on the way there has been a decline in this article to £5 5s 9d spot, prompt and August, £15 11s 3d accepted September-October [illegible] sellers new at £5 16s 3d to January. A few sales Bombay transpired at £4 13s 9d passage, £4 14s 6d to £4 14s August-September, and £4 15s September-October, at which latter a little new crop January-February was sold. Linseed oil: 16s 9d spot, 16s 10½d August, 17s 3 September-December. Cottonseed oil: 16s 1½d spot, 16s 1½d November-April. Linseed cakes: A quiet trade at 2s 6d per ton advance. Cotton cakes: firm, unchanged.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: The market opened very quiet this week, but subsequently firmed up owing to scarcity of sellers and a better consumptive demand. Closing values are:—Calcutta-London, spot 39s 6d, and July-August 39s 6d, August-September 39s 9d, September-October 40s. La Plata, July-August 30s 6d. Hull: Better demand and higher prices. La Plata spot 38s 9d, passage 38s 9d, August-September 38s 9d, September-October 39s. To the Continent: Bombay, July-August 41s 9d, August-September 42s. Calcutta, July-August 40s 3d, September-October 40s 6d. La Plata, on passage 38s 6d, July-August 38s 6d. Rapeseed very dull, scarcely any business possible in Indian seeds owing to Danubian competition. Brown Cawnpore, August-September 35s, brown Calcutta, August-September, afloat 33s 9d. To the Continent, yellow Guzerat 40s. Yellow Cawnpore 39s, brown Cawnpore 35s, brown Calcutta 34s. Feruzepore 35s. Ravison to Hull Azoff Black Sea September-October 26s. Cottonseed: The market is quiet and little business passing. New crop sellers reserved. Linseed oil has fluctuated somewhat during the week, values at the close being higher in all positions. We quote spot and month in pipes £18, barrels £18 5s, September-December £18-12s 6d, January-April £18 17s 6d. Hull naked spot, £17 2s 6d, September-December £17 10s, January-April £17 15s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS' CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed cakes: The present ruling high prices continue to check both consumptive and speculative demand, but with dearer seed and the absence of lower quotations, both from America and Russia, values are fully as dear. Russian remain best value at £7 6s 3d to £7 7s 6d in mats, and £7 8s 9d to £7 10s in bags. American may still be bought at £7 cost, freight, and insurance. East India seed pures are quoted at £7 10s ex ship to arrive. London made, although not in active demand, are held for rather more money, Crushers asking £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes: Stocks of Egyptian are not large, but with scarcely any demand prices are with difficulty maintained at £4 12s 6d to £4 13s 9d. English move off quietly at £4 13s 9d to £4 15s, and Bombays at £4. Decorticated London made is in fair request at £6 15s for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, with American "Open Head" brand selling at £6 17s 6d, "Ley" brand at £6 12s 6d, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes: Quiet: East India £4 15s; Ravison, £4 10s. Maize germ meal: White American for [illegible] shipment is still quoted at £5 10s c.i.f., without attracting much attention, but English makes meet a steady sale at £5 7s 6d to £5 8s 9d. Maize gluten meal offers for autumn delivery at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: Landed lots of Rangoon make £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d, but there second-hand sellers of steamer parcels [illegible] at £4 10s ex ship terms. Broken Rangoon rice is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are relatively good value at £5 5s per ton for old, and £5 10s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is dull and without change at £10 17s 6d per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
in mats.....	7 6 0	
Calcutta	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
"	[illegible]	
English	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 15 0	
" " " Meal.....	6 15 0	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17 6	
" Meal "	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 [illegible]	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 7 6	to 5 8 9
American	5 2 6	
Maize Gluten Meal..... June Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
" .....ex warehouse	4 10 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 17 6	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 [illegible]	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Paticulars delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

Agricultural Returns.

The Board of Agriculture have recently published a Yellow Book dealing with the agricultural statistics of 1904. It contains returns relating to the acreage and produce of crops and number of live stock in Great Britain. A great deal of this information has already been published in various forms from time to time, but in this volume the various fragmentary documents have been collected. It is often asked how the figures upon which our agricultural returns are based are obtained, so that it may be well to say the statistics of the acreage of crops and number of live stock in Great Britain in 1904 were compiled from 512,639 separate schedules, representing the holdings of occupiers of more than one acre of land. The individual returns thus collected numbered in England 372,450, in Wales 60,615, and in Scotland 79,574, while supplementary returns as regards live stock only were received from 9,676 owners of stock who either occupied no land at all, or whose holdings did not exceed one acre. Only in the case of 3 per cent. was the information refused and estimates resorted to.

The most interesting portion of the present volume deals with agriculture in other countries. As in previous reports, an endeavour has been made to bring under convenient review with the statistical position of British agriculture the more or less parallel conditions of agriculture abroad. The latest available official information has been utilised for this purpose, even at the risk of some delay in the issue of the final volume, but still in some cases statistics were only obtainable down to 1903, and in others 1902 to 1900.

Imperfect as the official data nevertheless are, it is not without interest to note that the tables now supplied suggest that, without taking account of the cultivation pursued in countries whence no official records have been furnished, some forty separate national units of wheat-growing report, at the most recent available date, a total acreage of about 219,000,000 acres under this cereal. Grouping some of the units thus separately accounted for, as it is permissible to do, under three national flags, the Russian Empire, with its Asiatic possessions, the British Empire, with its Indian territories and colonial possessions, and the broad areas of the United States of America, furnish quite two-thirds of the aggregate wheat area just quoted. Their relative magnitude in this respect, and the estimated produce roughly credited to each for the latest year, may be not unfairly shown as under:—

States.	Area under Wheat. Acres.	Estimated Production. Quarters.	Yield per Acre. Bushels.
Russian Empire ...	57,000,000	77,000,000	10 8
United States ...	44,000,000	67,000,000	12 1
British Empire ...	40,000,000	69,000,090	13:8

It is right to remember than in constructing such a table at this moment the American quota is put relatively somewhat low owing to the unfavourable character of the latest harvest, and the British Empire's yield, owing to the large Indian crop of 1904, is probably unduly high. But, whatever allowance might have to be made were average areas and average crops to be measured, there is no State that comes near contesting the position of the three above enumerated as large wheat producers. The low average yield per acre of territories so vast and varied is an incident to be expected, for the means above given include in each group results realised under very different conditions. Nowhere for an area of equal size is so high a yield obtained as in Great Britain herself, with a return of 31 bushels per acre over the last ten years. But in an Imperial average we have to count with the meagre yield of our Australian colonies and some parts of India where the wheat production may fall to 7 bushels to the acre, while similar low estimates for Russian Siberia and for the Southern States of the American Union leave their mark on the average in each case. With narrower areas higher average yields are obtainable, and the next largest group of wheat-growing States may be said to be formed as under, crediting to France—as in the case of Russia and of the British Empire—her non-European wheatfields in Algeria.

States.	Area under Wheat. Acres.	Estimated production. Quarters.	Yield per acre. Bushels.
France, with Algeria.....	19,000,000	39,000,000	16
Italy.....	12,700,000	18,000,000	11
Austria-Hungary.....	11,800,000	28,000,000	19
Argentina	10,700,000	16,000,000	12
Spain	9 0 0,000	17,000,000	15
Germany.....	4,700,000	17,000,000	30
Roumania	4,300,000	6,500,000	12

Practically these seven countries among them grow 72,000,000 acres, which is just half as large a surface as the 141,000,000 acres of the three great States quoted above, but they supply about two-thirds of the crop furnished by Russia, the United States, and our own Empire jointly. The collective wheat area of other minor European States is under 4,000,000 acres, of which Bulgaria and Servia probably account for three-fourths, while to include in this analysis the officially recorded wheat-acreage of Uruguay in the West, and of Japan in the East, would not quite add another 2,000,000 acres to the record given above.

If a like survey were extended to the areas occupied by the rye crop, which supplies the bread-corn of so large a share of Eastern Europe, it may be observed that the Russian Empire accounts for 75,000,000 acres, and Germany for over 15,000,000 acres, or together nearly 82 per cent. of the aggregate of 110,000,000 acres shown in the comparative table appended. With such a crop as maize, if a similar table were constructed from the official records, a still more striking predominance in a single country would appear, for out of a total, in these returns, of something like 128,000,000 acres, the United States now grow more than 92,000,000 acres, no other country coming anywhere within range of the American aggregate. Hungary, with maize.,

The World's Livestock.

The Board of Agriculture has just issued its volume of statistics for 1904, and at the conclusion of the interesting report of the secretary thereon, attention is drawn to the present condition of foreign live stock. After giving statistics of the number of cattle and sheep per 1,000 persons and 1,000 acres of surface in Russia, in Europe, Germany, the United Kingdom, France, and Austria, the Secretary says:—

"Thus stated, the numbers of the live stock show that the United Kingdom owns fewer cattle, but very many more sheep in proportion to population, than its larger European neighbours. Moreover, notwithstanding the rare use of cattle here for agricultural labour when compared with the customary practice of other European States, the herds we maintain by our agricultural system show a greater density per acre of surface than is displayed even in Germany, where cattle have so lately been largely augmented as the stocks of sheep have declined.

The character of the surface is no doubt a governing factor in determining what stock can be profitably kept, and, if the comparisons were extended to some countries of minor area, a considerably larger head of cattle would be found to be maintained per 1,000 acres of surface than we can show here. In Denmark, Holland, and Belgium, where the keeping of sheep is a very insignificant feature of the farming practice, the number of cattle per 1,000 acres thus ranges from 194 to 236. If a comparison be made with population, the numbers seem small in the latter two States, whereas in Denmark they rise to a proportion not elsewhere to be found in Europe, giving a ratio of 733 head of cattle to every 1,000 persons. So far as the herds of the five leading European countries are concerned, there would appear to have been a general advance in numbers. The combined herds of Russia, Germany, France, Austria, and the United Kingdom are greater by nearly 22 per cent. than they were some thirty years ago. If the older figures may be trusted, the percentage rise in Austria was the greatest, or something like 28 per cent., as against 20 per cent. in France and Germany, and 13 per cent. in our own country. But except in our own case, the gain in cattle has been attended by a large shrinkage in the flocks of sheep maintained.

The changes in the position of the flocks of Continental Europe are indeed the most remarkable of the agricultural movements of recent years. At about 1873, from which date fairly continuous annual statistics are available, France had nearly 26,000,000 sheep, and Germany 25,000,000; the latest statistics credit these countries with but 18,000,000 in the first case, and fewer than 10,000,000 head in the second. In Germany the reduction of sheep appears to have been continuous, judging from the five isolated years of enumeration in 1873, 1883, 1892, 1897, and 1900. In France nearly 4,500,000 of the loss of sheep occurred between 1873 and 1882. The level of the French flocks was then maintained up to 1899, from which date a further fall in numbers, amounting to another 3,500,000, has been recorded, while the experience of these two great countries is repeated elsewhere in many States of the Old World.

The Austrian flocks are thus only half what they were, and those of Hungary, when last enumerated—some ten years ago—had up to that time dropped from 15,000,000 to 8,000,000 head. No such decline in the flocks in the United Kingdom has to be set against the development in our stock of cattle, and the fall that has to be noted here is in no way comparable to the losses elsewhere in Europe. In 1873 we had 34,000,000 sheep enumerated, as against 29,000,000 in 1904, or a percentage decline of more than 15, while the flocks of Germany are fewer by 60 per cent., and those of France by more than 30 per cent.

Fire at Balls Bridge, Dublin.

An alarming fire occurred on Saturday on the grounds of the Royal Dublin Society, at Balls Bridge, and resulted in the destruction of an important portion of the permanent buildings. About eleven o'clock a labourer saw a large volume of smoke rising from the stalls in the paddock, and the full strength of the brigade at the Pembroke Fire Station, which stands in the north corner of the show ground, quickly turned out; but, under the circumstances, all they could hope to accomplish was to confine the fire to the Paddock Hall and the connected buildings. The spot where the outbreak occurred is at the angle of the paddock and Paddock Hall, an "L" shaped range of buildings, about 600 feet in length, and containing boxes and stalls for nearly one hundred and twenty horses.

A strong south-west gale was blowing, and the wind swept the flames through the wooden stalls with irresistible force. In an incredibly short time the ornamental iron girders began to buckle and fall, dragging with them the iron pillars on which they rested. The handsome glass roofs, with their decorated louvre ventilators, crashed among the débris of the stalls, and finally the two buildings were a mass of twisted girders, broken glass, and slates, and bulged and blistered brick walls. The firemen bent all their efforts to the task of preventing the spread of the flames, and in this they were happily successful.

No Interference with the Show.

The Royal Dublin Society's officials, with characteristic energy, have adopted every measure in their power to make good the damage, and yesterday and to-day upwards of 200 men have been working on the temporary sheds and stalls to get them ready in time for to-morrow's show.

We are officially informed that the fire was fortunately localised, and the damage done is inconsiderable. Arrangements have been made whereby every horse entered will be suitably accommodated, and the show will go on as usual.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON.

ON FRIDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER, 1905, there will be one of the most IMPORTANT SALES of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS and PONIES from the extensive Studs owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., that has ever been offered to the public by auction, comprising
20 BROOD MARES AND FOALS,
11 THREE YEAR OLD GELDINGS,
8 YEARLING COLTS,
7 YEARLING FILLIES,
5 TWO YEAR OLD FILLIES.

The Hackney Brood Mares are covered by Goldfinder A.I. (1,291) and Copper King (7,764). The Pony Mares mostly by Sir Horace (1,017).
On View, 3rd and 4th September.
Luncheon at 1 for Sale at One o'clock.

Catalogues of W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

YEOVIL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At HENDFORD,
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries close August 31st; post entries September 6th.
E. H. OAKLEY, Secretary,
Kingston, Yeovil.

NORTH TYNE & REDESDALE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At BELLINGHAM,
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries close September 2nd.
E. DIXON, Secretary,
Bellingham, Northumberland.

WAVENEY VALLEY AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
At HARLESTON,
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries close August 23rd.
CHARLES DEVEREAUX, Secretary,
Weybread, Harleston.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW,
At KINGTON,
SEPTEMBER 19th, 1905.
Entries close September 8th.
G. W. S. HART, Secretary,
Kington.

HERIOT-WATT COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
FERMENTATION AND INDUSTRIAL BACTERIOLOGY.
A Laboratory has been opened under the superintendence of Dr. Emil Westergaard (formerly assistant to Professor Alfred Jorgensen, Copenhagen) for instruction in the Bacteriology and Mycology of Agriculture, Dairying, Fermentation, Tanning, Preserving, Starch, and Sugar Making.
For details of Classes, Fees, &c., please apply to the Principal at the College.
PETER MACNAUGHTON, S.S.C., Clerk.
20, York Place, Edinburgh.
28th July, 1905.

POWELL BROS. & WHITAKER,
WREXHAM.
ROYAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND'S
FIRST PRIZE
POTATO DIGGER.

Live Stock Record.

DEVON BULLS FOR CROSSING.

Although the Rubies of the Western Hills have never been utilised much in their native country for crossing purposes, they have rendered invaluable service in that way both on the ranch herds of the United States and on a large number of cattle in the Australian colonies. This fact has recently become important owing to the confident opinion expressed by Dr. French, who recently paid a visit to this kingdom from South America, that Devon bulls ought to be in great demand throughout that extensive cattle-improving region of the habitable globe for infusing improve quality into the teeming native herds so badly requiring it. Of course, every good judge of cattle, at all well acquainted with this time-honoured, old-established breed, has always been perfectly well aware that prime quality is one of the chiefest claims that breed has for appreciation anywhere.

In England, the smallness of the animals, ever since the times of the Quartleys, has been the sole cause why they have not had greater extension. Mr. Coke, afterwards Earl of Leicester, introduced Devons into Norfolk, and for forty-two years, according to the Rev. H. Berry, endeavoured in vain to induce his tenantry to keep dairy cows and graziers that were little and good instead of coarser stock. Fortunately, in more modern times, the Red-Polled, another small breed of good quality has met with a better fate in Norfolk. British-renting farmers have always, however, preferred larger animals to small ones, unless for short-herbage pastures, the true reason for the Shorthorn's wide-spread popularity.

The same regard for size and substance has caused Shorthorn and Hereford bulls to be so extensively used both on the prairie herds of the American northern hemisphere and the native ones of the Argentine Republic. But Dr. French regards the Devon cross as of "unsurpassed excellence"; and it is to be presumed that he has considerable personal experience or facts gathered from personal observation to justify so superlative a term. And, indeed, there are facts to be gathered from the cattle literature of the United States calculated to prove that Dr. French's high appreciation of Devon crossing has been quite as strongly held in Texas and elsewhere. Devons were imported into the United States early in the nineteenth century. In 1817, Mr. Patterson, of Maryland, and in 1819, the Hon. Rufus King, had selections sent out to them from Mr. Coke's Holkham herd. Bulls from Mr. Patterson's herd were very extensively used in Massachusetts, and, according to "Allen's American Cattle," a great improvement in the herds of the New England States was the result.

Important testimony as to the high value of Devon bulls in crossing Texan prairie cattle has been afforded by Messrs. Walton and Co., who founded a large pure-bred herd in Texas in 1886. During the next half-dozen years they had sometimes a hundred orders from ranchmen for bulls more than they could supply, and at the end of that period wrote that "the cattle-owners that have tried Devons are well pleased with them to a man. Devons cross beautifully on native Texas or on grade Shorthorn cows. They give form, colour, and fattening qualities to the former, and quickness and hardihood to the latter. The largest price ever got in Texas for steers was paid for beeves out of grade Shorthorn cows by pure-blood Devon bulls."

But it was not solely for their high quality that Dr. French gave such high praise to Devons for crossing purposes. Their hardihood and ability to withstand both drought summers and low diet of severe winters far better than most other pure-bred cattle partly led to his confident prediction that they will soon be found to be the cattle best suited for South America. They have already been declared the best of our cattle for Queensland because of this. Mr. Gordon, a large breeder of that colony, wrote some years since:—"Devons are found to be the hardiest of any pure breed here. They have to travel and work hard for their living, as on our indigenous pastures it takes from eight to forty acres to keep one bullock. But it is as crosses on the Shorthorns that Devons are so highly appreciated here. These crosses have an abundance of flesh as contra-distinguished from fat."

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Aug. 12, 1905:

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	100	83	144	116	2,572	4,421	5,194	6,178
	Outbreaks.	No.	24	26	41	21	560	941	1,055	1,198
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	1	3	3	...	651	1,064	1,168	1,109
Rabies. Cases Confirmed.	Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	56	46	72	24	1,313	1,714	1,496	1,256
	Outbreaks.	No.	33	32	48	16	778	962	915	760
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	22	17	26	14	883	959	776	720
	Outbreaks.	No.	20	13	16	10	637	623	502	444
Period.				Week ended Aug. 12, 1905	Corresponding week in 1904 / 1903 / 1902		Total for 32 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904 / 1903 / 1902		

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

We would draw the attention of breeders of Clydesdale horses to the fact that entries for Volume XXVIII. of the Clydesdale Horse Stud Book close, at ordinary fees, on the 31st inst. Forms and any information desired can be obtained of the secretary, Mr. A. Macuerlaye, 93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

Historic Cattle Market Revived.—After over fifty years desuetude the ancient cattle market at Morpeth, Northumberland, has been revived. Originally established by Royal charter from King John to Roger de Lesley, Baron of Morpeth, in 1199, the market continued until after the introduction of the railway. It was for many years the greatest provincial fat cattle market in England, but was abolished in 1847.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

I have received an interesting letter from the secretary of the New South Wales Sheep-breeders' Association anent the Society's show at Moore Park, Sydney, on June 28 to July 1 inclusive, and, judging from his remarks, which are borne out by other exchanges, the show was a record one and probably the biggest and finest exhibition of Merino sheep ever seen. The British breeds, he states, were fairly represented, especially the Shropshires, for there is a bit of a boom in these, as they are bound to be largely used by our small farmers, i.e., men holding up to 1,000 sheep, of which there are nearly 15,000, and the number is increasing.

Close on four hundred pens of the various breeds were exhibited at the above show, but, of course, the feature was the display of Merinos, which, as previously remarked, were an excellent lot. A leading feature was the all-round superiority of the ewes over the rams, and next to this the phenomenal and unprecedented success of Mr. J. S. Horsfall, who swept the board with his sheep, which are the results of using the pure Spanish Merino, imported some years back from America. Mr. Horsfall's record at the show was as follows, and it is one on which he can be justly proud; I should think it has scarcely ever been equalled:—The special prize of 25 gs. for the best ten Merino rams under two years; a similar special for the best ten Merino ewes of the same age; six other champion awards, twenty-three first prizes, nineteen seconds, one third, and four fourth prizes, all with Merino sheep. He, however, did not secure either of the grand champion prizes, that for ewes going to the Hon. S. McCaughey, Coonong, Narrandera, and that for rams to the Hon. J. Gibson, Belle Vue, Epping, Tasmania. The grand champion ewe, of which we give an illustration on the front page of this issue, was sold privately after the show for 150 gs.

Mr. W. A. Brown, secretary of the Leicester Sheep-breeders' Association, writes that Mr. Harrison, of Gainford Hall (flock No. 42), has sold fifteen Leicester shearling ewes for New Zealand, and seven Leicester shearling rams for South America. All the sheep were typical specimens and descendants of prize-winners.

The committee of the Waveney Valley Agricultural Association have decided to alter the date of show to Tuesday, September 12, instead of September 14 as announced, owing to the Mutford and Lothingland Show being fixed for the latter date. An additional class has been added to the catalogue, viz., an open class for hunters four years and upwards, the special prizes being one of £5, offered by Mr. J. E. Cooke, and £2 offered by the Association.

For their show at Bala on Wednesday, September 13, the Merionethshire Agricultural Society has prepared an attractive prize schedule, over £300 being offered, whilst a large number of open and extra prizes form a feature which should attract a goodly number of entries from outside the Society's area. Classes for horses, cattle, dogs, and vegetables are provided, whilst in the way of further entertainment for visitors there will be jumping, trotting, and driving trials, and a slate splitting competition. The latter is certainly an uncommon feature at an agricultural show, but at Bala it will appeal to a large number of visitors, particularly quarrymen and their friends. Mr. E. M. Roberts, Trem-Eivion, Talsarnau, R.S.O., is

the hon. secretary of the Society, and from him prize schedules, entry forms, etc., can be obtained.

On the 5th of next month Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., will dispose of a number of pure-bred Shorthorns belonging to Mr. H. Williams, at Wind Mill, Beckwithshaw, near Harrogate, Yorks. The herd was founded over twenty years ago from the stock of the most distinguished breeders in Yorkshire and the North of England, to which have been added, at considerable cost, some of the best specimens of Scotch blood from breeders of great repute in Scotland. The strains are principally the old Booth, and the Bruce, Duthie and Marr, and Gordon and Wilson blood, the herd containing many favourite and well-known tribes of each variety.

Thursday, September 7, has been chosen as the date for the third, and final, sale of animals from the extensive and celebrated herd of Red Polled cattle which has been kept at Whitlingham as a large dairy herd about thirty years, and is now dispersed in consequence of the expiration of the lease at Michaelmas. The herd, which consisted of nearly 400 head was divided into three portions, two of which were sold last autumn and this spring, and the final portion will be offered without reserve on the date mentioned above. The history of the herd is well known, and all I would say here is that the forthcoming sale offers a final opportunity to breeders to obtain some of those animals that have been so carefully and judiciously bred for so many years for their milking properties, and reared from the best strains of blood that laid the foundation of a herd which in its day was one of, if not the, largest and best herds of Red Polled dairy cattle in the Eastern Counties.

A very fine Large White gilt from the Colston-Bassett herd was shipped on board the "Rubens" at Birkenhead this week, to the order of Marcos B. Pilde, Esq., of Quillato, Chile, South America.

The Altrincham Agricultural Society's Show will be held at the Devisdale, Altrincham, on Wednesday, September 27, and if the liberal prize list draws the good entry it deserves, a splendid show should be witnessed. No less a sum than £1,750 is offered in prizes for competition, and, in addition, numerous silver cups and medals, whilst the classes provide for all kinds of agricultural products, including, in addition to the usual live stock, classes for goats, grain, butter, cheese, dogs, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, conies, cats, etc. Entries close in all classes, except implements and space, on September 9, and at double fees up to September 13, those for implements and space close August 31. The secretary is Mr. J. H. Hall, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.

The prize schedules for the fifty-seventh annual exhibition of fat cattle, sheep, pigs, roots, corn, implements, poultry, and pigeons, promoted by the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society have now made their appearance. The show will be held at Bingley Hall during the last week in November, and entries of implements close on October 20, and those in respect of stock, poultry, etc., on November 1. The schedule shows that the classification is similar to that of last year. In the cattle department, the three 100-guinea challenge cups will again be offered for competition, and they will be awarded—the Elkington trophy to the exhibitor of the best animal, the Thorley Cup to the breeder of the best animal, and the Webb Cup to the best animal bred by the exhibitor. The *Birmingham Daily Post* Challenge Cup, value £50, is offered to the exhibitor of the best animal not exceeding two years old; and the Breeders' Champion Prize, a silver cup or £25, is for the best animal bred by the exhibitor. There are also, in addition to the class prizes, extra prizes of £50 for the best Hereford, £20 for the best Devon, the Maisemore Park Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best Aberdeen Angus, £50 for the best Scot, £10 for the best Welsh animal, and £50 for the best cross-bred. The Cooper Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, is offered for the best pen of sheep. The butchers of Birmingham and other donors offer their usual prizes, and the hotel and innkeepers give a challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for the best pen of pigs. A large number of cups and other trophies are again offered for roots, poultry, and pigeons, in addition to the class awards.

The Council of the Doncaster Agricultural Society have fixed on Wednesday and Thursday, July 4 and 5, 1906, as the date of the Society's next show, and request that secretaries will make note of this when arranging their show. The request is not out of place, for this year quite four agricultural shows not a great way from each other clashed with that of the Doncaster Society, with the result that some suffered.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth, give notice of some important sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle to be held in September. On the 14th day of that month they will dispose of sixty-four head belonging to the Countess-Dowager of Seafield, Mr. G. Bruce, Tochineal; Mr. W. Wilson, Coynachie; and Mr. R. Forbes, Kinloss, at Tochineal, Cullen. On the 16th they will offer at Aldbar, Brechin, sixty-two head from the herds of Mr. P. Chalmers, Aldbar; the Earl of Airlie, Cortachy Castle; Colonel M'Inroy, C.B., The Burn; Mr. J. Kennedy, Doonholm; and Mr. G. Willsher, Pitpointie. On the 19th, forty head from Mr. Clement Stephenson's famous herd will be disposed of at Balliol College Farm, Long Benton, owing to the herd having out-grown its accommodation, and on September 27, just over forty animals from the renowned Maisemore Park herd, the property of Mr. J. J. Cridlan, will come under the hammer at Maisemore, Gloucester. Most of the herds have supplied numerous winners at our showyards, and the above sales will naturally attract much attention. Catalogues can now be had of the auctioneers.

Transactions in Store Stock.

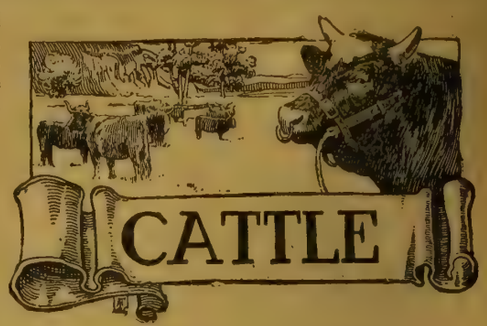
(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The fair at Midleton (County Cork) on Monday was a small one, at which demand was slow, and a good many cattle remained unsold. There was, however, a large supply of sheep and they met a brisk trade. Prices: Calves, first class, £5 5s.; second class, £4 to £4 10s.; third class, £3 to £3 10s.; yearlings, first class, £8 to £8 15s.; second class, £6 5s. to £7 7s. 6d.; third class, £4 15s. to £6; two-year-olds, first class, £10 to £11 10s.; second class, £8 to £9 10s.; third class, £7 to £7 10s.; three-year-olds. first-class, £15 5s.; second class, £13 17s. 6d.; springers, first class, £14 10s. to £16; second class, £12 2s. 6d. to £13 10s.; third class, £10 10s. to £11 10s.; lambs, first class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 15s.; second class, £1 4s. to £1 6s. 6d.; over 12 and under 24 months old, first class £2 2s. to £2 10s.; second class, £1 17s. 6d. to £2; two-year-old and upwards, second class, £2 2s.; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, 24s. to 28s. each.

At Naas fair (County Kildare) on Wednesday there was a very small supply of cattle, for which trade was poor, and the majority failed to find purchasers. An average supply of sheep met a fair demand. Prices:—Calves, second class, £3; yearlings, second class, £7 7s. 6d.; two-year-olds, first class, £10 5s. to £13 15s.; second class £10 5s. to £11. Lambs, first class, £1 7s. to £1 9s.; two-year-olds and upwards, second class, £1 13s. to £1 17s.

The King of Portugal has conferred upon Sir James Blyth a Knight Commandership of the Civil Order of "Merito Agricola," and also the special honour of the Grand Cross of the same Order for his services to agriculture and viticulture in Portugal.

The Sheep Scab Order.—The Bedale Farmers' Protection Society, through Mr. John Hutton, M.P., recently presented to the President of the Board of Agriculture a memorial on the question of the suspension of the Sheep Scab Order in the district. Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, in reply to the petition, says that is the intention of the Board of Agriculture to suspend the operation of the Sheep Scab (Compulsory Dipping Areas) Order as soon as dipping in the areas has been completed. The dipping period is from August 5 to 31, and if the Board of Agriculture find that the dipping has been satisfactorily completed by the 31st inst., they will give effect to the request of the Bedale Farmers' Protection Association.



Notes and Jottings

The article in last issue re Herefords as milkers goes a long way to prove what has so many times been set forth in these notes—that milk may either be won or lost much more by the management of the animals than by their breeding, or perhaps it will be more in accordance with facts to say that breeding is not by any means a guarantee that a certain animal or certain animals will be great milkers because their parents were of great milking strains, and the dams of them great milkers. Such breeding must be followed up by milking management if good results are to follow, and even then there are failures occasionally. In addition to the herd of Herefords mentioned as having won third prize as best dairy herd at the late Royal Counties Show, there are other herds of the same breed that are paying well as milk sellers' cattle.

Precisely the same thing obtains with the beautiful North Devon breed. The specimens of that breed that are seen and admired by all our leading shows, particularly at Smithfield, when the butchers are most eager to purchase them, show very little signs of milk—indeed, they from all points appear to be given over exclusively to beef. Yet in Devonshire, and over its borders, there are many herds, purely bred, that yield a profitable return in milk, and it was through the richness of the milk of these cattle when feeding upon the clovery pastures of their district that caused Devonshire cream to become such a household word with all who relish a natural delicacy. Cream may be raised and treated in the same manner from other cattle without being at all equal to that made from Devon cattle.

Then soil and climate have a very great effect upon cattle as regards their having a tendency to milk or go to beef. Wiltshire, Gloucestershore, and down into the South-west a very large area appears to be exactly adapted to the production of milk. Practically any breed of cattle become milkers there, some reasons for which are no doubt the circumstances mentioned—soil and climate; and further, there is little doubt that management in that district is also accountable for a great deal. Farmers and their herdsmen, who have been all their lives accustomed to breeding and bringing up their heifers for dairy purposes, have by experience learned exactly the most profitable way of rearing up the young stock and bringing them into the dairy.

Just as the management and feed in these dairying districts all tends to milk production, so in the North-east of Scotland, where the choice Scots are bred and fattened, everything is directed to the production of beef. It would be very interesting to note the results if such a thing could be arranged as to take a herd of dairy-bred heifer calves into Aberdeenshire and subject them to the high-pressure treatment in force in that county, and in exchange to take a like number of Aberdeenshire heifer calves and subject them to the feeding and management of dairy young stock in Wiltshire or Gloucestershire. Depend upon it, it would be but a very short time before the characteristics of both breeds would be entirely changed.

It was mentioned in these notes recently that the export demand for Herefords continues wonderfully brisk. There is room in this state of things for congratulation to Hereford breeders on two points: first, that it proves their cattle to be very profitable in the country whence they are shipped to (America being chief), and in the second place it proves that breeders of Herefords in that country find that it pays them to be continually importing blood from the native home of the breed. Great stress is laid upon this second reason from the fact that Vol. 27 of the American Hereford Record and Herdbook just out contains the registration of 20,000 animals, and the list of shareholders (presumably breeders) takes up no less than twenty pages, two columns to a page. In spite of these numbers over there, English blood is in the great demand mentioned.

The rapid breaking up of cattle ranches in

America and their development as homes for settlers was referred to a short time ago. I notice that in Texas no less an area than 6,000,000 acres of ranch land will be placed upon the market in September. The land is to be sold in small sections, of which any individual purchaser may acquire from one to eight sections not more; so that this means making innumerable homes for families, and will, there is no doubt, cause a considerable difference in the farming of that part. Whether more or fewer cattle will be kept is uncertain at first, some may purchase and break up a good deal of their sections in corn growing; but, ultimately, it is pretty certain to mean an increased number of cattle and sheep, as enclosed land, well cultivated, will keep much more stock than an open ranch.

It is pretty certain, too, that at least for many years to come the beef breeds of cattle will be most in demand on all new holdings, a thinly populated district not requiring milk and its attendant products in sufficient quantity to pay for dairy farming unless it be the production of cheese. American markets and prices for finished food products such as beef, bacon, etc., have for a long time influenced prices considerably in our own country, it is therefore worth noting that reports from the other side anticipate better prices for well-finished beeves; inferior class and badly brought-out animals, on the other hand, are likely to be in excess of the demand. Even with higher prices for the best, it is stated feeders will make but very meagre profits, the high price of stores preventing.

The roast beef of old England has long been the standing dish for the majority of our countrymen, and there seems little likelihood of Sir Loin ever losing his title or becoming in any degree less popular. The variations or fluctuations, however, in the price of beef have been great during the last half-century, though perhaps not more so than those of corn or other commodities; perhaps wool being the most noticeable, having varied from as much as 2s. 6d. per lb. down to about 10d. Notwithstanding the fluctuations in the price of beef, however, since the middle of last century there has scarcely ever been a time, even brief, that has found the selling price so low as to entail actual loss upon the producer, when the producer has been the breeder as well as the feeder.

Whatever may be the price of beef, it invariably pays all the year round to send them to market well-finished—"ripe" is the butcher's word for it—and it also pays well to see that at least for a couple of weeks (a month is better) the cattle have some sound dry corn feed of almost any kind, it may be corn meal or cakes, at this time of year the latter are most convenient to use. To send fat cattle direct from grass only, especially if they have to be on the road for two or three days, is bad policy. Grass is at best a very washy food, and we have many times seen animals so sent out shrink to such an extent in two days as to be almost beyond recognition; whilst others that have been made hard by a little dry food stand the market looking but little the worse.

It always pays to sell animals so that the buyer will have satisfaction, and unripe bullocks give but little. The effect of this is best seen at some provincial auction in a neighbourhood where there are one or two expert feeders. The cattle from these stalls, when they come into the ring draw bids from all sides in rapid succession, and as you are wondering why there is such keen demand for them, you will be certain to hear some of the butchers present saying, "You can't buy them too dear; they weigh like lead, and your customers are always pleased with the beef." Following such cattle you will also see a lot of washy looking grass-finished and badly finished ones, and you will notice at once how slow bids come. These latter are the kind that butchers do not want a second time.

In Chicago market the other day I notice the highest quotation for beef cattle was for Aberdeen-Angus weighing 1,269 lb. per head live weight. These were making some 30 cents per cwt. beyond the general average top price. From 1,200 to 1,350 lb. appears to be the weight most in demand just now there. This means a pretty good steer. Quotations generally are just a little below those of the same week last year.

During the month of September there seems to be a larger number of sales of Angus cattle than usual. Some of these are from the most noted herds of English breeders of that fashionable variety, and some from Scotch herds. One thing in favour of September as a sale month this year is the early harvest, so that it is to be hoped that Angus breeders will benefit.

Of late years it has become very largely the fashion with all our agricultural and live stock papers to give photographs week after week of any notable animals, and the custom is a very pleasing one, to say the least of it. It is also not without considerable interest to stockbreeders by bringing before them the points and general character of these animals, but great care is necessary that these photographs should be taken by thoroughly skilled artists, or the breeders' interests are considerably damaged. The artist, as well as being skilled in his own profession, ought also to understand a good deal about the animal he is photographing, so as to take the impression at exactly the right moment. I am led to make this note from having recently seen the photograph of a beautiful animal presented in such a form as to make it appear perfectly hideous.

Sale of the Brightling Park Sussex Cattle.

The entire herd of pure bred Sussex cattle belonging to Mr. W. A. Haviland, Brightling Place, Brightling, was brought under the hammer on the 11th inst. in the presence of a goodly company of buyers, the auctioneers being Messrs. T. Bannister and Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Woodhams, Son, and Parks. The herd is a very well known one, and was founded by the purchase of a number of animals at Mr. W. E. Long's sale at Sandwich in 1896, and choice heifers have since been acquired from the late Mr. Robert Avery and Mr. Finlay Campbell, and bulls used from the herds of the late Mr. Alfred Agate, the late Mr. Louis Huth, Mr. W. S. Forster, Count Munster, and Mr. Finlay Campbell. All the cattle have been kept under natural conditions. The herd was offered in sixty-two lots, all of which were sold, some satisfactory prices were realised, the best being 31 gs., which sum was given by Mr. G. Warde, West Farleigh, for Stonestown, a very fine cow. Colonel Robinson gave 30 gs. for Rose 2nd, and numerous other lots made well over 20 gs.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 12, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	14,225	13,022	Wheat ...	1,584,200	2,186,000
Sheep.....	1,146	3,147	Flour	316,000	141,8 0
Swine.....	—		Barley ...	614,500	152,6 0
Horses ...	931	891	Oats	376,800	108,600
			Peas	65,730	60,193
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	100,000	14,150
Beef	74,439	150 376	Maize ...	821,700	828,800
Mutton...	93,032	64,109	Apples ...	22,686	16,265
Pork	4,205	2,914	Apricots		
Bacon ...	98,767	119,752	&Peaches	288	454
Beef, salt	2,198	3,104		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	20,821	35,504	Bananas	84,849	175,044
Pork, salt	3,827	5,713		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	10,904	12,061	Cherries	1,044	491
Do. pres.	19 917	16,237	Currants	2,973	765
Butter ...	86,335	89,939	Goosebr's	27	—
M'rg'rine	17,667	21,813	Grapes ..	43,489	29,616
Cheese ...	56,912	83,049	Lemons...	20,354	14,062
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Oranges	1,165	1,423
			Pears	59,704	31,167
			Plums ...	82,698	79,065
			Oth'r Fr't	53,220	45,564
drums.	—	—		Tons	Tons.
Milk,			Hay	2,792	2,849
Cream	143	38	Straw ...	1,588	1,708
			MossLitU'r	—	1,235
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	21,200	14,558	Hops	614	5 8
Milk pr's'v'd, other			Locust Beans	3,620	—
kinds ...	108	77	Onions ...	bush. 136,164	Bush. 131,325
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	60,166	32,453
Eggs	280,164	172,416	Tomatoes	37,871	27,782
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry&	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£5,187	£7,920
Game	£7,340	£2,076		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	5,251	
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	16,418	15,512	by canning ..	2,565	1,809
Lard ...	20,994	31,543			

Agricultural Labour in July.—According to reports received from various parts of England by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, agricultural labourers generally had regular employment in July. Haymaking and turnip-hoeing provided work for day labourers, and corn harvest was commenced before the end of the month. The supply of extra men was, on the whole, equal to the demand.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

One of the most successful Hackneys in the north is Mr. Henry Watson's grey mare 16,122 Queen of Newton. She is by Royal Danegelt 5,785, 6074 Queen of the Nith, by Freeman 2,072, her dam a grey by Comet 151, granddam by Charley 926. Freeman 2,072 was by the great Fireaway 249, from whom no doubt comes the style and action, dam by Sir Charles 708, granddam by Pretender 601, great granddam by Phenomenon 52.288, granddam by the thoroughbred Scriventon. The latter was a famous sire in his day, and I well remember several good hunters descended from him which were remarkable for their fine quality and the beautiful class of their bone.

Well descended as she is, it is not surprising to find that Queen of Newton is a stylish well-balanced mare with the best of action. She is six years old, stands 15 hands 3 inches, and she has had a wonderful run of victories in the show-yard during the last three seasons. During the year 1903 she was first in the saddle classes at the Cleveland, Driffield, Sherburn, Tadcaster (twice), Wilton, and Crossgate, and first in harness at Sherburn, Wilton, and Northallerton. In 1904 she won in the saddle at Ayton, Darlington, Driffield, Easingwold, Howden, Market Weighton, Monk Fryston, Northallerton, Pocklington, Scalby, Selby, Sherburn, Tadcaster (twice), Thorner, and Wetherby; in harness at Darlington, Harrogate, and Pocklington; and as a brood mare at Northallerton and Stokesley. This year she has won as a brood mare at Market Weighton, Pocklington, Brough, Driffield, Tadcaster, Harrogate, and Sutton-on-Hull; and in the saddle at Harrogate. She was third at the Royal Lancashire and third at the Yorkshire; but she has, I believe, beaten every mare that has beaten her with the exception of Rosadora, and at Sutton-on-Hull she had behind her Ophelia, Miss Terry, Londesborough Magic, Bright Dorothy, Paddock Queen, Lady Connaught, and Londesborough May Queen—all of them mares with a high reputation. I have not given all the second and third prizes, but she was second half a dozen times, and third once in 1903, and second fourteen times last year. Mr. Watson, at any rate, has no reason to think that there are too many shows.

Neither has Mr. John Henry Stokes, whose success this season has been phenomenal, even when compared with those of previous years. At many shows Mr. Stokes has made almost a clean sweep of the principal prizes. For instance, the bulk of the money at the Glasgow meeting of the Highland and Agricultural Society went to him, but he has lowered all previous records at the Yorkshire show at Hull. There, he showed in five classes, and won five first prizes and a champion prize. It was, indeed, a big thing to do, for it is needless for me to insist upon the fact that at the Yorkshire show the best hunters in Great Britain come together. And to win at the Yorkshire means something indeed. The horses Mr. Stokes won with were Dervische in the three-year-old class, Artist in the class for four-year-old geldings, Lady Belle in the class for four-year-old mares, Baronet in the weight carrying class, and Whiskey amongst the light weights; and to the latter went the championship. During the last few years Mr. Stokes has kept going "one better" than his previous record; but, I think, he has set himself a task here which it will take him all his time to equal. The value of the prizes won was £115.

One of the most satisfactory classes I have seen during the present show season was that for hunter brood mares at Helmsley, where the Ryedale and Pickering-in Agricultural Society's show was recently held. There were ten of them, and most of them were young ones. Indeed, there was not a very old mare in the class, and as they come

out of a very small district, it is pretty evident that no encouragement in the way of bounties is needed in this part of Yorkshire, to induce farmers to breed light horses. For every one of the ten men who exhibited their brood mares at Helmsley are tenant farmers. But they are also horsemen, and descended from long lines of horsemen. And in this lies the real difficulty in inducing men to breed light horses. If a man's traditions are horsey—if he delights in a horse, in riding him and seeing him ridden, he will breed them of his own initiative. For there is no such pleasure—provided a man is capable—as riding and making a young horse.

The great thing that is needed to get men to breed more light horses is to encourage the love of horses and horsemanship. The question is a very big one, and it is one which can scarcely be discussed in this column, but I may perhaps be pardoned for referring to it. There seems a tendency in Hunt Committees to restrict the sport to the wealthy. All over the country a prohibitive—that is, prohibitive to a poor man—minimum subscription is insisted upon. This keeps many a man from riding who would otherwise ride, restricts the market for the second and third rate horse, and in a measure will, in course of time, affect the market for the better class of hunter. For it must not be forgotten that the man who can only afford an occasional day may eventually become rich enough to own a big stud of valuable horses; but that he is not likely to do so if his tastes are directed to another channel when he is young.

There is another thing which has rather affected the breeding of light horses, and that is the prevailing fashion of looking upon Hackneys as harness horses, and breeding them for harness purposes only, and breeding them, moreover, of an increased size. I can remember the time—it is not so very long ago—when the class of horse that now takes prizes at the shows as Gentlemen's Hacks would not have been looked at. And in those days one came across young farmers who did not hunt—who either had not the time or the taste for it—who were accomplished horseman and who were proud of their skill. Such men you would meet on a summer evening, when work was over, riding a young horse out. And they were riding him—not merely sitting on his back and letting him put his head where he liked and his legs anywhere, like the man I met only a day or two ago, who was spoiling a good looking horse through sheer ignorance. If something could be done to encourage horsemanship throughout the country, more horses would be bred, and we should be in a better position when war broke out than we are likely to be with our present "laissez faire" way of doing things. Given a renewed taste for horsemanship, there would be no necessity for any other encouragement for horse breeders. A better market would do all that is needed.

It is worth while for a moment to refer to the winner in the hunter brood mare class at Helmsley. This was Mr. Marcus Kendall's Red Mint, by Red Eagle Wild Mint, by Peppermint. Her dam was by False Alarm, granddam by Pine Apple, great granddam by Lanercost. About the Pine Apple cross, or who or what Pine Apple was, there is no authentic information forthcoming, but the rest of the pedigree is good enough without this cross. Wild Mint was a very stylish mare—one that could hold her own when hounds ran hard over the big Sunnington country. She was also a good winner in the show ring, taking several prizes in the best of company, including the Ryedale and Pickering, Malton, Yorkshire, Bishop Auckland, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Peterborough, and the Royal. But she was a famous breeder as well as a good prize-winner, and her son Goldbeater, by Knockabout, has also had a very successful career as a show horse, and was sold at Mr. Stokes's sale for 600 gs. Red Mint comes of a good line, and she certainly looks like maintaining its excellent record.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Harvest in the Midlands. With a continuation of present conditions it is believed that the harvest will be practically completed before the end of next week. Reports still coming to hand show that wheat and beans are maintaining their position as the best grain crops of the year, that barley is about an average, and oats slightly below. There is little, if any, complaint as to any deficiency in straw for wheat, but many in the case of both barley and oats. The rains have greatly improved the root crops and the grass lands, and stockowners are expressing less anxiety as to the prospect for the winter keep.—*Weekly Guardian* (August 19).

Notes and Jottings.

From the large number of reports that have appeared in the press of sales of stud sheep for export, it was generally anticipated that the Trade and Navigation Returns for the past month would be interesting to sheep owners. This supposition has been fully realised. The returns now to hand show that 774 head of stud sheep were exported during the month of July. Compared with the same period in the previous year the number exported shows an increase of 18.18 per cent. It will also be interesting to note that the number exported is the largest recorded for this month since July, 1897, when 776 head were exported.

Turning to the declared value of these exports we find that according to the Board of Trade officials it was £13,481, which gives an average of declared value of £17 8s. 4d. per head. Those fully conversant with the actual prices realised by many of these sheep will question the correctness of the official valuation. Taking this as being an approximate one only, the result is fully satisfactory, for the receipts from this source of income are practically 34 per cent. more than they were twelve months previously, the average of declared value being the highest recorded for the sheep exports during this month since previously to the year 1895. The previous highest average for July was that recorded in 1904, when 651 head were assessed at an average of £15 9s. 1d.

Unfortunately for the flockmaster, there is another phase of the sheep trade, namely, the importations. These come to us in two ways—as live sheep, and as mutton. The former unquestionably most seriously affect the flockmaster, because, arriving here alive, they are all sold, when slaughtered, to the consumers as home-killed, and nothing is said of the source of origin. The supply of live sheep last month was, however, one of the smallest on record for many years. The number imported was 4,756 head, 73.90 per cent. less than during the same period of 1904, and the smallest month's supply received from abroad for many years past. The United States sent 3,812 head, and Canada 944.

It is singular that in the same month in which the supply of imported sheep should have been the lowest on record for very many years a similar result should have also been recorded in respect to the importation of mutton. The quantity of this commodity imported during the past month was 212,808 cwt., 40.81 per cent. less than in July, 1904, and by more than 15,000 cwt. the smallest quantity imported during this month in either of the years from 1895 to the present date.

The decreased supply was, it is also worthy of note, applicable to every source of supply save one, the exception being Australia, which sent us 3,642 cwt., as against none during the same period of 1904. The New Zealand supplies were 32.62 per cent. less, the Argentine supplies 48.16 per cent. less, the Dutch supplies 14.63 per cent. less, other countries' supplies 20.14 per cent. less, and the supplies of preserved mutton 72.01 per cent. less than during the same period of the year 1904.

One of the most striking features in connection with this year's ram sales has been the notably high prices realised by the best rams of more than one breed. Full reference has been made to the high prices and averages realised by the Lincoln rams, and now it would appear that equally notable prices are being made for the Hampshire Down ram lambs. The first to realise a century this season was one of Mr. H. C. Stephens's, sold through the agency of Mr. W. W. Chapman at the Bournemouth Show; this was followed by 120 gs. being made for another from the same flock at the annual sale and letting of Mr. H. C. Stephens's ram lambs at Weyhill, the lamb in question being "let" at this excellent price. Last week's lettings, however, eclipsed this, for one of Mr. Carey Coles's first-class lambs was "let" for the season to the Marquis of Winchester at the record price of £205, and then came Mr. James Flower's notable sale and letting, in which ten were "let" for that exceptional average of £80 each, three at least making over the century for six weeks' service, one at 170 gs., one at 150 gs., and one at 100 gs., Mr. A. F. P. Drake also had one that make 150 gs. These notable prices are indicative of the keen demand that exists for the best ram lambs of this breed, and they also prove how largely the breed has increased in popularity during recent years. Were this not the case, such high prices merely for the service of a lamb for six weeks would certainly not be realised.

Another feature well worthy of note is that these high prices are being paid by the home breeders, without any export demand to assist in making the higher range of prices, but there will be, we fully believe, in the near future; because the breed so popular at home is increasing its reputation by leaps and bounds both in Canada, the United States, and elsewhere and such prices as have been recorded above must unquestionably go far to help its future demand in the countries mentioned. These prices show how keenly the best of the breed are in request at home; a certain sign that ram breeders are finding it well worth their while to breed from the best. This they would certainly not do to meet a decreasing demand, hence the importance of such transactions being made most widely known, and in no other paper can this be so thoroughly accomplished than in this one that circulates all over the world.

Advices from the Argentine inform us that during the first five months of the current year the stud sheep imported by that country numbered 1,008. Of these no less than 882, or 87.5 per cent. were of the Lincoln breed, the remainder being classed as various breeds.

The two-shear ram that was first in its class at the Royal Show, and also the same honour at the Royal Counties Show, and winner of the silver medal of the Southdown Sheep Society as the best male of its breed at that show, has been sold to Mr. Dean for export to New Zealand.

Several notable sales of Kent or Romney Marsh rams have recently been carried into effect. The demand for rams of this breed being very much larger at the present time than it has ever been known before at this period of the year.

The Earl of Londes, through the agency of Mr. W. W. Chapman, has sold to Messrs. Polls and Brewster thirty very excellent yearling rams from his carefully bred flock at Lees Court, Faversham. Fifteen of these have already been despatched to the Argentine, and the remainder will be sent out at a later date.

The same buyers as mentioned above have also taken a very excellent lot of well-grown rams, having plenty of size, bone, and substance, coupled with very fine fleeces, from the well-known flock owned by Messrs. L. H. and G. W. Finn, of Westwood, Faversham. This selection numbers fifteen, and are being sent out to the Argentine.

Mr. A. Amos, of Spring Grove, Wye, Ashford, Kent, who has already sold one lot to the Argentine and another to Australia, reports the sale of eight other yearling rams to another client for the Falkland Islands. The foregoing sales must be gratifying to those who are engaged in breeding rams of this breed, because the reduction in the number of rams for sale at home, together with the increasing demand for export, must tend to make their valuable breed better known. In fact, from information obtained from those who have imported these sheep to the Argentine, it is evident that the breed is making a name for itself in that country. The present shipments are all well bred and typical rams, and will add, we have no doubt, still further to the excellent reputation already secured for the breed in the Argentine, to which country, we may remark, there has been for many years a steady but sure increase in the numbers imported each year.

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Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Ashford.

A successful sale of Kentish sheep was held in Ashford Market on the 11th inst., Messrs. Swaffer Brothers disposing of some 2,600 heads at very satisfactory prices. One important consignment was that of 250 Kent wether lambs from the flock of Mr. G. C. Swindells, of Horton Park. Of these one pen realised 24s. 6d. and the remainder changed hands at 26s. 6d. and 28s. 6d. A pen of about sixty Kent ewe lambs from the same flock also made 28s. 6d. The top price for Kent wether lambs was 30s. 6d., which figure was made for a pen of forty of Mr. W. Homewood's. The general range of values was as follows:—Kent ewe lambs, 24s. to 28s. 6d.; Kent wether lambs, 22s. 6d. to 30s. 6d.; cross-bred lambs, 20s. to 29s. 6d. A few three-lamb ewes were disposed of at 37s. 6d.—On Wednesday Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs offered over 4,000 lambs, and they met with a ready sale. The greater number of the lambs, both Kents and cross-breds, realised 23s. to 26s. per head, but others realised up to 30s. 6d.

The Brandesburton Barff Longwools.

The highest figure yet realised at the sales of the Brandesburton Barff Lincoln Longwool sheep, belonging to Mr. T. C. B. Dixon, was made on Friday last, when eighty Lincoln Longwool shearlings were submitted, and all found ready purchasers, as in spite of the adverse weather there was a large attendance of sheep breeders. The amount realised by the sale was £1,957 4s., an average of £24 9s. 3d., a record price for the Barff rams. The buyers included Mr. Sagege and Mr. Hughes, who purchased largely for the Argentine. Some of the best rams were disposed of to Mr. Dudding (Riby Grove), Mr. J. E. Caswell (Laughton), Mr. Marris (Kirmington), Mr. Webb (Melton Ross), Mr. Kirkham (Biscathorpe), and Mr. Anderson (Barton).

Britford.

Britford sheep fair was held on the 12th inst. in favourable weather, and there was a large attendance of buyers and breeders from all parts of the country. Over twenty-seven thousand sheep were penned, the largest number for several years, and an increase of over two thousand compared with 1904. The large entry of sheep was, no doubt, to some extent, due to the improved prospects of keep, which was calculated to create a strong demand. However, when the market settled down it was found that the rates were about the same as at the Salisbury July fair, and almost exactly the same as at the corresponding fair las year. There was an excellent demand and an almost striking inquiry for grazing lambs. The general quotations were:—Fat wether lambs, 40s. to 54s.; chilver lambs, 40s. to 44s.; store lambs, 30s. to 36s.; regular draft ewes, 44s. to 52s.; draft ewes, 38s. to 44s.; grazing ewes, 34s. to 38s.; two-tooth ewes, to 52s.

Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held their accustomed great sale of Hampshire Down store sheep, the catalogue comprising 14,750 head, and although the trade and prices were doubtless quite up to the recent fairs, they were hardly so good as at Salisbury on July 15. Prices realised as follows:—Two-teeth ewes, 48s. to 57s. 6d.; regular draft ewes, 42s. to 52s. 6d.; draft ewes, one year older but fit for breeding, 38s. to 44s. 6d.; grazing ewes, 30s. to 38s.; best ewe lambs, 35s. 6d. to 44s.; best fat wether lambs, 44s. to 55s.; second quality ditto, 38s. to 43s. 6d.; working ewe and wether lambs, 32s. to 37s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 28s. to 36s. 6d. The same auctioneers also brought under the hammer at this fair some choice consignments of Hampshire Down rams as follows:—From Mr. J. Flower's famous Chilmark flock 98 let and sold at the grand average per head of £21 15s. Nine lambs first let at an average of £81 6s. 6d., Mr. C. Coles hiring at 170 gs., the Marquis of Winchester at 155 gs. and 16 gs., Messrs. J. H. Dibben, Notley (for Mr. Holman), and Lord Rothschild each at 100 gs., the other three falling to Mr. Hurford at 26 gs., Mr. J. Pain at 14 gs., and Mr. Inkpen at 16 gs. Of the 89 selling lambs one was bought for exportation at 80 gs., Mr. Joyce bought at 44 gs., Mr. Bouverie at 40 gs., Mr. Hambro at 42 gs. and 40 gs., Mr. Kerr at 34 gs., the Hon. L. Greville at 28 gs. and 15 gs., Mr. C. Stanford (for Mr. Hulse) at 22 gs. and 17 gs., Mr. Lythal at 25 gs. and 24 gs., and others at from 20 gs. downwards. The full-mouthed ewes, 68s. (twice), 66s., 56s., 51s., and 50s. per head.

Mr. A. F. T. Drake, President of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association, sent a splendid lot of animals from his Dogdean flock, and these also met a good demand, 91 being let and sold at an average of £16 2s. Seven lambs were let at an average of £52 1s., Mr. Hurford hiring at 150 gs., Mr. Flower at 90 gs., Mr. C. Coles at 36 gs., Mr. Kerr at 28 gs., Mr. T. Lavington at 17 gs. and 16 gs., and Mr. Street at 10 gs. Of the sale lambs Mr. G. Brown bought at 32 gs. and 20 gs., Mr. Terrill (for Lord Ashburton) at 26 gs., 18 gs., 14 gs., and 13 gs., Mr. H. H. Green at 25 gs. and 23 gs., Mr. H. Lambert at 32 gs., Mr. Mathews at 22 gs., 21 gs., and 12 gs., Mr. Good at 22 gs., Mr. Harding (for Sir W. G. Pearce) at 22 gs., Mr. Lunn (for Lord Ashburton) at 21 gs., 18 gs., 16 gs., and 12½ gs., Mr. Kerr at 28 gs., and others at from 10 to 12 gs.

Mr. W. C. Young, who is relinquishing ram breeding, sent a goodly lot from the Stratford sub cattle flock, and 64 were sold at an average per head of £8 19s., Mr. Goldsmith buying at 36 gs., Mr. Kerr at 19 gs. and 14 gs., Mr. Edney 11 gs. and 9 gs., the Marquis of Winchester at 16 gs., and others at from 13½ gs. downwards. Several shearling rams made from 5 gs. to 10 gs.

As usual a selection of ram lambs from the Breamore House flock, the property of Mr. H. J. Hulse, were submitted, but although a nice lot of lambs were presented buyers were not forthcoming to effect a clearance. Top price was 11 gs., and the average of 37 sold was £6 9s.

Castle Douglas.

Mr. W. Wallet's second special sale of top cross and half-bred lambs at Castle Douglas took place on Monday, when over 12,000 were penned, and the attendance of buyers was large. Five hundred store sheep were first put through at 32s. 3d. to 39s. for hoggs and up to 39s. 3d. for half-bred gimmers. For cross lambs the demand was brisk, and last season's rates were fairly well maintained. Chief prices were 27s. for a fine lot from Butterhole, Dalbeattie; Edgarton, 28s. 9d.; Cogarth, 24s. 9d.; Newtonairds, 18s. 9d.; Barlay, 17s. 3d. to 20s. 9d.; Slougaber, 19s. 3d.; Earlston, 27s.; Sundaywell, 19s.; Screet Farm, 23s. 9d.; Glevcrosh, 21s.; Dalquhat, 18s. 6d.; and Barcheskie, 31s. and 40s. 6d.

Chichester.

At Chichester Cattle Market on Wednesday Messrs. Stride and Son held their fourth special sale of the season of about 3,000 Southdown and other lambs, ewes, and sheep. There was a good company of buyers, and lambs forward in condition sold well at very satisfactory prices, but, owing to the continued dry weather, keeping lambs were slower to sell, and 1s. 6d. to 3s. per head less money had to be accepted in order to effect sales. However, with the exception of one or two small lots, every lamb changed hands.

The Corston Shropshires.

Mr. Thomas A. Buttar's annual sale of his celebrated Corston Shropshire sheep always draws a large attendance of buyers, and last Thursday's sale proved no exception to the rule. Mr. Mansell conducted the sale for the first time, and in introducing the rams for sale said that he could speak without fear of contradiction to the special merits of the sheep offered. The rams, he said, were big, strong in bone, possessing exceptional hardiness and vigour of constitution, with first-class fleeces and skins. The selected animals brought into the ring maintained the reputation of the Corston breed, which has gained 172 prizes since 1884. Competition for the various lots was fairly keen, and though no outstanding price was realised, the average result was much better than in late years. The forty-nine catalogued rams sold realised £537 1s. 6d., being an average of £10 19s. 6d.—about £3 better than last year. Ten extra rams were put through the ring, and brought an average of £5 17s. 7d., whilst thirteen pens of ewes were sold at an average of 37s. The top price for a shearling ram was 28 gs., given by Mr. M'Ilwraith for exportation to New Zealand; whilst next came 20 gs., which was obtained four times. Other prices ranged from 7½ to 13 gs.

The Hon. H. Cubitt's Southdowns.

Messrs. Stride and Son sold by auction the whole of the Hon. Henry Cubitt's pure-bred registered Southdown flock, comprising about 1,000 head in all ages, at the Home Farm, Bathley, near Guildford, on the 10th inst. The flock was established in 1825 by the purchase of ewes from the best East Sussex flocks, and rams have been used from the well-known flocks of Mr. Edgar Ellis, Mr. W. Toop, Messrs. Murietta, Mr. Geo Peel, Mr. A. Heasman, etc. The ewes were a particularly fine lot, being very uniform in type and character, and possessing great size and scale combined with beautiful quality.

The sale commenced at two o'clock, luncheon having been served at one, and there was a good company when the sale opened, many distant buyers who had attended Messrs. Stride's great annual sale at Chichester on the previous day being present. Very animated bidding prevailed throughout, and exceedingly satisfactory prices were obtained, as the following table will show:—

Description.	No. Sold.	Highest Price.	Lowest.	Average per Head
		s.	s.	s. d
Shearling Ewes	100	73	56	63 3
Four-teeth Ewes	110	66	62	62 8
Six-teeth Ewes	95	63	53	56 3
Full-M'thed Ewes	130	55	44	48 3

The 204 ewe lambs averaged 34s. per head, and the 231 wether lambs 32s. 3d. per head. The rams made up to £10 10s.

Hailsham.

At the annual lamb fair at Hailsham on the 12th inst., over 4,000 sheep and lambs were penned, a slightly larger number than last year. Fewer buyers were, however, present, and trade was dull all round. On an average lambs fetched 27s. 6d. or 28s., tegs 46s. to 48s., and ewes 35s. to 38s.

Horncastle.

The show of ewes and lambs at the Horncastle annual fair on Thursday was hardly so large as usual. About 1,500 sheep and lambs were penned. Half-bred lambs made up to 34s., long-wool lambs to 31s., and ewes 40s. to 50s.

Lewes.

Mr. J. R. Thornton, of Lewes, conducted a sale of pure-bred Southdown rams and ram lambs, at Lewes, on Tuesday afternoon. The catalogue comprised animals from many well-known flocks, and a fairly good trade was experienced, all prices ranging up to 10 guineas.

Liskeard.

The second annual sale of registered yearling rams from some of the leading flocks in Cornwall took place at Liskeard on Monday under the auspices of the South Devon Flock-book Association. Breeders were present from all parts of Cornwall and South Devon, and for the best sheep there was a good demand, and bidding was brisk, but for secondary sorts there was little or no demand, and several remained

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
August 22	Shropshire Sheep	Sir P. A. Muntz	Dunsmore, near Rugby.
22	Cart Horses	Mr. P. H. Case	Salisbury.
22	Sheep	Various	Ipswich Lamb Fair.
22	Cattle and Sheep	Various	Watford, Herts.
24	Shropshire Sheep	Various	Bingley Hall, Birmingham.
24	Horses, Cobs, &c.	Various	York Horse Repository.
26	Hunters and Harness Horses	Mr. N. Morton	The Repository, Dublin.
29	Shorthorn Cattle	Col. Munro and Messrs Lumsden and Mackenzie	Aberfeldy.
29	Horses and Ponies	Mr. J. Jones	Whitegate Stud, Wrexham.
29, 30 & 31	Hunters, Harness Horses, &c.	Various	York Horse Repository.
30	Shorthorns	Various	Perth Auction Mart, Perth.
30	Leicester Sheep	Mr. M'Intosh	Perth Auction Mart, Perth.
30	Polo Ponies	Radnorshire Polo and Riding Pony Co.	The Farm, Bleddfa, Llangunllo, Radnorshire
30 & 31	Horses	Various	North Wales Repository.
30	Southdown Sheep	Various	Chichester, Sussex.
31	Southdown Sheep	Mr. H. M. Simmons	Amberstone Grange, Hailsham, Sussex.
31	Sheep	Various	Craven Arms, Shropshire.

unsold. The auctioneers were W. J. May and Son, Olver and Son, and Mr. F. M. Sobey.

The highest price for the day was obtained by Mr. H. Sobey, of Pensipple, Liskeard, 18½ gs being paid for a grand animal from his noted flock. His five rams averaged altogether 13 gs. each, four being bought in. Mr. P. G. Brown, of Duloe, however, had actually the best sale, the whole of his draft of thirteen fine rams being disposed of at an average of £11 apiece. Mr. W. F. Sobey, of Menheniot sold eleven at an average of 10 gs. each; Mr. E. H. Hoskin, Cartuther Barton, Liskeard, six at £10; and J. P. Matthews and Sons, Antony, three at £9 16s. each. These were the principal prices, other drafts being sold from the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe; Messrs. J. A. Spry, Grampound Road; G. Roseveare and R. E. Paige, St. Germans; R. B. Trant, Menheniot; and R. G. and T. M. Pearce, Pelynt.

In the new cattle market, during the morning, May and Sobey also disposed of nearly 1,000 breeding ewes, fat lambs, and wethers. Ewes made from 37s. to 47s. each; wethers sold well at 42s. to 48s.; and lambs also sold readily at 25s. to 35s. 6d. each.

Mr. A. T. Miles's Southdowns.

The sale of Mr. A. T. Miles's Southdowns at Buckwell, Wye, on the 11th inst., only attracted a small company, and, owing to some of the field sheep being lame, there was little demand. Yearling ewes made up to 60s., Mr. F. J. Maitland taking several lots into Sussex, and Mr. Morgan was also a purchaser of some good sheep. The stud rams sold up to 20 gs., Lord Northbourne taking the third prize winner at Tunbridge Wells in 1903 at that price, and at 10½ gs. the second prize ram at the same show in 1904. Yearling rams made up to 6 gs., but only a few were sold.

Newmarket.

The annual August sale of Suffolk sheep held at Newmarket by Mr. G. Blencowe took place on the 11th inst., when between 5,000 and 6,000 head from various well-known flocks came under the hammer, that number including about 250 choice Suffolk rams, and over 2,000 high-class Suffolk shearling ewes, while included in the sale were about 250 pure Southdown shearling and flock ewes, forming a portion of the famous Cheveley flock, and of the choice flock of Mr. W. B. Cloete, of Hare Park. Owing to the large number of lots Mr. Blencowe again secured the services of Mr. Ernest Prentice, Secretary of the Suffolk Sheep Society, it being necessary, in order to get through the catalogue in good time, to dispose of the rams and ewes simultaneously. The prices realised for the ewes were on the whole most encouraging. While there were no sensational figures, there was a good average throughout, the higher prices realised in the earlier part of the year being well maintained. Included in the sale was the entire registered flock of Mr. C. E. Webb, Nosterfield End. Six Suffolk shearling ewes, prepared for show but not exhibited, made 68s.; two lots of ten shearling ewes 63s. and 64s.; and two lots of ten two-shear 64s. and 65s. Full-mouthed ewes sold at 56s. and 57s. Mr. G. H. Long, Great Wilbraham, sent a nice lot of forty, and in lots of twenty they realised the high price of 86s. and 79s. respectively, the average being 82s. 6d. The Cheveley Southdowns sold as follows: twenty shearling ewes, 52s., 49s., 48s. 6d., and 47s. Other consignments sold at prices ranging up to 67s. 6d. The rams sold well, the highest price of the day being 25 gs., obtained for one of ten sent by Lieut.-Colonel E. W. Baird, Mr. Wood, of Hengrave, being the purchaser. Mr. Herbert E. Smith sent eight which made the highest average of the day, viz., £9 11s. 7d. The general range of prices was from 10 gs. to 17 gs.

Mr. D. E. White's Hampshires.

The Hampshire Down flock belonging to Mr. Arthur E. White, Anvilles Farm, near Hungerford, Berks, was dispersed on the 11th inst. by Messrs. Ferris and Puckridge, of Milton Pewsey and London. In introducing the flock to the notice of the company, Mr. P. M. Puckridge drew attention to the size and character of the sheep, saying that the ewes had been purchased by Mr. White from the flocks of Mr. Flower, Mr. Baxendale, and others, and pointing out the many excellent points they had attained in such a short time. Commencing with the two-teeth ewes, the third pen made 10½, the purchaser being Mr. Darling, of Beckhampton, this age averaging as nearly as possible 9½. The four teeth ewes from 7½s. downwards average 5½s. The older ewes sold after the same rate, and the ram lambs, all of which found purchasers, averaged £4 8s., two of them realising £10 10s. each. Ewe lambs sold from 5½s. to 6½s., and wethers 5½s. to 7½s.

Shropshire Farmers and the Sheep Scab Order.

A largely-attended meeting of farmers of Shropshire was held in the Corn Exchange, Shrewsbury, on the 12th inst., to protest against the compulsory sheep scab order which the Shropshire County Council recently issued. A large number of those present gave expression to indignation at the action of the County Council, inasmuch as Shropshire was practically free from sheep scab. It was stated that the order was entirely unnecessary, and would prove not only inconvenient to farmers, but would, being put into force at this particular period of the year, prevent them using their flocks to the best monetary advantage.

Ultimately most of those present signed a petition to the County Council asking them to rescind or modify the compulsory sheep scab order. In the event of dipping being considered necessary at all, they asked the County Council to petition the Board of Agriculture to make an order that every flock in the kingdom be dipped once a year about clipping time.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Banwell and Weston-super-Mare.

The programme of the annual show of this combined agricultural association is always comprehensive, and this, to a great extent, explains the strong hold which the fixture has obtained, not only upon the immediate district, but further afield. For the show at Weston on Thursday the usual classes were provided, and were well filled. In these days, when there are so many local shows, it is only to be expected that there will be a little elasticity about the classes. Slightly fewer entries in one department were counter-balanced by additional support in others, and so the eighth of the amalgamated exhibitions in numbers was an average one, and in quality well up to the highly satisfactory standard of previous years. The hunting classes were good, and made a representation creditable to the neighbourhood; whilst cart horses were good. The cattle, sheep, and pig classes were also well filled with animals of a useful farm type.

Beamish.

The thirty-sixth annual show of the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society at Axwell Park on Wednesday was an undoubted success from every point of view. The weather was beautifully fine, the attendance was large—amounting to about 4,000, and constituting somewhat of a record—and the exhibits, 800 in all, were fifty more than last year. The society, however, needed this encouraging result of their efforts, for last year, at Blackhill, an excessively wet day spoiled the attendance and, consequently, the result. Of agricultural horses there was a most creditable display, whilst, though not quite so good, the light horse display was not to be despised. Cattle were not a numerous section of the show, but they included animals of excellent quality. Other interesting items included a good display of dogs and poultry, horse-shoeing competitions, block tests, a good exhibition of implements, and a fair display of dairy produce.

Belper Horse.

For once in a while the Belper Horse Show Society had, on Wednesday, fine weather for their show, which each year shows a marked improvement, and last week's show was, perhaps, the best of the fifteen held, the entries showing an increase of 48. The total was 359, which is believed to be the highest on record; hunters, Hackneys, and harness horses numbered 140, Shire horses 167, cattle 18, sheep seven, butter and eggs 14, and shoeing smiths 13. The latter formed a new feature in the show, and created considerable interest. The principal section of the show was, as usual, that for agricultural horses, and here many animals of the highest merit were to be seen. The other horse classes, however, contained some excellent animals. Cattle made a creditable display, whilst of sheep there was only one class.

Bognor Horse.

The horse show which took place at Bognor on Thursday was the most successful yet held there, for the entries were larger than ever—140, as against 103 last year. The weather was splendid, and the attendance of visitors a record one. All the seventeen classes were well filled, many well-known exhibitors who have not hitherto competed at Bognor being in the catalogue. Competition in the driving and jumping section was particularly keen, the entries in the open jumping class for the £20 prize numbering sixteen, and being far in advance of all previous years. As usual, these competitions proved the most attractive feature of the afternoon, and were witnessed by a fashionable gathering in a crowded enclosure.

Crewkerne Horse.

The annual horse show at Crewkerne took place on Thursday and was most successful, being well attended. Over £130, together with several silver cups, was offered for competition, and there was a large entry. In the class for hunters, both local and open, there were some exceedingly fine horses, the weight carriers in particular coming in for admiration; whilst the Shires were a useful lot, just suited to the peculiar needs of the district. The jumping competitions were, as usual, the chief objects of interest to the average individual. There was also an exhibition of dairy produce.

Heanor.

A record number of visitors attended the thirty-third annual show of the Heanor Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday, the weather throughout the day being beautifully fine. The catalogue was framed on lines similar to those adopted last year, and the total numbers of entries was 490, this showing an increase of 85 as compared with 1904. Horses numbered 155, cattle 10, sheep 5, pigs 5, poultry 114, pigeons 77, rabbits 112, song birds 12. A new feature was a trotting match, in saddle, for ponies not exceeding 14.2 hands, distance 1½ miles, and five entries were obtained for this event; whilst there was an attractive horticultural display. The Shire horses were of fair quality, the best section being the foals. Mr. S. A. Jowett, of Oldcotes Manor, Rotherham, secured the Shire Horse Society's silver medal for his Summer Queen, Mr. T. Kay, Carter Lodge, Ridgeway, Chesterfield, being reserved. The Hackney Society's silver medal was gained by Mr. G. E. Franklin, The Field, Derby, with his cob Grand Gobang. In the sections for cattle, sheep, and pigs, the entries were very small, although quality was well represented.

Penistone.

The 47th annual show of the Penistone Agricultural Society took place on Thursday in most favourable weather, and was attended by a large number of visitors. The entries in one or two sections showed a decrease, but the total compared well with recent shows, and the number of horses established a record, though the quality was somewhat uneven. The Hackney Society's medal went to Messrs. Cockayne Brothers, of Sheffield, for their six-year-old Paddock Princess; and the Shire Horse Society's medal was awarded to a foal belonging to Mr. Thomas Kay, of Ridgway. The cattle, though not numerous, were of fair average quality, and included some of high merit. In the horticultural section some extraordinary records were set up, one exhibitor taking the whole of the first and second prizes in the cottagers' classes for cut blooms, whilst in another section one man got as many as nineteen first prizes and thirteen seconds!

Scalby and Newby.

The Scalby and Newby Agricultural Society have had a very different experience to most other similar societies, for their show during the past sixteen years, so we learn, has only been spoiled at all by rain once, and that, unfortunately, was on Friday last. Nevertheless the attendance was surprisingly good, and there was a large holiday crowd round the ring fence when the riding and driving classes were being judged, so that the new experience is not likely to be attended with bad financial results. Scalby has a high reputation among local shows for its display of hunters and hackneys ridden and driven in the ring, and there was no falling off last week, there being an entry of 242 horses, which exceeds the average of the last five years, and is an increase of 45 compared with the last show. There was a decrease, however, in all the other classes of stock, owing no doubt to harvest work being in full swing. The Society's Cup and President's £10 for the best hunter ridden in the ring attracted thirteen entries, and although Yorkshire Show winners were barred, the display was a

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capital one. Mr. Hinchcliffe's chestnut gelding, a son of Cambrion, was placed first, and the second place was only decided after a third judge had been called in.

Uttoxeter.

The annual show in connection with the Uttoxeter Agricultural Society was held on Thursday in brilliant weather, and a record attendance was registered. From a horse show pure and simple the show has developed into an all-round agricultural show, and a horticultural section was also provided, and commanded a good number of entries; whilst this year the executive added to the catalogue a class for implements, which was well patronised. The Shire horse classes, especially the open ones, brought out some meritorious animals, as did also the light horse classes.

Warrington.

The sixteenth annual show of the Warrington Agricultural Society, held at Walton Park, the seat of the president, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., on Thursday, was in every respect a most successful one, and exceeded in quality and quantity its predecessors. There were 458 exhibits—a record number—and the majority were horses, in fact, these were the feature of the show, numbering as they did over 420. Unfortunately, however, there was a falling off in Shires, which was a disappointment. Mr. James Gould, of Lymm, carried all before him with his noted Arley Mettle, a brood mare who carries her ten years well. Her activity, weight, and quality are her chief characteristics. Lymm Lass, who has previously won the championship, was second. Another winner of note was Durdham Lady, a seven-year-old mare belonging to Mr. J. Knowles, of Agden. She is a chestnut of great weight, and beat Mr. J. Gould's Stanny Luck, a black, of considerable quality. One of the best Shires in the country, Oldfield Duke, owned by Mr. Sparkes, Altrincham, had no difficulty in carrying off the highest honours in the gelding class. He stands 17.3 full, has the best of feet, and walks like a cart horse. He has never been beaten this year, having been first and champion at London, first at Stretford, Wirral, and Birkenhead, the Royal Agricultural, Rawtenstall, and the Royal Lancashire shows.

Hunters numbered 88, and were a fine lot. Hackneys showed an increase of 23, the entries numbering 67. A notable reappearance in the show ring was Primrose Dame, a 13-year-old chestnut mare, from the stable of Mr. John Makeague, of Newton-le-Willows. For the past four or five years she has been used for stud purposes, but before she left Lord Londesborough's stable and carried everything before her in the ring. Some capital young colts were shown, and the classes were all well filled. This year several classes were added for novices, both in hunters and Hackneys, and the wisdom of this was seen by the number of entries received. The cattle section, though not very large, included some fine cows and several good heifers and bulls. The show of cheese was said by one of the judges to be the best there has been during the society's history.

Whitby Horse.

For a really excellent display of horses in the north of England, that usually seen at the Whitby show would be hard to beat, and last Thursday's display being quite up to the average, the numerous visitors had much to interest them. The light horses were a fine lot, perhaps above the average, and not a few of the prizes went to local breeders, which is not always the case with a show of this character, where many of the classes are open to all comers. Unfortunately, though the quality was excellent, the entries in the hunting classes were the smallest seen for many years. The coaching classes and Cleveland Bays were mixed, a practice which is to be regretted is now becoming too common, for it is unfair to the Cleveland to expect the breed to have the same action as the Yorkshire coach horse, though it is noticeable even when shown together that the Cleveland Bay often succeeds in taking the first ticket.

Remarkable Longevity.—A remarkable instance of longevity in a whole family has come under notice in the little village of Ufford, near Woodbridge, in Suffolk. Amongst the 500 inhabitants of that rural locality are numbered a family of six brothers and one sister whose united ages yield the amazing aggregate of 516 years, or an average of 73½ years per person. The eldest of the septetto was born so long ago as 1824, and the youngest in 1842, and during the two-thirds of a century which has elapsed since the lastcomer was ushered into the world the family chain has been unbroken by death. The two octogenarian sons who head the list are 81 and 80, respectively; the septuagenarians include a daughter of 78 and two sons of 77 and 74; while the remainder are 64 and 62 years old.

East Berks Horse Show.

The ninth annual exhibition of the East Berks Horse Show Society, held at Hawthorn Hill Racecourse on Thursday, was one of the best of the series, and was attended by a large company, despite counter attractions. Although the entries were slightly less than last year, the chief falling off being in the Shire horse classes, the quality of the animals shown was magnificent, and the show thoroughly deserved the praise of the spectators, the annual visitors describing it as the best the society has held. The society's radius extends fifteen miles from Bracknell Station, so that the whole of the farmers and others in East Berks and South Oxon, South Bucks, and part of Surrey are eligible to compete. The competition in the majority of the classes was very keen, and there was not a poor animal in the show.

The hunters were a magnificent lot, the three-year-old hunters being a very strong class. Both the first and second prize-winners were exceptionally good horses. In the class for heavy weight hunters, Mr. H. M. Mackusick took the first and second prizes with Tennis Ball and Red Ruby, horses that are frequently beating each other at shows, and it is a matter of opinion with judges as to which is the better animal. Both were purchased from Mr. J. H. Stokes, who took third prize in the same class, a decidedly strong one. In the class for hunters (open) calculated to carry less than 14 stone, Mr. Stokes' Whisky was—as on many occasions this season—first, and Mr. Robinson's Lady Shaldrake second. The latter is a very nice mare. The judges were of the opinion that, with the exception of Whisky, Lady Shaldrake was the best horse in the show. The class for hackney mares with foal at foot or in foal was one of the strongest classes in the show, and the awards of the judges gave great satisfaction. All the horses were very good. The prize winners had no foals, and consequently the mares that had foals had very little chance with the others. In the riding classes especially noticeable was Mr. F. V. Gooch's White Heather, an exceptionally fine "goer," and good enough to win in a better class.

The classes for Shires, although small, contained some very fine animals. In the mare class Mr. Hudson's Tatton Tapestry beat Sir Edward Stern's Lady Smith II., thus reversing the verdict of the Tring Show, whilst in the class for Shires (local) a very nice grey filly belonging to the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., easily took first honours. For yearlings Mr. R. W. Hudson's black colt, Danesfield Stonewall well merited the first prize, but the Hon. W. F. D. Smith followed him very closely with an uncommonly good bay filly, Rememham Darling. In the local class for mares or geldings Colonel Walter, of Bear Wood, took first prize with quite a god mare, Bear Wood Pansy, but she lacked a little in length, otherwise she is good all round. The other classes not individualised were strong, and contained some well bred and useful animals.

The special prizes were awarded as follows:—The Hunters' Improvement Society gold medal, for the best hunter brood mare, by a thoroughbred or registered hunter sire (in foal or with foal at foot by a similarly qualified sire), and also the same society's silver medal, for the best hunter mare or gelding of any age, Mr. J. Millens. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal, for the best mare or gelding exhibited in single harness, Mr. John Kerr, M.P.; r, Dr. Alex. Bowie. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal, for the best Hackney or pony mare, filly, or filly foal that is registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book, 1, Dr. Alex. Bowie; r, Mr. W. S. Cunard. The Shire Horse Society's silver medal, for the best Shire stallion, entire colt, or colt foal that is registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book, 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson; r, Sir E. Stern. The same Society's silver medal, for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal that is registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book, 1, Mr. R. W. Hudson; whilst the silver challenge cup, value 20 guineas, for harness horses, presented by Mr. W. S. Cunard, to be won by the same animal twice in succession or three times, was this year won outright by Mrs. Hartley Batt, of Westbourne Street, Hyde Park, W.

The following were the judges:—Hunters and Hacks, Mr. George Gordon, Wincombe Park, Shaftesbury, and Mr. Owen C. Wallis, West Haddon Hall, Rugby. Hackneys and Harness Classes, Mr. Alfred Rowell, West Rudham Hall, King's Lynn. Shire and Agricultural Horses, Mr. William Thompson, junr., Barrons Park Shire Stud, Desford, near Leicester. Jumping, Mr. W. Henry Barber, M.F.H., Culham Court, Henley-on-Thames, and Colonel Allan Maclean, Brook House, Bracknell.

Whilst harvesting fourteen acres of corn in the Bourne district of Lincolnshire, a farmer secured no fewer than sixty-one rabbits.

SOCIETIES.

Shorthorn.

Meetings of the Committees and Council of the Shorthorn Society were held at the Society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 14 inst. Col. Sir Nigel Kingscote, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., was in the chair, and before proceeding with the business of the meeting said it was his painful duty to report the death of Sir Jacob Wilson, K.C.V.O., a valued colleague on that Council. As they all knew, Sir Jacob took a very active part in the formation of the Society, in which he had ever since taken the greatest possible interest, and of which he was elected president in 1892. They would greatly miss him on that Council.

On the motion of the chairman, a vote of condolence and sympathy with Lady Wilson and family was unanimously passed.

Eleven new members were then elected.

Editing Committee.

Lord Moreton reported that the Committee had examined and passed the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the Council, viz.:—For Australia 7, South Africa 3, Canada 21, South America 432—total 463.

The Committee recommended the registration of the following names:—

Name.	Owner
Tongswood	C. E. Gunther.
Timberley	John Ridd e.

Applications for exportation certificates and inquiries relating thereto had been considered by the Committee, and the Secretary instructed thereon. A number of new and other pedigrees had also been submitted to the Committee, some of which they had accepted, and referred others back for further inquiry. The Committee also recommended that for the ensuing year the Committee consist of the following members:—Lord Moreton (Chairman), Lord Brougham and Vaux, Mr. James T. Hobbs, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., the Earl of Northbrook, Mr. Edmund Potter, and Lord Rathdonnell.

General Purposes Committee.

Lord Moreton reported that the accounts for the months of June and July had been examined by the Auditors and the Committee, and were found to be correct; that the receipts for the same period had been £237 15s. 9d.; and that the Committee recommended that cheques be drawn for various accounts, salaries, and prizes amounting to £973 18s.

The Committee also considered various applications with reference to the Society's prizes, and on other matters, and instructed the Secretary thereon. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year the General Purposes Committee consist of: Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote (Chairman), Lord Brougham and Vaux, Mr. J. P. Cross, Mr. James T. Hobbs, Lord Moreton, and Mr. E. Potter.

This report was adopted.

On the motion of Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, seconded by Lord Moreton, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth was elected a member of the Council in the place of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., who becomes a past President.

In compliance with the terms of the Articles of Association, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth was, on the motion of Lord Moreton, seconded by Mr. Joseph Harris, elected President of the Society for the ensuing year; and on the motion of Sir Nigel Kingscote, seconded by Mr. J. Harris, Lord Moreton was elected Vice-President of the Society for the same period.

A communication was read from the Sociedad Rural Argentina inviting the Shorthorn Society to send a member of the Society to be present at the Twelfth National Exhibition of Live Stock, which will be held in the Rural Society's showyards, Palermo, Buenos Ayres, in September next, and to act as judge in the classes of pedigree Shorthorns, such member to be the guest of that Society during his stay in Buenos Ayres.

It was unanimously resolved to ask Mr. A. S. Gibson to go out under this invitation as the Society's representative.

The Council then adjourned over the autumn recess until October 31.

At the recent Yorkshire Show we noticed on the Waterloo Cake Company's stand samples of their well-known round feeding cakes, and were informed that a large number of the prize-winning stock in the yard had been fed on these cakes. They also showed samples of their noted 97 per cent. pure linseed cakes, which they guarantee to contain 12 per cent. of pure linseed-oil, a very much higher standard than the usual make of linseed cakes. Their cotton cake, made from pure Egyptian cotton seed only, they also guarantee to be 97 per cent. pure.

Railway Rates for Agricultural Produce: Railway Managers' Views.

The Earl of Jersey's Committee, which is considering the question of alleged preferential railway rates given to foreign and colonial produce, continue to take evidence, and among the latest witnesses was the general manager of the Great Northern Railway Company, Mr. Bury, who, in the course of his evidence, stated that the Great Northern, the Midland, and the North-Western Railway Companies, in consequence of the difficulties which were found by the traders in understanding the authorised scale of the grain rates, had made 3s. 3d. per ton the basis figure, and 1d. per ton per mile for each distance from eighteen miles up to 141 miles, and beyond that distance 1d. for every two miles. This was less than the authorised rates. It was a general rule among the railway companies that the shortest route governed the rate. Between Hull and Newark there was very keen water competition, and with the very low rate of 6s. 8d. per ton for barley the Great Northern got a very small proportion of the total traffic. From Hull to Newark via Lincoln was sixty-eight miles, and only fifty-three miles from Goole, which port, together with the water competition by the Trent Navigation, governed the rate. There were various ways of getting to Newark from Hull, the distances being respectively 93, 112, and 117 miles. If they were to fix the rate according to a mileage rate, the Hull rate would be very high, and there would not be any Newark traffic going from Hull, as it would all go to Goole. That was supposing there was no water competition via the Trent, but the water competition had to be borne in mind in fixing the Goole rate. The Great Northern grain rates were a good deal lower than the maximum rates. If equal mileage rates were put in force, only one railway would be available to the Newark maltsters for Hull, and that would apply to everywhere else placed like it. That would absolutely kill competition.

Colonel Kenyon-Slaney: It still pays the long-distance railway to send their traffic, although it is, perhaps, 30, 40, or 50 miles longer, and, therefore, there must be a considerable margin of profit for the short line?—It is making rather more than the other.

Sir James Mackay: Could you take mileage rates in the case of competing traffic?—You could not have competition if you took mileage rates; they would kill it.

The Witness went on to say that there was no preference whatever given to foreign potatoes over home-grown, put down in Boston Dock. It was the policy of the Great Northern Board to do everything they could to encourage the home produce, because the money realised by it was spent in the district, whereas the money that the foreign 5 producer gained was spent abroad.

Mr. Gooday: What do you think of the proposal that there should be a special department of the Board of Agriculture to settle disputes between the farmers and the railway companies?—The substitution of the Board of Agriculture for the Board of Trade would be disastrous both to the trade and to the railway companies, and would most certainly lead to the confusion which invariably results from divided authority. The Board of Trade have a staff with great technical knowledge, and if any great difficulty arose with regard to agriculture they could call in the assistance of the Board of Agriculture; whereas, if it were in the hands of the Board of Agriculture, they could hardly fail to be partial to the agriculturist.

Mr. Lambert: There is no conciliating authority to which the agriculturist can now appeal with regard to preferential rates on foreign produce? The conciliation clause in the Act gives the Board of Trade power, "if there is reasonable ground for complaint, to call upon the railway company for an explanation, and endeavour to settle amicably the differences between the complainant and the railway company."

Mr. Haygarth Brown: Would the railway companies object to the conciliatory jurisdiction of the Board of Trade being extended to questions of preference which have hitherto been considered questions of how not to be dealt with by them?—I do not see any objection to its being extended.

Sir James Mackay: But you would object to the Board of Agriculture taking up agriculturists' grievances against railway companies, and bringing railway companies before the Railway Commissioners, and paying the expenses of the action out of the consolidated fund? Yes.

Mr. William Forbes, of the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway Company, said that water competition played a very important part in settling a great many of the rates on the Brighton Railway. The company desired in every way to develop their local industry, and gave no preference to foreign produce at the expense of home produce. The Brighton Railway was not earning dividends on the goods business. Its average earnings per ton of goods traffic did not exceed 6s. 6d., and out of that at least 50 per cent. went in terminal expenses, and therefore they were left with a little over 3s. per ton for hauling the traffic, paying all the expenses of the permanent way, and so on. The company carried over 55,000,000 passengers a year and did everything they could to promote the growth of the population on the railway, and for that reason did their utmost to encourage the conveyance of goods.

The principal witness for the North-Eastern Railway was Sir George Gibb, the general manager, who said they made no difference between the rates of home and foreign produce, and he believed that applied to all railway companies. All questions about railway rates were essentially questions of detail, and it was necessary to consider rates for important staple traffics not only in classes but also individually and separately. Railway rates had grown up by constant consultation between railways and traders, and were governed by considerations of cost and by principles of commerce which exercised a compelling force from which neither railways nor traders could escape.

There was one feature of import traffic which necessarily determined the nature of the provision made for its carriage. An immense traffic passed over the main routes from the comparatively few ports to the comparatively few districts in England which were densely populated. These dense areas of population were centred in London, Yorkshire, and Lancashire, and a small area around Newcastle; but outside these there was little else than country districts. There were 8,900 railway stations in the country. Out of the total value of the imports in one year of £487,000,000, £460,000,000, or 94 per cent. of the total value was imported through thirteen out of seventy ports. Between every port there was keen competition for the imports, and there was also sea carriage from port to port competing effectively with railway carriage. The ports, in addition to being available for the entrance of foreign merchandise, were also used for the distribution throughout England of local merchandise, and this added to the density of the traffic on the main routes leading to and from the ports.

Asked as to the effect of inland navigations on railway rates, witness said that in many places where they existed they were most effective competitors with the railways, and carried a large portion of the traffic. As to the Board of Agriculture taking the place of the Board of Trade and becoming a sort of prosecuting attorney, he strongly deprecated such a step. Why should the largest industry of the whole country, agriculture, get a sort of cheap law provided at Government expense? As regarded the farmers' grievances, they arose from lack of co-operation and from their entire lack of proper packing, grading, and concentration of their produce. The farmers could do a good deal to help themselves as well as improve the railway companies' traffic if they were left alone and got rid of agitators.

The Trials of the National Potato Society.

Potato trials of considerable interest are being conducted in various parts of the country, under the auspices of the National Potato Society, and may be inspected by members and others interested. The following are the counties, and intending visitors are advised in each case to communicate with the gentlemen supervising the trials, whose names and addresses are appended:

Berkshire: Prof. Percival and Mr. C. Foster, University College, Reading.

Surrey: Mr. A. Dean, 62, Richmond Road, Kingston on Thames.

Warwickshire: Mr. H. Dunkin, Coventry Road, Warwick.

Somersetshire: Mr. J. Ettle, Stanley Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare.

Oxfordshire: Mr. S. Heaton, Hill View Road, Oxford.

Northumberland: Prof. Gilchrist, College of Science, Newcastle on Tyne.

Shropshire: Mr. G. T. Malthouse, Harper Adam's College, Newport, Salop.

Cheshire: Mr. W. Neild, The College, Holmes Chapel.

Yorkshire: Mr. T. Redington, Agricultural College, Leeds.

Staffordshire: Mr. J. C. Rushton, County Education Offices, Stafford.

Worcestershire: Mr. J. Udale, Ombersley Road, Droitwich.

Valuable trials are also being conducted at Burgoyne's Farm, Impington, near Cambridge (Histon Station) by the agricultural department of Cambridge University, and may be inspected by members. The farm superintendent is Mr. H. Henshaw.

Messrs. Poad and Sons, York, and Wm. Deal, Kelvedon, Essex, are conducting trials of planting at different distances apart.

Potato Seed Tests.

Mr. Scarlett, the well-known Scottish potato seed-grower, who has over 400 acres of potatoes in Midlothian and elsewhere, has a testing ground at Chancelot, Leith, where he has some sixty different varieties under test, his stocks including practically all the best known of the older varieties, together with most of the newer varieties. By way of making his seed tests as useful as possible, he has his test plots triplicated in a double sense. Of each variety one section of sixteen roots is grown from and "seconds," one from full-sized uncut seed, one from full-sized cut tubers. Of each variety, also, one row is left without being earthed up, while another has been slightly earthed up.

It may be remembered that in the paper on "Potato Culture," which he read before the Horticultural Society last autumn, Mr. Scarlett intimated that, from facts which had come under his notice, he had come to greatly doubt whether it was desirable to earth up the crop at all, seing that the potato was a sun plant, and that he would have this question fully tested by another year. He has now had abundant proof of the fact that in the case of the early varieties of potatoes it is a great mistake to have them "furred up" too deep, and that they should either be left without earthing up, or otherwise the earthing up should be of the lightest possible character.

Among all his early varieties he found only one exception to this rule, and that was in the case of the Dalmeny early, which showed a marked upward habit of growth, so that the plots of this variety which were not earthed up showed a large proportion of "greened" tubers. But all the other early varieties showed the best results when they were either left without earthing up or otherwise had only a mere scratch of a furrow between the rows. In the case of the late varieties, Mr. Scarlett is unable to speak with the same decisiveness as yet, but judging from present appearances he is disposed to believe that the late varieties which have been earthed up will show better results than those which have been grown on the flat.

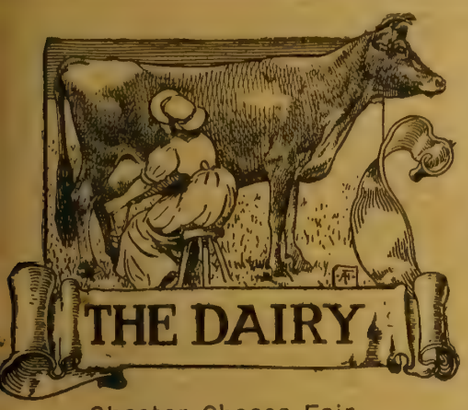
Still another important point has been dealt with in the potato test grounds at Chancelot this year. Many growers know to their cost the loss caused by the wire-worm and other such pests among their potato crops, the seed planted in the spring time being often in large measure destroyed by such pests. As the potato seed tests proper at Chancelot this year are on soil that has for over five years been cropped with rhubarb, and was consequently largely infested with the worms which follow in the trail of a rhubarb crop, Mr. Scarlett readily availed himself of the chance of testing the merits of the new anti-pest cure, "Vaporite," invented and patented by Mr. Strawson.

Amongst turnips an extremely interesting series of crosses was seen in the first year, including swede crossed with swede, swede with yellow turnip, swede with white, white with yellow, etc. The series included reciprocal crosses, and numbered nearly one hundred distinct kinds. Former crosses between swedes and yellow turnips were shown in seed, and it was instructive to find in some that constitutional inability to produce the usual quantity of seed had resulted in the plants forming a mass of fine twiggy shoots.

A variety of manurial, feeding, and other experiments are conducted at the farm and elsewhere in the county.

This substance is so composed that when sown on the soil, and then ploughed down, it gradually liberates a gas which asphyxiates the soil pests in their burrows, and that without any harmful effect whatever on the plant. The Vaporite had proved an unqualified success at Chancelot, as not a single tuber was found to be injured by worm holes, whereas, if it had not been for the Vaporite the crop on that low-lying moss-loam, after rhubarb, would have certainly been greatly injured by the worms.

Early on Wednesday morning a thunderstorm of exceptional severity broke over the town of Bridgwater and neighbourhood. Several horses and horned beasts were killed by the lightning, and some ricks of hay were ignited and destroyed.



Chester Cheese Fair.

Concerning this fair held last week, Mr. Challinor, secretary of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association, reports as follows:—Pitch about 50 tons at the opening; there was a good representative attendance of buyers. The tone was good and prices for best lots were 56s. to 63s.; medium 48s. to 54s.; lower qualities down to 45s.

A Pure Milk Society.

The Wensleydale Pure Milk Society has been formed to provide a supply of clean milk and also to secure clean conditions of conveyance. Arrangements have been made with farmers in Wensleydale to provide the society with all the milk they produce, under certain strict rules as to sanitation and clean milking. A bottling depot has been constructed at Northallerton by the North-Eastern Railway Company, who have given every encouragement to the project. To this centre the farmers are required to despatch their milk for bottling, after being cooled. In addition to bottling the milk, it is re-filtered and cooled down to 40 deg. Fahrenheit or thereabouts at the Northallerton depot, and is kept at that temperature in a refrigerated atmosphere until its despatch by train to its destination. The Milk Society has at its head ladies and gentlemen of influence belonging to York and Newcastle, and, says the "Yorkshire Post," whilst it is believed that the enterprise is likely to be a commercial success, the main object of the promoters is to be the improvement in the cleanliness and the purity of the milk, and in the methods of agricultural production. It will be to improvements in the direction indicated that any profit which may accrue from the undertaking over 5 per cent. on the share capital, will be devoted.

Examinations in Dairying.

The next examination for the diplomas and certificates offered by the British Dairy Farmers' Association will be held at the British Dairy Institute, Reading, on September 7, 8, and 9, entries to be made by August 29, to the secretary, Mr. Young, at 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

The association grants to any candidate, male or female, who satisfactorily passes the necessary examinations:—

(a) A diploma and silver medal for proficiency in the science and practice of dairy farming and dairying.
(b) A teacher's certificate for proficiency in the science and practice of dairying.
(c) A certificate of merit for proficiency in the theory and practice of butter-making.
(d) A certificate of merit for proficiency in the theory and practice of cheese-making.

Sunday Harvesting: Interesting Point.—Two farm labourers appeared before the Collumpton (Devon) magistrates on Tuesday to ask them to order Mr. F. W. Cuming, a well-known agriculturist of the district, to pay them a week's wages in lieu of notice. The complainants had both refused to take part in Sunday harvesting, whereupon they were dismissed. Mr. Cuming said it was a big labour question. He should not have asked the applicants to do any harvesting if he did not think it was necessary. The Bench held that the work the complainants were asked to do was not ordinary Sunday labour, and they ordered defendant to pay the men a week's wages and costs.

Agricultural Resources of West Africa.—It is officially announced that the Colonial Secretary has decided that it is desirable to appoint an officer to examine and report upon questions relating to the development of the agricultural resources (including cotton) of West Africa. He has selected Mr. Gerald Dudgeon for the new appointment with the title of Superintendent of Agriculture for the British West African Colonies and Protectorates.

PRACTICE WITH SCIENCE.

Agricultural Education in Lancashire.

The Lancashire Education Committee have recently issued a pamphlet in which is set forth the scheme of agricultural education to be carried out at the County Council Farm, Hutton, the County Council School at the Harris Institute, Preston, and in the various parts of the county, during the season of 1905-6. The subjects cover a wide area, and certainly the scheme provides for such a sound tuition in the various branches of our greatest industry that the agriculturists of Lancashire cannot complain of want of education for their sons in farming.

It may be mentioned that the County Farm, consisting of 157½ acres, is situated at Hutton, a little more than three miles from Preston, and within ten minutes' walk from Hutton and Howick Station, which lies on the direct line from Preston to Southport. The permanent dairy and poultry schools are located on this farm, and for these suitable classrooms and a chemical and bacterial laboratory have been provided. Provision is also made, both in the school-house and in a neighbouring hostel, for the residence of the pupils during their course of study.

Some idea of the extent of the dairy work carried on at the farm may be gained from the fact that 6,786 lb. of butter and 23,256 lb. of cheese (including Lancashire, Cheddar, Stilton, Wensleydale, Port du Salut, Pont l'Evêque, and Cream Cheese) made at the farm were sold last year. Most of the farm is laid down in grass; but a portion is reserved for educational plots, on which are cultivated typical roots, forage plants, and grasses.

The live stock, in addition to the horses kept for ordinary farm work, consist of about 100 head of Shorthorn dairy cattle, 10 Jerseys, and from 120 to 150 pigs (Tamworths, Berkshires, and Large White Yorkshires), which are used for pure breeding and crossing purposes.

About 1,000 head of poultry are also kept. These comprise the following breeds:—Andalusians, Barred Rock, Brown Leghorn, Buff Orpington, Dark Dorking, Faverolle, Houdan, Indian Game, Silver Wyandotte and White Wyandotte. Some of these are used for pure breeding, some for cross breeding, and others for laying and fattening purposes.

It will thus be seen that every facility is offered to those who will subsequently engage in agricultural careers not only to obtain a thorough practical acquaintance with all the ordinary operations connected with a dairy and poultry farm, but also to receive instruction in the scientific principles underlying the same, and to make educational experiments as to the best methods of culture both of plant and animal life.

Downton College of Agriculture.

The fifty-first session of the College of Agriculture, Downton, Salisbury, terminated on the 10th inst., when the following awards were made:—

The certificate of membership or diploma of the college to Mr. B. S. Egerton, Elmhurst Court, Chislehurst; Mr. A. M. Taylor, Norway House, Bishopston, Glamorgan; Mr. J. I. H. Friend, North Down, near Margate; Mr. C. Vardon, Langton Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells; Mr. G. M. Winder, Fairmile, Ottery St. Mary, Cornwall; Mr. C. W. Hughes, Bryn Hawddgar, Llanarthing, Carmarthen; and Mr. A. Anderson, 4, Greenhill Gardens, Edinburgh. The college scholarship, valued £15, Mr. B. S. Egerton; the "Bles" prize, valued £10, Mr. G. V. Wellesley, Uphill Rectory, Weston-super-Mare; the "Wrightson" prize, valued £10, Mr. H. S. M. Fellowes, Glencairn, Winchester.

Prizes in various subjects were given as follows:—Mr. A. M. Taylor, for knowledge of live stock, agriculture, and agricultural chemistry; Mr. G. V. Wellesley, agriculture, veterinary science, forestry, organic chemistry, bookkeeping, and ploughing; Mr. J. I. H. Friend, veterinary science; Mr. A. Anderson, forestry and surveying; Mr. B. S. Egerton, building construction and best collection of forest foliage; Mr. G. M. Winder, practical chemistry, bookkeeping, waggon driving, and best collection of grasses; Mr. H. S. M. Fellowes, practical chemistry, bookkeeping, and surveying; Mr. F. Sutton, Hamstead House, Bosham, Chichester, milking and veterinary science; Mr. F. J. Barnard-Hankey, agricultural and practical chemistry; Mr. W. Hopkins, Exe View, Exeter, forestry and bookkeeping.

Armstrong College.

From the agricultural department of the Armstrong College, Newcastle, come two pamphlets, viz., one dealing with "Summer Frosts and their Effects on Swedes and Mangolds in the North of England," and "Guide to Experiments for 1905" at the Northumberland County Farm, Cockle Park, both being the work of Professor D. A. Gilchrist, M.S.C., director of the college. They form interesting reading and should prove very serviceable to farmers in the north.

From the same college has also come a prospectus of the courses of study in agriculture, forestry, estate management, and dairy farming, carried out at the agricultural department, and these include the following:—A three years' degree course, qualifying for the B.Sc. (Agriculture) Degree of Durham University; college diploma course in agriculture, extending over three winters, leaving the summers free for farm work; selected agricultural classes for one winter; courses in forestry and allied subjects, which are now considerably developed owing to the appointment of a lecturer in forestry; courses in estate management for land agency students; and a six weeks' course in agriculture and in dairying. Scholarships and exhibitions in connection with the above are awarded by the County Councils of Cumberland, Durham, Northumberland, and Westmorland.

A prospectus with full particulars of classes, fees, scholarships, etc., may be obtained from the secretary, Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, from whom also the college reports on field and other experiments may be obtained.

Agricultural Experiments at St. Andrew's University.

The members of the East of Fife Farmers' Club recently paid their annual visit to the experiments carried out by Dr. John Wilson, lecturer on Agriculture in the University of St. Andrew's. The experiments had reference mainly to the improvement of farm plants by crossing and selecting, and they were now in the fifth year. The number of the new varieties of crossed oats raised by Dr. Wilson had now been reduced to about fifty, and he found that after growing a sufficient quantity for testing, a very considerable proportion of them was now showing evidence of remaining true to type.

The examples inspected showed great vigour of constitution, and marked variety of form. The new wheat hybrids between bearded and beardless varieties had further demonstrated the fact that the bearded forms were the most readily fixed. Bearded varieties were seen to have arisen from seed of beardless ones. Several of the hybrids presented quite novel types.

The new crossed barleys were of much interest, Dr. Wilson two years ago crossed a two-rowed variety with such varieties as Egyptian and six-rowed, as well as with bere. Last year the plants all showed intermediate characters, but the seed from these had produced plants, now in ear, which had split up into a variety of forms. Obviously a certain proportion had reproduced the characters of the originals, for heads indistinguishable from Egyptian barley and bere were to be seen. No doubt the proportion would be found at harvest to conform to Mendel's hypothesis, which last year was substantiated for wheats and the previous year for oats.

Over five hundred seedling potatoes were seen in the plots, almost all being derivatives of a former series raised by Dr. Wilson. The present series was sown five months ago, and the great majority of the plants were so far advanced as to yield a good crop of fully developed tubers at lifting-time. Much variety was seen to occur in seedlings from the same fruit. A species of tuber-bearing potato, Solanum Commersoni, quite distinct from the ordinary potato, was an object of special interest. It was said to like damp soils. The habit of growth was relatively weak. It was flowering freely, and Dr. Wilson had reason to hope that he would secure crosses between it and the kinds ordinarily grown. Experiments with peas were also in progress, the crosses effected including garden, field, and sugar peas.

Ashbourne Fair.—The show of horned stock at this old chartered August fair for cattle, sheep, and horses, held on Wednesday, was very small and of a moderate quality. Trade, generally speaking, was not good, except for the best classes of young dairy cows at hand, these making from £19 to £22, secondary £16 to £19, calving heifers £14 to £16. Barren stock a bad trade, £10 to £12 for best young cows. Bulls were a very poor show, and trade quiet. Beef trade quiet, without much inquiry; best heifers would make 6½d. per lb., cow beef 5½d. to 6d. The show of sheep was good, principally lambs being shown, making from 25s. to 32s. for the best, smaller lambs 23s. to 26s. Store wethers 42s. to 44s., fat wethers 8d. to 8½d. per lb. In the horse fair the show of animals of the heavy type was not large. Good, sound, useful horses were scarce, for which there were fair inquiries; about an average price given.

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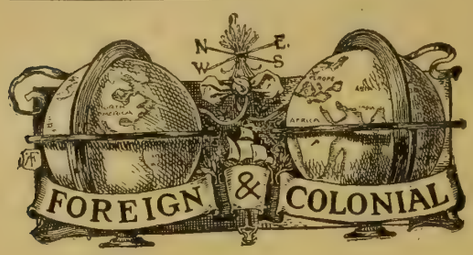

New South Wales Produce in London.

There is now being held at the famous Guildhall an exhibition of the products of New South Wales, and it is one well worth a visit, showing as it does the capabilities of one of our most promising colonies. The objects of this exhibition are to help the people of Great Britain to gain a better knowledge of Australia, the most distant part of the Empire; to let them realise more fully the present great and prospective wealth of this vast island continent, lying far away below the Southern Cross; to become acquainted with the immense scope for prosperous settlement there; to enable them to realise the stores of wealth lying buried in the soil awaiting the touch of labour and capital to make them spring into life; also to enable the merchants and manufacturers of Great Britain to realise more fully the vastness of the trade and commerce of Australia, and to induce them to do all in their power to keep within the Empire the great trade which is now being so eagerly sought after by foreign nations.

How great has been the progress of the trade of New South Wales may be imagined when it is stated that eighty years ago the amount was about £400,000 annually, whereas now it exceeds 94½ millions. Practically all the products of the colony may be seen at the exhibition, and a notable feature is the arch of wool made from 350 fleeces, representing wool from nearly every district in New South Wales. This, we understand, is the first time an arch composed of wool has been erected in London, and its novelty is therefore increased.

Wool has been even a kinder friend to Australia than gold; for in just over fifty years the value of wool production has amounted to £760,000,000, as against 514 millions of gold, and the annual output of wool is now £20,000,000 New South Wales, the Mother Colony, claiming nearly half of this production. This season the prospects are better than ever before, the wool promising to be the most even and finest clip ever recorded, and the increase on last season's output very great

All the other great industries are represented wheat, sugar, dairying, fruit, wine, fibre, plants, timbers, and many other products. The sugar from the extensive cane fields in the North Coast, and the wheat from the more temperate climate of the South, make one realise that there is no crop that cannot be produced in some part of the Australian continent. What Australia wants, however, is more population, and this exhibition should do much to induce many to emigrate to our island colony.

Denmark's Dairy Industry.

His Majesty's Consul at Copenhagen, Captain J. Boyle, in his report for the year 1904, states that the trade of Denmark during the year was generally dull. Agriculture suffered on account of the long drought, which burned up the grass and damaged the beet crop, without in any way causing butter prices to rise. The export of home produced goods was £19,600,000, of which agricultural products accounted for £18,200,000. The value of Danish eggs exported in 1905 was £1,511,000, in 1904 only £1,378,000, and this decrease is due to a corresponding decrease in the quantity exported, viz., from 25,250,000 to 21,200,000 cases. This falling off is principally due to the hot weather, which ruined a large number of eggs for export. The competition in the branch of trade is very strong from Russia, and it appears that the shells of Danish eggs are rather thin, and that in consequence there is a large percentage of breakage. The attention, however, of the Danish producer has been called to this fact, and for the future care will be taken, so it is said, to provide more chalk and pulverised shells (oyster and mussel) for hens. As usual, almost all the eggs were sent to the United Kingdom.

The total export of Danish butter during 1904 was 1,630,600 cwt., against 1,602,600 cwt. in 1903, showing an increase of 28,000 cwt.; but as the butter prices during the whole year were 2s. to 3s. per cwt. lower than in 1903, there was a decrease in value amounting to about £22,000. The total export of all butter from Denmark was 1,957,500 cwt. The bulk of the butter exported went to the United Kingdom, viz., 1,780,000 cwt., which was about 100,000 cwt. less than in 1903, but this was exported to Germany, and it is looked upon with much satisfaction that there is now another market, which in years when production is great can take the surplus and prevent the British market being overstocked. The butter in transit viâ Denmark is mostly Finnish and Siberian butter.

The quantity of bacon exported was 1,853,800 cwt., which shows a considerable increase when compared with 1903, when exports amounted to 1,614,200 cwt. Almost the whole was shipped to the British market, viz., 1,840,000 cwt. The value of the quantity exported in 1904 was £4,460,000 (in 1903 £4,154,000). The small increase in the value compared with the quantity is accounted for in the low prices which were paid for bacon in the United Kingdom during the whole of the year. The total number of animals killed for export in Denmark was, during 1904, about 1,700,000, and during some weeks 40,000 were slaughtered. If the development in the production increases in the future in the same proportion, there is hardly any doubt but that the prices paid for Danish bacon must go down, as there is no other market than the British, where it has to compete with the Irish and Canadian. In spite of the low prices there is no doubt that the production is a profitable one as long as the feeding is carried on in an economical and rational way.

Canadian Experimental Farms.

In an appendix to the eighteenth annual report of the Canadian Minister of Agriculture for 1904 recently issued, it is stated that the general results of farm work throughout the Dominion, although not so uniformly favourable as in some other years, were, on the whole, fairly satisfactory. The lengthened drought which prevailed in the Maritime Provinces during June and the greater part of July reduced the hay crop considerably, leaving it from 20 per cent. to 50 per cent. below the average. The grain, also, in most districts for the same reason gave lighter crops than usual, while pastures were seriously injured.

In Quebec and Ontario the general conditions were more favourable. The season, however, was cooler than usual, and although the rainfall in most places was sufficient, the crops did not make rapid growth. Owing to the severe winter the fall wheat in Western Ontario was much injured, and nearly one-fourth of the crop was ploughed up. The average yield of that harvested was considerably below the average of past years. Spring wheat gave a yield about equal to the average, while barley and oats gave excellent crops, considerably above the average returns. In hay, also, the crop was well above the average.

In carrying on the work of the experimental farms from year to year (the report proceeds), persistent efforts are made to assist farmers with information in regard to the maintenance of the fertility of their land, its proper treatment, and in the selection of highly productive seed of best quality; also to aid them generally in their endeavours to overcome difficulties which present themselves from time to time in the carrying on of farm work. These efforts have been much appreciated. The mass of new facts bearing on agriculture contained in this eighteenth annual report gives evidence of the skill and assiduity of the officers composing the staff of the experimental farms, and of their untiring efforts to benefit the cause of agriculture.

At all these institutions visiting farmers are always welcome, and those who have an opportunity of personally inspecting the work in progress, after seeing its extent and its practical character, usually leave with a higher regard for the farms than they had before. Those who are unable to visit any of the farms can obtain, for the asking, the annual reports, in which the experiences gained at all the experimental farms are given, the perusal of which will give the reader, wherever he may be located, much information of practical value. Bulletins also are issued from time to times on special subjects, and are supplied free in the same manner at the reports.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

From dawn to sunset work in the harvest fields has been pushed forward, and in the northern part of East Anglia, where all the white-straw crops have come to maturity together, the cry is for more labourers, in order that the fruits of the fields may be gathered in without waste, but, notwithstanding this sudden demand, especially in Norfolk, sufficient labourers for this year's short period of harvest are not at hand. Machinery is being employed this season more extensively than ever before, and in the county of Essex few fields now remain to be cleared. So that throughout the Eastern Counties we see on each farm every day yet another corn-stack rising to the grating noise of the elevator that hoists its long, wooden neck like a fire-escape higher and higher with the growth of the great rick which it is feeding—in fact, a more gratifying sight could not meet the eye of an Englishman than a drive through rural Essex at the moment, for on every hand one sees men busy either building corn-stacks or the thatcher busy at work securing them against the coming rain and damp weather.

Rain at the moment would do more good than harm to the barleys in Suffolk and Norfolk if it were followed by a nice drying period, for it would then take away some of the steely appearance so many of them now possess, and give a more even colour to the sample. In this connection it may be said that the farmer is always grumbling about something, whatever the weather may be, but it really it not his fault. For if you congratulate him now upon the splendid weather which he has had for harvest work, especially now the majority of his grain is secured, he may take you from the golden stubble, where his last new cornstack is rising rapidly, to the next field, where for days his promising mangold crop has flopped and turned yellow for want of rain. On the other hand, should the rolling clouds that are now traversing the sky bring heavy rain, he would take you in a day or so from the field that contains his refreshed roots back to the stable where the half-finished corn-stack stands drenched, and the scattered barley lies soaking on the ground. Anyhow, a little rain is wanted for the grass and roots, while the barleys, during their three days' and three nights' recognised lay in the field, would benefit with a slight shower.

On Saturday last, it being market-day, some sheep were driven through some streets in Norwich, when one of them entered a furniture shop by the doorway, and, being struck with its elaborate surroundings, turned when seeing its companions outside, jumped through a 10-ft. plate-glass window, landing in the street unhurt. The question being discussed now between the drover and the furniture dealer is, Who is to pay the damage?

Several times in these columns attention has been called to experiments that are being made in the growing of beet sugar in various parts of Essex by the Essex Education Committee of the Essex County Council. In regard to this suggested industry, the Minister of Agriculture's reply to Mr. Morrell says:—"So far as I am aware, no factories in Great Britain have as yet been established for the extraction of sugar from English-grown beet; but I am informed that the subject is under consideration in more than one quarter, from which the capital required for the purpose may possibly be forthcoming. I do not think that we can carry our enquiries any further until the feasibility of the proposal has been tested on a commercial basis."

Subjects have been selected by the London County Council for vacation and recreation schools, but our great industry is put in the background. We would suggest that at the next vacation the study of gardening and the tilling of the soil should be included. For this purpose the children could be taken somewhere out into the country, where they might have each their own plots of land to look after. Just this very thing is now being tried in Germany. Experimental forest schools have been instituted by Berlin and Charlottenburg, in which young children go out by tram to the woods every morning and spend their entire day there. A barrack or shed of some kind forms their headquarters, but their indoor lessons are of comparatively short duration, and the soil and its products provide at least the moiety of their studies. The experiment so far is being restricted to the more weakly children, but there is no reason why it should not be extended to include the more robust. Such an example in this country would do much to make town bred children appreciate a rural life.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

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LONDON,
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Entries close September 4.

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FROME SHOW.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1905.
Entries close September 13th.
T. C. HARDING,
Auctioneer, Frome,
Secretary.

FANCIERS' DOG AND POULTRY SHOW,
Same day.
Messrs. YOUNG & FRICKER,
Palmer Street, Frome,
Hon. Secretaries.

WARWICKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION
will be held at
COVENTRY, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, AUG. 30 & 31 next.

Admission: 1st day, 2s. 6d.; 2nd day, 1s.

JUDGING in all DEPARTMENTS on WEDNESDAY.

Special JUMPING CONTESTS each afternoon, with DRIVING CLASSES on Thursday.

Band of 2nd Vol. Batt. ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGIMENT Each Day.

The FIELD COMPETITIONS will take place on THURSDAY, on Land near the Show Yard.

POULTRY AND BEE DRIVING DEMONSTRATIONS
by Warwickshire County Council's Experts.

First Class Luncheon, 2s. 6d.;
Second Class, 1s,

Cheap Railway Fares, see Companies' Bills.

FREDERICK H. MOORE,
Secretary, Warwick.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THAME HORSE SHOW.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.

Entries close September 2nd.
Double Fees, September 12th.
I. BUSH,
Thame.

HAY HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 21st, 1905.
Entries close September 7th; double fees September 13th.
R. MORRIS, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT
HORSE SHOW,
At KINETON,
SEPTEMBER 15th, 1905.
Entries close August 31st.
E. KNOTT, jun., Hon. Secretary,
Burton Dassett, Leamington.

COMPTON STUD SHOW AND SALE,
At TEMPLECOMBE,
SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries close August 20th.
THE MANAGER,
Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At BALA,
SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905.

Entries close August 29th; Jumping and Trotting, September 9th.

E. M. ROBERTS, Secretary,
Trem-Eivion, Talsarnau, Merioneth.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

CHILTERN HILLS AND SOUTHERN BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
SHOW at HIGH WYCOMBE,
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905.
OPEN CLASSES for Shire Horses, Hacks, Hunters, Jumpers, Harness Horses, Polo Ponies, Jerseys, Butter, and Honey.
For Schedules and Entry Forms apply to
JOSEPH BLISS,
26, High Street, High Wycombe.

AYR RAM SOCIETY.—SHOW & SALE of Pedigree Blackface and Border Leicester Rams and Lambs, CATTLE MARKET, AYR, 13th & 14th SEPT. 1905.
JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

WARDLE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.
THE 68TH ANNUAL SHOW of DOGS, POULTRY, PIGEONS, RABBITS, &c.,
Will be held SEPTEMBER 13th (under tents).
Entries close: Dogs, September 8th; other exhibits, September 9th, 10 a.m.
Schedules ready. W. H. Bell, Esq., Liverpool, will give a Special of one guinea for Classes 140 and 141. See schedule.
EDWARD HOWARD, Secretary,
Wardle, near Rochdale.

ALTRINCHAM SHOW.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th.
£1,750 in Prizes,
besides Silver Cups and Medals,
for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Turnouts, Hunters, Jumpers, Roots and Grain, Butter, Cheese, Honey, Implements, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, and Cavies.
Prize list may be had from the Secretary,
J. HERBERT HALL,
2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.
Entries close September 9th; double fee, September 13th.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

YEOVIL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At HENDFORD,
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries close August 31st; post entries September 5th.
E. H. OAKLEY, Secretary,
Kingston, Yeovil

STOKESLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
47TH ANNUAL SHOW, 21ST SEPT., 1905.
Prize money, nearly £500. Open Classes.
Entries close 9th September.
For schedules and entry forms apply to
WM. HODGSON } Secretaries,
T. G. EELES } Stokesley,
F. WARDALL } R.S.O.

GILLINGHAM AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At GILLINGHAM, DORSET,
SEPTEMBER 4th, 1905.
Entries close August 28th.
H. KAINES, Hon. Secretary,
Milton, Gillingham, Dorset.

SHAP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At SHAP,
SEPTEMBER 20th, 1905.
Entries close Sept. 12th.
Leaping Prizes—Open.
T. GELDART, Secretary,
Mill Flatt, Shap, Westmorland.

AUCTION SALES.

SUSSEX (between Littlehampton and Bognor), 10 miles from Worthing and 8 miles from Chichester.—An exceedingly valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, known as the "Yapton Estate," situate at Yapton, about 1 mile from Ford Junction and 1½ miles from Barnham Junction, both on the Portsmouth Line of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway, and 2 miles from the sea; it comprises the singularly productive and compact agricultural holding known as Wick's Farm, with superior residence and commodious buildings; 9 capital cottages; a very choice accommodation property known as Church Farm, well equipped and including market fruit garden; several enclosures of valuable Building and Accommodation Land; the whole producing a rental of about £750 per annum. Also the valuable and well-secured Investment consisting of commuted tithe rent charges upon lands situate in the parish of Yapton, amounting to £167 7s. 5d. per annum.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE (in conjunction with Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON) will offer the ABOVE FOR SALE by AUCTION, at the "TERMINUS HOTEL," LITTLEHAMPTON, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1905, at TWO o'clock precisely, in the following lots (lots 1 to 5 first being offered as a whole) unless previously sold by private treaty.

Lot.	Description.	Area. a.	r.	p.
1.	Wick's Farm and nine Cottages	302	1	34
2, 3 & 4.	Building and Accommodation Land	29	1	18
5.	Church Farm	58	1	20
6.	Commuted Tithe Rent Charges	—		
	Total ..	390	1	2

Particulars of Messrs. HUNT, CURREY, NICHOLSON & CO., Solicitors, Lewes; Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON, Land Agents and Valuers, Hailsham; or of the AUCTIONEERS, 24, Mount St., London, W.

(Auction Sales continued at page 265.)

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 1.—About 60 head of first-class SHORTHORNS, from the extensive herd bred by the Rt. Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux, at Brougham, Penrith.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5.—About 50 SHORTHORNS from the first-class herd belonging to Henry Williams, Esq., at Moor Park, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.—Third and final portion (about 120 head) of the Whitlingham RED POLLED herd, at Kirby Bedon, Trowse, Norwich.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.—The late Mr. W. J. Buckley's SHORTHORNS, at Penyfai, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Mr. Evan Jones's SHORTHORNS, at Manoravon, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Sir Jacob Wilson's SHORTHORNS, at Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Mr. F. Barchard's herd of JERSEYS, at Horsted Place, Uckfield, Sussex.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's SHORTHORNS, at Tring Park.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. Rowland Wood's SHORTHORNS, at Clapton, Thrapston.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Sir Alexander Henderson's, Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Buscot Park, Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.—About 60 SHORTHORNS from Mr. W. Bateman's prize dairy herd, at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

WALTON HALL, WARRINGTON.

ON FRIDAY, 8th SEPTEMBER, 1905, there will be one of the most IMPORTANT SALES of PEDIGREE HACKNEYS and PONIES from the extensive Studs owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., that has ever been offered to the public by auction, comprising—

23 BROOD MARES AND FOALS,
11 THREE-YEAR-OLD GELDINGS,
25 YEARLING COLTS,
7 YEARLING FILLIES,
5 TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

The Hackney Brood Mares are covered by Goldfinder VI. (1791) and Copper King (7764). The Pony Mares mostly by Sir Horace (5402).

On View, 4th and 5th September.

Luncheon at 12. Sale at One o'clock.

Catalogues of W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

IPSWICH.

SECOND SALE OF SUFFOLK SHEEP.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST.

ROBERT BOND & SONS, in conjunction with the Secretary of the the Suffolk Sheep Society, will SELL by AUCTION, at the GIPPESWYK PARK,

1,000 GRAND RAMS, EWES, and EWE LAMBS from the most noted breeders in the district, including the Flocks of Mr. J. J. Creasey (No. 260), and Exors. Mr. D. Day (No. 27).

Catalogues forwarded in due course on application to the Auctioneers, Old Bank House, Ipswich, who will execute commissions for those unable to attend.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.
(The principal centre in England for the sale of Southdown Sheep.)

GREAT ANNUAL SECOND SALE of PURE-BRED SOUTHDOWN RAM LAMBS, RAMS, EWES AND LAMBS.

For prime quality of both mutton and wool, hardiness of constitution and early maturity, Southdowns are unsurpassed. Best results obtained when crossed with other Breeds.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30th, 1905.

MESSRS. STRIDE & SON beg to announce that the entries for their Great Annual Second Sale, which will take place in the Market, Chichester, on the above date, comprise:—

250 SOUTHDOWN RAM LAMBS and SHEARLING RAMS, forming a grand selection, including consignments from his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Goodwood; his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, the Rt. Hon. Earl Cadogan, Sir Thomas Gooch, Lieut.-Col. Hammond, Lord Leconfield, Mr. F. Elmer Speed, Mr. Edwin Ellis, Mr. Edwin Henty, Mr. Thomas Miles, Col. A. F. Wacher, Mr. Cottrell Dormer, Mr. Boldero, Mr. Allan Cooper, Messrs. Waters & Son, Mr. F. Stanford, Mr. Bradridge, Exors. of Mr. F. Duke, Mr. George Lock, Mr. F. H. Sawtell, Mr. C. H. Berners, Mr. A. M. Singer, &c.

Also about

3,500 SOUTHDOWN EWES AND LAMBS, comprising entries from a large number of the principal flocks in the district. Further entries solicited.

Buyers attending Chichester overnight will find the "Dolphin" a comfortable and convenient Hotel to stay at.

Commissions carefully executed.

STRIDE & SON, Auction Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

Mark Lane Express

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Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

AUCTION SALES.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.

THE 58TH GREAT SHOW AND SALE Will be held at BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM, On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th.

276 Head of Highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS, including many prize-winners, are entered from the most noted breeders, and

WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION, BY MR. W. H. LYTHALL, without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.

Judging at 8.30. Sale at 10.30 o'clock.

Admission 1s. Catalogues 7d., free by post.

W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

FAIRFIELD STUD FARM, near BUXTON.
Per favour of A. O. Haslewood, Esq.

HAMPSON BROS. will SELL by AUCTION, on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1905 (the day after Buxton Horse Show), 80 Pedigree Horses, including 9 Thoroughbred Stallions, "Admiral," "Baird," "Springald," "Dubuque," "Rigmarole," "Braintree," "Irish Comic," the Grand Prize Hackney Stallion "Nectar II." (No. 6143 in H. S. B.), Shire Stallion "The Black Watch." Mares and Foals, useful ride and drive Cobs, Yearlings, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6-year-olds. Catalogues may be had of Mr. James Plowes, Stud Farm, Fairfield, or of the Auctioneers, 3, The Quadrant, Buxton.

Sale to commence at 1.30 o'clock prompt.

KIDDERMINSTER GREAT ANNUAL SHEEP SALE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1905.

220 SHROPSHIRE, OXFORD, and HAMPSHIRE RAMS and RAM LAMBS.

4,500 YEARLING and STOCK EWES, STORE WETHERS and LAMBS.

NOCK & JOSELAND, Auctioneers.

AUCTIONEERS AND LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP—Border Leicester, Cheviot Blackfaced and Crosses, and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

CLUN FOREST AND KERRY HILL SHEEP.—Henry Jones, Sutton, Montgomery, established over thirty years, personally acquainted with all best flocks of these noted breeds, selects and supplies on commission, direct from breeder. Wethers, Ewes, and Store Lambs, in lots to suit purchasers. Terms cash. References given and required.

H. & E. McGRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

PUBLICATION.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

FINANCE.

DUCK FARMING.—Advertiser requires capital to start same; also suitable land conveniently situated. Interview. No agents.—Apply, "N," "Mark Lane Express" Office.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineer's Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

GALVANISED CORRUGATED SHEETS—New Sheets, perfect and sound, but slightly soiled by sea water, 3 ft. 6d., 4 ft. 9d., 5 ft. 1s., 6 ft. 1s. 2d., 7 ft. 1s. 4d., 8 ft. 1s. 6d., 9 ft. 1s. 9d., 10 ft. 2s. each; extra strong sheets, 24 w.g., 10s. cwt.; Best New Sheets, 24 w.g., 11s., 26 w.g., 12s. 6d. cwt.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Established 1828.

PLAIN FENCING WIRE, GALVANISED.—English made, perfect but slightly discoloured, 6, 393 yds, 7, 467 yds, 9, W. Gauge, 700 yds. to cwt., 9s. per cwt. Wrought Iron Standards 1s. each.—BUTLER, Bell Works, Wolverhampton. Estab. 1828.

RABBIT NETTING.—Best twine, tanned, rot-proof; 100 yards, 17s. 6d.; 75, 14s.; 50, 9s.; corded complete. Purse Nets, 5d., 6d., 7d.; 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d. 5s. 6d. dozen; large, well-made. New catalogue, Nets, Traps, all appliances. 1d.—SAMUEL YOUNG, Net Trap Manufacturer, Crewkerne, Somerset. Mention paper.

MY SPECIALITY.—Imperishable IRON SHEETS, as supplied for 25 years to largest Estates. Once fixed, these are everlasting. Full particulars and prices free. The old house for cheapest Iron Fencing, Gates, Wire Netting, Tanks, Felt, Iron Tubes, and General Estate Requisites. Terms cash.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

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Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 5d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d; 8 ft., 1s 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

BINDER TWINE! Best quality. 5-ply Jute, 38s.; Manila (mixed), 47s.; (pure), 48s. per cwt. Carriage paid. Samples Free.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

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RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading

PEDICURA for HORSES' FEET, cures thrush, seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, foul smell of feet. Prevents and helps cure sandcrack and corns. Good for greasy heels, itchy mane, tail, or legs. Produces a sound, healthy growth of hoof. Tins 2s. 6d. or 10s. 6d. through Chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

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BASIC SLAG.—Highest Percentages Phosphates guaranteed. We sell thousands of tons, consequently quote lowest possible prices. Hundreds of our customers testify to its marvellous efficacy. Write us now.—Cannock Agricultural Co., Ld. (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock, Staffs.

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EGGS.—Champion winners of White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks, White, also Brown, Leghorns; 2s. 6d., sitting. POULTRYMAN, Nafferton Hall, near Hull.

HENS.—Now making 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. each, of LARGE FAT, LIVE, OLD HENS, small 1s. 6d. Established 100 years. WALLER & CO., The Live Poultry Commission Salesmen, Central Market, Smithfield, London.

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AND
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Trustees: The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh. The only endowed Veterinary School in Great Britain. Under arrangements, which are now being made, the equipment of the College will be strengthened and modernised, and the teaching facilities greatly increased. An Examination in General Knowledge, for intending students, will be held on SEPTEMBER 7th, 8th, and 9th. Next Session commences TUESDAY, 3rd OCTOBER, 1905. Further particulars may be learned on application to PRINCIPAL DEWAR.

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AGRICULTURAL COURSE. Prospectus, Edinburgh Agricultural College; also regulations, degree of B. Sc., and Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture. —Apply to Clerk of Senatus.

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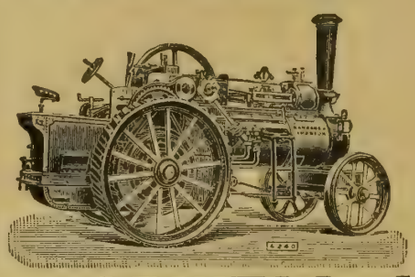

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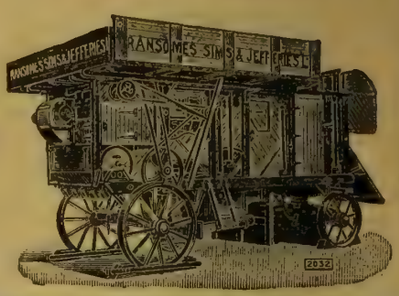

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal.
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
AUGUST 28, 1905.

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IMPLIED WARRANTIES.

To few pigs is it given to achieve the fame which posthumously crowned the memory of the central figure in the old case of Burnby v. Bollett. In the case in question, a farmer named Bollett had bought the carcase of a pig at the stall of one Penrose, in the public shambles at Lincoln; but having other business to transact in the city, he left it temporarily hanging up on Penrose's stall. Meanwhile a Mr. Burnby came along, and took a fancy to the pork. He tried to buy it from Penrose, but the letter told him it was already sold to Bollett, who would probably be open to take a profit on his bargain. Accordingly, Burnby sought out Bollett, and bought the pig from him and took it home. But buying in haste may lead to repentance at leisure. It was so in this case, and Mr. Burnby looked rather foolish when he discovered the next day that the carcase which he had bought so eagerly and without solicitation was measly, rotten, and wholly unfit for human food.

Retaliation loomed large in Mr. Burnby's mind, and he straightway commenced proceedings against the otherwise lucky Bollett to compel him to refund the price. But Bollett worked on free trade principles, as we know them to-day. That is to say, he was free to deal with Burnby on his own ground and without restriction; but when Burnby attempted to carry the war into Bollett's country, the latter sheltered himself behind a barrier of protection, known as *Caveat emptor*, which effectually kept Burnby out. In other words, Burnby sought to recover back his purchase money on the ground that the transaction implied a warranty that the carcase was in a sound and wholesome condition, and fit for human consumption; whilst Bollett repudiated liability because he contended that the maxim *Caveat emptor*—"Let the purchaser beware"—applied, and that the purchaser bought at his own risk.

At the Assizes, the judge and jury leaned towards Burnby, and held that he was entitled to a verdict, thinking that when a man bought a carcase of meat he ought at least to get a sound one. But Bollett appealed, and three Barons of the Exchequer sat in solemn conclave on the issues raised by that putrid pork. Now, it was admitted that if a butcher or dealer in meat exposed meat for sale for the purpose of human consumption, he may impliedly warrant that the meat is reasonably fit for the purpose for which it is sold. The seller in such a case not only knows the purpose for which his goods are required, but the buyer is justified in relying on the seller's skill and judgment as to the condition of the meat. But this does not apply in the case of an ordinary individual, not clothed with the character of a general dealer in the commodity to be sold, who bonâ-fide sells meat for human consumption. A naked sale of an article to be eaten is not necessarily actionable if the article proves to be unfit for consumption.

Bollett did not hold himself out as a dealer in meat, and had not, in fact, exposed the carcase for sale. He was sought out by Burnby, who was quite as well able as Bollett to judge of the condition of the meat. Bollett had throughout acted fairly and squarely, and had not been guilty of any fraud or misrepresentation, nor had he given a warranty in any shape or form. The loss had to fall on one of two innocent parties, and as there were no circumstances to prevent the application of the maxim, the purchaser became the victim. Thus, at the end of the litigation, poor Mr. Burnby looked more foolish than ever.

But he has had one consolation. The story of Burnby and Bollett, and their pig, although told more than fifty years ago, is still the leading case on the application of the rule of *Caveat emptor*, and is the foundation of Section 14 of the "Sale of Goods Act," 1893, which reads:—

"Subject to the provisions of this Act and of any statute in that behalf, there is no implied warranty or condition as to the quality or fitness for any particular purpose of goods supplied under a contract of sale, except as follows:—

(1) Where the buyer, expressly or by implication, makes known to the seller the particular purpose for which the goods are required, so as to show that the buyer relies on the seller's skill or judgment, and the goods are of a description which it is in the course of the seller's business to supply (whether he be the manufacturer or not), there is an implied condition that the goods shall be reasonably fit for such purpose, provided that in the case of a contract for the sale of a specified article under its patent or other trade name, there is no implied condition as to its fitness for any particular purpose.

(2) Where goods are bought by description from a seller who deals in goods of that description (whether he be the manufacturer or not), there is an implied condition that the goods shall be of a merchantable quality; provided that if the buyer has examined the goods, there shall be no implied condition as regards defects which such examination ought to have revealed.

(3) An implied warranty or condition as to quality or fitness for a particular purpose may be annexed by usage of trade.

(4) An express warranty or condition does not negative a warranty or condition implied by this Act, unless inconsistent therewith."

An Accommodating Barn.—After perusal of following it will at once be recognised where the story comes from, viz., America:—A few years ago a farmer in Indiana built a small barn, and in its construction used green willow posts at the corners and sides. For some time nothing unusual was noticed, but after a year he noticed that whereas he had the floor near the ground it was three feet above the soil. He discovered that the willow posts instead of being dead were alive, had taken root and were growing. In their upward movement they had carried the barn along. Last spring the barn was on stilts nine feet high, and he put in a new floor and surrounded the posts with siding, thereby making a two-story affair. There is now a space of six inches between the floor and the ground, and the owner expects to have a three-story barn in the course of time!

STATE OF THE CROPS AND LIVE STOCK.

A General Survey.

Concluded from p. 217.

Rugby to King's Lynn.

This route traverses one of the most important and richest farming districts of the Midland, and at the date of travelling, June 20, it would be practically impossible to imagine anything more promising than were the crops and live stock of all kinds throughout the entire length of the journey. Upon leaving Rugby and as far as Peterborough, the line (L. and N. W.) passes through much of the richest bullock feeding land in England. These pastures were up to that time fairly green and fresh, white clover being prominent, and the whole of such pastures were thickly peopled with a wealth of Welsh Runts, Herefords, and Shorthorns, many of them grand cattle that had cost in from £18 to £24 per head, and were having trough food as well as their pasture. In the morning these cattle were lying on their sides, enjoying the breeze, and rapidly putting on beef of a quality to suit the most fastidious West End gourmand. Occasionally herds of younger and leaner cattle intervened as followers for the earlier-matured ones. Sheep were also very plentiful along this district, a great deal of fat-lamb production taking place, and with every promise of success from a pecuniary point of view. Since Shire horses became so much of a mainstay to the farmer, a good number of these are purchased and brought up for town purposes on these rich pastures, where they develop immense substance, grow into tall figures, and are a great help in preventing the pastures from becoming rough and uneven. Colts being so treated looked wonderfully prosperous.

Peterborough to Lynn.

By Great Eastern the traveller passes through a good distance of rich fen country where tillage and corn and roots are the staple business. It is seldom that the crops throughout this journey look more promising than was the case at the above date (June 20). Wheat long in the straw, level thick of plant and well headed, barley a magnificent crop and up to this time standing well, many fields of oats, beans, and peas, too, were all that could be desired. Potatoes were looking much better than in the south, and mangolds were the best seen anywhere up to that date. During recent years fruit-growing has increased very much in this district, and immense crops of strawberries were being picked and forwarded per special trains and vans to Covent Garden, Manchester, and elsewhere, the fruit the very perfection of its kind. The late frosts that had been so disastrous in many other districts had not visited this locality with the same severity. Live stock on the pasture land were all looking well. At the above date, from Peterborough to London, crops were looking very well, a few early crops of winter oats near the southern part of the journey quite strong, a change of colour, and a few fields badly lodged.

Derby, Nottingham, and Grantham.

At the middle of July a visit through this mostly well-farmed and substantial tract of land showed that pastures had become in most cases rather short, and a good deal of hay was just being cut, crops being heavy in the water meadows, but generally light on uplands. Wheat thick and long in the straw, barley crops in many cases very heavy, oats also level and good, though generally a little short in the straw, turnips and mangolds also a good plant, but rather backward; potatoes fair. Live stock between Nottingham and Grantham consisted mostly of Lincoln Red cattle, Shire horses, and long-woolled sheep, and all of these were looking remarkably well. Several fields of oats were turning colour rapidly, ready for an early harvest.

Birmingham to Shrewsbury.

This journey, taken at the end of July, found the pastures in many instances looking much greener and fresher than in many other parts. Some good plants of roots were seen, and also good crops of wheat, oats, and barley, some fields quite ready for cutting; indeed, in several the self-binders were already busy. Cattle were of various breeds, a good number of Herefords appearing as one neared the town of cakes, at which point pastures and roots did not improve, less rain apparently having fallen.

Shrewsbury to Aberystwith.

August 1 was the date of this journey, which is a very interesting one via L. and N. W. and the Cambrian Railways. The scenery in many places is very wild and beautiful, and mountainous wilds are interspersed with a fair amount of very rich pastures and excellent tillage lands in the vales, which appear to be well farmed. The crops of wheat at the commencement of this

journey were in several instances remarkably good and ready for the cutter and the binder; some fields of barley and oats, as well as roots, looked especially full and in every way well perfected. There are a number of herds of wonderfully well bred and symmetrical Herefords along this route, and these are looking in fine condition. The Clun Forest sheep with their long tails and well rounded bodies which furnish such delicious mutton, were both plentiful and looking well, as were also their near of kin the Kerry Hill sheep. At the earlier part of the journey Black Welsh cattle and mountain sheep strike one as being conspicuous by their absence. Further down, or across the Principality, some of these were to be seen, but extensive farming had given place to some of the crofters' kind of cultivation—three acres and a cow.

About Derby and to Crewe and Around.

This somewhat roundabout district brings one into contact with many large dairies of cows for milk-selling purposes, which were looking uncommonly well (date first week in August), rain having been more plentiful; in some instances meadows by the river-sides were giving their occupants a better bite of green grass than was obtainable in most parts of the midlands. Some excessively heavy crops of oats and a few good crops of wheat are seen in those neighbourhoods; but potatoes and mangolds, swedes and cabbages, of which large breadths are grown, were wonderfully luxuriant, the best seen anywhere, and their healthy hue on the foliage bespeaks a first-rate finish. Some of the crops here were badly laid.

Hull to London.

This long journey traverses a very varied district as regards farming, taking you in parts through some of the best land and best farmed land, and in others some of the weakest and roughest in the midland district. From Hull via Doncaster one travels through a flat country, evidently very good for the growth of corn and roots for many miles. The wheat crops in this section were very heavy, and unfortunately many of then badly lodged, cutting proceeding as rapidly as circumstances would admit; oats and a few plots of barley also gave promise of heavy yields, both of corn and straw. Potatoes and swedes are also a great thing in this length, and mixed herds of cattle, mostly Shorthorns or their near crosses, many of them not of the best quality, were looking well at that date—August 10. Between Doncaster and Nottingham and Leicester one passes through a great deal of country where mines and manufactures have taken the beauty out of farming, and nothing in the agricultural line is seen worthy of comment, except, perhaps, as one nears Leicester, where some good herds of dairy cattle and a few heavy crops of wheat and oats as well as a field or two of good roots are to be seen. From Leicester onwards via Great Central past Rugby, Aylesbury, etc., the main feature of the country is pasture, and this was looking very brown and bare. More cattle and sheep are seen during this portion of the journey than in most of the other routes mentioned, several very practically good lots of Herefords, Shorthorns, and Angus, and their crosses being noticed along the route, and most of these were being fattened or living on for fattening another year. Taking things altogether, throughout the great extent of country noticed, the general prospects for harvest must be considered above the average, the prospects from cattle grazing below the average, and other branches satisfactory.

TRAVELLER.

A disastrous fire occurred at Hagg Bush Farm, some three miles to the south of Selby, on the 19th inst. Nearly £1,000 damage was done, and the wheat produce (consisting of 14 stacks) of the whole of the Hagg Bush Farm was destroyed, with the slight exception of nine acres still in the fields. The fire is said to have been caused by a spark from a railway engine which set one stack alight, and there being a gale the others soon became involved.

The Motor-car Dust Nuisance.—At a meeting of the Lancashire Farmers' Association a resolution was unanimously passed, "That the whole question of the use of the highway by motor vehicles requires the early and serious attention of Parliament." One speaker remarked that it was questionable whether it was advisable to put cattle to graze in road-side fields or to use hay therefrom, for the grass was impregnated with dust and sand; whilst another member complained of the damage from the continuous traffic of the motor cars carrying passengers between Pilling and Knot End. The farmers by whose fields the cars passed found it impossible to grow anything properly on land within 100 yards of the road. The hedges were white with dust, the grass full of it, and the grain crops covered with it.

SEASONABLE TOPICS.

Spasmodic is the word which best describes the hardy fruit crops in 1905. There is no general famine like there was in 1903, neither is there anything like the abundance there was last year. We have recently passed through districts where there was hardly an apple, plum, or damson to be seen, while in other parts of the country the trees are fairly well laden. It is the same with individual trees, and in the same orchard there are specimens carrying heavy crops and others quite destitute of fruit. At first sight this patchiness seems peculiar, but it may be accounted for without much trouble. The show of bloom was general, and the severe May frosts ruined the fruit that came within its deadly grip, but the orchards that were above the frost line escaped. Cold easterly winds in the spring also did great damage; but certain trees, orchards, and plantations were protected from the searching blast, and in these instances fruit may be found. There is no doubt, also, that insect pests are, to some extent, responsible for the shortage of fruit, and apples in particular, have suffered, as great damage was done early in the summer by the apple-sucker (Psylla mali). It has been observed that the low average of crops will make it good for those who are fortunate in having fruit, in the way of prices; but there are no signs of this at present. Stone fruit is selling fairly well in places, but apples are very cheap. Prices may improve later on, but it would seem as if foreign produce has got such a foothold in British markets that the price of home-grown fruit, be it scarce or plentiful, cannot be other than low.

Comments on the Fruit Crops.

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At the little village of Graveney, in Kent, there recently passed away an old man, James Hodgman by name, at the mature age of 92. For over half a century he was the village sexton, for more than sixty years he was a Sunday-school teacher, and last March he celebrated the 70th anniversary of his wedding. The old man was the son of a soldier who fought at Waterloo, and though not a native of the village, he resided there eighty-five years, and with the exception of one brief change at the outset, had been on the same farm the whole of his life. A wonderful record without a doubt, and we think the fact of a man being four score years on the same farm is well worthy of comment. We read of similar instances occasionally, but fear that the days of such records will soon be over. Restless change is the disturbing spirit of this age, and we see little of that sturdy, plodding character which marked the old "stick-in-the-muds" as some people liked to call them. No matter what they are called, however, the old stayers have done more than they are given credit for in the building up of the nation, and they may be justly called the backbone of Britain. The very fact of a man serving fifty years in one capacity is proof of his worth, even if he be only a farm labourer; and we question whether the rush and excitement of this age will tend to produce a race of men who will possess the endurance, to say nothing of the patience and plodding contentment necessary to complete such a record of service. All honour, then, to such veterans as James Hodgman.

British Backbone.

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Since the milk trade reached its present dimensions, the question of giving cows pure water to drink has come forcibly to the front, and it is not too much to say that it is a matter which will receive still greater attention in the future. In the old days little heed was paid to what cows drunk so long as it was liquid of some kind, and many of the pools and drinking places contained nothing better than sewage. We have purposely written the above sentence in the past tense because we are aware that certain improvement has been made in the way of providing pure water for milking cows, but we have not reached perfection yet by a long way. On many farms where milk is sold, the water available for the cows is of a very doubtful character, and one can easily connect stagnant slimy pools containing discoloured water with tainted milk. In some cases the farmer is to blame for not keeping his waterings clean and in order, and in others the landlord is responsible for bad drainage and faulty water supply. Both parties should be brought to realise their responsibilities if there is the slightest risk of the innocent milk purchaser being the victim.

Pure Water for Milking Cows.

Up to now there has been little need for anxiety about the welfare of the lamb flock, as pastures have been mostly bare, and the sun-dried herbage has been suitable for their digestive organs. A more anxious time, however, is in front, for the rains have set the grass growing, and though this is pleasing to the cowkeeper, it adds to the responsibilities of the shepherd. Lambs are subject to various ills when they have nothing but soft juicy herbage to feed on, and it is questionable whether the autumn is not a more anxious time for the shepherd than the lambing season in the early spring. A close watch has to be kept on the flock for any sign of failing health, and there must be no delay about change of pasture if anything unsatisfactory is observed in the condition of the lambs. Weaklings usually fall first, but when this happens it is only an indication of what may occur amongst the stronger members of the flock.

Lambs in the Autumn.

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At the moment, when harvest time generally is drawing to a close and farmers in most counties are looking forward to a little respite, the most important harvest of the year is about to commence in Kent. One has to live actually in the southern county to realise what a business hop-picking really is, both to the growers and those who actually take part in the proceedings. From reports to hand it would seem that the crop does not promise to be so heavy as was at one time anticipated, though the outlook is by no means discouraging, as the return will probably run over the average. Over-luxuriance of bine appears to be the general complaint, and in places where a superabundance of growth has been made there is a shortage of hops. There will be few idle hands in Kent during the next few weeks, because men, women, and children all find employment in the hop gardens. Indeed, perhaps the latter are the most indispensable, and during the season it is useless to call at a Kentish cottage in the daytime with the idea of finding anyone at home. And during the season the county is over-run with a nondescript community from the metropolis, who make annual excusions for the "'oppin." Doubtless the few weeks in the fresh country air does these people good, but to what extent is largely a question of weather. It is true the accommodation made for the London hoppers in Kent has been improved of late years, but if the weather happens to be wet and cold their plight is truly miserable. Worst of all are the sufferings of the nomads who have no pre-arranged engagement, but simply tramp the roads in the hope of picking up employment. The growers naturally engage their pickers weeks beforehand, and it is only where the state of the hops necessitate a rush of picking that the outsiders stand much chance. In the meantime they wander along the roads, or sleep on the banks, veritable objects of misery. You see a slatternly woman pushing a dilapidated mail-cart, containing the worldly belongings and the youngest baby, and two or three older children dragging on to her skirts, while the father of the family whines a dismal story to every passer-by in the hope of getting a few coppers. If the weather is bad the sufferings of such people is more easily imagined than described.

Hopping.

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From time immemorial farmers have been sportsmen, and being possessed of the characteristic spirit of delight when they can kill something they never reckon to miss any opportunity that may come along. Corn-cutting, above all other farming operations, gives an opportunity for a little indulgence in sport, and during the past few weeks some exciting scenes have been witnessed. Rarely is a field of corn cut without finding a few rabbits, and if there happens to be a wood in the near vicinity the brighter are the chances of sport. We are inclined to think that some farmers tolerate rabbits in the corn for the sake of the pleasure of killing them at reaping time, and we confess to spending a pleasant half day quite recently in this occupation. The scene was a big wheat field, and at the corners the guns were placed, while the reaper and binder rattled its way up and down and the patch of standing corn gradually grew less. At first it was only an odd rabbit that bolted, but the excitement grew intense as the cutting continued, and the frightened creatures bolted out with the object of reaching the security of the adjoining hedgerows. It was amusing to see the farm hands lose their heads and dash into the open striking wildly at bolting

Sport in the Harvest Field.

rabbits with anything they could lay hold of. These rushes hampered the shooters, but fortunately we had a couple of swift dogs which picked up the rabbits before they could reach the boundary, and by the time operations were completed, guns, harvesters, and dogs between them had accounted for nearly half a hundred rabbits. The poor creatures had a bewildering time of it, and as long as possible they hugged the cover of the standing corn. Then they made the rush which in most cases ended in death, and it is amusing what excitement prevails when the life of a poor frightened rabbit is at stake. Legs which are usually stiff with rheumatics seem to grow loose in a second, and old men who have never run for years break into a sprint if an escaping rabbit is the stake. In this case the harvesters went home enriched to the extent of a couple of rabbits each, and it was quite easy to see that the labours of the day were forgotten in the recollection of the exciting sport.

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Agricultural Profit-Sharing.

Before us we have a report of a system of profit-sharing with agricultural labourers which has been adopted by a Kentish landowner with the oject of stimulating Hodge to take a greater interest in his employment, and also with the view to placing a check on the depopulation of rural districts. We are not acquainted with the details of the scheme, but every year the hands are called together, and each receives a share of the profits made on the year's working of the farms. On the last occasion of the profit-sharing each man received £2 14s., and the youths' share amounted to £1 16s. each. It is stated that the system has had such good results that numerous inquiries have been received asking for details as to the working of the scheme, with the consequence that other employers have expressed their intention of working on similar lines. No doubt the idea is excellent, and for our own part we may say that possibly farming landowners may be able to put it into effect. We fear, however, that agriculture will have to grow more prosperous before tenant farmers who have rent to pay are able to share profits with their employees.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 19, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,210	10,418	Wheat ...	1,878,800	1,985,960
Sheep.....	4,309	3,380	Flour.....	157,100	213,800
Swine.....	—		Barley ...	257,800	269,600
Horses ...	223	70	Oats	239,900	173,100
			Peas	16,741	130,101
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	90,810	19,090
Beef	66,385	116 033	Maize ...	876,700	974,300
Mutton...	57,817	92,693	Apples ...	30,620	16,990
Pork	4,512	5,521	Apricots		
Bacon ...	103,258	105,036	&Peaches	14	281
Beef, salt	2,288	3,098		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	23,192	35,668	Bananas	109,517	135,432
Pork, salt	5,561	3,579		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	11,466	11,313	Cherries	961	14
			Currants	229	113
Do. pres.	30,745	16,716	Goosebr's	20	—
Butter ...	81,624	71,998	Grapes ..	41,689	33 272
M'rg'rine	17,800	19,000	Lemons...	12,731	2,501
Cheese ...	56,844	77,207	Oranges	4,115	1,050
Milk,			Pears.....	36,672	36,676
Fresh,			Plums ...	43,144	73,067
in cans			Oth'r Fr't	100,243	66,691
or				Tons	Tons.
drums.	—	—	Hay	1,541	2,958
Milk,			Straw ..	1,462	1,124
Cream	51	101	MossLitt'r	—	1,686
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,273	15,748	Hops	906	51
Milk pr's'v'd, other			Locust Beans	4,828	14,040
kinds ...	112	—		Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	181,018	129,415
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Eggs	331,638	396,893	Potatoes	56,374	26,156
			Tomatoes	43,331	28,166
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry&	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£6,188	£8,472
Game	£6,291	£2,421		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	140	161
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	17,497	29,241	by can-		
Lard	23,590	34,859	ning ..	5,414	3,651

Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution. According to the thirtieth annual report of the Committee of Governors of this institution, which has, with other information, recently been published in pamphlet form, the subscriptions for the year ending April 30, 1905, amounted to £371 3s. 6d., and the donations £722 5s., the balance to be carried forward on current account being £479 1s. 7d. Since the foundation of the institution the sum of £12,933 14s. 8d. has been expended in relieving deserving members of the trade and their widows in old age. At the present time there are on the register thirty-three male and female annuitants and nine recipients of temporary relief, the total yearly payments to whom amount to about £800.

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

There will inevitably be divergent opinions as to the influence which Mr. Clare Sewell Read had upon the political opinion of his party and as to whether his Quixotic remuneration of office was not really an act of unwisdom. My own view is that, instead of being, as he was, for nearly two decades but a lay influence in Conservatism—in fact, little more than a memory—he might have, had he so willed, diverted the party into a more sympathetic attitude towards agriculture. It may be replied that Mr. Clare Sewell Read did not possess the texture of the agitator. Most assuredly he did not, and a political agitator was not needed. The fiery cross of demagogic appeal would repel the agrarian mind. What was needed was a solid, forceful, well-restrained persistent presentation of facts. Of course, in the days of Mr. Sewell Read's mental and physical virility he would have been assured of but little support had any movement he initiated adopted the unwonted and the unconventional. In later years, of course, we have seen farmers at least willing to evolve demands, though they may not have been ready to sacrifice their partisan-fidelity to securing their realisation. All the same, Mr. Sewell Read could by his influence have persuaded his party into the cautious path of moderate encouraging reform. In the absence of this exertion, we have seen Conservatism, traditionally the agricultural faith, relapse into a sedulous cultivation of urban purposes, and actually, by preference, drawing its support from the great town areas of population.

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There is no question that the appointment of Mr. Clare Sewell Read to a Ministerial portfolio was intended by Mr. Disraeli to be a definite propitiation of the agrarian areas and an explicit assurance that Conservative legislation would not neglect the farmer. We have had no subsequent example of similar friendship on the part of Conservatism to record. We have had no specific reflection of the party anxiety which existed in the Disraelian days, not merely to have the farmer directly represented in the House of Commons, but represented in the Ministry. I could name half-a-dozen men who are possessed of as statesmanlike grasp, as prescient an anxiety, as diplomatic a caution, and as generous an economy as Mr. Clare Sewell Read. The names of these men will inevitably recur to the minds of those acquainted with the doings of the Central Chambers, and to those who have followed the inquiries of the agricultural section of the Tariff Reform Commission. When has official Conservatism sought to induce these men or some of their number to enter the lists as party candidates? Mr. Spear, the Unionist Member for the Tavistock division, may be said to belong to this class; but Mr. Spear's appearance in the electoral lists as the Conservative champion was due to an astute comprehension of the fact that his personality would appeal sympathetically to a large body of Nonconformists. Had Mr. Clare Sewell Read remained in Mr. Disraeli's Ministry, or had he held his national resentment in a less chivalrous leash, he might have been not the sole Farmer-Minister who had played a part in the councils of official Conservatism, but a harbinger of a class and the herald of a policy. Every man is the fashioner of his own destiny; and Mr. Sewell Read acted at this momentous juncture in his fortunes in obedience to an honourable impulse and a sensitive conscience.

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Mr. Clare Sewell Read's fidelity to his class was unquestioned. However, the columns of the "Times" is a much less valuable platform than the imperial forum. His epistolary disquisitions were always interesting reading. They were a reflection of one of the most sagacious, calmly-sane minds British agriculture ever enlisted in its service. They embodied the very spirit of agriculture—never pretended to vivid vivacity or pulsating emotion, but were sincere, cautious, and practically inspired. They were read, I fear me, only to be forgotten. What if his alert sympathies and active intelligence had in all these years had expression in the Senate! Would it then have been possible for a prominent agricultural authority to have accused even the Conservative party of a sedulous neglect of the farmer? I really doubt it, for Mr. Sewell Read's presence in the Chamber and on the Front Bench would in itself have meant the realisation of his own desire to see a compact body of practical farmers engaged in the work of legislation. I have seen it stated that Mr. Sewell Read was a prejudiced buttress of all the claimed privileges of landlordism. Never was a more ungenerous comment penned. Mr. Sewell Read was certainly not anti-landlordistic in his principles; he was, however, intensely a pro-farmerist. His horizon had its limitations; his vision had its boundaries. That vision was, however, always clear, always sympathetic, and, within its restrictions, always wise. A prince in Bœotia has fallen, a prince who might have been more potent had his ambition been more stimulating and his anxiety for political influence more keen.

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Can it be, after all, that the instinct which prompted Mr. Clare Sewell Read to renounce the Ministerial distinction which Mr. Disraeli had bestowed upon him was really an honourable anxiety for independence, and an honourable chafing against the restraint which officialism imposed upon him? I remember, now, that this was the view entertained at the time by no less distinguished a Parliamentary observer than Mr. H. W. Lucy. In his "Diary of Two Parliaments," Mr. Lucy wrote thus of the year 1877: "The Treasury Bench is the grave of many Parliamentary reputations. Men who, speaking below the gangway, are accustomed to feel themselves somebodies, soon learn that they are mere nothingness when salaried and docketed as units among Her Majesty's Ministers. There is a double influence at work in this direction. There is something in the air they breathe, and there is something in the atmosphere through which they are regarded in the House. Mr. Clare Sewell Read felt this, and took early steps towards delivering himself from his gilded bondage." Was Mr. Sewell Read, in a word, disillusionised? Did he feel that his promotion to the ranks of statesmen really meant shackling him in his rôle as Farmers' Friend? Did he feel that it meant a subordination of his real anxieties to the personal conveniences of the cabinet? Did he perceive that he was expected to merge his own identity into a compact and not necessarily sympathetic body? Well, if so, his sacrifice was all the more heroic. Still, had he consented to remain a force working persistently in the inner counsels of Conservatism, the tablets of the House of Commons since 1886 might have been different reading.

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"Because he has no prospects on the land!" Well, Mr. Rider Haggard has undeniably hit the bull's-eye in giving this as a reason why the agricultural labourer is leaving the soil. His ambition, so far as his wages are concerned, is realised at twenty-two or twenty-three. The wages he earns at that age are his last realisable ambition. His responsibilities may increase, for the quiver-full-fellow is not to be denied the luxury of a family, but his wages seldom. But does Mr. Rider Haggard meditate a complete system conducted on mathematical lines of peasant freeholdership? Unless he does this, unless he meditates a system conducted under the direct espionage and with the grievous sympathy of the State, unless he is willing even to some extent to burden the Exchequer, how can he anticipate that the worker will be retained to the soil? There must be no scheme which would deal only sectionally with the question. If the possibility of freeholdership were restricted to a few, the problem would still exist in all its unmitigated

evil. Under the circumstances, may not a solution be rather found in a generous housing scheme? Would it not be wiser to, in future building, see to association with the cottage of land sufficient to pay the rent, but yet of an area so restricted as to permit the labourer being employed on the larger holdings? You cannot, and Mr. Rider Haggard would not, dispossess the present race of farmers. You could, however, provide such opportunities for the labourers that it would be to their advantage to remain on the soil. This is a platitudinarian profession, but a platitude may sometimes reflect forethought and retain truth. Of course, we cannot ever have again a State regulation of wages. It is pitiable that the wage-horizon contains no hope for a man after he has reached twenty-two years. It is thus all the more desirable to supplement those wages by offering the experienced man some reward for his knowledge and extended labour. But, I fear me, we should only affect a few by creating opportunities to become a freeholder. Still, whatever increases the attractiveness of the land, however few it may affect, should be encouraged and pursued.

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Of course, my readers will anticipate that I am whole-heartedly gratified at the action of the Farmers' Protection Association in seeking to secure a common platform for farmers from which should be banished, if this be possible, the jealousies and rivalries of partisan politics. It is an ambition which has had persistent expression in these columns. Hence it is that I give a hearty benison to the resolve to hold what I will describe as a reconciling conference at Darlington. I hope, however, that that conference will not be too moderate in its lines. Moderation is an excellent thing, but when moderation is still further diluted it becomes tepid and ineffective. It will not be enough, for instance, to simply ask for the appointment of an authoritative Standing Committee or the continuance of the Rating Act until the general scheme of rating is dealt with. Both proposals are excellent, and should be accepted. Something more definite and immediate must, however, be associated with them. Why should not the Callington platform be made a basis of policy? It is not, of course, necessary to echo all the anxieties and purposes of Mr. Channing, or Mr. George Lambert, or Sir E. Strachey. It is not, on the other hand, necessary to reflect the critical spirit of their antagonists. We live in an era friendly to reform, and reform which may actually have Conservative affinities. There has actually been a recrudescence of sympathy with the country squire—even the Radical, as I showed last week, has a good word to say for him and his practices. We see even Conservatives of the oldest-fashioned type fascinated with the idea of dispossessing landlordism, or rather, of re-establishing the yeomen class, by voluntary, though not by coercive, means. The moment is apposite to a definite programme—not an intransigeant programme, but a programme of practical utility. This fact should be, and must be, appreciated by the Darlington conferencemen.

Harvest in Sussex.

The reports on the harvest of 1905 from all parts of Sussex show that the season has been one of the best known in the county for a long time past. The continued fine weather has almost everywhere enabled the crops to be harvested by the self-binders with the minimum of trouble and expense, and in splendid condition, and the reports indicate the wheat crop to have been generally well above the average in quality and quantity, both as regards the grain and the straw. The barley crop has also been very satisfactory; but oats for the most part have been rather poor.—*Sussex Daily News.*

At a meeting of the Ixworth Farmers' Club, held at Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday, it was reported that Mr Riley Smith had offered a cup for competition for acreages of roots, and as a result of the meeting it was resolved that this cup, together with the prizes offered by the club and by firms of seed growers should be awarded amongst competitors of West Suffolk, not necessary members of the club, for five acres of swedes and five acres of mangolds, in lieu of the prizes hitherto awarded at the annual show for the most exhibited of these roots.

OBITUARY.

It is with deep regret we have to record the passing away within a very few hours of each other of three very prominent figures in the agricultural world, namely, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, than whose name perhaps none is better known in connection with matters agricultural; Mr. Philo L. Mills, of Ruddington Hall, who had earned a wide-spread fame for himself with his Shire horses, Shorthorn cattle, Shropshire sheep, and Large White and Berkshire pigs; and finally, Mr. H. H. Ayre, of feeding cake fame. All three did their best to forward the interests of our greatest industry, and their loss, which came so unexpectedly, will be keenly felt in all parts of the country, whilst their services will long be held in remembrance.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read.

came of a very old family of Norfolk farmers, his ancestors having tilled the soil in the county for close on 300 years. He received his school education in the county, but went early to farming, commencing when but fifteen years of age, under his father's eye, and from thence right up to the time of his death, he was ever to the front in matters agricultural. Mr. Clare Sewell Read was a typical agriculturist of the advanced school—an outcome of the high farming of which Lord Townshend and "Coke of Holkham" were among the pioneers. The system established by them reached its greatest development in Norfolk, and consequently it was only in the fitness of things that Mr. Clare Read should have been a Norfolk man. When wheat-growing paid in England the number of large enterprising capitalist farmers was very considerable. They were an able and admirable body of men, of good position and education, and, in the special line of farming adopted by them, their equals would be hard to find. They produced the largest crops, fed the best stock, used improved machinery, nourished the land with the best manures, and altogether kept their farms up to the highest producing pitch.

Of such an influential class Mr Read was a natural leader. Well versed in the details of arable farm management and the feeding of stock, he was a welcome visitor at all agricultural meetings. The questions in which he took an interest were thoroughly understood by him, and his impromptu speeches were always pithy and informing, the spice of wit and sarcasm, which he sometimes infused into them, making them none the less acceptable and appreciated.

Through the revolutionary changes in agriculture, brought about by the unlimited importation of foreign and Colonial produce, the stamp of farmer of whom Mr. Read was one of the best representatives, was very hard hit, and in later years he took a sombre view of the situation and prospects, though his brilliant raillery never departed. But his thoughts were oppressed by the dark outlook, especially for that branch of the industry that possessed the greatest interest for him. He had a wide and deep sympathy with the wheat-growing farmers, and it was only to be expected that he should lament the changes that had so seriously injured the class.

To return to Mr. Read's earlier career, it may be mentioned that after his training at home he, for some time, managed the large farm of Kilpaison, in Pembrokeshire, before he was of age, and was afterwards resident agent on the Earl of Macclesfield's Oxfordshire estates. Returning to Norfolk in 1854, he took his father's farm at Plumstead, which he occupied until 1865, when he succeeded a relative at Honingham Thorpe, where he resided for many years, farming extensively.

Photo by] **The Late Mr. Clare Sewell Read** *[Russell & Sons.*

He was elected Member of Parliament for North Norfolk in 1865, and continued to represent the constituency until 1867, when the county was divided into three electoral districts. Mr. Read sat for South Norfolk until 1880, when he was defeated at the general election by one vote. He was shortly afterwards returned unopposed for West Norfolk, which division he represented until 1885, when he retired from Parliament.

His first speech in the House was made in 1866, when he supported a motion for the repeal of the malt tax. He, however, then suggested as an alternative measure a beer tax of one penny per gallon upon all beer that was sold, that a licence should be paid by private brewers, and, further, that all cottagers should be free to brew their own beer. He gave his warm support to the Acts of Parliament intended to suppress cattle plague and all other imported diseases amongst stock. The other measures in which he took an active interest in Parliament may be indicated. He advocated the inalienable right of the occupier of the land to destroy the hares and rabbits that

preyed upon his crops. He contended for the compulsory payment for the tenant farmer's improvements in the soil. He held that all property, and not land and buildings alone, should contribute to local, as well as Imperial burdens; and in 1879 he carried a unanimous resolution in the House of Commons in favour of representative county boards. In 1874 he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board, but he resigned in the following year in consequence of the Government refusing to extend to Ireland the Cattle Diseases Act, which had been passed for Great Britain. This extension of the Act, however, soon afterwards became law.

Mr. Read's resignation of his appointment in the Government aroused much enthusiasm among agriculturists throughout the country, and a banquet was given in his honour at the Cannon Street Hotel, when he was presented with a service of plate and a cheque for £5,500, subscribed by farmers in every part of the country. Mr. C. Howard, who presided, justly spoke of him on that occasion as "the mouthpiece of the farmers of England," and that was a function which he continued to discharge, until excluded by the fortunes of war from a seat in Parliament, and until, overtaken by the weight of years and in part by the misfortunes of his calling, he was driven into retirement.

In 1879 he went to the United States, in conjunction with Mr. Albert Pell, to inquire into the agriculture of the Far West, on behalf of the Duke of Richmond's Commission on Agricultural Depression. The report of Messrs. Read and Pell on their American investigations became a historic document, and their conclusions were widely discussed. Attention chiefly centred on one point—the estimate that wheat could not be profitably produced and imported into this country from America at less than 40s. per quarter. No doubt the estimate was based upon the most careful inquiry, but subsequent events showed that due allowance had not been made for one element in the calculation, which, however, did not escape their attention, viz., at what price it was possible to dispose of surplus crops. The lessening of the cost of production and transport also went much further than had been anticipated.

During the last few years Mr Read resided chiefly in London, but continued his active interest in agriculture right up to the end, which took place on Monday. Mr. Read was a magistrate for the county of Norfolk, a member of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, as well as of the Smithfield and Farmers' Clubs, and the author of several essays on agricultural subjects. With his black banded grey hat, which he wore at all seasons of the year, he was a familiar figure in agriculturist circles, and though not so frequently seen of late, he will, nevertheless, be greatly missed, and his death regretted by all agriculturists. Mr. Read was in his seventy-ninth year.

Mr. H. H. Ayre.

By the death of Mr. H. H. Ayre, J.P., of Withernsea, Yorks, the Royal Agricultural and other of our leading shows have lost a worthy supporter and well-known visitor. For close on forty years Mr. Ayre has figured prominently at the Royal and other shows, during which time his genial manner won him innumerable friends, who will greatly miss him, whilst the town of Withernsea has lost one of its most prominent and best respected public men. Mr. Ayre was one of the partners in the well-known firm of Ayre Brothers, Hull, and was managing director of the Waterloo Cake Company, of the same city, famed the world over for the Waterloo 97 per cent. pure linseed and cotton cake. Mr. Ayre had been a member of the firm of Ayre Brothers since 1864, when they were very large merchants dealing in general produce, and also the manufacturers of the Waterloo Round Feeding Cakes; but it was not until 1879 that they formed a separate company for the manufacture of the cakes, and of this the deceased gentleman had been co-managing director with his brother ever since the formation of the company.

The Late Mr. H. H. Ayre, J.P.

For some time Mr. Ayre had been in ill-health, and three months ago he underwent an operation for an affection of the throat, but even then it was feared that the relief which would accrue would only be of a temporary nature. This unhappy surmise proved correct, and Mr. Ayre passed away on Monday afternoon, at the age of sixty-nine.

Mr. Philo L. Mills.

The death of Mr. P. L. Mills took place with almost tragic suddenness at his residence, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Mills had, with characteristic activity, given strenuous attention to the claims of business up to a recent date on the previous day, Monday,

The Late Mr. Philo L. Mills.

on the evening of which he was taken ill at home, and, in spite of skilled medical attention, he gradually became worse. A fatal termination of the illness was not, however, entertained until Tuesday evening, when the doctors gave up all hope of his recovery. The end came at midnight, the immediate cause of death being apoplexy. Though he had reached the age of seventy-three years, the late Mr. Mills was a man of wonderful spirit and vitality, and his decease was entirely unexpected. Death came to him as a peaceful ending to a busy and strenuous life.

The late Mr. Mills was an American by birth, but had been associated with the commercial life of Nottingham for nearly fifty years, and was a resident in the district for thirty-five years, and in the county was a prominent figure in all matters affecting its interest, but it was as an agriculturist that Mr. Mills was best known. It was one of his strong points, indeed, that he insisted upon breeding nothing but the best, and as a result of his own efforts and of his practical advice a great advance has unquestionably been made locally. His influence, too, was felt over a wide area, for he had for many years controlled a growing business in the importation of stock to the Argentine Republic and other parts of the world. Shire horses, sheep, and pigs were to be found of excellent quality on his farm at Ruddington, but his favourite animal was the Shorthorn, and he probably did more than any other man to popularise and improve the breed locally.

The stock sold by Mr. Mills to go abroad invariably realised large prices, and only recently he refused the huge sum of 2,000 guineas, offered for the grand bull King Christian of Denmark, which he bred himself at Ruddington, and which achieved several successes in the show ring, including the Bath and West exhibition at Nottingham and the Royal Show in London this year. But Mr. Mills's most famous bull was probably Marengo, the King's medal winner, which was among the animals which actually did leave Ruddington to cross the sea at a big figure, and great was the disappointment among Shorthorn breeders in the Argentine when this magnificent young bull died after a comparatively brief stud career. During recent years Mr. Mills's best known shire stallion was Intake Albert, a notable honours winner in first-class company, and the breeds of pigs to which he specially devoted himself were the Large Whites and the Berkshires, his pedigree sheep being Shropshires.

Mr. Mills was a member of the Royal Agricultural Society, and his death will create a vacancy in the Councils of the Notts Agricultural Society, which it will be difficult, and, indeed, will be impossible, to fill. The society was formed in 1878, and practically from its birth Mr. Mills manifested an enthusiastic and generous interest in its operations. He was a patron from 1881 to the time of his death, was elected president in 1893, and chairman of the Council in the same year. The latter position he continued to hold to the last, and both his advice and his financial assistance were of [illegible] to the society. Last year, out of compliment to his untiring exertions, the annual [illegible] was held on his estate at Ruddington, and proved an unqualified success, a result to which Mr. Mills's genial and neither personal effort nor pecuniary expenditure, while a [illegible] testimony of the appreciation in which his services were held was afforded by the presentation from the members of the society of his portrait in oils.

"BE WISE IN TIME."

FARMERS should take care (especially in view of the comparatively low rates of premium) to insure against loss through **STORMS** and **FIRE.**

The **HOMESTEAD, FURNITURE, OUT-BUILDINGS, LIVE STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, STACKS, AND GROWING CROPS** all represent property which can, by the present modern system of **INSURANCE**, be covered at a trifling annual outlay.

INSURANCE against death or injury through accidents should not be neglected.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

FIRE, LIFE, HAILSTORM.

Invested Funds . . £13,062,125.

HAILSTORM INSURANCE.

The Royal, besides being the largest Fire Insurance Company in the world, is one of the few offices that undertakes risk from Hailstorm. The important feature for Agriculturalists when effecting protection on their property is the opportunity afforded them of combining insurance against Hailstorm and that of Fire Insurance in one office.

Gentlemen able to influence introductions with this object are invited to make application for Agencies.

Offices, 28, Lombard Street, London, E.C.

Agricultural Destitution.

SIR, The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution has, since 1860, by a system of pensions, been nobly endeavouring to lighten the burden of the unfortunate farmers of this country, who, through no fault of their own, have been left destitute in their old age. Annually, since 1887, my appeal to a generous public, through the clergy and ministers of all denominations, becomes more urgent. The charity now maintains 1,131 pensioners at an annual cost of £24,326, and at the meeting in June last to award the pensions, there remained 231 candidates, who were left out in the cold for want of adequate funds.

Time was when these farmers and their wives, many of them having now passed three score years and ten, were in affluent circumstances, but their present condition has been brought about by the cycle of wet seasons, which commenced in 1879 and continued on for many years, coupled with other calamities which have afflicted agriculture.

The promise of this year's harvest is brighter, but the wants of the aged agriculturists, ruined in the past, remain as urgent as they have ever been.

To the honour of our clergy and ministers my appeals, which began in 1887, have not been made in vain. The Bishops of Chichester, Gloucester, and St. Albans write in approval of the work of the Institution, and express the hope that their clergy may be able to devote their harvest offertories to the objects of the charity.

In 1882 the church offertories received amounted to only £1,028; while between 1887 and 1904 the sum total amounted to £127,000, or an average yearly collection of £7,066, a most gratifying recognition of the appropriateness of applying these harvest thanksgiving offertories for the relief of those who have succumbed in the struggle and are now destitute.

I am once more asking the hospitality of your columns, which have so greatly aided the Institution in the past, for the purpose of thanking the clergy and ministers who have so kindly devoted their harvest thanksgiving collections to this most noble work, and at the same time appealing with all the earnestness I can command, to those of them who have not joined our ranks, to do so this year. I wish also to urge this upon a great number of those ministering in London and our large provincial manufacturing towns, who by reason of the wealth of their congregations have it in their power to materially augment the funds of this deserving charity.

Another gratifying result of these appeals is the benefit derived by the Institution from legacies. For the five years 1882 to 1886 only £2,500 was left to the Institution, but in the eighteen years from 1887 to 1904, £58,195 was received.

I hope by again drawing attention to this excellent charity, that the benevolent public and the wealthy when making their wills may not forget the needs of the the many penniless aged cultivators.

Any enquiries will be freely replied to, and contributions received by the Secretary, Mr. C. B. Sims, 26, Charles Street, St. James's, London, S.W.—Yours truly, WALTER GILBEY.

Elveden Hall, Essex, August 22, 1905.

West Somerset: Unfavourable Weather.

SIR,—The weather since the 3rd of the month has been of a somewhat unsettled character, and as time goes on shows no tendency to improve. On some of the earlier farms harvest was all in by the middle of the month in good condition, although hindrances had taken place. On the night of the 16th a thunderstorm of unprecedented violence fell, killing many animals, firing six houses, and damaging others, whilst considerably over three inches of rain were measured, with 2.57 in. in this parish. Since then the weather has been more unsettled, although no fresh quantity has fallen, but enough to interfere with anything like good progress being made with the remaining corn crops, which on the whole are good; wheat being well filled, and barley, although varying, is generally a good and bulky crop.

In the early part of the month grass was becoming short, and roots wanted rain. These latter now have a very luxuriant appearance, and the grass lands are green and full of growth. Work, both team and manual, on the farm (except as regards those who have not got in the harvest) is well in hand, it being an exceptional time to kill the weeds in the roots, as those newly started have little chance, whilst the rain has made the stubbles go as easy as we could wish.

August 23, 1905. S. K.

Montgomeryshire (East) and Shropshire (West).

Crops Generally Satisfactory.

SIR,—The crops in this district, generally speaking, are satisfactory, with one or two exceptions. Wheat is an excellent crop, and I do not remember such a crop for several years. There is also a good length of straw, as well. The oat crop is light and the straw short in most places, but there are a few good crops. There is a good crop of barley, but again, as with oats, the straw is short. Beans, I think, are a very good crop, but few are grown in this district. Roots are fair in some parts, but mostly a light crop, although the rain will help them on. Mangolds look well where put in early; but turnips generally are exceedingly light in most places, and have been sown two and even three times. A great deal of grain is still out, and the rain interferes with getting it in. Pasture keep is short, and aftermath nothing to boast of. R.

August 22, 1905.

Wilts—A Good all-round Season.

SIR, The prospects of the spring with regard to the wheat crop has been realised, and in this neighbourhood has been a record harvest and well carried. Oats are below the average. Barley about an average crop. Roots are not quite a good plant and are backward; but, with a bare hay crop should prove feed enough for the flocks. Taking a broad view I should call 1905 a fairly good all-round season.

It is very striking as one goes about the country to notice the absence of gleaners in the wheat stubble. Surely this practice cannot be a disgrace to the labouring class, or any other class for the matter of that. Even Ruth, in history, found her Boaz in that way. Speaking personally, I have 150 acres wheat stubble, and I counted to day 20 people there; 30 years ago there would have been 100.

This I call a direct loss to the agricultural community. Much [illegible] the houses of the poor, it is left for the fowls of the air, and the should be leasers are whiling away their time in the village streets, while the mothers are gossiping with next door neighbours. There can be only one opinion; that their circumstances are prosperous and bread too cheap, while our townsmen are out of work and having legislation wasted in their favour. Passive resistance would not be out of place against such increases of local burdens.

J. B. S.

August 24, 1905.

Early Harvest in Essex.

SIR,—Seldom can one write at this date (eight days still being left in the month of August) and report that harvest in this neighbourhood is practically finished. Thanks to weather, standing corn, and binders, many have made a record as to the rapidity with which the corn has been ingathered, the whole of the cutting and carting in many instances being completed in three weeks. Yet, on the whole, there is a fair crop, and certainly the wheat is of very good quality, harvested in first rate condition, and if not hurried on to the market, should, considering the state of the foreign wheat markets, realise 30s. or over per quarter. After the two disastrous years of 1903 and 1904, it is a real pleasure to hear farmers speak a bit cheerful as to the present crop.

I think I can claim to have sold the first sample of new wheat in East Anglia. This was at Braintree, July 26, and I delivered it next day. Since then the millers and merchants have managed to bear the market down to the extent of 4s. to 5s. per quarter, which I trust is only temporary. Heard the millers say to-day that there was not nearly as much wheat on offer this week as last. Wheat is probably the best crop of the season; after that peas and beans. Some early barleys are a fair crop, but mostly very small in grain.

Now that harvest is over rain is very much needed to help on autumn feed, also to enable the ploughs to get to work, for apart from fallows, there is very little land that can be broken with horses. The continued drought has had the effect of steadying the trade for store sheep; good mutton and stall-fed beef are a fair trade, the latter has much improved the last few weeks. In spite of rather improved outlook, two farms of 200 and 250 acres in this neighbourhood offered for sale to-day found no purchasers, although the reserve was considerably under £10 per acre, and in both cases there were good residences and premises.

A. B

August 23, 1905.

Disappointing Crops in East Suffolk.

SIR,—The early part of the summer was very cold, and the pastures got very bare. Seeds a bad plant. Ewes and lambs not sufficient to eat, although the stock generally did very well. Lambs made a good price on account of the short quantity. This was a good help for those that had any to sell. The small farmers generally have not any sheep, consequently they are badly off.

The harvest has been got in quickly, thanks to the sheaf-binder, but still very expensive, as the men have more than £8 for a month. This amounts to about two acres of average crop of corn per man this harvest.

The crops are very disappointing. Wheat is thin and not healthy quality not good. Barley good—kernel small, colour fair, and short yield. Oats very light—good in quality. Peas bad. Beans fair. All crops dried too quickly. The root crops are various. Mangolds are fair. Turnips a few sown early have planted, but are not healthy. The fly took all cabbages and late sown turnips and rape. The prospects for keeping the sheep during winter are not promising. On the whole, the outlook for farmers, with two wretched harvests and bad prices previous, is not encouraging.

G. M.

August 24

(*Other Letters will be found on p. 254.*)

Harvest Weather.

1, Essex Street, Strand, Monday, August 28th, 1905.

SPECIAL THREE-DAY FORECAST. GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general conditions are favouring the formation of complete rainy cyclonic system over the entire British area, checked in their progress eastwards by high pressure over Scandinavia, and therefore likely to expend much of their energy in rain at times over these islands. The general sequence will be (1) Showery or rainy at times in most parts, most in the South, centre, and East, least in the North and North-West, with short bright intervals. Winds freshening, West, in the South and East, North in the West, and East in the North. (2) Temporarily fairer in the Eastern half with passing showers: fair to cloudy, and some rain setting in over the Western and Southern districts. (3) Finally Southerly to South-Easterly and South-Westerly winds, freshening, cloudy, and some rain spreading over most districts from the West. Temperature about normal for the date, on the whole.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1. — **Scotland**:—**Cloudy and some showers at times, with Easterly to variable winds. Later, temporarily fairer. Finally, some rain, chiefly in the West, with Southerly winds.**

„ 2.—England (N.E.) **and part of Scotland**:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—**At first South-Easterly to Easterly freshening winds, cloudy, some rain at times, and bright intervals. Later, showery to fairer, wind more Westerly and fresh. Finally, fair to cloudy and some further showers, wind more Southerly.**

„ 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**The same as No. 2.**

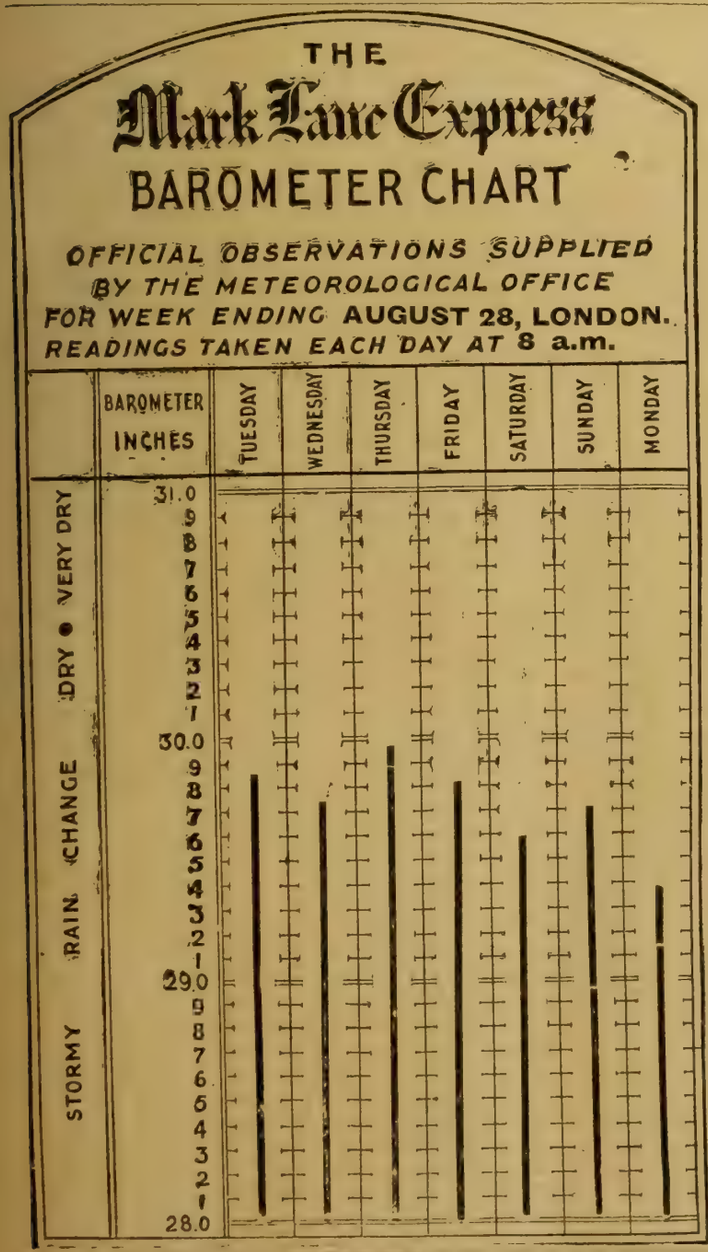
„ 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West Riding).—**At first showery at times, with bright, fair intervals. Later, fairer, with some passing showers. Finally, fair to cloudy, and some rain, chiefly in the Western districts; wind varying from West to North-West and South, fresh to moderate.**

No. 5.—England (South): — Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—**The same as No. 4.**

„ 6.—Ireland.—Fairer at first, with some showers, chiefly in the East and South; wind North-West to West. Later, fair to cloudy and some rain, wind shifting again to South. Finally, some showers over most of the area; to fairer.

„ 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first Easterly to Northerly and variable winds, cloudy, some showers to fairer. Later, fair to cloudy, and some rain; wind backing to South, Finally, showery at times; wind South-West to West.**

„ 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**At first freshening South-West to West winds, some showers to fairer. Later, fair to cloudy and some rain, with Westerly to Southerly winds. Finally, South-Westerly winds, some showers at times, to fairer.**



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express.*)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (Aug.	22) ...	29.85
Wednesday („	23) ...	29·74
Thursday („	24) ...	29·96
Friday („	25) ...	29·81
Saturday („	26) ...	29·59
Sunday („	27) ...	29·71
Monday („	28) ...	29·40

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	5.7 a.m.
„ Sets...	...	6.54 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	2.21 a.m.
„ Sets	...	5.46 a.m.

Age of Moon—Twenty-seven days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, August 28th.

GENERAL INFERENCE. The latest depression will pass away to the Eastward in the course of the day, but as the barometer in the West of Ireland has steadied again, and the wind there is inclined to back South-Westerly, it is probable that another disturbance is approaching from the Atlantic. A continuation of the unsettled conditions is consequently expected to prevail very generally.

SCOTLAND N. & E.—Light and moderate Easterly to South-Easterly breezes, changeable, rain at times; cool.

ENGLAND N.E., E., & MIDLAND COUNTIES.—Light variable breezes, later South-Westerly, freshening; unsettled some rain, thunder locally; cool.

ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Southerly to Westerly winds, varying greatly in force; unsettled, occasional rain, thunder locally; cool.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland N. & E.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Same as England N.E. & E.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—North-Westerly to South Westerly winds, fresh to a gale; unsettled, some rain, thunder locally; cool.

IRELAND, N. & S.—Westerly to Southerly winds, increasing; unsettled, some rain cool.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday. Wheat, English, slow sale, at rates under Monday's prices. Foreign held at late rates, but demand limited. South Russian quoted at 31s 6d to 35s; No. 2 Club Calcutta, at 31s; No. 3 Northern Manitoba, at 33s 6d; Plate, 31s, 34s. Flour dull, unchanged; Hungarians quoted at 30s 6d; Pillsbury's Gilt Edge, at 20s 3d; Iron Dukes, at 21s. Maize slow, unchanged. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 23s 6d; La Plata, landed at 24s 3d. Barley firm, inactive. Odessa Nico-Kherson, ex ship, to arrive, quoted at 18s 6d. Oats slow. Common sorts quoted at 14s 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday. Wheat: English and foreign held at late rates, but demand very slow. South Russians quoted at 31s 6d to 35s; No. 2 Club Calcutta at 31s; No. 3 Northern Manitoba at 33s 6d. Flour dull, unchanged prices. Hungarians quoted at 30s 6d. Morrisson's Bakers at 20s 3d, Iron Dukes at 21s. Maize, slow sale at about late rates. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 23s 6d. River Plate landed at 24s 3d. Barley steady, quiet. Odessa Nico Kherson, ex ship, quoted at 18s 6d to 18s 9d. Old crop, landed, at 20s 3d. Oats, common sorts held for 3d. advance, which checks business. White Libaus and Rigas quoted at 14s 3d to 14s 6d ex quay.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat was again cheaper on the week; best samples quoted up to 30s 6d, but few sales over 29s. New barley was offered at 29s to 30s, but no sales were reported. New oats rather cheaper, making 14s to 18s; new peas fetched 29s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 22s; mazagan beans, 32s to 34s; tick beans, 34s to 36s; maize, 26s to 27s per quarter. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 29s; beans (new), 29s to 30s; ditto (old), 32s to 33s; oats, 17s to 19s; peas, 28s to 31s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance. Only a few samples of new barley, which met with a quiet trade. New barley 25s 6d to 28s; new oats, 19s to 20s; old oats, 21s to 23s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a much better attendance at the market, but trade showed but little signs of improvement. Prices of foreign wheats about unchanged on the week, and sellers reported a disappointing trade for same. There was a good supply of new English wheats, and prices were firmer inclined, values being from 11s to 11s 6d per bag (186lb). Oats, 17s to 17s 6d per quarter (312lb); beans, 12s 3d per bag (196lb). Plate maize 3d cheaper and flat 9d. Grinding barley 3d dearer at 19s per 400lb at Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade at last week's prices. Small attendance. Wheat (English), good quality, prices same as last week. Grinding barley, 21s to 22s; old oats (English), 19s to 21s; new ditto, 15s to 18s; rye, 22s to 23s; peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Cambridge, Saturday. — During the week the wheat trade has shown more animation, and a large business has been done, at improving prices, with a falling off of supplies. Spring corn has been quiet, with small supplies. At this merke tthere was less wheat on offer, and buyers were quite ready to pay 6d more money. Red wheat, 27s to 29s, and white up to 30s per 504lb. Rather more barley showing, but prices are not settled. Oats quiet. Few beans on offer, and prices quite firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—New wheat less plentiful, and a better trade, prices advancing 6d to 1s per quarter. One extra good lot, scaling 66lb. to the bushel made 32s 6d delivered. No inquiry for new barley yet. Oats from 17s 6d to 19s; new peas, 29s to 31s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Only one bag of new oats shown in our market, but several hand samples shown, at 18s 6d to 18s 9d per 336lbs. No old oats shown. — THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain offered more freely at late rates. Old English oats and foreign beans firm. Indian corn, 3d per sack dearer. Quotations: Wheat, white, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; red, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; Egyptian ditto, 35s 6d to 36s per 480lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; ditto, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indian corn, 13s to 13s 3d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Small attendance and firm trade, but no advance in prices. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; old white ditto, 34s to 34s; 6d; old red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding ditto, 19s 3d; oats, English, 15s 6d to 22s; rye, 21s to 23s; peas, 28s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; maize, 24s to 25s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Farmers have been busy this week clearing up harvest, but there was not so much wheat offering to-day. The demand was good, and an advance of fully 6d per quarter was easily obtainable. Beans, peas, and oats sold at quotations, with fair demands. JOSEPH WILDE AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Moderate attendance. Wheat in fairly good supply, making barely last week's rates. Samples shown were principally new. New beans in prime condition made 12s. Quotations: Old wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 120lb.; new wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 186lb.; barley, 28s to 34s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s per 312lb.; new oats, 18s 6d to 20s per 392lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 14s per 196lb.; peas, 14s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday.—At this market new wheat sold at about is lower. Spring corn showed no alteration from the prices of last week. Wheat, white, 31s to 34s; red, 32s to 33s; malting barley, 33s to 34s; beans, 32s to 33s; oats, 20s to 21s.

Devizes, Thursday. There was a small quantity of new corn at market to-day, and the prices show no alteration in value. The following were the quotations: Best old wheat, 10s to 11s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; new wheat, 12s to 10s; secondary, 13s to 16s 6d; best barley 29s to 32s, secondary, 26s to 28s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 15s to 17s; white ditto, 16s to 18s; malting barley, 32s to 34s; beans, 10s to 12s; fine flour, 24s to 26s extra fine, 27s to 29s.

Doncaster, Saturday. Moderate supply of English wheat and a good sale for the best quality, condition carrying, and prices from 1s to 1s per load of three bushels. Foreign wheat firm at last week's prices. A few samples of new barley made up to 2s per qr., and new oats 1s to 1s per qr. Beans scarce and dearer. Maize about the same as last week.

Dublin, Friday. Oats 1s 9d to 1s 9d; flour, 1s to 1s 6d; pollard, 6s to 6s 6d; bran, 6s to 6s 6d; malting barley, 1s 3d to 2s.

Exeter, Friday. Good attendance, trade not brisk. Prices of wheat pointed malting 5s 9d to 5s 6d. Red weather prevented the threshing of English barley, and the sales have consequently been very few, prices were from 5s to 5s 6d. Maize weak; oats and flour firm. Superfine flour 1s to 1s 3d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. The trade during the week has been quiet, and prices of breadstuffs have been the turn in buyers' favour, but with a restricted business doing on spot, and more inquiry for shipment. Maize and other feeding stuffs have been steady, while grinding beans, owing to scarcity, have been 3d dearer. There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet and nominally unchanged on the week. Indian corn 3d per boll, and maize 4½d, cheaper since last Wednesday. Beans 3d cheaper. Pease, barley, and oats quiet at unchanged prices. Oatmeal quiet.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market very quiet. Few inquiries made for wheat. Flour slow at late rates. Mixed American maize steady at 13s 9d to 13s 10½d and round 14s 6d per 280lb. Foreign oats the turn dearer, with little business passing. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Gloucester, Saturday. English wheat not offered so freely, as farmers are reluctant to accept 3s 7d for reds, which is to-day's value. Foreign quiet, but firmly held, and values are unchanged on the week. Grinding barley and maize unaltered. Oats steady.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was a small supply of wheat, and prices were from 6d to 1s per qr. dearer on the week at 27s 6d to 28s 6d. A few samples of new barley in good condition were on sale, but prices unsettled. Beans made up to 31s, and oats made 16s to 18s per qr.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—A fair supply of new wheat, for which there was a little firmer trade at from 28s to 28s 6d per 504lb for reds. No white wheat offered. There was a fair supply of new oats, which realised from 17s to 18s per 336lb. Grinding barley unaltered. Maize fully as dear. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Storms of rain and wind have practically stopped harvest work since Friday, and injuriously affected quality and condition of all outstanding crops. Wheat shows little or no change on the week. Millers have been free buyers of new English at present low prices, but Indians are fully as dear, and other descriptions have met a steady sale at about late rates, shippers showing no disposition to press sales. Feeding stuffs unchanged on the week.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—There was little demand for either English or foreign wheats, without material change from Tuesday's prices. Top price of new English reached 29s, while foreign was firmly held at 34s. No change in beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday. Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with very fair supplies of new home-grown wheats, which came to hand in fine condition. Trade fairly active at 27s to 29s per 36 stones for red wheats, ans 28s to 30s per 36 stones for whites. Barley very good in quality, but few samples offering, and prices not yet fixed. Oats were of poor quality, and sold slowly at 16s to 19s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show and wheat generally in excellent condition, which meets a ready sale at an advance of 6d to 1s per qr. on the week. Barley trade not yet begun for the season. Oats and beans firm at last week's rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There has been only a small attendance at the market, and wheat is steady with a small trade at former currencies. Flour.—A small trade passing in both foreign and home-made brands, but no change is made in prices. Maize.—Mixed is strong, with an active demand, and owing to small supplies values are 1d over last Tuesday. Plate is also firm with a fair trade at former prices. European and Indian sorts are quiet, without change. Barley.—Malting is steady, with a moderate trade. Feeding is in fair request, but occasionally ½d. lower. Beans strong at a further advance of 3d. to 6d. for Saidis owing to scarcity. Peas steady, with a rather better demand at fully late rates. Oats in very slow request, and the tendency rather against sellers. Oatmeal firmly held, but inactive. Oilcake.—Quiet for foreign, but steady at late rates for English manufacture.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—Better attendance, and market steady. English wheat 6d per quarter dearer; foreign rather slow, but most sorts dearer compared with last week. Indian corn scarce on spot; mixed to arrive 5s 3d to 5s 3½d; Plate ditto, 5s 1½d to 5s 2d. Oats: English new easier; foreign unchanged. Foreign barley 1d lower. Foreign beans 3d dearer. Beans rather easier.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a small show owing to the showery weather. Prices 6d per quarter dearer than last week. Feeding corn in small supply at unchanged values. Quotations:—Wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, 23s to 27s; oats, 16s to 18s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new beans, 30s to 32s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — New English wheat advanced 9d to 1s per 504lbs. over last Saturday's quotations; foreign firm at late rates. Maize slightly in favour of buyers. Scotch oats slow sale, and lower prices had to be taken to make sales. Foreign unaltered. No barley on offer. Beans and peas made fully last Saturday's prices.—JOSEPH TOLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday. Fair attendance. Good show of excellent wheats, in which a fair trade was done at last week's prices. A few samples of barley on offer, but prices were very irregular. New wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; barley, 24s to 32s; old oats, 20s to 23s; new oats, 16s to 17s 6d; old beans, 31s to 34s; old peas, 28s to 33s; flour, 24s to 29s.

Nottingham Saturday. A moderate supply of wheat commands 6d more money. As regards barley, maltsters are playing a waiting game. Oats are slightly in sellers' favour. New beans appear to have passed the meridian.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was only a small supply of wheat at our market to-day, at an advance of 6d per quarter. Harvest is now practically finished in this district. Fine and warm weather prevails. Red wheat 27s 6d to 28s 6d per quarter, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending 21st August, 1905:—Wheat, 4,513 - 27s 8½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Oxford, Saturday.—The supplies at the market were rather short, and higher prices were obtainable for new wheat. Trade, however, ruled dull, with wheats quoted at 27s 6d to 28s 6d.

Peterborough, Saturday. — There has been a good demand for wheat to-day, prices being 6d to 9d better than the depressed value of last Saturday's. Not much doing in barley at present, and prices are unsettled. Oats firmer and fully as dear. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday. Wheat dull. Barley, oats, and maize 6d lower.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday. There has been no change in the wheat market during the week, only a moderate business having passed, the tendency being towards easiness. Maize has become rather scarce, sellers demanding 1d per cental more than a week ago. Beans unusually firm; peas and feeding barley unchanged. The attendance was limited. New grain is making its appearance very slowly, and prices depend entirely upon condition. Quotations show no change from last week. Flour unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 15s to 15s 6d per wrindle of 20lb.; ditto red, 14s 6d to 15s; oats, 6d. to 9d per bushel, ditto new, 5s 6d to 6s 3d.; beans, 16s 6d to 17s per wrindle of 20lb.

Reading, Saturday. A very much improved attendance. Prices: Wheat, 28s to 30s; oats, 18s to 21s; flour, 23s to 25s; beans, peas, hay, and straw firm at current prices.

Retford, Saturday.—A large attendance, and new English wheat was in better demand at an advance of 6d per qr. on the week, viz., 27s to 27s 6d per qr. Several samples of new barleys were shown, but no prices were quoted. A fair demand for new oats at 16s to 17s per qr.; old oats made 20s to 22s; and Indian corn 25s to 27s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—New samples of wheat now on offer, but little business was done. Both round and flat maize show a downward tendency. Prices:—New wheat, 27s to 28s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; new oats, 17s; maize, round, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; ditto flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday. — Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb.; new wheat, 12s 6d to 13s per 225lb.; old white oats, 16s to 17s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb; beans, 17s to 17s 6d per 240 lb.

Stamford, Friday.—The wheat trade has improved, and several transactions were negociated at 6d to 1s per qr. advance on the week. New wheat 27s to 27s 6d, oats 15s to 17s per qr. Several samples of barley were shown, but there was a disposition to hold back, and no quotations were given. Beans and peas firm at current rates.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Farmers in this district have scarcely commenced threshing yet, and grain quotations remain nominally unaltered. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 635 quarters.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 29s to 30s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats (English), 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of corn of all descriptions. Farmers are very reluctant to thresh their wheat at present prices, which, however, are better than the prices ruling last week. Feeding stuffs in good demand and prices rather higher.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in better demand, and a shade dearer on the week. Foreign unaltered. Barley, oats, and maize quiet, unchanged. Flour, fair consumptive trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A limited supply of grain at market. Wheat in demand at fully late rates. Reds, 28s. Oats, quality various, 16s to 17s 6d.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Small attendance and little business passing. Quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 216lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb; new oats, 11s to 11s 6d; old oats, 13s to 14s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance, and trade slow. A few samples of new wheat showing, which made 28s to 29s per quarter; old white wheat, 32s to 33s; old red wheat, 30s to 31s; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; old white oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 17s to 19s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; new ditto, 16s to 18s; maize, 26s to 28s; beans, 36s to 38s per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—Fair offer of the new season's corn, but not much business passing. Wheat about 2s below last week's prices. Barley without change. Oats steady. New English wheat, best samples, 28s to 31s 6d; secondary, 26s to 27s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 33s; best barley, 25s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; foreign grinding, 18s 3d to 18s 9d; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 20s to 21s; old white oats, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s 6d; Irish black, 16s 9d to 17s 3d; rye, 22s to 24s; beans, 32s to 35s 6d; tares, winter, 47s 6d to 49s 6d; ditto spring, 40s to 42s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour trade continues quiet, fine making from 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s. Meals and offals continue in good demand at firmer rates.

York, Saturday.—The wet weather has prevented the farmers from thrashing, and there were no new samples offering to-day. Wheat was firm; white, 28s to 29s; red and mixed, 27s to 28s per qr.; fine samples of barley, 27s to 29s; feeding barley, 24s to 25s per qr. New oats were in poor demand from 16s to 17s 6d per qr.; whilst old oats fetched 10d to 11d per stone. Beans made 1s, and rye 6½d to 7d per stone. The attendance was good.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—Harvest is finished now, but market rules quiet, and, so far, our local maltsters and brewers have bought very little. The quality of Saale and other North German barleys are rather poor, and Bohemians, although somewhat better, are pretty dear; choice Slovakian is still held at extreme figures but finds some attention; in Hungarians for shipment from Fiume a fair trade is doing.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday. Fine weather continues. There is a firm tone in our market for most articles and a considerable amount of business has been done. It is now evident that the new cereal crops in many districts do not turn out satisfactorily, neither in quality nor quantity. Fine new Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is selling at 30s 6d to 3s 3d per 504lb. f.o.b.; new Saale wheat is held at the same price, but quality is not so fine as last season; hard winter No. 2 is offering at 30s 6d; 80 Ko River Plate at 30s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye in demand and dearer; 72-73 Ko Danubian afloat is held at 24s 6d; 9 20-25 South Russian afloat 25s; 9 15-20 September shipment 24s 9d to 25s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Finest Slovakian barley begins to attract attention for export and it seems as if holders will get the high prices they demand. We quote best Slovakian 36s 6d to 37s; good middling quality, 32s to 35s; good Bohemian, 32s 6d to 34s 6d; common Bohemian and Saale, 30s to 32s 6d per 448lb. f.o.b. Feeding barley was depressed by some forced sales. 60-61 Ko South Russian afloat having been sold at 16s 7½d, while October shipments are held at 17s per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize afloat is offering at 23s, December-January 20s 9d. River Plate afloat 22s 6d, September-October 22s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. —JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—Although arrivals are daily becoming larger at the provincial markets, wheat prices are still maintained, farmers refusing to make the slightest concession until they know exactly what the yield of the harvest will be; buyers are also reserved for the same reason. At the Bourse de Commerce business continues to lack animation, buyers being reserved, due to the weakness displayed by extraneous markets. On the other hand, offers are regular, and contribute to make the tone heavier, and to depress prices, which are fallen from 5c. to 10c. for flour, and from 25c. to 10s. for wheat, according to position. Rye, nothing doing, prices nominal. Oats heavy, with a fall in prices of from 35c. to 10c. according to month. At the weekly market business has been a little better all round, without much alteration in prices from last week. Very little old wheat is now being offered, but new crop is beginning to come along rather freely. In foreign wheat there is not much doing. Offals quotably unchanged, spot parcels still remain scarce.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

Indian wheat cargoes are selling fairly well and are a good choice on the whole, though no Bombay, either White or Red, appears to be obtainable. Other wheat cargoes are a little out of favour, nevertheless sales have included Australian at 33s. per 480 lb., Rosario at 29s. 9d. per 480 lb., Bahia Blanca at 30s. 9d. per 504 lb., Entre Rios at 29s. per 472 lb., Russian Azima at 33s. 6d. per 492 lb., and Odessa Ghuka at 31s. 6d. per 492 lb.

Maize is held for 22s. 9d. per 480 lb., both for yellow and flat corn. Parcels are not appreciably cheaper than cargoes. No round corn is offered.

Barley cargoes are firm at 25s. per 448 lb. for Californian and 18s. per 400 lb. for Black Sea. Cargoes of oats are 3d. dearer: 14s. 6d. paid for 304 lb. Mogda, 13s. 9d. for 304 lb. Archangel, and 14s. 9d. per 320. lb for American.

Other cargo sales of the week comprise new crop Smyrna beans at 32s. per 480 lb., Argentine linseed at 38s. 6d. per 416 lb., Egyptian cottonseed at 110s. per ton, and Portuguese locust beans at 97s. per ton.

Latest East Indian wheat rejections, or prices to be paid in default of grain being taken on its arrival, as published by the London Corn Trade Association:—No. 2 Club Calcutta 31s., Soft Red Calcutta 29s. 6d., Soft White Delhi 31s. 3d., Karachi Soft White Delhi 31s. 3d., Soft White Karachi 30s., Choice White Karachi 30s. 6d., Soft Red Karachi 29s. 9d.; all per quarter of 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week ending noon to-day were 11 wheat (2 Bahia Blanca, 1 Fremantle, 2 Geelong, 2 Melbourne, 1 Port Broughton, 1 Port Germain, 2 Wallaroo), 3 linseed (2 Buenos Ayres, 1 Rosario) —Total 14.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call for the week ending noon to-day were 11 wheat (1 Barry, 2 Belfast, 1 Birkenhead, 1 Bristol, 2 Cardiff, 1 Dublin, 1 Limerick, 1 London, 1 Waterford)—Total 11.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 267 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed—Total 350.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 180 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 31 barley and wheat, 16 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans 1 rye, 27 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—Total 269.

CORN STATISTICS.

[SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	9	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat ..... 28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley ..... 24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats ..... 17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, August 23, 1905:—

Wheat	2,239,700	cwts.
Wheat-flour	147,300	,,
Barley	278,600	,,
Oats	321,500	,,
Maize	1,475,200	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,408,400	1,937,300	1,599,467	1,570,800
Wheat-flour	201,900	365,085	460,588	522,000
Barley	477,600	363,400	453,829	430,500
Oats	289,900	221,900	154,564	236,300
Maize	863,900	794,700	744,477	864,800

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to August 26, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1900	30 393⅜	28 8	1,978¼	25 2	9,006¾	18 1
1901	61 663⅞	27 0	4,877⅛	24 3	14,654¼	17 10
1902	8 167⅛	31 7	497⅛	26 2	5,463⅜	21 0
1903	13,147½	30 0	520⅜	22 3	8,572¼	18 7
1904	31 472⅜	29 5	4,701¾	23 2	2,042¼	16 5

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	26 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 9	23 2	16 9

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 8 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,377,000	1,000,000	1,105,000
Barley	,,	437,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	365,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	73,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	253,000
Maize	,,	80,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1904.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	32	0
May 31 ,,	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1904.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	31 0	(per sack) 28 0
October 10 (,,)	31 6	(,,) 28 6
,, 19 (,,)	31 0	(,,) 28 0
March 31 (,,)	30 6	(,,) 27 6
May 3 (,,)	30 3	(,,) 27 3
June 7 (,,)	30 0	(,,) 27 0

No change since last date given.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 8	17 1			
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s. d	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 0	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 5	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25 9	24 0	24 0	23 0	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6	23 1½	25 0
July	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August		26 0	24 9	22 0	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6
Sept.		27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct.		27 0	24 0	22 9	21 5	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov.		26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 0	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 0	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb.	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1
April	30 9	29 0	34 6	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 8	28 6	27 6	35 6
July		29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0
August		30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 1	27 0	31 6
Sept.		31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6	26 3	25 3	31 0
Oct.		31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 6	24 9	30 6
Nov.		32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3
Dec.		31 6	28 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.		30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended August 26, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	88,696¾	qrs.	27s. 1d.
Barley	6,481½	qrs.	23s. 6d.
Oats	20,855	qrs.	15s 9.1

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 22, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,961	2	6,992	0	0	1	8	2
Barley	1,397	6	1	5	6	1	4	11
Oats	3,324	3	2	10	1	0	16	4

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Aug. 27	31,432⅛	29	5	4,701¾	23	2	2,042¼	16	7
Sept. 3	82,921⅛	30	2	12,370¾	25	3	8,[illegible]	16	3
,, 10	46,116⅛	30	0	22,490¼	24	10	31,336	16	1
,, 17	51,[illegible]⅛	29	7	45,91[illegible]	24	9	37,[illegible]¼	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	89,597½	25	10	47,[illegible]¼	16	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,[illegible]¾	25	5	44,796½	15	2
,, 8	54,697¼	30	2	163,[illegible]	25	6	43,[illegible]¼	15	9
,, 15	45,462¾	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,[illegible]¾	15	2
,, 22	45,[illegible]¼	30	4	213,[illegible]¾	25	5	31,[illegible]¾	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044½	24	11	29,[illegible]¼	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,[illegible]½	25	0	35,145¼	16	9
,, 12	43,740⅛	30	8	204,41[illegible]	24	6	32,[illegible]¼	15	11
,, 19	41,025¼	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,[illegible]	16	9
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,[illegible]¼	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,[illegible]⅜	30	4	166,[illegible]¾	24	6	35,[illegible]¼	16	2
,, 10	50,[illegible]⅛	30	4	165,[illegible]	24	4	36,[illegible]¼	16	2
,, 17	44,[illegible]⅞	30	4	130,[illegible]¼	24	4	31,[illegible]	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,[illegible]¼	24	7	28,[illegible]¾	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅛	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,[illegible]¼	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,[illegible]⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647⅛	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,[illegible]¾	25	0	32,[illegible]⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,[illegible]⅛	30	6	89,49[illegible]	25	1	41,[illegible]¼	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,[illegible]⅜	25	0	41,[illegible]¾	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,[illegible]	25	2	3[illegible]	16	8
,, 18	44,495⅛	30	5	51,75[illegible]	25	2	36,[illegible]¼	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,[illegible]¾	25	0	30,[illegible]¼	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,[illegible]¾	16	10
,, 11	38,118⅜	30	9	23,41[illegible]	25	2	24,[illegible]¼	16	10
,, 18	31,[illegible]	30	10	18,442⅜	24	11	20,[illegible]¼	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,42[illegible]	25	2	1[illegible]	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,10[illegible]	25	6	15,[illegible]¼	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,[illegible]	17	6
,, 22	23,984½	30	8	2,[illegible]½	24	4	14,[illegible]¾	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,18[illegible]	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,044½	25	3	11,[illegible]½	18	0
,, 13	53,446½	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,[illegible]	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,[illegible]¾	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	701	24	4	9,017¾	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,[illegible]½	31	4	21[illegible]	24	0	6,11[illegible]	18	11
,, 17	12,81[illegible]	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,[illegible]¾	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅛	31	7	145¼	23	9	3,[illegible]¼	18	11
July 1	9,[illegible]⅛	31	4	289[illegible]	23	2	3,48[illegible]	19	7
,, 8	7,8[illegible]⅛	32	1	378[illegible]	22	11	2,[illegible]½	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅛	32	3	31[illegible]	22	10	1,9[illegible]	19	7
,, 22	6,[illegible]⅛	32	2	[illegible]¼	23	7	2,[illegible]	18	11
,, 29	7,691⅛	32	3	241	19	9	3,[illegible]⅞	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062⅛	31	11	371¾	22	0	4,344⅞	18	4
,, 12	8,184⅛	30	5	54[illegible]	22	5	8,97[illegible]	16	11
,, 19	32,715⅛	28	5	1,76[illegible]	23	4	13,[illegible]¼	16	4
,, 26	88,696¾	27	1	6,481½	23	6	20,[illegible]	15	9

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

August 16 to 23, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	3,010	40,619	43,629
Barley	950	200	1,150
Malt	19,248	...	19,248
Oats	4,900	60,000	64,900
Beans	10	2,700	2,710
Peas	27	1,910	1,937
Maize	...	19,872	19,872
Tares	72	...	72
Lentils	...	4,000	4,000
Haricots	...	3,400	3,400
Buckwheat	...	350	350
Linseed	...	7,000	7,000
Rapeseed	100	674	774
Flour sacks	24,850	21,180	46,030
Middlings	...	1,551	1,551
Riceflour	...	3,709	3,709
Oatmeal	...	7,400	7,400

WOOL.

Canterbury. Saturday.—The market continues firm but without much animation. Best fleeces are worth 1s. lamb wool, 8¾ per lb., halfbred 1s to 1s 1d, and Downs, 1s 1d per lb.

Halifax. Saturday.—Business has been rather quiet, but with a firm and in some cases an improved tendency in prices for the raw material. Home grown wools still tend somewhat against the buyer. The yarn trade has not much changed, but the outlook continues to be regarded favourably, and in the export trade it is generally realised that values are on a safe basis, which is causing a little increase in demand.

London. Saturday.—English per lb.: [illegible]—Fleeces, S. Down Hogs, £1 1s to £1 4; hoggets [illegible] £12 10s to £15 15s; wethers, £1 1s to £15; Kent [illegible] £12 to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £12 [illegible] £13 10s; Leicester dates, £11 [illegible] £12 5s. Cross-bred Vic—Fleece super. 1s 11d to 2s 1d; [illegible] to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 2d to 1s [illegible] to 1s 3d; [illegible] to 1s 1d to 1s 2d; N. S. W., super. 1s 2d to 1s 3d; scoured average, 11d to 1s [illegible] S. Australian super. 1s 2d to 2s 1d; N.Z.—Scoured super. 1s 3d to 1s 4d; average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; Cotswolds, 10d to 1s; fleece average, 8d to 10d; greasy average, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; Natal Scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 8d; greasy average, 9½d. Crossbreds—Grs—Vic. super. 1s 2d to 1s 3d; average, 1s 3d; New Zealand [illegible] 1s 2d to 1s 3d; [illegible] to 1s 1d; Cotswolds, 10d to 12d.

POTATOES.

Goole. Wednesday.—Supplies [illegible] The present season for the new crop is just opening. A few lots changed hands at £2 per ton, 4s 6d per cwt. Retail 6d to 8d per stone.

Spitalfields. Saturday.—The supplies were fairly coming, and with no improvement in the demand trade remained quiet at very slow prices. Dover Yorks, 50s to 55s; Puddocks, 50s to 55s; Round Whites, 50s to 55s; Beauty of Hebron, 50s to 55s; Bedfords, Queens, 50s to 60s; Blacklands, 50s; Up to Dates, 55s to 60s per ton. Dates, 55s to 60s per ton.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat harvest is nearly over in the majority of leading counties, and if the weather keeps fairly fine will be concluded in a fortnight, even in Ulster and the West of Scotland. The later grain of the north and west is plumper than the earlier of the south and east, but it is also weaker and less fit for immediate milling. The record of Twentieth Century wheat harvests on a Kentish farm, thus stands:—

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Began Cutting	6 Aug.	11 Aug.	17 Aug.	3 Aug.	27 July
Finished ,,	7 Sep.	20 Sept.	17 Sept.	27 Aug.	24 Aug.
H'vest Weather	Broken	Broken	Wet	Fine	Fine
H'vest Labour	Scarce	Scarce	Scarce	Fair	Sufficient
Estimated Yield	32·6	33·6	28·6	30·6	35·6

It must, of course, be remembered that Kentish wheat production is decidedly above the average of the United Kingdom; on the other hand, Kent this year has not been quite so favoured in respect to wheat as the north-eastern counties, from Lincolnshire to Haddington. Improved harvest weather and a better supply of labour are good features, especially the latter. Many farmers think that the townward drain of the usual population has been arrested, or, at all events, that there is a pause in the movement.

Our estimate of the wheat area for the United Kingdom, viz., 1,800,000 acres, has probably been slightly exceeded, the returns issued on the 26th for Great Britain showing 1,796,985 acres. Ireland is, we fear, an increasingly unsuccessful wheat grower, but the area under wheat is still a good deal over the very small total required to carry the Great British return to the better side of 1,800,000 acres.

The area under barley and oats shows practically the decrease which we anticipated, and rye that increase which we had forecast, but we are agreeably disappointed in the returns for beans and peas. These crops, we had surmised, would show a diminished cultivation, but they have as a matter of fact gained 1,610 acres. That 102,438 acres in Great Britain have been won back to regular farming, that hops have gained 1,169 acres, that small fruit has gained 875 acres, and that orchards have been extended by 1,315 acres, are further gratifying evidences of agricultural progress.

The foreign harvests are the subject of an interesting survey in *Beerbohm's List*, and we gather that the shipping trade anticipate some of the leading wheat crops as follows, in quarters of 480 lb.:—

	This Year. Qrs.		Last Year. Qrs.
Austria-Hungary	26,250,000	..	22,300,000
France	39,000,000	..	37,500,000
Germany	18,000,000	..	17,500,000
Italy	18,000,000	..	17,000,000
Spain	11,000,000	..	10,000,000
Russia	63,000,000	..	82,000,000
Roumania	12,000,000	..	6,750,000

The time has not yet come for discussing these crops in detail, but the Spanish estimate is not confirmed by the ordinary press of the Continent, and is, we fear, at least two million quarters above the truth. Roumania must not be credited with so enormous an increase as the above figures indicate without further investigation, and we believe Russia to have a good deal bigger yield than is now mentioned. The experience of most recent years has been that the Russian harvest is underestimated from August to October, and that the prosperous provinces are the silent ones.

The American wheat crop is very slow in getting into motion, and the Term market reveals a firm holding for all futures within 1905. The fact that the American agriculturist is doing what he can to keep up prices should encourage his English cousin to resist the present home rush to sell at a low price.

We notice in the flour trade that the fancy quotations for fine American flour which ruled from January to July inclusive are not now to be obtained, and that for October and later delivery 28s. to 28s. 6d. is accepted. The price is likely to revert to a 1903 level before the autumn has been with us for many weeks. Ordinary Household flour is not more than 6d. down on the week, but flour made in East Anglia from new English wheat is offered freely at prices fully 2s. per sack below the level of flour made from the old crop. Some attention is being attracted by the Apostoloff Process, whereby it is claimed that all English flour can be made to produce a loaf which meets the town customer's taste. Hitherto this has been a difficulty, for the home-made bread of the country house and the all English loaf of the country bakery have failed to satisfy the taste of the town man. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the claims made for the process in question will prove to have some substance in them.

Barley is not cheaper on the week, and the English new crop is slow in coming forward, farmers giving their wheat the precedence. The price of Russian is now 2s. 6d. to 3s. higher than in either 1904 or 1903, and, with the shipments of Russian at a rate of over 400,000 weekly, it is difficult to see how this price is to be maintained into the winter. Feeding barley buyers may do well to wait a bit.

Oats are coming into increased local supply, and prices are moderate. Foreign oats have rallied a little since the 21st, but there is an unusually large supply on passage, and with September it is not impossible that buyers of light oats may have the best of the market.

Maize is selling well for the time of year, and the large supply on passage excites no apprehensions, the stocks being low and enquiries stretching forward into the autumn months already. America on the 26th called a visible supply of 516,000 qr., against 543,000 qr. one year and 753,000 qr. two years ago.

Supplies of wheat on passage show a decided decline upon the week.

	Qrs.
American	50,000
Argentine	705,000
Russian	240,000
Indian	638,000
Australasian	415,000
Various	50,000
Total	2,098,000
A week ago	2,282,000

The week's arrivals included 129,000 qrs. of Indian and 50,000 qrs. of Argentine wheat.

Of flour, only 144,000 sacks are on passage.

Of maize, expectations are as follows:—

	Qrs.
American	200,000
Argentine	1,035,000
Russian	50,000
Total	1,285,000

Other quantities on passage are, oats 500,000 qrs., barley 395,000 qrs., rice 28,000 tons, cottonseed 22,000 tons, and linseed 189,000 qrs.

The sales of British wheat for 51 completed weeks of the cereal year have been as follows, at the 187 statute markets:—

	Per Qr.
This Season, 1,659,000 quarters, at	30s. 8d.
Last Season, 2,088,000 quarters, at	27s. 2d.

The rise of 3s. 6d. on the year's price is gratifying, but last week the average price made was threepence lower on the twelvemonth, so that the gain of eleven months looks like being given up in the twelfth.

The sales of British barley have been:—

	Per Qr.
This Season, 3,135,000 quarters, at	24s. 7d.
Last Season, 2,776,000 quarters, at	21s. 11d.

The rise of 2s. 8d. is not wholly maintained, but last week's average was elevenpence up on the twelvemonth.

Oats have been in slightly increased supply, and the price has not been lowered in consequence.

	Per Qr.
This Season, 1,158,000 quarters, at	17s. 1d.
Last Season, 1,107,000 quarters, at	16s. 5d.

The imports of 51 completed weeks have been:—

Breadstuffs, 27,596,267 quarters; a good supply.
Maize, 9,573,000 quarters; a fair supply.
Barley, 5,761,000 quarters; an average.
Oats, 6,206,000 quarters; a full supply.

Last week's imports were as follows:—

Wheat, 463,000 quarters; a full supply.
Flour, 85,307 sacks; a small arrival.
Barley, 75,000 quarters; a small arrival.
Oats, 64,000 quarters; half an average.
Maize, 228,000 quarters; a liberal supply.

American shipments last week were very small for the time of year, which should witness the exports of new winter crops on a somewhat free scale. Actual exports were:—44,000 qrs. of wheat, 25,000 qrs. of barley, 10,000 qrs. of oats, 161,000 qrs. of maize, and 64,000 sacks of flour. Argentine shipments were far more liberal, the items being:—Wheat 221,000 qrs., maize 349,000 qrs., and linseed 19,000 qrs.

The Old World's leading shipper continues to be Russia, from whose shores were exported last week, 271,000 qrs. of wheat, 415,000 qrs. of barley, 324,000 qrs. of oats, and 24,000 qrs. of maize. Roumania supplemented these totals with 183,000 qrs. of wheat and 29,000 qrs. of barley, but shipped no oats or maize. India sent off 100,000 qrs. of wheat and 33,000 qrs. of linseed, while Australasia exported 27,000 qrs. of wheat.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 1,565 bales, and from foreign ports 10,474. The bacon market was very quiet last week, in consequence of the late high prices; however, with considerable reductions there was a better demand, the market closing steadier with: Irish, 64s to 67s up to 71s; Danish, 56s to 64s up to 70s; Canadian, 58s to 61s up to 64s. Butter: The butter market was steady but quiet, with prices ranging: French, 98s to 110s; Danish, 112s to 118s; Russian, 90s to 108s; Irish, 98s to 110s; Canadian, 92s to 112s; Australian, 100s to 110s; American, 95s to 103s. Lard: The lard market was steady: Irish, 46s to 57s; American, 42s to 42s 6d.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 28.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was a good attendance of millers to-day, and new English wheat was inquired after at 29s. for Red, 30s. White, each per 504 lb. There were offerings of 480 lb. Red at 28s. Foreign wheat was rather steadier from last week. Californian and Walla Walla are now off the market for the first time for many years. On the other hand, New Zealand, which for the greater part of this season has been unrepresented, is now offering long-berried (very fine) wheat at 33s. and short-berried at 32s. per qr. Barley, for prompt delivery for feeding, was decidedly firm, but lower prices are the general expectation before Michaelmas. Oats made 16s. per 320 lb. for fine Vologdas, 14s. 3d. for good 304 lb. White Sea lots, and 14s. for ordinary South Russian. New English was a moderate supply at 17s. to 18s. per 336 lb.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	34	— 35
New White	,,	29	— 32
Old Red	,,	33	— 34
New ,,	,,	28	— 30
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	none	
Brewing	,,	none	
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	24	— 26
,,	(per 400 lb.)	none	
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	,,	25	— 30
Black	,,	31	— 33
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 20
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 20
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 20
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	16	— 17
RYE, Old	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
New	,,	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	none	
New Unpicked ,,	,,	none	
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	30	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 52
(Spring)	,,	40	— 44
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	30	— 31
RAPESEED, Black	(per 420 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
M'itoba Best White	36	— 37
,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29	— 30
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448lb.)	30	— 32
(400lb.)	24	— 26
,, Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400lb.)	19.6	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Crushed (304lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	27·6	— 28
Turkish	26·6	— 27
Morocco	25·3	— 26
Indian	25·6	— 26
American	24	— 24·3
Argentine	28·9	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 14/6
OATS:	s.	s.
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	34	— 35
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 43
Canadian	39	— 41
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 16
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	29	— 30
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	24	— 28
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 71

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

A FEW LOTS OF NEW ENGLISH MALTING BARLEY WERE SHOWN. THE WEIGHT WAS GOOD, 448 TO 452 LB., BUT THE SKIN WAS DECIDEDLY COARSER THAN USUAL, AND 29s. WAS NOT EXCEEDED. THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT CHANGE FROM THE EARLIER REPORT FOR WHEAT, MAIZE, AND OATS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 28.

London makes were a slow sale at 5d. per sack decline. New All-English country flour attracted attention. Prices were as low as a guinea for straights, 22s. for Thirty per Cent. Patent, and 24s. for choice roller white. Threepence under these prices would be accepted where delivery was not required for a fortnight. American flour declined 1s. per sack for Minnesota, Duluth, and Milwaukee fine qualities, and also for Kansas and other makes from winter wheat. Prices for October shipment are 2s. lower from the early offers of August. Argentine flour was scarce, and there seems to be few offers for September or October shipment. Australian declined 6d. per sack and was offered for prompt shipment at 23s. c.f.i. Hungarian Five Stars made 30s. 9d. to 31s. per sack. Cascadia made 25s. 9d. to 26s. per sack. Granardia made 25s. 6d. to 25s. 9d. per sack. Belgian finest made 27s. 6d. to 27s. 9d. per sack. Finest rice flour made 20s. 3d. per sack. Brazilian middlings made 115s. per ton. Aberdeen oatmeal realised £11 5s. per ton. In the course of the market telegrams from Minneapolis offered October shipment of fine patents at 26s. c.f.i.

LONDON FLOUR.

	s. d.
Top Price .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	31 0
Town Whites..... ,,	28 0
,, Households ..... ,,	25 0
No. 2..... ,,	22 0
Whole Meal No. 1 ..... ,,	26 0
,, No. 2 ..... ,,	24 0
Paste Flour ... ,,	22 0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents (Old Crop Flr) ...(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made ,, ... ,,	24 — 25
Ord'y Roller made ,, ... ,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made ,, ... ,,	22 — 23
Best Patents (New Crop Flour) ..... ,,	24 — 25
Fine Roller whites ,, ... ,,	23 — 24
Ord'y Roller ,, ,, ... ,,	21—21/6
Best Stone made ,, ... ,,	20/6—21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 30
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers'..... ,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	20 — 21
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	26 — 28
,, Bakers' ..... ,,	21 — 22
Californian ..... ,,	26 — 27
Canadian..... ,,	27 — 28
Russian ..... ,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0 ..... ,,	32 — 33
,, 1..... ,,	31 — 32
,, 2..... ,,	30 — 31
,, 3 ..... ,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux ..... ,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	21 — 22
Australian... ,,	23 — 24
Argentine, 1st Grade ..... ,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

	s. s.
Bran, London Broad .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ..... ,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	11 — 12
Pollard ..... ,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal ..... ,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds ..... ,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal ..... ,,	14 — 15
Canadian Oatmeal..... ,,	26 — 27
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	34 — 35
Groats ..... ,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour..... ,,	35 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour..... ,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour..... ,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"..... ,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	13 — 14
,, Cones ..... ,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal..... ,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau) ..... ,,	21 — 22
,, (Konigsberg) ..... ,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal ..... ,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal ..... ,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal ..... ,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal ..... ,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal ..... ,,	9/9— 10
Rice Flour ..... ,,	20 — 22
Rice Cones..... ,,	18 — 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 8d.	Sept. delivery.
,, ,, ...	6s. 7d.	Nov. ,,
,, ,, ...	6s. 6d.	Jan. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Sept. delivery.
,, ...	4s. 8d.	Nov. ,,
,, ...	4s. 3d.	Jan. ,,

These six quotations are the same as those of the 19th instant. The speculative market is seldom so stable.

American winter wheat for September and October shipment was steady this morning, 6s. 8d. was paid for October delivery. Maize made 4s. 10d. for September delivery, while 4s. 3d. was accepted for January.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals. Bran is still in good demand; no further advance to report in prices. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There is a moderate demand. On the whole, however, trade is quiet; no further change to report in prices. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour. The tendency of prices is rather lower, although American millers make no change in offers. Grain. Indian corn is now plentiful at 13s. 9d. per 280 lb. Some Plate maize has arrived, and is held for 14s. 6d. Oats very dull, with lower prices for 38-40 lb. qualities. Barley being dear on spot, is only in small demand. Peas quiet. Beans strong, both on spot and for shipment. Oilcake unchanged. Mill Stuffs. There is no change in bran, but Thirds, especially Fine Thirds, are in active demand. MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

The only change to record in milling offals is an advance of 2s. 6d. per ton for pollard.—JOHN BAWCOMBE AND CO.

Flour on spot quiet and unchanged. For shipment a fair business has been done at about 3d. decline on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake firm and dearer. Cotton cake: Slow demand at last week's prices. Linseed dearer. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Stocks nearly exhausted.

English Linseed Cake .. ..ex mill	7	17	6 to 8	0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay				
,, Western ,, ex quay				
Round Trieste Linseed Cake .. ex quay				
Russian Oil Cake ,, ...ex quay	7	10	0 to 7	15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake .....ex quay	7	17	6	
,, ,, Meal .....ex quay	6	15	0	
London-made ,, Cake (best)ex mill	4	12	6 to 4	15 0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)ex quay	4	12	6 to 4	13 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	4	17	6	
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2	0	0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	2	3	0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2	1	6 to 2	6 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs. ex warehouse				
Larniea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs....				
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London				
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)				
Bombay ,, ,, ,, ...				
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.				

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat and maize cargoes are a little weaker from Saturday, but barley and oats temporarily favour holders. Cottonseed cargoes are steadier, while cargoes of linseed, rapeseed, beans, peas, and rice are all decidedly firm.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—White Walla, 32s per 500lb., November shipment; Red Walla, 31s 6d per 500lb., November shipment; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s 3d per 480lb., November shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 30s 6d per 480lb., November shipment; Hard Taganrog, 30s per 492lb., October shipment; White Kurrachee, 30s 6d per 492lb., September shipment; Red Kurrachee, 30s per 492lb., September shipment; Roumanian, 30s 3d per 504lb., September shipment; Roumanian, 29s per 492lb., September shipment; No. 2 Red Winter, 29s 3d per 480lb., September shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 6d per 480lb., on passage; American, 22s 6d per 480lb., on passage.

BARLEY.—Kustendje, 19s per 416lb., September shipment; Californian, 25s 3d per 448lb., September shipment; Azoff, 18s 3d per 400lb., on passage; Azoff, 18s per 400lb., October shipment.

OATS.—Petersburg, 13s 6d per 304lb., on passage; Petersburg, 13s 3d per 304lb., September shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 39s 9d per 410lb., arrived; Argentine, 38s 9d per 416lb., arrived; American, 39s 9d per 424lb., September shipment; Bombay, 40s 6d per 416lb., September shipment.

RAPESEED.—Roumanian, 35s per 424lb., September shipment; Ferozepore, 34s. per 416lb., September shipment

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report: The new crop is now arriving on the market, and is being taken at prices that must be very satisfactory to consumers, but most disappointing to the producer. Yearlings are selling, but at a further reduction on prices ruling last week.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday. — Butter: The demand for Canadian butter is good, and values remain unchanged for salted, but there is a firmer tone for unsalted, and prices are expected to improve next week. The c.i.f. quotations from Canada shows a steady advance, but buyers here do not feel inclined to follow the rise further at present. The first arrival of grass made Australian butter is due next week, but it consists of only a very small parcel from an especially early district, and, of course, will not possess the full grass flavour for a few weeks. The weather in Queensland and New South Wales is dry and hot, and butter is quoted at 102's f.o.b. The Continental markets remain firm, and supplies are falling off in Central Europe. As showing that the effects of the drought which prevailed on the Continent last year are not over, the imports of butter from Europe since July 1 to date are only 25,180 tons, against 28,220 tons for the same period last year, and 31,858 tons for the year 1903. Imports into this country from all foreign sources last week were 55,862 cwts., against 69,500 for the same week in 1904, and 79,076 cwts. in 1903.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Aug. 21, 1905. British.	Total, Aug. 20, 1904.	Monday.
Beasts	1,400	1,400	1,113
Sheep and Lambs.....	5,000	5,000	7,707
Calves	10	10	...
Milch Cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second	First
Beasts	3s 0d	3s 6d	4s 0d
Sheep	3s 8d	4s 4d	5s 0d
Lambs	4s 10d	5s 4d	6s 0d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 17; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,176; Devon, 15; Ireland, 83.

In the beast market to-day the supply compared with the corresponding day last week showed an increase of 200 head, the majority, as usual, consisting of Midland Counties cattle. Trade taken all round was of a very sluggish nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. on last Monday's money. The Irish consignments to-day consisted of 61 Dublins (10 of which were choice Black-polled cattle) and 22 Waterfords, no stores being offered for sale. Trade for this class of beasts was also very slow, nevertheless, late currencies governed all sales. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply, and met a slightly better demand from town buyers at an advance of 2d. A clearance is, however, extremely doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): —

	To-day.	Monday, Aug. 29, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d ...	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d ...	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts.....	4s 0d ex 4s 6d ...	4s 2d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d ...	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 0d to 4s 5d ...	
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d ...	3s 6d to 3s 8d

In this part of the market trade was of a decidedly firmer nature, an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. being made on wether sheep, and from 2d. to 4d. on ewes. Scotch sheep also shared in the generally better tone of the trade, rates favouring the sellers to the extent of 2d. On the other hand, Irish met a very limited demand at less money, notwithstanding the much shorter number on offer. Lambs, which were greatly in excess of the demand, were difficult to cash at late rates. A clearance in this part of the market is confidently expected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, August 29, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs .....5s 8d to 5s 10d ...		5s 6d to 5s 8d
9 st Downs ....5s 6d to 5s 8d ...		5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Half-breds .....5s 4d to 5s 6d ...		5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Irish .....5s 0d to 5s 2d ...		5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes .....4s 2d to 4s 4d ...		3s 10d to 4s 0d
11 st Half-bred ditto 4s 0d to 4s 2d ...		3s 6d to 3s 8d
6 st Down Lambs ...6s 0d to 6s 2d ...		6s 2d to 6s 4d
6 st Half-bred ditto... 5s 10d to 6s 0d ...		5s 10d to 6s 0d
Calf trade nominal.		

London (Central), Monday. Moderate supply. Quiet demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 6d to 5s 8d; American, 3s 3d to 3s 7d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 3d to 3s 8d. Lamb: English, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; New Zealand, 3s 4d to 3s 10d. Veal, 3s to 4s 6d. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 232; sheep and lambs, 1,414; pigs, 370. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; lamb, 9s to 10s; pork, 6s to 6s 6d. Fat cattle, sheep, and pigs, and store sheep and pigs good demand. Store cattle fair demand. Milch cows short supply. Prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 648. To-day's supply of beasts compared with the corresponding day last week showed a decrease of 443 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade taken as a whole was of a very slow nature, with a downward tendency in regard to value, though not sufficient to enable us to quote it so. Best States beasts on offer, to dress about 720 lb., made from 3s 9d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d per 8 lb. (offal given in.) Besides the official number given, about 250 Canadian cattle were withheld to await next Wednesday's market. On Saturday, 1,450 beasts from the United States and 700 from Canada were offered for sale. Trade, however, was not so good, difficulty being experienced in obtaining late rates. The best were priced at from 3s 10d to 4s 1d for the former, and from 3s 8d to 3s 11d for Canadians. There were also 625 Canadian sheep offered for sale which met a firm trade, late currencies governing all sales, best being quoted at from 4s at to 4s 4d per 8lb.((offal given in.)

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle larger than Monday last; demand slow, except for good qualities. Large decrease in supply of sheep and lambs, trade consequently materially improved, small sorts of finished quality commanding ready sale at prices in sellers' favour. Beef, 5d to 5½; mutton, 8½d to 9d; lamb, 9½d to 10d per lb. At market: 1,113 cattle and 7,707 sheep.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Plentiful supplies of fruit and vegetables met with a steady demand at moderate rates. Quotations for English produce: Apples, 3s to 8s 0d per bushel; pears, 1s 0d to 3s per half sieve; peaches, 1s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen; nectarines, 2s to 12s; grapes, figs, 1s to 3s 0d per dozen; grapes, 2d to 3s 2d; greengages, 2s 6d to 6s; plums (Victoria), 3s to 5s; ditto (Orleans), 3s to 4s 0d; damsons, 1s 9d to 2s 6d per sieve; tomatoes, 1s 6d to 4s; melons, 1s to 3s; cobnuts, 4s to 5s; filberts, 4s to 5s per 100; walnuts, 4s to 5s per 100; mushrooms, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; ditto (cultivated), 4s to 5s per bag; horseradish, 3s to 10s 0d per bundle; cucumbers, 9d to 1s 0d; cauliflowers, 1s to 2s 0d; cabbages, 2s to 3s per dozen; cos lettuce, 6d to 1s per score; cabbage lettuce, 3s to 8s; vegetable marrows, 2s 0d to 5s per dozen; kidney beans, 2s 6d to 3s; spinach, 2s to 2s 6d; sweet peppers, 1s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s 6d to 2s; radishes, 3d to 1s; carrots, 1s 3d to 3s; turnips, 2s 6d to 3s per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 2s to 3s per lb.; seakale, 1s to 2s per dozen; leeks, 3s to 7s per bundle; potatoes, 55s to 75s per ton.

SEEDS.

London, Monday. The demand for turnips late and early still continues at firm prices. Swedes light. Rye continues selling freely at unchanged prices. Rape and mustard moving off; prices firm. Winter tares offering freely. Prices raised.—JOHN PEARD AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington cattle market on Monday last, there was a slight increase in the supply. For all descriptions of both prime and second quality English fat beasts, trade was of a very slow nature. For choice Herefords and Devons, last week's quotations were well maintained, but other descriptions showed a slight decline in regard to value. The Irish arrivals to-day were considerably larger and consisted of 68 Dublins (5 of which were prime black polled beasts), 22 Waterfords, and 12 store cattle (two and three-year-olds). For this class of cattle trade ruled fairly steady, late currencies governing all sales; on the other hand, the stores were greatly in excess of the demand, rates in consequence remaining unquotable. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in rather larger supply, the majority of the sales being made by town buyers, nevertheless an advance of fully 2d. per 8 lb. was made on last week's quotations.

On Thursday, the supply was a short one, the majority as usual consisting of fat shed cows and bulls, for which trade ruled firmer, a slight advance in value being made for the beast. A few prime quality beasts were also offered for sale, but found no buyers. At the foreign cattle market (Deptford), trade on Monday was firmer at an advance of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lbs., and on Wednesday and Saturday still firmer in regard to tone and value, rates ruling from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lbs. higher than on Monday. The total number offered for sale at both markets was 5,340, as against 5,695 during the previous week, consisting of 1,125 British (increase 115) and 4,215 foreign (decrease 470). These latter comprised 3,515 from the United States, and 700 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8lbs. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90-stone Devons, 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95-stone Herefords, 4s. 6d., exception 4s. 8d.; 95-stone runts, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.; 100-stone Lincoln Shorthorns, 4s.; 110-stone ditto, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 80 to 90-stone black polled Dublins, 4s. 5d.; 95-stone ditto, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 85-stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 1d.; 90-stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 11d.; 90-stone fat cows, 3s. 6d.

At Islington the supply in the sheep market was considerably shorter. Trade for all grades of both Downs and half-breds was of a dull and dragging nature, with a downward tendency in regard to value to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb.; on the other hand, notwithstanding the large number of Irish on offer, trade for this class of sheep ruled fairly steady, late currencies governing all sales. Scotch sheep also shared in the general depression, meeting a decline of 2d., and even at this concession were difficult to cash. Lambs were in average numbers, but the season being now about over, trade ruled quite even at a decline of 2d. On Thursday trade ruled firmer, an early clearance being made at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. on late rates. At Deptford a short number of Canadian sheep were offered for sale on Saturday, these, meeting a firm trade, were soon disposed of at about last week's currencies. The total number penned was 9,630, as against 10,688 during the previous week, the supply consisting of 9,005 British (decrease 1,025) and 625 foreign (decrease 33). Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d; 8 stone Scotch, 5s 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. 2d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Canadians, 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered 45, and met a slow but steady inquiry at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

No pigs on offer.

Trade in the West.

We have to report an exceedingly quiet business all round, both for stores as well as for fat stock. Milch beasts, for one thing, still meet an unsatisfactory sale, though there are signs of the trade slowly improving, however imperceptible it may be just at present. A few of the very best and very few of these are offering are occasionally selling from £18 up to £21 apiece, but this is by no means a general thing, a more average range from the ordinary range of milchers forming the great bulk of the present supply, being from £15 to £17 apiece, whilst poor class lots sell at any price between £11 and £14 or £15. Barreners are making an equally disappointing price, which is all the more discouraging seeing how greatly the keep prospects have improved since the drought terminated. In proof of this, we may state that most of the barreners now offering—no matter how near beef they may be—are only making from about £20 up to £26 or £27 per pair for the best, anything at all plain meeting a much neglected sale at from £16 to £19 or so. Store sheep continue to meet a steady sale at about the same prices as have ruled of late, the variation being only of a trifling character, with an absence of any very marked improvement, such as many anticipated would have resulted, seeing that a decent root crop is now assured, though there is undoubtedly a good healthy demand for sheep.

As regards fat stock, prime bullocks, which are none too plentiful anywhere, are meeting a good firm trade at rather better prices, 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score; middling shows but very little difference in values, which may be given as from 10s. to 10s. 6d.; but rough grades—old cows, coarse bulls, etc.—are meeting a most indifferent sale at prices ranging from 8s. to 9s. per score, with little immediate prospect at present of much better prices ruling. Veal is also selling a little less freely than it was, at a trifling decline in value, the best grades now ranging from 7d. to 8d., which is about the top price; seconds, 6½d. to 6¾d. The choicer grades of mutton continue to keep fairly steady at 7½d. to 8d. per lb., and the demand just now is confined very largely to wethers; and the younger grades of ewes are also in some little request at 7d. to 7½d.; but inferior sheep—coarse animals and old ewes—tend to lower rates, at 6d. to 6½d., with scarce any inquiry at the price.

Pigs continue one of the best selling things on the market, particularly all the lighter weights, either in baconers or porkers, which in some few cases, for anything very choice, are now making up to 11s. per score, though a more average range from ordinary runs of small weights is from 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d., at which price a good trade is being done.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been rather under an average. For everything of a good description the demand has been fairly active and prices would be about 10s. per head higher. Secondary cattle were also just the turn dearer. A fair supply of fat sheep on offer, but the best class shown in moderate numbers. These met a good inquiry at satisfactory prices, but secondary sheep were the turn cheaper. Fat lambs in fair demand, and previous prices maintained. Ewes were slightly cheaper. Fat calves rather under the extreme prices of last week. Pigs made previous prices. Rather more store sheep on offer, and these met a quieter trade, prices favouring buyers to the extent of about 1s. per head, with a part of the secondary descriptions left unsold. There were very few store cattle, for which there was little inquiry, and to effect sales moderate prices had to be taken. Milch cows of a good class dearer. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle, per live cwt., 39s.; current, from 35s. 6d. to 37s. Mutton to 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a large attendance of strangers at Dublin market on Thursday, and there was an increase in the supply of cattle of 266, but a decrease of 184 sheep. The display of really first-class beef was very meagre, and the demand for such was brisk for well-finished bullocks, but dull for heifers. Coarse beef was lower, and a large number of beasts had to be driven out unsold. Beef ranged from 45s. to 57s. 6d. per cwt. (dead weight) or from 29s. 6d. to 33s. 3d. (live weight). Trade was, on the whole, quieter than the previous market. In the mutton department, fat wethers and ewes, for home trade, met with a satisfactory sale, at about former rates, but for rough sheep prices were dull and irregular. There was more inquiry for shipping hoggets of good quality, but lambs met with a disappointing sale. Best wether mutton sold at from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6¾d.; and inferior sheep from 5½d. upwards. Hoggets rated at from 34s. for small, up to 60s. for large heavy. Only the best class of lambs brought former rates, and sold at from 20s. to 39s. each. Veal was in good supply, best selling at from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb; coarse calves at from 5d. per lb. upwards. For milch cows there was a very slow and disappointing sale, at a distinct depression in prices.

The Dublin pig market was a moderate one as regarded supplies, and a good attendance of home and shipping buyers made trade of a quick and decided character. Prime pigs made up to 56s. per cwt., and in a few cases this price was exceeded. The improvement in rates was noticeable in other classes as well, inferior sorts selling at from 35s. to 48s. per cwt. After the recent rains there was a better inquiry for store cattle. The chief business in this line was transacted at the large sales held by some of the cattle salesmen.

LONDON.

Islington. Thursday.—A fair number of beasts were offered on Thursday, but met a slow demand at about late rates. Fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 3d. Sheep entries were on a small scale, but trade for both wethers and ewes ruled slow. Salesmen, however, were reserved, and demanded 2d per 8 lb. advance. 7½ to 8 st. Down wethers 5s 10d, 9 st. 5s 6d to 5s 8d, 10 st. half-breds 5s 4d to 5s 6d, 10 st Down ewes 4s 2d, 11 st. half-breds 3s 10d to 4s. Lamb trade quiet at late rates: 5 st. Downs 6s to 5s 2d. 6 st. half-breds 5s 10d to 6s. Calves in fair supply, sold quietly, the best making 5s 4d, extreme 5s 6d per 8 lb., offal given in. Total supplies:—55 beasts, 1,835 sheep and lambs, 40 calves, and 5 milch cows.

London (Central). Friday.—Fair supplies, and very slow trade, though prices continue firm. English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s 2d to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; ditto, seconds, 2s 6d to 3s 4d; ditto, forequarters, 2s to 2s 6d; inferior beef, 2s 8d to 3s. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ditto, tegs, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 4s to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 6d to 4s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday. Beef trade satisfactory at late rates, best being quoted up to 4s 10d, but not many really prime animals offered. Mutton opened well, but declined later, and 2d less had to be accepted for inferior animals; halfbred wethers made up to 5s 10d, and Kents to 5s Lamb and veal unchanged, making up to 7s and 5s 6d respectively. Pork dearer, roasters up to 4s 5d.

Basingstoke. Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 35 fat beasts, 46 calves, 449 fat sheep and lambs, 102 pigs, and 128 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Shornhorn beasts made up to £20 15s; big fat cows reached £19 10s; prime West Highland steers made from £19 10s to £21 10s; Welsh Runts, £17 5s; Devon steers made up to £19 5s; fat calves, 70s to £5; small, 20s to 55s; fat porkers, 30s to 52s; store pigs, 13s 6d to 24s; dairy cows, £9 to £20 15s; Down wethers and ewes made from 50s to 61s 6d; smaller, 46s to 48s; old Down ewes, 30s to 38s; Welsh ewes, 20s; seven-months-old Down lambs, 40s to 49s 6d; small, 34s to 38s; choice three-months-old sucking lambs, 34s to 40s; small, 26s to 32s. Fat beasts were short in numbers, but sufficient for the demand. The show of fat sheep and fat lambs consisted chiefly of Down wether ewes and lambs of choice quality, for which there was a good inquiry for local and distant buyers, and a clearance very nearly made, good ewes making an advance, and prices well maintained for wethers and lambs. With a full entry of dairy cows trade ruled slow, except just for the very best class milch cows. Store cattle met with slightly more inquiry. Fat calves sold readily at late quotations. The pig trade remains firm, higher prices being obtainable. Ruling values: Prime Devon and Scotch beasts, 6¾d to 7d; ditto shorthorn, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d; best fat sheep, 8¾d to 9d; second ditto, 7¼d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat lambs, 9d to 10d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 8d per lb.; fat porkers, 9s to 10s per score.

Berwick. Saturday.—There were not many cattle on offer, and these met with no demand.

Birmingham. Thursday. — Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade fair. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 5½d to 8¼d per lb.; lamb, 6d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 10d per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score.

Bristol. Thursday.—The market was of a quiet character. Beef, of which there was a moderate quantity, declined slightly in values, 58s per cwt. being the highest price for best qualities, and 55s for secondary. Good supply of mutton and lamb, and fair trade done at late rates, though light Down wethers showed a slight turn in buyers' favour. Pigs were again few in number, and baconers fell 6d per score.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	,, 2¾ in. ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	,, 3 in. ...	8	0

C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Good lamb trade, but not quite so fast as of late. Wethers lambs ranged from 21s 6d to 26s 6d, and ewe lambs up to 30s; ewes, 41s to 43s; and useful wether tegs up to44s.

Chester. Thursday.—The market was well supplied with stock, but trade was quiet. A good show of sheep, and some improvement in the demand. Quotations: Milch cows, £17 to £21; calvers, £14 to £18; barren cattle, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; and stirks, £6 to £10. Sheep sold at prices ranging from 18s to 34s each.

Chelmsford. Friday.—Better supply of fat sheep and lambs; good trade; short supply of fat and store pigs, trade better; good supply of store sheep and lambs, which sold well. A better supply of beef and store cattle, for which there was an improved trade; and a better supply of milch cows, which met with a dull sale.

Colchester. Saturday.—There was again a very poor supply, there being practically no market. The little offering sold at the following prices:—Grass beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; lamb, 6s to 6s 4d; and pork, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score.

Dorchester. Wednesday. A large attendance to-day, and the supplies of good quality. Fat calves met a keen demand, and made 8d to 8¼d per lb., and others 7d to 7¾d. Wether mutton ruled firm, and made 7¾d to 8¼d per lb., and ewes 7¼d to 7¾d. Choice lambs sold up to 10d per lb. though the average quotation was 9d to 9¼d. The pig trade was still firm, particularly for small porkers and neater weights in baconers, at 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score; heavier grades, 8s to 9s; heavy sows were neglected.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Small show of cattle, but a good supply of sheep. The heavy fall of rain caused a thin attendance, and trade was slow. Milch beasts, £17 to £25; bullocks, £11 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £16; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £4 to £6. Lambs 2s per head dearer, and making 30s to 36s. Lincolnshire ewes, 42s to 50s; South Country ewes, 36s to 45s each.

Dublin. Thursday. Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,235; increase, 269. Sheep, 8,288; decrease, 184. Calves, 35; decrease, 3. Choice bullocks maintained last week's rates, but heifers and secondary class of bullocks were rather weaker, and rough sorts still more difficult to exchange. Sheep shade better trade. Best fat lambs only in request, other sorts not so easily placed. Cattle, live weight (best), 30s to 33s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior classes, 27s to 29s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb. Gandy, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh. Wednesday. — Sheep and lambs met a slow trade for all sorts; halfbred lambs, 30s to 37s; Blackfaced to 12s, Cheviots to 16s, and Cheviot Dinmonts to

36s. A small show of cattle and a dull market; polled bullocks to £14, shorthorn cows to £25, Ayrshires to £20, and crosses to £22.

Exeter. Friday.—Good demand for prime steers and maiden heifers, at 11s 3d per score; cows, 10s to 10s 6d; all the best cleared. There was a large supply of sheep of various kinds, but a smaller number of prime wethers or good hoggs, for which there was a good demand at 8d per lb; ewes, 6d. Very slow trade for breeding ewes at lower rates, from 36s to 40s, some unsold; fat lambs, 10d; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Large supplies, owing to big lots of small Blackfaced lambs being offered for storing purposes. Best lambs scarce, and fetched 8½d to 9d; secondary, 7½d to 8d; and best sheep, 8½d to 8¾d per lb. Cattle firm; top Scotch, 6½s to 6¾s; secondary 5¾s to 6¼s; top Irish, 5¾s to 5¾s; Canadian, 5¼s per cwt.

Gloucester. Saturday. Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows: Eighty cows and calves and incalvers, with trade quite equal to last week. A fair supply of store cattle with a good increase in prices.

Leicester. Saturday. Moderate supplies of home bred stock. Trade was not quite so depressed, but although prices were low, buyers declined to speculate. Choice milch cows were scarce, and sold freely at £20 to £22; good lots, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; second grade Irish bullocks, £12 to £13; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13 10s; calves, 15s to 35s per head.

Lincoln. Friday. Poor display of horned stock, and a slow trade. Milch cows made up to £18. Sheep were in small supply, and met with a poor sale. Lambs, 32s each.

Lynn. Tuesday. Average show of fat beasts, 7s to 7s 6d per stone; very few stores, scarcely any trade, £6 to £12 each. Fat sheep average show, firm trade, 8s 9d to 9s 6d per stone; stores, 38s to 44s; store lambs, 20s to 28s; fat lambs, up to 35s. each.

Manchester. Friday. Beef: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5d; thirds, 3¾d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 5¾d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d; thirds, 4¾d to 5d. Lamb: Firsts, 7¾d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d per lb.

Norwich. Saturday.—Store beasts in average supply, but the demand was not brisk, and there was practically no alteration in prices, which were quoted at £5 to £17 per head. Fat beef met with a firm trade at 7s 9d to 8s per stone. Quiet demand for store sheep and lambs at late rates. Fat sheep made 9s 6d to 10s per stone, and fat pigs met with a good trade at 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone. Good trade for store pigs and calves.

Nottingham. Saturday.—A larger supply in all departments. Best in-calf cows, £18 to £25 each; in-calf heifers, £14 to £14 10s; strong bullocks, two or three years old, up to £16. There was a slower trade for calves, and prices ruled from 35s to 50s each. No sheep or pigs shown.

Preston. Wednesday.—In all departments there was a good show. 347 cattle, 2,671 sheep, and 130 calves. The demand for cattle was only slow, and the trade in calves was bad, while sheep were in moderate demand. Cows and bulls, 5d to 5¾d, with a few at 5¾d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¾d; hoggs, 8d to 8½d; lambs, 8d to 9½d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; tups, 5d to 5¾d; and calves, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb.

Retford. Saturday.—Plenty of store stock. Demand inactive, and prices were lower. A few calving beasts made £14 to £18; milch cows, £17 to £18; heifers, £10 to £14; and calves, 30s to 40s per head.

Romford. Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade slow. Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce; trade better at 4s 10d to 5s per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone. Short supply of lambs fair trade at 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Fair supply of pigs; trade about the same.

Thame. Wednesday.—Good attendance of buyers met large supplies of all descriptions of fat stock. Both beef and mutton showed a slight decline on previous week's prices with very fair demand. Veal, bacon, and pork all disposed of at late rates. Store stock and weaning calves all in request. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 107 fat beasts, 336 fat and store sheep, 93 fat and weaning calves, and 64 bacon hogs, porkers, and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 7s. 6d.; fat heifers, £15 to £22; fat wether sheep, 42s to 58s; fat ewes, 40s to 56s; fat lambs, 30s to 41s; fat calves, £3 10s to £5; weaning cow calves, 28s to 55s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 15s to £4 17s 6d; porkers, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 12s to 20s.

Truro. Wednesday.—Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; barrenets, 40s to 45s; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £15; rearing calves, 25s to 40s; wethers, 7¾d to 8d; ewes, 5¾d to 6d; lambs, 7¾d to 8¼ per lb.; pigs, huge, small and suckers, 10s 9d to 28s each. Beef, 6d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 8d to 9d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7¾d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4¾d to 5¼d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 301; calves, 78; sheep, 750; pigs, 182; horses, 2; live fowls, 18; live geese, 3.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—Moderate supply all round; fair trade for best quality. Beef, 5¾ to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.

Worksop. Wednesday. Better show of stock than last week, with trade slow in all departments. Best beef, 6s 9d to 7s 3d; secondary, 6s to 7s per stone. Mutton was down quite 1d per lb.; best Southdown wethers and crossbreds, 7d to 8d; choice hogges, to 8¼d per lb.; ewes, 5¾d to 6¾d; lamb, to 9d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill. Monday.—Good average supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 841 head being penned in the lairages. All were from Montreal, and were delivered in fair shape and condition. Buyers were present in large numbers, and business was generally steady from the opening till the close of the proceedings. Prices, as compared with last week, developed a downward tendency, but this was principally owing to the larger supply and an easier feeling in other departments of the trade, and the close found market values at about late average rates. Bullocks sold from 54s to 57s per cwt. dead weight, while ranchers of the better class were cashed from 42s to 50s per cwt., and lower qualities down to 40s per cwt. Prime bulls sold at about 47s per cwt., and scarce heavy animals down to 45s per cwt. dead weight.

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday. — There is promise of an abundant yield, but red rust is spreading. It is doubtful whether all the acreage will be picked.

Worcester. Saturday.—The weather this week has been rather too wet for the hops and there is some increase of mould; warm, dry days and nights are necessary for the proper development of the fruit. Several growers at market to-day offered samples of the new growth. Some sales were effected for early requirements at 70s to 80s.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed: Linseed ruled firm for some days during the past week, but with more pressing sellers of Plate seed and offers from North America the market has turned flat, and values have dropped about 1s per qr. from the top. River Plate: Spot, through scarcity of sellers, made 39s 6d; August-September is down to 38s 6d, and September-October 38s 7½d. America is offering October-November shipment, but, so far, the price is beyond reach of buyers. Cottonseed: There has been rather a firmer market during the week for Egyptian but not much business reported. Spot and afloat sold at £5 1s, and same bid present shipment. September-old crop done at £5 11s 3d, and new at £5 16s 3d to £5 17s 6d, sellers to-day requiring 1s 3d over these prices. No sales November-January, which offers at £5 1s 9d. A moderate business done in Bombay at £4 13s 9d near, £4 14s to £4 14s 6d August-September and September-October, asks in new crop, December-January, at £4 15s. Oils: The market is flat. Linseed: 17s spot, 17s August, 17s 3d September-December. Cottonseed: 16s 3d spot, 16s 3d November-April. Linseed cakes are 2s 6d per ton dearer, with a quiet demand, pending harvest operations. Cotton cakes: Steady, without change in prices. KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED AND CO.

London. Thursday. Linseed: Market very depressed on account of continued offers of American seed, and buyers most difficult to find; closing values are: Calcutta London Spot 38s 3d, and July August 38s 6d, August Sept mber 38s 6d, September October 38s. La Plata, July-August 38s. Hull—Dull, scarcely any business possible. La Plata spot 38s, passage 38s, August-September 38s, September October 38s 3d. To the Continent Bombay, July-August 40s 9d, August-September 40s 9d. Calcutta, July-August 39s, September October 39s 3d. La Plata on passage 38s, July August 38s. Rapeseed continues in the same depressed state, scarcely any business passing, except in Danubian descriptions, prices for which are relatively considerably cheaper than those for East Indian. Brown Cawnpore, August-September, 35s, Brown Calcutta, August-September, 34s. To the Continent, Yellow Guzerat 40s. Yellow Cawnpore 39s, Brown Cawnpore 35s, Brown Calcutta 34s. Ferozepore 34s 3d. Danubian August-September 34s, September-October 34s 3d. Ravison to Hull Azoff-Black Sea September October 26s. Cottonseed: Egypt has continued steady, but the demand here has been extremely moderate. London—Passage and August £5 10s, September £5 12s 6d sellers, September Fayoumi £5 1s 9d, November-January £5 1s 9d. Hull Spot, passage and August £5 8s 9d, September £5 11s 3d; September-Fayoumi sellers £5 18s 9d, November-January £5 17s 6d. Cargoes—September shipment, old, £5 18s 9d, October, new, £6. Bombay steady, August-September Hull £4 14s 6d, December-January £4 15s, business doing. Linseed oil has experienced a smart decline. We quote spot and month in pipes £17 10s, barrels £17 15s, September-December £18, January-April £18 5s. Hull packed spot, £16 10s, September-December £16 17s 6d, January-April £17 5s. — THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cake: There is no improvement in the demand, which continues extremely small, at the same time prices are not quotably lower, as the present low value of oil renders seed-crushing particularly unremunerative. Russian remain best value and unchanged. American and East India also offer at last week's quotations. London-made sell quietly at 2s 6d per ton less money. Cotton cakes: Egyptian are fairly plentiful on spot, which, however, meet a poor inquiry, with the result that the tone of the market is barely as strong, although quotations are unchanged. English move off slowly without alteration, as do Bombays. Decorticated, London-made, being cheaply offered, attract rather more attention at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand makes £6 17s 6d, "Ley" brand £6 12s 6d, and meal £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes: Dull; East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal: Some business is reported in white American at £5 5s c.i.f. terms for December-January despatch, while English makes for present delivery maintain their value; maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s. Rice meal: Very little offers in any position, with the exception of one or two small lots of Rangoon in second hands, for which £4 10s to £4 11s 3d is asked. Broken Rangoon rice is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Molascuit cattle food is in good request at £4 10s per ton. Locust beans command rather more money at £5 5s per ton for winde and £5 10s for kibbied. Nitrate of soda is without alteration at £10 17s 6d per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
in mats	7 6 3	to 7 7
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
,, ...		
English	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 15 0	
,, ,, ,, Meal	6 15 0	
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	6 17 6	to 6 12 6
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 7 6	to 5 10 0
American, Dec./Jan. ..... (c.i.f.)	5 5 0	
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
,, ... ex warehouse	4 10 0	to 4 11 3
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 17 6	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Ribbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester. Friday. — Hay, new, 4¾d; clover, new, 5¾d to 6d; straw, oat, 3¾d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Heavy arrivals this morning experienced a quiet demand at easier prices. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially packed hay, 75s; good ditto, 65s to 72s; interior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 65s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 38s per load.

BUTTER

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday. Barnsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Beverley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Calne: 1s 1d. Darlington: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Howden: 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kirkby-Moorside: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Knaresborough: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Louth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 4 oz. roll. Lynn: 1s 2d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Newark: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Northallerton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24 oz. roll. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Truro: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Thursday. Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Dunmow: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Newark: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Penistone: 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday. Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Axminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Crewkerne: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Cumberland: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Derby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Helmsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 1½d to 2s per 24 oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 10d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 1s to 1s 2d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d. Tavistock: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 3d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s to 1s 1d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s to 1s 1d. Penrith: 1s to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number is 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday. Barnsley: 10. Beverley: 12 and 14. Colne: 1s 10d per score. Goole: 12 and 13. Holsworthy: 10. Keighley: 10 and 11. Kirbymoorside: 11 and 12. Knaresborough: 10 and 11. Louth: 14. Market Drayton: 12 and 13. Newton Abbot: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per dozen. Northallerton: 10 and 11. Stockton: 9 and 10. Truro: 11d to 1s per dozen. Worksop: 1s 9d to 2s. per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 9 to 11. Brigg: 12 to 14. Driffield: 14 and 15. Devizes: 13 to 15. Kidderminster: 10. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 12. Ripon: 10 and 11. Scarborough: 10. Wetherby 10 and 11.

Friday.—Altrincham: 9. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen. Barnstaple: 10 to 12. Camelford: 12. Chester: 10 and 11. Crewe: 10. Congleton: 10. Derby: 11. Helmsley: 12. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 10 and 11. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 10. Nantwich: 11 and 12. Northwich: 10 and 11. Otley: 10. Redruth: 11d to 1s per dozen. Runcorn: 9 St. Austell: 12. Stockport: 9. Tavistock: 10 and 11. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 and 11: Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Doncaster: 11s and 12. Grantham: 11 and 12. Howden: 13 and 14. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 8 to 10. Malton: 10 to 12. Pentefract: 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 9. Shrewsbury: 10 to 12. Skipton: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 11 and 12. Whitby: 8 and 9. Worcester: 10. York: 12.
useful wether tegs up to 44s.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals fair, with quality generally good. Prices ruled steady to firm. Cheddars fetched 54s to 58s, and Dunlops 53s to 57s per cwt. Canadians firm but slow of sale, as the price is too near that for home. Dealers hold the price has been advanced too quickly. Easier prices would be accepted rather than miss business.

Newport. Wednesday.—About eight tons pitched. A good attendance and a fair demand. Cheshires, 46s to 54s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 55s to 56s; truckles, 58s to 60s; doubles, 48s; Derbys, 58s to 60s.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield. Saturday. Very large supplies met with rather quieter support. Quotations: Fowls, Yorkshire 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 3s to 4s; Welsh, 1s 9d to 2s 3d, Boston, 1s 10d to 2s 4d; Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Dorking, 1s 8d to 2s; geese, 4s to 5s; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 3s; country, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; guinea fowls, 1s to 1s 2d; wild rabbits, 6d to 9d each; venison (haunches), 12s to 15s each; forequarters, 2d per lb.; young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per brace; English horses, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; leverets, 1s 6d to 2s; Scotch hares, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 3d; pintail, 1s; teal, 6d; snipe, 4d to 9d; woodcock, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each.

MANURES.

Liverpool. Friday. There is some inquiry at this early date for basic slag for autumn delivery, and subscribed are the quotations at the depots indicated. Feeding stuffs are a very firm market, and are in fair demand for the time of the year. Prices quoted are attracting the attention of dealers, and it is anticipated that an increased consumptive demand will be experienced this coming autumn. Prices as detailed below. Fattening cake, prime, English, in bags, £9 5s; feeding cake, prime, English, in bags, £9 2s 6d; linseed cake, prime, English, in bags, £9 2s 6d; soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 35 per cent pure, in bags, £10 5s to £10 10s. Egg meal, prime, in bags, £5 7s 6d to £5 10s; kainit prime, 25 per cent sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 2s 6d to £2 5s; palm nut meal, prime, in bags, £6 15s to £6 —. linseed cake, Anglo-Plate, prime, in bags, £7 10s to £7 12s 6d; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; linseed cake, foreign, prime, in bulk, £8 2s 6d to £8 5s; cotton seed cake, N.A., decorticated, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 1s 3d; cotton seed cake, N.A., undecorticated, prime, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d; cotton seed cake, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 17s 6d; ditto, ditto, crushed, prime, in bags, £5 2s 6d per ton; rape cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6 —; earth nuts, prime, in bags, £8 10s per ton; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6 10s to £6 15s; maize meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; locust beans, prime, in bags, £5 5s per ton; linseed, Baltic, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Calcutta, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Black Sea, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Egyptian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Bombay, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Persian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Indian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Australian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Chilian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Californian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Canadian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Egyptian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Russian, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Spanish, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Turkish, prime, in bags, £5 5s per quarter; linseed, Roumanian

The Utility Poultry Club's Twelve-Month Laying Competition.

SIR,—I regret to report that the committee of the club have decided to abandon the proposal to hold a twelve month laying competition in October next.

In response to the appeal for donations of £50 to meet the estimated deficit on the competition, and for a guarantee fund of £50 as a safeguard should the deficit be exceeded, only £6 17s. 6d. has been received in donations, and less than £21 guaranteed. The offers of prizes and specials to supplement those given by the club have also been most disappointing.

With so little support from the general public there was no guarantee that the entries would have filled, so that there was the possibility of having to abandon the competition when the houses had been made and a considerable expense incurred.

Under these circumstances I think the committee have taken the only course open to them, and they must wait until the public interest takes a more practical form.

At the annual meeting of the club in October a proposal for holding a competition next year will be discussed, and an opinion may then be obtained as to extent of financial assistance the club should give. For my part I was extremely adverse to incurring a liability that might have depleted the club funds by perhaps £100, without obtaining some expression of opinion from the members of the club. The committee would, I think, have voted a considerable sum towards the expenses had the donations and promises to the guarantee been greater, but they were not justified, in view of the very limited funds at the club's disposal, in dispensing with the full amount of the guarantee.

Some comment has been made with reference to the excess of estimated expenditure over receipts even with so large an entry fee as £2; but it should be observed that all the houses would have to be made for the competition; a man would have to be specially engaged to manage and feed the birds; prizes, printing, and advertising would absorb about £60; and clerical expenses and postages another £30. The competition could not, therefore, be any criterion as to the amount of profit, or otherwise, that might be derived from utility poultry-keeping. It was, however, intended to keep an exact record of the cost of the food, as also of the amount received for the eggs, and these figures would have been of great interest.

Nobody regrets more than myself that the hard work so ungrudgingly undertaken by Mr. Dunkley should have so far resulted in nothing tangible. I think though that his work has not been wasted, as the information, etc., he has obtained will be of great assistance should the necessary financial support be forthcoming to hold a competition on another occasion.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

B. W. HORNE, hon. treasurer.

August 24, 1905.

Hants: Light Crops.

SIR,—Wheat crops very good, better than last year, but barley and oats are both light crops; whilst the hay crop is not so good as last year, and roots not very good. H. H.

August 25, 1905.

Devonshire: Not an Average Season.

SIR,—The season of 1905 has not been an average one, owing, no doubt, to the dry spring and early summer. The hay is not more than half a crop. Corn crop is very light in burden, but I should think the yield will be fairly good, especially wheat. Oats average. Barley not up to the average. Roots very uneven.

Beef selling at a fair price, but store cattle very low indeed, owing, no doubt, to the dryness of the season, grass being very scarce. Mutton sells very well indeed, and wool dearer than we have had it for some years. Prospects for the winter not over bright owing to the scarcity of keep. J. Y.

August 25, 1905.

NORTHERN NOTES.

In the north the gathering in of the grain crops is the great business of the hour. South of the Humber the harvest is practically completed, but north of that river the great bulk of the sheaves is still in the fields. The wheat and barley crops have cut up well quite up to expectations—but oats are even worse than was expected. The weather has been all against the samples of barley, some of which are badly "rated."

It is part of the "irony of fate" that the heaviest rainfall is now experienced in those particular districts of the north, where the drought was most severe and prolonged. There, no rain fell from the end of May until the corn harvest was just about to begin, the root crops being irretrievably injured; but now, while the carting of grain should be in full swing—the rain, it raineth every day.

The Lincoln ram sales are now fast drawing to a close, and the season has been most successful. Of course, this is primarily due to the South American demand, which came into active operation just before the Royal Show, and still continues. Not only have the foreigners purchased strongly at the auction sales, but they have gone to the farms of the breeders and bought very extensively by private treaty. The number of rams purchased this season for South America is extremely large, and Lincoln ram breeders have good reason to be satisfied with the results attained, and especially those who sold their wool just before the demand for it closed.

That demand ceased most abruptly, indeed, as some termed it, the trade closed up like a book, and has remained sealed up ever since. The grower can only sell at a reduction of over 1s. a stone, but the few growers who still hold their wool are not needy sellers, and they are certain to hold. The manufacturers will not buy of the growers, and they are trying hard to buy on reduced terms of the factors; but the bulk of this season's northern clip is in the hands of a very few factors, who will not concede any reduction at present, and there is little doubt that the trade will revive during the autumn. The final issue of the peace negotiations—perhaps made known by the time these lines are in print—will have a direct effect on the wool trade.

In the Journal of the Board of Agriculture for August there is a short article on "Soil Inoculation," which is well worth studying, for it sets out in terms a report issued by the United States Department of Agriculture briefly summarising the circumstances under which (1) Inoculation is necessary; (2) When inoculation may prove advantageous; (3) When inoculation is unnecessary; (4) When failure may be expected. This report puts a very different complexion on the the use of these bacteria-cultures, and might be advantageously studied by those who boomed soil inoculation so strongly last winter. It is stated in the Journal that experiments are being made at the agricultural experimental stations in this country, and that the preliminary reports thus far received are not encouraging. Similar reports are to hand concerning several private experiments, but in these particular instances, the character of the season was so untoward that a favourable result could scarcely be hoped for, and therefore neither success nor failure can be really indicated. The article in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture is, however, to be commended to the notice of all interested in the matter. There is reason to believe that numerous official experiments in soil inoculation have been carried out in Ireland, and as the climatic differences are well marked, it may be that the results attained in the Sister Isle may be more hopeful than here.

The opening prices obtainable for grain are not encouraging—a week ago samples of good dry new oats did not fetch more than 16s. 6d. in East Yorkshire, and samples at all thin, or on the soft side, were difficult to move at 16s. In the north there is as yet little or no demand for barley, and the few samples exhibited afford no test of cihter prices or of quality.

Irish Crops and Live Stock.

The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has issued its annual general abstract of agricultural statistics, which give, by counties and provinces, the acreage under crops and the number and description of live stock in Ireland in 1905. The materials necessary for the compilation of these statistics were obtained by members of the Royal Irish Constabulary and Metropolitan Police, who, it is stated, discharged this important duty with zeal and efficiency. It is pointed out that abstracts have been carefully compiled from summaries made by the enumerators, but may in some slight degree differ from the revised figures which will be subsequently published.

The total area under crops in 1905 is 2,361,696 acres being, as compared with the area in 1904, a decrease of 12,269 acres, or 0.5 per cent. There was an increase in the area under crops in Ulster of 3,878 acres, or 0.4 per cent.; a decrease in Leinster of 8,192 acres, or 1.3 per cent.; in Connaught of 4,149 acres, or 1.4 per cent.; and in Munster of 3,806 acres, or 0.7 per cent.

In 1904 the area returned under hay was was 2,260,160 acres; in 1905 the amount returned is 2,294,574 acres, being an increase of 34,414 acres, or 1.5 per cent.

In 1904 the area returned under grass was 10,586,639 acres; in 1905 the amount returned is 10,597,848 acres, being an increase of 11,209 acres; the area returned as fallow in 1904 was 9,360 acres, and in 1905, 8,903 acres; the area under woods and plantations was 303,118 acres in 1904, and 301,430 acres in 1905; and the area returned under "Turf Bog, Marsh, Barren Mountain Land, etc.," was 4,817,483 acres in 1904, and 4,786,274 acres in 1905, being a decrease of 31,209 acres; of the area thus returned in 1905, 1,081,421 acres have been entered by the enumerators as turf bog, 392,651 acres as marsh, and 2,274,238 acres as barren mountain land.

TOTAL AREA UNDER CROPS.

Compared with 1904 there appears an increase of 7,214 acres in the area under wheat; of 139 acres under bere; of 738 acres under rye; and of 68 acres under pease; while there was a decrease of 12,180 acres under oats; of 3,600 acres under barley; and of 418 under beans; showing a net decrease of 8,039 acres in the area under cereal crops.

The area under potatoes has decreased by 1,917 acres; that under turnips by 3,614 acres; mangel wurzel by 3,129 acres; carrots by 360 acres; vetches by 174 acres; and rape by 482 acres; beet root increased by 48 acres; parsnips by 11 acres; cabbage by 3,014 acres, and other green crops by 513 acres, leaving a net decrease of 6,090 acres in the area under green crops.

The area under flax in 1904 was 44,293 acres; the area returned under this crop in 1905 is 46,153 acres, being an increase of 1,860 acres, or 4.2 per cent.

In the returns the area under meadow and clover is shown as the area "For Hay only," subdivided under the headings "Clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation" and "Permanent pasture, or grass not broken up in rotation." The area for hay under "Clover, etc.," in 1904, was 631,748 acres: this year it is 628,618 acres, being a decrease of 3,130 acres. The area for hay on permanent pasture in 1904 was 1,628,412 acres, and in 1905 it is 1,665,956 acres, showing an increase of 37,544 acres. There is, therefore, a net increase of 34,414 acres in the total area under meadow and clover.

RETURNS OF LIVE STOCK.

It appears from the following table that between 1904 and 1905 there has been an increase of 4,062 in the number of horses, and in asses of 451. Cattle exhibit a decrease of 31,496, sheep of 78,606, and pigs of 150,804. Of the 18,548,877 poultry enumerated in 1905, 1,018,599 were turkeys, 1,714,365 were geese, 2,939.105 were ducks, and 12,876,808 were ordinary fowl. The table shows the number of live stock in each year from 1900 to 1905, inclusive:—

Yrs	Horses.	Mules.	Asses.	Cattle.	Sheep	Pigs.
1900	566,978	30,678	242,247	4,608,550	4,386,876	1,268,521
1901	564,916	28,882	238,980	4,673,323	4,378,750	1,219,135
1902	579,765	29,397	242,862	4,782,221	4,215,8 5	1,377,510
1903	595,746	29,795	243,241	4,664,112	3,941,604	1,383,516
1904	604,930	29,931	244,115	4,676,718	3,827,919	1,315,126
1905	608,992	29,984	244,596	4,645,222	3,749,313	1,164,322
Difference in Numbers between 1904 and 1905.						
	Increase	Decrease	Increase		Decrease	
	4,062	247	451	31,496	78,606	150,804

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

MORETON-IN-MARSH SHIRE HORSE SHOW.
OCTOBER 3rd, 1905.
Entries close September 21st.
A. N. DRURY, Secretary,
High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh.

MARKET RASEN FOAL SHOW.
OCTOBER 9th, 1905.
T. E. SMITH, M.R.C.V.S., Secretary,
Market Rasen, Lincs.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT.
AT GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905.
Entries close September 12th.
R. J. KISBY, Secretary,
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

200,000 FIDLER'S ECLIPSE Cabbage Plants, 3s. 1,000.
W. HORNE & SONS, Cliffe, nr. Rochester, Kent.

OXFORD DOWNS.
The Kelmscott Flock, the property of Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.
SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from this Flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the under-mentioned Fairs:
CIRENCESTER Sept. 30th.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS ,, 6th.
EDINBURGH ... ,, 7th.
KELSO ... ,, 8th.
NORTHAMPTON ... ,, 19th.
Ram Lambs from this flock obtained 1st and 4th Prizes at Park Royal this season.

MESSRS. BELCHER, ADKIN & BELCHER will SELL by AUCTION at the Manor Farm, Wantage, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1905, 13 Pedigree Shire Mares and Colts and the Stallion Rampton Conqueror 19041. The Mares were purchased by Mr. Croker at the Lockinge Sale, 1903, and the Colts are their produce. Rampton Conqueror 19041 was purchased at the S.H.S., London, the same year, and has been a most successful Sire.
Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers, Wantage, Berks.

Live Stock Record.

SHELTER FOR STOCK.

The great heat and scorching suns of July were very harassing to cattle in low-lying pastures, and although August days have proved more changeable, many of them were of a character to make sheep, as well as dairy cows, and grazing beasts, run wildly to any shade rendered by trees or fences. The persecution of bovine stock by flies is a terrific torment in such weather, and it is to be feared the recommendations of the late Miss Ormerod to lessen the nuisance have not been sufficiently followed by the bulk of farmers to have had the good practical results anticipated at one time. The remarks of old Arthur Young on this evil are only too truthful. He wrote in his Calendar:—"Everyone knows how tormenting flies are to cattle when abroad. Ride into a field in summer, to look at stock, and where do you find them? Not feeding, but standing or resting under trees, in ponds, in rivers, and, if there is no better shelter, in ditches, under brambles; in a word, anywhere but feeding in the open. When they graze is in the morning and evening, and in many cases they lose in the heat of the day all they gain at those moments of their comfort." Certainly owners of dairy cows are grievously disappointed in the milk-yieldings of these animals, after suffering such vicissitudes. Nor can graziers expect fattening beasts to put on flesh rapidly when such privations are endured.

Arthur Young was a great advocate of the soiling system, and thoroughly believed that it was destined in time to become the general one. But two circumstances have prevented many modern farmers from adopting it. Labour scarcity and heavy costs have operated in causing all courses of management requiring an excess of it to be abandoned. Soiling is certainly one of them; hence, except for working horses and show animals, there is very little of it. But apart from this, so much arable has been laid down to grass, that a large number of stock farms have not enough left even to grow sufficient roots for their animals in winter. But if the homestead, or any yards or cattle-steading should be at all near, it would be worth while removing the animals to them towards noontide for two or three hours in hot weather, even if there was nothing to give them to eat except hay or straw fodder.

Many owners, even of pedigree herds, prefer that their young cattle should not only run in the open, but have as much exposure to the elements as possible, under the belief that this makes them hardy and that their hair grows more profusely in consequence. Some regard must, however, be had to climate and situation in enforcing such a severe ordeal; and the teachings of animal physiology would seem to indicate that it would be always better if there were some refuge in the cattle-run to which the animals might resort at will, when terrific storms come, or the elements are very trying. In the Highlands, the lairds and farmers raise pine plantations in exposed situations for stock shelter, and even in the comparatively mild West of England, it was customary a century ago to provide open thatched hovels, termed "linheys," in the pasture fields, that their young cattle inhabiting them in winter might have a refuge from fierce blasts or heavy rain. Thus it appears evident practical experience has been very far from being universally in favour of thorough winter exposure of young cattle, and carried to extreme the practice would be injurious, if not barbarous.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The catalogue of the Birmingham Autumnal Shorthorn Show and Sale to be held Sept. 7, comprises 124 cows and heifers, many having calves at foot or shortly due to calve; and 153 bulls, principally twelve to eighteen months old. A number of prize-winners at the principal county and other important shows are entered, and the following noted herds are represented: The Earl of Camperdown, the Earl of Harrowby, Earl Manvers, the Earl of Northbrook, Earl Powis, the Earl of Sefton, Lord Calthorpe, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Wrottesley, Mrs. Holland, Messrs. Arkell, J. W. Barnes, J. Colman, R. P. Cooper, S. Dennis, Denny, Dyke, G. Freeman, W. T. Garne, G. Gerrard, Green, C. E. Morris, D. H. Mytton, W. Parkin-Moore, J. A. Preece, Leopold de Rothschild, and W. H. Tremaine. The pedigree of every animal is guaranteed correct by the exhibitor. Many of the cattle are for unreserved sale, and in no case is a higher reserve than 20 gs. allowed, so that the sale affords an excellent opportunity of securing at reasonable prices valuable pedigree stock. Catalogues (7d. each by post) may now be obtained from the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, Bingley Hall, Birmingham.

A large consignment of pigs from the well-known Colston Bassett and Borrowfield herds, consisting of thirty gelts, representing the various strains, and three boars, specially selected, was shipped last week from the London Docks by Mr. Oswald Pick for the Government of Hungary-Austria. Also two fine boars and one gelt to the order of Mr. T. O. Bennett, Gateley Hall, East Dereham, for shipment to Germany; this being the second consignment during the current year.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., announce yet another Aberdeen-Angus sale in September, in addition to those given in last week's notes, namely, on September 20, when they will bring under the hammer, at Selaby, Gainford, Darlington, the herd of pure-bred animals belonging to Mr. C. E. Hunter, and also a few from Mr. F. Fenwick's Aberdeen-Angus herd. Mr. Hunter's small but select herd—which has now to be dispersed owing to a change of tenancy—was established about ten years ago, the foundation being a few well-bred animals purchased from the Ballindalloch herd, of which Evidence (included in this sale) was one, and few opportunities arise for acquiring at once so many highly-bred Trojan-Ericas as will be offered at this sale. The successes of the herd in the show ring—including several prizes at this year's shows of the Royal and Highland Societies—are evidence of the high quality of the stock.

After an interval of five years, the Warwickshire Agricultural Society's show will this week once more be held at Coventry, opening on Wednesday and extending over Thursday. The city, which will be specially decorated by the Corporation and local committee for the occasion, will give a cordial welcome to the Society, and has provided a handsome contribution to the prize list. The site of about 23 acres is at Stoke Green, where the show was held on the last visit to Coventry, and is admirably suited for the purpose, being convenient of access for visitors, a frequent service of electric tram cars running from the Coventry railway station to show ground.

The entries for the above show are good, those of live stock being 564, against 540 at the last Coventry show and 603 at Leamington in 1904, whilst the entries in the implement department (which will, occupy a frontage of 2,430 ft.) are in excess of all previous shows. For the interesting field competitions, which take place at Stoke, near the show ground, on the second day of show, there are more competitors than last year, and the other sections of the show are well filled. There will be special jumping contests each afternoon, with driving classes also on Thursday, and in addition poultry and bee-driving demonstrations by the Warwickshire County Council's experts. The railway companies are giving facilities for conveyance of visitors at cheap fares with excursions on second day, and if the weather be propitious a successful meeting may be anticipated.

In the second week of September Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will conduct a couple of Shorthorn sales in Wales, viz., on Tuesday, the 12th, at Penyfai, Llanelly, they will dispose of the entire herd of Shorthorns and flock of Shropshire sheep belonging to the late Mr. W. J. Buckley, and selections from the Shorthorn herds of Sir A. Stepney, Bart., Tynywern, Llanelly, and Mr. H. C. Lewis, Hean Castle, Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire; whilst on the following day, at Manoravon, Llandilo (in Carmarthenshire), they will bring under the hammer a choice selection of Mr. E. Jones's Shorthorns.

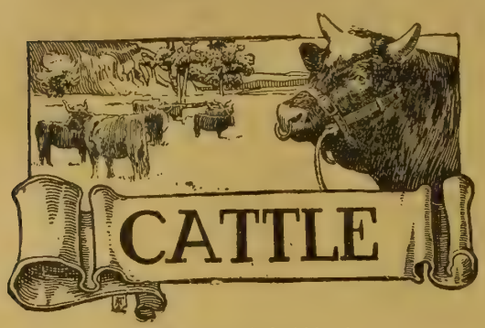
Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, recently shipped per ss. "Lakonia," of the Donaldson Line, from Glasgow to Quebec, three Shorthorn heifers, each with bull calves, and an extra grand Shorthorn bull, the whole being of the very best Scotch blood and type. The heifers were also in calf to well-known sires. Accompanying the cattle were five Shropshire show ewes, specially selected from the flock of Mr. J. H. N. Walford, and a fine Southdown ram lamb bred by Mr. C. W. Adeane, of Babraham. These animals were all shipped on account of Mr. Robert Miller, to whom Messrs. Mansell had previously sent a good consignment earlier in the season.

An important sale of pedigree Hackneys and ponies has been fixed for Friday, September 8, for on this day Mr. W. Bainbridge will bring under the hammer some of Sir Gilbert Greenall's well-known animals, at Walton Hall, near Warrington. Special interest attaches to the sale from the fact that, with two exceptions, the whole of the Hackney and pony yearling colts are to be sold. The extraordinary prices which in past sales have been realised for the geldings by Goldfinder VI., Lord Drewton II., Sir Horace, and other sires of this stud, should ensure keen competition for these young horses, amongst which will be found many excellent young sires and show horses of great merit. The mares, foals, and young fillies will be found an exceedingly good lot, of the best breeding, with size, quality, and action; and the eleven three-year-old geldings are perhaps one of the best lots of unbroken horses of the age seen together.

The annual report of the Royal Richmond Horse Show, Limited, shows that the profit arising from this year's show amounts to £144 1s. 7d.

Mr. Ranucci, Rome, last week visited the Seaham Harbour Stud and purchased seventeen stallions and colts for exportation to Italy. The animals chosen are by such well-

known sires as Silvercup, Airies Prince, Lord Stewart, Marcellus, Marmion, Montrave, Ronald, and Carthusian. All are big-sized sound horses, well adapted for mating with the native Italian mares with the view of improving the breed. Thirteen of them are two-year-olds, the others between three and five years, and include the well-known prize horses, Crathorne and Chamberlain. Altogether the selection is one which does Mr. Ranucci much credit, and it is to be hoped they will reach their destination in safety.



Notes and Jottings.

The generally showery weather that has prevailed since the second week of the month has had the effect of refreshing pastures very much, though it is scarcely likely, except on the very best land, and where lightly stocked, that grass will become at all abundant over the greater part of England. From reports, too, Ireland appears to be somewhat in the same condition. Root crops of all kinds, however, are improving amazingly, and with a mild autumn may yet make bulky crops; straw, too, is bulky enough, especially wheat straw, so that we may hope, with these prospects and a fair stock of old hay in the hands of many farmers, the winter will not be so severely hard to face, though it may be bad enough. A little help early is a grand thing for all classes of cattle except those that are intended to remain in the fields all winter as scavengers.

At the Tring show which was held during Bank Holiday week, the milk and butter tests were a very important feature of the proceedings, and the results reveal some most extraordinary yields and quality. The records in many cases at Park Royal were somewhat, to say the least of it, unsatisfactory, so great a number of the competitors not qualifying for the prizes either from lack of butter fats or from lack in quantity; but more generally the former. This was in a great measure attributed to the weather, milk generally not being so rich during the excessively dry, hot weather. If this is the case, it is rather against some other theories, as, for instance, in the winter it is generally supposed that the warmer cows are kept the greater the yield of milk and butter obtained.

The cows that have been competing in these recent milking trials and butter tests, it is needless to say, have not been allowed to suffer in the least either on account of want of the greatest milk and butter producing foods that can be brought to bear upon the subject, or from any discomforts on account of the heat; everything has been done in these respects that could possibly be suggested as conducive to milk and butter. There must be, therefore, other circumstances affecting the trials that have caused such incomprehensible results as the Tring records give. For instance, a Kerry cow is recorded as having given milk so poor as to require 58.33 pounds of it to yield one pound of butter. Such a record is altogether incredible with that breed, and cannot be looked upon as being normal.

Then, coming to the cows over 900 lb. live weight, a cross-bred cow requires over 45 lb. of milk to a pound of butter, another 32 lb., and yet another 45 lb.; others 44, 45, 45, 58 lb. (the two latter Shorthorns). Other Shorthorns take 35.74, 37.12, and 47.48 lb. respectively. All these quantities are so poor that they would scarcely keep a calf alive, and unless there was some error, it is very hard to understand how these poverty stricken milks could exist. It is well known that a few degrees difference in the temperature of churning this perfectly fresh cream makes all the difference to the yield of butter, and it is to be hoped that some such error was the cause of these low records. We can only trust that the poverty is not due to the cattle or their feeding.

One of the most remarkable cases in these tests was that of Captain Smith Neil's cow Doctor, a cross-bred of unknown breeding, that is now 24 years old, and produced 64.12 lb. of milk which yielded 2 lb. 3½ oz. butter, giving a ratio of 29.18 lb. of milk to a pound of butter. This is much poorer than the general average of cross-breds, and may be accounted for on the score of age. Doctor gives the impression of having either Ayrshire or Guernsey blood included in her cross-breeding. When we look at the fact that Shorthorns under ordinary conditions do not require more than 27 lb. of milk to make a pound of butter on the average, Red Polls not more than 22 or 23 lb., and Jerseys usually about 16 lb., Ayrshires also 22 lb., it is the more difficult to surmise how such wretched results came about.

The tuberculin test is still a very unsatisfactory quantity. Far too many animals fail to pass it, and others that have passed upon one occasion fail to do so upon a second trial within a very short time of the sound result. It is to be feared that in too many instances when animals fail to pass, the cause lies with the disease having commenced, and is not due to any want of care in the way the test is conducted. There is one thing which always ought to be observed in taking these tests, namely, that the animal shall be tested when it is quite in a normal state in its own pen or shed, and not during times when unduly excited from being driven about, or worried and upset by the presence of other cattle.

Where several animals in the same herd fail to pass the matter is a very serious one for their owner, and it well behoves him to take every care that the test is carried out as above stated, while, and only while, the animals are in perfectly normal condition. Far better not test at all than test under excitable conditions. In the latter case, where an animal or animals fail to pass, very great loss might ensue; but, in the case of an animal or animals not passing when the test is carefully carried out under normal conditions, it is much better not to go on breeding from them. A tuberculous animal is most likely, experience has proved, to leave the same disease in its offspring or progeny.

North Devon breeders, in discussion the other day, were very loud in praise of these juicy red plums. One speaker urged upon his brother breeders the importance of pushing the breed more in South America. The size, symmetry, and quality of the North Devon we have before now pointed out is very much in its favour as a beast for the dead meat shipping trade, whilst for a country like South America the utter indifference this breed displays to the torment of flies is very much in its favour. The ease with which they fatten, too, upon any fair pasture, and their activity when long distances have to be travelled for food or water, are all much in their favour. It is a beautiful, useful, and profitable breed.

It was satisfactory to read the other day the report of a sale of Sussex cattle. Prices were not high, though 30 gs. and over were reached in two or three instances. Still, demand appeared to be good, and this is a great matter. Prices are often affected by circumstances outside the breed altogether, such as age, condition, etc. Some first-rate animals may be doubtful breeders, or there may be a surplus of bull calves, or the animals may hit upon a evil day as regards keeping. Many things tend to a bad average or lower average than might have been anticipated, but so long as the demand is good, a fair number of buyers ready, and the animals in a suitable state for their requirements, then matters may be called quite satisfactory.

A very important article appears in the "Breeders' Gazette" (Chicago), commenting upon the price of so-called "baby-beef," as compared with older cattle, two and three year olds. The quotation appears to give an impression that this baby beef is being sold at 50c. under prices paid for two and three year olds of no better finish. Some reasons assigned for this are that the baby beef (yearlings) are not brought to market in a sufficiently ripe condition—not properly finished; in this case it is highly probable that the dead weight and live weight would stand in very different relations to each other. Experience has proved to the writer that a very young beast, unless thoroughly finished, dresses very much lighter than could be anticipated. There is also no doubt that butchers' perquisites are more substantial from older cattle.

Possibly there may be other reasons that are not spoken of in the markets as yet. The other day my own butcher, who slaughters the best cattle he can obtain, informed me that one of his best customers had written wishing him to call; upon his doing so, he received great complaints as to the eating or quality of both beef and mutton supplied. This client, who had been accustomed to aged Scotch wethers and choice aged bullocks, slaughtered in the establishment, said, "We think the beef and mutton you kill is too young; it has not the flavour of our own fed wethers and bullocks." There may be something in this. Indeed, I believe it is generally acknowledged by all gourmands that two-year-old wether sheep are the ripest and richest mutton. May not the same obtain in cattle?

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At the fair at Loughrea, Co. Galway, on Monday there was an average supply of cattle, chiefly second class, but a poor attendance of buyers, and demands slow, fully three-fourths of the cattle offered failing to find purchasers. Sheep were in larger supply than usual, and for lambs there was a moderate demand, but good for ewes suitable for breeding purposes, and almost all were sold. Prices:—Yearlings, second class, £5 15s.; two-year-olds, second class, £8 2s. 6d. to £9; three-year-olds, second class, £10 2s. 6d. to £12 10s.; springers, second class, £12 5s. to £14 10s.; third class, £9 10s. Lambs, first class, £1 7s. 6d. to £1 10s. 6d.; second class, £1 2s. to £1 6s.; third class 17s. to £1; two-year-olds and upwards, first class, £2 3s. 3d. to £2 6s. 6d.; second class, £1 18s. 6d. to £2 2s. 6d.; third class, £1 11s.

Carndonagh fair (Co. Donegal), held on Monday, was a small one, at which demand was slow for cattle but good for sheep. Prices:—Yearlings, second class, £5 5s. to £6 7s. 6d.; third class £2 12s. 6d. to £3; two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £8 16s. 3d.; third class, £5 to £6; three-year-olds, third class, £7 10s., springers, second class, £11 15s. to £13 5s.; third class class, £8 15s.; lambs, second class, £1 2s. to £1 3s.; third class, 8s. to 12s.; over twelve and under twenty-four months old, second class, £1 10s.; third class, 15s. to £1 3s.; two-year-olds and upwards, third class, 18s. to £1 4s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Aug. 19, 1905:

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection	No.	42	21 163 161	2,014	4,445 5,300 5,339
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	11 28 48	576	952 1,083 1,176
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	1	2 2	652	1,064 1,170 1,111
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	43	59 18 47	1,996	1,773 1,544 1,303
	Outbreaks.	No.	27	34 27 33	905	996 932 731
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	170
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	16	37 20 16	808	996 796 736
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	17 15 10	606	649 537 474
Period.			Week ended Aug. 19, 1905	Corresponding week in { 1904 1903 1902	Total for 33 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in { 1904 1903 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Recent statistics show that nearly half the population of France, or, to be exact, 47 per cent., get their living from agriculture.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

Mr. George Burton, in his speech at the luncheon at Whitby Show, suggested that the Cleveland Bay and Yorkshire Coach Horse Societies should be amalgamated, his argument being that as the Cleveland Bay has grown more like the Coach Horse in type it is useless to have two Stud Books. I think that Mr. Burton's position is scarcely tenable, and that he has for the moment not recognised what a Stud Book is for. Nor is Mr. Burton alone in this particular. I have heard people say that two "books" injured trade. But are Stud Books merely used for the purposes of trade advertisement? That some people so regard them may be true enough, but as a matter of fact, Stud Books are something more than this, and if they are not they are of little value. A record of how horses have been bred which is so clear as to accentuate the leading families should be the standard aimed at by everyone who edits a Stud Book. And to mix up two breeds that have been kept separate for upwards of twenty years in one Stud Book would be injudicious, to say the least.

This by no means implies that the machinery of one society should not be employed for the purpose of looking after the interests of two breeds. Such a course might under certain circumstances be desirable. But under any conditions it is undesirable that the Cleveland Bay should become merged in the Coach Horse. The latter is the result of a cross between the thoroughbred and the Cleveland Bay, and as in most cases of breeds raised in this way, there comes a time when the parent breed has to be resorted to for that substance and size which is essential.

I am afraid that there are many owners of Cleveland Bays who fail to recognise the importance of Stud Book registration, for there are many very good mares which ought certainly to be registered and which are not. Some few years ago a rule was passed to the effect that no foal should be registered in the Stud Book whose sire and dam were not also registered. This is a sound enough rule when a society has been established a few years and its objects have become known. But in the peculiar circumstances in which the Cleveland Bay breed was situated it is open to question whether it would not have been wiser to have deferred such a rule for a few years. For this is what has occurred. Many men—small breeders—only registered their foals. They looked upon registration as giving a little more value to the foal, and in many cases the dam was not entered in the Stud Book, even though granddam and great-granddam were. When the new rule was passed the fee for registering mares was thought by owners to be too high, and they declined to pay it. As a matter of fact, the fee is reasonable enough, but it is difficult to persuade some men to invest a few shillings, unless they can see their way to immediate profit. The result is that there are numerous unregistered Cleveland Bays in the country, many of which, it is to be feared, will not be put to their best use, which, of course, is the breeding of Cleveland Bays.

What has happened before may, of course, happen again, though it is scarcely likely that there will ever be such a big boom in Cleveland Bays as there was in the early eighties. But it is quite possible that there may be a greatly increased demand for horses of the breed. There is no getting away from the fact that a powerful, clean-legged animal of the Cleveland Bay type is invaluable on a farm, and the time may come when this will be more universally recognised than it is at present. I am afraid if that time does come it will find many Cleveland Bay breeders as little prepared to meet it as they were to meet the boom of the early eighties, and that the same thing will take place as took place then—viz., that many horses will be sold as Cleveland Bays which have but little Cleveland Bay blood in them, and that the trade will consequently be damaged, and the breed get a name that it does not deserve, as was the case twenty years ago.

It is interesting to look back a couple of centuries and see the kind of horse that our ancestors used, and the standard of perfection they set up for themselves; and from the old books on the live stock of the farm and on agriculture, there are lessons to be learnt even now, in spite of many of the curious superstitions which they contain. Here is what Gervase Markham has to say about cart horses:—"If you will chuse a Horse for the Cart or Plough, which is the slow draught, chuse him that is of most ordinary height, for horses in the Cart unequally sorted, never draw at ease, but the tall hang up the low horse. Let them be of good strong portion, big breasted, large bodies, and strong limb'd, by nature rather inclined to crave the whip, than to draw more than is needfull. And for this purpose Mares are most profitable; for besides the effecting of your work, they yearly bring you fresh increase: therefore if you furnish your draught with Mares to breed, observe in any wise to have them fair forehanded, that is good head, neck, breast and shoulders; for the rest it is not so regardfull, onely let her body be large; for the bigger room the Foal hath in the dam's Belly, the fairer are his members. And above all things, observe never to put your draught beasts to the saddle, for that alters their pace, and hurts them in their Labour."

Here is some sound advice, and it may be remarked, by the way, that it is one thing in favour of the Cleveland Bay mare that she can do much of the work of the farm, and breed a light horse of the type which will be wanted some day—perhaps when there will be some difficulty in finding him. The description of the draught horse given by Gervase Markham would almost make one think that the draught horses used in the time of Charles I. and the Commonwealth were something of the Cleveland type. His insistence on the good forehand, head, neck, and shoulders, at any rate, would seem to justify the opinion. The advice given never to put draught horses to saddle would also seem to point out that the horses used in the plough in those days were very different to the Shire or Clydesdale.

The Northumberland Vardy Horse—a breed of which but little is known, but about whose activity many traditions remain—would probably be the type of agricultural horse in some parts of the country as the Cleveland type might prevail in others. We know that some hundred years after Markham's book was published there was, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, a breed of small, active, clean-legged cart horses which Marshall described as "Holderness blacks," and the introduction of which into the North Riding he strongly opposed as tending to spoil the breed of horses which existed there, and which, whilst doing the work of the farm, was also able to do the work of a harness horse or on occasion of a hunter. It seems, therefore, probable that all our original breeds were what are now known as light-legged horses, and that the feather and big bone was an importation from Belgium.

THE LOOKER ON.

Notes and Jottings.

We have before us a circular that has been sent out from the Board of Agriculture to flockmasters, the object in view being, as stated in the circular, "to obtain trustworthy data for the construction of an approximate estimate of the total quantity of wool produced in Great Britain." The object is one that deserves every encouragement. Probably to the official or non-practical mind the queries asked in the circular are considered all that are needful. Practical business men will, however, strongly dissent from this.

The flockmaster is, first of all, asked to give an estimate of the clip for his county. Why should this be chosen as the district? Surely, if each flockmaster had been asked to give the average weight of his own fleeces for (a) breeding ewes, and for (b) from other sheep one year and above, a very much more reliable data upon which to work would have been obtained. The Board of Agriculture have already at their command the number of sheep each flockmaster has, in the annual return they make to the Board, and all that would have been necessary for the well-paid official at the Board to have done would be to multiply the average weight of the fleece by the number of sheep returned.

This, however, is not the most serious blunder noticeable to the practical flockmaster. For no information is asked for in respect to the weight of wool clipped from lambs. Presumably the officials at the Board of Agriculture have no knowledge of this source of wool supply, and hence they do not mention it, or it may be that the official reply is that the quantity is so inconsiderable that it is not worth mentioning.

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
August			
29	Shorthorn Cattle	Col. Munro and Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie	Aberfeldy.
29	Horses and Ponies... ...	Mr. J. Jones	Whitegate Stud, Wrexham.
29	Shropshire Sheep, Cattle and White Pigs	Mr. W. L. Naper	The Home Farm, Loughcrew, Oldcastle, co. Meath.
29, 30 & 31	Hunters, Harness Horses, &c.	Various	York Horse Repository.
30	Shorthorn Cattle	Various	Perth Auction Mart.
30	Leicester Sheep	Mr. M'Intosh	Perth Auction Mart.
30	Polo Ponies...	Radnorshire Polo and Riding Pony Co. ...	The Farm, Bleddfa, Llangunllo, Radnorshire
30	Southdown Sheep... ..	Various	Chichester, Sussex.
30	Cattle and Shropshire Sheep	Mr. R. F. H. White ...	The Glebe Farm, Aghavoe, near Abbeyleix.
30	Lincoln Rams and Red Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. G. Morris	Kirmington, near Barnetby.
30 & 31	Horses	Various	North Wales Repository.
31	Southdown Sheep... ...	Mr. H. M. Simmons ...	Amberstone Grange, Hailsham, Sussex.
31	Sheep	Various	Craven Arms, Shropshire.
31	Oxford Down Rams and Ram Lambs	Various	Banbury.
September			
1	Shorthorn Cattle	Lord Brougham and Vaux	Brougham, Penrith.
1	Suffolk Sheep	Various	Ipswich.
1	Store Stock	Various	Shrewsbury.
1	Rams...	Members of the Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association	Lincoln.
2	Lincoln Shearling Rams..	Mr. F. Ward	Quarrington, Lincolnshire
2	Horses	Mr. A. O. Haslewood ..	Fairfield Stud Farm, near Buxton.
4	Shropshire Sheep and Shorthorn Dairy Cows	Mr. J. R. Adderley ...	Manstey Farm, Penkridge.

We have no means at hand to estimate it, but from our own knowledge there are many thousands of lambs shorn every year, and consequently any estimate of the growth of wool that does not include this source of supply would be unreliable. To secure reliable statistics of each and all our agricultural products is an object all would support, but unless these are collected thoroughly and fully, the result, instead of being a benefit, would be otherwise. It is for this reason mainly that attention has been drawn to the subject, because, as the present circular letter is worded, experience shows that the estimates for so large an area as a whole county are practically certain to be very wide of the correct total.

Had the principle of each separate flock been taken, and the number of sheep and lambs clipped, together with the average weight of the fleeces of the three ages been asked for, it is more than probable that an estimate practically identical to the real weight of the clip would have been able to have been arrived at.

The Argentine demand for stud sheep is, indeed, a notable one. It is generally supposed that the Lincolns are the only breed being taken in any numbers to that country. This, however, is not quite the fact at the present time. Last week we reported several important sales of Kent or Romney Marsh sheep for that country. As we go to press information is given of another very good sale of these sheep for the Argentine.

This selection, which numbers twenty-two head, has been made by Mr. Savage from Mr. Charles File's well-known flock at Eltham, Canterbury. These rams are a particularly well-bred lot, and are all of them descended from prize winning strains of blood.

Another important purchase of rams for the Argentine has been made during the past week by Mr. R. Taylor, of Pitlivie, who secured at Mr. T. A. Buttar's sale at Corston, Cupar Angus, no less than seventeen very choice yearling rams.

Another of the typical Shropshire rams was secured for export, namely, one selected from that specially even and well matched pen exhibited by Mr. Buttar at the Royal show. This ram was purchased at the top price of the sale for Mr. M'Ilwraith for export to New Zealand.

The Leicester breed, which is not much heard of in the South of England, has many admirers in both Australia and New Zealand. To the latter Colony Mr. G. Harrison has recently despatched an excellent consignment of thoroughly typical sheep.

The part that the Leicester has played in the breeding up and perfecting the fashionable Lincoln of the present day, and many of the other longwool breeds, was a large one. Many of the fine qualities these breeds have at the present time are unquestionably inherited from the Leicester strain of blood used with so much care in years gone by.

In the Australasian Colonies the value of the Leicester breed is fully recognised, and to those who have given the matter careful thought, it is more than probable in the future that the Argentine will also become a good customer for these sheep.

One reason why the breed is not so widely known at the present time is owing to the want of enterprise on the part of its supporters. If the names of Messrs. Jordan and G. Harrison, and Mrs. Perry-Herrick be omitted, there are practically none others who take any opportunity to bring its merit and quality prominently before the public either in this or in any other country.

Lambs need special care at this season of the year. They ought to be given plenty of change. It is bad management to let them remain any considerable length of time in any particular field or enclosure. If the occupation is such that they have to be grazed on pasture land or orchards, then, by all means, divide it into either three or four pieces, letting the lambs have the run of one for, say, a couple of days, and then go to the next, and so on, round and round as long as the food holds out. The adoption of this simple and easy plan will thus enable the lambs to a large extent always have fresh food.

Another matter that has much to do with keeping lambs healthy and thriving is to always let them have a supply of clean fresh water to run to when they require it, and a lump or so of rock salt. If these are both provided, and always accessible, there is no fear of either being partaken of too freely. It is only when water is not always at hand that bad effects follow its use. Allow free access always, and no animal will then take more than is necessary.

Of course, it will be urged by some, why take the trouble to cart water when lambs do equally well without it? If this were so no one would suggest it should be done; but an experience of many years, coupled with close attention to the results of the management of very many flocks, convinces the writer that in fully ninety cases out of a hundred the best results, and the fewest losses, are found in those flocks whose owners give a regular supply of clean and fresh water and rock salt.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Birmingham.

The annual sale of Shropshire sheep at Birmingham took place in Bingley Hall on Thursday, Messrs. Lythall and Walters being the auctioneers. There was a large attendance of buyers, and the sale generally was the most successful for many years, all the sheep being cleared at satisfactory prices. The best prices for rams were 47 gs., 30 gs., 25 gs., 24 gs., 22 gs., 20 gs., 18 gs., etc., and for ewes there was a good demand up to 70s. The principal buyers were the Duke of Sutherland, Earl Cawdor, Lord Lilford, Lord Penrhyn, Lord Willoughby de Broke, Sir T. Boughey, Colonel Sir H. F. Vernon, Colonel Stopford, Captain Levett, Captain Mytton, Hon. E. A. Fitzroy, Miss Rose, Mrs. Macpherson, Messrs. J. R. Adderley, J. P. Arkwright, W. T. Chamberlayne, J. W. Dee, F. J. S. Griffin, A. Hewlett, A. N. Henderson, J. Hollick, T. Jones, C. E. Morris, W. McCreery, S. F. M. Nevett, H. S. O'Brien, S. C. Pilgrim, E. Turnor, J. A. Watson, J. C. Williams. Large numbers were purchased for exportation to South America.

Castle Douglas.

Mr. W. Wallet's third special sale of lambs for the season at Castle Douglas took place on Monday, when about 11,000 were forward, 1,000 less than at the corresponding sale last year. Black-faced wether lambs had precedence in the catalogue. Prices opened at 11s. 9d. for the Miefield (Twynholm) lot; Kinharvie (Lord Herries), 12s. 6d.; Airdrie, Kirkbean, 14s. 3d.; Carnavel, 15s. 3d.; Jarbruck, 14s. 9d.; Glenarm (Earl of Antrim), 14s. 9d.; Sanquhar, 13s. 9d.; Warbrack, 15s. 9d.; Craigengillan, 16s.; Barloe Dalry (tops), 23s.; Barneywater, 11s. 6d.; Glencrosh 13s. 6d.; Glengapp, 13s.; Hensel, 15s. 6d.; black-faced ewe lambs, Glengapp, 11s. 3d.; Holm of Dalquhairn, 14s.; Airdrie, 10s. 9d.; Crae, 9s. 3d.; Castlehill, 14s. 9d.; and Glenarm, 13s.

Colchester.

Messrs. Sexton and Grimwade's 16th annual ram sale at Colchester Cattle Market took place on the 19th inst., the consignments totalling 60 Suffolk ram lambs and shearlings, coming from the registered flocks of Earl Onslow, Mr. J. W. Eagle, Mr. D. Abbott Green, Mr. E. Giles, Mr. Charles Cousins, and Mr. John Fenn. Earl Onslow's consignment of ram lambs realised from 3 to 3½ guineas. The consignment of 25 ram lambs sent by Mr. J. W. Eagle realised from 8¾ guineas downwards; shearlings made 7 to 4¾ guineas. Mr. Abbott's ram lambs made from 6 guineas downwards, and that from Mr. Cousins from 7 guineas downwards; ram lambs consigned by Mr. E. Giles going at lower prices. Black-faced shearling ewes from Mr. Charles Chisnall sold at 51s. per head, and similar ewes from Mr. Charles Clarke at 55s. per head.

Diss.

Messrs. T. W. Gaze and Son held a special sale of sheep at Diss on the 18th inst., the entries comprising 2,000 ewes, lambs, and rams, consisting of 900 black-faced and Suffolk ewes, 660 first-cross and half-bred ewes, 330 black-faced and half-bred lambs, 52 Cotswold rams, 11 black-faced rams, 14 Oxford down rams, and 27 first-cross and Lincoln rams. A large company, including several from a distance, attended the sale, and there was a brisk trade throughout at good prices. The Cotswold rams included 20 from Mr. W. T. Brasnett, Fersfield Hall, and the best price was 10½ gns., others selling from 9½ down to 4½ gns. Ten from Mrs. Dixon, Ridding Norton Hall, made from 7 gns. to 4½ gns.; five from Major Montgomerie, Hall Farm, Garboldisham, ranged from 2 gns. to 40s.; and other consignments from 50s. to 37s. 6d. There was a very keen demand for Oxford down rams, a grand lot of shearlings consigned by Mr. J. P. Case, Binham Abbey, being greatly admired; one sold at 10 gns., another at 9½ gns., two at 9 gns., and four at 8 gns. Four sent by Mr. F. W. Hammond, Thorndon, made from 35s. to 20s., and two from Mr. W. Bowles, Carleton Forehoe, 42s. 6d. and 35s. Black-faced rams included nine shearling rams from the Earl of Albemarle, which sold from 47s. 6d. to 30s.; whilst 20 first-cross rams from Mr. W. T. Brasnett ranged from 8 gns. to 4 gns. Several lots of lambs were offered, the most important being 100 pure-bred Suffolks from the executors of the late Mr. T. W. Gaze, Frenze Hall, 20 earmarked (from Registered Flock 325) made 38s. 6d.; another 20, 38s.; a score more, 34s. 6d.; and 40 eligible for registration, 37s. 6d. The ewes sold at prices ranging up to 64s. 6d.

Glynde.

The fifteenth annual sale of Southdown rams and ram lambs, at Glynde, Sussex, took place yesterday, in a field lent for the occasion by Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand. The auctioneers were Messrs. Herbert Morris and Son, of Lewes, and Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell, of Lewes and Haywards Heath. The catalogue comprised 121 rams and ram lambs from the following flockmasters:—The Duke of Devonshire, Mrs. Stephenson Clarke, Messrs. Thomas Bushby, Alan Cooper, Charles Goring, W. P. Hampton, G. S. Harris, A. Heasman, J. Lucas, A. G. Paul, J. Tompkins, and R. A. Warren; while ten shearling ewes, the property of Viscount Gage, were also entered.

The shearling ewes belonging to Lord Gage, and which were bred by Mr. Wm. Scrase, Broad Farm, Hellingly, were first sold, fetching 50s. per head. As to the rams, yearlings from the Duke of Devonshire's Motcombe Farm realised 12 gs., 7½ gs, 7 gs., 5½ gs., 5 gs., and 4 gs., whilst rams of various ages from other flocks realised from 30s. to 11 gs.

Ipswich.

About 6,500 lambs, a number slightly in excess of last year, were penned at the annual lamb fair, held at Ipswich on Tuesday. There was not such a large attendance of buyers as usual, and trade did not appear to be very fast, although a fair amount of business was transacted at late rates. Tups evidently sold somewhat better than they did last year, and at higher prices. Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons had a catalogue of about 1,200 ewes, lambs, and rams, and they experienced a good demand throughout, and considering the prospects for feed, prices were well maintained. Suffolk wether lambs fetched up to 40s. 6d., and ewes 34s. 6d., shearling ewes making up to 57s., two shears to 47s. 6d., and full-mouthed ewes up to 50s. 6d. A good number of Suffolk rams, belonging to Mr. Arthur H. Stanford, Beaumont Hall, went up to 7 gs., while Oxford Down ram lambs, consigned by Mr. John White, Brampton, Oxford, sold up to 8 gs., and pedigree Lincoln shearling rams, bred by Mr. George Hoyles, Skedley Manor, up to 9 gs. Messrs. Spurling and Sons had about their usual number, and for all the best lots of sheep there was a demand quite equal to that which has ruled, but the more ordinary descriptions were somewhat cheaper. On the whole, however, a very good clearance was made at prices similar to those ruling at Messrs. Bond's sale, although for rams the top price here was 10 gs., given for a shearling Southdown.

Lockerbie.

Messrs. Harrison and Sons, Carlisle, held a sale of sheep and lambs at Lockerbie last week. On Wednesday they offered upwards of 14,000 cross and half-bred lambs and 2,000 feeding sheep in the presence of a large company of Scotch, English, and Irish buyers. All classes of lambs made fully last sale's price. Feeding sheep met a very good trade, maintaining the prices of the last sale. The best lambs sold at 27s. to 35s., Mr. Milligan, Merkland, being the purchaser of a top lot from the Rue at the latter figure. Secondary sorts made 15s. to 26s.; feeding sheep, half-breds, 36s. to 48s.; crosses, to 37s.; Cheviots, to 30s.; half-bred gimmers, to 38s.; and black-faced, to 18s. 6d.

On Thursday the consignment numbered 13,500, made up of Cheviot and black-faced wedder lambs. There was a large attendance of buyers from England and the South of Scotland, and trade opened brisk, prices showing a slight advance on those of the first sale a fortnight ago. The top price for Cheviots was 19s. 6d., obtained for a large lot off Wapple Gill, the purchaser being Mr. Hope, Rigg Cottage, Gretna.

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The highest figure for black-faced was 15s. 9d., obtained for a lot consigned by Mr. Dalgleish, Ettrick. The best Cheviot wedder lambs sold from 15s. to 19s. 6d., smaller lambs making 11s. to 14s., black-faced ditto 8s. to 15s. 9d.

On the third and concluding day upwards of 7,250 Cheviot and 750 blackfaced ewe lambs were exposed. The attendance of English and South of Scotland buyers was again large, and a satisfactory trade prevailed, a total clearance of Cheviots being made, the top price for which was 23s. 6d., given by Mr. Gordon, Berwickshire, for Mr. Annandale's consignment off Hopsrigg. Another strong lot from Westwater sold at 23s. to Mr. Hamilton, Roxburgh. Mr. Borthwick, Billholm, also received that price for a small lot, while a superior lot from Rennalburn made 22s. 6d. Other prices were from 9s. upwards. A fine lot of Suffolk ewe lambs, from Sir Robert Jardine's farm at Castlemilk, sold at 33s. a-piece. The top price for blackfaced ewe lambs was 15s., obtained for nine score from the Dryfehead and Finniegill Pastures. Other lots sold at from 8s. 3d.

Newingreen.

Messrs. W. and B. Holbs held their annual lamb sale at Newingreen, Kent, on the 18th inst., when they disposed of about 7,000 sheep and lambs. Bids came fairly fast, and, the quality being good, prices for the day were fairly high. Mr. Walter Long had a fine run of Kent and half-bred lambs entered, and of these the half-breds made from 25s. to 33s. 6d., and the Kents from 20s. to 33s. The whole 542 sold for £763 7s., or an average of just over 28s. 2d. a head. The Exors. of William Long entered 220 half-breds, which made from 18s. 6d. to 37s. and averaged out at 30s. 2d. a head. Mr. J. Kingsmill's lambs made the best average, these being 400 half-breds, which sold from 26s. to 36s. 6d., and averaged 30s. 11d. a head. There were very few Kents or half-breds either that sold much under 22s. 6d. or 23s., and the usual run of half-breds made from about 26s. 6d. to 33s., the pick going up to 36s. 6d. to 37s. a head. Kents ran from about 24s. to 28s., and the best from 29s. 6d. to 33s. 6d., Mr. T. Denne buying a pen of fifty ewe lambs of Mr. Rolfe's at the latter figure.

Saxmundham.

At Saxmundham Repository on Wednesday Messrs. Flick and Son offered 1,600 flock ewes and lambs—Suffolk, first-cross and half-breds—and a number of well-bred rams, consigned by well-known breeders and graziers in the locality. Captain F. C. W. Wentworth, R.N., sent some first-cross ram lambs, which made 35s. and 32s. 6d. Amongst Mr. H. G. Fairs' consignments was a two-shear Lincoln ram, which fetched 47s. 6d. Sir Thomas V. S. Gooch, of Benacre Hall, sent a number of Southdown rams, which made 57s. 6d., and ram lambs from 40s. Mr. J. E. Cooper, Knodishall Hall, consigned half a dozen Suffolk ram lambs, two making 55s. and 50s. Mr. W. H. Borrett, Leiston Hall, had the same number, which sold freely, two going at £4 apiece. A Suffolk ram lamb belonging to Mr. Alfred Chambers, Middleton, fetched the highest price amongst this class of animal—viz., £5 10s. Two two-shear Oxford Down rams, consigned by Mr. George Rope, Langham Grove, Blaxhall, went at 57s. 6d. and 52s. 6d., and two Oxford Down ram lambs at 70s. and 60s. Registered Suffolk shearling ewes, belonging to Mr. George Mann, Snows Hall, Sibton, made from 60s. A score of nice shearling ewes, entered by Mr. J. R. Grimsey, St. Helena, Dunwich, realised 60s., and twenty black-faced shearling ewes, from Mr. Kenneth M. Clarke's Ferry Farm, Sudbourne, 63s.

Settle.

At Settle Lammas Fair for store sheep and lambs bred during the current year, held on the 19th inst., there was a large show of lambs, despite unfavourable weather. Trade, however, ruled slow and dull, prices being from 1s. to 2s. per head less than at last year's corresponding fair. The white-faced variety were sold at 24s. to 27s. per head for the best, and the inferior lots made 18s. to 23s. a piece. The best class of grey-faced lambs made 19s. to 23s. per animal, the smaller ones fetching 15s. to 18s. each. Scotch lambs commanded 10s. to 14s. per head.

Sir A. Muntz's Shropshires.

On Tuesday, Mr. Alfred Mansell, of Shrewsbury, conducted a sale of pedigree Shropshire sheep from the famous flock belonging to Sir Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P., at Dunsmore, and as was to be expected, there was a large attendance of buyers. Forty-four rams, mainly shearlings, were submitted, and of these all but two changed hands. The highest price was made for the first lot, a ram that has done well in the show-ring. He was bought for Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield, at 55 gs. For another, by the same sire (Stronghold), 36 gs. was paid by Mr. R. P. Hughes, from South America, who was a fairly large buyer at the sale, more than a dozen rams being knocked down to him, including a fine specimen, for which he paid 23 gs. Mr. Henderson, of Street Ashton House, bought a pasture ranger for 19 gs., and others sold for 18 gs. (Captain Townshend, Nuneaton, Lord Howe, and Mr. Ivens, Frangton), 17 gs. (Mr. J. H. Stokes, Great Bowden), 15 gs. (Mr. Eaton, Stamford), 13 gs. (Mr. Crawley and Mr. Pearman, Ryton-on-Dunsmore), and 12 gs. (Mr. C. F. Priestley, Anglesey). The rams realised in all £523, the average working out at £12 9s. 5d. each. Shearling ewes were in great demand. Eleven pens were sold, and the prices ranged up to 77s. 6d. each, given by Mr. F. F. Bibby, of Hardwick, Shrewsbury. The average made by the shearling ewes was £3 15s., and by stock ewes £2 16s. The total amount realised by the sale was £736.

Perth Ram Sales and the Sheep Dipping Order.

The following, which has been issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries in connection with the forthcoming ram shows at Perth, will be read with interest by those frequenting these sales:—The Board order that "rams entered for exhibition or sale at either of the shows specified in the schedule to this order shall be exempt from the provisions of the Sheep-Dipping (Scotland) Order of 1905, but such rams shall not be moved out of the dipping area to which such order relates unless accompanied by a license granted by an Inspector of the Local Authority of the district from which they are so moved, which license shall only be granted upon production of a veterinary certificate showing freedom from disease, or a declaration signed by the owner of the sheep or his agent authorised in writing for this purpose, to the effect that the rams have been dipped since the 18th day of June, 1905."

Dublin Wool Sales.

The quantity of wools submitted for competition by Messrs. Ganly and Sons on Thursday showed a considerable reduction in weight when compared with the July catalogue. There was a very good attendance of local and cross-channel buyers (many probably attracted by the horse show), and a more cheerful tone was apparent in the biddings. The better lots of deep wool were sharply competed for, as were also seaside and mountain qualities, which realised rather higher prices than were obtainable last month. Shropshires showed no advance, and for Scotch, both washed and unwashed, the demand was somewhat limited at late rates. The following were the prices realised:—Shropshires, 12¾d. to 13¼d.; fine hoggs, 12⅝d. to 12⅞d.; fine wethers, 12¼d. to 12⅝d.; deep hogs, 12d. to 12½d.; deep wethers, 11¾d. to 12¼d.; seaside, 11d. to 11¾d.; mountain, 9½d. to 10½d.; greasy and cast, 10d. to 11d.; black-faced and Scotch, 6½d. to 8½d.

A Strike at the Central Meat Market.—A strike occurred early on Thursday morning among the carrying porters at the Central Meat Market, Smithfield. About fifty men who serve one of the largest firms in the market were affected. These men have been engaged in "pitching" carcases of frozen and chilled meat, pitching being the trade term for carrying the carcases from the vans to the different stalls. For this work they have been receiving pay at the rate of 11d. per ton of meat carried. Recently the firm decided to split up the work, giving to another gang the job of carrying chilled Argentine meat, and reducing the price to 10d. per ton. As a protest, the original gang struck work. When the day's operations should have begun at one o'clock on Thursday all the men arrived, but declined to carry a single side of meat unless they were compensated for the loss of the chilled meat work by the addition of 1d. a ton to the rate for carrying the frozen meat. The firm on Thursday declined to grant the advance, and work was at a standstill for four hours, till it was agreed to give the extra 1d., and carrying was resumed.

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EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Changes in the landscape of the country pass quickly now, for the green corn that became so slowly yellow has been removed from its allotted position in the picture, and for a few days only did the golden fields present an untidy appearance by reason of their being littered with barley or dotted all over with stooks of wheat and oats. Throughout East Anglia we notice places have been built in the corner of almost every field, and in many districts where gleaners still follow their calling may have been seen, when the last load of sheaves had been removed, in many cases as long ago as twelve days, the busy scene of industry spoken of in the Book (Lev. xxiii. 22). What does the poet say of this interesting sight?—

> The gleaners spread around, and here and there,
> Spike after spike, their scanty harvest pick
> Be not too narrow, husbandman! but fling
> From the full sheaf, with charitable stealth
> The liberal handful. Think, oh grateful, think.

Such a sight the writer saw in the pretty little Essex village of Ashdon, on the borders of Cambridgeshire, on the 15th inst., when the gleaners started their operations, but a few days later each bare expanse was dotted with small thorn bushes, which are withering where they stand. These had been placed there by the gamekeepers, as in other parts of the Eastern counties, for these gentlemen follow close on the heels of the farmers' men, and plant these thorny branches at intervals over each field in order to prevent poachers from obtaining the first and best of the game by means of nets that they would employ at night to envelop the sleeping coveys.

East Anglia is noted for being the granary of England, and its capital (Norwich) is the largest market for English grain, it is therefore of interest to note the variations in the average prices of home-grown corn that are brought into view in a comparison of the figures furnished by six selected markets out of 190 scheduled corn markets of England and Wales. The average prices are for the month of July, 1905, and are per imperial quarter—that is, per 480 lb. of oats. For per 400 lb. of barley, and per 312 lb. of oats. For wheat the averages are:—London, 32s. 10d.; Salisbury, 32s. 2d.; Norwich, 31s. 10d.; Peterborough, 31s. 5d.; Lincoln, 31s. 4d.; Doncaster, 30s. 10d. The difference between the highest and the lowest of these is 2s. per qr. Only two of the six markets (Lincoln and Norwich) returned July averages for barley, which is 22s. 9d. in each case. All except Lincoln returned average prices for oats—namely, London, 20s. 1d.; Salisbury, 19s. 11d.; Peterborough, 19s. 5d.; Doncaster, 18s. 8d.; Norwich, 18s. 7d. The difference between the highest and lowest in this case is 1s. 6d. per quarter. The average price of wheat for the whole of England and Wales in July was 32s. 1d. per quarter; for the same months in France it was 40s. 10d., or 8s. 9d. more.

So far the early attempts at selling barley have met with poor success, as was only likely, considering the position of the brewing trade and the want of character early threshed barley samples often show, especially when cut by the self-binder. This mistake has been often made this season, whereas with the fine weather that has prevailed the old-fashioned untidy method would have been best, for when cut with a self-binder it is tied as it is cut, so that the outside of the sheaves bleach in the sun, with the result that "two-colours" are obtained in the sample, and this is a condition of sample that maltsters dislike. However, a good sweating on the stack will mellow the corn and give a more even colour to the grain, so that this season especially good sound barleys should not be rushed on the market, although, as a rule, in latter years first threshings have made the most money, as quality later on will materially assist the prices.

A conference took place on Saturday in the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, between a committee of the Norfolk Chamber of Agriculture and a delegation from the Norfolk Valuers' Association on the subject of the valuation of dilapidations and covenants on farmers, and while each speaker in the lively discussion that took place acknowledged that under existing circumstances the matter was surrounded with difficulties, it was decided to study and examine the practical and business-like ideas that had been expressed, and at a future conference take such steps that after mature consideration would put the matter of farm valuations on a sounder and a more just basis.

It was decided at a meeting of the Dunmow Agricultural Association, held on Wednesday last, under the presidency of Mr. J. M. Welch, of Dunmow, to hold the annual Root Show and Ploughing Competitions on Tuesday, October 3.

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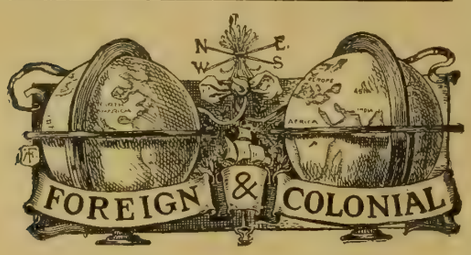

The Crops in Germany.

The subjoined report concerning the standing crops of the principal cereals throughout the empire was issued by the Imperial Bureau of Statistics in the middle of July. No. 1 represents very good; 2, good; 3, an average; 4, below an average; 5 very small.

The drought which prevailed in June continued until the middle of July, and had an injurious effect upon vegetation. Thunder showers and storms were insufficient to moisten the ground, and the tropical heat in the end of June and beginning of July scorched the clover fields and meadows of South Germany, and summer fruits, especially oats, had to be ploughed over. In many cases they became prematurely ripe, and harvest was hurried on.

Rain fell in the first half of July in North and Middle Germany, and in a few districts of South Germany, where thunder and hail storms occurred, which were most beneficial to fodder plants. The rainfalls came almost too late for the haulm crops, and did some damage in beating them down. The harm done to the grain cannot yet be estimated; the entire crop has been destroyed by hail in a few districts of Treves, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Wurtemberg, Bavaria, and Alsace-Lorraine. Complaints are heard of the ravages of caterpillars, wire-worm, mice, and sparrows in a few places; weeds and rust are more rare.

The condition of the winter-sown crops is reported as generally satisfactory, in spite of the drought which prevailed. It was much improved in many districts of North Germany by the rainfalls. Winter rye remains the same as in June, but winter wheat has gone back to 2.4. The harvest was earlier in many parts owing to the crops becoming prematurely ripe. Rye harvest was begun throughout the Empire by the middle of July; in parts of Bavaria and Baden it was already ended.

Heat and drought proved unfavourable to the development of summer-sown crops, which were not quite satisfactory in our last report. Only in a few districts where rain fell do they show any signs of improvement; they are generally short in the straw, thin, and suffering from weeds and rust. They became prematurely ripe in many places, and rye and oat fields are burnt up. The condition of summer crops is described as an average. The average note for the Empire for summer wheat and summer barley is the same as in June (2.5); summer rye is 2.6, or one point behind last month, and oats two points behind (2.8).

Potatoes are attacked by disease in several districts where drought prevailed, and in others the growth is undeveloped. They have, however, generally improved since rain fell, and with the exception of Bavaria the condition is described as fine and sound. Complaints of insect pests are rare. The note for all districts except Bavaria is better than that of last month, and everywhere better than that of last year. The average note for the Empire is 2.5, against 2.5 in June and 2.7 in July, 1904.

The first crop of clover and lucerne is, with few exceptions, plentiful and good, and was carried in good condition. Prospects for the second crop are very poor in South Germany, unless the weather becomes warm and moist. The condition of fodder plants cannot improve much, as the long continued drought has dried the soil too much. The second crop promises well in Middle and North Germany. The average note for the Empire is 2.9 and 2.6 against 2.9 and 2.4 in the preceding month.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Barnsley.

In striking contrast to their show of 1904, which was a financial failure owing to unfavourable weather, the Barnsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society's twenty-fifth exhibition on Tuesday had delightful weather, and was very largely attended. The takings should help to recoup the society for last year's loss. As to the character of the show, it sufficiently justified that interest simply by reason of its diversity, there being numerous side shows in addition to the usual features of an agricultural exhibition. In a general way, it may be said, the live stock lacked uniformity of merit. Moreover, in a few cases the competition was very meagre; especially was this so in the Shorthorn section. Perhaps it was due, in part, to the lateness of the date of the show. Whatever the cause, there were but four exhibitors of Shorthorns, with but one exhibit each in the younger male and female classes. The local dairy classes were better filled, and made a creditable display, size and quality being a special feature of the winning cow, in calf or milk, the property of a tenant farmer. Several excellent specimens came to the front in the sheep section. Heavy horses were somewhat disappointing, but roadsters made a good display.

Barrow-in-Furness.

The Barrow-in-Furness Agricultural Society is to be commiserated with on the ill-fortune experienced at their show on the 19th inst. A record entry was received, and everything possible done to make the show a success, but it was ruined by the weather. During the night a heavy gale blew down two large marquees, and these were re-erected, but one of them, containing a fine show of fruit, flowers, seeds, etc., again collapsed, and this exhibition had to be transferred to the Queen's Hall. Owing to the wind and the heavy showers, which fell with persistency throughout the morning and afternoon, the attendance was meagre, and a regrettable loss was doubtless incurred. The show itself was a capital one, both as regards quality and quantity, and it is therefore doubly unfortunate that such miserable weather should have prevailed. Of a total of about ninety head of cattle the majority were Shorthorns, some of the best having been bred with the well-known herds of the district. Leicesters were the strongest of the sheep classes, but the pens also contained some good quality Shropshires and half-breds. Heavy horses, which are always a feature of the Barrow show, were this year better than ever, and numbered 105—a substantial increase; whilst eighty-nine light horses were catalogued, and competition was strong in most sections.

Chorley.

Although a busy manufacturing town, Chorley is situated in the centre of a good farming district, and to the Chorley Agricultural Society's Show has always extended hearty support, and did so again at the show held there on the 19th inst. In the aggregate the entries were less numerous than those of last year. The horse and cattle classes practically showed no falling off, but there was a substantial decline in the number of dogs, pigeons, and other less important exhibits. The quality of the horses and cattle was said by the judges to be quite up to that of any local show, and to the horned stock in particular special praise was given.

Lancaster.

The show of the Lancaster Agricultural Society, held in the Grant Axe Field at the foot of the Castle on Wednesday was without doubt one of the best the society has yet held, and fortunately the weather kept fine (though rain threatened), and there was a very large attendance of visitors. The entries were numerous in every section, and the quality as a whole very good. As usual many of the principal competitors at the North Lonsdale Show on the previous day journeyed on to Lancaster—a circumstance that gives zest to the judging, as it not unfrequently happens—and such was the case on Wednesday—that the verdict of one set of judges is reversed by another. Such difference is easily accounted for, however, and the general standard of merit is pretty evenly maintained. Cattle made one of the best displays of the show, some very fine Shorthorns being forward. Of the agricultural horses the more notable was Lord Henry Bentinck's two-year-old filly Underley Daisy, by Patrick II. Besides scoring in every competition for which she was entered, she was awarded the Shire Horse Society's medal. Cark Eclipse, another filly foal with which Messrs. Dickinson took a large share of the honours at Ulverston, was quite as successful yesterday. Hackneys made a good local show. There were but few exhibits with a county reputation, but many representatives that did credit to the immediate neighbourhood. Hunters, too, were commendable, whilst other interesting displays included sheep and dogs.

Newbury Horse.

As a social function, the annual exhibition of the Newbury Horse Show Society continues to hold pride of place as the chief gathering in that part of the county, but as an institution for encouraging horse-breeding in the district it does not attain the results which the efforts of the promoters merit. This is difficult to understand when one bears in mind the large number of horses that are maintained in the locality for agricultural, racing, and driving purposes, but various reasons are assigned. The entries, for instance, this year were forty-eight less than in 1904, which were considerably below those of the previous year, but the deficiency on this occasion is attributed in some degree to the fact that this Show clashed with Dublin, while harvest operations have not yet been completed in many quarters. Wednesday's show was the fifteenth of the series, and as far as quality was concerned it was a very good one, but, as already stated, the number of entries left a lot to be desired.

North Lonsdale.

The show of the North Lonsdale Agricultural Society, held at Ulverston on Tuesday, was a marked improvement on that of last year, and the weather for once being favourable a large company put in an appearance. The show certainly deserves success, for, besides being well managed, it encourages well-nigh every branch of agriculture, as well as live stock. Heavy horses were the feature of the show, and, considering the encouragement given to Shire breeding by the president (Mr. Victor Cavendish), this was only natural. The most exciting event was the competition for the Cavendish Challenge Cup for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal. As the trophy has been already twice won by Mr. J. Teasdale, of Ulverston, and Mr. William Huddleston, of Barrow, and as each had entered the list for a third time the result was awaited with more than ordinary interest. After a keen struggle the judges gave their preference to the exhibit belonging to Mr. Teasdale, who has thus won the cup three times, and becomes its possessor. Another championship that was keenly contested was that for the best Shire foal belonging to a tenant farmer in the Hundred of Lonsdale, north of the Sands. Here the principal rivals were Messrs. Dickinson's Cark Eclipse, which was eventually victorious, and a promising brown in foal belonging to Mr. George Robinson, of Wainey. Hunters were not numerous, but there was a fairly good show of hackneys. The cattle classes were well filled, and the sheep took a lot of judging.

Ayrshire Cattle Herd Book.

The annual meeting of the Ayrshire Cattle Herd-Book Society was held at Ayr, the Hon. G. R. Vernon, of Auchans, President of the Society, in the chair. The financial statement showed that the income for the year had been £200 16s., as against £210 4s. last year; and the expenditure, £275 2s., against £234 1s. 4d. last year. The debit balance on the year's intromissions was £83 18s. The balance in favour of the Society was shown to be £764 4s., as compared with £754 12s. last year. The report of the directors showed that twelve new members and one life governor had joined the Society. During the year 234 certificates had been granted—a decrease of 49 on last year. The exports were:—To Finland, 125; South Africa, 29; Sweden, 22; United States, 18; Canada, 20; Australia, 14; China, 3; and Brazil, 3.

Some discussion took place as to donations to societies, and while it was agreed to continue the contributions of £20 to the Ayrshire Agricultural Association and to the Glasgow Society, it was agreed to withhold the grant of £20 to the Highland and Agricultural Society, and in the meantime not to grant £20 to the Royal Society of England. It was also, after a good deal of discussion for and against, decided to continue the show and sale of pedigree Ayrshires at Ayr next year, and, on the motion of Mr. T. Howie, to continue the grant of £40 therefor.

The Marquis of Ailsa was re-appointed patron; the Hon. G. R. Vernon, president; Mr. Alex. Cross, of Knockdon, vice-president; and Colonel Fergusson-Buchanan and Dr. Douglas, M.P., were added to the directorate. Mr. John Howie, solicitor, Ayr, was unanimously re-elected secretary and treasurer.

Some discussion took place as to a remit from the Ayrshire Agricultural Society as to present standards for judging Ayrshire cattle, more particularly as to their milk-giving qualities and their udders and teats. After several speeches, in the course of which it was pointed out that it would be invidious to give directions to judges as to the standards they were to judge by, and that such directions would probably be disregarded, it was unanimously agreed to take no definite steps in the matter.

Royal Dublin Society's Horse and Sheep Show at Ball's Bridge, Dublin.

The great annual hunter show, as it is known by the world over, under the auspices of the Royal Dublin Society, took place on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last in the beautifully and conveniently arranged premises of the society at Ball's Bridge. The weather on the whole proved very favourable. On the opening day there were occasional showers, but nothing serious enough to affect either the attendance or the judging. The second day was altogether a delightful one, neither heat or wet interfering, and the crowd of fashionably dressed ladies and gay society has never been greater since the popular function was instituted. On this day the Lord Lieutenant and a numerous Viceregal party visited the show in the afternoon to witness the jumping competition, and the spectacle was quite a brilliant one. At this time practically every yard of the extensive jumping enclosure and grand stands was packed. The jumping that afternoon was very satisfactory, though there were quite as many spills as we are accustomed to see, but so far as the abilities of the horses were concerned little fault could be found. The whole of the obstacles, except the stone wall, were negotiated almost in faultless style by the majority of the horses. On the other hand, the stone wall was quite enough for the best of them, very few clearing that without a slight scratch of perhaps just an odd stone or so. The jumping of these horses is a very important matter, as all, or most of them, were hunters catalogued in the ordinary manner in the show hunter classes, and not animals kept solely for a jumping performance in the yard, and when we look at the fact that the same breeding that produces these horses is also practised in the production of a good proportion of our military horses it will be seen how important it is, as horses used in war are often required to face such obstables as water, walls, and timber of one kind or another in the performance of war.

Coming to the hunters, which are the great feature of the show, it was generally thought that the majority of the classes were not quite up to the average of these shows, and that there were rather more than the ordinary number of indifferent and second or third-rate animals. There are, however, very satisfactory reasons accounting for this. Hunters, especially the best class of Irish horses, have been in great demand for a long time past and at prices that few breeders would be wise to refuse. This has caused the country to be scoured over by purchasers, both home and foreign, who invariably select the best, and therefore a larger proportion than usual of inferior specimens have remained over for the show as a possible place of sale. As an instance of the demand that has been experienced for good horses lately, it may be mentioned that only a few weeks ago one consignment of horses for the Continent of Europe alone numbered 400, most purchased in the best hunter breeding districts. That the circumstances mentioned have had much to do with any deficiency of quality too is also supported by the fact that the three and four-year-olds as well as younger stock were quite up to any previous years, and it is not often that foreign buyers care for the younger ones, their selections invariably being made from the matured and made horses.

Thoroughbreds.

The catalogue commenced with the thoroughbred stallions suitable for getting hunters of the weight-carrying, which is the most valuable class. The number of entries of these has not been so great for the past two or three years as it was at some of the earlier shows. The limitations as to fees, however, restricts the entry of the best stallions somewhat, and the season is now over for having them in condition. The class for horses over eight years old contained ten entries, of which seven came before the judges. These gentlemen were a very long time deliberating on them, eventually placing the favourite Irish sire, Red Prince 2nd, shown by Mr. W. Pallin, at the head of them, a decision that met with quite universal approval at the ring side, for not only is this horse's breeding good, but he is proving a first-rate sire, and at sixteen years old came into the ring remarkably fresh, and his substance, both bone and muscle, as well as his conformation, size and quality, are what is wanted for the business, he is of Ben d'Or blood, and therefore well backed in this aspect. The other prize winners in this class were Mr. John J. Gilmour's Spook, a big bay horse with good back and loin as well as bone and quality, sired by Oberon by Galopin, and Major M. J. Balfe's Bona Rosa, another horse with great bone and muscle and a good mannor. The reserve, Mr. T. M'Mahon's Castleshira looks like getting good stock too. Under eight years old there were seven entries, all in their places, and there were some very promising sires in these. Mr. D. Owens's Knightly, bred by the Earl of Bradford and sired by Sir Hugo, a stallion with quality and famous top and loin, was placed first; Mr. James Walsh's Ray's Cross, by St. Florian, bred by Mr. Gubbins, another big good stallion, was second; and Mr. Fitzmaurice's Belvoir, by Ravensbury, also with plenty of size and bone, was third.

Thoroughbred mares were a very uniformly even class of seventeen, and these were particularly good in their quality, short-legged mares with deep bodies, plenty of breeding about them, and the majority had also enough bone for brood mares. The winners were Mr. F. Callaghan's Lady Glenwood, by Hackler, Mr. Clarke's Springbed, by Springtime, Mr. Hugh Murray's Lavinia, by Laveno, and Mr. T. M'Mahon's St. Magdalen, by St. Florian. The winning foals out of these being sired by General Peace and Senanus. Mr. R. G. Nash had the only entry in the class for mares three years old and under, stinted to a thoroughbred sire. This was a brown four-year-old by Fortuno, and a mare of the highest possible style and breeding for a hunter class, awarded first prize. Mares over six years old, calculated to produce weight-carrying hunters, were a mixed lot rather, twenty-three in number, the majority, however, were wide deep mares with a good deal of substance, as well as breeding, and, therefore, were calculated to fulfil the conditions of the class. Mr. S. Rait Kerr was first with a rattling good mare by Sailor King, Mr. R. G. Nash second with a daughter of Duke of Portland, Mr. J. S. Kincaid third with a very nice quality mare by Scene Shifter, and Mr. Kiernan fourth with the get of Gay Reveller. The best foals out of these were by Red Prince 2nd (1st prize stallion and winner of the Croker Challenge Cup) and Bushy Park. Six-year-old mares and under, for breeding weight-carriers, were a famous lot, though only six in number, the best of these were Mr. R. G. Carden's Romany Queen, a splendid-shaped mare and full of quality, got by Roman Emperor, Mr. Patrick Turley's Nora by Nasar-ed-Din, Mr. J. O'Sullivan's Game Chick by Cherrystone, and Mrs. Panton's Rosebury by Bunbury. The last class of brood mares for producing weight-carriers, and studded to a thorough-bred sire, had but four entries, but these were amongst the very best of the sections. Mr. J. O'Sullivan was first with Fairy Queen by Ferdinand, Mr. M Tyrrell second with White Star by Delamont, and Mrs. Panton third with Cheery of Chad.

Yearling thoroughbred colts were a very pretty class, with 45 entries, the majority of them being well-grown animals, showing a big lot of bone and for the most part quality, too. Mr. M. Smith was first with a colt by Winkfield by Barcaldine, a good backed one and with plenty of substance; from appearances, however, he cannot travel level in landing at the top; Mr. T. M'Mahon's colt by Castleblarney, who stood second, has beautiful shoulders and quality, and shows breeding, too, likely to do better later in life; Mr. Joseph Rooney was third with a son of St. Gris by Galopin, a grand colt, with a lot of substance and growth about him as well as good shapes and quality; and Mr. Slattery came in fourth with a wonderfully nice bay by Toussaint by St. Simon; he, too, has a good deal of substance and the right kind of back and shoulders, altogether a very promising colt.

Yearling fillies numbered 34 entries; the majority of these, like the colts, were well-grown big yearlings, good in their limbs, with quality and breeding about them, too, the winners being especially nice fillies. Mr. Peter FitzGerald was first with a very sweet and well-grown filly by Scene Shifter; Dr. M. R. Cleary second with another very good quality and nicely-shaped lady by Desmond by St. Simon; Mr. Robert Downes third, with a well-grown and improving looking one, with quality, sired by Hackler; and Mr. J. W. A. Harris fourth with a dark brown, with beautiful shoulders and style, by Scene Shifter. This concluded the breeding classes.

Hunters.

Weight-carrying hunters, five years old and over, up to 15 stone and over, mustered 68 entries, which, when weeded, left several first-class horses in the ring. The winner was bred in Limerick, sired by Traverser, and shows a good deal of blood, exhibited by Mr. F. C. Weldon. Geldings, five years old and upwards, up to 14 to 15 stones, had also 67 entries, the best of which was a very beautiful quality horse and well shaped, shown by Mr. Abel Buckley, and sired by Bruree; Mr. James Walsh had also a horse with very good shoulders and quality placed second, sired by Aconite, who was by the famous getter Ascetic. The class for horses up to from 13 to 14 stones is always a very full one; this year it totalled up 133 entries, and there was a great deal of quality in these, though some appeared being the weedy class. Mr. T. J. Studdert was first with a breedy-looking bay by Atratus, and Mr. H. B. Warren second with Skitties, a very pretty light-weight carrier, by Nine Pins from an Ascetic mare.

Hunter mares, five years old and over, up to from 13 to 15 stones, had 53 entries. This is an important class, as such as these are the mares that the country needs to retain for the future of our home breeding, and they were, on the whole, a very useful lot, particularly as regards their

HUNTER MARE, LADY TACITUS.

Winner of the Coote Challenge Cup, value 50 guineas and Silver Medal for the best Hunter Brood Mare owned by an exhibitor resident in Ireland, at the Royal Dublin Horse Show last week.

Bred and exhibited by Mr. R. G. Carden, Fishmoyne, Templemore; her sire was Tacitus by Hermit, and Her dam Lady Clare by Walter.

breeding. Mr. H. B. Warren occupied first place with Gwendoline, by Mont Cenis, dam by Ireland, a very clean bred mare, and with beautiful shape and limbs; Mr. W. L. Naper's second was also a mare of very smart character for breeding from, and had a lot of beautiful bone as well as being of good build and quality. Hunters up to 12 to 13 stones, five years old and over, counted up no less than 155 entries, and in this class were a good number of moderate to inferior animals, a circumstance that it is only natural to expect. The first prize winner was Mr. C. Ballaney's Baronet, bred in county Cork, and sired by Sir Hugh, who appeared to well deserve his position; Mr. N. Morton's second, Signature, was sired by Penman, and showed a good deal of quality.

Class 15, for young horses suitable for hunters, open to mares or geldings, from 15 stones and upwards, had 40 entries. There were a number of beautiful young animals in this class of both sexes. Messrs. M'Morran Brothers carried off first honour with Performer, a very promising gelding, bred in Tipperary; and Mr. W. H. Rice was placed second with a dun gelding, also bred in Ireland, and like getting up to weight.

Four-year-old geldings, up to 14 to 15 stones, had also a good entry of 51 animals; and the same age of geldings, up to 13 to 14 stone, had also 77 entries; whilst four-year-old mares, up to 13 to 15 stone, were represented by 44 lots; and the class for mixed sexes, up to 12 to 13 stone, had 92 entries. All these classes contained several first-rate young hunters, though there was quite a number of the moderate class.

Three-year-olds were not in strong force. Geldings counted up 19 entries, of which Mr. John J. Adams's Extra Stamp, by Royal Mask, was first; and Mr. J. Barron's Star of Antrim, by Barrington, second; both showing a good deal of blood. And fillies of this age had but ten entries, of which Mr. Owen Ryan's Sal, by Kentford, was placed first; and Mr. Arthur Maxwell's Jollity, by Aughrim, second; these, too, were very full of quality and breeding.

Riding cobs and ponies, to be shown under saddle, were mostly of the harness type and high steppers, at least, a great many of them were of this class. Those over 15 and under 15.2 hands numbered 36 entries; Mr. John Johnston, of Dundalk, was first prize winner in these, with one of very much blood type. Over 14 and under 15 hands there were 40 entries, in which Mr. T. J. Roark came to the front with a six-year-old, by Red Prince 2nd. Over 13.2 and under 14 hands class was a smaller one, counting up but eleven entries. Messrs. Moran Brothers won this class with a four-year-old mare bred in Cheshire and sired by Hurlingham, and a Welsh pony of Mr. H. E. B. Nuttall's was accounted best in the under 13.2 hands class.

Harness Horses.

These classes made a very good display and attracted considerable attention from ringsiders, but the absence of several of the best English animals that took part in last year's competition deprived the classes of perhaps the elite of these fine steppers. Nevertheless there were several pairs and tandems, as well as single horses that were hard to beat and moved evenly, and were as well as first. In double harness, not less than 15.3 hands, out of four entries Mr. M'Bride brought out a pair of very well matched ones and showy style, as well as the best of action and quality. To these the first prize was awarded. Over 15 hands and under 15.3 Mr. Le Marchant carried off first with a pair of chestnuts, bred by Messrs. Cockayne Brothers and Mr. Burdett-Coutts. Colonel Moore was the winner for pairs between 14.2 and 15 hands with a very nice pair of hackneys. In tandems over 14.2, Mr. John Kerr's Advertisement and Paddock Wildfire headed the list. The chief winners in single harness were Mr. N. Morton's Crown Prince first in the class not less than 15.3; Mrs. John M'Watters, with Starlight, first in the class between 15 and 15.3 hands; Mr. A. Gemmell's Leader of Fashion first in the 14.2 to 15 hands class. Several of these classes were not judged until the Friday. The fast trotting horses were a great attraction, indeed these came next to the jumping for creating excitement, especially when the one mile against time was being done. Mr. Thomas M'Veagh's Lady Rose did the mile in good form in 2 min. 37½ sec.; Mr. Michael Horan's Tommy doing the second best at a mile in 2 min. 42½ sec.

The Champion Hunter Cup, value 50 gs., was awarded to Mr. A. Buckley's Rock. The Pembroke Cup was won by the Earl of Kenmare with Emeralda, a purely bred one by Matador by Tara. The Coote Challenge Cup went to Mr. Carden for the mare Lady Lucille, which was exhibited in the thoroughbred section in the class for mares six years old and under calculated to produce weight carrying hunters. She would undoubtedly have also received a first prize had she not been barred from doing so on account of having won a first prize at the previous Dublin Show; and the Samuel Usher Roberts Cup accompanies the Hunter Champion Cup to Mr. A. Buckley's Rock.

SHEEP.

The sheep show was not much, if any, larger numerically than for several years past, still there was quite an average entry, and in most of the breeds the quality was of a superior order to what we have been accustomed to see at Ball's Bridge lately. The catalogue commenced with Border Leicesters.

There was a larger entry than usual of these, and though the general quality must be well spoken of, the increased numbers brought out several animals that rather detracted, and the Scotch-bred specimens in most instances stood ahead of their Irish-bred opponents. Miss K. Carleton, Mr. R. W. Bell, Major W. G. Forde, Sir Algernon Coote, Mr. Albert King, and Mr. C. M. Doyne, with Miss Staples and Earl Fitzwilliam shared the prizes, and it is needless to say the quality of their exhibits was very satisfactory. The Champion Cup for this breed was given to Miss Staples, and Mr. R. W. Bell won the Breed Society's prize for best pen of the breed.

Roscommons.

This breed was in remarkably strong force, and some really grand sheep were exhibited, displaying very marked improvement upon most previous years. Mr. Matthew Flanagan had some magnificent rams, as had also Mr. G. R. Acheson and Mr Edward Scott. Mr. John Keane, too, had some famous representatives from his flock. The Champion Cup for this breed and the Long-woolled Champion Prize fell to Mr. Acheson's exhibits.

Lincoins.

This breed did not excel, the majority were true in character and shown in pretty natural condition, which is very commendable, but they were not quite up to several previous years as regards their general show qualities. Most of them were in the hands of Mr. R. G. Carden, Mr. Richard Reynell having a few entries. The first share of the spoil, however, fell to Mr. Carden, who had some very useful shearling tups, as well as ewes and lambs.

Black-Faced Sheep.

This breed of mountain sheep have taken root in Ireland, and appear to suit a good deal of the mountainous part of the country. The general display was good, but not some. Lieutenant-Colonel Long and Mr. John Robson, with Mr. H. D. M. Barton, carried off the whole of the honours. Mr. Robson showing some very nice and correct specimens.

Shropshires.

This breed for a few years appeared to be rather losing ground in Ireland, but this year are of better quality, worth and exceedingly creditable pens of ewes and rams being shown. The Loughcrew flock were represented by a pen of quite first-class ewes, both in breed, character, and condition; some lambs from this flock were also very good and promising for the future. Mr. R. F. White had also several famous entries, and carried off, in addition to several class prizes, the special Perpetual Challenge Cup and the Shropshire Sheep-breeders' special prize as well. Good pens of the breed were also shown from Mr. Richard Barter's flock, Mr. Hamilton Stubber, and one or two others.

Oxford Downs.

There was a fairly good entry of these, but their quality will bear improving. The English bred ewes had little difficulty in taking the lead, and there were also a few entries of local-bred ones that came out very well. Mr. E. T. Dame's Longworth, Mr. T. L. Hodgins, junr., Mr. Cleary, and Mr. Robert Downes were the chief exhibitors of this breed, and some of the prizes fell to each of them. Several very good specimens were bred by Mr. John Treadwell and Mr. J. T. Hobbs in England.

Hampshires.

These were shown in increased numbers, but there is a good deal of ground to be made up in the way of quality before they can compare favourably with the English sheep of this breed. All the entries were in the hands of one exhibitor, Mr. J. C. Hanbury, who was awarded all the prizes.

Southdowns.

These were a small show, and all of them (very smart ewes) were in the hands of Mr. C. M. Doyne, who receives the prizes.

Cheviots.

These, too, were a very short supply, and the three pens exhibited were all owned by Mr. John Robson.

By the death, at Cullompton, of Mr. John Blackmore, aged 90, a family of yeomen who farmed in Devonshire for seven hundred years has become extinct. Moolhayes Farm, at which he died, was for sixteen generations owned by a family named Moore, the only daughter of the last male representative of which became the wife of Mr. Blackmore's grandfather. Mr. Blackmore was one of the few remaining yeomen who had sole right in a pew at church.

The Crops and Live Stock of Great Britain in 1905.

On Friday the Board of Agriculture issued its preliminary statement of the crops and live stock of Great Britain in 1905, compiled from returns collected on June 5, and below we give the table in full. Last year's figures are also given for the sake of comparison; increases are shown thus + and decreases —. It will be noticed that the total acreage under all crops and grass continues to show marked decreases and is many thousands short of the total of last year, which in its turn was considerably less than that of 1903. Wheat, for once in a while, however, shows a larger area, the increase being over 420,000 as compared with last year, and this, we suppose, is due to the favourable seed time experienced. Oats, which in 1904 showed an appreciable increase on 1903, have fallen off; as has also the barley acreage. Other decreases are noted in peas, turnips and swedes, rape and lucerne, whilst other crops show satisfactory improvement. As to live stock, there is only one reduction in numbers when compared with 1904, and that is in pigs, which number 2,424,919, as against 2,861,644—a decrease of 436,725. The total of sheep is more than last year, but in one section there is a decline to be noticed, namely, in that for sheep (other than ewes kept for breeding) one year and above, and these are 166,085 fewer than in 1904. Horses are not yet being killed by the motor car, for there are 12,197 more than in 1904; whilst cattle show a marked improvement, their number being 128,688 more than last year. The official figures are as follows:—

Distribution.	1905.	1904.	Increase or Decrease.	
	CROPS.			
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	P.C.
Total area of land and water	56,787,669	56,787,669	—	—
Total acreage under all crops and grass*	32,286,832	32,317,610	– 30,778	0·1
Wheat	1,796,985	1,375,284	+421,701	30·7
Barley	1,713,664	1,840,684	–127,020	6·9
Oats	3,051,376	3,252,962	– 201,586	6·2
Rye	62,197	55,714	+ 6,483	11·6
Beans	254,765	252,782	+ 1,983	0·8
Peas	175,235	175,608	– 373	0·2
Potatoes	608,471	570,209	+ 38,262	6·7
Turnips and Swedes	1,589,273	1,601,104	– 11,831	0·9
Mangold	404,123	398,827	+ 5,296	1·3
Cabbage	67,758	64,907	+ 3,151	4·9
Kohl-Rabi	17,587	15,607	+ 1,980	12·7
Rape	93,381	97,772	– 3,891	4·0
Vetches or Tares	136,429	128,229	+ 8,200	6·4
Lucerne	53,410	55,724	– 2,314	4·2
Other crops	106,120	100,947	+ 5,173	5·1
Clover & rotation grasses—				
For hay	2,189,288	2,322,895	–133,607	5·8
Not for hay	2,288,232	2,348,600	– 60,368	2·6
Total	4,477,520	4,671,495	-193,975	4·2
Permanent grass*—				
For hay	4,688,520	4,765,403	– 76,883	1·6
Not for hay	12,511,974	12,332,653	+179,321	1·5
Total	17,200,494	17,098,056	+102,438	0·6
Flax	441	563	– 122	21·7
Hops	48,988	47,799	+ 1,189	2·4
Small fruit	78,322	77,947	+ 375	1·1
Bare fallow	349,313	432,690	– 83,377	19·3
Orchards†	244,323	243,008	+ 1,315	0·5

LIVE STOCK.

	No.	No.	No.	P.C.
Horses—				
Agricultural purposes‡	1,122,419	1,120,247	+ 2,172	0·2
Unbroken horses—				
One year and above	310,333	301,371	+ 8,962	3·0
Under one year	139,681	138,618	+ 1,063	0·8
Total of horses	1,572,433	1,560,236	+ 12,197	0·8
Cows and heifers in milk or in calf	2,707,392	2,678,680	+ 28,712	1·1
Other cattle—				
Two years and above	1,415,317	1,374,636	+ 40,681	3·0
One year & under two	1,471,070	1,429,833	+ 41,237	2·9
Under one year	1,393,241	1,375,203	+ 18,038	1·3
Total of cattle	6,987,020	6,858,352	+128,668	1·9
Ewes kept for breeding	9,935,766	9,880,908	+ 54,858	0·6
Other sheep—				
One year and above	5,147,517	5,313,602	–166,085	3·1
Under one year	10,173,913	10,012,668	+161,245	1·6
Total of sheep	25,257,196	25,207,178	+ 50,018	0·2
Sows kept for breeding	335,008	382,056	– 47,048	12·3
Other pigs	2,089,911	2,479,588	–389,677	15·7
Total of pigs	2,424,919	2,861,644	–436,725	15·3

* Excluding 12,763,099 acres returned as mountain and heath land used for grazing in 1905, and 12,788,156 acres in 1904.

† The acreage of any crop or grass grown under the trees in orchards is also returned under its proper heading.

‡ Including mares kept for breeding

RAILWAY RATES FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

Great Western Goods Manager's Opinions.

Further evidence on behalf of the railway companies has been heard by Lord Jersey's Committee inquiring into the alleged preference given to foreign and Colonial over home-grown produce.

Mr. J. E. Hennell, assistant goods manager of the Great Western Railway, said complaints had been made that the railway companies would not carry less than 2½ tons per truck at the same rate as was given to the foreign hay, which was steam or hydraulic pressed so as to carry four tons per truck. The English agriculturists wanted to carry two tons per truck at the same rate as the foreigner paid for four tons, but this would not pay the railway companies, who were receiving less per truck for the home produced hay. The traders really wanted to have the unpressed hay carried at the same rate as the foreign pressed hay. That would be ruinous to the railway companies, because they would just get about one-half the receipts they got from the foreigner.

Then as to the grain rates from the Severn ports, those were necessarily low in order to meet the water competition, and they had been held by the Railway Commissioners in the case brought by the Liverpool Corn Trade Association to be in the public interest. Any comparison between the rates per ton for occasional two-ton consignments from country stations, and train loads of full waggons containing about five tons each was unfair and misleading. With regard to the rates for apples from Cardiff to London for two-ton lots, the Englishman had the advantage, as he only paid 17s. 1d., and had in addition the expensive service of cartage in London.

Circulars had been issued to agriculturists showing them that if they sent larger consignments they would get lower rates for their meat, butter, fruit, and eggs. These had resulted in getting a slight increase of traffic, but it was very slow work to persuade the farmer where a new departure was necessary. If the farmers or growers combined, they would be able to get a distinct benefit from the present system of rates.

With reference to the complaint that the foreign meat rate from Birkenhead to London was unduly low as compared with the rate for English meat from other places, witness said it had to be borne in mind that the meat business between Birkenhead and London had attained enormous proportions. The amount of money involved in the live cattle trade alone was from £90,000 to £100,000 per week; while in the live cattle and dead meat trade together the money involved was £15,000,000 per annum. So large was the business that the traffic was conveyed in full train loads throughout from Birkenhead to London, and the cost per ton was very much less than when trains had to take in and put off a truck or two at intermediate stations. If the low rate were not given for the large traffic from Birkenhead to London the vessels would run direct from America to London, or some port to the south, and therefore no benefit would be conferred on the English farmer.

With regard to the proposal to transfer the present powers over railway rates of the Board of Trade to the Board of Agriculture, the witness considered it would be most objectionable. If a separate tribunal were created for agriculturists, similar tribunals would be asked for by the various other trading interests. Conciliation conferences were held at the Board of Trade between the traders and the railway companies, with beneficial results to all parties concerned. As to the suggestion that rates should be on an equal mileage basis, that had been declared by Royal Commissions and Committees to be impracticable, and if adopted would prevent railway companies lowering their fares and rates. A very heavy loss would be inflicted upon the railway companies if they were forced to give up the conveyance of traffic subject to water competition. The circumstances in regard to traffic varied so widely that it would be very unfair to compel the companies to make equal mileage charges. There was no industry in the country that the railway companies favoured to the extent that they did agriculture.

Views of the Great Eastern Goods Manager.

Mr. Walter Gardner, the goods manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company, said that his company had been trying to develop the home market in agricultural produce for many years, and all their efforts by reducing rates for meat had resulted in only half the quantity in the last twenty years being brought to London by their company—viz., between 5,000 and 6,000 tons. The imported foreign meat was practically killing that trade, and if they carried the meat for nothing he was afraid it would not improve. He denied that there was any preference given by the company to this imported meat. Their imported rates were very much governed by the water rates to London, and if they did not meet this water competition they would lose the traffic, and this would ultimately be a loss to the farmer. If they reduced their rates to the basis of their lowest figures it would simply mean ruination to the railways of the country. He would not recommend protective duties as a remedy for this state of things. As to the suggestion that the Board of Agriculture should take the place of the Board of Trade in attending to the grievances of agriculturists, he was opposed to that, and considered that the Board of Trade acted fairly between the traders and the railway companies.

The Rates on Fruit: Memorial to the Board of Agriculture.

A memorial has been presented by the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Trades' Associations to the President of the Board of Agriculture and Mr. A. S. T. Griffith-Boscawen with reference to the various recommendations contained in the report of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Board to inquire into the fruit industry of Great Britain.

The memorial, after expressing appreciation of the action of the Board in causing the inquiry to practical legislative and other results from the recommendations of the Committee, strongly confirms the importance of quick transit and reasonable rates on the railways of the country, and urges that, in providing for the latter, a more simple and uniform system and a more practical classification are very desirable and indeed urgently necessary.

The protection of traders against the result of the combined action of railway companies, says the memorial, has become a vital question, and the associations offer their services to ensure that the effect of the report of the Committee shall be such as to enable Parliament to recognise the great and increasing importance of the fruit and potato growing industry, and to pass the requisite statutory enactments.

The memorialists hope that the action of the Board may cause the necessities and requirements of these trades, affecting as they do the whole country, to be better understood, to the advantage not only of the trades and the railway companies, but to the whole population.

Canals and the Agricultural Rates Act.

At the meeting of the Worksop Board of Guardians last week the Clerk stated that the Assessment Committee had received an application from the Great Central Railway Company to have the Chesterfield Canal (their property), where it runs through agricultural districts, put into the agricultural rates column, so that the company would only have to pay half the rates they pay on the canal at the present time.

Mr. Barker, who represented the company, said he relied on an old Act of Parliament, George III., 1779, and he advised that the canal was not liable to more rates than would have been the case if the land had been left as it was before the canal was made. He therefore claimed for it to be treated as agricultural land.

The Clerk said that the Retford Union had adopted Mr. Barker's view, and had placed the canal on the agricultural list. Personally he could not quite see that this was right, as the Agricultural Rates Act was passed entirely for the benefit of agriculturists, and he did not think it was ever intended to place this canal on the list. The company, he said, were going to raise this question at Chesterfield and Gainsborough. He suggested that the case might be laid before counsel, and this suggestion was adopted, providing the fee does not exceed £5 5s.

A New Fruit and Vegetable Market for London.

For three years Portman Market, Marylebone, has been a desolate, untenanted wilderness, but now a determined effort is to be made to start it afresh on a career of usefulness. It was originally opened as a meat and fish market, both wholesale and retail, but it proved a failure. It is now to be transformed into a market for flowers, fruit, and vegetables, for wholesale trading only.

It is intended that the market shall be open in the morning from about five o'clock until ten. In the afternoon private auctions of consignments of fruit, flowers, or vegetables can be held under the central dome. Produce from the West of England and the Channel Isles often arrives at Paddington in the afternoon. It could be at once transferred to Portman Market and sold by auction, whereas if it be taken to Covent Garden it cannot be disposed of till the next morning.

The fact that it is contiguous to the termini of the Great Central and Great Western Railways, both of which bring immense quantities of these products to London, it is thought will prove it to be of the greatest service. Further, there is an immense population in the neighbourhood, and if the market can be made successful it will not only be of great benefit to the people of the district, but will do much to relieve the congestion at Covent Garden, which every year becomes more intolerable.

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Yorkshire Farmers to Visit Denmark.

Arrangements have been completed for a visit of Yorkshire farmers to Denmark, with the object of witnessing and investigating the methods of co-operation and production which have proved so profitable to Danish farmers. Mr. H. Norman Roe, of Harrogate, has organised the affair, and he and his party will include quite a representative gathering of Yorkshire farmers, several societies being represented.

The party leave Harrogate on Thursday next, and will travel via Harwich for Esbjerg, which will be reached on Friday evening. The following day will be spent at Esbjerg. Sunday will be passed in the Danish capital, Copenhagen, and on Monday the milk depots and farms in the district will be visited. The delegates visit Haslev on Tuesday, when one of the largest co-operative dairies in Denmark, dealing with the milk from 3,500 cows, or 2,500,000 gallons a year, will be inspected. The membership of this co-operative dairy is made up of large estate owners, each having from 100 to 250 cows. Butter and cheese making are both important departments, especially cheese-making at Trifolium, where the buildings and equipment cost nearly £40,000.

The programme of the tour also includes a visit on the Wednesday to other farms, and the Danish Milk Company's depot. On the Thursday the party visit the co-operative dairy and bacon factory at Odense, and the Dalum High School, Friday being reserved for the Askov Agricultural College. The return journey will be commenced on Saturday week from Esbjerg, the main port for the export of bacon, butter, and eggs consigned to this country.

The 1905 Barley Show at the Royal Agricultural Hall.

The prize schedule has now been issued for the great malting and seed barley competition at the twenty-seventh annual Brewers' Exhibition and Market, to be held, as usual, at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on October 14 to 20. As at previous shows the prizes offered are well worth winning, and it may be mentioned that it is possible for one sample to secure six cups, two gold and other medals, diplomas, and upwards of £100 in cash—surely something worth trying for. If, however an exhibitor wins one prize only, it means that he gets a better price for his barley, so that it pays a barley-grower to exhibit his best at this exhibition. There are upwards of two dozen special and champion awards ranging up to £50 in value, offered chiefly by various firms, and amongst them is the MARK LANE EXPRESS Champion Challenge Cup for the best seed barley grown in the United Kingdom or Colonies, exhibited by the grower only.

In the classes themselves numerous gold, silver, and bronze medals, and, in some cases, money are offered in prizes, so that altogether there is every inducement to the barley-grower to send samples for exhibition. Entries close on Wednesday, October 4, and at double fees on October 5, but earlier entry is requested. Entries for beers close September 26, cider September 28, and hops October 7. Entry forms, prize schedules, etc., can be obtained from the managing directors, Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, 46, Cannon Street, E.C. We may add that all official announcements in connection with the exhibition will appear from time to time in these columns, and the full list of entries and awards will be published on October 16.

From Messrs. Ben. Reid and Co., Limited, Aberdeen, has come an illustrated catalogue of Dutch flower roots for the season 1905, from which a choice selection of these plants can be made.

BAKER & LING'S
PATENT
BRIMSTONE
STOVE
FOR THE
PROPER COMBUSTION OF SULPHUR
IN DRYING HOPS.
THE ONLY SAFE SYSTEM.
Prevents Contamination with Arsenic and
Free Su'phur.
SOLE MAKERS—
DRAKE & FLETCHER,
ENGINEERS,
MAIDSTONE.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

Our Picking Season

has commenced. Already a few pockets have arrived, some of which have been sold at prices that, considering the quality of this early produce, may be taken as satisfactory indications of the probable course of the future market. In another week the in-gathering will be in full swing, and our speculations as to the crop will soon pass into the region of certainty. In the meantime, traders and growers are anxiously watching the climatic conditions upon which the final results so largely depend. From some districts we hear that recent rains have assisted the development of the cones, and improved the estimates of yield, from others we are told that the hops have suffered from the high winds, and I think we may generally conclude that the changes of temperature from the warm sunshine to the chilly nights must be rather detrimental than otherwise. The somewhat large proportion of blind bine reported from nearly all gardens is also an important feature of this season. Taking into account the whole of the circumstances, and examining them impartially, we may infer that if nothing unforeseen occurs during the next few weeks, a full crop will be harvested, but that it will not be nearly so heavy as was at one time predicted. Personally, I am disposed to abide by my approximate calculation of last week, as I cannot at present see any reason for increasing the average figure. With regard to quality, I believe there will be little, if any, cause for complaint, as I do not attach much importance to the rumours we have heard as to the spread of white or red mould. There is perhaps some possibility that premature picking may cause the earlier supplies to be more or less unsatisfactory, also that too rapid ripening may overtake the later growths, and that the latter end of the season may therefore leave growers with some pieces unpicked. But, given normal conditions, we may safely assume that the great bulk of our 1905 crop will be exceptionally good, and if this be so, we may hope that the market value will be better than the anticipated large yield might lead us to expect.

The Borough.

is waiting anxiously for further developments. But there are evident signs that brewers' stocks are generally very low, as inquiries are more frequent during the past few days, and when low offers have been refused, there appears to be decidedly more readiness on the part of buyers to consent to holders' views of value. Reports are also current that some large quantities of yearlings are required by consumers for immediate use, and efforts will doubtless be made to secure these at low rates, but if their offers are too low for acceptance, their necessities will doubtless induce them to pay such prices, as holders may consider fair and reasonable. It therefore appears to me that a healthier, stronger tone is notable in our business, and I earnestly trust that this will be maintained, so that our new market may be opened on a satisfactory basis.

The Medway Valley.

Hops in this district are not looking quite as well as a week since. They look very nice going along the roads or rail, but if one goes into them they will, in many grounds, find much, too much, mould, and, where touched with the white mould, are turning into red mould. It is feared a good many will not keep well. Picking, in consequence, is being rather hurried on, and nearly all growers will commence on Monday.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

Prospects in Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

Worcestershire hop-growers are rejoicing in the prospect of a generous return for the many months of constant care and attention devoted to the plantations. Rarely has a more favourable season for hop-growing been experienced, and the hop gardens of Worcestershire, especially along the fertile Teme Valley, are now looking their best. Last year, with a maximum of expense for cultivation, growers reaped but a poor harvest, but this year the season has been most favourable, and should the present conditions continue for the short remaining time before the hops are picked there should be a crop nearly equal to that of 1894, which established a record. So heavy is the crop in some gardens that growers are expecting to get a ton to the acre where in most seasons eight hundredweight is a good average crop.—It is anticipated that the yield of hops in Herefordshire will equal, if not surpass, the famous crop of 1901. Whether the return per acre will be quite as heavy it is difficult just at present to estimate, because, although the hops are excellent at the top of the poles the under ones in many places are not so abundant, but more hops are being grown generally, and consequently the crop is bound to be very big. The yards certainly never looked cleaner, and the quality is excellent. One great advantage to the grower this season has been the absence of the usual pests, rendering washing unnecessary, and this, compared with last year, for instance, means an enormous saving. Mould is the only thing that has made its appearance, and but very little of that is reported.—*Birmingham Post.*

Foreign Notes.

America.

The perusal of correspondence from the hop districts on the other side of the Atlantic affords me much amusement. The reports are so opposite, and yet so definite, that I am compelled to give up the task of reconciliation. I am reminded of the present *impasse* at Portsmouth (U.S.A.) that hinders the settlement of the Russo-Japanese difficulty. Each party is resolved, neither will yield, and compromise appears to be impracticable. Thus it is also with respect to the crop estimate. On the one side I am assured that the indications favour a smaller total yield than in 1904, as in New York State the consensus of opinion is that the crop will be one-fourth to a third deficient. The same authority puts the Californian harvest at not exceeding last year's probably much less; and, as as illustration, I am told that the Pleasanton Yard of 340 acres will hardly grow a third of a crop. Regarding Oregon, I hear from more than one correspondent that the plantations are in a dangerous condition, and cannot possibly produce so much as in 1904. The other view of the picture, sketched by an equally competent artist, is thus presented:—"We have never seen a season wherein weather conditions have been so favourable for a large crop in this country. The New York and Washington Yards are in almost perfect condition. While the Oregon and Californian growths did not start off well, they are steadily improving under the genial weather we are having, and will certainly produce more hops than last year. The estimates for the whole (300,000 bales) have not changed." In the same way as we are sometimes recommended to exercise our ingenuity in the solution of trifling problems, I may say to my readers: "Puzzle, find the truth."

Referring to the recent arsenic-in-hops scare, one of my friends on the other side says that any ingredients that do not kill outright can be used in food preparations in the U.S.A., and facetiously remarks that the danger arising from adulterated food and drink seems to add a certain zest, which the average Yankee likes. Buyers of American hops, therefore, attach no importance to the possibility of even a heavy percentage of arsenic being found in them.

Germany: Crop Reports.

ARSBERG (Spalt).—Hops much improved by rain. Before this arrived a small crop was expected; now, however, the outlook favours about the same as last year. The quality will be good.

WINDSBACH (Spalt).—Condition of plantations very good on the whole. Early and late sorts have both developed well, and a full crop is anticipated.

PLEINFELD (Spalt).—Some rain has fallen with good results, but a hailstorm has done much damage. Hops are sound and free from disease.

GERMERSBERG (Hersbruck).—A recent thunderstorm has done damage, and caused much labour in resetting poles, etc. Hops are fine and sound, but not more than half a crop is expected.

SCHNAITTACH (Hersbruck).—Hops continue to develop, but have been seriously damaged by a recent storm.

NEUSTADT (Aischgrund).—The early crop is disappointing, and if nothing occurs in the meantime the later growth may yield about half a crop, not more.

ROTTENBURG (Wurtemberg).—Hops are growing out well, and present conditions, being satisfactory, indicate a favourable crop.

TETTNANG (Wurtemberg).—The hop harvest is advancing slowly on account of weather. Very hot days and cold nights have caused the plants in many places to become yellow. The further the picking advances the more evident it is that the crop will not fulfil the trade estimates. In several plantations the yield will be at least one-fourth less than last year.

Nuremberg.

Holders of 1904 hops are urgently pressing for sale, with the result that quotations for medium qualities have fallen about 20s. in the last fortnight. Choice samples, being very scarce, fairly maintain their value, but are only sold in very small lots. This desire for clearance before the arrival in bulk of the new crop, has induced a little export trade at the low price of 40s. to 50s., but only for very common quality. During the past week a fair quantity of new earlies has been put on the market. These were readily sold at 90s. to 110s. according to quality and condition, and the agerness with which the samples were examined by consumers seems to indicate that a brisk trade will meet the supplies when they appear in sufficient quantity to demand attention.

Belgium.

The imports of hops during the seven months ending July 31 last were about 16,000 cwts., being slightly in excess of same period last year; but during the month of July the imports have nearly doubled those of July, 1904, the heavy receipts from England contributing largely to this increase. In July, last year, Belgium exported over 10,000 cwts.; this year, in corresponding month, her exports have only reached about 5,000 cwts. For the seven first months of last year she shipped no less than 35,500 cwts., of which the great bulk came to England. This year her exports for these seven months have not exceeded 7,000 cwts., of which England has received less than 3,500 cwts.

Crop reports continue to be favourable, the weather being also helpful to development of the cones. Next week picking will commence in the Poperinghe district, and some days later in Alost. Holders of 1904's are anxious to clear out, and as brewers have hardly any stock, a fair business is passing at prices ranging from 60 to 90 francs.

Mr. R. W. M. Nesfield.

Mr. R. W. M. Nesfield, for nearly half a century agent to the Duke of Rutland, died on Wednesday at an advanced age. By a somewhat sad coincidence he passed away on the day of the Bakewell Farmers' Club Show, in which years ago he took a warm personal interest, and at the hour when the equally venerable Duke of Rutland was presiding at the show luncheon. Mr. Nesfield, who was 90 years of age, had served under three dukes, and had the oversight of 30,000 acres of land, including the Haddon Hall estate, with its romantic associations. This was no sinecure, but he found time throughout his career for both the pleasures and the duties of a country life. He was a zealous sportsman, and was Master of the High Peak Harriers for 52 years.

Miss Edith Bradley has, for private reasons, resigned her post as Warden of Lady Warwick's Agricultural College, Studley, which she has filled with so much ability from the founding of the Institution at Reading seven years ago.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

DAIRY SHOW,
LONDON,
OCTOBER 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Great Exhibition of
DAIRY CATTLE, PRODUCE, APPLIANCES &c.

Entries close September 4.

Particulars from WM. C. YOUNG, Secretary, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

FROME SHOW.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1905.
Entries close September 13th.
T. C. HARDING,
Auctioneer, Frome,
Secretary.

FANCIERS' DOG AND POULTRY SHOW,
Same day.
Messrs. YOUNG & FRICKER,
Palmer Street, Frome,
Hon. Secretaries.

SHAP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At SHAP,
SEPTEMBER 20th, 1905.
Entries close Sept. 12th.
Leaping Prizes—Open.
T. GELDART, Secretary,
Mill Flatt, Shap, Westmorland.

WARDLE AGRICULTURAL SHOW.
THE 68TH ANNUAL SHOW of DOGS, POULTRY, PIGEONS, RABBITS, &c.,
Will be held SEPTEMBER 13th
(under tents).
Entries close: Dogs, September 8th; other exhibits, September 9th, 10 a.m.
Schedules ready. W. H. Bell, Esq., Liverpool, will give a Special of one guinea for Classes 140 and 141. See schedule.
EDWARD HOWARD, Secretary,
Wardle, near Rochdale.

ALTRINCHAM SHOW.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th.
£1,750 in Prizes,
besides Silver Cups and Medals,
for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Goats, Turnouts, Hunters, Jumpers, Roots and Grain, Butter, Cheese, Honey, Implements, Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, Rabbits, Cats, and Cavies.
Prize list may be had from the Secretary,
J. HERBERT HALL,
2, Dunham Road, Altrincham.
Entries close September 9th; double fee, September 13th.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THAME HORSE SHOW.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.

Entries closed September 2nd.
Double Fees, September 12th.
I. BUSH,
Thame.

HAY HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 21st, 1905.
Entries close September 7th; double fees September 13th.
R. MORRIS, Secretary,
Broad Street, Hay, Hereford.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD AND LINSLADE FOAL SHOW.
At LEIGHTON BUZZARD,
SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905.
Entries close September 12th; post entries (double fees) September 19th.
WALTER C. PRUDAMES, W. G. W. WILLIS, } Secretaries,
North Street, Leighton Buzzard.

COMPTON STUD SHOW AND SALE,
At TEMPLECOMBE,
SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries closed August 20th.
THE MANAGER,
Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset.

MERIONETHSHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At BALA,
SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905.

Entries closed August 29th; Jumping and Trotting, September 9th.

E. M. ROBERTS, Secretary,
Trem-Eivion, Talsarnau, Merioneth.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

YEOVIL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At HENDFORD.
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries closed August 31st; post entries September 5th.
E. H. OAKLEY, Secretary,
Kingston, Yeovil.

STOKESLEY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
47TH ANNUAL SHOW, 21ST SEPT., 1905.
Prize money, nearly £500. — Open Classes.
Entries close 9th September.
For schedules and entry forms apply to
WM. HODGSON, T. G. EELES, F. WARDALL } Secretaries, Stokesley, R.S.O.

AYR RAM SOCIETY.—SHOW & SALE of Pedigree Blackface and Border Leicester Rams and Lambs, CATTLE MARKET, AYR, 13th & 14th SEPT. 1905. JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT.
At GREAT GRANSDEN,
SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905.
Entries close September 12th.
R. J. KISBY, Secretary,
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

KINGTON HORSE SHOW.
SEPTEMBER 19th, 1905.
Heavy Weight Hunter Class—1st Prize £20; 2nd £10; 3rd £5.
Light Weight Hunter Class—1st Prize £10; 2nd £5.
Entries close Sept. 5th, or with double fee Sept. 9th.
Prize schedules, &c., from the Secretary,
T. H. VAUGHAN MORRIS,
Stretton House, Hereford.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:
THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 7.—Final portion of the Whitlingham RED POLLED herd, at Kirby Bedon, Trowse, Norwich.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.—The late Mr. W. J. Buckley's SHORTHORNS, at Penyfai, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.—Mr. Evan Jones's SHORTHORNS, at Manoravon, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Sir Jacob Wilson's SHORTHORNS, at Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Mr. F. Barchard's herd of JERSEYS, at Horsted Place, Uckfield, Sussex.
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's SHORTHORNS, at Tring Park, Tring.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. Rowland Wood's SHORTHORNS, at Clapton, Thrapston.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—Mr. Alfred Brown's BERKSHIRE and LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, at Hill Farm, Southampton.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.—Capt. Spicer's herd of JERSEYS, at Spye Park, Chippenham.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Sir Alexander Henderson's, Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Buscot Park, Faringdon.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.—About 60 SHORTHORNS from Mr. W. Bateman's prize dairy herd, at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.
Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

BIRMINGHAM AUTUMNAL SHORTHORN SHOW AND SALE.

THE 58TH GREAT SHOW AND SALE
Will be held at
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th,
276 Head of Highly-descended COWS, HEIFERS, and BULLS, including many prize-winners, are entered from the most noted breeders, and
WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION, BY
MR. W. H. LYTHALL, without any further reserve than entering them at not more than £21 each.
Judging at 8.30. Sale at 10.30 o'clock.
Admission 1s. Catalogues 7d., free by post.
W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary.

ESSEX. THE LODGE FARM, FAIRSTEAD, 3½ miles from Hatfield, and 4½ miles from Witham, G.E.R.
G. B. HILLIARD & SON are instructed by Mr. S. W. Blyth, who has let the Farm, to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises,
On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905,
The Live and Dead Farming Stock, comprising
6 ACTIVE CART HORSES,
60 HEAD OF POULTRY,
7-h.p. TRACTION ENGINE by Marshall & Co.,
Ransome's FINISHING THRESHING MACHINE and ELEVATOR,
SET 8-h.p. PLOUGHING ENGINES by John Fowler & Co.,
9 and 11 TURNING CULTIVATOR and BALANCE PLOUGH and other Machinery,
And the usual assortment of
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c.
Sale to commence at 2 o'clock punctually.
Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Chelmsford.

(Auction Sales continued on page 286.)

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

HAYWARDS HEATH, SUSSEX.
TO BREEDERS OF SUSSEX CATTLE.

MESSRS. T. BANNISTER & CO. beg to announce that their ANNUAL SALE of PURE-BRED SUSSEX CATTLE will be held on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1905, at Two o'clock.

Present entries include 22 BULLS, 6 HEIFERS and 3 STEERS from well known herds.

Catalogues may be obtained of Messrs. T. BANNISTER & CO., Market Place, Haywards Heath, who will execute commissions. (Tel. No. 7.)

OXFORD DOWNS.

The Kelmscott Flock, the property of Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from this Flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the under-mentioned Fairs:

BURY ST. EDMUNDS	,,	5th.
EDINBURGH	,,	7th.
KELSO	,,	8th.
NORTHAMPTON ...	,,	19th.

Ram Lambs from this flock obtained 1st and 4th Prizes at Park Royal this season.

MONDAY, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1905.

BRIDGNORTH (Salop).

5 000 SHEEP,
comprising about:
150 RAMS & RAM LAMBS,
4,500 EWES & STORE WETHERS,
& LAMBS.

Sale with the Ewes at 10.30 to the minute.

NOCK, DEIGHTON & KIRKBY,
Auctioneers,

Tel. Address—"Nock, Bridgnorth."
Nat. Tel. No. 0195.

TENDERS.

CONTRACTS FOR FLOUR AND WHOLEMEAL.

THE PRISON COMMISSIONERS are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of the above to the following Prisons, viz: Aylesbury, Bedford, Birmingham, Bodmin, Borstal, Brecon, Bristol, Brixton, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Carlisle, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Chelmsford, Dartmoor, Derby, Devizes, Dorchester, Durham, Exeter, Gloucester, Hereford, Holloway, Hull, Ipswich, Knutsford, Lancaster, Leeds, Leicester, Lewes, Lincoln, Liverpool, Maidstone, Manchester, Newcastle, Northallerton, Northampton, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Parkhurst, Pentonville, Plymouth, Portland, Portsmouth, Preston, Reading, Ruthin, St. Alban's, Shepton Mallet, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Swansea, Usk, Wakefield, Wandsworth, Warwick, Winchester, Worcester, Wormwood Scrubs and the State Inebriate Reformatory, Aylesbury.

Forms of Tender, with all necessary particulars, can be obtained at any of the Prisons, or at the Prison Commission, Home Office, Whitehall, London, S.W. (where also samples may be seen).

Tender forms must be delivered at the Prison Commission, prepaid, not later than noon on Tuesday the 12th day of September, 1905.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF FULHAM.

THE FULHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL is prepared to Receive Tenders for the supply of OATS, HAY, CLOVER MIXTURE, STRAW, BEANS, BRAN and LINSEED for about 70 horses, in such quantities as may be required, during the six months ending 31st March, 1904.

Tenders must be made on printed forms specifying conditions of contract, to be obtained from the Borough Surveyor, Mr. Francis Wood, A.M.I.C.E., Town Hall, Fulham, and to be delivered at the Town Hall, Fulham, by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 20th, 1905, sealed and endorsed "Tender for Horse Provender."

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,
R. M. PRESCOTT, Town Clerk,
Town Hall, Fulham, S.W.

ARMY CONTRACTS.
FORAGE, PEAT MOSS LITTER, AND PAILLASSE STRAW.

SEALED TENDERS for Military Services, during six months, from the 1st November, 1905, will be received until TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON on MONDAY, the 25th day of SEPTEMBER, 1905, by the General Officers commanding the undermentioned districts:—

Aldershot Army Corps Command	..	Aldershot
Eastern Command	4th Division	Dover
Do.	6th Division	Colchester
Do.	Thames and Medway Coast Defences	Chatham
Do.	Woolwich District	Woolwich
Irish Command	7th Division	Curragh
Do.	8th Division	Cork
Do.	Belfast District of Belfast	
London District	24 Carlton House Terrace, S.W.	
Northern Command		York
Scottish Command		Edinburgh
Southern Com.	9th Div.	Moodlan Barracks, Tidworth, Andover
Do.	Plymouth Coast Defences	Devonport
Do.	Portsmouth Coast Defences	Portsmouth
West Land Mounted Command		Chester
Guernsey and Alderney District		Guernsey
Jersey District		Jersey

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application to the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of ten and four o'clock.

War Office,
Pall Mall, S.W.
September, 1905.

Mark Lane Express

SCALE OF ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES.

PER INCH, SINGLE COLUMN:

1 insertion	...	8/-
6 insertions at	...	7/- each.
13 ,,	...	6/- ,,
26 ,,	...	5/- ,,
52 ,,	...	4/- ,,

Society Announcements, Auction Sales, and Farms to Let, Sixpence per line. Paragraph Advertisements at foot of reading matter, One Shilling per line per insertion.

☞ Small Advertisements of Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Situations, &c. (under classified headings and set in body type), are charged at the rate of three words a penny (only when accompanied by remittance).

Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

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TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

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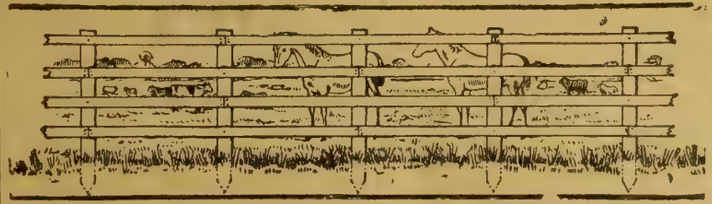

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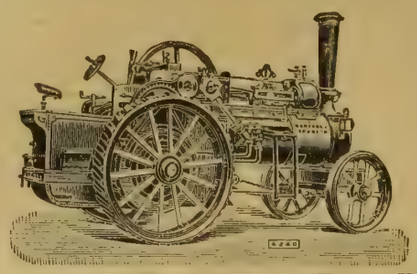

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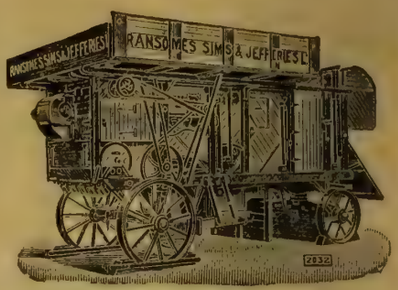

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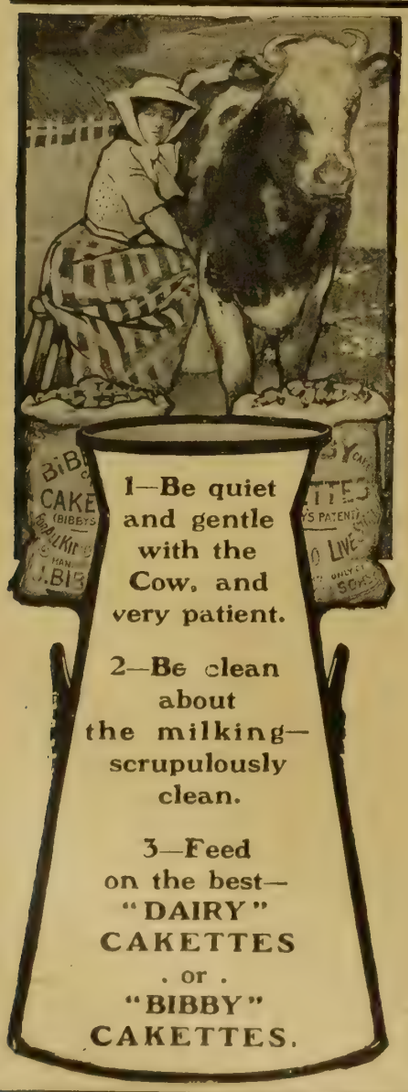
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A NATIONAL DANGER.

WITHIN THE LAST THIRTY YEARS OVER TWO MILLION ACRES HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM CEREAL CULTIVATION IN GREAT BRITAIN.

This simple statement, appearing in the columns of the leading daily for the 29th ult., is so startling that the reader will almost suspect some error of the press. Unhappily, it is only too accurate, and the agricultural returns issued just before the close of August are conclusive evidence of tendencies to which Professor Karl Pearson in England, M. Maurice Barrès in France, and the famous scientist Lombroso in Italy, have been bearing witness within the last few weeks. With Continental troubles we have not now to deal, but with what is occurring in Great Britain we have the most obvious and direct concern. Thirty years ago Great Britain devoted 3,630,300 acres to wheat; the present harvest has been grown on 1,796,985 acres only. The area of wheat land which has passed out of cultivation within the lifetime of all of us who have attained even early middle age is 1,834,000 acres, or more than the area now remaining under cultivation!

The barley crop is less affected, but a decline from 2,335,913 acres in 1873 to 1,713,664 acres in 1905 exceeds 622,000 acres in thirty-two years, and means that barley culture will be extinct before the close of the century. Of oats the culture was well maintained till quite recently, but 1905 returns are two hundred thousand acres less than those of 1904, and the enormous Russian supplies make it impossible to have any confidence in recovery. The Russian grain gets over here in a week, and the sea freights from the shores of Finland to the quays of London are much less than the railway charges from the Midlands to the metropolis. Is the tale ended here? No. The *Times* is content to speak of cereals, but only too ample corroboration is to hand. Beans in 1873 occupied 586,561 acres; in 1905 the area was 254,765 acres only. Beans, like wheat, will be an extinct crop before 1935. Peas have fallen from 318,213 to 175,608 acres; less than beans, but half a century will suffice to see the last of them.

But at least it will be surmised that cattle are gaining in provision made for them of home-grown food. Unfortunately, the land withdrawn from wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas has *not* gone into use for the growth of turnips or swedes, for of these two crops the area in 1874 was 2,133,336 acres, but in 1905 is 1,589,273 acres only. Mangold does indeed show some increase, but against 322,614 acres in 1874 there are only 404,123 acres now, so that swedes and turnips at the present rate of changes will have gone out of cultivation on 1,589,273 acres before the increasing culture of mangolds has reached to half a million acres.

But enough of figures. The evidence is overwhelming. It is simply impossible to exaggerate its significance. It means a wholly urban population within fifty years time; the country a desert or a mere place of pleasure resort. The urban population enjoys good health for one generation, experiences nerve degeneration in the second, and is usually unable to carry on the species in the third. That in four generations 90 per cent. of urban families become extinct is a recognised scientific fact, and nothing but immigration from the country keeps up population in the older towns. But we are now within measurable distance of a time when the country will be so thinly populated that it will be utterly unequal to supplying the needed immigrants. And why is the country becoming thus depopulated? For no other reason than that of this decline of agriculture, which *no* amount of successful stock-breeding or horse-rearing can conceal. The matter has ceased to be one of Fair v. Free Trade; it is simply a question of—is the English race worth preserving? Has not the time come, we would ask, when the Government of the hour, Liberal or Conservative, should consult the people, and lay before them a plain issue? Here, such a Government would say, here are certain most serious and absolutely indisputable facts; here are their corollaries and consequences which in all countries have been the same, and by no political party are now denied. Are you prepared for such consequences happening, or have we your mandate to go to the root of the matter?

It is not necessary to discuss what reforms might on examination prove requisite; that which is to-day required is an invincible and national determination to win back to agriculture the lost acres of the past thirty years.

The blackberry crop in Cumberland is the most abundant for many years, and picking commenced last week. At Wigton the pickers were receiving half a crown per stone last week, but it is expected that the price will fall to below a third of that sum. Last year, an average one, the rate of pay fell to 9d. per stone. Tons of the fruit are sent to the larger towns in the North of England.

Ilminster Fair.—There was a good attendance at this annual Dorset fair, held on Wednesday, and the demand, especially for store sheep, was very good, a clearance being effected. Quotations:—Lambs, up to 40s. 0d.; wethers, 46s. 0d.; ewes, 46s. to 48s. 6d.; heifers and calves, £15 to £17 8s.; fat calves, 65s. to 90s.; fat beef, 11s. per score; couples, 58s.; store beasts, little demand; store sheep, a total clearance, at slightly advanced rates; rams 5½ gns. to 10 gns.

Proposed New Market for Penistone.—The Penistone Market was established in 1699 and from that date it has been held weekly in the streets; but a recent order of the Board of Agriculture has the effect of putting a stop to this practice, and a meeting of the inhabitants, presided over by Colonel Turnbull, was held on Wednesday to consider whether the market should be allowed to lapse, or whether a properly constructed market should be provided. It was stated that the market resulted in a revenue in the twelve months of considerably over £200 (1900) by various means in Penistone, and that any capital outlay on a new building would ultimately result in a decided net gain to the corporation. On a vote being taken there was a large majority in favour of a market being provided. Seven sites were suggested, but no definite decision was arrived at, and the matter was left for the further consideration of the Urban District Council.

Seasonable Topics.

Even if the calendar did not tell us that September had arrived we should be aware of it, from the indications of the season which Nature gives. The shortening of the days, the ripening of fruit and foliage in orchard and on hedgerow, the chilliness of mornings and evenings, and the occasional frostiness in the air, are all reminders that summer has nearly run its course and autumn is at hand. During the last few days the report of the sportsman's gun has been a familiar sound in the fields, and we are gratified to learn that partridges are strong and fairly plentiful. The sportsmen may indulge in a little grumble about the scantiness of cover, because cornfields are mostly bare stubble, but the farmer has reasons to rejoice over the early harvest and the fact that his wheat and oats are safe in the stack. Indeed, we think that the farming outlook is brighter than it has been in many a September we can recall. At one time earlier in the season it looked as if the fate of farmers hung in a balance, but matters took a favourable turn, and though hay crops were light, we had grand weather for getting it, and those people who have bad hay this year have only themselves to blame. The glorious sunshine suited the corn admirably, and not for years have better wheat, oats, and barley, nor a better harvest-time for getting it in. We feared once for the root crops, but it is surprising how turnips and wurzel have come along of late, and good fields may be seen in most districts. Potatoes promise well; there is a good market for cattle; the reports of lamb sales are encouraging; and wool is up. Surely farmers have been worse off than they are now; and, in spite of what pessimists may say, agriculture is by no means done up in the old country. Foreign competition still stands like a bugbear in the eyes of many, but we cannot do away with it, and the only wise course is to adopt methods by which we can meet it and still hold our own.

September.

* * *

For a long time the hop county has been famous for the breed of sheep which owes its name to the Romney Marshes, of historic fame, and where the natives still talk with some show of pride of the palmy days of smuggling, but of late Kentish sheep have come more to the front than ever. Not only do the animals thrive on their native marsh, but they have proved themselves to be excellent for exportation, and this season Kentish flockmasters have sent rams to the Argentine, Australia, the Falkland Islands, and elsewhere. Abroad the Kentish sheep have earned a reputation for themselves, and the demand for rams is certainly encouraging to the breeders at home. Indeed, all roads are gradually leading to Britain from the countries which raise wool, hides, beef, and mutton, and though these commodities, coming here in such great quantities, may affect the home trade, it is gratifying to know that in order to keep up the standard of their flocks and herds foreign stock-breeders and sheep-rearers can find nothing equal to the blood of British breeds. So far as Romney sheep are concerned, our acquaintanceship with them has been close for some years; and, knowing also something of the best-known breeders in the hop county, we are not surprised that the former are forging ahead, and we have faith enough in the business capacities of the latter to know that they will be equal to keeping the supply level with the demand.

Kentish Sheep.

* * *

It is perhaps the dairy farmer more than any body who is chiefly concerned with aftermaths, and he displays his humanity by longing for continued fine weather till he has finished hay making, and then sighing for rain to set the grass growing again. Of course, this is only natural, for pastures usually get bare during the heat of summer, and meadow aftermaths are relied on to provide juicy grass for the milk supply in early autumn. Some weeks ago considerable anxiety was felt about the slow way grass was growing, but we have had heavy rains since then, and there is now promise of an abundance of keep. Some little judgment is necessary in order to make the most of aftermaths. In certain moist and sheltered meadows grass grows quicker than it does in others, and a little forethought tells the farmer that these should be the first to be cut for hay, as they will quickly recover and provide useful pasture for the stock. In many places grass is none too plentiful just now, but if September is genial we fancy that there will be quite as much feed later on as the stock will be able to keep down.

Aftermaths

* * *

We recently had a little discussion with a gentleman who farms his own land as to selling all his straw and buying artificial fertilisers, or retaining the straw for the sake of the manure it helps to make, and the question is one of considerable interest. When straw is fetching a good price, those people who have it to sell are naturally tempted to turn it into money, but the question is whether it can be fully and properly replaced by purchasing artificial fertilisers. It seems to us to be a question of moderation. In the first place, we see no reason why one should retain large quantities of straw for the sake of making manure, when a portion of it might be conveniently disposed of, but, on the other hand, we must have manure. After admitting that artificial manures are valuable, the fact remains that dung is indispensable, and the most rational system of manuring is that of laying the foundation with dung and supplementing it with concentrated fertilisers. If one sells off his farm all the material which is essential for making manure, and thinks to replace it entirely with artificials, it is not unlike putting up a building on a weak foundation.

Selling Straw and Making Manure.

* * *

Quite recently another case came before our notice of a number of animals being poisoned by eating yew, and this kind of thing seems to be almost of frequent occurrence. The remedy is simple enough, and it consists of banishing yew trees from fields, woods, and plantations, or any place to which cattle may gain access. In the days of the long bow it was necessary to grow yew in order to obtain arms, but archery is only an amusement in this age, and yew trees can be dispensed with. Of course, there is no need to abolish them entirely, and in a churchyard, for instance, yew trees are in keeping with the surroundings. In private grounds, too, yew trees are in place, but they should never be planted where they may eventually overhang boundary fences and present deadly temptations to cattle feeding on the other side. We know of yew trees growing in clumps in fields and parkland surrounded by loose stone walls, but even this is risky, because walls and fences are always liable to be broken down, and before they are noticed considerable damage to stock may be done. Besides, there are plenty of trees more ornamental than yews that might be planted in such places, and without any risk of cattle being poisoned if they happen to eat them.

Yew Poisoning.

* * *

Though in orchards and plantations in many parts fruit is sparsely represented, blackberries are a full crop, and this delicious fruit is now ripening. In the old days the blackberry was a fruit that anyone was at liberty to pick at will, and the public claimed it as their own; but of late the man in the street has learnt what a tasty fruit the blackberry is, and every year it gets to be more and more a commercial commodity. It is quite reasonable that it should be so, as the blackberry has a delicious flavour of its own, and is useful for jelly-making, preserving, and so on. Should a farmer look upon the blackberries on his holding as a legitimate crop and turn them into money? Judging from the quantities that find their way to London and other great central markets, some must do this, and we know a farmer who tried it with success. At the same time, however, he made a bad name for himself in the vicinity, through forbidding anyone from picking blackberries on his farm. From time immemorial the cottage folk had been in the habit of going where they pleased in search of blackberries, and they resented what they considered to be any interference with their rights. Prosecution for trespass followed, and we draw a kindly veil over the unkind things said about the farmer who only protected what he looked upon as his own. Blackberry pickers in many places are a nuisance, because of their entire disregard for property. Farmers, as a rule, do not object to the poor people picking the blackberries and making a little money out of them, but when they damage the hedges and break fences all to pieces, it is not surprising if the former resent it. This, however, seems to be characteristic of a certain section of the British public, who, when given an inch, are not contented with taking less than a yard.

The Blackberry Season.

FARM.

Railway Rates for Agricultural Produce.

More Evidence of Railway Managers.

The general manager of the South-Eastern and Chatham and the goods manager of the London and South-Western Railway Companies are among the latest to give evidence before Lord Jersey's Committee as to the way in which they deal with foreign and home-grown agricultural produce for the London and other markets throughout the country.

Mr. Vincent W. Hill gave evidence with reference to the complaints made against the rates of the South-Eastern and Chatham Railway for agricultural produce, and especially with regard to fruit from Kent and abroad. He said they had exceptionally low rates for fruit, and if they were sent in loads of over two tons they were allowed 10 per cent., and over four tons 15 per cent. below their authorised scale. These lower rates for fruit were very seldom taken advantage of. If the fruit growers and others would combine it would be better for them; but they did not like their neighbours to know with whom they were dealing, and in many cases they split up their own consignments and sent them to different salesmen to see who gave them the best price. Their company had very little egg or potato traffic, the great item being fruit.

The fruit brought by them to London was 50,509, of which the Continental fruit via Boulogne and Calais was only 5,952 tons. The Continental fruit almost always came when the fruit could not be produced in England. The rates from Boulogne and Calais were in direct competition with those charged by the steamers running direct to the Thames and the North of England. The rate charged by the steamers running to the North of England affected the rates to Manchester very much. Special boats ran from Boulogne up to Goole, where they got the short railway journey across to Manchester. If they did not give the foreigner a lower rate per mile, but not by ton, the traffic would go by water entirely, and there would be more severe competition with the Kentish growers, perhaps. If the company were to lose the traffic altogether they would have to look round for other sources of income, and in that way the company would have to put up the English fruit rate.

In answer to Lord Jersey, who asked whether the Board of Agriculture might approach the railway companies on behalf of the agriculturist with any special grievance, witness said it would be much better if the farmer himself went to the railway company direct. If the Board of Agriculture went to the railway company for the agriculturist, then every other trader would want a Government department to do the same for him.

Mr. Alfred Malby, the goods manager of the London and South-Western Railway Company, denied that there was any preference given to foreign produce. There was no industry in the country which received such favourable treatment from railway companies as the agricultural interest. The incidence of the railway rates was so small as to have no appreciable effect upon the competition between the farmer and the foreign producer. English agricultural districts did not produce sufficient meat, butter, cheese, bacon, and eggs to supply their own local requirements. The railway companies sent far larger quantities of these articles from London to the country than they received in London from the country.

West of Scotland Agricultural College.

At a meeting of the governors of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, held in Glasgow on Monday, there was much discussion on a recommendation of the Committee on Teaching and Staff that a course of lectures on agricultural law should be instituted, and finally the minute was remitted to the committee, who were granted powers to act in the matter, and advertise for a lecturer. Mr. R. A. Berry, assistant lecturer on agricultural chemistry, and analyst to the department of agriculture, Cambridge College, was appointed to the chair of chemistry at a salary of £300 per annum. Miss Janet M'Naughton, who has acted as interim instructress at Hutton Farm School, was appointed instructress in poultry-keeping at a salary of £80 per annum, with an annual allowance of £10 in lieu of a house.

Mr. Leopold de Rothschild has consented to lay the memorial stone in connection with the extension of the Brentford Fruit and Vegetable Market on September 18. The existing market, which was opened by the then Lord Mayor of London in 1894, cost £15,000, and has proved a profitable investment to the ratepayers. The extensions, which cover over twelve acres, have entailed an outlay of £50,000.

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

Heaven forfend that the correspondence in the *Times* on the deserted village theme should result in an exodus of the English labourers and a tide of migration to the north. Most assuredly, however, the north is the only apparent abode of bliss for the rural labourer. If Mr. Boyd Kinnear is to be accepted—and we all know him to be a sagacious observer and a capable man—then the lack of rural labour in England is due to the fact that the same conditions are not offered the rural worker here as are offered him in Scotland. "From northwards through Scotland" vide Mr. Boyd Kinnear—there is no such thing as a scarcity of labour. And why? Because the labourer can earn 20s. a week in addition to enjoying a free cottage and garden, while his wife and children can earn half as much again. Beyond that, too, his wages are continuous, and not intermittent. This notwithstanding, Mr. Boyd Kinnear points to the farmer being able to pay out of profits ten per cent. on his capital. Here is a vision of an idyllic life which should quicken every fibre of the British farmer's being. He has only to enable his labourers, with their wives and children, to earn about £2 a week, or rather, 30s. a week plus a cottage and garden, and at once he will re-invoke the roseate day of prosperity! Methinks the English farmer will scarcely care to make the experiment. I fear me that he believes the vista would be closed in by the workhouse.

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I am afraid that we are apt to dogmatise on this question of rural depopulation chiefly for the purpose of showing that we have, as Mrs. Malaprop would have said, a fine command of our oracular tongues—for the purpose of showing that we can summon fine sweltering phrases and sentences from the vast depths of our intellect. What, for instance, does Mr. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., one of the Roseberian esquires of Scotland, mean by declaring that the prime necessity of the hour is that land "should be placed on a natural instead of a sentimental, sporting, or extravagant basis?" for the life of me I do not know. Does this clever politician mean by objecting to a "sentimental basis" that the territorial sentiment should be combated, that the affection, say, of a landlord for maintaining his broad acres should be baffled? Well, if it be so, he may accept consolation from the fact that the process of dispossessing landlordism has set in, and that ere yet even the State may give it an added impetus. Does he mean that estates should not be maintained for mere sporting purposes? Well, if this be the case, the portents of the hour should satisfy him. What does he, however, mean by an "extravagant basis"? And what, too, by a "natural basis"? If by the latter phrase he means that land should be simply regarded and cultivated and maintained for its productivity—a most desirable ambition, I agree; and which the Lowlands of Europe have in some measure shown to be a possibility—he meditates, not a panacea for the present human dearth, but a social and economic revolution. Revolutions cannot be accomplished by rose-water, and economic revolutions are very slowly evolved. What is wanted is labour now—at this very hour, at this very moment. We require to apply a cure now. We do not need one whose effectiveness will be perceived five decades hence.

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Mr. Munro-Ferguson has certainly deftly and ably epitomised a grievous anomaly when he points out that, while we grow timber on two or three million acres at a loss, we import timber (and its products) worth nearly thirty millions a year, the bulk of which could be raised at home had we a large rural population. And despite the talks, Parliamentary and otherwise, which we have indulged in on the wisdom of prosecuting timber culture upon disciplined and scientific lines, not more than a spasm of interest has been evolved. The Board of Agriculture is proceeding in the matter in but a desultory fashion, probably, I opine, because it has no adequate funds or equipment to enable it to proceed in any other manner; the timber trades are apathetic, and the attitude of the general public itself is only one of dull, leaden, obtuse indifference. Even those Socialists who indulged in dreams of the out-o'-works finding suitable, picturesque, and profitable employment in rearing stately oaks, lofty pines, and straight poplars on the derelict lands of England, seem to have abandoned the enjoyment and to have relapsed into acquiescence in the general attitude of inattention. I had hoped for a good deal from the sympathy which the House of Commons in all its sections exhibited when the question was brought before it and the possibilities of timber-culture were faintly outlined; but this sympathy was an evanescent sentiment. What is wanted is that some legislator should adopt this question as his hobby and make himself a nuisance over it. Then our Legislature, which has always a regard for pertinacity, might be induced to a determined appreciation. Timber-culture should be either undertaken or financially encouraged by the State, and it would be a good investment.

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The Hon. T. A. Brassey is somewhat of a wayward politician. An anti-Home Ruler, he wants Home Rule-all-Round; a Chamberlainite, he disagrees with Mr. Chamberlain. His disagreement with Mr. Chamberlain is, however, a practical evidence that there is a growing appreciation of the fact that colonial preference would mean the sacrifice of the British agriculturists. This much Mr. Brassey explicitly and emphatically avows. It would flood the British markets with products grown under favourable conditions that the British farmer can never, under the present economic system, enjoy. The Chamberlain economists—and I in particular refer to Mr. Chaplin—may continue to preserve a systematic reticence in reference to this matter; but their silence has not served to quiet the quaking suspicion that the new ovangel might be a penalty to the farmer rather than a boon, might, in a word, be the very antithesis of that Protection the anticipation of which has so long solaced him. Colonial preference in the eyes of the Canadian colonists means the British markets for the Canadian farmers. This is the absolute fact, and it is no use imagining that purposely-put-on blinkers will blind the vision to it.

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A Liberal Member of Parliament has remonstrated with my persistence in nominating Mr. George Lambert to the Liberal portfolio of Agriculture. In averring that this nomination is by no means assured, he in no wise seeks to minimise the excellent reputation of Mr. Lambert or his practical work on behalf of agriculture. Moreover, he is certain that such an appointment would give unqualified satisfaction to the southern counties, and particularly to Devonshire, Cornwall, and Somersetshire, in whose politics Mr. Lambert is, of course, one of the most picturesque figures. At the same time he declares that it would be an act of ungenerosity and unchivalry to disregard the work of Mr. F. A. Channing. The Member for the Kettering division has certainly been an assiduous spade worker in the cause of rural reform, and, spade worker though he has been, he has also in a great degree been an encouraging standard-bearer. His Bill to which I have so often called attention, may be said to epitomise the Liberal anxiety in regard to agrarian reform. Beyond this he has, by his Land Law Reform Association, sought to permeate Liberalism generally with sympathy with the ambition of agrarian reformers, and has certainly, by means of the same instrument, disciplined the purpose of the Liberal Parliamentarians. All this I freely confess. My anticipation, however, of the selection of Mr. Lambert for the position is based upon the expectation existent within the party. Certainly, were his old friend and admirer, Mr. Seale Hayne, still alive, his prospects of being selected for the portfolio would be even brighter. Mr. Seale Hayne had no significant authority in statecraft, but he had a great influence with his colleagues on the Front Bench of Liberalism.

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"We should have no difficulty whatever in accepting Mr. Rider Haggard as a Liberal, and providing him with a desirable constituency, if his rural purposes were to be the only test. We cannot, however, discount Mr. Haggard from his other professions. He is a well-known Liberal—not the M.P. I have referred to—to me in connection with a suggestion of mine that Mr. Rider Haggard would be a considerable reinforcement to the reform party. Of course, I am not for a moment assuming in this that Mr. Rider Haggard is anxious to be accepted by, or even under any conditions would be accepted by, the Liberal party. What most moved this Liberal politician was the recollection of Mr. Rider Haggard's South African views piquantly and forcefully expressed during the war, and epitomised in his remarkable novel, "Jess." He questioned, too, how far he would be in sympathy with the anti-Imperialistic sentiments of modern Liberalism, and how far he would accept the domination of the extreme teetotallers and the enthusiastic sympathy of the passive resisters. "We all recognise," purused the legislator, "the excellent work he is doing on behalf of our villages, and, in particular, on behalf of the small holders. We cannot, however, afford in our appreciation to plant a thorn in our political side."

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Is there, then, no resting-place for the sole of Mr. Rider Haggard's political foot? Most assuredly the constituencies themselves look askant at the man who has enfranchised himself from the shackles of partyism, the man who says he has a mission beyond the anxieties of whips and organisers and wire-pullers. Not a few of his avowed purposes would be distasteful to old-fashioned Toryism, and Liberals fear that he does not go the whole-hog pathway with them. It may be, of course, that he has convinced himself of the immunity of Parliament, and thinks he can do better work outside its portals. And he would not be altogether wrong. It is, of course, by Parliamentary means we shall secure economic redemption; but it is as well to have a refreshing educational force at work beyond it.

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As I close I read this declaration of Sir Charles Tupper, the eminent Conservative statesman: "Canadians are united in favour of Mr. Chamberlain's policy. In a few years Canada will be able to feed the whole population of Great Britain." And, I assume, will seek to do so by means of a system of Colonial preference. How, then, would the British farmer regard his Colonial and successful rival? Would he give him the smile which he now withholds from the foreign competitor? Would he welcome his own economic undoing because the instrument accomplishing it came from a British Colony in which the Americans are a keen factor, and in which an American sentiment is dominant?

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Messrs. Webb and Sons' bulb catalogue for 1905 has a tasteful and artistic cover, depicting a Dutch bulb farm and a Dutch maiden. This is printed in colours, and is very effective. Numerous other illustrations in black and white help to make the work an attractive one, whilst the details given are of service to buyers of bulbs.

The receipt of Messrs. John K. King and Sons' catalogue of bulbs, etc., for 1905 reminds us of the approach of planting time for our spring display of spring flowers. As Messrs. King and Sons justly observe in their introductory remarks: "No flowers are more welcomed than those which come after the dark days of winter. They bring with them a sense of joy and gladness, and have been properly named 'The harbingers of spring.'" The catalogue is a neat and well printed publication of 40 pages. It is beautifully illustrated with reproductions of photographs, and, besides containing an exhaustive list of all the best varieties of flower seeds, it has the additional advantage of giving useful hints for their successful cultivation both indoors and outdoors, which cannot fail to be appreciated by the amateur, as well as the professional, gardener.

Midland Notes.

Midland farmers are enjoying a full share of the good things going. There are some quite exceptional crops of wheat to be seen in Warwickshire and Worcestershire, and a good proportion of the harvest has been easily and expeditiously saved, for the beginning was unusually early. In Oxford the first cuttings of wheat were made as long ago as July 21, in Worcester they were but a day later, while reaping was begun in Northampton by July 24, and in Warwick and Salop by the 26th. There was little trouble in the harvesting of these first cut fields, but the gales and heavy rain we have had since, have told their tale, so that much of the later harvested corn will be sadly weather-beaten by the time it is stocked. Oats are another heavy crop in the midland district. A Shirley farmer of long experience told the writer he had never grown such an oat crop before; and there are equally heavy yields elsewhere. Roots, too, are now making up arrears of growth very fast, and look conspicuously healthy and promising.

Midland fruit growers have suffered not a little from the effects of the high winds, and there are bitter complaints to be heard, too, of the ravages of birds. Local fruit growers may, indeed, be readily excused if they fail to cherish the warm affection for our feathered songsters which some well-meaning people demand of them. The trouble started this season with the strawberries; here the blackbirds were the principal offenders. When the raspberries and gooseberries were at their best the same thieves took toll of them, and so did the thrushes; and now come complaints that blackbirds, thrushes, starlings, and sparrows are one and all raiding the apple trees, especially the choice dessert varieties. It is no question of digging grubs out, for all the inside of the fruit is devoured, and the cultivator is left with nothing but the skin, core, and stalk for his pains.

Hop pickers have everywhere a bad name, but those who are now working in the plantations of Worcestershire and Herefordshire have done little to earn their evil reputation, and people like the Rev. George Dunnett, who founded the Midland Mission to the Hop-pickers, and now acts as its secretary, would give them a better character. The slums of Birmingham furnish a certain proportion of the gangs; but nailmakers from Cradley, chainmakers from the Lye, colliers from Tipton, and iron workers from Netherton are the majority. They are a rough looking, unkempt lot. Their language is apt to be "painful and frequent and free," and the railway companies carry them by special trains composed of their oldest and least luxurious coaches. But they are good workers, and adapt themselves surprisingly well to their changed conditions of life. There will be plenty of work for them this season, for the crop is so heavy that in some gardens the wires have given way under their load. But these wet days are miserable for the ill-clad immigrants from the Black Country, and unless there comes a change they will not look back upon the season with any feelings of pleasure.

One has always regarded the colony of lady agriculturists at Studley Castle as such a happy family that the rumours of a rift within the lute have come as something of a surprise. Whatever may be the cause, Miss Bradley (the warden), the two sub-wardens, and five instructors are all leaving very shortly; and it is understood that we may see the seceders embarking on their own account upon a similar enterprise somewhere in the midlands this time, however, pushing the venture somewhat further, and forming a little settlement of women agriculturists who have passed through the college course. Miss Bradley has been the warden of the Lady Warwick College ever since it was started at Reading in 1898; it has apparently thriven in every way under her leadership, and her place may not prove easy to fill. It is to be hoped, however, that the changes may not adversely affect the college at Studley, which has passed the experimental stage, and ought to have a long career of usefulness before it.

That the market gardeners and fruit growers of the Vale of Evesham are amongst the most enlightened and progressive to be found is evidently recognised by the enterprising Department of Agriculture in Ireland, which has been sending a deputation to study local methods. Ireland can learn something from Evesham in the utilisation of every yard of ground, and the writer were much interested at finding how the midland growers worked in catch crops at every opportunity, and took care of their trees by regular grease branching and spraying; they were surprised, too, at the number of small holdings they found, and at the great use made of artificial manures. In their turn, however, the visitors had some hints to give to Evesham, particularly in regard to scientific pruning and systematic spacing of trees. They were able, too, to pride themselves upon the better grading and packing which are being encouraged in the "distressful country." The cheap, square, non-returnable boxes which they are gradually inducing the Irish growers to use might profitably be introduced into the Evesham district.

Fruit Growing in Ireland: Visit of Officials to Evesham.

A party of officials of the Department of Agriculture in Ireland recently visited Evesham to examine local methods of fruit-growing and market-gardening with the view of gaining information which might be of value in the great effort the Department is making to promote fruit culture in Ireland. The party consisted of skilled and trained men employed by the Department of Agriculture in Ireland, and they were accompanied by seven pupils. In conversation with a representative of the *Birmingham Post*, Mr. Moore agreed that in the Evesham district fruit growers were doing by their own initiative much work which was being carried out by the aid of the State in Ireland. There the Department of Agriculture is stocking free of cost, one acre plots on farms with the varieties of fruit best suited to the district, and putting experts in charge of centres to teach proper methods of fruit culture and pruning and the marketing of the produce. Mr. Moore agreed with the suggestion put forward that the Government would be likely to do more for fruit growers in England if the fruit growers themselves would state their wants and bring pressure to bear. He was sanguine of good results from the recommendations of the Departmental Commission on Fruit Culture, but agreed that this depends much upon the fruit growers themselves, who should show that they appreciate the proposals and urge upon the Government the desirability of carrying them out.

The visitors were all much struck with the intensive culture in the Evesham district, the way in which every yard of ground is used, and how catch crops are worked in, and these things Mr. Moore regarded as the most forcible lesson they had learned by the visit. The cleanliness of the trees in the district was remarkable compared with some districts they had visited. Grease branching and spraying were evidently regularly carried out, and these were methods they were trying to make growers in Ireland adopt. They thought that some of the pruning they saw was not first rate, and there was a lack of system, particularly in the old plantations, which were irregularly laid out.

In Ireland they had adopted definite plans for planting. There were definite distances between each tree, and dwarf trees were put in between permanent trees, and would eventually be cut out when the permanent trees were fully grown, leaving them at the proper distances apart. In some of the Evesham plantations the time would come when some of the trees would have to be cut out, and then those remaining would be too far apart. The visitors were much struck with the large number of small holders in the district and with the general use of artificial instead of farmyard manure.

In the Evesham market they were struck with the large amount of produce and the quick way in which it was disposed of. They thought that some of the stuff was rather indifferently packed and not graded, and they attached great importance to proper grading and packing. In Ireland they were trying to substitute cheap square non-returnable boxes of various sizes for the many measures now in use. Mr. Moore said the difference in the price obtained for selected stuff made up in such boxes was astonishing—so much so that the question of the cost of the box was hardly worth considering. In conclusion, Mr. Moore spoke generally in compliment of Evesham methods, and referred to the great interest and value of the information gained.

Importation of Canadian Cattle.—At the annual federation of the Meat Traders' Associations of Great Britain, held in Glasgow on Thursday, a resolution approving of free imports of Canadian cattle into this country was passed. It was stated that a deputation of meat traders to the Minister of Agriculture had received an unsatisfactory reply, and the opinion was expressed that the federation should urge the Canadian Government to induce the British Board of Agriculture to relax the existing restrictive regulations as to the importation of Canadian cattle.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

"Plenty of birds" was the jovial remark made to the writer on meeting his farm friends in Essex, Herts, Cambridge, and Norfolk in the early part of the week, and ocular demonstration as one rushed through the cleared cornfields—although in the Fen district much grain is yet to be drawn home—fully justified the statement. But perhaps the most pleasant sight was the happier look on farmers' faces, for, in spite of the fact that wheat prices have dropped considerably at the different country corn exchanges, the cereals as a whole this season are a satisactory investment, although the barley crop comes out the worst of the three white straw crops. Again, with days of changing winds, bringing welcome rain for the farmers' root crops, we have throughout the Eastern counties the harvest thanksgiving services and the festivities that proclaim the finish of harvest operations.

With the month of September, we may say that the English farmers' year begins, and so it is quite right and natural that ploughing in the stubble and preparing the grounds to receive its seed for the coming season should engage the attention of agriculturists. All over the Eastern counties, therefore, it will not be surprising for our readers to learn, fallow work is proceeding apace with a few intervals, occasioned by downpours of rain that only helped to mellow the dry soil and give the hard-worked ploughmen and their teams a brief period of rest.

Between King's Lynn and North Walsham the writer could not but notice how shallow the ploughmen in that district plough the land as compared with the work done on the heavy lands of Essex. Of course, the explanation is a simple one, but in this connection it may be as well to call attention to the fact, that it is beneficial to deepen the soil on all ordinary land, and the best way is to do it gradually, while the best time to deepen a soil has proved to be, by experience in East Anglia, before it is fallowed or prepared for a root crop. Such land, as a rule, in the Eastern counties, has just produced a corn crop, and so, after harvest, and previous to winter, it should be ploughed about half an inch deeper than usual, so that the lighter-coloured fresh soil will then be completely mixed with the top soil, which will result in the land being enriched in the process of root cultivation or fallowing, and this fresh soil become added to the ordinary soil of the field. In this way a gradual increase of soil is obtained without deluging the top soil with a quantity of unmanured hard subsoil.

Not far from Fakenham, Norfolk, is to be seen a fine crop of maize, and just now the dainty green of its lovely leaves, the luxuriant tints of its stem, and its magnificent tassels undulating in the breeze can explain how Longfellow, in his "Song of Hiawatha," felt when he made that young Indian cry out with rapture on finding "this new gift to the nations":—

> "Maize in all its beauty,
> With its shining robes about it
> And its long, soft, yellow tresses;
> . . . . . Mondamin!"

We know for certain that "Mondamin," the Indian name for maize, was unknown in Europe at the time of the Romans, and by a close scrutiny botanically, "the friend of man," which is the translation of the word Modamin, we cannot but acknowledge that the cultivation of maize in the Old World dates from after the discovery of America.

A very practical and instructive discussion took place at the half-yearly meeting of the Eastern Counties Dairy Farmers' Society, held at Chelmsford, on Friday last, when the Hon. Edward Gerald Strutt, of Whitelands, Hatfield Witham, presided. It was reported, in the first place, that at the present time there was a more hopeful feeling with regard to the price of milk than there was last March, while the hon. sec., Mr. G. Macmillan, stated that steps had been taken by the council with reference to the short weight of wet grains when delivered by the railway company, and mentioned that his own shortage varied from a ton to a ton and a half per six-ton truck. After some discussion, it was suggested that members should only pay carriage for the quantity actually delivered, and the council were empowered to defend any member who was sued by the railway company for any excess of that amount. A specimen calendar prepared by the sub-committee, and which is to be hung in cowhouses, was then handed round for inspection, and a good deal of amusement was created by the question should cows be groomed? And, as it was pointed out that health depended upon milk more than anything else, and they ought, as dairy farmers, to do their best therefore to produce milk under most sanitary conditions, so cows ought to be groomed.

By Lupulin.

The Hop Acreage.

The experience of the 1904 season naturally suggested the probability of a moderate enlargement of the area under hops. The good prices realised in September and October last were very encouraging to planters, as, although the average of the yield was low, there were several gardens that were fairly productive, the money value of which must have been very profitable. Growers are generally optimistic in their views of the future, and there is, perhaps, a tendency to conclude that a successful season is necessarily an indication of the commencement of a series of remunerative years.

Increase of the acreage consequently follows, but I am glad to note that caution is also evident, and the wisdom of this tentative action is proved by our knowledge of the capacity of an area of under 50,000 acres to produce, with favourable climatic conditions, all the hops needed to meet the annual requirements of British brewers.

The total increase of hop acreage, shown by the official returns to be 1,169 acres, is fairly distributed over most of our districts. East Kent has increased by 145, Mid Kent by 181, and the Weald by 488 acres, giving a total for the premier county of 814 acres. Sussex has enlarged to the extent of 173 acres, Hampshire 78, Hereford 84, Worcester 55, and Gloucester and Suffolk 4 acres. The gross increase is, therefore, 1,208 acres; but this figure is discounted by a falling off in Salop and Surrey of 39 acres. The proportionate increase in the several counties is shown as follows:—Kent 2.76 per cent., Sussex 3.86 per cent., Hampshire 4.10 per cent., Hereford 1.24 per cent., and Worcester 1.46 per cent.; the average net increase of the whole being about 2.44 per cent.

The Weald of Kent, with its enlargement of 488 acres, gives the largest proportion, being no less than 5.25 per cent. increase from 1904, and it is notable that, while the other divisions of the county fell off between 1903 and 1904, the hop area of the Weald alone was increased, the addition in this division in two years being 741 acres, or nearly 8¼ per cent. The inference follows that hop growing in the Weald is a satisfactory industry, and, judging by the past, we may expect to see its further development. The present comparison between the southern and the midland districts shows that in the south we have 38,127 acres, and in the midlands 10,841 acres of hop land, the latter representing about 22 per cent. of the whole.

It appears to be conclusive that under the conditions of our open ports, and with the improvements in our methods of cultivation, it is not desirable that our hop acreage should be further extended. It is, indeed, questionable whether the English industry as a whole has progressed in a pecuniary sense during the past ten years. If this be the practical result of our working, our hop farmers should carefully consider their position, and limit their efforts to taking the best possible advantages of the circumstances as they now find them:—

Counties, &c.		1905. Acres.	1904. Acres.	1903. Acres.
Kent ..	East	10,417	10,272	10,478
	Mid	10,484	10,283	10,462
	Weald	9,774	9,286	9,033
	Total, Kent ...	30,655	29,841	29,933
Hants		1,978	1,990	1,920
Hereford		6,851	6,767	6,851
Salop		135	110	133
Surrey		843	877	901
Sussex		4,617	4,474	4,454
Worcester		3,807	3,752	3,697
Other Counties*		52	48	49
Total		48,968	47,799	47,938

* Gloucester and Suffolk.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the* MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.

Home Notes.

Crop Estimates.

are still uncertain, but there appears to be a fair consensus of opinion that, with a continuance of present conditions, a heavy yield is inevitable. With reports of the early pickings before me, added to my own observations during a visit this week to some Mid Kent gardens, I am reluctantly compelled to enlarge any previous average, and to confess my fear that our English crop may approach very near to, and may perhaps actually reach, 15 cwt. per acre. It is usual to refer to the bounteous gifts of Nature as unquestionably beneficial, but in this department of agriculture an excessive harvest is not profitable to the producer, nor is the ultimate consumer of the product advantaged. The intermediate traders are burdened with additional expenses, and their profits are proportionately reduced; therefore I cannot help regretting that our crop prospects as regards quantity are so exceptional. There are, however, some possible set offs, which may yet reduce the final figures. For instance, I hear of important damage done in the Midlands by recent wind and rain. A correspondent writes me as follows:—"Through Leigh and the adjacent lower part of the Teme Valley one hop yard in every four has gone down. Between Ledbury and Hereford, and between Worcester and Leominster it is a rare thing to meet with a grower who has not some of his hops thrown over. The wires in nearly all cases are broken, and some yards have gone down wholesale. One of the largest growers in Worcestershire has lost 25 per cent. of his total acreage." In the South, also, some damage has been done by the gales, the heavy bine being unable in places to withstand the pressure of the combined wind and copious downfall of rain. I hear further from several growers that the hops do not look so well in the cribs as they appeared on the bine, and that in some gardens the weighing up is rather disappointing. It is, therefore, too early to make exact estimates, but I think we must be prepared to face a large output, and can only hope that the requirements of our brewers will be sufficient to counterbalance any tendency to important depreciation of values.

The Borough.

The present atmosphere of our trade is, I regret to say, rather in the direction of panic. Buyers appear to be alarmed, and ridiculous prices are talked about. The few new hops that have arrived are being sold, or, I should rather say, given away, as must be the case when the figures do not cover much more than the cost of picking, drying, and packing. This cannot continue. After the first rush is over, it is hoped that a steadier market will be established, and values settled on a more satisfactory basis. In the meantime quotations are so irregular that it is almost unsafe to name them, and we must wait for further developments before we can speak with any approach to certainty.

Advancement in Hop-Drying.

By the courtesy of Mr. E. Goodwin, of Wateringbury, I have been privileged to-day to examine an installation of the "Sirocco" system of hop-drying machinery, recently erected for him by Messrs. Davidson and Co., Limited, Belfast. The inventor, Mr. Davidson, being present. The whole of the details, both of construction and working, were fully explained. This is no new experiment, Mr. Davidson having been engaged for more than thirty years in the adaptation of the system to the drying of tea in the plantations of India and Ceylon, where several hundreds of these machines have been erected. About three years ago the system was introduced to the English hop industry, and already over 30 important growers can testify to its value by their own experience. Although the process of working is sufficiently simple to be easily comprehended and operated by any agricultural labourer, yet it is somewhat difficult without the aid of drawings to describe clearly the construction of the machine, every part of which has been most carefully considered, the various sections being covered by no less than 22 patents.

The success of the whole design appears to centre in the peculiar arrangement of the "Sirocco" fan, concerning which I heard a pleasant story to the effect that when the fan was shown to an Admiral of the United States Navy, he gazed at it for some time in silent wonder, and, when asked his opinion of its merits, replied, "Sir, I guess it oughtn't to blow, but the dam'd thing does blow." It is simply a framed skeleton wheel, fitted around its periphery with a series of small blades curved in the direction of the revolution of the wheel. An uninformed observer would be inclined to agree with the American Admiral, but contrary to ordinary knowledge of the action of revolving fans, it actually propels a blast of air at a speed of 80 per cent. in excess of the speed of the fan itself, this being accomplished by the exertion of a minimum amount of power. Thus it gives the maximum of efficiency with the utmost economy.

The "Sirocco" being the motive agent, we now seek for the object of its action. This we find in the anterior portion of the machine, which consists of a heating furnace and a suitable arrangement of tubes. The furnace is capable of burning any description of fuel, although, of course, desirable to supply it with material of the highest calorific efficiency. It is so constructed as to be a practical smoke consumer, and is therefore able to render the greatest heat at the lowest cost. The products of combustion, being drawn at the rear of the furnace, pass by way of several chambers, through a double battery of tubes of about three inches diameter, and eventually reach the smoke stack. The passage of the heated gases through the tubes raises the temperature of the latter to about 2,000 degrees. Into immediate contact with the tubes, the outer air is drawn by the vacuum created by the action of the fan, and a continuous current is thus created, which is propelled into the oast at the rate of 25,000 cubic feet per minute, and at any desired degree of heat. It may be added that the fan which does such excellent work is only 45 inches diameter, and requires barely 3 h.p. to drive it at its normal speed of 175 revolutions per minute.

The heated volume of air thus set in motion is conveyed by suitable ducts into the kilns at an average temperature of 130 to 135 degrees with sufficient force to penetrate a load of hops 3 feet deep. For general working a load of about 18 inches deep appears to be the most practicable, and under these conditions this apparatus will supply 4 kilns, each 20 feet square, a total of 1,600 square feet, and will perfectly dry from 2½ to 3 tons of hops per 24 hours.

My available space would be exceeded if I were to describe the various ingenious arrangements made for regulating the flow of air, for ascertaining its temperature at various stages of its progress, for providing against any disturbance of the construction by metallic expansion or contraction, and for the burning of sulphur. But I can confidently refer to the highly satisfactory results of the system. A load of hops taken from the kiln in my presence, by means of Hetherington's Roller Floor, was pronounced to be perfect in wholeness, uniformity of colour, and finished condition. Indeed, I hardly see how it could be otherwise, when the hops had been cured by the action of pure air, only applied at a regular and moderate heat, and had not been disturbed from the moment of their deposit on the floor until the drying was completed. These advantages must be evident to every thoughtful planter, and I am prepared to hear that many orders will be placed for similar installations. In conclusion I am requested to state that the system is applicable to any existing kilns, and that the initial outlay for the plant above described does not exceed £400.

Hop Reports.

The following reports on the hop crop of 1905 have come to hand:—

Messrs. W. H. and H. Le May state: We have, as has been our custom for the last 32 years, made a most exhaustive examination of the hop gardens of Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire, Worcester, and Hereford, and can only come to the conclusion that England will produce one of the grandest crops of hops ever put upon the market. The majority of the gardens to-day show hops perfect in every particular, being full of lupuline and bright in colour, while the minority may be classed as good copper hops. Seldom indeed have the brewers of England had such an opportunity to replenish their depleted stocks with such fine quality (and there can be no question that their stocks are depleted almost to vanishing point), and we must congratulate them on their good fortune in having so good a supply to draw from. If it had been otherwise, a famine of hops must have ensued, and consequently famine prices, as never before in our recollection has the stock of hops been reduced to so small a quantity as exists to-day. This being the case we trust the consumers will be content to pay such a price as will remunerate the grower for the cost of production, otherwise a considerable grubbing of the plantations will take place.

With the present reduced consumption of hops by the falling-off in the consumption of beer, we have no doubt that England will produce sufficient hops to satisfy the requirements of her brewers until another crop can be placed upon the market; consequently there will be no need to import a single cwt. of foreign hops, as consumers can with confidence rely on the English growth to satisfy their requirements for the year.

Messrs. E. Goodwin and Co., Borough, London, in their annual report of the hop crop of 1905, state: "The hop plant has done exceedingly well this year, and if the weather keeps favourable during the next four or five weeks picking time) it is generally expected that we shall have a large crop of very fine quality, in fact, the

finest for some years, although the latest reports speak of mould in places, but nothing of a serious nature, unless wet and cold nights should set in, and then it would run quickly, and that would reduce both quantity and quality. It is the general opinion that the bumper crop, estimated a month since, will not be realised, as there are reports that some of the bine is blind, and the strong winds of Tuesday last has also done some little damage.

Continental reports all speak of a good crop. American and Californian crops are uncertain, and it is still impossible to place a reliable estimate upon the probable yield. To sum up the position, we should say that the English crop will be above an average one, of exceptional quality, and possibly twice as large as last year's, and as prices are likely to be low, doubtless a large trade will be done, as brewers will not lose this favourable opportunity to replenish their almost exhausted stocks.

Messrs. Pattenden and Smith report as follows: "This year there is a crop of hops in this country which has been grown under the most favourable circumstances thus far, and which promises better brewing qualities than we have had for many years past. There is, as usual, a certain proportion of mouldy pieces, and these the growers will be well advised not to pick. The quantity is variously estimated, but is probably about sufficient for one year's consumption without the aid of any foreign supplies. The brewers have for some time past been suffering from bad trade, and this made itself felt in the very reduced and disappointing demand for hops last year, when consumers preferred to use up all their available stocks rather than increase their holding beyond absolute necessities. We have no hesitation in saying that the brewers in this country as a body have seldom, if ever before, held such small stocks of hops as they do at the present time. This crop, therefore, comes as a great boon to them. That there must be a large demand when full supplies are at market cannot be doubted.

"Last year our clients acted wisely in selling their hops, as the level of values was not a speculative one. This year the situation is very different, and calls for both patience and judgment in marketing hops, for we believe all that are sound and healthy will be wanted, and in our opinion there will be nothing gained by pressing sales before the demand is established. The most effective barrier to foreign competition, short of a protective duty, is a good and sufficiently abundant home-grown article, and this we possess in the present season's crop of hops. The prices for the first pickings are called from 40s. to 80s. There are hardly any ripe hops at market yet."

The following is Messrs. Manger and Henley's report for 1905: "For some years we have had to report that the hops have been suffering from a severe attack of aphis blight. This year, we are glad to say, we hardly remember a crop being grown with less vermin. Very little washing or sulphuring have been done, so the bountiful crop before us has been grown naturally, without the usual trouble and difficulties, and must therefore be of more than ordinary value to the consumer. The very forcing weather in June made the bine grow so rapidly that the joints became very wide apart; this accounts for the long streamers of blind bine and the subsequent heavy head where the cones are fully exposed to the sun, which should give us good quality and flavour. There is not a bad district this year; even those who do not go to great expense have a fair crop, and there will be sufficient for all our requirements without any importations. After five years of decrease in the acreage, reaching the lowest for many years, we have to report an increase of 1,169 acres, making a total of 48,968 acres.

"Other countries seem to be as much favoured as we are. There is a large crop on the Continent, in most districts, and the estimate, as far as it can be believed, in the States of America and the Pacific Coast is 25 per cent. more than last year. Of course, after three short years the stocks in hand must be reduced very much, and we feel confident consumers will see it is to their advantage to secure a full year's requirements under these favourable conditions.

"Brewers have bitterly complained of the slackness of trade in the country and the falling off in the consumption of beer, but we think they will now use more hops, and thus make their beers sounder and more acceptable, and so regain what they have lost; they have a splendid opportunity if the Legislature would only give us a Pure Beer Bill and compel brewers to use hops and malt we would have no more complaints."

The Use of Hop Substitutes.

The use of hop substitutes increases in England but not so in Scotland, for the Aberdeen brewers who tried them a year ago has not repeated the experiment. Hence none were used in Scotland in the past brewing year. They are not employed in Ireland. Of the seventeen tons of substitutes purchased by brewers, one-third went to Derby, one-fourth to Bolton, and one-fifth to Northampton.

Foreign Notes.

America.

Latest cable messages from one correspondent speak of enlarged estimates of the total yield, and consequent lowering of market values, this information being imparted in most confident terms. On the other hand, some friends in California and Oregon stand by their earlier estimates, and predict that the U.S.A. crop will be under that of last year. The barometer of the market, however, tends to confirm the more optimistic reports. There is no doubt that hops can be bought at lower rates, and I accept this as an indication that the crop must be promising to be on the heavier side rather than the lighter.

Nuremberg.

Although within the last few days quotations have advanced by a few shillings, the general tone of the market is inclined towards weakness, being influenced by the favourable crop reports that are arriving from most districts. I hear from one of the most reliable authorities in this city that Bavaria will harvest a heavier weight than last year, and that the Bohemian crop will probably amount to 300,000 cwts., which is a larger production than has ever been experienced there before. From Alsace I have a communication to following effect:—"The harvest of early hops has commenced, and the general ingathering of later sorts will speedily follow. The quality and the quantity promise well, but the traders' estimate of 130,000 cwts. appear to be somewhat extreme; even when the extension of the plantation is taken into account. The rain that has recently fallen may favourably affect the later harvest in assisting the development of the cones, but it will add to the labour of picking and drying. Growers are generally willing sellers, as the condition of their picked hops leaves much to be desired."

Belgium.

The promises of a full yield, both in Poperinghe and Alost are being confirmed by harvesting experience. Prices are consequently lowered, although demand is fairly active.

Storm Effects in South Worcester

Sir,—At the end of July it promised to be one of the earliest and best corn harvests in this neighbourhood that we have experienced for many years, but the high winds and continuous stormy weather has done a great deal of damage, both before the corn was cut and since.

Wheat was beaten down, and was difficult to cut with machine, and shed very much; I never saw the stubbles with so much shed corn and loose straw. Am afraid that it will now thrash out an under average crop.

There are still many fields of spring corn out, and the very heavy rains of Sunday and Monday, with the close atmosphere, has caused it to sprout.

The rain has suited the roots, which may now grow into a good crop, and grass is plentiful.

Fruit is a partial crop, in some places scarcely any, and in other orchards about half a crop.

All stock has done well lately; trade is very bad for beef, but mutton sells well; also good store sheep.

J. W. D.

September 1, 1905.

Essex (Maldon District): Poor Roots.

Sir,—Harvest in this district is now finished, with the exception of a very small minority. There is plenty of straw, which stood up well, both of wheat and barley. Winter oats are good, but spring oats are a very light crop; the corn at places, especially the heavy land, rises rather disappointing, there being a good deal of blight. Everything has been carted in a most excellent condition, it being almost impossible to cart it otherwise.

There is every appearance of an average mangold crop, but otherwise the root crop is very bad, indeed, the turnip crop for many miles around has the appearance of being the worst crop for a great many years, as we have had no rain worth mentioning since the first week in June.

The pastures are very much burnt up, some cowkeepers are already using their mangolds for their cows. Sheep are scarce, wether sheep especially so. Mutton sells well, making 6s. per 8 lb. Beef trade not so good. A good soaking rain is greatly needed. S. R.

August 25, 1905.

Harvesting in Montgomeryshire.

Sir,—The rain last week and the beginning of this has delayed work considerably, but some started to carry on Thursday. Although the rain has hindered some of the harvest operations, it has helped the roots and grass greatly. Partridge shooting was started to-day by several gentlemen in this county.—Yours, faithfully,

R.

September 1.

Hampshire Prospects.

Sir,—Hill farms suffered from a dry June and July, a light hay crop, and roots very backward, many pieces having to be resown, a bad outlook for sheep farming, unless a mild autumn comes on. Wheat good, barley good, oats a light crop. The acreage of barley has gone back very much, and oats increased.

Trade in cattle good, sheep good also; but from all quarters wheat, barley, and oats seem on the drop.

More land than ever is being put to grass. The best way to improve is to look back to 1830-1840, in which period the "tithe was commuted."

J. R.

September 1, 1905.

Season in Wilts.

Sir,—We have had a very favourable season on the whole, and crops are above the average.

Most of the corn is secured in good order, but there is still a little outstanding on most farms. Recent heavy rains, though bad for the corn left out, have done good to grass and turnips, and should benefit the sheep trade.—Yours, very truly,

Will Stratton.

September 1.

Harvest Delayed in Cornwall.

Sir,—Wheat and barley are good crops in this county generally, the straw is not quite as long as it is in some years; but the ear is well filled up, and promises to yield well. Oats in some parts are almost a failure, rust being very prevalent, especially in West Cornwall.

The extremely heavy rains of the last week or ten days have delayed harvest operations, and somewhat injured the corn, especially barley for malting purposes. Roots are very good, much improved since the recent rains. Grass is rather scarce, owing to the very dry time in May and the early part of June.

Fat bullocks have been selling rather badly all the summer, and report says the outlook is not good for beef. Mutton and wool are both selling well, and have been all the season. Pigs have been as high as 10s. per score lb.; but are now down to 9s. per score. We consider the pig trade has been fairly good all the year. Cornwall sends thousands of pigs out of the county every week, and a shilling or two per score lb. makes all the difference between profit and loss to the pig farmers, who mostly live in West Cornwall.

The price of wheat is most unsatisfactory as soon as any new wheat was offered, the buyers dropped the price two or three shillings per qr., and the price is now 26s. 8d. per qr. of 496 lb. Many farmers are obliged to sell at this time at what they can get, some are giving up their farms at Michaelmas, and most of them want money.

The outlook for the coming winter is fair, but not as good as last year. Good stockmen are very scarce, and seem to be more difficult to get every year; wages for good men are high, and all men who are willing to work have plenty of work to do.

A. A. P.

September 1, 1905.

Agricultural Colonies for American Jews.

The *Jewish World* states that arrangements are being made in the United States to settle a colony of some 5,000 Jews on 2,000 acres of farming lands in Alabama. The purchase is made by the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith ("Children of the Covenant"), the largest and most representative organisation of American Jews, which was responsible for the monster Kishineff petition some two years ago. One of the activities of the Order is to lessen the pressure in the crowded Jewish quarters of New York and other cities.

Harvest Weather.

1, Essex Street, Strand, Monday, September 4th, 1905.

SPECIAL THREE-DAY FORECAST. GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general conditions are favouring the continuance of Westerly and South-Westerly moderate to fresh and sometimes strong winds, rather cloudy skies and fair spells, especially in the South. Some rain at times, least in the South, Centre and East, most in the North and West. The day-to-day sequence is somewhat uncertain, owing to the numerous small cyclonic systems which are passing Eastwards across our Northern boundaries, but will probably be as follows:—(1) At first cloudy to fair in the Southern half, fair to showery in the Northern. (2) Later, freshening winds and some rain at times, chiefly in the West and North, fair with some showers elsewhere. (3) Finally, showery to fairer generally. Wind chiefly W. to S.W. and then N.W. to W. Temperature milder and more normal than of late.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first, cloudy, some showers, chiefly in the North-East, to fairer. Later, fair to cloudy, some showers in the West. Finally, showery to fairer generally. Wind fresh to strong at times, W. to S.W. and N.W.

„ 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—**At first, mostly fair with cloud. Later, cloudy and some rain. Finally, some showers to fairer. Wind moderate to fresh or strong. Temperature mild to normal.**

„ 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**At first, cloudy to fair. Later, fair to cloudy and some showers. Finally, some showers to fairer. Temperature mild to normal. Winds as in General Prediction, moderate to fresh.**

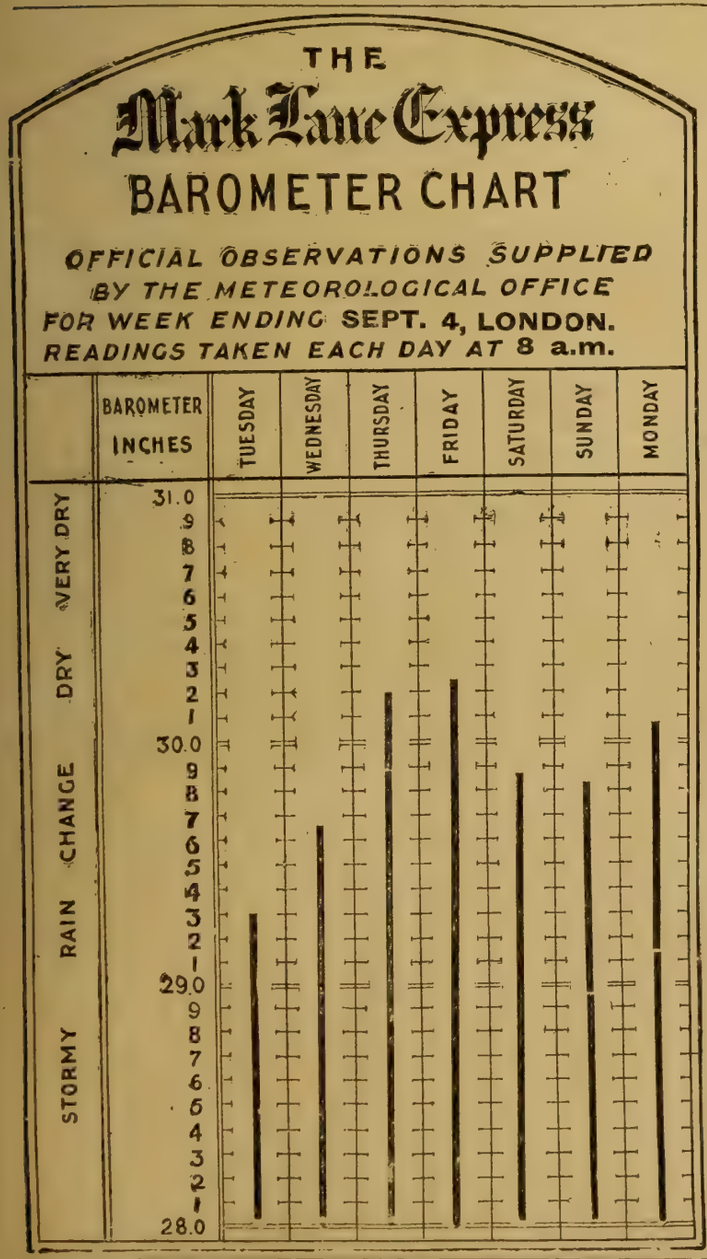
„ 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West Riding).—**At first, fair with moderate Westerly winds. Later, fair to cloudy, some rain, chiefly in the Northern districts, and freshening South-West winds. Finally, some showers to fairer, with North-West winds.**

No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—**The same as No. 3. Temperature mild to normal and then cooler.**

„ 6.—Ireland.—At first, cloudy, some rain, chiefly in the West. Later, some more general showers Finally fairer, wind S.W. to W. and N.W., fresh on the whole. Temperature about normal.

„ 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmorland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first fair with cloud and Westerly, moderate winds; later, some rain at times, freshening S.W. winds; finally N.W. to W. winds, some showers to fairer. Temperature normal to mild and then cooler.**

„ 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**At first, fair with cloud and moderate Westerly winds; later, freshening S.W. winds, fair to cloudy and some showers. Finally, fairer again with W. fresh to moderate winds.**



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express.*)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (Aug.	29) ...	29.30
Wednesday („	30) ...	29·66
Thursday („	31) ...	30 20
Friday (Sept.	1) ...	30·24
Saturday („	2) ...	29·87
Sunday („	3) ...	29·82
Monday („	4) ...	30·08

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	5.18 a.m.
„ Sets...	...	6.42 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	11.26 a.m
„ Sets	...	9.27 p.m.

Age of Moon—Six days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 4th.

GENERAL INFERENCE.—The distribution of pressure continues in an unstable condition, the fall of the barometer in the North-West and West indicating that further cyclonic disturbances are approaching our islands. These are likely to cause unsettled weather and some increase of wind during to-day in Ireland and the extreme West and North of Great Britain, and some showers later in the East and South.

ENGLAND N.E.—South-Westerly winds, light or moderate; fair, then unsettled, with some rain; mild.

ENGLAND, E., MIDLAND COUNTIES, & S. (London and Channel).—Wind backing to South-West or South, light or moderate; fair to-day, some showers to-morrow; temperature about normal.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Same as England N.E.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Wind backing to South-West and freshening; fair, then some rain.

SCOTLAND N. & E.—Freshening Southerly and South-Westerly winds: cloudy or dull, rain at times; rather cool.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland N. & E.

IRELAND, N. & S.—Same as Scotland N. and E.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, late rates. Foreign in very limited demand, at about unchanged prices. Maize: Slow, and 3d easier for American, to arrive; La Plata steady, quiet. Barley: Firmer, with a small inquiry. Oats: Steady, with prices tending in sellers' favour, with a small inquiry.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Wheat: English firm, unchanged prices. Foreign: Sellers still maintain a firm attitude, but buyers do not respond freely. South Russians quoted at 31s 6d to 35s; Plata at 31s to 34s; No. 2 Club Calcutta at 31s; and No. 3 Northern Manitoba at 33s 6d. Flour dull and neglected. Maize dull and easier, with only a small demand. Mixed American, ex ship, quoted at 22s 9d; and La Plata at 22s 9d to 23s. Barley firm; small business passing at full prices; Odessa, Nico, Kherson, landed, quoted at 19s; ex ship; to arrive, at 18s 3d to 18s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Better trade for new wheat, but the weather hinders thrashing and restricts supply. Sales took place at 27s to 31s, or about 1s up on the week. New barley of melting quality offered, but no buyers yet. New oats were unchanged at 14s to 18s. New peas were somewhat cheaper, ranging from 28s to 29s. A few new tares made 6s to 7s per bushel. Maize and foreign corn unchanged on the week.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s; barley, 23s to 28s; beans (new), 29s to 30s; ditto (old), 32s to 33s; oats, 18s to 19s; ditto (old), 20s to 22s; peas, 28s to 31s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday.—Limited attendance, with a few samples of new grain on offer, many of which were affected by the past week's weather. New barley, 21s to 28s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; old oats, 21s to 23s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good attendance. More English wheat on offer, and making from 28s to 30s per quarter (496lb). Quiet trade for foreign wheat at slightly easier rates; Plate, 31s to 32s per quarter Sharpness; Russian, 31s 3d to 32s per quarter Sharpness; Indian, 30s to 30s 9d per quarter Sharpness. Plate maize, 23s 6d per quarter Sharpness; flat maize, 23s 6d Bristol. Grinding barley 18s 9d per quarter (400lb) Sharpness.

Brighton, Thursday.—Wheat in good supply. Slow trade at late prices. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in fair supply to-day, price about 28s to 29s per qr., condition generally good. Foreign firm and unchanged. Maize, barley, and oats, all firm at late rates. Flour unaltered in values.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—The bad weather of the present week having curtailed threshing operations, a large diminution in the quantity of new corn on offer was very noticeable. Wheats were rather firmer on the week, and reds were worth from 28s to 29s, delivered to mills. Though the barley trade has scarcely commenced at present, some few samples were on offer; the trade was not encouraging, good mediums realising from 26s to 28s, and feeding qualities 23s to 24s. Oats, 17s to 18s per qr., 12 stones. Trefoil in cosh 12s 6d to 13s. Cakes firm. Linseeds £8 5s to £8 10s. Offals scarce and dear, at late prices. Peas 13s to 14s per coomb.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Small supply of oats in our market to-day, quick sale at last week's prices, 18s to 18s 9d per 336lb. No old oats shown. — THOMAS ROBINSON.

Cambridge, Friday.—There was a fair supply of wheat. Trade was quiet, and prices as last week. Red wheat, 27s to 28s, and white up to 30s per 504lb. A small supply of barley, but not much trade yet, and prices are not settled. Beans and oats very firm, and, in some cases, the turn dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday.—English wheat quiet, ranging from 29s to 39s; English oats a better demand, and a shade dearer; new black oats of disappointing quality.

Chester, Saturday.—The quality of this year's grain varies considerably, and prices consequently are irregular. Only the finest lots of wheat and oats realised top quotations. American Indian corn is scarce, and has advanced 3d. per sack. Quotations: Wheat, white, 4s 3d to 4s 6d; red, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 75lb; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; ditto, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb; Indian corn, 13s to 13s 6d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance and brisk trade. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s; old white ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; old red ditto, 34s to 34s 6d; grinding barley, 19s 3d; oats, English, 15s 6d to 22s; rye, 21s to 23s; peas, 28s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; maize, 24s to 26s; flour, 27s to 29s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a fair supply of wheat here to-day, which met a quiet sale at last week's prices. The barley offering shows great variation in quality and prices are very irregular. Beans and peas were in sellers' favour, and not much offered. JOSEPH WILLS AND SON, LIMITED.

Coventry, Friday.—Supply of wheat was fair and sales were effected at last week's prices. Samples of new corn coming in more freely. Quotations:—Old wheat, 11s 6d to 12s per 480lb; new wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 480lb; barley, 20s to 30s per 448lb; old oats, 25s to 28s per 352lb.; new oats, 18s 6d to 20s per 352lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 496lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 496lb.

Derby, Friday. New wheat fetches prices equal to those of last week. Spring corn unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, new white, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 24s; old beans, 34s to 35s; oats, old, 24s to 24s; new, 18s to 19s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small quantity of new corn at market, and the prices show no alteration in value, but wheat is firm, at the full rates of last week. The following were the quotations: Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; new wheat, 15s to 16s; secondary, 15s to 15s 6d; best barley, 29s to [illegible]; secondary, 26s to 27s; rye, 23s to 24s; old black oats, 21s to 22s; white ditto, 20s to 21s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to [illegible].

Doncaster, Saturday. Smaller supply of English wheat due to the unsettled weather and the comparatively late period. Last week's values of 11s per load was the rule. Foreign wheat firm. Oats unchanged. Not sufficient [illegible] to fix prices. Maize firm.

Dorchester, Saturday. Although, with the terminal [illegible] to harvest there was a greatly improved attendance of farmers, samples were not quite so freely offered as previous markets, the compared very low rates now ruling not pressing and special inducement to farmers to bring their wheat to market, especially as most of the grain has been well put together, and there is no immediate reason—except the very important one of a scarcity of cash—for disturbing the stacks so soon; consequently trade ruled steady, and last week's rates about governed the sales transacted, foreign at the same time being very firmly held. Grinding barley was rather against buyers, but malting descriptions, of which there is no lack of good samples being put on the market, only with difficulty maintained their values, and this related more particularly to the bettermost lots. No great demand for any kind of feeding stuffs, the abundance of grass keep everywhere effectually checking sales, but we cannot quote any reduction in values.

Dublin, Friday.—Malting barley, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 11s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s 6d to 13s; flour, 11s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat firmer in tone, sellers asking 1d advance on Wednesday's prices. Flour, however, was quiet and unchanged; Glasgow millers fully employed. Mixed American maize moves in a quiet way at 13s 9d nominal. Grinding beans remain firm, owing to scarcity. Other articles unaltered.

Exeter, Friday.—Good attendance, but trade not brisk. English wheat very plentiful, 3s 3d outside value; foreign wheat unchanged. Not a great deal of English barley on the market, 3s 6d to 3s 9d being quoted for good qualites; foreign barley, 3d cheaper. Maize also 3d cheaper. Oats unchanged. Flour firm; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 26s.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in small supply and prices favour sellers. There is a better tone in the foreign trade, and last week's prices are fully maintained. Grinding barley unaltered. Plate maize 6d cheaper. Oats quiet.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply, and a fair number of sales were effected at last week's prices. Fair number of samples of new barley, for which inquiries were pretty numerous, but prices are as yet unquotable. New beans changed hands at 30s to 32s, and oats at 16s 6d to 18s 6d per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Rather poor attendance, and small show of English grains. Wheats were quietly steady at last week's figures; round 3s 6d per bushel. Barleys nothing doing. Oats unchanged. Beans in good demand at late rates. Vetches somewhat easier. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 5d to 3s 9d per 62lb.; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb.; new, 2s to 2s 4d per 40lb.; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½lb.; new, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65½lb.; vetches, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—There was a moderate supply of wheat, the trade being firm at late rates. Prices:—Reds, 29s 6d per 504lb. A few samples of barley on offer, prices ranging from about 26s per qr. Small supply of oats, which made from 17s upwards per 336lb. Maize rather easier. Beans and peas unaltered.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show of English wheat in condition hardly equal to last week, but holders were enabled to obtain an advance of 3d to 6d per quarter. Barley trade nominal, maltsters not having yet begun operations. Oats a small show at unaltered rates.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Owing to rainy weather little corn has been gathered during the past week, meantime quality and condition are deteriorating. The trade has inclined to greater firmness, although the demand is by no means active. Both strong Russian and Indian wheats have met a fair sale at full prices; dry English wheats favour sellers, damp lots are neglected. Feeding stuffs unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—New English wheats fully maintain Tuesday's advance with an upward tendency for the best descriptions. No change in old or foreign. English oats, fine, were firmly held, at a slight advance for choice lots. No change in beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—The delay of threshing operations by the wet weather reduced the supplies of new home-grown wheats, but the samples were in very good condition, and sold freely at the extreme limit of last week's rates, while, in some cases, 6d per qr. advance was established. Red wheats 27s to 29s; white wheats, 28s to 30s per 36 stones. No new barley on offer. New oats of poor quality made 17s to 20s; old oats, 24s to 25s per 26 stones.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: The market has had a small attendance, but wheat receives more inquiry from millers, chiefly for good Russian and Plate sorts, and prices are generally ¼d over last Tuesday. Flour: A very quiet trade at late currencies for both foreign and home-made flour. Maize: Mixed, owing to scarcity of ready stuff and a good inquiry, is firm at ¼d advance; Plate is quietly steady, without change; European sorts are steady, and favour sellers. Barley: Malting is firm, with a better demand; feeding quiet, unchanged. Beans rule very strong, Egyptians being 9d dearer owing to scarcity; Syrians are 6d higher, with a good inquiry. Peas steady, with a moderate demand at last prices. Oats quiet but steady, with a rather better demand. Oatmeal steady, but inactive. Oilcake: A better trade for American linseed; other makes quietly steady at late rates.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was a slight indication toward a little more money for wheat, but barely sufficient to note an actual advance; but general opinion is not for a further decline this season. The barley trade fairly good, and business proceeded at quite full terms. Oats remain at former cost, the supply of new English not being large. Beans and peas are without alteration, nor is there any particular change in maize. All other grain much as heretofore.

Manchester, Thursday.—Small attendance. English wheat 6d to 1s dearer on the week, but the advance checks sales. Foreign slow and unchanged. Flour dull at late rates. New English oats easier and in buyers' favour. Indian corn mixed, dearer; Plate easier. Foreign barley ½d to 1d lower. Foreign beans 3d to 6d dearer. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday. Wheat a small show, which sold slowly at an advance of 6d per qr. on the week. Oats and beans repeated former values. Barley, an occasional sample showing, at irregular prices. Quotations: Wheat, 27s to 29s; barley, 24s to 28s; oats, 16s to 17s; new beans, 30s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—At to-day's market wheat was firmly held for fully last week's prices; demand, however, was not active. Beans and peas firm at late rates. Maize tending in favour of buyers. Foreign oats 3d to 6d dearer; Scotch, 3d to 6d cheaper since last Saturday. No barley on offer. JOSEPH POLLARD AND [illegible].

Norwich, Saturday. Wheat was only in small supply at our market to-day, with a firm trade at last week's prices, but 3d to 6d per qr. dearer for good conditioned lots. Fair supply of barley on offer, but mostly unripe. The first three days of the past week were wet and boisterous, but it is now finer with higher temperature. Wheat, red, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per qr., weight 63lb. per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending August 26, 1905. Wheat, 4,515; 29s 7d; barley, 739; 25s 3d. J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham. Saturday. Wheat being plentiful, millers can supply their wants at previous rates. Barley nominal. Oats command full rates. Beans scarcely so firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was a large show of wheat, which commanded a ready sale at firm prices: Wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; barley, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; new black oats, 16s to 18s; old beans, 32s; new, 28s to 29s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—There has not been a large supply of any kind of grain to-day. Wheat was rather slow without change in price. Barley selling irregularly; no general demand at present. Oats firm but quiet.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our market to-day. Wheat unchanged. Maize 6d cheaper. Barley 3d advanced. Oats quiet.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—During the week the market for wheat has remained firm, and occasionally more money has been paid for some descriptions. American maize continued scarce, and prices are maintained. At this morning's market there was a fair attendance. New grain is making its appearance very slowly, and farmers are not disposed to make sales at much less than the prices of last Saturday, but the demand is limited. Flour unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 9d to 13s; ditto red, 12s 6d to 12s 9d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220lb., 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—A vastly improved attendance, with increased business, at the following prices: Wheat, 28s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, new, 17s to 19s; old, 20s to 22s; flour, 21s 6d to 23s 6d; peas, 28s to 32s; beans, 29s to 34s.

Retford, Saturday. — Only a small supply of new grain. Prices generally were considerably lower. The new wheat on offer was in good condition, and met with a fair demand at 28s to 28s 6d per qr. Very few samples of malting barley on offer, and currencies as yet were wholly unsettled. Maize made 26s to 27s. English beans, old, 35s; new, 32s; and oats, 16s to 17s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A few samples of new oats on offer at full prices, but little business is being done. Local wheat shows no alteration. A fair attendance. New wheat, 27s to 28s 6d; wheat, foreign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; new oats, 17s, maize round, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; maize, flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb.; new wheat, 12s to 12s 9d; old white oats, 16s to 17s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 12s6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s to 14s per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A fair average attendance and a moderate trade. Wheat was held for 28s to 29s; new oats, 16s to 18s; barley, 26s to 30s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Unsettled weather delays farmers threshing, and there was no local grain offering at this day's market. Prices remain nominally unaltered. Arrivals nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 29s to 30s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, and best samples sell in advance of last week's prices. Very few beans and little barley and oats on offer. Feeding stuffs very firm.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain, after a showery week. Wheat maintained late rates; best reds, 28s to 28s 6d. Oats 16s to 17s 6d. Other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in fair supply at last week's quotations; foreign unaltered. Barley and maize 6d cheaper, now due. Oats unchanged. Flour rather quiet demand at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LIMITED.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a small attendance, and very little business was transacted. Quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 216lb; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb.; new oats, 11s to 11s 6d; old oats, 13s to 14s per 196lb

Worksop, Wednesday. A small show of grain. A few samples of new wheat in good condition made up to 28s 6d, wheat in indifferent condition 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr. A few samples of very good new barley, but they failed to meet with buyers. Oats were very scarce. Prices:—White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red wheat, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 25s to 26s 6d; old white oats, 20s to 22s; new white oats, 16s to 17s; old black oats, 20s to 21s; new ditto, 14s 6d to 16s; maize, 26s to 27s; old beans, 36s to 38s; new beans, 30s to 31s 6d per qr.

Worcester, Saturday.—This week a general start was made with hop-picking, and, to-day, a good many growers were a market with their samples. Trade ruled slow for early varieties and moderate qualities. The few Bramblings on offer sold better. Prices have opened very reasonable, and a brisk demand is expected. Yearlings are inquired for, but are scarce. Some growers have had acres of poles and wirework knocked down by the wind and rain.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Yeovil, Friday.—A fair offer of new season's crop. Samples showedimproved condition and values hardened all round, wheat recovering 6d to 1s of last week's decline. Best samples of home-grown wheat sold at 29s to 32s; secondary 27s to 28s 6d; foreign, 32s to 35s; best barley, 27s to 28s; secondary, 20s to 25s; foreign grinding, 19s to 19s 6d; beans, 32s to 36s; rye, 22s to 24s; old oats, white, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 18s 9d to 20s 9d; old black oats, 21s to 23s; new ditto, 20s to 21s; Irish black, 16s 3d to 17s; tares, winter, 47s 6d to 49s 6d; ditto, spring, 40s to 42s; maize, round, 23s 3d to 25s; ditto, flat, 23s 6d to 25s 3d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour from old wheat firmly held; new produce quiet, trade passing on the basis of 24s to 25s forfine. Bran and pollard down 2s 6d per ton; barley meal unchanged.

York, Saturday.—There were a few samples of new wheat, which was generally in good condition, and sold readily at quite as much money as last week. Fine white, 28s to 29s; red and mixed, 27s to 28s per qr. of 36 stones. There were practically no quotations for barley, the malting season having scarcely commenced. Feeding barley makes 24s to 26s per qr. of 32 stones; new oats, 16s to 17s; old oats, 19s to 21s per qr. of 24 stones; rye, 20s to 21s; old beans, 33s to 36s per qr. of 36 stones.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—Barley: Trade is rather lifeless, as our local maltsters and brewers are little disposed to operate. The quality leaves much to desire; in north of Germany most of the barleys are stained. Bohemians are of better quality, and of this sort fair sales have been made to here, the choice Slovakians are held at former extreme prices, and probably will be wanted a little later on. In Hungary business remains quiet; offers are more freely, but for export, via Fiume, few sales have been made so far.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Weather rainy, endangering the potato crop, which, particularly in the Eastern districts, looks very promising. Market firm for all articles. Quality of the new grain from the Midlands of Germany shows poor quality, and also in quantity it turns out deficient. In the Northern districts it is better. Fine dry new Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is selling at 30s to 31s; new Saale is held at 31s 6d to 32s per 504lb. f.o.b.; American hard winter No. 2 September October is offering at 30s; 80 Ko fine River Plate on the spot at 30s 3d to 30s 9d per 480lb. Rye firm; 9 25 30 South Russian afloat is held at 25s to 25s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Good middling qualities of malting barley are in demand for home use, while high priced Austrian and Hungarian meet less attention. Stout Bohemian is selling at 32s 6d to 33s 6d; Holstein, Danish, and East Prussian at 28s to 32s per 448lb. Fine Bohemian and Slovakian is held at 34s to 36s; best quality at 37s to 39s per 448lb. f.o.b. 60-61 Ko South Russian afloat is taken at 16s 9d to 17s, October November 17s to 17s 6d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. American mixed maize afloat is offering at 23s, September-October nominally 20s 9d, January 20s 6d, River Plate June-July and August-September 22s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—There is still little business doing in the provincial markets; offers, however, are more liberal, as threshings are beginning to acquire a certain importance, but the prices asked seem too high, and have consequently checked the demand from millers. At the Bourse de Commerce the approach of settling day has rendered business a little brisker. Offers were fairly regular on the part of some holders of surplus stocks, and prices lost from 10c. to 15c. for flour, and from 5c. to 10c. for wheat. Rye is still devoid of interest, but late prices are maintained. Business in oats is steady, but the tendency is heavy, and prices showed no marked alteration on those ruling yesterday. At the weekly spot market no great change has taken place in connection with home-grown wheat. Generally speaking, farmers seem to have the upper hand, and business, though still steady, is not so brisk as it was; both holders and buyers are eagerly awaiting precise information as to the total harvest yield. Stocks here have increased by 15,640 quarters, and prices have fallen 50c. Business is also small in consumption marks of flour, as bakers, whilst awaiting more favourable prices, are only buying as required. In rye flour the tendency is calm, but prices remain firm, due to the scarcity in offers of the raw material. Prices of rye remain firm, due doubtless to the scarcity of offers, whilst the demand is regular.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

The cargo trade at the close of August was flat for wheat, but since September came in business has been better. Prices realised have included 33s. per 492 lb. for fine Russian Winter, 31s. 6d. for Odessa Ghuka, and 30s. 6d. for Taganrog, 29s. per 492 lb. for Roumanian, 33s. per 480 lb. for fine South Australian, 32s. 3d. per 500 lb. for Californian Blue Stem, 31s. per 500 lb. for Walla Walla, 30s. per 480 lb. for Bahia Blanca, 29s. 3d. per 472 lb. for Entre Rios, and 31s. 4½d. per 480 lb. for the New Manitoba crop, best quality October shipment.

Maize has kept at a fair price. Two cargoes of American on passage have made 22s. 4½d., and one of Argentine has fetched 22s.: in each case the weight is 480 lb. to the quarter.

Barley has lost ground. A cargo of Californian has been parted with at 24s. 9d. per 448 lb., and Russia is pressing sales of grinding corn at 18s. per 400 lb.

Oats have been quiet, but 14s. 6d. per 320 lb. has been made for new American crop October shipment, and 13s. 6d. per 304 lb. for Petersburg continues to lead to business.

Linseed has made 38s. per 410 lb. for a cargo arrived from India, 37s. for two cargoes (416 lb.) on passage from Argentina, and 40s. 6d. per 424 lb. for a Russian cargo. A cargo of Poppy-seed sold for 37s. 3d. per 377 lb. on Friday for November shipment from Bombay.

The London Corn Trade Association C. F. and I. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta 31s., Soft Red Calcutta 29s. 6d., Bombay Soft White Delhi 31s. 3d., Karachi Soft White Delhi 31s. 3d., Soft White Karachi 30s. 3d., Choice White Karachi 30s. 9d., Soft Red Karachi 30s. (all per 492 lb.).

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were 2 wheat, (1 Bahia Blanca, 1 Buenos Ayres)

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Antwerp, 3 Cardiff, 1 Liverpool, 1 London), 3 linseed (1 Antwerp, 1 Bristol. 1 Sharpness)—Total 9.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 269 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 8 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed—Total 352.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 203 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 32 barley and wheat, 16 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 29 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—Total 295.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

	£	s.	d.
For 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat ..... 28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley ..... 24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats ..... 17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 2, 1905:—

Wheat	1,906,560 cwts.
Wheat-flour	117,000 ,,
Barley	618,800 ,,
Oats	207,000 ,,
Maize	766,700 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,953,800	1,932,300	1,491,691	1,274,800
Wheat-flour	236,500	457,400	263,607	338,760
Barley	389,400	630,700	747,302	464,200
Oats	160,200	190,200	221,338	480,200
Maize	757,700	960,600	879,436	879,100

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to September 2, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	34,755⅝ ...	28	7	6,140¾ ...	25	8	11,012½ ...	17	10
1901	66,623½ ...	26	5	14,342⅜ ...	25	1	19,075⅛ ...	17	6
1902	11,639¼ ...	29	9	907¼ ...	24	6	10,934¼ ...	19	10
1903	9,267 ...	30	3	726⅛ ...	22	5	8,095 ...	18	5
1904	32,921½ ...	30	2	12,370⅞ ...	25	3	31,507 ...	16	3

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 10
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	26 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,105,000
Barley	,, ...	427,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,, ...	531,000	568,000	385,000
Maize	,, ...	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks ...	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,, ...	87,000	115,000	53,000
Oats	,, ...	334,000	368,000	258,000
Maize	,, ...	30,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks ...	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

	s.	d.
September 1 ..... (per sack)	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 1	(per sack) 30 0	..... (per sack)	27 0

No change since last date given.)

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended September 2, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	12,630⅜ qrs.	26s. 11d.
Barley	14,747½ qrs.	23s. 5d.
Oats	24,090½ qrs.	15s. 9d.

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 6	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	29 6
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	22 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25 9	24 9	24 0	22 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	32 9
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6	23 6	34 6
July	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 9	22 6	24 6	24 9	29 6
August	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 6	24 9	27 6
Sept.		27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	25 9	26 5
Oct.		27 9	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9	25 3	26 1
Nov.		26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	25 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	24 9	24 9
Yrly. Avrg.		25 9	24 3	23 2	22 8	22 10	23 2	29 6½

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, August 29, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	6,253	0	8,651	3	11	1	7	8
Barley	1,112	3	1,360	1	3	1	4	5
Oats	2,658	4	2,212	18	8	0	16	8

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 3	32,921½	30	2	12,370⅞	25	3	31,507	16	3
,, 10	46,116⅛	30	0	22,400⅛	24	10	31,326	16	1
,, 17	51,889¼	29	7	45,918⅝	24	9	37,351½	15	11
,, 24	53,304	29	10	89,597⅜	25	10	42,524⅛	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,553⅜	25	5	44,790½	15	8
,, 8	54,047¼	30	2	163,289⅜	25	6	43,575⅞	15	9
,, 15	45,462⅜	30	5	185,031⅛	25	4	34,509¼	15	8
,, 22	45,980⅜	30	4	213,190½	25	5	31,445⅛	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅝	30	6	221,014½	24	11	29,704⅛	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅛	25	0	35,145⅛	16	0
,, 12	43,740⅛	30	3	204,446¼	24	9	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299¼	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,999½	24	1	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,209¼	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,695½	16	2
,, 17	44,715⅜	30	4	139,563½	24	1	33,960½	16	2
,, 24	33,336½	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	5	34,764½	16	3
,, 21	45,616⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,498½	25	1	41,662⅛	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347½	25	0	41,486⅜	16	7
,, 11	50,586⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,989½	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,758½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	38,118⅜	30	9	23,448½	25	2	24,306½	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,442⅜	24	11	20,276½	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,422½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,708½	16	11
,, 8	25,000	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,600⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,050	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,876½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,186½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,575½	18	0
,, 13	53,446½	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350½	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,063½	24	8	8,809½	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	701	24	8	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	8	5,942⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,302½	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31	7	145½	23	9	5,061⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579½	31	1	289½	23	2	3,452⅜	19	7
,, 8	7,854½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,502½	19	6
,, 15	4,884¼	32	3	311½	23	10	1,964½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	724	23	7	2,187½	18	11
,, 29	7,694¼	32	3	241½	19	9	3,665⅞	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062¼	31	11	571½	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184¼	30	5	643½	22	5	8,874⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,768½	23	4	13,670½	16	4
,, 26	88,696¾	27	1	6,461½	25	6	20,585½	15	9
Sept. 2	92,830⅜	26	11	11,747½	23	5	24,[illegible]	15	9

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
August 23 to 30, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	4,842	61,606	66,448
Barley	1,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Malt	23,000	...	23,000
Oats	5,[illegible]	49,[illegible]	54,[illegible]
Beans	113	470	[illegible]
Peas	154	[illegible]	[illegible]
Maize	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lentils	...	2,076	[illegible]
Linseed	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rapeseed	177	3,800	[illegible]
Rye	[illegible]	[illegible]	1,260
Millet	...	450	[illegible]
Dari	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Flour ..... sacks	28,675	14,000	[illegible]
Bran	240	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ricemeal	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ryeflour	...	1,000	1,000

WOOL.

London. Saturday. English [illegible] per pound. Fleece: South Down [illegible] 2½d. to 12½d.; [illegible] 1½d. to 11½d.; Kent fleeces, 2½d. to 11½d.; Scotch [illegible] Down ewes and wethers, 2½d. to 12½d.; [illegible] 2½d. to 11½d.; second [illegible] 2½d. to 11½d.; [illegible] 1s. to 1s. 11½d. to 2s.; greasy [illegible] 2½d. to 1s. 2d.; N.S.W.: Scoured [illegible] 1s. to 1s. 11½d. S. Aus.: Greasy average, 9d to 9½d. N.Z.: Scoured [illegible] 1s. to 1s. 11½d.; greasy [illegible] 9½d. to 1s. 2d. Cape: Scoured [illegible] 1s. to 1s. 11½d.; greasy [illegible] 9½d. to 1s. 2d. Greasy [illegible] 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.; greasy [illegible] 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d. Cashmere: Grs.—Fine: Good [illegible] 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d. New Zealand: fine, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d.; [illegible] medium, 1s. to 1s. 1d.; [illegible] coarse, 10d to 11d.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

August was not quite up to an average temperature, and there was decidedly less sunshine than usual. There was also less wind, but the rainfall at several of the chief stations exceeded, on average, the fall from the 24th to the 30th often being larger than on the other 25 days of the month. As the great bulk of the wheat and oats had been secured before the 24th, the heavy rains since then have done no extraordinary amount of damage to these two crops. Barley will not have sustained any reduction of yield, but quality and fitness for malting will, one fears, have been rather gravely affected, the more so as the rains which had spared East Anglia up to the 24th travelled eastward on the 25th and 26th, giving to Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex an inch and a half of rainfall on the 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th ult. Better weather has prevailed in the "granary of England" since Thursday morning, but there is little sun to dry the saturated and uncarted sheaves. Tares and rye are at least average crops; often they are ten per cent. over average, and there seem to be no absolute disappointments. Beans have made much "straw," and are also frequently a good yield to the acre of the actual pulse. Peas are not quite so satisfactory.

When will America enter the arena as a really serious shipper of grain? This is the inquiry which is heard on every market. At present the exports are a great deal below the average, but prices of wheat for October shipment are decidedly below the spot values, and the finest North-Western Patent Flour is offered for Michaelmas shipment at 27s. per sack, after being held on Mark Lane from 30s. 6d. to 31s. from Midsummer to the end of the cereal year. It is probable, therefore, that October will see a brisk business in American wheat and flour for the first time for many months. English farmers have been far from wise in accepting less than 30s. for their wheat, but they will certainly have been able to place a good deal of corn before the American food crop of 1905 gets into motion. Canada, Manitoba, and the two new provinces, whose capitals are Alberta and Regina respectively, are credited with record wheat crops. Figures from the Dominion are apt to require considerable adjustment; in fact, on the last ten years they have shown a statistical want of accuracy second only to that of Russian returns. At the same time, we have reason to believe that the largely-increased area of wheat in Canada will prove a record yield even on an average production per acre.

The highest price made for English wheat in the cereal year just closed was 32s. 3d. on July 15, the lowest accepted was 27s. 1d. on August 26. A gradient of 5s. 2d. is shown, which is about an average, a five-shilling range marking a year of neither stagnation on the one hand nor excitement on the other. In 1901 value only fluctuated a florin, and holders must have had an unprofitable time of it, with warehouse charges at anything from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per qr. per month, according to the town and warehouse. In 1898, on the other hand, prices ranged 22s. 8d., and nearly a sovereign of this was in a period of four months.

The highest price made for English barley in the cereal year was 26s. on June 17, the lowest accepted being 22s. on August 5. A range of 4s. is about 1s. less than usual.

The highest price made for English oats in the cereal year was 19s. 7d. on July 1, and the lowest quotation was 15s. 8d. on October 14; the range of 3s. 11d. which this indicates is a little less than in most years.

Ten cereal years' averages for English produce are as follows:

	Per Qr.
Wheat	27s. 3d.
Barley	24s. 1d.
Oats	17s. 1d.

The quantity of wheat on passage at the beginning of a new cereal year is 400,000 qr. less than an average, and the absence of Californian is a remarkable feature.

WHEAT ON PASSAGE

	Quarters.
1 Sept., 1905	2,160,000
1904	2,560,000
1903	1,671,000
1902	1,624,000
1901	2,280,000

The expectations of foreign flour are singularly small. The usual total in the last 25 years of the old century was half a million sacks.

	Sacks.
1 Sept., 1905	144,000
1904	200,000

Of barley there is rather less than usual on passage, but the deficiency is nothing like so marked as in the case of flour.

	Quarters.
1 Sept., 1905	296,000
1904	440,000

Of oats the quantity on passage shows a great increase, Russia being a very free shipper and England apparently as free a buyer.

	Quarters.
1 Sept., 1905	525,000
1904	70,000

Of maize expectations are heavy; they were so a year ago, and they are still heavier now.

	Quarters.
1 Sept., 1905	1,340,000
1904	950,000

Other expectations on September 1, 1905, were linseed 210,000 qr., cottonseed 21,000 tons, and rice 28,000 tons.

The sales of English wheat at the statute markets for the cereal year ended August 31, 1905, were 1,747,000 qr. (in round numbers), and the average of 52 weeks' sales was 30s. 7d. per qr. The sales of English barley were, at the same statute markets, 3,142,000 qr., and the average price for 52 weeks was 24s. 5d. per qr. The like figures for oats were 1,179,000 qr. at 17s. 1d. per qr. For the preceding cereal year figures were wheat 2,130,000 qr. at 27s. 3d. per qr., barley 2,781,000 qr. at 21s. 11d. per qr., and oats 1,133,000 qr. at 16s. 5d. per qr.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 523,000 quarters; a very large supply.
Barley, 79,000 quarters; a small arrival.
Oats, 119,000 quarters; a fair arrival.
Maize, 345,000 quarters; exceptionally large supplies.

Of flour the quantity imported equalled 58,925 sacks, or not much more than a third of the average expectations.

Imports of the United Kingdom for the cereal year ended August 31 last are returned as follows. These figures are the addition of 52 weeks' returns, and are always liable to slight correction. On the other hand, the mistakes discovered in the course of a year are never serious, and are practically always due to the shipowners returning "quarters" as "cwts.," or the like. Such mistakes are soon adjusted, but not in time for the weekly returns which the Custom House now publishes with exemplary promptitude on Saturday night, the figures being up to the same day at 2 p.m.

Coming, then, to the actual figures as they are at present before us, we get the following totals:—

	Quarters.
Foreign wheat	24,523,000
Foreign flour	3,646,000
Breadstuffs	28,169,000

In the previous cereal year the figures were:—

	Quarters.
Foreign wheat	21,532,000
Foreign flour	6,436,000
Breadstuffs	27,968,000

The imports of spring corn for the cereal year were:—

	Quarters.
Barley	5,839,000
Oats	6,324,000
Maize	9,917,000

While for the preceding cereal year they had been:—

	Quarters.
Barley	8,719,000
Oats	5,568,000
Maize	11,924,000

The salient features of the above returns are:—

(1) A startling increase in the imports of wheat pretty fully balanced by reduced imports of flour. This argues an exceptionally prosperous twelvemonth for the home mills.

(2) Increased use of foreign, chiefly Russian, oats.

(3) Reduced supplies both of foreign barley and of Indian corn.

Linseed shipments for the eight completed months of 1905 have been as follows:—

From India, 1,260,000 quarters, of 410lb.
From Argentina, 2,810,000 quarters, of 416lb.
From Russia, 150,000 quarters, of 424lb.

It will be seen that the usual method of adding these totals together and saying "Linseed shipments, 4,260,000 qr." is not quite accurate, the weight of all these qrs. differing. The necessity for uniform weight, preferably the cental or true hundredweight, is nowhere more manifest than in the seed trade. All the above linseed shipments are smaller than for the like eight months of last year.

Prices for linseed and cottonseed show a decline of about 3d. per cwt. on the week, and the new cereal year has opened with only a small inquiry for oil seeds. Owing to there being no plethora of offers, values are maintained for rape seed, poppy seed, and sunflower seed. Indian linseed makes about 39s. per 410lb., Argentine 38s. per 416lb., and Russian 42s. per 424lb. There are sellers of Indian and Argentine cargoes at a somewhat lower price.

Last week 17,000 qr. of linseed and 10,000 qr. of rapeseed were shipped from India, and 32,000 qr. of linseed from Argentina.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September 4.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was a little stronger for English wheat, decidedly so in the case of all samples that had escaped the effect of the recent rainy weather. Foreign wheat was steadier for Indian, but quiet for other descriptions. Barley was rather cheaper for Russian and Turkish sorts. A few lots of new English malting worth 32s. to 33s. were offered, but the majority of samples were below a thirty-shilling level, albeit of fair weight. There is a good deal of discoloration, and other samples are rejected as "harsh." New English oats were in increased supply, and the price asked being very moderate, a good trade was done. More demand was also experienced for Russian kinds, for which full prices were paid. Peas were 3d. dearer for Indian, otherwise there was no change in that staple. Beans were steady. New tares gave satisfaction, and made a fair price. Maize declined 6d. per qr. for all sorts; the large quantity on passage is telling on the spot trade. Oil-cakes were firmly held; there being rather more inquiry in London and also in Hull.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

			s.	d.
WHEAT,	Old White	(per 504 lb.	34	— 35
	New White	,,	29	— 32
	Old Red	,,	33	— 34
	New ,,	,,	28	— 30
	Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY,	Malting	,,	30	— 34
	Brewing	,,	27	— 29
	Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
	,,	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT,	Pale	(per 336 lb.)	56	— 57
	Brown	,,	26	— 30
	Black	,,	31	— 33
	Crystallized	,,	34	— 34
OATS,	Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
	New Black Winter	,,	18	— 20
	,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 20
	,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 20
	,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 19
	New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	16	— 17
RYE,	Old	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
	New	,,	21	— 23
BEANS,	Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
	Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
	Tick	,,	38	— 40
	Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
	,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
	Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS,	New Picked Marrowfat	,,	none	
	New Unpicked ,,	,,	none	
	Partridge	,,	44	— 46
	Dun	,,	30	— 31
	Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
	,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES	(Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
	(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
	(Winter)	,,	48	— 52
	(Spring)	,,	40	— 44
BUCKWHEAT,	English	(per 416 lb.)	30	— 31
RAPESEED,	Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
	Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
M'itoba Best White	36	— 37
,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29	— 30
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448lb.)		
Chevalier	none	
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	6 — 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 21
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	—14/6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 18
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	26	— 27
Turkish	25	— 26
American	23	— 24
Argentine	23	— 24
BEANS, per 480lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	37	— 38
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 41
Canadian	39	— 41
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	29	— 30
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITHOUT CHANGE FOR ANY LEADING STAPLE. THERE WAS A FAIR RETAIL BUSINESS PASSING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September 4.

London Town Whites and Town Households were 6d. per sack cheaper on the week. Country flour was a good sale at the decline quoted on Monday last. This brought prices down to so low a level that an excellent inquiry was stimulated. There were a good many bakers represented on the market to-day, and a good many visitors were up for the show at Islington. American flour declined 6d. per sack for fine sorts, but first bakers' grades were already low in price, and consequently did not call for any fresh modification. Of Argentine flour only a small quantity of the fancy type was on offer. London took so kindly to the supplies of Argentine flour earlier in the year that it is somewhat strange how shipments have fallen off. Australian flour continued to be offered at a low price without attracting much notice. Hungarian flour declined 6d. per sack. French flour was not quotably cheaper, but sales at currencies were very difficult to effect.

LONDON FLOUR.

	s. d.
Top Price ..... (per sack of 280 lb.)	31 0
Town Whites ..... ,,	27 6
,, Households ..... ,,	24 6
No. 2 ..... ,,	21 6
Whole Meal No. 1 ..... ,,	25 6
,, No. 2 ..... ,,	23 6
Paste Flour ..... ,,	21 0

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents (Old Crop Flr) ...(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made ,, ... ,,	24 — 25
Ord'y Roller made ,, ... ,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made ,, ... ,,	22 — 23
Best Patents (New Crop Flour) ..... ,,	24 — 25
Fine Roller whites ,, ... ,,	23 — 24
Ord'y Roller ,, ,, ... ,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made ,, ,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 30
,, Second Patents ..... ,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers' ..... ,,	21—21/3
,, Second Bakers' ..... ,,	20—20/6
Milwaukee Patents ..... ,,	26 — 28
,, Bakers' ..... ,,	20/9—21
Californian ..... ,,	26 — 27
Canadian ..... ,,	27 — 28
Russian ..... ,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0 ..... ,,	31 — 32
,, 1 ..... ,,	30 — 31
,, 2 ..... ,,	29 — 30
,, 3 ..... ,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil ..... ,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux ..... ,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D. ..... ,,	21 — 22
Australian ..... ,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy ..... ,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

	s. s.
Bran, London Broad .....(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice ..... ,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad ..... ,,	11 — 12
Pollard ..... ,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings ..... ,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings ..... ,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings ..... ,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal ..... ,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts ..... ,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds ..... ,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal ..... ,,	14 — 15
Canadian Oatmeal ..... ,,	26 — 27
Scotch Oatmeal ..... ,,	34 — 35
Groats ..... ,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour ..... ,,	35 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour ..... ,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour ..... ,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour" ..... ,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal ..... ,,	13 — 14
,, Cones ..... ,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal ..... ,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau) ..... ,,	21 — 22
,, (Konigsberg) ..... ,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal ..... ,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal ..... ,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal ..... ,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal ..... ,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal ..... ,,	9/9 — 10
Rice Flour ..... ,,	20 — 22
Rice Cones ..... ,,	18 — 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 7d.	Sept. delivery.
,, ,, ...	6s. 6d.	Nov. ,,
,, ,, ...	6s. 6d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,, ...	6s. 5d.	Mar. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Sept. delivery.
,, ...	4s. 8d.	Nov. ,,
,, ...	4s. 8d.	Jan. ,,

The Term Market this morning opened steadily, with American Red Winter wheat offered for October delivery at 6s. 9d. per cental, and with American maize at 4s. 10d. per cental for September delivery.

HOPS.

W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report the market is now well supplied with new English hops, which are being taken freely at the low prices current. Choice hops are selling cheaper than we have known before in the opening week of the season.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—The tendency of prices is rather lower, although American millers make no change in offers. Grain.—Indian corn is now plentiful at 13s. 9d. per 280 lbs. Plate maize is easier at 14s. 3d. per 280 lb. Oats very dull, stocks being heavy and new oats offering more freely. Barley being dear on spot is only in small demand. Pease quiet. Beans strong, both on spot and for shipment. Oilcake unchanged. Mill stuffs. Bran is rather firmer, and Thirds, especially Fine Thirds, are in active demand, values respectively 82s. 6d., 85s., and 107s. 6d. per ton.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Demand only moderate, and prices remain unchanged. Offals.—Prices of bran continue steady, with a fair demand. No new feature to report. GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Milling Offals.—There is no change to record, and millers keep clear at current prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Flour has met a fair demand to-day at fully last week's prices.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LIMITED.

The demand still drags on for trifolium, rape, mustard, and rye. Prices firm. Winter tares coming out more freely find buyers at the reduced prices asked. There is no speculation in spring sowing seeds.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

Wheat supplies are moderate. Market quiet, and late prices are unchanged. Flour sells slowly at late rates. No change in price of maize, barley, and oats.—COVENTRY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cake: Although prices remain firm, the consumptive demand is small as usual at this season of the year. Both for decorticated and ordinary cotton cake the demand is slow.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	0	0		
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, ,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	5	0	to 7 7	6
Round Trieste Linseed Cake ...	ex quay					
Russian Oil Cake	,, ... ex quay	7	10	0	to 7 15	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7	17	6	to 7 0	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	12	6	to 6 15	0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	12	6	to 4 15	0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,,	(in bags) ex quay	4	10	0	to 4 10	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail Burton	4	10	0		
Dutch Linseed (in bags)	per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2	8	0		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags)	per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	2	2	0		
La Plata do.	per 416 lbs ex warehouse	2	2	0	to 2 6	0
Russian do. (in bulk),	per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2	2	0		
Larnica Linseed (in bags)	per 416 lbs. ...					
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,,	.....					
Turkish Linseed, in bags,	per 416 lbs.					

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat to-day is rather steadier from Saturday, and there is an improved enquiry for the 200 to 500 ton part-cargoes known as "parcels." For maize prices are unaltered. Barley cargoes are rather weak. Oats are well held. There are no changes in prices for linseed cargoes; but peas are 3d. dearer from Saturday.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—White Kurrachee, 30s 9d per 492lb., prompt shipment; Red Kurrachee, 30s 3d per 492lb., prompt shipment; White Calcutta, 31s 3d per 492lb., prompt shipment; No 1 Northern Manitoba, 21s 6d per 480lb., October shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 30s 6d per 480lb., October shipment; No. 3 Northern Manitoba, 29s 6d per 480lb., October shipment; Roumanian, 29s per 492lb., September shipment; Walla Walla, 31s per 500lb., September shipment; Blue Stem, 32s per 500lb., September shipment; Rosario, 29s per 480lb., September shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 6d per 480lb., September shipment; American, 22s 6d per 480lb., September shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 18s per 400lb., September shipment, Roumanian, 26s 6d per 424lb., September shipment.

OATS.—Vologda, 14s 6d per 304lb., September shipment; Petersburg, 13s 9d per 304lb., prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 32s per 480lb., October shipment.

PEAS.—White Calcutta, 28s 9d per 504lb., October shipment; Green Calcutta, 23s per 504lb., October shipment. Green Calcutta, 23s 3d per 504lb., December shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 37s 3d per 416lb., September shipment.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 34s 6d per 416lb., September shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 8s 9d per 2,240lb., on passage.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September, 4.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Russian	42	to 43
Morocco	46	to 48
American	40	to 41
Dutch	41	to 45
Calcutta	38	to 40
Argentine	37	to 39
Turkish	44	to 45
Persian	39	to 40

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/6	to 5 7
Indian	4 5	to 4 7

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Dutch	52	to 54
Cawnpore	36	to 37
Calcutta	35	to 37
Gujerat	41	to 42
Ferozepore	35	to 36
Ravison	26	to 27

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	
Indian	42	to 44

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 418 lb.	
White	44	to 48
Black	42	to 46

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 4, 1905. British.	Total. Sept. 5, 1904.	Monday, Sept. 5, 1904.
Beasts	1,089	1,089	1,260
Sheep and Lambs	5,100	5,100	5,400
Calves	10	10	5
Milch Cows	20	20	20

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second	First
Beasts	3s 10d	4s 4d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 8d	4s 8d	5s 10d
Lambs	4s 10d	5s 4d	6s 2d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals included as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 57; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 932; Devon, 5; Ireland, 69.

In the beast market to-day the supply compared with the previous Monday showed a decrease of 210 head, principally composed of Midland Counties cattle. Trade for best prime and second quality fat beasts was of a very sluggish nature, with a downward tendency in regard to value, though barely sufficient to enable us to quote it so. The arrivals from Ireland to-day consisted of 37 Dublins and 23 Waterfords, for which, however, there was a very limited enquiry. Fat butchering cows and bulls in slightly larger numbers, also shared in the general depression of trade, late currencies being barely maintained. A clearance is extremely doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 5, 1904.
Black Polled Dublins	4s 5d	-
Devons	-	4s 6d to 4s 7d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	ex 4s 6d 4s 6d to 4s 7d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d	4s 0d to 4s 4d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 2d	-
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

To-day's supply compared with the corresponding day last week showed a decrease of 100 in the number of sheep and lambs penned. For all descriptions of both Downs and Halfbreds trade ruled fairly firm and steady, last Monday's valuations governing all sales. On the other hand Irish sheep met with little or no enquiry at less money. Scotch also shared in the generally better trade, all on offer being disposed of early in the day at late rates. Lambs greatly in excess of the enquiry, but no lower rates however being quotable. A clearance in this part of the market is fully expected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 4, 1905.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Irish	4s 10d to 5s 0d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 6d to 3s 8d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
6 st Half-bred ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies. Trade quiet. Beef, Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; American, 3s 9d to 4s. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 6d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Lamb, Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 2d to 3s 9d. Veal, 2s 6d. to 4s 4d. Pork, 4s to 5s per 8 lb.

St Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 161, sheep and lambs 1,385, pigs 345, beef 7s 3d to 8s, mutton 7s 7d to 10s 6d, lamb 9s to 10s, pork 6s to 6s 6d, fat cattle, sheep, and pigs, and store sheep and pigs, good demand; store cattle fair demand, milch cows short supply, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,757. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 1,089 head, but did not include all arrivals, 150 States and 400 Canadians being held back for Wednesday next. To-day's arrivals consisted of 1,024 from the United States and 713 from Canada, trade for which was decidedly slower than on Saturday last, with a reduction in value to the extent of 1d to 2d. Quarter-ots of States, 3s 10½ to 4s; 10Os., 3s 9½ to 3s 10½; 9-st. Canadian 3s 10d; 12-st. 3s 8d. On Saturday 1,692 beasts were shown, consisting entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade throughout the day ruled firm, with a good finish, best being quoted at 3s 10d to 4s 1d per 8lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle was about same as on Monday last, demand fair but prices unchanged, sheep shown in much larger numbers, finished quality, handyweights, in good demand at higher prices, lambs fair trade at slightly easier rates, beef sixpence farthing to fivepence per lb., mutton eightpence halfpenny to sixpence, lamb eightpence halfpenny; total at market 1,145 cattle and 9,869 sheep.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Trade dull for native short supplies. Prices: Young partridges, 4s 9d; old partridges, 3s 6d; young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; old grouse, 3s to 3s 6d per brace; goslings, 5s to 6s; country dressed fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 2s 8d; to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; Russian fowls, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 3d; widgeons, 1s to 2s 3d; snipe, 6d to 9d; black game, 2s 9d; pheasants, 1s to 1s 9d; feathered pigeons, 9d; bloomed pigeons, 9d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Scotch hares, 1s 6d; leverets, 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 2s 4d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; live hens, 2s to 2s 6d each. Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen; venison, haunches, 1s 3d each; forequarters, 2d per lb.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland, 1,924 bales, and from foreign ports 10,677 bales. The bacon market was steady but quiet last week, influenced by heavy Danish arrivals, and reported large killings. Prices range—Irish, 58s up to 67s up to 71s; Danish, 56s to 64s up to 70s; Canadian, 58s to 60s up to 65s and quoted 68s. Butter. The butter market was quiet, and in some cases easier. Prices ranging: French, 98s to 110s; Danish, 102s to 110s; Russian, 90s to 102s; Irish, 98s to 112s; Canadian, 98s to 112s; Australian, 108s to 116s; American, 98s to 104s. Lard: The lard market was quiet, at advanced rates:—Irish, 50s to 54s; Danish, 52s; American, 41s to 43s.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality at Islington was of a very slow and dragging nature, especially for the latter descriptions, rates ruling in favour of the buyers to the extent of fully 2d. per 8 lb. The majority of the consignments, as usual at this season of the year, consisted of Herefords and runts from the Midland counties, including a few choice Devons, which sold fairly early in the day at about last week's values. Ireland also was very fairly well represented, the supply comprising 62 Dublins (10 of which were black polled beasts) and 21 Waterfords. No store cattle on the market. These also shared in the general depression of trade, meeting a loss of 2d. per 8 lb.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade opened slow at the commencement of the week, with a slight decline in value. Towards the latter end, however, it brisked up a trifle, rates ruling in favour of the sellers. The total number offered for sale at both markets was 4,360, as against 5,340 during the previous week, consisting of 1,300 British (increase, 175) and 3,060 foreign (decrease, 1,155). These latter comprised 2,870 from the United States and 190 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per stone (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d, ex. 4s. 6d; 100 stone shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 6d.; 80 to 90 stone black-polled Dublins, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 5d.; 95 stone ditto, 3s. 10d. to 4s 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 9d. to 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s 10d; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d.; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s. 3d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday last was of a decidedly firmer and steadier nature, at an advance of from 2d. to 4d. for ewes and 2d. per 8 lb. for wether sheep. Scotch descriptions also were fairly steady, and shared in the generally better tone of the trade. On the other hand, Irish sheep met a very limited demand, salesmen having to accept a decline of 2d. to effect sales. Lambs were in average supply, but more than sufficient for the demand. No quotable decline in value, however, can be recorded. On Thursday all sales were governed by Monday's quotations.

At Deptford throughout the week 200 sheep were offered for sale. The total number penned was 7,810, as against 9,630 during the previous week (decrease, 1,820), the supply composed entirely of British. Best pens made per 8 lb. (offal given in), 7½d. to 8 stone Dawns, 5s. 10d; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 6d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.

Calf trade very slow. Best on offer to dress from 144 to 166 lb., and were quoted at 5s. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

No pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

Now that the harvest is practically at an end, we may expect to see a little revival in trade, which for some time past has been far from what could have been desired—at least, from a seller's point of view. Barreners are a bit out of season just now; still they can hardly reconcile themselves to the present poor run of prices, even for animals that promise well, few of which now make over from about £26 to £27 per pair. Store sheep, though buoyed up by an exceptional shortage all over the country, are hardly making the prices expected, in view of the improved keep prospects in many parts of the country. Prices, however, are keeping fairly steady, without any distinct advance. In the absence of any very great demand for any particular class of stock for butchering purposes, prices all round are showing but very little, if any, change. Well-finished steers and heifers command attention at from 11s to 11s. 6d. as a general run, 12s. being occasionally reached for very choice weights; fat cows and other secondary qualities are much slower of sale at 9s. to 10s. or 10s. 6d.; heavy bulls, 8s. to 8s. 6d. Calves are about holding their own; but that is all that can be said, and 5d to 6½d may be quoted as a very extreme price, plenty of plain veal selling from 6½d. to 7d. Attention in mutton is largely confined still to wethers, which bring now from 7½d. to 8d., and seconds 7d.; young ewes also make 7d. to 7½d., but coarse old sheep make a very disappointing 5½d. to 6d.; choice lamb occasionally makes 10d. per lb., though a more average figure may be given as 9½d to 9d. The pig trade keeps remarkably buoyant with prices in no way showing the least approach to weakness.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been under an average. Everything of good quality met an active trade at an advance of about 15s. per head. Secondary cattle were also the turn dearer. A fair show of fat cows, and they made rather less money. Fat sheep in moderate numbers, and these made an advance of 1s. per head. Fat lambs also met a good market at last week's prices. A large and exceedingly good show of fat calves, which met a similar trade to last week. Fat pigs scarce and dear. There were rather fewer store sheep on offer, for which a better demand was experienced, and a good clearance was effected at hardening prices. Store cattle are still shown in small numbers. These have met a rather better inquiry, and a nearly total clearance was effected. A very large and exceedingly fine show of milch cows, for which a fair trade was got at high prices for the best class. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 39s.; current from 35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d.; mutton to 9½d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

The Dublin market last Thursday was supplied moderately, and for the primer sorts of cattle values were from 10s. to 20s. a head better, but middling and coarse beasts were hard to clear, especially the latter. For choice heavy-weight bullocks and heifers fit for the London and Glasgow markets competition was much healthier than for some time past. Extreme rates were more frequently realised, and an upward tendency was noticeable. This revival is attributed to the scarcity of cattle of high quality, and it is thought may be likely to continue to the end of the season. Official returns show that there is a deficiency of over 33,000 head of cattle in Ireland as compared with 1904, and this, of course, must make a great difference. Coarse beasts and dairy cows, however, showed little or no improvement, and the general opinion is that these classes will become weaker and weaker, in face of the immense importations of frozen beef with which they have to come into competition. For the week ending August 26 the quantity of frozen beef landed at English ports was over 111,000 cwts., or nearly double that for the corresponding week of 1904. Prime ox and heifer beef sold at from 54s. to 56s., and for extra quality up to 58s. per cwt.; good second-class beef from 47s. to 52s., and inferior from 45s. to 46s. 6d. per cwt.

Notwithstanding the increased supply of sheep, trade in the mutton department was firmer and more encouraging than for some time past. Wethers and ewes of the best description were briskly inquired for home consumption at prices in advance of last day, and the shipping trade was also better by from 1s. to 2s. per head for nice hoggets suitable for the English Midlands markets. Supply of such was short of the requirements. Lambs were in good demand, and those of good quality changed hands briskly. Prime wether mutton was sold at from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 7d.; and rough sheep from 5d. per lb. upwards. Heavy hoggets sold at from 44s. to 56s. each, and light to medium ditto from 32s. to 42s. Lambs averaged from 20s. to 28s. each, but large fat brought from 30s. to 45s. each. Well-fed veal calves were in good request at from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., but lower-grade calves were neglected.

The trade for milch cows was active, particularly for choice and secondary qualities, which were wanted by English buyers, who were in large attendance, and sold at improved prices. Some choice springers were sold at from £18 to £21, other sorts at from £9 to £16. Store cattle are still a quiet trade, but the late heavy rains will doubtless soon bring about a reaction. Some large and satisfactory sales of ewes have lately been held in Dublin and other parts. Though the supply of pigs was small, the market was of a very dragging nature, although there was a good attendance of cross-Channel buyers, but home dealers were poorly represented. In the early morning prices gave way about 4s. per cwt. A clearance was effected with difficulty. Nice light-weight pigs sold at from 48s. to 51s. per cwt. Coarse pigs from 36s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—The supply of beasts consisted of fat butchering cows and bulls from the Midland Counties, business for which ruled slow but steady at recent currencies. Rough cattle, however, proved difficult to vend at a reduction of 2d per 8lb; inferior, 2s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d. Sheep were fairly plentiful, and for Downs and half breds trading was firm, with last Monday's quotations fully maintained; inferior, 3s 8d; seconds, 4s 10d; firsts, 5s 10d. Lambs had an inactive session, with a downward tendency in values; inferior, 4s 10d; seconds, 5s 9d; firsts, 6s 2d. Quotations: 7½ at to 8st Downs, 5s 10d; 8st Scotch, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st Downs, 5s 8d, 10st 5s 6d; 10st half breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; 5st fat Down lambs, 6s to 6s 2d; 6st half-bred, 5s 10d to 6s. Calves, though scarce, had an indifferent demand; inferior 3s 6d, second 4s 8d, first 5s 4d. Total supplies:—Beasts 30, sheep and lambs 1,830, calves 30.

London (Central), Friday. — Supplies were on a heavy scale, for which a fair demand again prevailed at firmer prices. Beef arrivals included 70 tons Scotch, 610 Liverpool sides, 2,500 hindquarters, and 1,650 forequarters American refrigerated, also 800 Argentine chilled hindquarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; English, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 4d to 3s 7d; Liverpool sides, 3s 2d to 3s 5d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 9d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 4d. to 2s 6d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 10d to 3s. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 6d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 6d to 3s; River Plate, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; Dutch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d. Lamb: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 2d to 3s 9d; Dutch, 4s 8d to 5s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 4d. Pork: English, 4s 4d to 5s; Dutch, 4s to 4s 6d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beasts of fair quality made up to 4s 8d per stone, and cows about 4s. Prime beasts were very scarce. Down wethers fetched 5s 2d to 5s 10d, and small Kents up to 5s. Old sheep neglected. Veal unchanged at 5s 6d as top price. Large pork and small roasters alike made 4s to 4s 2d per stone.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 45 fat beasts, 56 calves, 589 fat sheep and lambs, 216 pigs, and 147 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Grass and cake-fed shorthorn steers made up to £20, heifers £19 10s, and extra fat cows £16, Galloway cows and heifers up to £15, young bulls up to £13 5s, fat calves 70s to £6 10s, small 20s to 55s, fat porkers 25s to 54s, store pigs 15s to 21s, dairy cows £8 10s to £18 5s, prime quality fat Down wethers and ewes made from 52s to 60s, small 46s to 48s, cross-bred 46s, old ewes 28s to 38s, eight months' old Down lambs 40s to 48s, small 35s to 38s, Down ram lambs 46s to 63s, three months old sucking Down lambs 30s to 40s, small store Down lambs made 29s, and ditto crossbreds 25s. The prime quality beasts of moderate weight were cleared at late rates, but secondary and inferior cattle met a slow demand, with receding prices. Fat sheep and lambs met a good inquiry; a clearance nearly made, and prices maintained. With a shorter entry of milch cows on offer prices ruled higher for all descriptions. Store cattle met a clearance, with more inquiry. Fat calves were a brisk trade at late rates. Fat pigs of all classes sold readily, with a quick trade. Store pigs also were in demand. Ruling values:—Prime fat beasts, 6½d to 7 per lb; secondary ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; secondary ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 8½d per lb; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Another holiday market, only 13 beasts being offered. No demand.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; good trade for pigs; fair trade for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb.; a few Herefords 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb.; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Chester, Thursday.—There was a small supply, and trade was quiet. Milch cows, £17 to £21; calvers, £14 to £18; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £6 to £10. Sheep were in good supply, and fetched from 18s to 34s each.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in moderate supply, and the trade was slow. Best qualities made 58s; secondary, 55s. There was a fair supply of sheep and lambs, and trade was quiet. Best light Downs fetched 8d to 8½d; light wethers, 7¾d; heavy wethers, 7d; ewes, 6d. Lambs sold slowly at 8d to 9d. Pigs were in short supply, baconers making 9s and porkers 10s 3d. Three hundred store cattle were on offer, but there was scarcely any demand.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under	9	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	8	0

C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Small supply sheep. Good breeding ewes, 42s 6d to 47s 6d; old sheep, 22s to 38s; lambs, up to 27s; heifers, with calves, averaged £13 10s. Wool little business doing; Kents, 1s; halfbred, 1s to 1s 0½d; Downs, 1s 1d.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Between 200 and 300 Irish store heifers on the sands, chiefly of a good stamp. Buyers were rather scarce, and trade ruled slow at £7 10s to £10 10s for wintering heifers, and £12 10s to £15 10s for the best descriptions for finishing-off purposes.

Chichester, Wednesday.—The best dairy cows and heifers continue in good demand at late prices. Fat cattle sold firmly at recent currencies. There is not yet much inquiry for store cattle. Quotations:—Prime Devon steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown wether sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 6d; prime West Country wether sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; porkers, 3s 8d to 4s. Stock at market: Cattle, 473; sheep, 4,771; pigs, 667; calves, 154; horses, 13; total, 6,078; tolls, £32 8s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was again a poor supply, and no lamb was offered. Grass beef sold at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; and pork, 8s 6d to 9s per score.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Moderately good all round supplies came to hand to-day, especially of store sheep, of which special sales were held by both Messrs. Enson and Son and also by Messrs. Duke and Son, and a good steady trade ruled throughout for most kinds of stores, which well maintained their values throughout to, in some cases, a slight improvement. Milch beasts, next to the store sheep, attracted most attention, and prices generally ruled against buyers, best heifers making £17 to £20 10, and other milch beasts £11 to £16; barreners, £16 to £24, the latter being the best price; bulls, £8 to £15. Fat heifers met a fair consumptive trade at from £14 15s to £21 each; steers, £18 10s to £21 10s; and cows, £11 to £16. Fat sheep sold at about late rates; ewes, 40s to 48s 6d; wethers, 46s to 49s 6d; and lambs, which are not a particularly good trade, 28s to 32s each (or 9d to 9½d). Mutton generally sells from 6½d to 8d per lb for best wethers and beef 10s to 11s; very choice steers or heifers, 11s 6d.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,074, decrease 161; sheep, 9,144, increase 186; calves, 46, increase

11. Choice bullocks were scarce, and in good demand at somewhat better prices. Other classes met with fair competition, and an early clearance was effected, but without change in last week's quotations. Sheep easier sold. Best fat lambs in request at late rates; middling and inferior getting out of season. Cattle, live weight (best), 29s to 32s per cwt; secondary and inferior classes, 26s to 28s per cwt; mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There were larger supplies of cattle. Polled bullocks sold from £13 to £13 10s; shorthorn cows, £22 to £24 10s; and crosses, to £21. A small supply of sheep, with a good demand. Cheviots brought 30s to 37s; half-breds, 34s to 38s; and lambs, 24s to 28s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market steady, with supplies abundant. Sheep sold at late rates, although the numerous stock sales earlier in the week told against the demand. Scotch cattle again scarce and dear. Middling qualities difficult to cash. Top Scotch cattle, 62s to 64s; secondary, 57s to 59s; top Irish, 58s to 60s; Canadians and States, 56s per cwt; home sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beasts, and prices showed a downward tendency, only exceptional quality making 11s 3d per score. Very large supply of sheep of all kinds. Rather better class of wethers, which sold at from 7½d to 8d per lb.; fat ewes, 6d. Slack inquiry for breeding ewes, 36s to 43s; fat lambs, 10d; calves, 7½d.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—70 head of cows and calves and in-calvers with a fair trade. Heifers and calves to £23 5s; cows and calves to £20 15s. A fair supply of store cattle with bad trade. This was the annual sale of rams, ewes, and lambs. A few rams changed hands at good prices. A smaller supply of ewes and lambs than usual, met a very good trade, and all were sold; ewes to 49s 6d, lambs to 32s 6d. A good number of buyers went away disappointed.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was not an over-supply of beef, and trade continued firm. Best heifer and bullock beef realised 6½d to 7d per lb; cow beef, 4½d to 5d per lb. Calves a small supply, and sold dearer than last week, making 7½d to 8d per lb. Sheep also a short supply; wethers made 8d per lb, and ewes 6d per lb. Lambs moderate supply, and in demand, making 8½d per lb. Porks made 5½d per lb, trade being firmer, and bacons 5d per lb. Slow trade for store stock.

Leicester, Saturday.—With greatly improved pastures there were larger consignments of home-bred stock. Trade slightly brisker at firm rates. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22; good do. £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; Irish bullocks, £13 to £15 5s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13; calves, 15s to 35s per head. Sheep were a good supply, and sold freely at very high prices, breeding ewes making 40s to 48s, and lamb hoggs 30s to 38s.

Lincoln, Friday.—Poor display of store beasts, and a slow trade was experienced. Cows, £18; lambs, 28s to 34s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts; firm trade; 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Few store beasts, very little trade, £6 to £12 each. Average show of fat sheep, firm trade, 9s to 9s 6d per stone. Store sheep, 38s to 44s; store lambs, 25s to 30s; fat lambs, 25s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5⅜d; seconds, 4¾d to 5d; thirds, 3¾d to 4d. Mutton: Firsts, Scotch, 7¼d; others, 7¼d; seconds, 6¼d to 7d; thirds, 5¼d to 6d. Veal: Firsts, 6¼d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4¼d to 5d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 5d to 5¼d; thirds, 4d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 6¼d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; thirds, 5¾d to 6d. Lamb: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¼d to 7d per lb.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Large supply of stock all round. In-calf cows realised £18 to £21, and in-calf heifers, £15 to £16. There were no sheep or pigs on offer.

Norwich, Saturday. — Trade firm for fat beasts, the supply of which was equal to home requirements; firm demand at 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. All store cattle offered were Irish beasts, which met with a slow demand at £5 to £16 per head; lambs made from 25s to 35s per head; and breeding ewes, 35s to 65s. Fat sheep made 9s 6d to 10s 6d store. Good supply of fat pigs, and prices hardened to 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone, with an extra 3d for best quality. Good show of store pigs, which met with ready sales at increased prices.

Preston, Wednesday.—Moderate show of cattle, and as trade showed no improvement prices ruled in favour of buyers. Calves were in better request. Prices:—Cows and bulls, 5d to 5¼d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¼d; hoggs, 8d to 8¼d; lambs, 8¼d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; tups, 5d to 5¼d; and calves, 6d to 7¼d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. — An extremely small supply of store stock, and with a thin attendance the business was restricted and prices low. milch cows making £15 to £18; steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £5 to £7; and calves, 35s to 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fat beasts were in short supply and trade very slow. Best animals, 4s to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves scarce, but trade was a little better at 5s to 5s 2d per stone. Average supply of sheep; trade about the same. Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d per stone. The trade for ewes was a little better at 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Very few lambs on offer; slow demand at 5s 8d to 6s per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade rather better.

Thame, Tuesday.—Messrs. Bond and Burrows had a large entry of all descriptions of stock on Tuesday last, with the usual attendance of buyers from the neighbouring towns. Clearing trade ruled throughout, more cattle being disposed of than in any previous market this season. Fat cows were decidely firmer. Best beef still continues to sell satisfactorily. Sheep were not up to the usual quality, although nearly every lot was disposed of. Pigs still continue scarce and dear. Weaning calves are now coming to hand in larger numbers, trade for which was good. This firm's sale comprised 149 beasts: Bullocks, £16 to £21; heifers, £14 to £22. 260 sheep: Ewes to 46s 6d; wethers to 54s 6d; lambs to 35s. 90 calves: Weaners, 30s to 63s. Pigs, 70: £2 to £5 10s.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fewer animals offered and better demand. Prices: Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6¼d to 8¼d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8¼d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock. Trade very brisk for mutton and lamb. Best beef, 7s 3d to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 9d to 7s per stone. Best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8d to 8¼d, and in a few instances up to 9d; lambs, 9d to 9¼d per lb.

York, Thursday.—There was a very poor trade in store cattle, all the interest being in the first of the sheep fairs, fully 10,000 sheep being penned. There were no English store cattle on offer, and only a few pens of Irish, for which there was little or no inquiry, there being very few buyers present. Calving and milch cows were an average show, but met with a bad trade owing to the absence of buyers. Many lots remained unsold. About the highest price paid for good young animals was £20, but most of the sales were made at £15 to £18. There were plenty of buyers in the sheep market, and trade was good for anything in good condition. The best twice-crossed shearlings made up to 50s; others, 44s to 48s; Masham shearlings, 40s to 45s; North country lambs, in small offer, met with a middling trade at 26s to 29s; South-country lambs, to 34s. There was a very large display of West-country lambs, which made 28s to 31s each. A few North-country ewes were on offer, and made up to 44s each.

Yeovil, Friday.—Good demand for milking beasts and in-calf cows and heifers, best descriptions of which sold at from £19s to £22 5s; secondary, £16 10s to £18 10s; barreners made £13 to £15 5s; yearling steers, £6 17s 6d to £9 15s; two-year-olds, £10 to £11 15s; yearling heifers, £7 5s to £9 10s; two-year-olds, £9 15s to £11 5s; three-year-olds, £12 to £15; ewe sheep, 42s to 47s 6d; wethers, 42s 6d to 55s; lambs, 30s to 37s 6d.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Thursday.—Linseed. The market continues very dull and there is scarcely any demand except to cover; closing values are: Calcutta London Spot 38s., and July-August 38s., August-September 38s., September-October 38s. La Plata: July-August 37s. Hull: Dull, scarcely any business possible. La Plata spot 37s., passage 37s., August-September 37s. 6d., September-October 37s. 3d. Rapeseed is steady, but quiet, with scarcely any alteration in values. Brown Cawnpore, September-October, 34s. 6d., Brown Calcutta, September-October, 34s. Cottonseed has been been very quiet; prices for crop are rather easier. London—Passage £5 11s 3d, September £5 11s. 3d. sellers, September Fayoumi £5 17s. 6d. sellers,, November-January £5 17s 6d. Hull—Spot, passage and August £5 7s. 6d. and £5 8s. 9d., September £5 10s.; September Fayoumi £5 16s. 3d., November-January £5 16s. 3d. Linseed oil remains quiet but steady. We quote spot and month in pipes £17, barrels £17 5s., September-December £17 17. 6d, January-April £17 12s 6d. Hull naked spot, £16, September-December £16 10s., January-April £16 12s. 6d. Rape oil steady. Brown oil naked in all positions £19 15s. Refined £22 10s. in casks. Ravison oil £18 17s. 6d. naked nearest value on the spot, and £18 5s forward. Oil Cakes.—Linseed Cakes.—Firm. London made £7 15s. and £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes firmer. London made £4 12s. 6d. and £4 15s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LIMITED.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed.—The arrivals of linseed for the week ending August 25, are: 25 qrs. from Harlingen and 6,730 St. Petersburg; total, 6,755 qrs. The shipments for week ending August 25 are: Calcutta, 8,000 London, 1,000 Continent. Bombay, 8,000 Continent. Plate, 8,000 Hull, 13,000 orders, 11,000 Continent; total, 49,000 qr. Linseed has been depressed throughout the week. River Plate: Spot nominal; afloat and to September-October, 37s 6d; October-November, 37s 9d. Duluth: October-November, 38s 6d. Cottonseed.—There has not been much doing since our last, and prices have favoured buyers. Old crop Egyptian sold at £5 8s 9d to £5 7s 6d on spot, £5 8s 9d passage, and £5 10s, September. New crop has scarcely been dealt in, with sellers, September Fayoumi, at £ 5 17s 6d and £5 16s 3d coupled, and November-January £5 17s 6d. A few second-hand lots of Bombay, spot and afloat, done at £4 12s. 6d., and £4 13s 9d accepted September-October, £4 15s. to £4 14s 6d, December-January, which are the nearest values to-day. Russian hemp.—Although prices continue quite as firm, if not firmer than previously reported, a little more business has been done during the past week Operations seem more restricted, owing rather to the difficulty of obtaining hemp than by the prices asked. Hemp tows: There is very little offering, but quotations are unaffected by the dulness in transactions.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED, AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The demand generally is very disappointing, but supplies are limited and, consequently, values are not any easier since last week. Russian find most favour and can be bought on last week's terms. American unchanged. East India seed pures for arrival have been cleared off. London-made find little inquiry but remain unaltered. Cotton cakes: The trade is very inactive and buyers will not take anything beyond their actual requirements, and although stocks are small the quantity is more than sufficient to meet the demand and values are barely maintained. Decorticated have found more inquiry, and are rather dearer, as stocks of American are nearly exhausted. London-made are firmly held at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal. American "Open Hand" brand are still quoted at £6 17s 6d, and meal at £6 12s 6d per ton ex docks. Rape cakes: East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal: White American still finds a fair inquiry for December-January despatch at last week's prices, but English makes are slightly easier at 1s 3d per ton less money. Maize gluten meal is only nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: Parcels on passage have changed hands at £4 12s 6d per ton ex ship, and, with little coming forward, prices remain firm. Broken Rangoon rice is relatively cheap at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are scarce and firmly held at £5 10s per ton. Nitrate of soda is slightly easier and spot parcels can be had at £10 15s per ton.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
in mats.....	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American .....(c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
,, ...		
English	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal.....	6 17 6	
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17 6	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 6	3 to 5 8 9
American, Dec./Jan. .....(c.i.f.)	5 5 0	
Maize Gluten Meal..... ....June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
,, ...	4 12 6	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 17 6	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

CHEESE.

Frome, Wednesday.—The pitch was not a large one for August. Cheddar mad[illegible] 52s to 52s, but 53s to 55s was paid for fancy lots. Cheshires sold from 44s to 48s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The demand was only moderate, and the rates ruled easier. Cheddars sold from 50s to 52s per cwt; Dunlops at 47s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A [illegible] was held. A good demand. Quotations [illegible] per cwt: Tunes during 52s to 54s; Cheshires, 52s to 54s; Derbys, 60s; and Cheddars, 54s to 56s.

BUTTER

(Prices at per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 11d to 1s per lb. Bimingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Northallerton: 1s 1d. Penistone: 1s 2d. Penzance: 1s to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 4 lbs. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s to 1s 1d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ashburton, 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Chester: 1s 1d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 1d. aCmelford: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 10d to 1s. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Otley, 1s 10d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Runcorn: 1s 2d. Stamford: 1s 3d and 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Tavistock: 1s 6d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

Saturday.—Applehy: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 1d. Malton: 11d to 1s. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number is 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 11d to 1s per dozen. Birmingham: 9 to 11. Brigg: 13 and 14. Driffield: 13 and 14. Evesham: 11d to 1s 1d per dozen. Kidderminster: 10 Northtawton: 16. Penistone: 12. Penzance, 11d to 1s 3d per dozen. Plymouth: 12. Ripon: 11 and 12. Scarborough: 10. Wellington (Salop): 11 and 12. Wetherby: 10 and 11.

Friday.—Altrincham: 8 and 9. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Barnstaple: 9 to 12. Camelford: 12. Chester: 10. Crewe: 9 and 10. Congleton: 10. Derby: 10 and 11. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Knutesford: 9 and and 11. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Crewe: 9 and 10. Congleton. Leyburn: 12 and 13, Lincoln: 13 and 14 Macclesfield: 9 and 10. Nantwich: 11. Northwich: 10. Otley: 10. Redruth: 12. Runcorn: 8 and 9. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 10 and 11. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 12. Totnes: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 to 13. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Carlisle: 10. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 11 to 13. Howden: 12 to 14. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 8 to 10. Malton: 11 and 12. Pontefract: 12. Retford: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 10. Shrewsbury: 10 to 12. Skipton: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 10 and 11. Worcester: 10. York: 12.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday.—The demand for Canadian butter this week has not been quite so brisk, owing probably to the weather and its being the end of the month. Prices, however, are unaltered. Saltless Canadian of best quality is very scarce. Arrivals continue to be good, but show no increase during the past seven weeks. Shipments from Canada from May 1 to August 21 were about 1,[illegible] tons against 5,950 tons last year, and 3,940 tons in 1903. The stock in Montreal on August 21 was about 3,[illegible] tons against 4,100 tons last year, and 4,400 tons in 1903. There is no change to report in the Copenhagen official quotation. Notwithstanding the report current a short time ago that supplies of Siberian would speedily fall off, up to now there are no signs of any diminution in the arrivals. The total imports of all kinds of butter last week were 11,320 cwts. less than for the corresponding period of 1904, the whole of this deficiency being exclusively foreign, as the colonial was 180 cwts. more. Cheese.—The market this week has not been so active, but prices remain at a solid 56s. for choicest Canadian, with an occasional 57s. The shipments of cheese from Montreal from May 1 to August 21 this year were about 39,000 tons, against 35,[illegible] last year, and nearly 49,000 in 1903. The stocks in Montreal this year on August 21 were about 11,[illegible] tons, against 15,600 tons last year and 6,800 tons in 1903.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

POTATOES.

Spitalfields, Saturday. — Trade remains very slow indeed, arrivals of English still exceeding the demand. Duke of Yorks, 50s to 60s; Puritans, 55s; Royal Kidneys, 60s; Beauty of Hebrons, 50s to 60s; British Queens, 50s to 55s; Blacklands, 45s to 50s; Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s per ton.

Borough, Saturday.—A fair supply was on offer, but a very quiet demand prevailed. Sirs, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 50s per ton.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — Fruit in ample supply and steady demand. Greenstuffs met a fair inquiry, the market being well supplied with all kinds. Quotations for English produce: Apples, 1s to 3s per bushel; plums (Victorias, 2s to 3s per half sieve; damsons, 1s 6d to 2s per half sieve; peaches, 1s to 2s per dozen; nectarines, 1s to 1s 6d; greengages, 1s to 1s 3d per dozen; melons, 6d to 1s each; pears, 1s to 1s 3d per half sieve; blackberries, 2s to 2s 6d per punnet; gooseberries, 3s to 5s per half sieve; filberts, 2s to 2s 6d per lb.; walnuts, 3s to 3s 6d per bushel; tomatoes, 2s to 2s 6d per lb.; cucumbers, 1s to 1s 6d each; marrow runners, 1s to 1s 6d; beetroots, 1s to 1s 6d per bushel; celery, 7s 6d to 10s per dozen bunches; rhubarb, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; cauliflowers, 1s to 2s per dozen; cabbages, 1s to 3s; endive, 9d to 1s per dozen; cabbages, 3s to 5s per tally; ditto, pickling, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; mush rooms, 6s to 10s per 12lb.; ditto, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per half sieve; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 1s 6d to 3s; mint, 2s to 2s 6d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; radishes, 6d to 1s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bundles; marrows, 3s to 5s per tally; potatoes, 50s to 70s per ton.

Cattle Diseases in South Africa.

Among the many papers read at the meeting of the British Association in South Africa was one by Colonel D. Bruce, C.B., entitled, "The Advance in our Knowledge of the Causation and Methods of Prevention of Stock Diseases in South Africa during the last Ten Years." South Africa, he said, was particularly rich in animal diseases, every species of domestic animal seemingly having one or more specially adapted for its destruction. He could only on this occasion deal with the most important of these, which were East Coast fever, ordinary red water or Texas fever, biliary fever of horses, malignant jaundice of dogs, nagana or tsetse fly disease, trypanosomiasis of cattle, rinderpest, horse sickness, catarrhal fever in sheep, heart-water of sheep, goats, and cattle. These he divided under three heads—(1) Diseases caused by parasites belonging to the genus piroplasma, the first four being in this category; (2) diseases caused by parasites belonging to the genus trypanosome, in which the next four were classified; and (3) diseases caused by a parasite unknown, the last four being in this group.

East Coast fever, the most dangerous disease with which the people of the Transvaal had to cope, was due to infection from Portuguese territory. Although it had only been introduced during the last few years, it had already done enormouse damage. In every hundred cattle attacked only about five recovered. It was chiefly the brown tick that acted as carrier. During last year some 15,000 cattle died of the disease, and the loss in money was about £200,000. Yet he was informed that all the South African Governments were cutting down their estimates and were inclined to reduce their veterinary staffs. This was the maddest sort of economy. In 1903 Dr. Koch, of Berlin, was asked to study the disease, and his plan of preventive inoculation had been tried on a large scale in Rhodesia, but found useless, the difficulty being that the blood of an infected animal did not give rise to the disease in another; it was only after its passage through the body of the tick that the parasite was able to infect a healthy animal. Much, however, had been done to stamp out the disease by ordinary methods, such as dipping, fencing, and moving to clean pastures; and the regulations which had been framed, providing for the compulsory slaughter of stock, with compensation, and other precautions, if patiently carried out, must be crowned with success. Redwater was of secondary importance, the native cattle having become immune, and the disease being only fatal to susceptible imported cattle.

With regard to the tsetse fly, which rendered thousands of square miles of Africa uninhabitable, investigation had shown that the disease was not caused by a simple poison elaborated by the fly, but by a minute blood parasite known as trypanosoma, which signified a screw-like body. The fly merely acted as a carrier. The multiplication of the trypanosomes in the tsetse fly was discovered by Gray and Tulloch, two young army medical officers, while working in Uganda on sleeping sickness during the present year.

Further investigation brought to light the curious fact that most of the wild animals—the buffalo, the koodoo, the wildebeeste—carried the trypanosomes in small numbers in their blood, and it was from them that the fly obtained the parasite. It seemed to live in their blood without doing them any harm. This accounted for the fact that tsetse fly disease disappeared from a tract of country as soon as the wild animals were killed off or driven away. He was sorry to say that in spite of numerous experiments no method of vaccination or inoculation had so far been discovered to combat these trypanosome diseases, nor had any medicine or drug been discovered which would kill the parasites without killing the animal itself, though arsenic and certain aniline dyes had a marked effect in prolonging the life of the animal.

Turning next to rinderpest, Colonel Bruce said it had been known from time immemorial in Europe and Central Asia, and was an extremely fatal disease. All the South African colonies had made strenuous efforts to combat it. It was Dr. Koch who had discovered two methods of immunising against it. His methods had been greatly improved upon by Kolle and Turner, and it was to them and other workers that they owed the fact that rinderpest had now lost its terrors. The last outbreak in the Transvaal had been stamped out rapidly and completely.

With regard to horse sickness, which carried off thousands of horses every year, to cope with it would enable the Transvaal to become one of the best horse breeding countries in the world. The disease occurred in epidemics chiefly in the low lying localities, and there was no doubt it was caused by some form of blood parasite, the nature of which was not yet known; nor had the fly, mosquito, or other insect which acts as the carrier been discovered. But a great deal had been done during the past ten years by protective inoculation, and further investigations were in progress. The man who discovered a practical method of dealing with horse-sickness would be one of the greatest benefactors of the country, and would well deserve the highest possible reward.

Sale of Shorthorns at Brougham.

The sale of a large portion of the well-known herd of Shorthorn cattle the property of the Right Hon. Lord Brougham and Vaux, at Camont Bridge, near Penrith, on Friday, by Messrs. John Thornton and Co., attracted a large company, many noblemen and distinguished breeders being represented. The cattle were brought out in excellent condition, the bulls especially, showing the deep flesh and quarters of the old Cumberland stock. For His Majesty the King's herd at Windsor two good purchases were made, viz., Rose of Whinfell 10th, a roan four-year-old cow, at 50 gs., and a bonny yearling heifer, Rose of Whinfell 13th, first prize winner at the Liverpool Show this year for 100 gs. Augusta 96, a seven-year-old cow bred by Mr. J. Bruce, of Invergushomery, made 100 gs. (Mr. J. Lee); Brailes Duchess 4, a red yearling, 83 gs. (Earl of Latham); Daisy Bell 2nd and Japonica 3rd., each went for 81 gs., to Lord Barnard and Mr. G. Rodger respectively.

The older bulls met with rather a slow trade (many of the South American buyers being abroad), but the yearlings made good prices, Mr. Henry Williams giving 305 gs. for Dukedom, a handsome roan, and Lord Barnard 100 gs. for Storm, another good roan, both of them being by Stoneytown Pride, 77972. Altogether the sale was considered most satisfactory, an average of nearly £50 being obtained for the fifty-four head sold. We give below a sale list of the principal lots with purchasers names and prices:—

NONP HERE.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Furze 3rd, red and white, c. Feb. 17, 1898; s. Spicy Victor 73702 ..... Mr. Scott Turner	20
Augusta 96th, roan, c. March 25, 1898; s. Waverley 68072 ..... Mr. J. Lee	100
Cressida 23rd, roan, c. Nov. 14, 1828; s. Winter King 71891 ..... Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe	40
Her C.C., white, c. March 7, 1905; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe	25
Pansy 4th, red and little white, c. March 2, 1899; s. Bordeaux 70007 ..... Lord Sefton	30
Norah 14th, rich roan, c. April 2, 1899; s. Bordeaux 70007 ..... Lord Sefton	23
Japonica, red and white, c. Feb. 22, 1900; s. Fitz-Riby 70447 ..... Mr. C. F. Ellis	90
Rose of Whinfell 9th, red, c. April 4, 1900; s. Merry Archer 75066 ..... Lord Crewe	60
Her C.C., red, c. Feb. 12, 1905; by Mars 84065 ..... Mr. Walpole Greenwell	21
Lady Katherine, red, c. Dec. 8, 1900; s. Fashoda Chief 74530 ..... Mr. C. F. Ellis	33
Underley Honey 9th, white, c. Jan. 23, 1901; s. Merry Archer 75066 ..... Mr. J. Wilkinson	37
Rose of Whinfell 10th, white, c. April 12, 1901; s. Merry Archer 75066 ..... H.M. the King	50
Her B.C., roan, c. April 7, 1905; by Westphalia 5055 ..... Mr. J. Bateman	21
Lady Wales 7th, red, c. May 25, 1901; s. Pilgrim 75225 ..... Mr. C. F. Ellis	47
Her B.C., r.w., c. Jan. 21, 1905; by Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. W. Armstrong	18
Daisy Bell 2nd, roan, c. June 16, 1901; s. Border Minstrel ..... Lord Barnard	81
Helena 3rd, roan, c. March 28, 1902; s. Trim 78020 ..... Mr. W. Armstrong	24
Calyce 4th, roan, c. June 26, 1902; s. Meridian 79412 ..... Mr. J. Lee	51
Helena 4th, red, c. Feb. 23, 1903; s. Merlin 81690 ..... Mr. C. E. Gunther	43
Red Duchess 31st, rich roan, c. March 22, 1903; s. Macbeth 81577 ..... Mr. J. Kerr	28
Wild Rose 2nd, roan, c. Sept. 23, 1903; s. Merryman 75073 ..... Mr. C. E. Gunther	51
Rosamund 2nd, roan, c. Oct. 20, 1903; s. Wild Eyes Prince 80274 ..... Mr. H. Winter	23
Augusta 100th, roan, c. Oct. 29, 1903; s. Bridge 80549 ..... Mr. W. Bell	65
Daisy Belle 3rd, roan, c. Nov. 8, 1903; s. Bridge 80549 ..... Mr. T. Wilkinson	22
Japonica 2nd, roan, c. Dec. 9, 1903; s. Butterfly Victor 80593 ..... Mr. G. Rodger	81
Underley Honey 11th, red and white, c. Jan. 13, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. Coulthard	21
Rose of Whinfell 12th, red and little white, c. Jan. 18, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. Gill	22
Rose of Whinfell 13th, red, c. Jan. 31, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... H.M. the King	100
Pansy 7th, roan, c. March 11, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. R. Todd	26
Cressoda 24th, red and little white, c. March 30, 1904; s. Corporal 83187 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.	25
Red Duchess 35th, red and white, c. April 25, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.	27
Lady Somerset 8th, roan, c. July 1, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. Lee	44
Helena 5th, roan, c. July 24, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. R. Heywood Thompson	28
Brailes Duchess 4th, red, c. August 17, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Earl of Lathom	83
Red Duchess 36th, white, c. August 17, 1904; s. Occident 84255 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.	27
Red Duchess 37th, roan, c. August 20, 1904; s. Cherokee 83091 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.	23

BULLS.

Metaphor 79649, roan, c. May 18, 1903; s. Meteor 81708 ..... Mr. J. Coulthard	20
Storm, roan, c. Jan. 26, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Lord Barnard	105
Dukedom, roan, c. Feb. 9, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. H. Williams	305
Rex, white, c. Feb. 17, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Lord Tankerville	100
Stonehenge, roan, c. March 22, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. Fulcher	26
Mametus, roan, c. April 21, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. Winterbottom	33
Albany, white, c. May 22, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. Coulthard	30
Barbarossa, red, c. May 25, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. J. H. Kelly	51
Aberdeen, roan, c. Sept. 13, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. A. Ashworth	47
Saxhorn, red and white, c. Oct. 11, 1904; s. Stoneytown Pride 77972 ..... Mr. D. Sanderson	35

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
43 cows	42 18 6	1,845 18 0
11 bulls	73 0 0	803 5 0
54 head	49 1 2	2,649 3 0

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Carlisle.

What is known as the August Fair at Carlisle was held on the 26th ult., and, in accordance with ancient custom, the opening of the institution was "proclaimed" from the Cross steps. The rain had a deleterious effect on the large flocks of sheep and lambs. At the two marts the number of sheep disposed of during the day totalled over 20,000, and represented most of the chief breeders on both sides of the Border. At Harrison's mart there were over 16,000 sheep and lambs, comprising 8,000 half and three-quarter and cross Down lambs, 4,000 cross lambs, 2,000 Cheviot and black-faced lambs, and 2,000 feeding sheep, and they were spiritedly competed for by buyers, both local and Scottish, and from the Midlands and South of England. Quotations:—Lambs—half and three-quarter bred, to 32s. 3d.; crosses, to 28s.; Cheviots, to 24s.; black-faced, to 9s. Feeding sheep—crosses, to 35s. 6d.; Cheviots, to 37s.; and black-faced wethers, to 24s.

Mr. T. M'Intosh's Border Leicesters.

On Wednesday Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Limited, dispersed the well-known flock of Border Leicester sheep belonging to Mr. Thomas M'Intosh, Knowehead, at their Perth auction mart. This flock of Leicester sheep was recognised as one of the premier flocks of the breed in Scotland, and in consequence of this there was a very large attendance of buyers forward, not only from all parts of Scotland, but also a number from England and from Ireland. The sheep all over were an excellent lot, and were shown in the best of bloom, and for all classes an animated demand was experienced at prices highly satisfactory to the exposer. The following are the details of the sale:—

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
40 Shearling rams ..	12 0 0 ..	6 10 7 ..	261 5 0
3 Stud rams	23 0 0 ..	— ..	38 15 0
44 Gimmers	9 0 0 ..	4 1 4 ..	179 0 0
64 Ewes	6 7 6 ..	3 16 4 ..	244 4 0
47 Ram lambs	6 15 0 ..	3 3 1 ..	148 6 0
58 Ewe lambs	4 10 0 ..	2 4 6 ..	129 1 0

Twelve gimmers belonging to Messrs. Smith, Leaston, were also included in the sale, and these made an average price of £3 5s. 5d.

The Amberstone Southdowns.

The Southdown flock (registered No. 163) belonging to Mr. H. M. Simmons, of Amberstone Grange, near Hailsham, was disposed of by auction by Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester, on Thursday. The flock comprised about 600 head, and the important character of the sale naturally attracted a large attendance of agriculturists and flockmasters from all parts of the county. The Amberstone flock was established by the purchase of ewes from Mr. William Toop, Mr. J. N. Tompkins, and Messrs. Emery, and the rams used have been selected from the flocks of His Majesty the King, Mr. J. Colman, Mr. William Toop, Mr. A. Heasman, Mr. H. Padwick, Mr. W. P. Hampton, Sir James Duke, Bart., etc. The sheep sold were a hardy set, and possessed the quality, type, and character which distinguished the famous flocks from which they are descended. There was a good attendance at the sale, but prices did not rule high, the average of the various lots being as follows:—88 shearling ewes 44s. 10½d., 85 four-tooth ewes 49s. 11½d., 112 six-tooth ewes 48s. 3½d., 120 full-mouthed ewes 38s. 6½d., 119 ewe lambs 24s. 5⅞d., 80 wether lambs 26s.

The Loughcrew Shropshires.

On Tuesday last at Loughcrew, near Oldcastle, in the Co. of Meath, Messrs. A. Mansell and Co. conducted a sale of about 85 head from the celebrated flock of Shropshires kept at that place by Mr. W. L. Naper. For some of the rams bidding ruled brisk, and realised good prices. Owing to the dry summer and the scarcity of grass a number of the lots were in rather backward condition, and did not command such high figures. However, the general average reached the very satisfactory figure of £8 11s. 6d. Shearling ewes were not so well grown as usual and made from 40s. to 46s. The best prices for rams were 25 gs., given by Mr. J. Doran for a get of Northern Star; 21 gs., given by the Marquis of Downshire for the first prize winner at the Belfast Show, a get of Bachelor's Button; 12 gs., given by Mr. P. J. Steen for the second prize winner at the same fixture; 11½ gs., given by Mr. P. Clark; 9 gs., given by Mr. G. J. Smith, of Navan, and 9 gs., by Captain Fowler for shearlings got by Bachelor's Button.

Live Stock Record.

FOAL FUTURITY CLASSES.

Foal shows are now being held in many districts throughout the kingdom, the early part of September being a favourite time for competitions of weanling foals, especially those of the Shire breed. They are the natural corolleries of high-class horse-breeding, and are of great service to those farmers who have bred good foals by pedigree sires which they desire to dispose of. At the foal show by joining in the competition their colts or fillies attract notice, and if they win prizes, or even commendations, there will tolerably sure to be professional exhibitors, speculative merchants, or agriculturists in search of promising young stock willing, and perhaps anxious, to purchase them. To the latter the foal show is as essential as to numerous breeders. Every successive autumn bears fresh evidence of its utility from several points of view. A small tenant farmer possessed of a good brood mare has often paid his rent with the price of her foal.

Sir P. A. Muntz has remarked in one of his articles:—"Many have been disheartened by the idea that valuable stock could only be bred from grand show mares worth hundreds of pounds apiece, whereas a modest, little, well-bred mare that may be picked up continually at a nominal figure will be quite as likely, or even more likely, to become the proud mother of a stalwart family, if well mated." Many a tenant farmer has had the good fortune to experience the truth of this, and the foal he has bred from such a mare, after bringing him a good round sum, has passed into other hands to become distinguished.

Can our autumn foal shows be improved upon, or invested with any new features calculated to extend the right kind of horse-breeding more generally among farmers? The Committee of the East Berks Horse Show Society are decidedly of opinion that this is to be done, and, in conformity with that opinion, have taken a new departure in their proceedings, about which they state, in a circular to the public, that "they are convinced it is the best scheme for encouraging the retention of good mares in the country, and also the breeding of high-class stock on a greatly extended scale."

What is this scheme? The Society will at once organise classes for its show to be held in the autumn of next year for hunter and Shire foals, the preliminary entries for which will close on September 30 this year. "From £140 to £170, and two champion silver cups will be competed for by the produce of mares covered in 1905," states the circular, "for which preliminary entries close September 30, 1905." After stating that the preliminary entrance fee is 5s., the information is given that "if left in after April 30, 1906, an additional 5s., if left in after July 21 an additional 10s.," would have to be paid.

These are all the particulars of this exceedingly novel scheme the circular supplies beyond the statement that either Mr. Dixon, the Hon. Secretary, of 4, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, or Mr. Nickisson, of Hinton Manor, Swindon, the Treasurer, will supply further details on application. If the results anticipated by the East Berks Society are to be secured by this departure, everybody will heartily wish them success in working on new lines.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

Messrs. Stride and Son, auctioneers, live-stock salesmen, and exporters, of Chichester, last week shipped to the Orange River Colony six young Jersey heifers purchased from the well-known herds of his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, and Mr. Herbert Padwick, Thorney.

Of sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle in September there seems no end, for I have this week received a catalogue of yet another fixture, not mentioned in my previous notes, and it is an important one, the cattle being the property of Sir G. Macpherson Grant, Bart., and Colonel Smith Grant. Tuesday, September 12, is the date of the sale, and it will take place at Lagmore Farm, Ballindalloch, the auctioneers, as in the other cases, being Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth. Both the above herds are so well known that all I need say is that the animals to be brought under the hammer on the above day will be found worthy representatives of their breed, and should prove valuable acquisitions to their purchasers.

Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. announce the sale of Mr. Joliffe's herd of Shorthorns at Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon, on Friday, October 20, in consequence of the expiration of lease of a portion of the farm. The sale will be particularly interesting to breeders not only for the personal merit of the animals but for their high lineage. the herd almost entirely consisting of the best strains of Scotch blood. The herd contains many remarkably fine cows of the Broadhooks, Fairy Queen, Jenny Lind, Diamond, Kinellar Mary, Missie, Golden Wreath, Sycamore, and other fashionable tribes. Many of the young stock are by Primrose Pride, a son of Mr. Duthie's sire Pride of Morning, from Scottish Primrose by Scottish Archer; this bull has proved himself a most impressive sire, and several of his sons are being used in the herds of leading Scotch breeders. Golden Arrow, by Mr. Marr's Golden Star, from one of the Inverquhomery Augustas, has also left a grand lot of calves. He is from the same dam as Royal Purple, sold at the Uppermill sale last year for 600 gs.

Some good Shorthorns were forwarded to Sydney last Thursday, by the s.s. *Afric* from Liverpool. They included among others, a stylish young bull and heifer from Mr. Richard Stratton's herd at the Duffryn, and a well bred red cow, "Wrestlers Phantom" from Mr. W. S. Garne of Aldsworth.

Two days after the funeral of Mr. Philo L. Mills news was received in Nottingham of the death, at the age of seventy-six years, of Mr. John Gibb, who was in partnership with the late Mr. Philo Mills, and was the co-founder of the extensive dry goods business carried on under the style of Mills and Gibb Incorporated.

At the fair at Moy, Co. Tyrone, on Friday there was a large supply of one and two years old cattle, but demand was slow, and a goodly number remained unsold. Prices:—Yearlings (first class), £7 15s. to £8 5s.; second class, £5 15s. to £7 2s. 6d.; third class, £3 13s. 4d. to £5 2s. 6d. Two-year-olds, second class, £7 10s to £10; third class, £6 5s. to £7 2s. Springers, second class, £12 to £14 10s.; third class, £9 to £10.

Notes and Jottings.

Since penning last week's notes the country has generally been visited by a much needed continuous gentle rain that has refreshed pastures in a brief space of time in a remarkable manner, and there is every probability now of a sweet, though short, bite for the next six weeks or so. It must be remembered, however, that this grass will be very washy and cold, and will be hard for any beasts that are a little tender to withstand. This note has been called for by the fact that in travelling about recently more than the ordinary number of "wasting" cattle appear from the railway. In numbers of herds you will see one or two animals standing away from the others in a dreamy attitude and with staring coats. Moral.—Do not delay dry food too long.

Now that the Board of Trade Returns are public property, our cattle wealth, as regards its numbers, is worth studying. The numbers given show an increase of 128,668 over last year's returns. This, when boiled down, amounts to but 1.9 per cent. upon the whole, so that, formidable as the total increase appears at first sight, it is really quite an inconsiderable item. Fortunately, it is on the right side. A decrease at this time might have been attended with results not as pleasant to think about, but an increase is satisfactory from several points of view; it proves that our supply of both stores and beef produced at home will be more abundant, and it is also tantamount to saying that the agricultural community is getting better off. Stock is money.

A very important item in the returns, too, is the acreage of permanent pasture, by which it appears that this has increased since the last returns were issued to the extent of 179,321 acres, which means a great deal. It is rather questionable whether the seeding down to permanent pasture has not reached a point where its cessation would be better both for individuals and the country in general. There are perhaps a great many districts where labour is scarce and difficult to deal with, in which permanent pasture is still desirable, but experience has proved that far better results are obtainable with live stock, especially cattle, where the farm consists of from one-third to one-half good arable land, than where all is grass; also a good deal of tillage land makes but a very indifferent turf.

The increase of cattle is divided between each of the different sections, which show that the increase in cattle two years and above is 40,681, of those one year and under two 41,237, and of those under one year 18,038, the latter being by far the smallest increase of any of the ages. This goes to say that next year's results may not come out as satisfactory, and should incite all interested to bring up as many well-bred and healthy calves as possible for the next twelve months. At the present time calves are to be purchased very cheaply, good bred ones a few days old being often sold at as low as £1 per head. Where a little milk can be devoted to the purpose, it is an excellent policy to start on this at once. Calves born and reared from this time have a great advantage over those born later.

Crossing from our own country to the Sister Isle matters are not as satisfactory in regard to cattle as they are here. In that country there appears to be a decrease of live stock all round, except horses. Cattle give a decrease of 51,496, which for a country so much devoted to cattle rearing is certainly not serious; still, the balance is on the wrong side, and should stimulate farmers on this side to greater carefulness in raising as many of the best class of young stock as possible. Why there should be any decrease at all in Ireland is quite difficult to account for. Prices for

both stores and fat stock have not been so low as to discourage their production, neither has the country suffered from any famine of roots, fodder, or pasture.

Whilst writing about Irish matters, what a vast improvement (almost incredible) has taken place in the cattle of that country during the past twenty years, and more particularly so during the last seven to ten years. There are many thousands of admirable cattle in that country to-day, even in its remotest parts. The spread of agricultural shows has had much to do with this. These exhibitions are being taken up now in every part of Ireland in a most enthusiastic manner, and nothing encourages a farmer (especially the younger members of the profession) to improve his cattle and endeavour to raise better cattle than his neighbour so much as visiting these agricultural shows, where the difference between good and bad is so conspicuous, both in appearance and pecuniary results.

Another source that is effecting great and widespread improvement in Irish cattle is the custom of providing Premium bulls under the Irish Board of Agriculture. Where these bulls are taken advantage of (and this is becoming very general now) the results are very apparent in the quality of the stock produced by their services. At an auction of store cattle in Ireland the other day a lot of bullocks were driven into the ring that at once commanded the attention of all buyers at the ring side, by their symmetry, growth, quality, and general value, the reason for which was quickly solved when the auctioneer announced that they were the get of one of the Premium bulls. Biddings were on a different scale all at once for these.

In England throughout but little is heard of the doings of our Northern friends with their Ayrshire cattle. In these days of increased attention to milk it is rather cause for wonder why this very hardy, easily kept, and productive breed do not receive more attention. At home, however, the breed appears to be going the right way at a good pace, for though the past year's accounts of the Ayrshire Herd Book Society show a loss upon the year's working, still the substantial funds in hand, the increase of membership, and the list of export certificates for the year (the latter numbering 234) all point to a living business and to a spreading of the name and fame of the Ayrshire that must add to its benefit in the future.

The export of Shorthorns and Herefords continues on an enormous scale, to say the least of it. Scarcely does a vessel sail for almost any foreign country where cattle are kept but notes as to the consignment of so many Shorthorns or Herefords appear in the columns of our stock papers. America as a continent takes by far the majority of these, the Argentine portion of the country and its borders taking the largest number. Indeed, the wealth of the agricultural and stock-breeding public of that country appears to be untold, and their pluck in buying and energy in managing their purchases prove the deep interest they take in their stock, and ought to give our home breeders a note of warning that they must see that the standard of our British herds is well maintained.

The coming month should be, or rather it may be said will be, a very important one for breeders of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. A long list of very important sales is published that will take place during September. Business has been rather quiet of late with these "bonnie blacks," but their season is now coming on, for, in addition to the sales, the Christmas shows will soon be here, and it is upon these occasions and at the Christmas market that the Aberdeen-Angus asserts his superiority over most other breeds. Highlanders, too, will be thought more of during the next two months. To those who are interested in either selling or purchasing this latter breed, it may be mentioned that demand is likely to be rather slow owing to shortness of grass in England.

I have before me the schedule of prizes for the coming London Dairy Show, which, on the whole, are fairly liberal, yet in some important sections are not liberal enough in proportion to the restrictive conditions and also to the rather high entry fees charged. The entry fees of £1 for members and £2 for non-members are rather heavy. Then as regards the bull classes, the restriction to bulls whose dams have won a prize or certificate of merit in the trials and tests at Islington is cutting things rather fine. There was, however, it must be admitted, need for more severe conditions in this respect, as animals have been shown in recent years far removed from prize-winning parents.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a tonic. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical feed, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. (Advt.)

Sale of Drafts at Perth.

On Wednesday Perth Auction Mart was the scene of the sale, and here Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. offered some choice drafts of Shorthorns from the herds of close on a dozen breeders, including Lord Rosebery, Sir Hugh H. Smiley of Ardmore, Mr. James Duncan Balfour, Captain Stirling of Keir, Mr. J. R. Grant, Auchnacree; Mr. Ferguson, Dalcapen; and Mr. Dron, Crieffvechter. There were, however, a good many absentees, the total number that eventually changed hands being seventy. Mr. J. M. Fraser conducted the sale, which at times was rather sluggish, a considerable proportion of the animals being of only moderate quality. For first-class stock there was a fairly active demand, and in some instances competition was keen. The sections for the younger animals were especially good, and both for two-year-old and yearling heifers very satisfactory prices were obtained. Several herds stood out prominently in these sections, notably that of Ardmore, which realised the very excellent average of £52 5s. 3d. for sixteen animals, which was the outstanding figure of the day. For a collection of half that number Captain Stirling of Keir obtained an average of £28 18s. 10d., and he was closely followed by Mr. Dron, Crieffvechter, who had £37 9s. for six. The following were the principal prices:—

The principal prices were:—

Mr. J. Duncan's:—Strowan Buttercup XV.—Mr. Andrew Hutcheson, Perth, 13½ gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. C. E. Law, Holl, 18 gs.; Bangle—Mr. J. Moncrieff, Tufthills, Glencarse, 12 gs.; Lustre XLII.—Mr. Young, Cadball, 31 gs.; her heifer calf—D. Fergusson, jun., Dalcapon, 14½ gs.; Bangle II.—Mr. Anderson, Balachraggan, 18 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Cameron, Westside, 11 gs.

Mr. W. A. Dron's:—Village Queen—Mr. Robert Taylor, Pitlivie, 40 gs.; Beauty XXV.—Mr. Anderson, Balachraggan, 34 gs.; Emma XLIII.—Mr. G. Campbell, Harthill, 40 gs.; Baroness Beauty 2nd.—Mr. J. Sharp, South Forr, Crieff, 30 gs.; Lady Dorothy—Mr. Robert Taylor, Pitlivie, 55 gs.

Mr. D. Ferguson's:—Highland Lass—Mr. Tong, Hambleton, 23 gs.; Daisy Blossom—Mr. A. Hutcheson, Perth, 15 gs.

Earl of Rosebery's:—Maggie VI.—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 19 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 20 gs.; Columbine XI.—Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combscauseway, 52 gs.; Gay Bessie—Messrs. Kerr, Lochlane, Crieff, 17 gs.; Veronica III.'s bull calf—Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, 20 gs.; Marchioness XXI.—Mr. G. Inglis of Newmore, 40 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, 31 gs.; Dalmeny Nonpareil X.—Mr. A. T. Gordon, 36 gs.; Dalmeny Ruth—Mr. Anderson, Balachraggan, 36 gs.; Zola (bull)—Mr. Campbell, Harthill, 36 gs.

Sir H. H. Smiley's:—Royal Welcome—The Earl of Moray, 60 gs.; Bounty II.—Mr. G. R. Grant, Auchnacree, 88 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. George Anderson, East Fingask, 50 gs.; Letty Lind III.—Mr. Robert Anderson of Fingask, 43 gs.; Irish Welcome—Mr. Anderson, Balachraggan, 51 gs.; Victoria LXXXIX.—Mr. Robert Taylor, Pitlivie, 46 gs.; Sunshine III.—Mr. C. M. Cameron, Balnakyle, 50 gs.; Lady Muriel III.—Mr. G. T. Lloyd, Leicester, 72 gs.; Irish Welcome II.—Mr. G. T. Lloyd, Leicester, 51 gs.; Letty Lind IV.—Mr. J. Eccles, Myerscough, Lancs, 31 gs.; Plum Blossom II.—Mr. Wm. Duthie, Collynie, 110 gs.; Fairy Fancy—Mr. G. T. Lloyd, 63 gs.

Captain Stirling's:—Keir Beauty XI.—Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie, 50 gs.; Keir Bessie—Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, 69 gs.; Keir Beauty XII.—Mr. Robert Anderson of Fingask, 27 gs.

Mr. P. Shaw's:—Lucknow—Mr. John Cran, Keith, 30 gs.

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total £ s. d.
25 cows	26 8 4	....	660 9 0
10 two-year-old heifers	38 18 1	....	389 0 6
16 yearling heifers	40 18 4	....	654 13 6
15 calves	16 3 6	....	242 11 0
4 bulls	26 18 1	....	107 12 6
70	£29 7 0	....	£2,054 6 6

INDIVIDUAL AVERAGES.

	£ s. d.
Mr. J. Duncan, Balfour (14)	14 18 5
Mr. W. A. Dron, Crieffvechter (6)	37 9 6
Mr. D. Fergusson, Dalcapon (3)	16 9 0
Mr. G. R. Grant, Auchnacree (8)	11 14 11
Lord Rosebery, Dalmeny (14)	27 3 0
Sir H. H. Smiley, Ardmore (16)	52 5 3
Captain Stirling of Keir (8)	28 18 10
Mr. P. Shaw, Borlick (1)	31 10 0

Colonel Munro's Shorthorns.

The first of this season's pure-bred cattle sales in Scotland took place on Tuesday, when Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Limited, of Perth, brought under the hammer at Moness, Aberfeldy, Colonel Charles Munro's entire herd of Shorthorn cattle from the Mains of Murthly, and a dozen animals from the Huntingtowerfield herd, belonging to Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie, the catalogue comprising ninety-three head, of which only three failed to put in an appearance. Colonel Munro has been a noted breeder of Shorthorns for something like a quarter of a century, stock from his herds taking leading places in the principal showyards. The sale accordingly brought together a very large attendance of breeders from all parts of the country. Unfortunately, the weather was not favourable for an open-air gathering, rain falling heavily during the most of the day, but there was no lack of interest, and bidding on the whole was remarkably brisk, and, except in a few instances, very satisfactory prices were obtained, the total received for seventy-nine head belonging to Colonel Munro being £3,019 16s., or an average of £38 4s. 6d.; while for the Huntingtowerfield lot the total was £293 9s. 6d., an average of £26 13s. 7d. The top figure of the sale was 110 guineas, made by Lina II., a dark roan six-year-old, bred at Borlick, and sired by Morning Star. She is full of Shorthorn quality, and for her possession there was a smart competition. The final contest lay between Mr. Calder and the Earl of Moray, and in the end this handsome specimen of the breed went to Mr. Calder. Other prices ranged up to 91 guineas, as the following list will show:

PROPERTY OF COLONEL MUNRO.

Cows:—Red Rose—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 32 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. James Calder of Aldargie, 70 gs.; Rose of Ythan—Mr. A. M. Gordon of Newton, 31 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. A. Robertson, Bellechin, 36 gs.; Maggie B. II.—Mr. James Calder of Ardargie, 62 gs.; Royal Jubilee—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 60 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Buttar, Corston, 46 gs.; Arabella—Mr. Webster, Liskeard, 36 gs.; Laurel Leaf—Sir James Sivewright of Tullialian, 66 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Bruce, Hants, 27 gs.; Lina II.—Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 110 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 38 gs.; Emmeline VII.—Mr. G. R. Fortune, Colinsburgh, 50 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Bruce, Elvetham, Hants, 53 gs.; Stroxter Belle—Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, 30 gs.; Lattice Leaf—Mr. Robinson, Moy, Ireland; 41 gs.; Airy Duchess II.—Mr. Douglas, Spott Mains, Kelso, 62 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Douglas, Spott Mains, 30s gs.; Red Lady VIII.—Mr. W. T. Malcolm, Dunmore, 40 gs.; Chrissie—Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 85 gs.; Circe VII. The Earl of Moray, Doune Castle, 36 gs.; Red Lily—Mr.

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
September 5	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. H. Williams	Moor Park, Harrogate, Yorks.
5	Shropshire Sheep and Cattle	Mr. J. E. Farmer	Felton, near Ludlow, Salop.
5	Suffolk Sheep	Various	Bury St. Edmunds.
6	South Devon Rams ...	Various	Truro, Cornwall.
6	Rams and Ram Lambs ...	Various	Kempton Green Fair, Norfolk.
6	Do do. ...	Various	Peterborough Ram Fair.
6	Shire & Hackney Horses	Various	Peterborough.
7	Shorthorn Cattle	Various	Bingley Hall, Birmingham.
7	Red Polled Cattle... ...	Late Mr. J. J. Colman ...	Trowse, Norwich.
7	Cattle, Sheep and Horses	Mr. E. Adams	Horner Farm, Selworthy, Somerset.
7	Sheep	Various	Craven Arms, Shropshire.
7 & 8	Horses	Various	Crewe Horse Repository.
7, 8 & 9	Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c.	Mr. R. Croker	Wantage, Berks.
8	Shropshire Sheep and Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. C. Coxon	Elford Park, Tamworth.
8	Hackneys and Ponies ...	Sir G. Greenall, Bart. ...	Walton Hall, Warrington.
8	Sheep	Various	Kidderminster.
8	Sussex Cattle	Various	Hayward's Heath.
8	Rams	Members of the Border Union Agricultural Society	Kelso.
9	Hackney Ponies	Mr. W. W. Hargrave ..	The Normans, Rusper, near Horsham, Sussex.
11	Hackney Horses	Messrs. J. & A. Moorhouse	Flanshaw, Wakefield.

Douglas, Spott Mains, Kelso, 80 gs.; her heifer calf Mr. Webster, Liskeard, 41 gs.; Betha Mr. Young, Bellycloan, Maddesty, 23 gs.; her bull calf Mr. George Harrison, Gamford Hall, 37 gs.; Lady of Gight Mr. Buttar, Corston, 38 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Bruce, Elvetham, Hants, 30 gs.; Rose of Murthly Mr. Webster, Liskeard, 56 gs.; her bull calf Mr. Webster, Liskeard, 30 gs.; Lilac Leaf Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 66 gs.; her bull calf Sir Donald Currie of Glenlyon 32 gs.; Rosebud Mr. Haley, Malton, Yorks, 41 gs.; Cissy Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 36 gs.; Dolly Gray—Mr. Anderson, Lairston, 28 gs.; her heifer calf Mr. Thompson, Inverheath, 40 gs.

Two-year-old heifers:—Lady Flo—Mr. D. Anderson, Lairston, 24 gs.; Myrtle Blossom—Mr. W. T. Malcolm, Dunmore, 25 gs.; Edna May His Majesty the King, Windsor, 70 gs.

Yearling heifers: Kitty Gray Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 72 gs.; Royal Jubilee II.—Mr. Young, Cadboll, 36 gs.; Cecilia Mr. Haley, Malton, Yorks, 41 gs.; Rose of Grandtully—Mr. G. R. Fortune, Colinsburgh, 31 gs.; Blue Bell Mr. Haley, Malton, Yorks, 50 gs.; Frances—Mr. Murray of Polmaise, 38 gs.; Lemon Leaf Sir James Sivewright of Tulliallan, 29 gs.; Carnation II.—Sir James Sivewright of Tulliallan, 91 gs.; Lady Olive—Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 52 gs.; Lily Breadbrooke Mr. Young, Cadboll, 38 gs.; Lady Rona Mr. Calder of Ardargie, 36 gs.

Bulls:—Comely Archer Mr. Sidey, Binkbonny, 23 gs.; Pillar Stone—Mr. Tong, 40 gs.; Hermes—Mr. Matthew Marshall, Stauraer, 25 gs.; Diamond Ensign—Mr. Robinson, Moy, Ireland, 26 gs.

PROPERTY OF MESSRS. LUMSDEN AND MACKENZIE.

Cows: Hilda—Mr. Rothwell, Preston, 28 gs.; her heifer calf, Hilda 5th of Huntingtower Mr. Rothwell, 20 gs.; Pauline 2nd.—Mr. Wm. Duthie, Collynie, 76 gs.; Lady Sophie—Sir James Sivewright of Tulliallan, 24 gs.

Yearling heifer: Hilda 3rd—Mr. Duncan Stewart of Millhills, 26 gs.

Bull:—Golden Star—Mr. Sidey, Blinkbonny, 25½ gs.

SUMMARY.

COLONEL MUNRO'S.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total £ s. d.
32 cows	44 19 0	....	1,438 10 0
23 calves	29 15 4	....	684 12 0
4 two-year-old heifers	36 15 0	....	147 0 0
15 yearling heifers	40 16 2	....	612 3 0
5 bulls	27 10 2	....	137 11 0
79	£38 4 6	..	£3,019 16 0

MESSRS. LUMSDEN AND MACKENZIE'S.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total £ s. d.
6 cows	31 13 6	....	190 1 0
2 calves	17 17 0	....	35 14 0
2 yearling heifers	20 9 6	....	40 19 0
1 bull	—	....	26 15 6
11	£26 13 7	....	£293 9 6

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Aug. 26, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	53	76	298	116	2,672	4,521	5,509	6,455
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	18	12	26	592	970	1,095	1,201
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	2	1	6	6	654	1,065	1,176	1,117
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	43	54	63	30	1,420	1,827	1,613	1,339
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	34	47	27	827	1,030	989	760
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	66	120
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	16	51	24	14	914	1,047	820	750
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	19	18	11	618	659	585	465
Period.				Week ended Aug. 26, 1905 ...	Corresponding week in ...		Total for 34 weeks in ...	Corresponding period in		
					1904	1903		1904	1903	1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

It is reported that mysterious scourge is sweeping the swine off in scores in the Isle of Ely, and in quite a small area has claimed 100 victims a week, for the owners are absolutely helpless in the face of it. Veterinary surgeons can find no remedy for it, and so fearfully virulent is the disease that in twelve or twenty-four hours after being attacked the pig is dead. The disease is entirely different from swine fever, a red spot first appearing, and the animal becoming a mass of purple before it dies. The disease is said to have been imported—probably from Germany—and is termed erysipelas, though it has nothing in common with ordinary erysipelas.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

There has been a good deal of talk lately in certain circles about trotting races for Hackneys; but it is difficult to see what practical benefit can be derived from such a new departure. I have seen at more than one show so-called trotting competitions, and could never find that they were of any use, or, for the matter of that, of any great interest to the general public. To see one horse trotting against another may be very exciting for the owners and drivers, but, unless the horses are well-known and their performances are known also, it is difficult to see how the public are to be greatly excited by the spectacle. People who want to see racing will go to see it—they will not take trotting matches at an agricultural show as an equivalent. And those who advocated the new departure should bear in mind that it is the traditions connected with racing traditions which are the accumulation of centuries which make racing popular, and that there are no traditions connected with English trotting.

Time was when the English Hackney was a horse especially intended and especially adapted for carrying a man a long journey. He had sufficient of the thoroughbred blood in him to furnish him with stamina, and he had fine shoulder and hock action; he walked well and at a good pace—a very necessary accomplishment when roads were bad—and he could canter well on occasion. Above all things, he was a pleasant ride, and, on the principle that a good saddle horse makes a good harness horse as well, he was largely used for harness by private owners. In those days match trotting was by no means unknown, and there are many records of matches taking place in the latter half of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century, and the performances of Shales, Hue and Cry, Phenomenon, and others were the subject of much enthusiastic comment in their day. For when the stoutness of a Hackney was one of his most essential characteristics, the value of a stallion was considerably enhanced by good performances on the road.

But after railways became universal, the Hackney was put to different purposes. Style and quality, and his general appearance and showy action were considered, and there being no further use for stamina, it was neglected, with the result that we see some horses roll hopelessly after being driven a few times round a ring when the ground is holding. The new order of things set in just after the middle of the nineteenth century was turned, and the writer well remembers the late Lord Zetland pointing out the danger of encouraging the showy snap of the knee to the neglect of that fine shoulder action which gets over the ground.

It was about this time that the maxim "You can't have both action and pace" began to have vogue, and the increasing number of agricultural shows encouraged it. Then came the time when showy action was thought more of than make and shape, and when, if a horse only went high enough, had plenty of the knee and curb chain business, what were called minor defects, but what were really serious ones, were more or less ignored. Then came the time when we were told in so many words that the modern Hackney is the typical fashionable harness horse. For many years it has been the object of the principal Hackney breeders to breed high-class harness horses, and that they have succeeded in doing so the harness classes at our shows are sufficient proof.

Putting the case in a nutshell, then, it may be said that Hackney breeders have created a demand by supplying it, for the very high-stepping harness horse of the present day is very different in style and character to his predecessor of the fifties and sixties. They have put action, that is, high fashionable action, in front of pace, and though it may be quite possible to breed a horse on the lines of the American trotting horse by judicious mating, it is quite impossible to do so without sacrificing the action which is at present so fashionable. With a few exceptions, the Hackney breeder ignores the saddle altogether, and breeds, or tries to breed, the kind of horse that fashionable people drive in the parks, or when they make calls. Such horses are, in these days, scarcely ever wanted to go more than ten or twelve miles in a day; if a longer journey is to be taken the motor-car is pulled out. So having with infinite pains got what they have tried to get, it would almost seem as if "Quieta non movere" were the wisest policy for the Hackney breeder to adopt.

At the same time, it is possible that there may be another want which needs supplying. I mentioned a week or two ago that many gentlemen were tiring of motor-cars, and that there were more inquiries for harness horses than there had been for some time. But I scarcely think that the motor-car will go out of favour to such an extent as to bring horses into fashion again for long journeys, and cause a demand for horses bred on fast trotting lines.

The introduction of the Hackney into Ireland has not been productive of good, if we are to take the word of a correspondent in a daily newspaper concerning the light horses shown at the recent Dublin show. He points out that the ponies of the west—Sligo and Mayo—have deteriorated considerably, and that they have lost the fine shoulders and the fine galloping action for which they were once distinguished. In this he is supported by Mr. Miller, who complains that the foundation for the polo pony is no longer so easily obtained as it was a few years ago, before the Hackney stallion was placed at the disposal of the Irish tenant farmer at a small fee. When the inquiry was held in London a few years ago respecting the advisability of sending Hackneys to the congested districts, this danger was much insisted upon by many practical breeders and owners. And now it would seem that the mischief is done to a very great extent, and there is no knowing where it will end.

It is to be feared that we have too much of the "Bookish theorie" in our modern horse breeding. Men get all kinds of whims about what a horse should be, and then go to all kinds of horses to remedy defects which only exist in their own imaginations. So the Hackney, an admirable horse in his place, has been crossed with mares for which he was not suitable, and, in the endeavour to get one type, another and very excellent one has been lost. It is a case of history repeating itself, but it is to be hoped that the case is not quite so bad as some would have us believe.

Indeed, it would seem that there are plenty of good mares left in Ireland if we had only the sense to take care of them, for never have foreign buyers been busier than they were ten days ago at Balls Bridge. Especially were German buyers busy, and of one thing we may be certain—they did not take the worst away. At agricultural show luncheons we frequently hear speakers advise farmers to keep their brood mares, and only part with the crooked-legged ones to the foreigners, and there is no doubt that the speakers think they are saying something clever when they say this. Really they are not. The foreign buyer knows his business well. He is frequently a very good judge; when he is not, he always secures the services of a man who is. And he simply will not buy the cast-offs. But, being a man wise in his generation, he gives from £10 to £20 over the current market price for a good mare, knowing very well that it is impossible to calculate the value of a good brood mare.

There is an enormous amount of talk about keeping brood mares in the country; but not much practical effort made to keep them in the country. It is all very well to talk about "killing the goose that lays the golden egg" and urging upon farmers the necessity of breeding horses. Farmers also see another necessity—it is a necessity which is impressed upon them every day by an exacting Government with its ever-increasing rates and taxes and that is to sell in the best market. That the best market for brood mares is the foreign market is undoubted, and hence the foreigners get a great number of our best mares.

There are some practical attempts made to keep the best brood mares in the country. The Duke of Portland's scheme of lending mares to his tenants has been adopted by other landlords; but the only national scheme in this direction is the Brood Mare Society, a society which does not receive a hundredth part of the support that it merits. There should be as many members

in every county, i.e., in every horse breeding county, as there are altogether. It would be advisable, in the first place, when the funds of society admit of it, to buy the best brood mares as they come into the market, and see that they are placed in the hands of men who are capable managers of light horses. They would, I think, do more good in this way than by lending mares of not quite such good quality to men who have no taste for light horses. And if everyone who airs his knowledge of horse breeding—or want of it—at agricultural shows were to contribute his guinea, and get a few of his friends to subscribe, the annual income of the Brood Mare Society would soon be £30,000, which it ought to be.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale in Dublin.

As a sort of wind-up to the Horse Show week in Dublin Messrs. Sewell, Son, and Simpson held a sale of hunters at Dublin on Saturday, the 26th ult, and it was largely attended. There was a very well-filled catalogue, principally consisting of exhibits from the show, and sales were briskly effected, there being good competition. The best prices were obtained for the animals sent by Mr. Nathaniel Morton, who obtained three-figure prices for nearly every one of his animals, five fetching over 200 gs. each. Details of these, together with the other principal prices, are given in the following list:—

Mr. Nathaniel Morton's.—Royal Sport, bay gelding, 5 years, by Harkaway King, 190 gs.; Sunburst, chestnut gelding, 4 years, 105 gs.; Signature, dark chestnut gelding, 5 years, by Penman, 110 gs.; Look Out, bay gelding, 5 years, by Beware, dam by Arthur, 220 gs.; Sky Blue, grey gelding, 5 years, by Beware, 150 gs.; Mascot, bay gelding, 5 years, by Mascarille, 210 gs.; Jump the Gate, bay gelding, 4 years, by Walmsgate, 120 gs.; Simplicity, bay gelding, 5 years, 250 gs.; Raratonga, brown gelding, 4 years, by Wild Sherry, dam by Playactor, 130 gs.; My Sort, brown gelding, 4 years, by Derncleugh—Pure and Simple, 180 gs.; Marksman, bay gelding, 4 years, by Havoc—Lily Langtry, 130 gs.; Merry Boy, bay gelding, 4 years, by Monarch III.—Vera, 120 gs.; Life Guard, bay gelding, 4 years, by Gay Reveller, 140 gs.; Queen of the Bog, chestnut mare, 5 years, by Bog of Allan, 230 gs.; Moor Cock, chestnut gelding, 4 years, by North Mayo, 230 gs.

Mr. R. A. Sinclair's.—Clomeen, bay gelding, 7 years, by Bruree, 56 gs.

Mr. A. Topham's.—Bay gelding, 6 years, by Wondebar, 55 gs.; bay gelding, 5 years, 48 gs.; bay gelding, 5 years, 66 gs.

Mr. Patrick Meenan's.—Doll, bay mare, 5 years, by Cottingham—The Foyle, by Aughrim, 50 gs.; Slip Along, brown mare, 4 years, by Traverser, dam by Poucet, 50 gs.

Mr. M. Quinn's.—May Queen, chestnut mare, 6 years, 48 gs.; Rasper, chestnut gelding, 6 years, 48 gs.; bay mare, 6 years, 80 gs.; Gold Digger, chestnut gelding, 4 years, 70 gs.

Mr. Wm. Higgins's.—Merry Andrew, bay gelding, 6 years, by Connaught, 60 gs.; Togo, bay gelding, 5 years, by St. Patrick, dam by Strathblane, 56 gs.; Tacita, bay mare, 6 years, by Tacitus, 48 gs.

Mr. H. M'Kee's.—Imperialist, grey gelding, 8 years, by Beehive, 120 gs.

Sale at Wrexham.

On Tuesday, at the Whitegate Stud, Wrexham, Messrs. F. Lloyd and Sons brought under the hammer, in the presence of a large and representative company of breeders, a choice selection from Mr. J. Jones's well-known stud, and, as was to be expected from the high-class quality of the animals, some good prices were realised. Gold Dust, a magnificent chestnut gelding, 15 h. 3 in., made the top figure of the sale, for, after a keen competition between Mr. Parker, of Stanwell, and Mr. Rennie (Paisley), he was secured by the former at 330 gs. A pair of chestnut geldings, Active and Activity, caused a sharp competition between Mr. Edmond, of Liverpool, and Mr. Blackman, Piccadilly. The former, however, stayed longest, and got them for 240 gs., it was understood for shipment abroad. A chestnut gelding by Cassius, under 14 hands, was bought by Mr. Rennie, Paisley, at 140 gs., and L'Oh, a fine goer, was sold to Mr. James Taylor, Wrexham, for 100 gs. Other animals went below 100 gs. Champion Cassius was withdrawn at 280 gs., and Whitegate Swell at 250 gs., these being the two animals Mr. Jones reserved the right of putting in one bid for, this price being much below what he expected. Some capital prices were realised for the foals, as the following list of the principal sales shows. The average realised by the various lots were: Harness horses, £114 5s.; brood mares, £49 10s.; foals, £42 15s.; yearlings, £38 16s.; two and three year olds, £41 4s.

Harness horses and cobs.—Gold Dust, Mr. Parker, Cromwell, Middlesex, 330 gs.; Active and Activity, Mr. Edmond, Liverpool, 240 gs.; Master, 14.3, Mr. Rennie, Paisley, 140 gs.; L'Oh, Mr. J. Taylor, Wrexham, 100 gs.; Princess, Mr. H. D. Dennis, Rhuddlan, 74 gs.; Forest Queen, Mr. Bonner, 70 gs.; Amazement, Mr. Bagnley, 65 gs.; The Toff, Mr. Cash, 65 gs.; Gold Finder, Mr. [illegible], 62 gs.; The Trapper, Mr. W. Jones, Coed-y-Mor.

Brood mares.—Lowood Carmen, Miss Eaton, Welling, 70 gs.; Topsy Turvy, Mr. Craggs, Borough, 40 gs.; Express, 13.2, Mr. E. P. Burton, Yelverton, Whitegate Bell, 13.3, Mr. H. E. Parry, Wrexham, Whitegate Lass, 14.1, Mr. Berry, Leyland, 51 gs.; Agnes, Mr. J. M. Dugdale, Llwyn, 60 gs.; Carmen, 14 hands, T. Smith, Hall Green, Charm, 14 hands, Mr. Jagger, Epping, Cracker, 13 hands, Mr. Jagger, Epping.

65 gs.; Whitegate Fairy II., 13.2—Mr. Francis, Wem, 42 gs.; Whitegate Britannia, 13.2—Mr. E. P. Burton, 54 gs.; Whitegate Concert, 14.2—Mr. Berry, 26 gs.; Whitegate Plaid, 14.2—Mr. J. Bourne, Mucklestone, 30 gs.; Rosy Jane—Mr. W. J. Milton, Birkenhead, 32gs.; Whitegate Lady Kate, 14 hands—Mr. S. Woodiwiss, Great Watham, 31 gs.; Whitegate Bang, 13.1—Mr. Fox, Gainsborough, 76 gs.

Foals by His Majesty.—Leyswood Carmen's filly—Mr. Edwards, Johnstown, 40 gs.; Express's 13.3 filly—Mr. E. P. Burton, 52 gs.; Bell's 13.3 colt—Mr. A. Nuttall, 30 gs.; Agnes's colt—Dr. Harper, Stranraer, 40 gs.; Charmer's 13 hands filly—Mr. Thos. Smith, Hall Green, 45 gs.; Cracker's 13 hands filly—Mr. Thos. Smith, Hall Green, 70 gs.

Yearling ponies.—Wavelet—Mr. Baguley, 32 gs.; Janet—Mr. Thos. Smith, 50 gs.; Viola—Dr. Harper, 38 gs.; Little Dot—Mr. W. S. Miller, Brecon, 38 gs.

Two and three-year-olds.—Actress J. Bourne, Mucklestone, 39 gs.; Fashion—Mr. Humphreys, Gainsborough, 35 gs.; Glynceiriog—Mr. Lea, Kinsale, 38 gs.; King Mr. Cash, 51 gs.; Sensation—Mr. Davies, Denbigh, 31 gs.; Sir Richard Calmady—Mr. Nuttall, 46 gs.; Satisfaction—Mr. Dutton, Chester, 31 gs.; Speculation—Dr. Iliffe, Coventry, 42 gs.; All Fours—Mr. Huxley, Bromington, 40 gs.; Wonder—Mr. Wilson, Dunlop, 48 gs.; Monarch—Dr. Iliffe, 86 gs.

Notes and Jottings.

The export demand for stud sheep has been a much more general one this year from the South American countries than in former years. The breeds most in request after the Lincolns—which, as usual, have secured the larger demand—are the Kent or Romney Marsh, the Hampshire Down, and the Shropshire.

In our last week's notes we referred to several important sales of Kent or Romney Marsh rams. To these we are able to add this week others of equal importance. The first consists of thirty-two head, which have been purchased through Messrs. Spearing and Waldron for export to Patagonia and the Falkland Islands for the Patagonian Sheep Farming Company, Limited, and the South American Export Syndicate, Limited. The flocks from which this large lot of rams have been selected were Mr. H. Rigden's, who contributes eight rams of fine merit; Mr. W. Millen, who contributes nine very superior even-fleece, typical rams of masculine type and carriage; Mr. Charles File, whose flock supplies eight of that well-known Windsor strain of prize-winning blood, and the remainder came from Mr. F. Butter's old flock at Frindsbury, Rochester. The other sales of last week were fourteen yearling rams from Mr. Arthur Finn's flock at Westbrook, Lydd, through the agency of Mr. W. W. Chapman, to Mr. W. M. Dean for export to the Falkland Islands, and two ewes and eight ewe lambs, through the same agent, also to Mr. Dean, from Mr. W. Millen's flock at Syndale, Faversham, Kent.

Messrs. P. and G. Hughes have also purchased a very fine lot of these Romney Marsh rams, ten in number, from that well-known flock owned by Mr. H. Rigden.

Amongst the Shropshires recently purchased for the Argentine are seventeen specially fine yearling rams bred by Mr. T. A. Buttar at Corston. These were all secured by Mr. R. Taylor at the annual ram sale.

Argentine advices by the last mail inform us that on August 3 last a consignment of ninety head of Shropshires arrived there, and another consignment of seventy Lincoln rams.

The keenness of the Argentine demand for Lincoln rams was clearly demonstrated by the high prices paid by the Argentine buyers at the recent sale of Mr. T. C. B. Dixon's rams, and, from information received from different Lincoln breeders, it is evident, although the demand during the past season has been a very large one, that all the orders are not yet filled. This is a good augury for the sales yet to be held, and it would appear more than probable that the demand for ram lambs will be a keen one.

The selling of ram lambs for export, however, is not likely, in the long run, to be beneficial for the best interests of the breeders of Longwool sheep. As a rule, the ram lambs of these breeds need longer to develop than of the Down breeds, and consequently there is greater risk in the selected ram lambs not being all they should be when they become yearlings. For this reason the demand for ram lambs is not one that should be encouraged.

The system of giving individual official export certificates with stud sheep is one that has not yet become general, but that it will do so in the near future is quite certain. Why it has not long ago been insisted upon by every purchaser of imported sheep into the country they go to we cannot imagine. It is fully as necessary for the purchaser to know the breeding and pedigree of every sheep imported as it is of bulls and cows, stallions and mares, and yet it is still very often left undone.

A recent decree of the Argentine Government (March 2, 1905), however, goes a long way towards making the issue of official export certificates necessary. Under this decree it is now necessary for the signatures of the secretaries of the breed societies to be properly verified at the Argentine Consul's before the latter will visé the official export certificates. Probably some objection will be raised against this new decree, but from a knowledge of the whole business of sheep export, there can be no question but that it is a step in the right direction. Anything that tends to increase the value of the official export certificate, or any step taken to render the correct pedigree of each and every animal exported being sent with it, is to be commended. The fuller information in respect to the breeding of all animals exported for stud purposes that can be supplied to their purchasers the better it is. Such information will certainly enable them to make better use of the imported animals, and in proportion to the satisfaction given so will the demand for them increase. It has been asked by more than one flockmaster: How can the better demand for stud sheep this season be accounted for? The reply is one ready to hand, namely, the large increase in the value of wool. For instance, a large grower of wool in South America recently told the writer that his sales this season had resulted in an average of 8¾d. per lb., as against 4d. per lb. three years back. With so large an increase in the receipts from wool, there can be no question but that it has made the buyers more keen, and many of them have invested a part of the increased receipts from wool in the purchase of stud rams, by means of which, if all goes well, the value of their flocks, both for production of wool and mutton, will be still further increased.

The result of the large increase in breeding cross-bred lambs two or three years back, particularly in the Lincoln and Kent or Romney Marsh districts, has been to make the supply of ewes of these breeds very short indeed. The recent lamb sales held in Kent particularly emphasise this by the notably high prices paid for ewe lambs. This position of affairs is satisfactory to those who have kept their flocks pure, and it proves that, despite all the temporary advantages secured by those who went in for cross-breeding, that the turn of the pure-bred flockowner has come again, as has always been the case.

THE LINCOLN RAM SALE.

The result of the keen demand experienced during the past season for the Lincoln rams was very apparent when we examined the rams entered for the great annual sale at Lincoln. In all our experience we have never before seen so few leading sheep offered at this sale. The export buyer has taken pretty nearly all the best, and consequently, although the average realised for the whole sale this season is so much lower than last year, there can be no question but that it is compartively a far better average, and probably one of the best ever realised at this fixture, if the quality of this year's entry be compared with any of the preceding sales.

The whole of the rams present at the sale were sold, the entry numbered 289, of which five were absent, and the sales include 284 rams and others. In this respect the sale is, we believe, almost, if not quite, a record one. Last year's average was £31 18s. 9d. for 151 rams, and that for the present year was £19 7s. 5d. for 284, the aggregate total of the whole sale being £5,581.

Taking a view of the entry as a whole—if we take out two lots, those sent by Messrs. W. B. Swallow and J. Pears—we found that in nearly every case the rams sent were either those left by the Argentine buyer or those which came from flocks not generally considered as the leading ram breeding flocks. These facts emphasise the excellence of the demand, and make the relative value of the average realised, when compared with those of previous years, very much better than a mere cursory reference to the records of former years would indicate. The top price realised last year

was 300 guineas, and the top average £125 6s.; but this was an exceptional one. This year's top price was 200 guineas, and the best average £63, both realised by Mr. W. B. Swallow's excellent consignment, that was composed of the best rams of his flock this year. These rams were the first offered, and right away from the start there was clear indication of a very keen demand indeed. This is the first time Mr. Swallow has made the top price at the fair, and also the first time he has made the top average. His first ram, a real good one for the Argentine, was put in at 50 guineas, and by fives and tens he was very soon at 200 guineas, at which price Messrs. P. and G. Hughes secured him for the Argentine; the same buyers gave 135 guineas for another, a real typical Argentine ram, and they also took two others at 40 and 30 guineas. Messrs. Wright, who were bidders for the leading rams, got a capital sheep at 43 guineas and another at 25 guineas; Mr. R. Fisher took one at 38 guineas, and Mr. J. Brocklebank one at 37 guineas. Mr. Moore's selection cost him 30 guineas, and that made for Mr. W. Savage 22 guineas; the ten averaged £63, ranging from 200 guineas to 21 guineas. All Mr. Tom Casswell's best rams have been sold for export. Another lot sent to Lincoln, with the exception of two, were the tail end of the 1904 crop. The first ram, a very fine sheep, went, after keen competition, to Mr. F. Ward, at 180 guineas, Mr. W. J. Brooks taking the next one at 38 guineas, to Northamptonshire, two others made 31 guineas each, to Mr. Thompson; another went at 21 guineas to Messrs. Wright, and the others went at 16 and 15 guineas. The nine averaged £42 2s. 4d., ranging from 180 to 15 guineas. Mr. J. Pears sent a very good lot of rams, probably one of the best lots he has sent to this sale for several years. They were in great request. An Argentine buyer, under the name of Mr. Carden, gave the top price, 110 guineas, for the second ram of this lot; the same purchaser also took five others at 51, 44, 30, 23, and 18 guineas. Mr. T. C. B. Dixon got two real good stud rams, one cost 65 guineas and the other 50 guineas. Mr. Henry Dudding also secured two of these fine rams; his top price was 65 guineas, and the other he got at 38 guineas. Mr. McLean, for the Argentine, gave 60 guineas; Mr. J. E. Casswell, 61 guineas; Mr. L. Stephenson, 35 guineas; Mr. G. Marris, 34 guineas; Mr. Watson, 24 guineas; Mr. Cullen, 21 guineas; Messrs. Needham, 17 guineas; Mr. Allen, 16 guineas, etc. The average for the 22 was £40 18s., and the prices ranged from 110 to 11 guineas.

Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons sent twenty-five, the largest lot entered in the sale from any single flock. These rams were all in good request, at from 70 gs., at which price Mr. Stewart purchased for the Argentine, the same buyer also taking others at 48, 20, 20, and 15 gs. Mr. H. Dudding gave 50 gs. for his choice, a capital ram; but those selected by Messrs. Casswell and Money each cost 60 gs. Mr. F. Ward paid 42 gs., Mr. Watson 36 gs., Mr. Hankin (for Holland) 21 gs., Mr. Jackson taking one at this price to Yorkshire and another at 20 gs., Mr. Marshall gave 30 gs. Messrs. Needham 24 gs., Mr. E. H. Cartwright 25 gs., etc. The average for the twenty-five was £33 11s., and the range of prices from 70 to 13 gs. Mr. J. E. Casswell's nine were not so even as we have seen this flock's entries at some former sales, so far as regards prices realised. Mr. J. Redmore gave the top price, 52 gs. Mr. F. Ward was a good second, for he paid 50 gs. for his selection. Three others made 19 gs. each to Messrs. J. Brocklebank, Cooper, and Dickinson. Another went to Mr. Vergette at 16 gs.; two others made 14 gs. to Mr. J. Wilks (for the Argentine) and Yarrad, and the other made 12 gs. The average for the nine rams was £25 1s. 8d., and the range of prices from 52 to 12 gs.

Messrs. W. Crowder Brothers sent a real good lot of rams, for which was found a first-class demand. Messrs. P. and G. Hughes took the top-priced one at 32 gs., and they also secured two others at 26 and 13 gs. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons got a very fine ram at 27 gs.; Mr. Gale one at 22 gs.; Messrs. Wright two at 17 and 16 gs.; and Mr. Harvey one at 17 gs. The average for eight was £22 6s. 3d., and the range of prices 32 to 12 gs.

Mr. W. Taylor Sharp's consignment were one of the best we have seen sent from this flock for a very considerable time. Several of these rams were of a superior merit, and we were pleased to see they were appreciated. Mr. E. H. Cartwright gave the top price, 47 gs., and the ram secured was of high merit and nice type. Mr. J. Fisher's selection for his flock near Grantham, cost 44 gs.; this was also a ram of capital merit. Mr. J. Cartwright, of Dunstan, gave 40 gs. for another typical sire; and at the same price Messrs. T. Atkinson and Son purchased another. The next best price was 24 gs. to Mr. Pearson Gregory, then came 17 gs. to Mr. Cranfield, 16 gs. three times to Messrs. Pears, T. Barrow, and G. Sanderson. Three made 15 gs., one to Messrs. Wright and two for the Argentine to Messrs. J. Wilks and McLean. The average of this lot was £21 2s. 1d., and the range of prices 47 to 10 gs.

Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needham sent a consignment that were not quite so even in merit as we have seen them. Some were real good rams, and had the consignment been smaller a much better average would have been made, and doubtless the lower grade of rams would have realised more money at the latter fairs. Messrs. P. and G. Hughes got the first sheep or ram of high merit at 46 gs.; they also took another pretty nearly as good at 36 gs. Mr. Leslie Stephenson gave 35 gs. for another, but for the remainder a lower range of prices prevailed; Mr. G. Marris getting a cheap ram at 14 gs., two others made 13 gs. to Messrs. T. R. Casswell and R and R. Hilton. The average for the fourteen rams was £17 5s. 9d., with the range of prices from 46 to 7 gs.

Mr. J. B. Nelson's eight were in good request. Mr. J. Evans took the top-priced ram at 23 gs., another went at 20 gs. to Mr. Pears. One made 16 gs. to Mr. Bayles, another 15 gs. to Mr. J. S. Cartwell, and two others 14 gs. to General Wilson and Mr. W. Seagrave. The average for the eight was £16 5s. 9d., with the range of prices from 23 to 10 gs.

Mr. J. Cartwright's consignment sold very well indeed, and made fully their value. Mr. Bemrose, the well-known judge, took two, one at 22 gs. and the other at 14 gs.; two made 17 gs. to Mr. R. Botherill and Machin, the last-named taking another at 12 gs. Mr. Brown, for Shropshire, gave 15½ gs. for one and Mr. Poels 15 gs. for another. The average for the twelve rams was £15 6s. 3d. with a range of from 22 to 11 gs.

Mr. S. Yarrad's consignment came into the sale ring in an attractive condition. These rams were in request. Messrs. Wright took three at 18, 17, and 14 gs. respectively; three others made 11 gs. each. The average for the eight was £13 5s. 1d., and the range of prices from 18 to 9 gs.

Mr. G. Langdale sent a very useful lot of rams that were in good demand so far as regards the best of them. Mr. W. Ward, buying, we understand, for the Argentine, gave 33 gs., the top price; Mr. C. E. Howard gave 28 gs. for another, and Mr. F. Ward 21 gs. for a third. Mr. Hensman's selection realised 14 gs., the next best price; Mr. Pears gave 10½ gs., at which figure Mr. C. E. Howard took one also; Messrs. A. Davy and Walter Ward gave 10 gs. for two others. The twenty rams averaged £12 2s. 6d., and the prices ranged from 33 to 5½ gs.

Mr. J. Redmore's top price was 14 gs., to Mr. W. M. Casswell, who also gave 12 gs. for another, at which price Mr. Croft also purchased. The average for the eight was £11 17s. 6d., and the range of prices from 14 to 10 gs.

Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart., sent his usual consignment. The best price here was 21 gs., to Mr. W. Savage for the Argentine, who also took others at 16, 12, 10 (two), and 9 gs.; Mr. Barlow gave 16 gs., Mr. G. Spilman 14 gs., Mr. Wilks, for the Argentine, 12 gs., etc. The average for twenty was £11 16s. 3d., with a range of prices from 21 to 6 gs.

Messrs. W. and W. H. Watson. The best price here was 16 gs., to Messrs. Money, who also took a second one at 9½ gs.; Mr. J. C. Mountain gave 13 gs., Mr. H. L. Barker 12 gs., and Mr. Pears got another at the same price. The average for the fourteen was £11 6s. 6d., with a range of prices from 16 to 6½ gs. Mr. H. Goodyear, from whose flocks several excellent stud rams have been purchased in former years, had a very even and typical lot of rams for sale. These were shown late and sent in store condition. The best price was 15 gs., to Mr. R. Turton; another made 10½ gs., to Mr. R. Botherill, and one 10 gs. to Tomlinson and Hayward, from which figure they ranged down to 7 gs., with an average of £10 7s. 4d. for eight.

Mr. G. Hoyle's five sold for an average of £9 15s. 8d.; the best price was 10 gs., at which two were sold, one to Mr. Batholomew, and the other to Messrs. Poels and Brewster, the remainder ranging down to 8½ gs. Mr. C. M. Johnson had in his consignment one outstanding ram, which, had it been in the hands of one of the leading breeders, would have made a long figure. As it was it went at 22 gs. to Mr. G. Spilman, Mr. Barker taking next highest-priced one at 11½ gs., and the remainder ranged down to 6 gs., with an average of £9 12s. 4d. for ten.

Mr. J. Evans had a dozen well-bred and very typical rams offered; like all the others offered at this sale, they were all sold; the best price was 10½ gs., realised for two rams to Mr. Fieldsend, two others making 10 gs., one to the last named purchaser, and the other to Messrs. Tomlinson and Hayward; the remainder ranged from this price to 5½ gs., giving an average for the twelve of £9 8s. 1d.

Mr. C. Hensman's entry numbered ten; 10½ gs. was the top price, to Mr. F. Scorer; two others made half-a-guinea less, to Mr. Poels and J. Copping, and the remainder ranged down to 6 gs., making the average £9 1s. 7d.

Mr. C. Rudkin entered and sold ten; the best price was 11 gs., to Mr. R. Chatterton; the remainder ranged from 9 to 6½ gs., and gave an average of £8 13s. 4d.

Mr. T. S. Pearson Gregory sent ten, and here again 11 gs. was the top price, Mr. R. Chatterton taking one at this price, and Mr. H. Coles, for Essex, another; the remainder ranged down to 5 gs., with an average of £8 10s. 1d.

Mr. W. H. Pates sent twelve, the best price for which was 9½ gs., to Mr. W. Pate, from which figure the remainder ranged down to 6 gs., with an average of £8 2s. 9d.

Messrs. Calthorpe and Briggs, Dickinson and Regall, Escritt, and Barrell, Howse and Lawrence, W. A. Richardson, Saul Bros., and J. E. Walter were the auctioneers engaged at these sales, which, as has been the case since 1892, are conducted under the rules and regulations of the Lincoln Long Wool Sheep Breeders' Association, of which Mr. S. Upton is the popular Secretary.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Chichester.

Messrs. Stride and Sons held their annual second sale of about 278 Southdown rams and ram lambs and 3,500 Southdown ewes and ewe lambs at Chichester Cattle Market on Wednesday. There was a very large company of buyers present from all parts of England, and several from Wales and Scotland. Trade for regular draft and young ewes was brisk, and the good prices realised at the first sale were well maintained. There was an excellent show of lambs, and with the harvest practically cleared and the better winter keep prospect after the recent rains, the best trade of the season was experienced. The entry of rams and ram lambs was very good indeed, considering that 420 were disposed of at the first sale, only three weeks previous. When the sale opened at eleven o'clock there was a large company present, and a good demand prevailed for the best shearlings and lambs, but secondary sorts, although they changed hands, met a dragging trade. A large number of rams were taken into Kent and Wales for crossing purposes. Shearling rams made from 5 to 16 guineas, and ram lambs from 3 to 8½ guineas.

The following were the principal buyers:—Mr. Mackenzie, for his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon; Earl Cadogan; Mr. Ingram, for the Earl of Chichester; Duke of Grafton; Earl Amhurst; Mr. Beattie, for the Duchess of Newcastle; Col. McCalmont, Newmarket; Mr. Cook, Surrey; Mr. Geo. Duck, Petworth; Mr. Coryton, Liss; Mr. West, Liphook; Mr. Strong, Guildford; Mr. John Jones, Dinarth Hall; Mr. Holding, Kent; Mr. A. M. Singer, Michelgrove; Mr. S. Haines, Jun.; Mr. Pritchard, Wilts; Mr. Bradridge, Essex; Mr. Barclay, Dorking; Mr. Everall, Watergate; Mr. H. Neale, Lidsey; Mr. F. Neale, Felpham; Mr. Gray, Winchester; Mr. D. Humphrey, Amberley; Mr. Kenward, Lewes; Mr. Chissell, Oakley; Mr. Peacock, for the West Sussex County Asylum; Mr. King, for Mr. Tennent, Adsdean; Mr. Lintott, Guildford; Mr. Badcock, Ticehurst; Captain Barwell, Cowfold; Mr. Collver, Bersted; Mr. Carn, Petworth; Mr. Crutchley, Ascot; Mr. Challen, Midhurst; Mr. Calder, Edinburgh; Mr. Howard; Mr. C. Whicher, West Stoke; Mr. Issac, Wisboro' Green; Mr. A. H. Harris, Donnington; Mr. Mills, Portsmouth; Mr. Phillips, Shoreham; Mr. Rudwick, Cackham Towers; Mr. Jas. Reddaway, Hayling Island; Mr. Stacey Lewes; Mr. Shrewster, Billingshurst; Mr. Saillard; Mr. Street, Havant; Mr. F. Standford, Middleton, etc.

Haverhill.

There was a capital attendance at Mr. Chas. Boardman's annual sale of sheep and rams at Haverhill on 25th ult. Consignments aggregating to 2,200 were placed before the buyers, who came from a wide area. The quality of the sheep on the whole was very good, some fine Suffolk ewes coming from Mr. D. M. Gurteen's Hanchett Hall farm, whose entire flock was placed on the market. A pen of two-shear Suffolk ewes from this flock made 55s. per head; three shears, in lots of 24, 25, and 15, sold at 47s., 46s. 6d., and 47s. per head. Pens of full-mouthed registered Suffolk ewes from flocks in the district made 42s., 38s. 6d., and 39s. each. Some very good Suffolk shearlings were consigned, and in pens of twenties they changed hands at 53s. 6d., 53s., 52s.; 50s. 6d., 50s., 48s. 6d., 45s. 6d., and 44s. 6d. per head. There were a lot of lambs penned, and they sold at prices ranging from 30s. 6d. to 42s. The rams offered were of very good quality, and satisfactory prices were realised. A two-shear Suffolk from Mr. D. M. Gurteen sold at £5. Shearlings made up to £5 10s., this one coming from Mr. C. E. Webb, Nosterfield End. For the ram lambs there was keen competition, especially for those from Mr. J. T. Stockburn, Clare, and Mr. C. E. Webb's flocks. One from the latter consignor's made the top price of £6 5s., and others made £5 15s., £5, etc. Mr. Stockburn's consignment were sold at prices which reached £6 2s. 6d.

Warwickshire.

The weather was not altogether kind to the show of the Warwickshire Agricultural Society, held at Coventry, on Wednesday and Thursday, for the first day was dull and cold, with the result that the attendance of visitors was affected, and the takings fell short of last year. The second day, however, was more favourable, and the attendance was so good that it was thought the deficiency on the first day was more than made up.

As in 1900, when the society last visited Coventry, the exhibition was held on the King's Fields, Stoke, and covered an area of about 20 acres. Although a mile and a half out of the city, it was very accessible, a frequent service of electric trams running from the railway station to the entrance of the show ground, and thus visitors had no difficulty in getting to the show. The entries, so far as live stock is concerned, compared favourably with the shows of recent years. The total was 564, as compared with 603 at Leamington in 1904, and 540 when the exhibition was held at Coventry five years ago. The horses numbered 294—a rather substantial decrease on last year's figures—but compared with other recent years about a normal entry. The show of light horses was one of the best which has ever been held by the society; and, in most respects, the Shires and agricultural horses were well up to the average, viewed either from the point of numbers or of quality. Cattle numbered 143, an advance of 15; and an improvement was noticeable in the returns of sheep, which numbered 92; the other figures being as follows—pigs, 35; dairy produce, 36 (a big falling off compared with last year); eggs, 15; dressed poultry, 10; and implement stands, 63.

Horses, as previously remarked, were up to the average of previous shows, and in both light and heavy sections the classes were well filled, the exhibitors including some of the best-known breeders in the country. Shire horses were admirably represented, one of the chief winners being Sir Albert Muntz, who headed a strong class of two-year-old stallions with his Dunsmore Regent, a big horse with excellent movement, which has often been distinguished in the show-yard. Shire yearling fillies were fairly well represented and here Sir Albert came again to the front, this time with Dunsmore Flirty, a tall and well-proportioned animal which has won many honours. Sir Albert's noted champion, Dunsmore Fuchsia, was, as might have been expected, an easy winner in a strong class; and of the three-year-old fillies the best was Sir Albert Muntz's Bonny Blue, a thick, weighty mare, shown in the pink of condition, and she also secured the gold medal offered by the Shire Horse Society. Shire mares made a first-rate show, and here the premier award fell to Mr. Hamer Towgood, of Cambridge, with his noted winner Rolleston Fuchsia. Speaking generally, local tenant farmers responded well to the society's invitation. The best Shire foal was exhibited by Mr. H. J. Dewes, of Nuneaton, who brought into the ring a big brown colt, with perfect feather, feet, and joints. The foal also took the premier honour in the open class. Warwickshire farmers made a creditable show with agricultural horses; the classes were fairly well filled, and in several instances competition was keen.

There were twenty-eight classes of light horses, and they were capitally filled, there being a brisk competition, particularly in the hunter classes. Hacks were well represented. Mr. James Lea, of Kenilworth, scored well with his beautiful bay mare, Maypole. The animal has well nigh perfect action, and was shown in excellent condition. A nice type of bay gelding, five years old, headed a fairly strong class for animals over 14 hands. The standard of merit of the ponies was very high; indeed, it is a long time since a better lot was got together. The chief prize-taker was Mr. William Foster, of Moseley, who showed three animals all of which have been repeatedly honoured in the showyard. Much interest was taken in the hunter classes, and in the performances of the animals in the ring. A good-quality brown colt, which has the makings of a first-rate hunter, was shown by Mr. Kendall of Stratford, and to this exhibit fell the special award of a silver medal. Two-year-old fillies made an exceptionally strong class and were headed by Phyllis, a stylish moving bay, the property of Mr. Danby, of Leamington, which later was awarded the Hunters' Improvement Society's special. Breeding mares were a mixed lot, and of these a grey mare, the property of Mr. Haye, of Leicester, which was placed third, was given the silver medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society. There was, however, a lot of merit among the four-year-old hunters, and the three-year-old fillies and geldings, and in each Mr. Stokes, of Market Harborough, took the leading honours, as he has done at other shows this season. The best tenant farmer's hunter was shown by Mr. C. L. Kendall, of Stratford-on-Avon.

The cattle classes were well filled with good quality animals. Provision was made for Shorthorns, Longhorns, Channel Island cattle, and cattle best adapted to dairy purposes, of which there was an excellent collection. The Shorthorns were the more numerous, and among them were many magnificent specimens of the breed. There were only four bulls, over 20 months and under three years old, but they made a striking show; the winner was Meteor, a substantial white bull, the property of Mr. R. P. Cooper, of Shenstone Court, Lichfield. In the next class for Shorthorn bulls, not more than two years old—competition was limited here to tenant farmers who occupy land in the county of Warwick or within a ten-mile radius of Coventry—there was an outstanding winner in Lodge Crown Prince, the property of Messrs. J. Gowling and Sons, Hill Farm, Radford, Leamington. He is a heavy roan, a little over eighteen months old, and likely to take a prominent part at future shows. At this show he also took the prize of £10 awarded by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland for the best Shorthorn bull in the county of Warwick, calved in 1904. In the Shorthorn Society's class there was a good entry; no second prize was offered for competition, but the judges awarded two highly commended cards, being unable to overlook the merits of certain of the animals; indeed, a finer lot of Shorthorn bulls has never been previously seen at this show. The cows were numerous, and their quality of a superior kind, for many well-known owners and breeders entered into the contests, and the competition was rendered spirited and keen. There was a special class for the encouragement of pure-bred milking Shorthorns, the first prize being £10 given by the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland. The cows were of any age, in milk, but eligible for and entered in Coate's Herd Book or pedigree sent for such entry previous to the show. The class was a strong one, but the judges had little hesitation in giving the premier award to Mr. J. C. Holland's (Warton Grange, Newport, Salop) Valentine, a roan, 5½ years old, and undoubtedly a grand specimen of a Shorthorn milker. With many of the cows in this class the judges were greatly pleased. The same may be said of the animals in the next class, in milk or in calf above three years old. Considerable interest was attached to the heifer class, for the animals collected here constituted a magnificent lot.

As usual at Warwickshire shows, the picturesque Longhorns made an excellent show. Mr. W. L. Riley, of Wyken House, Coventry, won in the class for bulls calved since January 1, 1901, with Wychnor Prince, a dark brindle and white, a magnificent bull, which took first prize at the Royal; whilst in cows (a wonderfully good lot) Mrs. Cheape, of Bentley Manor, Redditch, took first and third, and in the heifer class secured a second, the winner this time being Lord Gerard. The Channel Island cattle were few but good, Mr. James Joicey, of Poulton Priory, Fairford, Gloucester, taking second in the bull class and first in the cow or heifer class, whilst he was well in the running for the first prize in the bull class with Netina's Dairy Lad, but the judges, after careful and lengthy consideration, awarded premier honours to the Hon. Mrs. Murray-Smith, who showed Smiler, whole colour, a year and five months old. In the six classes for cattle best adapted to dairy purposes, remarkable success was achieved by Mr. F. J. Stanhope, Claybrooke, Rugby, he securing three firsts, three seconds, and two thirds in four classes.

There was a good collection of sheep, but only a fair competition, and the prizes were distributed amongst a section of the exhibitors, Mr. R. S. Potter, of Hawkeswell, Coleshill, gaining numerous prizes, and the bulk of the other awards going to Messrs. Richard Raywood, of Harley, Much Wenlock; R. P. Cooper, S. A. Berry, Nuneaton; W. Arkell, Fairford; G. Street, of Ampthill; J. Phipps Smith, Evesham; and G. Beale, Hinckley. Mr. R. P. Cooper occupied a prominent position among the Shropshire winners, as he always does at other shows. He showed remarkably good shearling rams, ewes, and ewe lambs in the best of condition. Mr. R. S. Potter also did very well in the Shropshires, showing symmetrical and compact sheep. In the Oxford Downs, Mr. William Arkell, of Fairford, took two firsts, with ram and ewe lambs.

Pigs were numerous and good. The chief successes were secured by Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son, of Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts, they winning the first prize and the National Pig Breeders' Association silver medal for both the best boar and sow of the Large White or Middle White breed; whilst in Tamworths Mr. R. Ibbotson, Knowle, had much his own way, he securing the gold medal of the British Tamworth Pig Breeders' Association.

The gentlemen who officiated as judges were—Shire and agricultural horses: A. J. Flowers, Aylesbury; W. Richardson, Doddington. Hunting horses, hacks, ponies, etc.; T. Clark, Brompton; John Cooke, Norwich. Driving: W. Evans, Wrexham, and Mevnell Hunt, Birmingham. Jumping: Sir P. Albert Muntz, Bart., M.P.; J. Mayfield, Parkfields, Alleslev; G. Whitmoor, Atherstone; J. Newton Jones, Redditch. Shorthorns, dairy cattle, etc.: James Peter, Berkeley; F. W. Lester, Winslow. Longhorns: W. S. Shaw, Fradlev. Channel Island cattle: G. P. Mead, Shrewsbury. Coventry butchers' prizes: J. Bausor, Coventry. Shropshire sheep, etc.: J. E. Farmer, Ludlow. Oxford Downs: D. Gibbard, Banbury. Pigs: C. R. Lynn, Stroxton, Grantham.

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Derbyshire.

The two-day show of the Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society has gained for itself a wide and well-deserved reputation, and that held last week was fully up to the high standard of recent years. For forty years the society held its show in the Derby Cattle Market, but with the growing horticultural and poultry departments this site at last became too cramped, and last September a change of scene was made. The Midland Railway Company placed Osmaston Park at the disposal of the society, and this offer enabled those responsible for the arrangements to manage the 1904 show on better lines than had before been practicable. The result was that last year's show was a record from several points of view, though the number of competitive exhibits was under the average. The same showground was this year again utilised, and proved once again a most adequate one, although the entries—795—showed an increase of 100 on those of 1904, and this was a matter of congratulation on every hand. There was a record of 884 in 1901, while a year later the number was 880, falling to 852 in 1903 and to 695 in 1904, the last total showing a drop of 157. This year's recovery was mainly acounted for by an additional entry of sixty-two horses, whilst cattle numbered fifteen more.

The judges were:—Cattle: Shorthorns—J. W. Beech (Leigh, Stoke-on-Trent) and W. Porter (Loughborough); Channel Islands, Kerries, and Dexters—W. G. M. Townley (Grange-over-Sands). Horses: Shire and draught—Thomas B. Freshney (South Somercotes, Louth, Lincolnshire) and James Whinnerah (Carnforth); Hunters and Polo Ponies—the Hon. A. E. Parker (Doveridge, Derby); Hackneys—A. Fewson (Hedon, Hull); Leaping and bending—W. D. Winterbottom (Aston Hall, Derby), Gerald H. Hardy, M.F.H. (Derby), and J. H. Gascoyne (Derby). Sheep: W. Barrs (Tempe, Marsham, Atherstone), and Henry Smith, sen. (Cropwell Butler, Notts). Cheese, butter, and dairy produce: J. Pakeman (Chellaston, Derby) and R. W. Spriggs (Derby).

The show of horses in each department was most successful, especially in the Shire classes, which were exceedingly strong. Foals were a feature of the show. Mr. Elsey, of Hopwell Hall, offered a silver challenge cup for the best female animal in the Shire classes, and this was awarded to Mr. Egerton Orme, of Etwall, for Duchess, a beautiful three-year-old bay by Watnall Harold. Bearwardcote Fashion, shown by Messrs. Walwyn, of Etwall, being reserve. One of the conditions of the competition was that the animals had to be bred and exhibited by the owner, and as Mr. Orme's exhibit had not been bred by the exhibitor, an objection was lodged. Mr Orme unreservedly withdrew his claim to the trophy, which was duly awarded to Messrs. Walwyn's representative. A cup offered by Mr. J. W. Whitehurst, of the Markenton Stud Farm,

was won by Messrs. Hutchinson Bros., of Foremark Park, with Prince, a two-year-old bay by Pride of Blagdon. Mr. Deaville, of Strottle, was reserve with a chestnut by Brandmark. The gold medal of the Shire Horse Society was awarded to Mr. Philo L. Mills's well-known mare Hargate Bound, which has won all up and down the country, a six-month's-old black filly from the same stud being reserve.

The hunters formed a grand collection—in fact, it was admitted on all hands to be the best ever seen at Derby. Mr. F. B. Wilkinson, of Cavendish Lodge, Edwinstowe, Newark, was very successful, carrying off the majority of premier awards in the open classes. The medal offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society was awarded to Mr. Henry Boden, of The Friary, Derby, for Sweetheart, a smart-looking bay aged six years. Of Hackneys there was a very creditable display, whilst the saddle classes were particularly strong. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal fell to Mr. A. W. Hickling, of Adbolton, Nottingham, for Adbolton Princess, a two-year-old filly which has won at all the principal shows, the same society's silver medal for the best mare or gelding exhibited in the harness classes being won by Mr. S. R. Tennant, of Driffield, with Authority, which gained premier honours in the open-to-all-England hack or roadster class (ridden), and the open-harness class. Wigginton Nook, the property of the Wigginton Stud, Tamworth, which won the open-harness class for horses between fourteen and fifteen hands, was reserved. The silver medal of the Polo and Riding Pony Society went to Mr. F. H. Unwin's (Farnah, Derby) Zoe, an old bay mare by Fitz-James. The Earl of Harrington's pony, by Nomination, was reserve.

In the cattle section Shorthorns were the most prominent, but they were more representative of Derbyshire than the country. In the open old-bull class Colonel the Hon. W. A. W. Lawson, of Melton Mowbray, led with Farmer's Glory, which was attended by Barton Prince, shown by Mr. F. Royle Bristowe, of Mildenhall, Suffolk. The prizes for yearling bulls were awarded to Mr. P. Walker, of Shipley, Ilkeston, and Mr. W. Holden, of Chevin, Belper. Bull calves were useful, the pick of them having been forwarded by Mr. T. Potter, of Daybrook House, Notts, and Mrs. W. F. Inge, of Thorpe, Tamworth. Mr. R. Shelton, of Ruddington, Nottingham, exhibited Ruth Clarence 33rd in a Shorthorn dairy class, and she won. In the remaining open classes Sir Oswald Mosley took three first prizes with Yours Faithfully, Proud Duchess, and Rolleston Regina, three animals which have more or less distinguished themselves in different showyards. The farmers' dairy cattle were creditable to the county. Four of the premiums for Channel Island cattle were taken by Captain L. G. Gisborne, of Allestree, Derby, whilst the Earl of Harrington and Mrs. C. Ratcliffe, of Loughborough, took a prize each. The four premiums offered for Kerry or Dexter cattle were awarded to the Duchess of Devonshire.

Sheep and pigs showed a disappointing falling off. Of the pigs, what entries there were were of remarkably good quality, but the restrictions on the removal of pigs are always reflected in the entries at the Derbyshire show. The sheep were moderate in quality, and probably the reason why there were no more than thirty-two on show is to be found in the fact that Derbyshire is not a sheep-breeding county.

A popular feature of the show was the butter-making competition in connection with the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute, Kingston, and the travelling dairy school of the Derbyshire County Council. Both institutions have done a great deal of good in improving the knowledge of butter-making among the farming community of Derbyshire. There were four classes, the competitions being confined to residents of the county, and the butter reached a fairly high standard.

Cheshire.

The show of the Cheshire Agricultural Society, held at Chester on Wednesday, was a successful one so far as the attendance of visitors was concerned, the total constituting a record, despite the fact that the weather was none too good. Thus the first of the five shows to be held in this town, instead of different parts of the country, justified the experiment. As to the show itself, however, there were some noticeable changes, which were brought about chiefly by the limitation of the society's radius to the county and a diminution in the number of open classes. This may have been the cause of the disappointing displays of cattle and horses, for the former were fewer than in any of the previous ten years, whilst horses have only been so few once during that period. Nevertheless, the total entry—2,151—constituted a record, the next highest being 2,016. The increase is accounted for in the fact that an horticultural show was introduced, and attracted 280 entries, whilst there were considerable increases in the classes for seeds, vegetables, dogs, poultry, and dairy produce. Although poor in number horses made a good show for quality, the best feature being the classes for brood mares and fillies. This was especially true in the case of the hunters. Heavy horses were not as numerous as those who have known the show for some years expected they would be. The judges, however, had no difficulty in finding for prize-winners animals which would hold their own in any showyard. Stallions, however, were exceedingly few, though the competition was open. The Shire Horse Society's medal for stallions was awarded to Mr. J. W. Kenworthy, Kelsall, for Delamere Warrior, a splendid beast which well deserved the honour. He was the only animal shown in the class for stallions foaled before 1902. Lymm Spark, a well-made two-year-old, shown by Mr. James Gould, was reserved for the medal. In the class for mare or gelding for agricultural purposes, first place was given to a five-year-old gelding, Invincible, shown by Mr. E. Davies, of Partington. This animal has not made many appearances in the showyard. The second in this class was Mr. J. W. Kenworthy's stylish filly, which took a first and a second at Liverpool, and has gained other honours, and on the present occasion she was awarded the Shire Horse Society's silver medal. The judges reserved for the medal Countess Belgrave, the property of Mr. R. E. Evans, a young bay, which was first in a large class for brood mares with foals at foot.

There was a fair display of hackneys, with a few excellent animals amongst them, but some of the classes were not well filled. In a good class of stallions the first prize was given to Mr. A. L. Goodson's Heathfield Fireaway, a smart young horse which is experiencing his first showyard season. The brood mares were of a useful type, and appeared in fair numbers. Here again Mr. Goodson was successful. His Polly Ailsa, nine years of age, was placed first, having Mr. J. Taylor's Ferrington Dulcimer a good second. Neither of these animals complied with the conditions of competition for Mr. Macfie's silver cup for the best roadster brood mare, fifteen hands or over, the property of a tenant farmer. This trophy went to Mr. John Beckett, of Betchton Stud, for a six-year-old chestnut, Baucis. Sir Lees Knowles gained two first prizes in the classes for mares or geldings foaled in 1902 and 1903.

Hunters made a very good show. Brood mares were a strong class, and Mr. R. Brocklebank's (Tarporley) Banshee, a magnificent brown just over eight years old, won fairly easily. Second to her was Whisper Low, a bay belonging to Mr. C. Schwabe, of Arden. Mr. Robert Needham, Knutsford, Mr. Noel Forward, of Whitchurch, and Mrs. M. Griffiths, Northwich, exhibited animals of excellent hunter types. The Hunter Improvement Society's medal for the best brood mare was awarded to an aged bay, Lady Templar, sent by Mrs. M. Griffiths, whilst a chestnut sired by Red Eagle, exhibited by Mr. C. Schwabe, won the society's medal for the best hunter filly.

Though some of the cattle classes were weak numerically, the beasts made a very select show. There were quite a number of good bulls. Amongst those above two years of age appeared Mr. Thomas Parton's roan Duke of Sedburgh. He is a weighty beast nearly five years old, but although he is said to have got past his best condition, he was able to take the first place in the favour of the judges. A roan of two years and a half, sent by Mr. George Cooke, of Chester, was well worthy of the second place. In the competitions for younger bulls, Mr. J. A. Brown, of Tarporley, Mr. Richard Clarke, of Warrington, and Mr. Charles Bell, of Norley Hall, gained prizes. The dairy cows made excellent classes. The cows sent by Mr. S. S. Raingill, of Altrincham, easily got before all their competitors. Mr. Raingill's famous cow Blue Bell, which appeared in the class for pairs, won the Day challenge cup and the Chester traders' cup. In the class for dairy heifers under two years old Colonel Cotton-Jodrell gained all the three prizes.

There was a marked improvement in the sheep in respect both of breeding and numbers. The short wools were nearly all of the Shropshire breed, and were of a rather better type than those usually seen at a Cheshire show. The long wools were of the improved Leicester and the Lincoln types.

The pigs, which were well classified, came from some of the best breeders in the county, and made a decidedly creditable show. Sir Gilbert Greenall sent a number of fine animals which found their way to the top in the classes in which they were entered.

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SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Airedale.

Although in its thirty-eighth year, the Airedale agricultural show was on the point of dropping out of the list this season, for the attendance at the last annual meeting was so small and the interest apparently felt in the society's fortunes so meagre that the abandonment of the show was talked of. But this talk only had the effect of arousing the local people to a sense of what was due from themselves, and so a show was organised after all, and it took place on Wednesday in the pleasant grounds of the Grammar School at Bingley. The weather was cloudy, but the rain kept off until late in the afternoon and the attendance of visitors was large, so that the society, with £100 already in hand, need no longer think of dropping their show. At the luncheon a great deal was said about motor-cars, and among those present was Mr. Tom Mitchell, the well-known breeder of Hackneys, who, through one of the ironies that sometimes come across a mortal's path, had his arm in a sling, the result of an accident in a motor-car! He was, it appears, going up a moorland hill when the engine failed, and he was backing the car into a ditch, when it toppled over on him. Mr. Mitchell laughingly admitted the incongruity of appearing at an agricultural show with his arm in a sling, the effect of a motor accident, but as excuse said we were living in a progressive age. The Mayor of Bradford had, he said, advised people to learn motor-car driving. He (Mr. Mitchell) was going to attend that school. He had been recognised as one of the steadiest of drivers, but he now found that the steadiest drivers had the most accidents.

Buxton Horse.

Unfavourable weather has in past years generally been the lot of the Buxton and High Peak Horse Show Society, so that to have it dry even on Friday was a change, but if it had been a little warmer it would have been all the better. The society has lost a good deal through past inclement weather, but there was a good attendance last week, and some of the deficit should be made up as a result of this show. The entries totalled 305, an increase of three as compared with 1904, and of 27 as compared with 1903, whilst the quality, generally speaking, was distinctly good. Hunters were quite the feature of the show. Included in a dozen classes were a remarkably well-bred lot of animals, the mares shown being especially of a very high class. Mr. R. B. Tennent and Mr. F. B. Wilkinson pretty well shared the majority of the honours. The couple of awards offered by the Hunters' Improvement Society for the best hunter brood mare and the best hunter filly were both taken by Mr. Tennent. Taking the youngsters altogether they were a very blood-like lot, and though the yearling, two, and three-year-old classes were only poorly filled in regard to numbers they produced some excellent quality. Hackneys were a very uneven lot; all the winners were far in front of the animals which did not get into the honours list. However, the open class for mares and geldings shown in the saddle gave the judges a good deal of trouble, and there was practically very little to choose between the first, second, and third prize winners. Previous years have brought together a better show of Shire horses; the best, however, being found amongst the mares, which were a fairly good lot. Filly foals were more numerous than colt foals, but were not nearly so good in quality.

Cleveland.

The Cleveland Agricultural Society is most unfortunate as regards the weather experienced for their annual show, it being most unfavourable for several years past, and once again, on the 26th ult., it did everything possible to spoil the event. From early morning a persistent small rain fell to the accompaniment of a cold east wind, with the result that, whereas the attendance might have been measured by thousands, it was computed by hundreds. In view of the fact that the society has arrived at a crisis in its history and special efforts had been made to make the show successful, the sequel, so far as the weather and attendance were concerned, was grievously disappointing. This was the more tantalising considering that a record entry had been received, the total being 1,008, or an increase of over 300

on last year's total. Not only were the classes of the several sections well filled, but the quality throughout was uniformly excellent, and in advance of last year's show.

Craven.

Despite the fact that rain fell heavily all the previous afternoon and evening, the show-ground of the Craven Agricultural Society at Skipton on the 26th ult. was in fair condition, and the show proved a great success, being visited by a very large number of persons, whilst there was an exceptional number of exhibits; 1,539 was the total - the highest but one in the society's career of fifty-one years, and 125 in advance of last year's record. The increases were in the sections for horses, sheep, pigs, poultry, pigeons, and dogs. The quality of the exhibition as a whole was quite up to the average of former shows in fact, one of the vice-presidents described it as the best show all round seen in Skipton for half-a-dozen years.

East Somerset.

The annual show of the East Somerset Agricultural Society was held at Wincanton on Thursday, in splendid weather. The society, since its fusion with that of Bruton, justly claims to be the oldest district organisation in the county, the joint work having been carried on for considerably over a century. All evidences were in favour of the exhibition, every department showing a vitality most encouraging to the committee, who on their part spare no pains to make the fixture an annual success. The entries, except those of butter, showed an increase in numbers all along the line. The details read:—Cheese, 199; butter, 15; cattle, 49; hunters and nags, 90; and agricultural horses, 18. The cheese did credit to this well-known dairy district, both in number and appearance. In the first class there were many excellent samples, although in some of the other events there was a deal of immature cheese, which a week or two later will doubtless pass for prime stuff. Competition in some of the classes was very keen; otherwise the judges had a fairly easy matter to place in order of merit, their most difficult task being the first class. Butter on the whole was fairly good, although some of the entries were lacking in colour and flavour, some unquestionably through over-churning. There was a capital lot of dairy cattle, and the old frequenters of the exhibition were loud in their praises of the horse section, especially the hunters.

Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club.

Delightful weather favoured the Horse Show of the Fareham and Hants Farmers' Club at Aldersnap Meadows, Petersfield, on Friday, this being the third time since its establishment fourteen years ago that the show has been held at Petersfield, the first being about eight years ago, when, unfortunately, the weather was very unpropitious, and the second four years back, when the gathering was a record one. On Friday another record was achieved, the entries being strong in all classes and the competition keen. Cart horses were a fine lot throughout, and were more numerous than ever. Hunters, harness horses, and polo ponies were also well represented, and altogether it was a most attractive show.

Garstang.

Established something like 100 years ago, the Garstang agricultural show has grown from very small proportions to a fixture of some importance, for that held on Thursday attracted 1,600 entries. The Fylde district is famous for the quality of the Shire horse it rears, and, as Garstang is right in the heart of it, it is natural that this section should be very strong, both as regards quantity and quality. Light horses were somewhat few in number, and were not remarkable for quality. Sheep were excellent, and were the best ever seen at this show. In the cattle classes bulls were specially noticeable, and included some of the winners at the Lancashire County and Great Yorkshire shows. In addition to the ordinary agricultural exhibits there was a horticultural section, which included about 300 entries and a good display of dogs.

Guildford.

Rain fell during the progress of the annual show of the Guildford Agricultural Society, held at Guildford on Wednesday, but this did not seriously affect the attendance. On the other hand, the number of visitors was the best in the history of the society. The show itself was an exceedingly good one, the radius restrictions in the county classes letting in several well-known breeders, and all round the entries, both in quality and quantity, were up to, and in some cases above, the average. The hunters made one of the best groups in the show, a fine lot of blood mares being headed by Mr. Ernest W. Robinson's Gulden, whose filly foal is by Merman. The chestnut mare Gaiety Girl, the property of Mr. John A. Mullens, was second. A prize was offered by the Committee of the West Surrey Staghounds for the best weight-carrier, and it was won by Mr. F. Dartnall's unnamed brown gelding, while the pick of the five-year-olds was Mr. Mullens's Sheen. The medal of the Hackney Horse Society was awarded to Mr. R. P. Evans's pony, Polyanthus. The best exhibits in the live-stock section were the Shorthorns of Lord Calthorpe and Mr. Jeremiah Colman, the former's Sweetheart, bred by Queen Victoria, winning the Duke of Northumberland's special prize which was offered for the best cow in calf or with a calf at foot. The Channel Islands breeds were very representative, Mr. A. F. Perkins's Dort winning the late Mr. W. M. Chinnery's prize as being the best bull in the section, while Lily Duchess of Marlborough's prize offered for the best heifer went to Mr. H. Rhodes Cobb's Maid of Honour. The Duke of Northumberland won all the leading prizes in the section for Southdown sheep, and Sir Alexander Hargreaves Brown, M.P., and Mr. W. G. Langlands were the most successful exhibitors of pigs.

Leominster.

The show of the Leominster Agricultural Society, held at the Easters, Leominster, on Thursday was one of the most successful yet held. Some two or more years ago it was feared that the society must be abandoned, but, thanks to the efforts of the local committee, of which Captain E. L. A. Heygate is chairman, there has been a revival of public interest, and the future now seems assured. The exhibits, numbering about the same as last year, fully maintained the reputation of the show. There were, as might be expected in the home of the well-known Herefords, some excellent specimens in the cattle classes, while the horses were a fine display, the awards in some of the classes being a matter of no little difficulty. The weather being fine, a large crowd watched the ring competitions, whilst the dog trials were a great attraction.

Lord Londonderry's Tenants.

Nine years ago the Marquess of Londonderry established an agricultural and horticultural show at Wynyard Park, Stockton, for the benefit of all classes connected with his extensive estates, farmers as well as cottagers, and in the matter of quality it has become a model of what such shows ought to be, that held on the 26th ult. being particularly good, though the same could not be said of the weather. The number of entries supplied ample evidence of the interest taken in his lordship's efforts, but Lord Londonderry will not be contented until every tenant sends something to the show. As compared with twelve months ago, there was this year a great increase in the entries for all departments, and the total of 952 compared favourably with the record entry of 988 in 1898, when the show of flowers and vegetables was responsible for 80 more entries than on the present occasion. This remark implies an increase in the other departments, and it is pleasing to be able to record that the horse entries were 30 in excess of those of the record year; whilst the quality was better than ever.

Worsley.

Although the area over which the Worsley Agricultural and Horticultural Society's operations extend is largely urban in character, a good deal of farming is carried on on the outskirts of the numerous small manufacturing towns which the district includes. And that the farming is of the successful kind was evidenced by the quality of the entries in the local classes at the show held on the 26th ult., and by the position obtained by many of the same exhibitors in the open competitions. The total number of entries was 2,867, of which 983 were horticultural, and, as to quality, this was very meritorious. Heavy horses were perhaps the feature, some well-known prize-winners being forward. Cattle were a serviceable lot, whilst a few pigs were shown, but no sheep. Dogs, poultry, pigeons, etc., added to the attractiveness of the show.

Rural Housing Question.—The Earl of Crewe, in the course of a lecture, given at the Oxford University Extension Summer Meeting on the Housing Problem, said the rural depletion could fairly be ascribed to the housing difficulty. The average wage of agricultural labourers would not permit them to prove lucrative tenants. The remedy seemed to be the provision of cheaper houses and the multiplication of small holdings in suitable places on which these cheaper houses could be built. Though our climate forbade certain cheap structures, still he thought there had been a rather pedantic adherence to solid British ideas in the bye-laws by which the erection of buildings was regulated. When there was real cause for the creation of cottage holdings and land could not be acquired by agreement there was reason for the intervention of local authority.

MILLING.

Wheat Strengths.

The flour trade still keeps quiet, and most bakers are only buying for immediate requirements. The offal trade is fairly brisk for the time of year, and most millers can manage to keep clear of these products.

Although the recent wet weather has interfered with threshing, new wheat has been coming to the mills freely. In most cases both yield and condition are satisfactory, enabling millers to use more in their mixtures. Great care, however, should be exercised in this direction just at present. Of course, the quality of the wheat varies, but some samples, both of white and red, have never been beaten. One sample of red on a country market was clean, plump, and in splendid condition, and gave the appearance of possessing strength in a remarkable degree for home-grown wheat. Several samples of white wheat which the writer saw were excellent, and could not be beaten. The weights did not transpire, but undoubtedly they were high. These red and white wheats are what millers like to get hold of, instead of the yellow varieties.

Although they have little strength, they are just the kinds to provide colour and flavour. At the same time, the judging of a wheat for strength is sometimes deceptive. Strength implies gluten of good quality—gluten which will not dissolve in water. From the time of earing to that of ripening the wheat plant went through just the kind of weather to produce gluten of the right quality, and the writer would not be surprised if, generally speaking, English wheat is not found to be stronger than usual. After a very wet ripening and harvest-time this wheat often contains a great deal of gluten, but it is of the ragged sort, which will easily dissolve in water. In the matter of gluten, it is quality which is wanted, not quantity.

Good Profit from Grass Land.

The hay crop on Mr. Ernest Parke's experimental grass fields at Kineton once again affords to occupiers of naturally poor clay land pasture a useful lesson on the results that may be achieved by a little enterprise in the direction of manuring. Both fields have been under grass about thirteen years, and are annually mown in the summer and grazed in the autumn. The portions under experiment are divided into various half-acre plots, manured (in accordance with Dr. Dyer's advice) with super-phosphate, potash salts, and nitrate of soda separately and in combination, basic slag being substituted for superphosphate in one of the fields, the soil of which is poorer in lime than the other. In each case a plot is preserved for comparison, which gets no manure except that incidentally supplied by autumn grazing. The unmanured plot in Upper Hale Field this year gave 14½ cwt. of hay per acre, which is more than the unmanured land has yielded in any of the last three seasons. Basic slag alone (5 cwt. per acre) raised the yield to two tons of hay per acre, and nitrate of soda alone (2 cwt. per acre) to two tons 1 cwt. When both dressings were combined, the yield was 2 tons 5 cwt. of hay per acre—an increase of more than 1½ tons of hay per acre over the yield of the unmanured land. The application of sulphate of potash in this field increased the yield only very slightly. On the field known as Five and Three Acres the unmanured plot this year gave 11½ cwt. of hay per acre. The application of 3 cwt. of superphosphate per acre raised the crop to 1 ton 16 cwt., and 2 cwt. per acre of nitrate of soda alone raised it to 2 tons 1 cwt. Superphosphate and nitrate of soda used together gave 2 tons 3 cwt., which in this field was further increased to 2 tons 7 cwt. by the addition of 1 cwt. per acre of sulphate of potash, showing an increase of 1¾ tons of hay per acre over the unmanured land. During the last four seasons the annual gain due to manuring on the best plots of the two fields has averaged nearly 1¾ tons of hay per acre, in return for an average annual expenditure of about £1 16s. per acre for manures. Although the plots are all autumn-grazed, and therefore under natural farming conditions, the manuring is already found, as at Rothamsted, to be altering the character of the herbage. The plots with nitrate alone are more grassy, and those with mineral manure alone have more clovers. The most flourishing mixture of herbage, however, as well as the heaviest crop, is found, as should be expected, on the plots receiving both nitrogenous and mineral manure.

The Marquis of Bristol has, as an experiment, started a movement to provide a Saturday market for the allotment and other small holders on his estates in the neighbourhood of Shotley, Suffolk, and, as a nucleus, has supplied a number of light stalls.

Our Butter and Cheese Imports.

Messrs. W. Weddel and Co., of 16, St. Helen's Place, London, E.C., etc., have issued a most interesting review of the Colonial dairy produce trade for the year ending June 30, 1905. Numerous figures and details are given of the various imports, and these cannot fail to be of the greatest interest and usefulness to all concerned in the trade, whilst to the British farmer the figures will reveal how large a quantity of butter and cheese we import into this country. From the review we make the following extracts:—

The imports of butter into the United Kingdom were in the year 1886 first entered separately from those of margarine, when 77,178 tons of butter of the value of £8,141,438 were received. Ten years later the imports had risen to 151,886 tons valued at £15,344,364, and last year (1904) the large amount of 212,050 tons of the value of £21,117,162 were imported, which shows an increase since 1886 of 134,872 tons in amount and of £12,975,724 in value. In 1886 the import of cheese was 86,745 tons valued at £3,871,359. In 1896 the amount had risen to 112,226 tons and the value to £4,900,342, while in 1904 the import reached 127,715 tons and the value £5,843,770, which shows an increase of 31,358 tons since 1886 of the value of £1,972,411

Butter.

The large and steady augmentation in the imports of butter into the United Kingdom, which, during the last decade especially, had continuously gone on, culminated in the year ending June, 1904, with an increase of 18,700 tons over the previous twelve months. In strong contrast to this continuous growth, which averaged for the last decade over 8,000 tons a year, the twelve months ended June 30, 1905, show the enormous decrease of 15,046 tons. This fundamental change in the position of imports was due to the severe drought on the Continent of Europe, chiefly in the centre and south, which existed all through the late summer and autumn of 1904. So great was the heat and the lack of rain, that, in those parts of Europe, nearly the whole of the grass crop and the second crop of hay were total failures, and farmers and dairymen in the late summer and autumn were unable to make anything approaching to their usual output of butter, and, unfortunately for them, they were further compelled to largely reduce their milking herds during last winter, owing to the impossibility of providing sufficient fodder for their cattle. Even up to to-day they have not been able to replace their normal number of cows.

The total imports of butter from all countries for the year ended June 30, 1905, was 203,897 tons, of which 152,015 tons were from foreign sources, and 51,882 tons from British Colonies. It is gratifying to our racial feelings to record, that though our total foreign supplies of butter decreased by 21,558 tons in 1905, our Colonial receipts increased by 6,512 tons. From the year 1900 to 1903 inclusive, Colonial supplies of butter steadily declined, and those from foreign sources steadily increased. Since the last date, however, there has been an absolute reversal of this position, Colonial has yearly augmented and foreign similarly diminished. Our imports of butter from Germany have almost reached their vanishing point. About twenty years ago Germany exported to the United Kingdom 15,000 tons a year, but this amount has gradually declined until for last year it was below 100 tons. Early in the nineties of last century Germany changed from an exporting to an importing country, and the surplus of imports over those of exports were in 1904 about 30,000 tons. For each year from 1896 the excess of imports over exports have been 726 tons, 6,482 tons, 7,697 tons, 9,902 tons, 14,097 tons, 14,619 tons, 12,668 tons, 22,129 tons, and 30,000 tons respectively.

Cheese.

The imports of cheese into the United Kingdom during the last six years remain practically stationary, and as the home production exhibits a similar condition, it is evident that cheese is losing its former relative position in the British dietary, and trustworthy evidence shows it is being replaced by the importation of Colonial and foreign frozen meat, which, owing to its cheapness and excellent quality, is economically supplanting cheese. Although the total imports of cheese for the last six years show no increase, changes are steadily being made in the amounts sent by the various exporting countries. The Colonies are making rapid progress in supplying our markets, owing to the excellent quality of their product, and during the last ten years the receipts from this source have grown by 33,902 tons, and for the past six years by 21,678 tons.

Foreign cheese, on the contrary, is steadily vanishing from our tables, espécially what is known as hard cheese, such as the cheddar class. The soft cheeses of France and Belgium, such as the Camembert variety, are holding their position with difficulty, but as the total supply of this kind is only 4.5 per cent. of the whole, it has little effect on the general position. The total import of foreign cheese in the last ten years has declined by 18,851 tons, and in the past six years by 28,185 tons. There are only four main sources from which our supplies of foreign cheese are received, two of them, France and Belgium, as above stated, are holding their very small trade with difficulty, while exports from Holland and the United States of America are steadily declining. The imports of Dutch cheese have fallen from 17,000 tons in 1900 to 10,700 tons in 1905, while American has declined in the same time from 32,000 tons to 9,000 in 1905. The imports of cheese from New Zealand during the last ten years have increased 1,100 tons, but for the past six years by only 100 tons.

Butter Prospects for next Season.

The expectation expressed last year that the supplies of butter from Australia would show an increase of 20 per cent., and the doubts then cast upon an anticipated increase of 30 per cent. have been fairly fulfilled, as receipts have totalled only 19 per cent. For the coming year it is difficult to gauge the increase, but considering that the extraordinary growth in the imports from Queensland is most unlikely to be continued in the same ratio during the coming year, and the uncertainty of the climate over such a length of country from north to south as is presented by the three States of Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria, viz., some 2,500 miles, it is a liberal view to expect an increase of 4,000 tons, which is nearly 18 per cent. Last year all of these three States were fortunate in their rainfall, and consequently fertile pastures were universal. From New Zealand, which possesses a climate less liable to great fluctuations of temperature than Australia, an augmentation of 1,500 tons may be expected, as that is about the average normal growth of the past five years. From Canada supplies for next winter are certain to be less. Since the first of May this year, though receipts have been larger than last year, they have mostly gone into consumption, instead of as in former seasons being put into cold store for winter use, consequently the reserves of Canadian butter for use during the coming winter will be considerably smaller than usual.

The Continent of Europe will certainly supply more butter than it did in the past twelve months, as, although the weather has been hot and dry over the drought area of last year, the pastures and hay crop are better than they were then, but they are still much less than normal, and as the milking herds are considerably below their usual numbers, it will be impossible to make up the heavy shortage of the past season's butter production during the ensuing winter. From the United States, and from Argentina, no increase worth mentioning can be expected, as the latter country finds a better market for its export butter in South Africa than in the United Kingdom, and the former finds its home requirements capable of absorbing all its supplies.

The Home supplies of butter will certainly show a decline, as the hay crop for Great Britain this year is estimated at nearly 5 cwt. per acre, or 17 per cent. below that of 1904, which makes a deficiency of about 1,750,000 tons of hay. For Ireland the estimate has not yet been published, but the crop is certainly not equal to last year. It is probable, therefore, that the make of butter in the United Kingdom will show a shortage of about 1,500 or 2,000 tons in comparison with 1904, when the production was the largest on record.

The General Outlook.

therefore, leads us to expect this year during the time Australasian butter is on our markets, an increase of 4,000 to 5,000 tons from Australasia, and about 3,000 tons from Europe. As our normal increase of imported butter averaged 8,000 tons a year for the decade ending 1904, the increased supplies, just mentioned, will about meet this, but there is the leeway of 15,000 tons shortage during the year ended June, 1905, to make up. With the shortage in the Home production, and with not a fourth of the normal amount of butter of all kinds in cold store, the prospects clearly point to a higher level of prices for the coming season. Probably nearly an average of 7s. 6d. per cwt. above last year will not be far from correct, and if any recurrence of a partial drought appears in Australia, or from some unforseen cause supplies are reduced elsewhere to any appreciable extent then the higher level of prices will certainly exceed 7s. 6d. per cwt.

Cheese.

Owing to the larger make of butter in Canada there is not room for any great expansion in the supply of cheese from that colony. Indeed there is a general expectation that the make will show a reduction. New Zealand will not add any increase, and the only country likely to do so is Holland, from which our receipts may be augmented to the extent of 2,000 tons; but as this is not 2 per cent. of our total supply, it cannot seriously affect prices. The outlook for cheese, therefore, leads to the conclusion that values will at least average about the same as for the year just ended.

The Standard of Butter Fat in Milk.

A valuable test of the average product of milk in the instance of a typical herd of some thirty cows was made by a representative of the Board of Agriculture last June and July. The returns, now carefully tabulated in the form of a chart, show that the milk then produced very seldom fell below the regulation standard of 3 per cent. of butter fat, and frequently exceeded this ratio. From this, however, it is clear, as the Board say, that dairy farmers who desire to escape the annoyance of having their milk challenged should have samples tested at intervals. This can be done for 6d., plus postages, by sending the sample to the nearest agricultural college or agricultural department of a university.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—Pitch about fifty tons; good attendance of buyers; trade fairly brisk, prices for best lots 56s. to 62s.; medium, 50s. to 55s.; lower qualities down to 45s.

Cheese from the Bath and West School.

The second draft (over 40 cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the month of May at the Cheese School carried on by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council at Glendale Farm, Wedmore, has been sold to Messrs. Hill Bros., of Evercreech, at 62s. per cwt. of 112 lb. 5,235 gallons of milk made 4,942 lb. of green cheese, which weighed, when sold at 12 weeks old, 4,671 lb., showing a shrinkage of about 5½ per cent. The School has been well attended by students, 33 having already entered, while other applications are still being received.

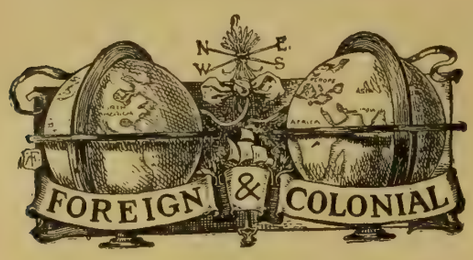
Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended August 26, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	12,940	15,925	Wheat ...	2,408,100	2,230,700
Sheep.....	4,201	3,385	Flour.....	201,900	147,300
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	477,600	278,900
Horses ...	253	119	Oats	289,000	321,300
			Peas	80,190	46,370
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	35,510	13,300
Beef	54,873	111,957	Maize ...	863,000	1,475,200
Mutton...	68,891	72,144	Apples ...	27,244	14,708
Pork	6,711	5,585	Apricots		
Bacon ...	111,401	82,286	&Peaches	170	58
Beef, salt	1,811	2,777		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	21,840	26,655	Bananas	3,403,418	1,790,804
Pork,salt	4,245	3,729		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat,salt & Fresh	8,975	9,033	Cherries	—	—
			Currants	35	200
Do. pres.	15,376	24,881	Goosebr's	—	20
Butter ...	90,164	77,930	Grapes ..	19,365	22,861
M'rg'rine	22,872	22,050	Lemons...	18,740	15,054
Cheese ...	75,663	52,962	Oranges	3,657	287
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Pears.....	54,302	39,700
			Plums ...	48,350	45,811
			Oth'r Fr't	36,815	34,115
drums.	1	—		Tons	Tons.
Milk,			Hay	3,072	2,487
Cream	12	109	Straw ...	1,078	1,074
			MossLitt'r	—	1,571
	Cwt.	Cwt.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	10,540	14,862	Hops	1,962	374
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	140	208	Locust Beans	8,400	8,420
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	132,200	158,300
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	73,535	22,500
Eggs	113,167	503,350	Tomatoes	37,198	38,284
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £3,396	Value. £2,800	Veg'bles	£7,758	£7,230
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,461	1,585
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	14,577	14,037	by canning ..	4,626	3,746
Lard	25,593	84,301			

British Possessions
beyond the Seas
AND THEIR
London Representatives.
NOVA SCOTIA.

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, MR. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.



Crops and Live Stock of South Australia.

The Agent-General for South Australia has received the official agricultural (other than wheat) and live-stock statistics for the year ended March 31, 1905, and the figures prove how rapidly the farmers and other producers are increasing their material wealth. The statistics for March, 1904, showed great improvement over the preceding year, and the following comparative figures prove the solid advance made till 1905:—The number of horses increased from 176,648 to 183,481, milch cows from 83,348 to 88,156, horned cattle from 161,262 to 184,303, sheep from 5,298,720 to 5,820,301, pigs from 88,246 to 111,497; goats, poultry, and bees increased similarly in numbers. The number of vines is 12,300,000, and of olive trees 83,138, from which 2,625,430 gallons of wine and 15,980 gallons of olive oil were respectively produced.

Fruit-growing is flourishing, and the growing of apples for export is making great strides. During the year 101,814 apple trees were planted, gringing the total number of these trees to 688,031, from which 362,436 cases of apples were obtained. Apart from land used for pastoral purposes, the quantity of land cultivated increased to 3,316,574 acres, of which 112,000 acres were devoted to vine-growing and fruit-raising, the balance being utilised for wheat and other cereals. The information respecting the state of the growing crops shows every promise of a harvest even more bountiful than the last.

A Splendid Offer.

The New South Wales Exhibition at the Guildhall has created much interest, and the huge nuggets of gold, the innumerable fleeces of merino wool, samples of grain, minerals, and produce have aroused the keen interest of over 25,000 visitors during the past week. Lord Jersey, who has always taken great personal interest in Australian affairs, paid a prolonged visit to the exhibition. To those who have expressed doubt as to the desire of Australia for new settlers, it will come as a surprise to learn that the Premier has now set aside 50 farms, varying from 200 to 500 acres, in the best district of New South Wales, which will be allotted to the first British applicants. These are improved freehold farms, all ready for the plough, and at a cost of from 2s. to 3s. per acre per annum, paid over a series of years, new settlers can secure a comfortable and prosperous freehold homestead in one of the choicest farming districts in the world. It seems an opportunity that should not be missed. Full particulars may be obtained at the New South Wales Government Office, 33, Eastcheap, London, E.C.

Local Taxation.—A Parliamentary Return was issued last week showing, in respect of the financial year ended March 31, 1905, the distribution of the local taxation licence duties, estate duty, and local taxation (customs and excise) duties paid into the local taxation account in pursuance of the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1888, the Local Taxation (Customs and Excise) Act, 1890, and the Finance Act, 1904. The total amount paid to or on behalf of the councils of administrative counties or county boroughs in England and Wales in respect of the duties mentioned was £6,889,494 15s. 2d. Of this amount, £150,000 was paid to the Receiver for the Metropolitan Police District, in aid of the Metropolitan Police Pension Fund.

Agriculture in Holland.
VIII.*
Typical Friesland Farms.

The Friesland farms intended for cattle-rearing have, as a rule, an acreage of about 75 to 100 acres. The purpose of the breeding is to get cows which give a large yield of milk with a high percentage of fat. Quantities of about 1,135 to 1,365 gallons per cow during one milking period are not rare. Good dairy farms have an average output of 900 gallons of milk, with 3 per cent. of fat, per cow per milking period. Breeders who make a speciality of breeding cows with a great milking power obtain results far beyond the results given above. To what extent the capacity of the Friesland milch cow can be improved can be seen from the results obtained by Mr. Kuperus. At last year's exhibition at St. Louis a Dutch cow of Friesland breed obtained the first prize in the international competition with seventy-four cows of four different breeds. The production of this cow was 330.26 lb. of butter (286.6 lb. butter-fat) in 120 days.

No wonder that the Friesian bull and cow have been used in nearly every part of the world for breeding where great milking capacity of the cows is required. In the United States of America, Sweden, Transvaal, Russia, Spain, and Italy there is still a great demand for Friesian breeding cattle. As a rule, the Friesian horn cattle are large and heavy. On clay grounds they attain a height of 1.35 to 1.42 metres (53½ to 56 in.), and a weight up to 750 kgr. (1,650 lb.). On the moor grounds the medium-size cow is found with a height of 1.31 to 1.34 metres (52 to 53½ in.), and a weight of 600 kgr. (1,450 lb.). On the sandy soil the average height is from 1.28 to 1.31 metres (51 to 52 in.). The colour is usually black-spotted.

Since 1897 the milk of each cow of the farm has been tested every fortnight, in the evening and the next morning, separately weighed, and put to the test in fat-property by a controller. By selling the bad ones and breeding the best ones, the result is that the average amount of fat in the milk of the whole season has been:—

	Per Cent.
In 1897	3.15
In 1898	3.28
In 1899	3.39
In 1900	3.46
In 1901	3.47
In 1902	3.44
In 1903	3.50
In 1904	3.52

The highest milk produce of a cow has been 1,865 gallons of milk in 329 days, and the highest butter produce of a cow has been 615 lb. of butter in 317 days. The cows calve for the first time when two years old, and, with some exceptions, it takes place in the months of February and March. The cattle are taken to the meadows about May 1, and stay there till about November 1, after which they are taken into the stable, to stay there again till about May 1. During the last six months the cattle are plentifully fed on hay, with one or two linseed cakes daily.

The farm is rented from an institution, and has a selling value of about £66.14 per acre. The hay-barn, stable, and living-rooms are all under one roof. Mr. Kuperus enjoys a high reputation in the Netherlands as a rearer of cattle, and numerous are the prizes which he has won at cattle shows.

This brought to a conclusion a week of varied experience in the practice of Dutch farming, which the party will never forget. Everywhere the visitors went they were received with courtesy and goodwill. Never before has such an itinerary been accomplished in Holland, and the impression derived from the excursion will remain long a pleasurable memory to those who had the good fortune to take part in it. I cannot, therefore, allow this opportunity to pass without tendering my thanks to the members of the Reception Committee: Messrs. P. J. A. De Bruine, president of the Netherlands Agricultural Committee (chairman); F. B. Löhnis, Inspector of Agriculture (hon. secretary); Dr. A. Ferf, secretary of the Netherlands Agricultural Committee (treasurer); K. J. A. G. Baron Collot D'Escury, president of the General Netherlands Dairy Association; P. J. J. Repelaer, president of the Agricultural Society for the Provinces South Holland and North Holland; Dr. W. C. G. Van Eysinga, president of the Friesian Agricultural Society; Dr. K. H. M. v. d. Zande, director of the Government's agricultural experimenting station at Hoorn; E. Posthuma, secretary of the G.N.D.A.; Tj. Kuperus, president of the Association of Co-operative Creameries in Friesland; A. J. Van Der Paauw, representative of Messrs. Wm. H. Müller and Co. (Batavier line), to whom I am indebted for much of my information acquired during the journey.

* This Article completes the series. The other instalments appeared in our issues of June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3, 10, 17, and 24.

THE
UTILITY POULTRY KEEPERS'
ACCOUNT BOOK
will enable you to keep an accurate account of all outgoings and incomings. The method is easy, and your financial position is clearly indicated at all times.
TWO SHILLINGS. By post, 2/3.
From the Publishers,
"FARM FIELD & FIRESIDE,"
4, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

POULTRY.

Jottings.

Those poultry houses which have not already been lime-washed should be done now, care being taken to use plenty of disinfectant in the lime. The unslaked lime should be put in a pail or bucket with a little water in, just to slake it so that it all rises up like hot steam powder, then the water should be mixed with it ready for lime-washing. It can be put on hot. In this way it kills all the germs, whether of insect life or disease.

Many people use lime which has been slaked for a long time, but new lime is far better. By this we mean the unslaked lime, as when once it has been slaked it never gets hot again. One dressing when the lime is hot and new is worth three times as much as when it is cold and slaked.

We have often seen black varnish recommended in the place of tar for the outside of the poultry houses, but it is more than four times the price of tar. If a little paraffin is mixed with the tar it answers just the same purpose. We have tried both, and like one equally as well as the other. Poultry keepers who use tar should have a bottle of paraffin by them, so that they can keep on adding some to the tar.

It is not necessary to make the tar hot, as some people do; if the paraffin is used it dries much quicker than even hot tar, and does not stick to the hands in going through the gates and doors. When tarring a new house, a good deal of paraffin should be used, as it causes the tar to soak right into the wood, which not only preserves it, but keeps the wet out.

Every poultry keeper who has had any experience must know their birds cannot thrive if covered with insects. Should they be neglected, even for one month, the fowls become stunted in their growth and never develop so well. The best way to dust chickens and hens with the powder is to place a sheet of paper on the table and place the bird on its back on the paper and dust it all over, rubbing the powder well in so that the whole of the skin is covered, then knock the loose dust off the outside of the feathers and turn the chicken or hen over and serve the back the same, after which the loose powder can be placed in the box again.

It is rather a slow occupation where there are a number of birds infested with insects, but unless they are seen to it weakens the birds very much, especially chickens, and not only so, but when the latter are so weak, they are more susceptible to diseases—viz., colds, roup, or consumption, which some people call going light, that is to say, the chickens eat well all day long and yet do not put on flesh.

Overcrowding during the hot weather must be particularly avoided. It is far better to kill or sell some of the old stock, as the birds must be got rid of sooner or later. Where a poultry keeper has only a limited space the hens coming broody which are intended for killing should be taken off the nest the first night. It is a great mistake to allow them to sit a few days, as the flesh becomes very stringy, or, in other words, they are out of condition, and are really not fit to kill.

It is better to dispose of them two or three days before they leave off laying than leave them on the nest for two or three days, as it spoils the flavour of the flesh, and the latter is not so juicy. Old hens can be utilised for eating purposes, just as well as young chickens, if they are only cooked properly.

There is an old superstition amongst poultry keepers that chickens hatched in June and July do not pay. This may be true in some cases, more especially when chickens are reared in the old fashioned way—allowing them to run with earlier hatched chickens of all ages. It is better not to hatch at all unless the late chickens can be kept separate.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

VOL. XCIII. No. 3859. [REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.] LONDON, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1905. [With Two Supplements.] PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

FROME SHOW.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1905.
Entries close September 13th.
T. C. HARDING,
Auctioneer, Frome,
Secretary.

FANCIERS' DOG AND POULTRY SHOW,
Same day.
Messrs. YOUNG & FRICKER,
Palmer Street, Frome,
Hon. Secretaries.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT.
At GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905.
Entries close September 12th.
R. J. KISBY, Secretary,
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

AYR RAM SOCIETY.—SHOW & SALE of Pedigree Blackface and Border Leicester Rams and Lambs, CATTLE MARKET, AYR, 13th & 14th SEPT., 1905. JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

HORNCASTLE GREAT SHEEP AND RAM FAIR.

MR. JOSEPH E WALTER will SELL by AUCTION in the above Fair on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905, several hundred BREEDING SHEEP and 90 REGISTERED LONG-WOOL SHEARLING RAMS.
Sale at 9 o'clock.

COMPTON STUD SHOW AND SALE,
At TEMPLECOMBE,
SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1905.
Entries closed August 20th.
THE MANAGER,
Compton Stud, Gillingham, Dorset.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

Stud-Book—Volume XXVIII.

Entries now being received at 50 per cent. additional on ordinary fees. No Schedules issued after 1st October.
ARCHD. MACNEILAGE,
Secretary,
92, Hope Street, Glasgow.

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AUCTION SALES.

OXFORD DOWNS.

The Kelmscott Flock, the property of Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from this Flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the under-mentioned Fair:
NORTHAMPTON ... ,, 19th.
Ram Lambs from this flock obtained 1st and 4th Prizes at Park Royal this season.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP-BREEDERS ASSOCIATION'S Eight Annual Show and Sale of REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS,
under the management of the above Association, will be held on
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th, 1905, in the CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT, commencing at 10.30 a.m. sharp.
The entries, which number 364, have been made by the following breeders:—
The Right Hon. Lord Harris,
Capt. Somerset Webb,
Mr. A. Amos,
Mr. J. Darnell Blount,
Mr. G. Buley,
Mr. F. de B. Collard,
Messrs. F. A. & E. H. M. Denny,
Mr. G. Farmer,
Mr. C. File,
Mr. J. File,
Mr. E. Hambrook,
Mr. E. Hawkins,
Mr. S. Kingsnorth,
Mr. W. E. Long,
Mr. W. Millen,
Mr. F. Neame
Mr. J. B. Palmer,
Mr. J. E. Quested,
Mr. H. Rigden,
The judging will take place at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, September 29th, 1905, and the sale will commence at 10.30 a.m. prompt.
Refreshments will be obtainable on the Sale Ground as usual.
Catalogues and all information in respect to the Show and Sale, to be obtained from
W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary,
Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk St., Strand, London, W.C.

TENTERDEN, KENT.

IMPORTANT HAY SALE.

MESSRS. HATCH, WATERMAN & SON will SELL by AUCTION at the Woolpack Hotel, Tenterden, on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1905, at 3 o'clock,
25 STACKS OF EXCELLENT MEADOW AND SEED HAY,
well got and secured from the weather, and conveniently situate for removal, containing in all about 45 TONS.
Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Tenterden.

ESSEX. THE LODGE FARM, FAIRSTEAD.
3½ miles from Hatfield, and 4½ miles from Witham, G.E.R.

G. B. HILLIARD & SON are instructed by Mr. S. W. Blyth, who has let the Farm, to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises,
On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905,
The Live and Dead Farming Stock, comprising
6 ACTIVE CART HORSES,
60 HEAD OF POULTRY,
7-h.p. TRACTION ENGINE by Marshall & Co.,
Ransome's FINISHING THRESHING MACHINE and ELEVATOR,
SET 8-h.p. PLOUGHING ENGINES by John Fowler & Co.,
9 and 11 TURNING CULTIVATOR and BALANCE PLOUGH and other Machinery,
And the usual assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c.
Sale to commence at 2 o'clock punctually.
Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Chelmsford.

MACDONALD FRASER & CO., LTD., of PERTH, N.B., will SELL by AUCTION at Preston Bissett, 2½ miles from Finmere, G.C.R., and 4 miles from Buckingham) on TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 44 head of ABERDEEN ANGUS CATTLE being 39 high class Cows, Heifers, Bulls, and Bull calves bred by Rev. C. Bolden, and 5 choice Heifers, bred by Mr. Bridges.
Catalogues on application to the Auctioneers.

AUCTION SALES.

KENT.

NEWINGREEN.
Close to Westenhanger Station.

BREEDING EWE, TEG AND LAMB SALE.

MESSRS. W. and B. HOBBS will hold the above sale on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 1905, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

5,000

EWES, TEGS, AND LAMBS, including
2,234 KENT and HALF-BRED LAMBS,
2,107 ONE and TWO and THREE LAMB EWES,
142 KENT EWE TEGS,
511 KENT WETHER and HALF-BRED TEGS,
6 RAMS,
1 COLT,
including
450
CAPITAL KENT AND HALF-BRED TEGS.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock.
Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

KENT.

WYE ANNUAL AUTUMN STOCK SALE.

MESSRS. W. and B. HOBBS will hold the above Sale in a meadow close to Wye Station, S. E. & C. R.,
On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905.
About
2,050
KENT AND HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, including
423 ONE and TWO and THREE LAMB EWES,
112 KENT EWE TEGS,
1,478 KENT and HALF-BRED LAMBS,
2 RAMS,
13 BEASTS.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock.
Luncheon provided at the Victoria Hotel.
Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

KENT.

ASHFORD
BREEDING EWE, TEG AND LAMB SALE.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will hold the above sale on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 1905, where a good supply of trucks will be on hand and every convenience made for the quick removal of stock.

3,670

EWES, TEGS AND LAMBS, including
1,093 KENT and HALF-BRED LAMBS,
1,437 ONE, TWO and THREE LAMB EWES,
476 KENT EWE TEGS,
664 KENT WETHER and HALF-BRED TEGS,
Including
400
KENT EWE TEGS, and
100
KENT WETHER TEGS
For Mr. ROBERT AMOS.

Sale to commence punctually at 11 o'clock.
Luncheon provided.
Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

Auction Sales continued on Page 294.

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Sir Jacob Wilson's SHORTHORNS, at Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.—The late Mr. F. Barchard's herd of JERSEYS, at Horsted Place, Uckfield, Sussex.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19.—The Rt. Hon. Lord Rothschild's SHORTHORNS, at Tring Park, Tring.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.—Mr. Rowland Wood's SHORTHORNS, at Clapton, Thrapston.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.—Mr. Alfred Brown's BERKSHIRE and LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, at Hill Farm, Southampton.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.—Capt. Spicer's herd of JERSEYS, at Spye Park, Chippenham.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Sir Alexander Henderson's, Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Buscot Park, Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.—About 60 SHORTHORNS from Mr. W. Bateman's prize dairy herd, at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

SUSSEX (between Littlehampton and Bognor), 10 miles from Worthing and 8 miles from Chichester.—An exceedingly valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, known as the "Yapton Estate," situate at Yapton, about 1 mile from Ford Junction and 1¼ miles from Barnham Junction, both on the Portsmouth Line of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway, and 2 miles from the sea; it comprises the singularly productive and compact agricultural holding known as Wick's Farm, with superior residence and commodious buildings; 9 capital cottages; a very choice accommodation property known as Church Farm, well equipped and including market fruit garden; several enclosures of valuable Building and Accommodation Land; the whole producing a rental of about £750 per annum. Also the valuable and well-secured Investment consisting of commuted tithe rent charges upon lands situate in the parish of Yapton, amounting to £165 17s. 5d. per annum.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE (in conjunction with Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON) will offer the ABOVE FOR SALE by AUCTION, at the "TERMINUS HOTEL," LITTLEHAMPTON, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1905, at TWO o'clock precisely, in the following Lots (Lots 1 to 4 first being offered as a whole) unless previously sold by private treaty.

Lot.	Description.	Area. a.	r.	p.
1.	Wick's Farm and nine Cottages..	332	1	34
2, 3 & 4.	Building and Accommodation Land	29	1	18
5.	Church Farm	28	1	30
6.	Commuted Tithe Rent Charges	—		
	Total ..	390	1	2

Particulars of Messrs. HUNT, CURREY, NICHOLSON & CO., Solicitors, Lewes; Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON, Land Agents and Valuers, Hailsham; or of the AUCTIONEERS, 10, Mount St., London, W.

SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD LTD.

THE ANNUAL SALE of PEDIGREE CLYDESDALE MARES, FILLIES and FOALS, also HACKNEY PONIES, CATTLE and SHEEP, will be held at Seaham Harbour, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

Catalogues in preparation. Apply, R. Brydon, Seaham Harbour.

THE SMITHFIELD, LLANGEFNI, ANGLESEY.

Important to Shire and Hackney Horse Breeders.

MR. H. PARRY-JONES will hold his first FOAL SALE in the Smithfield Saleyard as above, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1905, when he will offer for SALE 70 Grand SHIRE and HACKNEY FOALS, 8 Yearling and Two-year-old GELDINGS and FILLIES, all by the following well-known sires: Barberry Prince William, Crosslow Rocket, Duke of Clarence II, Marble Wall, Mere Boy, Malton Masher, and several other well known sires.

Sale to commence at 1 p.m. Catalogues to be had of the AUCTIONEER, Exchange Buildings, Holyhead.

CARDIFF HORSE SHOW WEEK.

CORPORATION HORSE REPOSITORY.

GREAT SEPTEMBER PRIZE SHOW AND SALE of

250 HORSES,

When Ho GUINEAS will be given in Prizes, whether the Horses are sold or not.

MR PHILIP E. HILL begs to announce that he will hold the above sale at his Repository, on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd and 23rd, over during the week following the Cardiff Horse Show.

As the Sale will be limited to 250 Horses, entries should be sent in as soon as possible.

Full particulars of Classes and Prizes will be forwarded upon application to the Auctioneer Offices—82, St. Mary Street, Cardiff.

TENDERS.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, ISLINGTON.

CONTRACT FOR HAY, STRAW, CLOVER, MIXTURE, OATS AND BRAN.

THE CATTLE MARKETS COMMITTEE of the Corporation of the City of London will meet at Guildhall on WEDNESDAY, the 20th of SEPTEMBER, at 2.30 o'clock p.m., precisely, to receive Tenders for the supply of the finest Upland English Meadow Hay, Straw, Clover, English Mixture, Russian Oats and Bran, at the Metropolitan Cattle Market for a period of twelve months from the 1st of October, 1905.

A printed form of Tender, with conditions, may be had on application at the Town Clerk's Office, Guildhall, or at the office of the Clerk and Superintendant at the market.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

Tenders must be delivered at the Hallkeeper's Office, Guildhall, on Wednesday, the 20th of September, 1905, between the hours of One and Two o'clock.

BELL.

Guildhall, E.C.
August, 1905.

BOROUGH OF SHOREDITCH.
HORSE PROVENDER.

TENDERS are invited for the supply of BRAN and OATS for about 60 Horses, for Three, Six, Nine, or Twelve Months, from the 1st October, 1905.

Sealed Tenders (on forms to be obtained at the Shoreditch Town Hall, Old Street, E.C.), accompanied by marked Samples, are to be sent to the undersigned not later than 4 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 13th SEPTEMBER, 1905, endorsed "Tender for Horse Provender."

H. MANSFIELD ROBINSON,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall,
Old Street, E.C.

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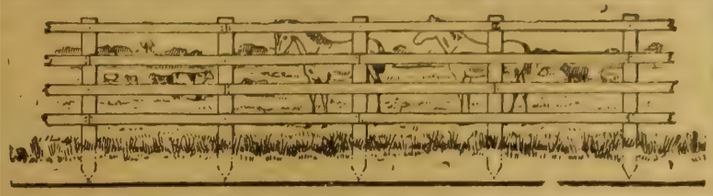

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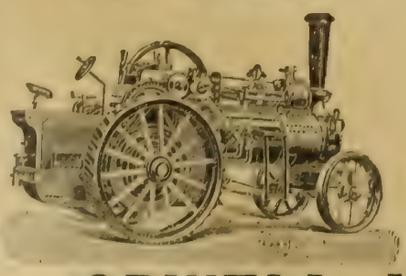

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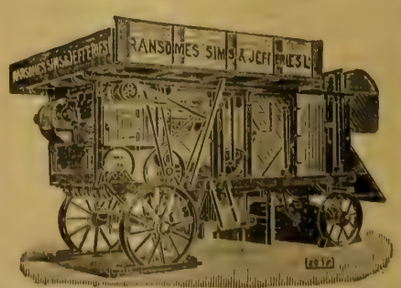

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TENANT FARMERS' CONVENTION AT DARLINGTON.

The neglect of agricultural interests by the present Parliament has brought its natural issue. Farmers are a long-suffering race, not readily aroused to action, but if trifled with they have a power and determination, and woe to those who stand in the way. The farmers of the North of England have taken the preliminary steps for holding a convention in the ensuing month at Darlington. A public meeting was held last week in that town, at which it was not only resolved to organise for the occasion, and to issue invitations to agriculturists of the northern counties to join in the gathering, but the object of the movement was declared to be that of getting farmers' interests more thoroughly and effectively dealt with by Parliament. A programme of questions was agreed to, on which the meeting thought the opinions of all candidates for Parliamentary seats should be elicited, and the convention will be recommended to take them into consideration, as well as the course to be taken in eliciting the sentiments of Parliamentary candidates on agricultural subjects.

Several speakers at this preliminary meeting urged the important point that the best way to bring pressure to bear on the House of Commons in the endeavour to get agricultural interests better promoted, is to send tenant-farmer members there. Norfolk men in the seventies of last century thought so likewise, and returned Clare Sewell Read, whose death we have been so recently deploring; and in the following decade the farmers of Hereford shire followed suit by returning the late Thomas Duckham. As William Shaw, the first editor of the MARK LANE EXPRESS, was the first tenant-farmers' candidate, we may naturally be expected to feel more than ordinary interest on the subject, but, dealing with the matter on its merits, it has always been found that those who "paddle their own canoes" get to harbour swiftest. The most important resolution passed at the late meeting declared it to be highly desirable that three measures should be taken in hand, the first being that farmers should be represented in Parliament; the second was that a schedule of questions should be submitted to all Parliamentary candidates for agricultural constituencies; the third that care should be taken in electing county, district, and parish councillors, with a view to securing more adequate representation for agriculturists.

What will be the ultimate outcome of this convention to open on October 20 next it is impossible to foregather. The men of the northern counties seem in earnest. They have appointed a good standing committee, which will have permanent existence, for it is intended to hold an annual convention after the one of next month, so long as there are any tenant-farmers' interests held in abeyance by the British Parliament or requiring to be promoted either in the Senate-house or elsewhere. The organisation is limited at present to the three counties of Yorkshire, Durham, and Northumberland, it is true, but if successful in carrying out its grand schemes, the spirit aroused will very soon extend itself to other parts of the kingdom.

THE CEREAL YEAR.

I.

Breadstuffs.

The cereal year just ended has been of an interesting character, and, to the observer of brief periods, it has been of a deceptive character. Longer surveys reveal its true nature. It has been more or less of what breeders call a "sport." At this time last year, the stock of foreign wheat in the United Kingdom did not equal a month's supply, and this at a time when a war was in progress which might at any moment embroil the British Empire. With August we finished reaping our home crop, and early in September, 1904, we knew that with all possible reserves called up not more than 4,691,000 qrs. of British wheat was available to tide us over until the arrival of another harvest. Russia and Argentina between them were endeavouring to supply the gap left by American shipments, but their efforts were only very partially successful. In this juncture not only was 34s. per qr. obtainable for sound wheat of the home crop, but all the outstanding chances were in favour of a still higher price. There was no serious probability of value going below 30s.; there were various possibilities indicating that a rise on that price was worthy of consideration. This being the state of affairs, there arrived an autumn singularly favourable to wheat sowing. Out of this position, so remarkable for its coincidences that it may almost be called unique, there arose that occurrence which has been dwelt upon by some of the non-agricultural journals with something approaching elation. The wheat area of the United Kingdom increased! It rose to 1,835,024 acres. That this was more and not less than in 1904 was enough for the sanguine. Few stopped to note that when returns began to be both regular and trustworthy—viz., in 1874—the area was 3,830,767 acres, our figures include those for Ireland, which were not available a week ago, and that, therefore, the so-called "recovery" to 1,835,024 acres was a very small affair indeed.

As the cereal year wore on, wheat prices rather hardened than otherwise, and against an average for the whole country of 30s. 4d.

in December, 32s. was reached in July. In London the rise was from 31s. to 33s. per or. But for a mild winter and the pacific foreign policy of the Marquis of Lansdowne, the price must have been considerably higher. Even as it was, the market had its "moments," as when the Russian fleet fired on British fisher smacks, and when a touch of really cold weather sent up retail food wants by some 10 per cent. With respect to foreign wheat the intrinsic strength of the market has been shown by nothing more fixedly than by the fact that although Argentine and Russian wheat supplies have been exceptionally large, and consistently-maintained prices have kept at 32s. to 34s. for both sorts, demand, in other words, has never failed to answer to the supply. American wheat has been genuinely scarce throughout the entire twelve months.

It has been a splendid cereal year for home mills, which have done a record business. The imports of flour from September 1 to August 31 did not exceed 4,376,000 sacks against 7,656,750 sacks in the year before, and, at least, ten million sacks in an average year. English mills, therefore, have done an extra business of fully five million sacks, and, with an increase of population at the rate of a thousand persons a day, the probability is that the figures have been considerably over five millions. The increased demand for skilled labour, and for young learners, for milling machinery, traction motors, and every sort of appliance, has been a salient feature of the campaign. With respect to prices, fine London flour has made a steady 31s. per sack, and has had an unusually good sale at that by no means unprofitable price. The reason has been that American North-Western patents, which are the chief rival type, have been hardly quotable. The price asked was at one time 33s., and although August closed with offerings at 30s. 6d., the supply was always meagre. Hungarian flour was not plentiful, the Austrian, Hungarian, and Roumanian wheat harvests of 1904 having been, one and all, much below the mean, and the Hungarian miller being, for all his superb "artistry" as a flour-maker, curiously dependent upon his local supply.

The type of flour which is known as "Household," the flour that most of us eat in our daily loaf, has been on offer at a level of 25s. per sack, and London millers have kept their reputation to the full—a reputation for a marvellously even production. When we bear in mind that Household flour is a mixture, that such mixture does and must vary every season, and also that the consumer must on no account be alarmed by the least perceptible change in the loaf, we see what a difficult task the great London millers have set before them.

The country flour, which has reached London since September last year has given unwonted satisfaction. We write from market gossip and with no statistics available, when we say that the past cereal year has been the best season for London sales of country flour on record, but we have every confidence in our informants, and the matter has been one of general remark among the frequenters of Mark Lane. The price made cannot be averaged, but 24s. may be given as a probable mean of value.

Owing to the very small imports of flour, an increased purchase of foreign wheat has been necessary. The total purchased comes to some 24,512,000 qrs. of 480lb., but those who compare this with previous years, and do not bear in mind the decrease in foreign flour imported, will find themselves misled. Total breadstuffs imports of the cereal year just concluded show no material increase on those of the cereal year 1903 1904.

The retrospect of the cereal twelvemonth is satisfactory, but it is the view of an oasis. It was between desert and desert. From 1899 to 1903, wheat was almost continuously grown and sold at a loss, with an effect on the acreage which needs no emphasising. To a decennial average of 27s. 3d., the past campaign has added 3s. 4d., and has lifted value into the region of the profitable. But value with the present cereal year, young as it is, has already slipped back to 27s. 1d. per qr., and the outlook for anything like remunerative prices is disheartening in the extreme.

Seasonable Topics.

When corn harvesting operations first commenced the weather was fine, and all went merry as a marriage bell. Indeed, it looked as if all the corn would be picked up in double-quick time, and that the harvest season would be one of the shortest on record. Matters have turned out a little different to expectation, however, in this respect, and the finishing up of the corn-carrying has been a dragging affair. It is true we wanted the rain which has upset harvesting calculations, but it is disappointing, to say the least of it, when one has corn in the best possible condition for carrying, and only a couple of fine days are wanted to clear up everything, and the rain comes down in torrents, stopping further progress. Without being continuous enough to do serious damage, the frequent showers during the past few weeks were sufficient to prevent the corn drying and being transferred to the stack. In consequence of this the harvest has dragged on somewhat, and a dragging harvest is wearying to the patience of a farmer who has a wage bill to consider and other work is waiting to be done.

Protracted Harvesting.

The building of a cornstack is certainly not classed as a fine art, but there is a right and a wrong way of doing it, and a good stacker is a valuable asset to any farm where corn is largely grown. The art of stack-building consists in arranging the sheaves not only in an orderly fashion, but in such a way that the wet will not penetrate. The heavy showers experienced since the corn was carried must have made some farmers anxious about its welfare, particularly amongst those who have not got full confidence in their stack-builders, because considerable damage can quickly be done by wet if the stacks are badly built. Very often there is some delay in getting cornstacks thatched, for the simple reason that material has been scarce of late years, and many farmers commence harvest with never a particle of wheat straw on the place. If they are short of the means or the opportunity of purchasing the needful straw the stacks have to remain unthatched and unprotected until the first of the wheat is threshed out, and the necessary straw is forthcoming.

Building and Thatching Cornstacks.

September is the month when attention is directed to hedge-cutting, and the innocent cyclist goes on his way in continual fear of getting his tyres punctured by the sharp thorns that scatter themselves on the road, with business end upwards. At one time hedge-cutters used to think it a good joke to strew the road with thorns, to the discomfiture of wheelmen, but the law has proved itself to be on the side of the latter in this matter, and he receives more consideration. It fairly does one good to see a neat, well-kept hedge after its annual autumn trimming, because it proves to one how valuable, as well as effective, a really good living fence is. On the other hand, the sight of a once good hedge allowed to go wild for the want of cutting is equally distressing. What after-trouble and labour would be saved if people would only keep their quick hedges properly trimmed from the beginning! The missing of one season's brushing begins the story of neglect which ends in having a hedge bulky at the top, thin at the bottom, and of little use as a fence. To bring it back into anything like condition it has to be laid, and a good deal of this slow and costly work might be avoided if timely attention was paid to brushing in the autumn. We know hedges of thirty years' growth thick and impenetrable to-day, and yet they have had no other attention than an annual brushing. We know others of the same age that have been laid twice in the time, and as fences now they are not nearly so good, and all because the labour of trimming them up in the autumn was accounted too much. Laying is, of course, a good means of improving a thin, overgrown hedge, but we think there is a tendency to put too much faith on this operation. A wise course is to not let the hedge get thin at the bottom and overgrown at the top, but keep it in proper condition by annual brushings. Another important thing is to keep the bottoms of young hedges clean. It is a fatal mistake to let the quick get choked by the growth of weeds and the accumulation of rubbish in the bottom. Too often, however, this is done, and instead of getting a good hedge one obtains only a patchy apology for the same.

Hedge Cutting.

To what extent the hedges dividing fields on farms can also be utilised for fruit culture is largely a matter of soil, conditions, and locality. To even suggest the growing of fruit in hedgerows at all may be received by some as being the height of absurdity, but the fact that it is already done to a considerable extent prompts us to introduce the subject. As a case for illustration, there is a district in North Staffordshire where damsons grow very prolificly. Every farm and small holding has its damson orchard attached, and though this year fruit is scarce in some seasons the return from the damsons is a considerable item towards paying the rent. And not only do damsons grow in enclosed orchards, but the hedgerows on some farms are studded with them, and they seem to grow as well in the hedges as they do in the orchards proper. In some cases the trees were originally planted in the hedgerows, but in others they established themselves from seedlings or suckers, and the conditions being adapted to their requirements, they have developed into profitable specimens. We are aware that the damson is a fruit which adapts itself to certain localities, but where it grows freely it is profitable, and asks for little in the way of cultivation. The fact that the damson will thrive in a hedgerow is proof of its accommodating nature, and in districts suitable for it there are good reasons for developing this mode of culture. In the same way one may observe in the west of England cider apple and perry pear trees growing in the hedgerows. The very fact that some of these trees are in the hedges by the roadside, and yet the fruit hangs untouched by the travellers who use the road is evidence that there is something wanting in its edible qualities, but the apples and pears are suitable for making the beverages for which they are grown, and, judging from their size and vigour, they do not object to the conditions under which they are grown. Again, in Kent, damsons and common plums are grown in hedgerows to form a wind-break for fruit plantations, and in addition to acting as a means of protection, they invariably give a return which pays for the outlay.

Hedgerow Fruit.

In the last issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS there appeared a short report of the agricultural and horticultural show at Wynyard Park, which was established nine years ago by the Marquess of Londonderry for the benefit of the tenants on his extensive estates. It is gratifying to know that the show was one of the best yet held, and the example set by Lord Londonderry might be followed with advantage by other large landowners. Too often, we fear, there is a want of sympathy between the landlord and tenants on large estates, and the interest of the former is centred more in securing rents than encouraging agriculture. It is not easy to gauge the amount of good that may be done by shows of the above character, because there are plenty of tenant farmers who will exhibit their animals at what they call their own show, when they would never think of competing at a big county affair, and if they are successful in local competition they are induced to aspire to higher things, with the result that the standard of quality in stock, horses, and sheep is raised. Big shows are doubtless beneficial, because they provide opportunities for the stock-breeder, but it is an open question whether local shows are not even more useful on account of the encouragement they give to the tenant farmer, whose facilities are not equal to exhibiting much at the bigger events. There are numerous large estates in the country on which shows similar to that established at Wynyard might be held, and, if organised properly, they would encourage the tenants without the landlords being losers.

Tenants' Shows.

At the moment when hop-picking is in full swing in those parts of the country where this crop is grown it is interesting to learn that there is an increase of 1,169 acres of land, according to the official returns, under hop-culture. This does not seem a great deal, but it must be remembered in the first place that hops are only grown in about seven counties in England, and, secondly, that only a certain area, estimated at about 50,000 acres, is required under ordinary conditions to produce all the hops needed by the brewing trade. No class of farmer is liable to more ups and downs than a hop grower. The crop is necessarily an expensive one to grow, and a bad season means lost money and drooping spirits. On the other hand, when crops and prices are both good, hops bring grist to the grower's mill that would make the

The Increase of Hop-Culture.

eyes of the ordinary farmer sparkle, and, being encouraged by the success of one season, the grower throws his energy and capital into further planting. Thus it is that hops must ever be a speculative crop, and that hop growers are first up and then down. When everything is satisfactory, and prospects are fair, official returns show an increase of acreage, but if growers get a few unfavourable seasons it falls just as quickly. The acreage, like the industry, is always liable to fluctuations.

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Mushrooms and Mushroomers.

The season of the edible fungi being now in, it is no uncommon experience for a farmer to meet one or more individuals carrying a red or white handkerchief and strolling across the fields with as much assurance as if they were the rightful owners. At any other time they would admit to trespassing, but by some peculiar law, known only to themselves, they look upon mushrooms as a public perquisite, with a perfect right of walking over anybody's land in search of them. If you took the trouble to follow the man with the handkerchief you would probably find him striking a bargain with some one for the purchase of the mushrooms, and later they might be seen in a shop window with 6d. or 8d. per lb. marked on them. If the nomadic mushroomer can make money out of what he picks up, why should not the farmer treat the fungi as a crop and protect them for his own benefit? Why not? Some farmers do this, but the nomad referred to treats this as a gross interference with his rights, and he will resent it by deliberately selecting the protected farm for his operations, even at the risk of being summoned for trespass. Of course, there are mushroomers and mushroomers, and there is a marked difference between the respectable citizen who picks up a few for breakfast in the course of a country walk and the ne'er-do-well to whom mushrooms means beer, and who is not particular about adding a rabbit to his bag if one crosses his path.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Sept. 2, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	12,725	8,995	Wheat ...	1,953,800	1,903,500
Sheep.....	4,951	1,441	Flour.....	230,500	117,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	389,400	618,800
Horses ...	1,144	509	Oats	160,200	207,000
			Peas	38,540	118,316
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	47,200	15,940
Beef	124,382	54,813	Maize ...	757,700	766,700
Mutton...	80,390	81,976	Apples ...	21,541	18,446
Pork	6,686	6,516	Apricots &Peaches	53	183
Bacon ...	102,667	132,738		Bunches	Bunches
Beef, salt	1,666	4,340	Bananas	126,051	113,968
Hams.....	28,630	31,212		Cwt.	Cwt.
Pork, salt	4,292	4,824	Cherries	—	135
Meat, salt & Fresh	12,049	9,359	Currants	—	1,406
Do. pres.	9,462	8,722	Goosebr's	—	2
Butter ...	72,983	90,353	Grapes ..	23,720	25,944
M'rg'rine	17,787	29,439	Lemons...	22,888	6,312
Cheese ...	76,509	53,391	Oranges	6,379	1 018
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Pears	57,568	35,665
			Plums ...	22,247	29,886
			Oth'r Fr't	36,635	31,967
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	2,496	2,463
Milk, Cream	52	56	Straw ..	1,569	2,054
			MossLitt'r	—	1,577
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	20,376	20,646	Hops	1,741	646
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds...	77	67	Locust Beans	2,171	4,053
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	171,199	196,173
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Eggs	498,106	426,666	Potatoes	56,507	34,600
			Tomatoes	25,044	30,584
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £4,871	Value. £3,315	Veg'bles	£3,914	£6,675
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	3,423	1,526
Rabbits...	14,474	48,549	Pres'v'd by canning ..	5,605	2,113
Lard	29 172	43,788			

At Thorpe (Essex) on Monday, Samuel H. Tickell, gentleman farmer and graduate of Dublin University, was sentenced to a month's hard labour for causing a horse to be worked whilst in an unfit state. Accused, who had been previously fined, told the Royal Society's officer that he had often worked horses with sores in Ireland without interference.

Embargo on Canadian Cattle.—A telegram from Ottawa states the reply of the Board of Agriculture refusing to remove the embargo on Canadian cattle has been published, but has caused little comment. As this course was anticipated, the feeling of many influential agriculturists is that the agitation against the embargo is a mistake, as its removal would only tempt the farmer to export immature cattle, which would result in the impoverishment of the land.

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

There should be one political lesson understood by those Northern farmers who are in revolt against what I may describe as the agricultural acquiescence in the policy of Parliamentary neglect. This is that you should always demand more than the minimum that Parliament is willing to concede. It cannot be said that the Darlington conference of Northern farmers revealed the characteristic fault once attributed to the Dutch—the fault of giving too little and asking too much. Their platform is, so far as it goes, an excellent one; but, like the servant girl's child, "'tis only a little one." There be few of the anxieties it epitomises which would evoke anything like vigorous dissent in the present Parliament. The continuance of the Rates Act until the general re-adjustment of taxation is undertaken, the throwing of the cost of secondary education (why secondary education?) on the Imperial exchequer, legislation on the lines of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes' Butter Bill, the partial relief of localities from the increased cost of the maintenance of roads entailed by motor-traffic, the better regulation of that traffic itself, the prevention of preferential railway rates to the advantage of the foreigner—all these things may be described as among the commonplace anxieties of scores of Parliamentarians. Of course, it is well that they should be subscribed to and formally recognised by bodies of farmers. This must tend to give the proposals the character of immediacy and authority. Still, we were justified in anticipating something more definite and vigorous; something, in a word, which would deal with the verities of rural economy, with the laws in reference to tenure, with the question of compensation for improvement, and with the ambition which possesses even certain Conservative minds to utilise the resources of the State in recalling the old type of British yeomen.

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Within the last three years the anxiety of rural reformers has become more emboldened. It has been stiffened and nerved. It is well, I repeat, to aim at securing those ambitions which the Darlington conference has accepted as its own. We might, however, have had some indication of the attitude of the northern farmers towards the proposals of Mr. Channing in regard to compensation for improvements and in regard to capricious eviction. We might have had some indication of their attitude towards the specific proposal that compensation should be given for the whole value an improving tenant has added to the holding on a renewal of the tenancy, whether he quits or remains on the holding, and towards the further specific suggestion that compensation should be given for the value added to the holding, both by continuous good farming and by the laying down of permanent pasture. It would not have been altogether out of place to have yielded a revelation of the view of the contention that compensation should be obtainable for damage caused by ground or winged game. How, too, would they like the bestowal of compulsory powers for the acquisition of land, both by hire and purchase, for the purpose of small holdings, and the provision of easy facilities for the small holder to borrow money? Above all, how do these farmers regard the proposal of Mr. Jesse Collings—with whom is associated Conservatives like Sir John Dorington and Sir John Kennaway—which would first enable the Board of Agriculture to acquire estates by voluntary arrangement with the landlord, and then to sell to the tenant-farmers, the Board advancing to the purchaser for the purpose as large a sum as £7,000, or even £9,000, this sum to be repaid by means of a purchase-annuity?

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These have become vital issues, not merely because they have a considerable force of opinion behind them, but because they reveal a desire to apply to the rural situation something more than gratifying opiates, which, after all, can only confer an illusory contentment. Of course, I can already hear the reply that with a body so mentally conservative as the British farmers it is absolutely the wiser policy to be moderate. *Festina lente.* On the other hand, it is the height of unwisdom to wax enthusiastic over the frills of problem and to be stolidly indifferent to its real heart and kernel. There is a moderation which sometimes degenerates into tepidity and innocuousness. Surely a suggestion coming from men of the political calibre and conservative texture of Sir John Dorington and Sir John Kennaway—neither of whom would accept the red hat or prance enthusiastically to the music of the Carmagnole—should not be regarded as beyond the realm of rural consideration because of its demagogic extravagance? However, one excellent thing has been achieved by this northern conference. It has provided us with an evidence of the possibility of uniting the farmers in a political programme of practical self-interest. It has shown us that there is in existence a sentiment of revolt—not yet too vivid or vivifying in its character—against the farming community being made the pawns in partisan-anxieties which rarely concern their own weal or status. This is good. Now, the first purpose of the active reformers—and I appeal to Collingsites as well as Channingites—is to seek to give this anxiety a backbone. We now know that an Agricultural Parliamentary Party is not an intangible vision. It is a possibility.

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Of course, I am aware that this Darlington conference is but a prelude. The real declaration of purpose is to be made at a more representative and authoritative convention. It is too much to hope that this convention will take its courage into both its hands and seek to range the avowed purpose of the farmers abreast of what I may describe as the more moderate spirit in the House of Commons itself? Farmers must not be content merely to lisp their obvious necessities and the assured concessions. They must profess desires which proceed beyond the conventional, desires which will breed discussion, contention, and even antagonism. Reform is born of attrition; reform is the first-fruit, in a word, of controversy.

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I do not know that farmers are anxious for the advent of the trades' union demagogue and the Socialist agitator in the country-side. All the same, they must be amused at the absolute and scientific manner in which the Trades' Union Congress has disregarded the rural workers. The necessities of labour mean, in a word, to this congress the necessities of the town workers and the miners. Not in an expressed thought, not in a single resolution not on a single platform was the rural worker permitted the undesired luxury of intrusion. A few years ago Mr. Joseph Arch—who, by the way, is now living the most somnolent of somnolent lives at Barford, a kird of unheeding dolce far niente—was acclaimed at the congress with a rapture that seemed to indicate that no person in our life was so dear to the heart of demagogy as the person that demagogy always dubbed "Hodge." That rapture, however, never had a revival, and to-day is a forgotten sentiment. Gratifying as this may be to those who regard the trades' union leader as the harbinger of discontent and disaffection, the meal-ut is not in itself without a significant meaning. It is a justification of the act of self-assertion on the part of the northern farmers. It is a proof that in the Parliamentary arena the race is not only to the lusty of lungs, but that the men who will not clamour are destined to be neglected and forgotten. The necessity of a Parliamentary Agricultural Party, or, at least, of a Parliamentary Agricultural Committee, is proved, indeed, by the very fact that its appearance would be regarded with amazement. That farmers should dare associate themselves in an electoral

organisation with defined aims would be regarded almost with indignation by the industrial and commercial sections which fight only for their own hands. An admirable example for farmers is provided by a recent act of the greater industrialists and machine-users of the towns. Without distinction of party or sect, heedless of the anxiety of partisanism, acting solidly and in combination, they have united to prevent the rating of the machinery they use. They care not for partisan anxiety on this point, and their solidity and mutual confidence are so excellent that they will succeed. Farmers could accomplish as much if they would.

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The agricultural sympathy with the co-operative principle is extending. This sympathy is now having practical expression in Staffordshire and Hertfordshire. In the one case the milk-producing farmers are uniting for the purpose of securing a market, and in the other case the apple-producing farmers are uniting with the same object. Common depots are the chief feature of the scheme in both instances. This is well; but I would that in this case the Board of Agriculture were capable of a more definite attitude of appreciation. Of course, the eventual direction of this principle must apply to the greater produce of the country-side. The railway companies apparently believe that in the co-operative distribution of farm produce and the association with it of a more scientfic method of packing, we shall find the real solution of the railway rates' problem. In a matter of this gravity the Board of Agriculture should have the ability to extend a practical, helping, financial hand. Lord Onslow was against conceding help of this character; he thought the State approval should be confined to pretty platitudes. It is, I opine, different with Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes. The present Minister for Agriculture comprehends that the value of the principle has yet to be tested—that, indeed, it must be, in its earlier application, of the nature of an experiment. If that experiment succeeds the State will itself benefit; hence the State ought to bear a share of the financial responsibility.

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The Board of Agriculture has, however, at this moment no money at its command for such a purpose. In that future extension of the powers of the department which is inevitable, experiments of this character should be regarded as in the same category as experimental farms. If the State holds that it is its duty to experiment in the interest of better culture (and, of course, this is being very widely done in Ireland), it should be the duty of the State to occasionally experiment in the interest of the profitable distribution of the produce of that culture. "Where," I can hear the affrighted Individualist asking, "if this position be accepted, will State intervention end?" Our own sanity will provide the boundary. The temperament of the British farmer would not permit him to ask the State to do for him what he ought properly, and could fittingly, perform for himself.

Fruit Growers and the Board of Agriculture.

With reference to the findings of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Board of Agriculture to inquire into and report upon the fruit industry of Great Britain, the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Trades Associations have forwarded the following memorial to the President of the Board of Agriculture and to Mr. Griffith Boscawen, M.P., the chairman of the Committee:

"We, the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Trades Associations, representing the fruit and potato trades associations throughout the United Kingdom, numerous members of the trades affected, and many others, do hereby beg:

"(1) To express (a) our appreciation of the action of the Board of Agriculture in causing an inquiry to be made into the fruit industry of Great Britain, and (b) our anxiety to assist in obtaining practical legislative and other results from the recommendations of the Departmental Committee which has conducted such inquiry.

"(2) To strongly confirm (a) the importance of quick transit and reasonable rates on the railways of the country, and (b) our belief that in providing for the latter a more simple and uniform system and a more practical classification are very desirable and, indeed, urgently necessary.

"(3) To state that, in our experience, the protection of traders against the result of the combined action of railway companies has become a vital question in the interests of our trades.

"To offer our services to ensure that the effect of the report of the Departmental Committee shall be such as to enable Parliament to recognise the great and increasing importance of the fruit and potato growing industry, and to pass the requisite statutory enactments.

"And (5) whilst again expressing our appreciation of what has been done by the Board of Agriculture, to hope that the action of the Board may cause the necessities and requirements of these trades, affecting as they do the whole of the country, to be better understood, to the advantage not only of the trades and the railway companies, but the whole population."

OBITUARY.

Mr. George Heath, one of the elective auditors for Exeter, and a prominent member of that town, died on Monday from muscular rheumatism. By profession Mr. Heath was a land agent and surveyor, and as such was regarded as a man of considerable ability. He was more particularly known among the agriculturists throughout the West of England, and was looked upon as, as he undoubtedly was, an authority on agricultural matters. The deceased gentleman often contributed to our columns on agricultural matters of the moment, and his occasional letters on the state of the crops, etc., in his district will be sadly missed from these pages. Deceased, who was between sixty and seventy years of age, leaves several grown-up sons and daughters.

Mr. Samuel Kingston, one of the oldest and best known auctioneers and valuers in Lincolnshire, died on Wednesday at his residence in the Terrace, Spalding, aged 76. He had filled the position of president of the Lincolnshire Auctioneers' and Valuers' Association, and was a recognised authority on matters connected with the valuation of tenant right and farming, in which he was extensively engaged in the Deeping district. He was a magistrate for the Holland Division, had been chairman of the Spalding Urban Council, and by his death Spalding loses one of its ablest and most esteemed residents.

Mr. John White, Edgefield Farm, Loanhead, one of the best-known men as well as one of the oldest farmers in Midlothian, died suddenly on the 2nd inst. He was driving alone in his pony trap through one of his fields when he sank down in the vehicle, and died from heart failure. The pony plodded on, and brought its master's body towards some stacks of grain which the farm hands were building. His servants lifted Mr. White's body from the vehicle, but life was extinct.

An even sadder death is that of Mr. W. Kelman, of Burnside, a well-known Banffshire farmer. He was in the harvest field, and in bending down to pick up some corn he injured himself internally. From the first but little hope was entertained of his recovery, and he succumbed within twenty-four hours of the occurrence. Deceased, who was 72 years of age, a few years ago removed from the farm of Wester Lovat, Ross-shire, to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's farm of Burnside, one of the best farms in the Enzie.

On the eve of Totnes Races there passed away at Stretchford, Staverton, in the person of Mr. Edwin Shinner, one who had witnessed every day's racing at Totnes since 1846, and on several occasions won races on his own horses. Born in the neighbouring parish of Littlehempston, the deceased, on his marriage, about 50 years ago, went to the farm where all his wedded life has been spent. As an agriculturist he was probably as well known as any man in South Devon, and the stamina of the horses on the farms has undoubtedly been much improved by the enterprise he displayed in connection with the stud animals which he kept at Stretchford, and with which he attended the markets and fairs, being present with them at 59 successive Totnes May Fairs and 58 annual spring fairs at South Brent. He took an active part in connection with the Totnes Union Agricultural Society and other organisations for the benefit of his industry. Deceased was in his 76th year.

A large number of householders in North London have been apprised by circular, issued through the medium of the London Master Bakers' Protection Association, that in consequence of the danger to health occasioned by the exchange of stale bread for new, by which infectious disease may be conveyed from one house to another, in future no new bread will be given in exchange for stale.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Mushrooms! That is the topic of conversation at the moment throughout the rural districts of East Anglia, and it is amusing to those that know the joy to be obtained in the early morn to see those that generally have the privilege, even at the farmhouse, to lay abed longer than their elders in the fields with their London cousins or visitors before the break of day and in the half-mist of morning busy filling their baskets or sacks like bags with the quick outcrop of the previous night. This year, by reason of the long, hot summer and the plentiful rain that we have since had, that brings a condition of smothered heat in the soil which is exactly what the mushroom loves, we have a magnificent crop, much to the delight of the farm folk and the epicures, who take great interest in this "vegetable." The writer does not remember, while travelling on the Great Eastern, to have noticed so many baskets of mushrooms being sent to the market towns and London as has been the case during the last few days.

As regards East Anglia, we can now say that the corn harvest is over, and even in most cases the harvest festivities that accompany the arrival at the farmstead of the last load are pleasures of the past fading already from one's mind. So now we hear more generally the hum of the threshing machine that proclaims the fact that farmers are sampling this season's yield of wheat, and while this work is progressing we cannot help but notice in the landscape that the golden stubble has been manured for next season's crop, and the barley fields are already lined at intervals with brown guiding furrows for the ploughs that will in a day or so be at work accompanied by the usual crowd of rooks, that then as birds are the farmers' friend indeed, while in the next field can be seen the ploughs busy at work finishing the last headland, so making a complete change in the colour of our landscape.

At the village of Thornham, situated between Wells and Lynn, in Norfolk, an interesting industry is carried on by some of the inhabitants, and so artistic and well made are the wrought-iron articles by these artisans that, on seeing some of the beautiful examples, the King has ordered a pair of ornamental gates, which will be erected when completed on his Sandringham estate.

During the past week we have heard at the different market towns of the glut of English fruit, which is a great disadvantage, inasmuch as the remuneration due to the grower is not forthcoming. In this connection we would point out that with proper care it is possible to store fruit, especially if the fruit is gathered in a proper manner. In the storage of fruit, a cool, even temperature is all that is necessary, and the specimens should be set out in a single layer upon open wooden shelves or trays. Some of them may be covered with sweat, when a current of air through the room will help to dry a good deal of it away. This is part of the natural process of maturation, but unless checked with a dry air it sometimes affects the fruit, so that a weak spot will soon turn rotten. The stock should be gone over twice a week in order to remove those that show the slightest signs of decay. In this way good prices can be obtained when the glut of fruit is past.

A strange disease has broken out in West Essex among poultry, with the result that chickens and turkeys are dying in great numbers. So rapid is the spread of the disease that one farmer lost birds to the value of £40 in one night. Some of the carcases have been forwarded to the Board of Agriculture, who report that in all probability the birds died from "fowl cholera."

September 8, 1905.

Important Butter Prosecution. — At the South-Western Police-court on Thursday, Mr. Francis fined a provision dealer 40s. and three guineas costs for infringing the Margarine Act by selling a substitute for butter, called "Marvo," otherwise than as margarine. The prosecuting solicitor's point was that the substance was in fact margarine, while the defendant pleaded that it was really sold as such, but that if the court held that it was not, he relied upon the following notice :— "Marvo, the new butter substitute, equal in flavour to the finest dairy butter. To comply with the provisions of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act this article is sold as margarine." Mr. Francis said the notice was capable of a double interpretation, and he was inclined to take it as meaning: "We have to sell it as margarine; but it is really something better; it is Marvo, the new butter substitute." It led the purchaser to believe he was getting something other than margarine, whereas it was only margarine dressed up in another name. There would probably, added the magistrate, be an appeal.

A Northern Convention of Farmers.

A Good Programme, but——

A preliminary conference of representatives of several of the largest farmers' associations in the north-eastern district was held at Darlington on Monday to consider matters relating to the organisation of the farming interest, and to arrange for a general convention of farmers in October. The arrangements for the meeting were made by Mr. Charles Marshall, secretary of the Northumberland and Durham Dairy Farmers' Association; Captain R. Cecil Hedley, secretary Newcastle Farmers' Club; and Mr. P. Kent, secretary of the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association. Delegates were present from the Newcastle-on-Tyne Farmers' Club, Northumberland and Durham Dairy and Tenant Farmers' Association, Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture, Stockton Chamber of Agriculture, Hexham Farmers' Protection Association, and the Ripon Chamber of Agriculture.

Mr. George Smurthwaite, chairman of the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, took the chair, and briefly opened the proceedings by calling upon Mr. P. B. Kent, one of the conveners of the meeting.

Mr. Kent said letters had been received from gentlemen interested in agriculture, from Chambers of Agriculture, and from farmers' associations throughout different parts of England and Scotland, all expressing their deep sympathy and interest in the movement, and wishing it great success, and intimating their intention, if invited, to attend any gathering or congress that might be held.

Captain Hedley then moved:—"That it is desirable we have a Standing Committee representative of all agricultural organisations in the Northern Counties of England for the consideration as they arise of all questions relating generally to the interests of tenant farmers, for the purpose of taking immediate and combined action whenever necessary." He remarked that the voice of the different farmers' organisations would be much more effective if they had some means of focussing the opinions of all the associations, which at present there was no means of doing. He held that it is the duty of all farmers to belong to an association such as they proposed to establish. They must to a certain extent be prepared to give up party politics. It was a case of every man for himself.

Mr. W. Parlour (Darlington) seconded the motion. He said farmers have a number of associations, but he did not see that they had made the least advance in organisation. They should get all the leading spirits in farmers' clubs and Chambers of Agriculture to combine in an agricultural programme, and get it accepted in the different counties at the next election. They should also try to get proper representation in Parliament, and in the county and other councils where the interests of farmers are concerned. They also wanted a strong body to meet any other body such, for instance, as railway companies. They had no chance without combination

Replying to questions, Captain Hedley said it was not proposed to supersede the Central Chamber of Agriculture, but to supplement it. The distance to London and the times of meeting did not suit farmers, and, besides, many of the representatives of local chambers on the Central Chamber were not tenant farmers, nor had they a practical knowledge of the exigencies of their business. They wanted not only to supplement the Central Chamber, but to keep the Board of Agriculture in the right groove, to educate them, and restrain them if necessary. If a question arose in any particular district the secretary would convene a meeting of the standing committee, and its decision would go forward as the voice of the North of England.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. G. Gibson (Darlington) moved that they should embrace in the organisation the whole of the six counties of the North of England, Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland, Durham, Yorkshire, and Lancashire.

Mr. Kent said they had had no reply from Cumberland and Westmorland to the invitation.

Mr. Marshall (Newcastle) held that the proposed association should not be too big. Cumberland and Westmorland might form an association of their own. A national association would be a very cumbrous thing. He thought they should comprise Northumberland, Durham, and North Yorkshire.

Mr. Trotter urged that they should take in the whole of Yorkshire.

Mr. W. Hill moved that the three counties, Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire, should be invited. Mr. Bainbridge seconded this motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Parlour moved that each association be represented at the conference by two members and the secretary ex officio. If there were 500 members there should be five representatives, with four for 400, three for 300, and so on.

This resolution was carried, and it was also agreed that the delegates at that meeting appointed by the various associations pending the conference be constituted an executive committee.

On the motion of Mr. J. H. Walker (Darlington), it was resolved: "That a convention take place annually in different centres, the first to be held in Darlington on October 20, at which the various subjects brought before this meeting be further discussed, and resolutions passed thereon."

It was further resolved that an endeavour should be made to obtain fuller representation for farmers on county, district, and parish councils.

On the motion of Mr. Marshall, it was decided to ask all Parliamentary candidates whether they are in favour of the following proposals:—

The continuation of the Agricultural Rating Act until the whole system of rating is dealt with.

Absolute prohibition of preferential railway rates for foreign produce.

Better regulations for motor-car traffic with a view to the safety of the public and the prevention of dust.

The whole cost of secondary education under the Education Act being borne by the Imperial Exchequer

A Bill to prevent the adulteration of butter by fats, milk, water, or other substances.

Making railway companies responsible for damage done by sparks from locomotives.

Agricultural M.P.s: Discussion at Fareham.

At the last meeting of the Fareham Farmers' Club there was an interesting discussion, having for its topic the above-mentioned proposed Convention. Mr. Christian brought the matter forward by asking whether the club would send representatives to the conference, he being of the opinion that it was very desirable that they should send one or more—perhaps the secretary and a delegate. Such an association would tend to great good, he believed, if it steered clear of two things. One was party politics. Of course, it would become a political organisation, for if they could not get better representation in Parliament, they would in time endeavour to send men themselves. That, however, would be an expensive matter, and it would be better to make use of the men who were there, and there were able men in Parliament, who only required to know their wants. They would never make any great headway in regard to getting their needs met until they had, it might be, an agrarian party. That was what they wanted, and what would come. But here was such a movement as they had been advocating loudly and long in that club, and they ought not now to be asleep.

Mr. A. H. Lee, M.P., who presided, said he had heard it suggested that this new association might in some way be distasteful to the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and they ought to be clear on the point before they took any action. Asked why this should be the case, Mr. Lee said, in the same way as two cocks did not like to share the same dung-hill. They required to have all agricultural interests co-operating in this movement, but it would not be wise while it was in a nebulous state to throw in their lot with it until they knew whether the Central Chamber was in favour of it. In the legislative programme that was proposed he saw nothing at the first sight to object to. As regarded representation in the House of Commons, it was a wise decision not to send special delegate members, as they did not have anything like the same influence as members at large, though they might have greater technical knowledge. The man who was an avowed representative of a certain interest might be listened to with attention as an expert, but not to such an extent as an independent member, who might put the case equally forcibly. He moved that the discussion be adjourned till next meeting, when Mr. Christian might be invited to bring up further information.

Mr. Christian said they would not make very much headway until they got some such organisation as that proposed. He failed to see why men could not go into the House of Commons and do their business in the same way as other bodies of business men. Men went to a Board of Guardians and voted according to their judgment, taking sides on questions as, of course, they must do. Why need there be these parties? Some of them were getting a bit sick of this strong party feeling, for they felt that the business of the country was not done as it ought to be and as it would be but for this party feeling.

Mr. Lee explained why, in his opinion, Parliament could not be conducted like a Board of Guardians, or a meeting of that club. One side did not want the other to do any business, and did its best to prevent it. One side was always trying to put a spoke in the wheel of the other, and preventing it carrying through its ideas of legislation. The Radical party regarded Tory legislation as bad for the country, and the Tory party regarded Radical legislation as bad. Only rarely was non-contentious matter introduced on which both sides would agree, and then he would advise the taxpayers to look out, as some iniquity was probably going on.

Eventually the matter was deferred to another meeting.

The Relative Prices of Wheat and Flour.

In the course of an interesting letter to the *Daily Telegraph*, "A Norfolk Farmer" draws attention to a matter that has so often been dealt with, but is ever presenting fresh facts. He says: This season we have had an earlier harvest than usual, with the result that most of the wheat has been secured in splendid condition, and though the threshing machine has already proved, in this county of Norfolk, at any rate, that the yield is not so great as was expected, yet the quality is very fine, and will compare most favourably with any foreign produce. Wheat was quoted at the different markets about a month since at about 32s. to 35s. per quarter. As soon, however, as some of the present crop was put on the market, the price fell for our home produce something like 5s. per quarter, and we are now called upon to take 27s. to 28s., delivered at Norwich, for some of the best wheat that has been put on the market for years. Has there been a corresponding decrease in the price of flour to the consumer? I assert there has been none whatever, and that the same price is now charged as was the case before the drop on wheat. What is the reason for this sudden drop? It seems to me that in every county one or two big firms monopolise the whole trade, and arrange the market to suit their purpose.

This year I celebrate by fortieth year as a farmer, and I well remember in the early part of my time that in nearly every village there was a wind or a water mill, that made into flour several loads of wheat every week, and sold the flour in the district, with the advantage also that the farmer could ensure having bran and offals of such a character as would guarantee him perfect safety against swine fever and other complaints which are the result of freely using the present foreign imported pollards, etc. Unfortunately, these home industries have all been gradually swept away, and at the present time the milling is all concentrated in a few hands, all striving to make the whitest flour they can produce at the cost of removing every nutritive particle therefrom.

At the same time their chief aim is to keep the price of home produce at the lowest point. There has been a great deal written the last few years on the country being more self-dependent for its food supply and of farmers being induced to grow more wheat. I should like to know where the inducement comes in when, in the case of the finest wheat that has been produced for years, we are obliged to sell at the ruinous rate of 9d. per stone, or eighteen stones for 13s. 6d., out of which, in many instances, something like 8d. per coomb has to be paid for railway transit to the mill. I live some eighteen miles from Norwich, and the rail charges for not less than five-ton lots from my nearest station, two miles distant, is 5s. 5d. per ton.

Had the price of wheat gone up 5s. per quarter what an outcry we should have heard of a dear loaf, advance in the price of flour, etc., but when it has dropped that sum not a sound is heard; there is no difference in the price of the loaf, no corresponding drop to the consumer's flour. I ask your readers, many of whom, perhaps, know little of agricultural matters, whether this is fair usage, or whether such conditions will induce a further area of wheat cultivation. I can quite understand there being an increase of wheat cultivation this past season, as the farmer had a fine sowing time last autumn, and the promise of a small advance in the price made him eager to grow all he could. With the present conditions I fear that the coming year will see a corresponding decrease again, and that more land will have again to go out of cultivation. These are facts which it would be well for the whole community to look in the face, and consider whether it is to the well-being of this country that the home grower should be like the country millers—crushed entirely out of existence.

Prevention of Sparks from Railway Engines. — We learn that for the past three months an invention has been in use on a colliery siding at Hucknall, near Nottingham, which prevents sparks being emitted from railway engines. It is the patent of a Midland Railway engine-driver, and consists of a series of projecting blades between the bottom of the blast pipe and the foot of the chimney, by which the sparks are intercepted and thrown back. Not only does it prevent sparks being thrown out, but by careful tests it has been discovered that it acts as a great coal saver, and an engine fitted with these bars is said to burn from 6 cwt. to 7 cwt. of coal less per day.

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Gentlemen able to influence introductions with this object are invited to make application for Agencies.

Offices, 28, Lombard Street, London, E.C.

Cheerless Outlook in Cornwall.

Sir,—Harvest prospects are not at all favourable. Much of the corn still remains in the fields, and little hope remains of saving it at all well. In the earlier districts the wheat and winter oats, also some barley, have been saved very well, and will be a fair crop. Spring oats are a failure. The rust has spoilt the sample of corn, so much so that it is scarcely worth thrashing.

Sheep are selling very well, and there is an abundant supply of grass. Roots are also doing well. Beef is not a good trade, and store cattle are a poor trade.

The outlook on the whole cannot be said to be a good one. M.

September 8, 1905.

Doubtful Prospects in East Suffolk

Sir,—For this district, chiefly light land, the season cannot be said to have been altogether favourable to satisfactory crops of corn, although I must confess, take them on the whole, they might have been very much worse.

The splendid rains we got here in the second week of June saved a failure. I think another week's drought at that time would have sealed the fate of hundred of acres of peas, oats, and barley. As it is peas are fair.

Oats rather indifferent, especially where late drilled, being affected with tulip root, causing two-thirds reduction in crop. Barley I estimate to be fair average quality, but not full crop. Wheat not much grown, full average crop of splendid quality. Most of the corn in this district has been harvested in splendid condition with less labour than for many years past.

With regard to root prospects, mangold only are good, and should be rather over average crop. Swedes are not so, and in some instances were last from ravages of fly. Turnips very patchy; many not set, being too small. The result of the crop depends upon the weather to follow. If an open, mild time up to Christmas they will be fair, not otherwise.

Taking the year from the beginning of April, it has not been favourable, for feed layers gave poor yield in consequence of wet, frosts, and droughts. Catch crops, such as mustard and coie, etc., almost a failure.

Ewes and lambs felt the pinch in consequence, but remained very healthy. Result was lambs were not shown in quite the usual condition at lamb sales, but the price paid for them by buyers was highly satisfactory to breeders. J. G.

Prospects in Gloucestershire.

Sir,—The season now fast closing will, I think, be classed with the good ones by the agriculturists of this district. May was a very dry month, which caused a light hay crop on the pasture land, but artificial crops, clover, sainfoin etc., was a good average crop; roots started badly but promised to be average, especially mangolds. Wheat promises to be the best crop; then winter beans, barley and oats, the latter crop the lightest. Peas fairly good and spring beans generally so.

Beef trade still bad, stores paying little to feed on. Sheep trade fairly good, milk, the farmer's last resort, being overdone.

Canadian cattle, if allowed to enter our ports free, will bring only disease, and lessen the production of English-bred cattle.

Wool has helped the hill farms considerably. Not much threshing done yet, but enough to decline the price of all home-grown produce. Hops a good crop of good quality, but prices too low to recoup the grower.

Fruit in most cases not selling as if it was half a crop, which it is

The weather of the past month has been the wettest of the year. Yet hay and corn has been well got—between the storms. T. R. H.

September 7, 1905.

Rain Causes Delay in Wiltshire.

Sir,—The crops this season are not particularly good, as some of them ripened prematurely, owing to the severe heat in July, especially oats. These showers are delaying the carting, and doing some mischief in staining the barley. Prices for corn are still too low for farmers to make any profit. are still too low for farmers to make any profits, and hay also is going cheap. It is a bad thing for this country to find the land going out of cultivation, and I think legislation ought to step in.

W. C. S.

Durham Harvest Nearly Over.

Sir,—In the spring we had a good seed-time; most of the land could not have worked better, but all through the summer months there was practically no rain, and the hay crops were very light, consequently were cheaply and well got.

Wheat a good average crop. Barley nearly average crop. Oats considerably under average. There are still patches of corn to harvest.

Turnips are for the most part a failure in this district, though they have improved since the rain came a few weeks ago; am afraid will finish less than half a crop.

Pastures have had no grass in them all summer, and cattle done badly; in fact, we hear of some selling out now at a less price than they were bought in for in the spring.

Beef, which, as a rule, improves in June and July, has this summer never made a spurt, 7s. to 7s. 6d. per 14lb. stone having been the very top price all along. Mutton has sold very well, and wool the highest price for some years.

Lambs are selling fairly well, the lamb sales being, if not equal to last year, nearly so.

W. F. B.

September 6, 1905.

Outlook in Hampshire.

Sir,—Wheat above average. Barley under average. Oats very good, except late sown. Hay rather above average, and made well. Worst crop of roots known for years. No fruit on account of late frost.

Sheep about 2s. per head more than last year. Store cattle very cheap. H. S.

September 9, 1905.

Wild and Wet Weather in Kerry.

Sir, The weather during latter half of August has been wild and wet. Corn much injured, in some places almost totally destroyed. Late-cut hay in a bad way.

Roots fair in some places.

A bad look-out for the small farmers of this district.

Grass good. Cattle hard to dispose of at any price. Potato crop above average. Weather at present, wintry, wild, and wet. J. E. B.

Harvest Prospects in East Ulster.

Sir, The beautiful weather of summer passed us all too soon, and the heavy rains of the last fortnight, although desired by some, have not been welcome to the farmers in the North of Ireland.

Upland hay was a good crop, and had an excellent time for gathering and saving the seed, the market for which are just opening, but the price of grass seed is none too good. Of meadow hay much has been lost by floods, especially along the course of the Bann.

A larger acreage was under wheat this year than for several years past, and there is a heavy crop, both of straw and wheat. Oats are not so good, for although there are some exceptionally fine fields of corn, most farmers consider their crop of oats light.

Early potatoes are a good heavy crop, abundant on the ground, and excellent on the table, and although the later crops had an equally good appearance, the disease has caught hold of the haulms, and the present weather is too favourable for the development of the disease for the tuber to escape.

Mangolds, turnips, and other root crops look well, but the weight of these crops will only be known a few months hence.

Store cattle have grown vigorously, but prices have gone down so much since spring that scarcely any of them would bring as much in the market now as they cost when being put on the grass. Graziers must lose money, if the prices do not rise.

Small fruit were somewhat less than an average crop. Stone fruit is a smaller crop, and apples are much worse, and the low price of apples adds to the misfortune of fruit-growers.

W. W. D.

September 6, 1905.

Poor Root Crops in Wensleydale.

Sir,—It has been one of the most indifferent seasons we have had for years, the drought having affected all crops. Turnips are practically a failure, many fields having nothing at all on, and where they have been sown two and three times, and have come up, the grub have gone with them. The hay has not been half a crop; and cattle have done no good at all, and are not worth so much now as in the spring.

Clover seeds are a failure, and will have to be ploughed up.

There is still part corn out, which has been late sown.

Since the rain has come grass has grown quickly, but fogs are only very moderate.

The only redeeming feature are sheep, which have done fairly well and maintain good prices.

September 9, 1905. B. J. H.

Imports of Agricultural Produce in August.

According to the Board of Trade returns, we imported more articles of food and drink in August than we did in the same month of last year, the increase on nondutiable goods being £650,382. Of butter we imported £2,065,508 worth, as against £1,789,533 in August, 1904; cheese, £784,388, compared with £595,544; eggs, £602,687, as against £499,607; lard, £304,609, as against £180,994. Meat, including animals for food, also shows a big increase of £604,393. Fresh beef is mainly responsible for this increase, totalling £885,817, as against £540,969 last year. Both the Argentine Republic and United States of America have largely increased their exports to us in this commodity. Bacon to the value of £1,217,403 was imported. While Denmark and the United States show a considerable decrease, Canada has doubled the value of their exports to us, the total value being £500,316, against £231,420 last year.

Grain and flour likewise show an increase of £558,762. The amount of wheat imported was 9,595,800 cwt., as against 8,517,000 cwt., the increased supplies being drawn from Russia, the Argentine, and British East Indies. The import from Canada, however, shows a remarkable decrease, being over 185,400 cwt., against 848,700 cwt. in 1904 and 1,426,958 cwt. in 1903. Wheat meal and flour also show a big decrease, the amount imported being only 785,023 cwt., as compared with 1,016,520 cwt. in 1904 and 1,361,594 cwt. in 1905. The amount of maize imported during the month was 4,505,700 cwt., as against 4,085,400 cwt. in 1904.

Harvest Weather.

1, Essex Street, Strand, Monday, September 11th, 1905.

SPECIAL THREE-DAY FORECAST. GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general movements and distribution of the pressure systems over Europe are favouring a further continuance of the recent South-Westerly, cloudy, showery and occasionally stormy type. The sequence of general weather will be as follows:—(1) At first some showers to fairer in the North, West, and North-East, cloudy to fairer in the South, East, and North-East. Temperature cool. (2) Later, fair to cloudy and some showers in the North-East, centre and South-East. Cloudy and some rain at times in the West, South-West and North-West. Temperature milder. (3) Some rain at times to fairer in the former and showery to fairer in the latter districts. Temperature about normal. The wind in most districts will vary from W. to S.W., and then N.W. to W., and from moderate to fresh, and then strong to moderate.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first, some showers to temporarily fairer. Later, wind backing to S.W., fresh to strong, with cloud and some rain, chiefly in the West. Finally, N.W. to W. fresh to moderate winds. Showery to fairer. Temperature oscillating from about 3 degrees below to above the normal. Normal on the whole.

,, 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—**The same as No. 1, the rain in the second period beginning later and lighter.**

,, 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**At first, cloudy to temporarily fairer. Westerly moderate winds. Later, W. to S.W. freshening winds, fair to cloudy and some showers. Finally, showery to fairer with westerly or North-westerly strong or fresh to moderate winds. Temperature cool to milder and then normal.**

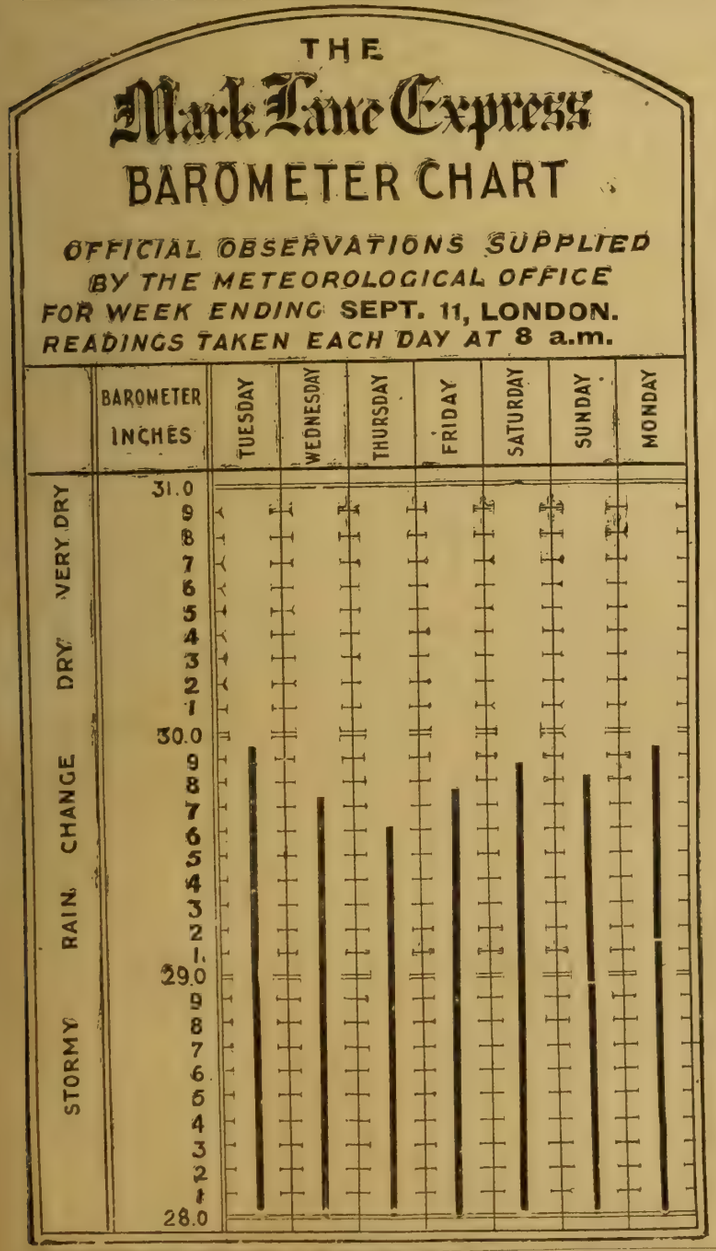
,, 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West Riding).—**The same as No. 3.**

No. 5.—England (South): — Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—**The same as No. 3.**

,, 6.—Ireland.—The same as No. 1.

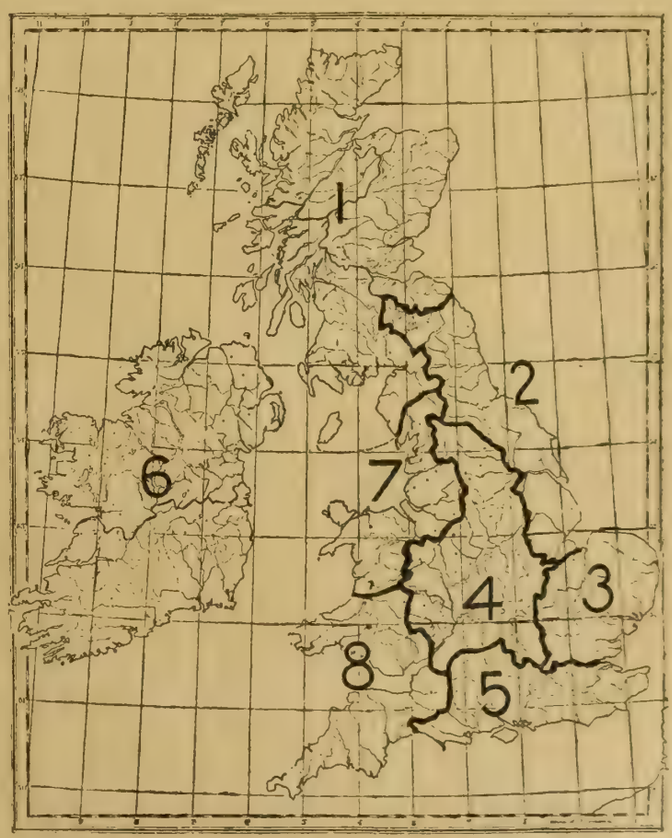
,, 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmorland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first, cloudy to temporarily fairer. Later, cloudy to showery; finally some rain to fairer; wind moderate to strong and then moderate. W. to S.W. and then N.W. to W. Temperature cool to milder and then normal.**

,, 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**The same as No. 3 only with rain setting in earlier in the second period.**



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)



Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (Sept.	5) ...	29.97
Wednesday (,,	6) ...	29.73
Thursday (,,	7) ...	29.61
Friday (,,	8) ...	29.77
Saturday (,,	9) ...	29·88
Sunday (,,	10) ...	29·81
Monday (,,	11) ...	29·92

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	5.29 a.m.
,, Sets...	...	6.24 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	5.38 p.m.
,, Sets	...	2.44 a.m.

Age of Moon—Thirteen days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 11th.

GENERAL INFERENCE.—The shallow depression over Brittany appears likely to travel away over France and to affect our most southern stations only. As there are no indications of the immediate approach of any further disturbances from the Atlantic, the weather over our Islands generally will be fair during the ensuing twenty-four hours.

SCOTLAND, N. & E.; ENGLAND, N.E. & E.; MIDLAND COUNTIES.—Light or moderate winds between North-West and West; fair generally; temperature rather low.

ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Light Westerly or variable winds; cloudy or overcast, slight rain locally; very cool.

SCOTLAND, W.; ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Same as Scotland N. & E.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales); IRELAND, N. & S.—Light or moderate North-Westerly to Westerly winds; fair as a whole; very cool.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Both English and foreign steadily held at late rates, but demand slow. South Russians quoted at 31s to 35s; No. 2 Club Calcutta, at 31s 3d; choice white Karachi, at 31s. Flour slow, unchanged. Maize rather steadier, but quiet. Mixed American landed, quoted at 23s 6d, and River Plate, ex ship; to arrive, at 22s 9d. Barley firm, but quiet. Odesha-Nico., to arrive, quoted at 18s 4½d, and landed, at 19s. Oats steady, inactive. Common sorts quoted at 14s. 3d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—English wheats were steadily maintained at 28s 6d to 30s 6d for red, and 29s to 31s for white. Foreign grades were quiet at 35s 6d for No. 1 Northern Manitoba landed; No. 2 Club Calcutta offered at 31s 3d and New Zealand at 30s to 32s. Maize firm at 3d to 6d advance; mixed American ex ship quoted at 23s 4½d, ex quay at 23s 9d, and La Plata landed at 23s. Flour dull at unchanged rates. Barley firm but quiet; Odessa Nicolaieff ex ship held for 18s 4½d, and landed for 19s. Oats rather dearer; 14s 3d to 14s 6d asked for 38lb. Russian. Beans and peas slow.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A large quantity of new wheat offered, but mostly out of condition, and prices consequently were 6d. to 1s. lower on the week, ranging from 26s. to 28s. A better demand for new peas, at 28s to 29s; malting barley was offered, but not taken. Tares fell 6d per bushel, and made 6s to 6s 6d; maize 1s. cheaper, at 25s 6d to 27s; new oats, 14s to 18s; beans, 2s to 36s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 27s to 28s; barley, 23s to 30s; beans, new, 29s to 30s; ditto old, 31s to 32s; oats, 16s to 18s 6d; ditto, old, 20s to 23s; peas, 29s to 31s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Larger attendance; numerous samples of barley on offer. Prices remained unchanged, with the tendency to give slightly over last week's figures for the finest quality. Few oats onoffer, and quality disappointing. Barley, 23s to 29s; new oats, 18s to 23s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a small attendance, and only a moderate amount of business doing. Quotations remained unaltered. New English wheat was not so plentiful, and realised 10s 6d to 11s per bag. Grinding barley, 18s 9d per qr. Sharpness. Flat maize, 5s to 5s 1d per cental Liverpool, and Plate 23s 6d per qr. Sharpness. New English oats, 17s to 17s 6d per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Fairly good attendance. English wheats, oats, and barleys lower in price, quite 3d per qr. Beans and vetches in good demand. Quotations:—Wheat, 3s 5d to 3s 9d per bushel; barley, 3s to 3s 9d; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s; new, 2s to 2s 4d; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d; new, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; vetches, 4s 6d to 5s 6d.

Brighton, Thursday.—New white wheat, 28s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 30s; grinding barley, 19s 6d to 21s; oats, English, 16s 9d to 19s 6d; rye, 24s to 26s; peas, 29s to 32s; beans, 29s to 32s; maize, 26s to 29s. Small attendance, and very little offering.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a good attendance on market to-day, being September fair. English wheat in good supply, condition variable, prices about same as last week. Foreign wheat very firm. Maize, barley, and oats about unchanged in value. Flour firm. — GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—There was not a large supply of wheat, and the average condition was not so good as last week's. This, with a rather dull demand, made a quiet trade, at about last week's prices. Reds 27s 6d to 28s 6d; whites, 27s 6d to 29s. A fine sample of revets made 28s per qr. Oats quiet and unchanged, at 16s to 17s per qr. Maize steady on the week at 25s per qr. delivered. Malting barley: A few samples were on the market. Trade was rather of a speculative character, as the real demand from maltsters has not yet commenced. A small trade was done at prices running from 26s to 31s per qr. Grinding barley steady. Foreign grinding barley, also Indian lentils, peas, and gram were a dull trade. Linseed cakes remain firm, at £8 10s per ton, and cottons at £5 7s 6d to £5 10s. Bran steady, at £4 15s to £5 per ton.

Cambridge, Saturday. Some little progress has been made with the harvest, but a few farmers have not finished yet, and there is some sprouted corn on the market. At this market on Saturday there was a fair supply of wheat; prices ruled quite steady for all good dry lots. Secondary and damp lots were a shade easier. Barley in rather more demand. Beans firm, and oats rather dear. Wheat, red, 26s to 29s, and white up to 30s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was more barley on offer at to-day's market, but not quite so much wheat. Values for English wheat are maintained at from 29s to 31s; and oats range from 18s to 19s. Good offering of barley, and a few samples were disposed of from 26s to 28s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday. Larger supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at late rates. New, 18s to 18s 9d per 312lb.; old, 22s to 23s per 336lb. THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday. The quality of this year's grain varies considerable, and consequently prices are irregular. Only the finest lots of wheat and oats realised the quotations. Values generally were unchanged on the week. Stocks of Egyptian corns were exhausted, and shipments are nil. American Indian corn was scarce, and prices advanced 3d on last week. Quotations: New wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 9d; old, 4s 6d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; new grinding barley, 4s to 4s 2d per 64lb.; old beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 20lb.; oats, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per 46lb.; new Indian corn, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday. There was a fair supply of wheat to-day, which could clear at fully last week's prices. Barley more inquired for. Buyers were more numerous, and sellers could quote their samples at previous rates. Beans and peas fully 6d to 1s per quarter dearer. Oats very firm and the tendency is in favour of sellers. JOSEPH WILLIS AND SON.

Coventry, Friday. Moderate attendance and small supply of wheat. Sellers made a shade better prices, but few lots changed hands. Barley in good condition and rather scarce. Other grains unchanged. Quotations: Old wheat, 31s 6d to 32s per qr.; new wheat, 31s 6d to 31s 9d per 496lb. Barley, 30s to 33s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s per 392lb.; new oats, 19s 6d to 21s per 304lb. beans, 34s 6d to 35s per 496lb. peas, 31s 6d to 32s per 496lb.

Derby, Friday. — New wheat firm at last week's full rates; spring corn unchanged. Quotations: White wheat, 31s to 32s; red wheat, 30s to 31s; malting barley, 30s to 32s; oats, 20s to 21s.

Doncaster, Saturday. Fewer samples of farmers' corn than expected. The finer qualities were in fair demand, but inferior lots were neglected. Fore 20

wheat continued firm, Indians being 6d per quarter dearer. Malting barley irregular yet, and prices not fixed. Oats did not come up to expectation in quality, and values varied greatly. Feeding stuffs firm but unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday. — The market was fairly attended, and ther was a moderate offer of samples, but tended, and there was a moderate offer of samples, but and as a consequence there was no great demand for wheat, prices of which remained practically unchanged from the previous week, and the same may be written of foreign. Some very good malting barley was shown, the best of which sold at prices nominally the same as at the previous market, seconds being little inquired for, and the same may be said of grinding descriptions. Keep being now so plentiful everywhere there was no great demand for feeding sorts of any kind.

Exeter, Friday.—Large attendance; trade slow. English wheat plentiful, prices about the same as last week. Foreign firm. English barley, not much offering. Foreign 3d dearer. Maize and oats unaltered. Flour firm. English wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our exchange. Wheat and flour firm at last Wednesday's prices. Indian corn quiet and unchanged, but price, if anything, in buyers' favour. Maize firm in tone, owing to the quay being nearly cleared. New oatmeal, 6d to 1s cheaper since Wednesday. Scotch oats cheaper on the week, but foreign unaltered. Other articles of the trade quiet, and nominally unaltered on the week.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply at about late rates, the value of reds being 3s 6d to 3s 7d per bushel; foreign firm, and any change in sellers' favour. Grinding barley, maize, and oats are unaltered.—WAIT, JAMES, AND CO

Grantham, Saturday. — Average attendance, and better show of corn. Wheat was in fair supply, and commanded 26s to 27s per quarter. A few samples of barley, which changed hands at 25s to 29s per quarter. New oats, 16s to 7s; beans, 30s to 31s per qr.; and peas 40s to 44s per quarter.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—An average supply of wheat, in very fair condition. The demand was quiet, but steady, and prices practically unchanged on the week, at 28s to 29s 6d for reds, and 28s to 30s for whites. There were a few samples of malting barley on the market, but only very moderate prices were obtained, running from 25s to 31s per quarter. Oats were unchanged, at 16s to 17s 6d per quarter; old firm. Beans selling at about 29s to 29s 6d per 36 stones. Indian corns slow; English feeding corns being so cheap—lentils, 24s; grain, 24s 6d; and green peas, 24s per 504lb. Maize steadier, at 23s 9d to 24s per quarter. Feeding stuffs all firm.

Leeds, Tuesday. — Harvest drags slowly to a close, quality and condition having suffered more or less deterioration. There has been little or no change in the trade during the week, the heavy shipments being mostly for the Continent do not materially affect our market; crop prospects in India remain unfavourable, and supplies of English wheat are smaller; still, millers operate with caution, last week's rates being about maintained for all descriptions. Indians, however, are 6d to 9d dearer. Feeding steady and unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday.—Only moderate supplies of home-grown wheats, and the condition was not quite so good. Trade active at firm rates. Red wheats made 28s to 30s, and white 29s to 31s per 36 stones. Barley in small supply, and in slow request at 25s to 30s per 32 stones. New oats in faulty condition made 18s to 20s, and old 24s to 25s per 26 stones. Flour, 24s 6d, 27s 6d, and 2s9 6d per 280lb.

Lincoln, Friday.—Large show of home-grown wheat, which met with a fair demand at barely 6d per qr. less than last week, the condition being somewhat variable. A few samples of malting barley shown, but prices not yet fixed. Oats and beans unaltered.

Liverpool, Friday.—There was a small attendance at the market, but wheat is firmly held for an occasional ½d advance, except old crop Manitobas, which are ½d lower; only a moderate trade has been done. Flour a quiet trade, for both foreign and home-milled brands at last market day's prices. Maize, mixed, is easy, owing to larger arrivals, and owing to a quiet demand prices are ½d lower. Plate is steadily held for ½d advance, but there is only a small demand. European sorts are steady but quiet at about unchanged prices. Barley, malting, firm at full prices; feeding firm, and partially ½d dearer. Beans are firm and very scarce at 3d advance. Peas quiet but steady at unchanged prices. Oats quieter for American, with more liberal offers at the turn easier rates; other foreign sorts quiet, little demand. English firm at late rates, with a better demand for good samples. Oatmeal nominally unchanged, nothing doing. Oilcake a fair trade at the quotations.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—In wheat, Indian is dearer, but English is quiet and practically unchanged. Flour firmer, but somewhat dull. Indian corn steady at 5s 3d to 5s 3½d, to arrive ½d less. Plate 5s 1d. English oats of good quality are rather dear, but foreign unchanged. Beans scarce. Barley and other cereals unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A steady trade here to-day for wheats of all kinds at last week's prices. Maize slightly favouring buyers. Foreign oats firm and in sellers' favour. Scotch slow demand at last week's quotations. Peas, also beans, remains quiet, and prices in buyers' favour. No barley on offer.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newark, Wednesday.—A small show of grain at market. Wheat in variable conditiou; last week's prices realised for dry samples. Oats a firm trade. Barley irregular in price at present. Wheat, white, 27s to 28s per qr.; red, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 28s per qr.; oats, white, 16s per qr; black, 15s per qr.; new, 29s to 31s per qr.

Northampton, Saturday.—Good attendance; prices unchanged. New wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; barley, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; new black, 16s to 18s; new beans, 29s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday. There was rather more wheat on offer at our market to-day, but condition not good, with a steady demand at last weeks's prices. Barley was in good supply, with a slow trade, which made from 24s. to 30s per quarter. Wet and showry weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per quarter, weight 64lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn returns return for the week ending September 4 1905. Wheat 27s 7d, barley, 11,582 26s 6d. J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Peterborough, Saturday. The trade for wheat has been rather slow, but with only a moderate supply last weeks prices were made. The few barleys showing still irregularly. Oats firm and harder to buy. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday. There were a very small attendance on our market here to-day, owing to the local horse races farmers all being away. Wheat unchanged. Barley and maize 2s 6d to 3s dearer. Oats unaltered. ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—No change from last week, wheat, if anything, being rather firmer, with a little more disposition on the part of buyers to do business. Maize of all descriptions holds its own, being none too plentiful. Beans are the turn dearer, and peas and feeding barley are firm but unchanged. To-day's market differs little from those of the past few weeks. New grain still continues to come forward slowly, and only samples in good condition find purchasers at about previous prices. Flour unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 12s 9d to 13s; ditto red, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per windle of 220lb.; flour, extra superfine,. 26s to 26s 6d; ditto superfine, 24s to 24s 6d ditto, best fine, 22s 6d to 23s per sack of 250lb.; oats, old, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto, new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d per bushel; beans, 16s 6d to 17s; bran, 10s 6d to 11s per windle of 220lb.

Reading, Saturday.—A fair attendance, but trade was not brisk at the following prices: Wheat, 28s to 31s; new barley ranged from 24s to 30s, and old 21s to 23s 6d; new oats made 16s to 19s, and old 18s 6d to 22s; peas, 28s to 32s; beans, 28s to 34s; flour, 21s to 23s; rye, 19s 6d to 22s 6d.

Ripon, Thursday.—A fair attendance of buyers, and a moderate trade at late rates. Malting barley shows a firm tone. Prices:—New wheat, 27s to 28s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; new oats, 17s; round maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d; flat maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Retford, Saturday.—Show of new wheat much larger than the previous week, and a considerable business was transacted at an average of 28s per quarter. There was also an improved supply of malting barley, the season having already well commenced in this neighbourhood; demand moderate for different lots, but the best changed hands freely, quotations being 25s 6d to 27s 6d per quarter. No flat maize on offer; round made 26s 6d to 27s per 34 stone, delivered here. English beans, new, 30s; and old, 33s; new black oats, 16s; new white, up to 17s; and old oats 24s per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations:—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb; new, 12s to 12s 9d per 225lb; oats, old white, 16s to 17s per 225lb: new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225lb; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb; beans, 13s to 14s per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A very good attendance, and a further good improvement in the market. Wheats, 27s to 28s; oats, 16s to 18s; beans, 30s to 31s 6d. Barley is to hand in only meagre quantities, and some little time will elapse before it is offered in anything like satisfactory quality, to-day's supply being chiefly of poor quality samples, which made 25s to 32s; peas, 40s to 45s per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—A few samples of new grain offering; condition moderate and prices irregular. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals, coastwise: Wheat, 900 quarters; barley, 850 quarters; oats, 451 quarters. Foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding barley, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—There was a small supply of wheat on offer, which made the full price of last week. Very few beans to be obtained. Feeding stuffs rather easier.

Winchester, Saturday. — A small supply of English wheat. Prices a shade better. Foreign unchanged. Barley, oats, and maize a fair inquiry at last week's quotations. Flour steady trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A fair supply of grain. Good dry wheat sold at full prices. Reds, 28s to 28s 6d. Oats firm, 16s to 17s 6d. Barley, 24s to 27s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was only a moderate attendance and but little business was transacted. Quotations:—New wheat, 12s to 13s per 2161b.; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb.; new oats, 11s to 11s 6d; old oats, 13s to 14s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance. Moderate supply of grain. A few samples of new wheat and oats showing, in varying condition. White wheat, 28s to 29s; red ditto, 27s to 28s; grinding barley, 25s to 26s 6d; old white oats, 20s to 22s; new ditto, 16s to 17s; old black oats, 20s to 21s; new ditto, 14s 6d to 16s; maize, 26s to 27s; old beans, 36s to 38s; new ditto, 30s to 31s 6d per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Best samples of home-grown wheat sold at from 29s 6d to 32s 6d; secondary, 27s 6d to 29s; foreign wheat, 32s to 35s; best barley, 27s 6d to 32s; secondary, 21s to 26s; foreign grinding, 18s 9d to 19s 3d; beans, 32s 6d to 35s; rye, 22s 6d to 25s; old oats, white, 19s 6d to 23s; new ditto, 18s 6d to 20s; new black, 20s to 21s; old ditto, 21s to 23s; Irish black, 16s to 17s; beans, 32s to 36s; winter tares, 47s to 49s; spring ditto, 40s to 42s; round maize, 23s 6d to 25s; flat ditto, 23s 3d to 25s 3d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour from old wheat firmly held, from new wheat easier sales taking place at from 24s to 25s for fines. Free offer of milling offals at prices favoured sellers. Meals without change.

York, Saturday. — The broken weather prevents any great supply of wheat, and prices remain firm for the few samples on offer. The following are the quotations: Fine whites, 28s to 29s; red and mixed, 27s to 28s per quarter of 36 stones. There is a very limited supply of new barley, and prices are so irregular as to render accurate quotations impossible. There is some improvement in the inquiry for oats, which remain firm. White Tartary, 15s to 16s 6d; black, 16s 6d. to 17s; white Garton, 17s to 18s per quarter of 24 stones. Rye, 20s to 21s per quarter of 36 stones; old beans, 33s to 36s ditto,; new beans, 27s to 30s ditto.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday. Barley: Trade remains slow here, our local maltsters and brewers only cover their immediate wants and buy principally Danish and Bohemian Chevaliers, for which prices are fairly well maintained. Quotations of our home grown barleys are pretty nominal, as the quality is generally unsatisfactory, and only in the South it is better. Austrians of choice quality are held at extreme prices, and also in Hungary the trade is slow. Orders from Great Britain seem to unobtainable, and the export from Fiume is decidedly small.—FRANCIS M. TH. DRUNE.

Paris, Wednesday. Business in wheat continues dull in the provincial markets, which will probably continue till threshings have acquired greater importance. At the Bourse de Commerce business has been lacking in activity, but the tone of the market remained firm throughout the day, whilst prices, after advancing a few centimes, again dropped almost to their late level, both as regards wheat and flour. At the weekly spot market the situation of home grown wheat has not altered much during the past eight days; business has, perhaps, been a little busier, but did not attain that volume which is customary at this time of the year. Business in consumption Marks of Flour was little easier, and prices show greater firmness. Business in rye flour is very quiet, but holders are able to keep up their prices due to the

dearness of rye. In rye the situation remains unchanged, and offers are meagre in all directions. In spite of the fall in price, at Paris, oats remain steady in provinces, where offers are becoming smaller. In maize the market is firmer, due to better demand for Argentine cargoes afloat. *Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

There is a recovery of tone in the trade for wheat cargoes, which argues that the English farmer has only to hold his hand a little in order that the market should regain a generally healthy position. The sales of foreign wheat cargoes and parcels since the 4th inst. have comprised fine Russian winter at 34s. per 492 lb.; Odessa Ghuka at 31s. 9d. per 492 lb; Hard Taganrog at 30s. 9d. per 492 lb.; South Australian at 33s. per 470 lb.; Bahia Blanca at 30s. per 480 lb; Blue Stem at 32s. 3d. per 500 lb.; and Walla Walla at 31s. 3d. per 500 lb.

Maize cargoes fluctuate daily. Four cargoes of La Plata have been placed at 23s.; two have been sold for 22s. 9d. per 480 lb. American is quoted 20s 3d. per 480 lb. for December and 20s. for January shipment.

Barley is well maintained in price. A cargo of South Russian for prompt shipment from Theodosia, has made 18s. 3d. per 400 lb., and one of Californian, also for prompt shipment, has made 25s. per 448 lb.

Oats are firm. A cargo of Black Libau for prompt shipment has made 14s 6d. per 304 lb., and American new crop is held for 14s. per 320 lb. October shipment. Other cargo sales include White Calcutta peas at 28s. 3d. per 504 lb.; locust beans at 100s. per ton; and Smyrna beans at 32s 6d. per 480 lb.

East Indian Wheat Rejections.—The London Corn Trade Association C. F. and I. quotations, for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta 31s. 6d., Soft Red Calcutta 30s. 3d., Bombay Soft White Delhi 31s. 6d., Karachi Soft White Delhi 31s. 6d., Soft White Karachi 30s. 9d., Choice White Karachi 31s. 3d.; Soft Red Karachi 30s. 3d., all per 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 3 wheat (1 Melbourne, 1 Streaky Bay, 1 Taganrog), 1 barley (Benghazi); total 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (Cardiff), 1 barley (Hull); total 2.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 272 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat; 9 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed; total 356.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 210 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 32 barley and wheat, 16 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 30 linseed, and 1 canaryseed; total 303.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	8	9
,, 1901	66	10	0
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	9	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat ..... 28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley ..... 24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats ..... 17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 9, 1905:—

Wheat	2,247,500	cwts.
Wheat-flour	290,500	,,
Barley	409,200	,,
Oats	428 000	,,
Maize	1,251,6 0	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,488,000	1,833,700	2,007,748	1,516,300
Wheat-flour	202,900	285,700	399,418	411,000
Barley	593,500	1,233 500	464,232	714,600
Oats	118,9 0	390,500	323,719	347,700
Maize	669,500	1,594,600	697,637	1,271,500

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to September 9, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	53,334½	28	4	20,780½	25	4	18,684½	17	1
1901	77,193½	26	2	31,989½	24	11	19,909½	17	4
1902	20,245½	27	10	3,096	27	5	17,461½	19	2
1903	31,657½	28	6	1,480	23	4	13,475½	17	0
1904	46,116½	30	0	22,400½	24	10	31,336	16	1

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	4

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	10
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,105,000
Barley	,,	427,000	633,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	325,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	63,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	258,000
Maize	,,	80,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	31	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 20	0	(per sack) 27	0

No change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.
(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0			
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.
(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.
Jan.	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	2	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0
March	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0
July	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6
August	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6
Sept.			27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5
Oct.			27	0	24	0	22	9	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1
Nov.			26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.	25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2	22	4	22	4	29	6½

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended September 9, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	78,589	qrs.	27s. 1d.
Barley	17,888½	qrs.	23s. 4d.
Oats	20,622½	qrs.	15s. 11d

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 5, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,8 9	0	6,842	18	1	1	8	3
Barley	235	4	267	17	9	1	2	9
Oats	2,069	6	1,710	4	2	0	16	6

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 10	40,110½	29	0	22,[illegible]	24	10	31,[illegible]	16	1
,, 17	51,[illegible]	29	7	40,[illegible]	24	9	35,[illegible]	15	11
,, 24	33,[illegible]	29	10	29,[illegible]	24	7	47,[illegible]	15	9
Oct. 1	56,[illegible]	29	10	119,[illegible]	[illegible]	5	44,[illegible]	15	8
,, 8	54,[illegible]	29	2	18,[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	43,[illegible]	16	0
,, 15	45,[illegible]	29	5	14,[illegible]	25	1	34,[illegible]	16	[illegible]
,, 22	45,[illegible]	29	4	213,19[illegible]	25	6	31,44[illegible]	15	11
,, 29	47,947½	29	6	221,[illegible]	24	11	20,[illegible]	15	10
Nov. 5	43,318½	30	0	206,[illegible]	25	0	36,[illegible]	16	0
,, 12	43,709½	30	3	204,14[illegible]	24	6	32,[illegible]	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,[illegible]	24	5	31,[illegible]	16	0
,, 26	41,350½	30	5	177,9[illegible]	24	4	31,[illegible]	16	1
Dec. 3	45,94[illegible]	30	4	166,[illegible]	24	5	35,[illegible]	16	2
,, 10	50,71[illegible]	30	4	165,[illegible]	24	4	36,[illegible]	16	2
,, 17	44,745½	30	4	140,[illegible]	24	4	35,[illegible]	16	2
,, 24	33,336½	30	3	99,[illegible]	24	7	25,[illegible]	16	1
,, 31	21,163½	30	4	60,[illegible]	24	8	17,[illegible]	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757½	30	4	45,191	24	4	15,[illegible]	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,[illegible]	24	6	31,[illegible]	16	4
,, 21	45,646½	30	5	90,[illegible]	25	0	32,[illegible]	16	5
,, 28	48,809½	30	6	93,[illegible]	25	1	41,[illegible]	16	6
Feb. 4	49,442½	30	6	75,[illegible]	25	0	41,[illegible]	16	7
,, 11	50,[illegible]	30	7	66,[illegible]	25	2	38,[illegible]	16	8
,, 18	44,[illegible]	30	5	51,[illegible]	25	2	36,[illegible]	16	9
,, 25	42,165½	30	10	39,[illegible]	25	9	30,[illegible]	16	10
Mar. 4	36,[illegible]	30	8	40,[illegible]	25	2	30,[illegible]	16	10
,, 11	38,[illegible]	30	9	28,[illegible]	25	2	24,[illegible]	16	10
,, 18	31,[illegible]	30	10	18,[illegible]	24	11	20,[illegible]	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,[illegible]	25	2	18,[illegible]	17	0
April 1	26,[illegible]	30	9	11,[illegible]	25	1	15,[illegible]	16	11
,, 8	25,[illegible]	30	9	8,[illegible]	25	6	13,[illegible]	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	1,[illegible]	24	3	11,[illegible]	17	0
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,[illegible]	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,183½	24	4	7,[illegible]	17	9
May 6	22,185½	30	8	3,[illegible]	25	3	11,[illegible]	18	0
,, 13	53,[illegible]	27	1	4,[illegible]	19	10	15,[illegible]	16	6
,, 20	26,511	30	10	1,[illegible]	24	8	5,[illegible]	18	5
,, 27	21,[illegible]	30	11	[illegible]	24	1	9,[illegible]	18	5
June 3	20,9[illegible]	31	3	724	23	6	5,[illegible]	19	1
,, 10	16,[illegible]	31	4	247½	24	0	6,11[illegible]	18	11
,, 17	12,81[illegible]	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,[illegible]	19	1
,, 24	11,571½	31	7	11[illegible]	23	9	3,[illegible]	18	11
July 1	9,579½	31	4	289	23	2	3,[illegible]	19	7
,, 8	7,[illegible]	32	1	37[illegible]	22	11	2,[illegible]	19	6
,, 15	4,8[illegible]	32	3	3[illegible]	23	10	1,[illegible]	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	5[illegible]	23	7	2,[illegible]	18	11
,, 29	7,69[illegible]	32	3	21[illegible]	19	9	3,065½	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	571½	22	0	4,344½	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	648½	22	5	8,[illegible]	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,[illegible]	26	4	13,[illegible]	16	4
,, 26	88,0[illegible]	27	1	6,461½	23	6	29,[illegible]	15	9
Sept. 2	92,63[illegible]	26	11	11,747	23	5	24,[illegible]	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888½	23	4	20,622½	15	11

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
August 30 to September 6, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	5,285	46,[illegible]	52,737
Barley	2,959	23,000	25,959
Malt	19,758	...	19,758
Oats	4,700	38,000	42,700
Beans	233	[illegible]	[illegible]
Peas	401	4,828	5,229
Maize	...	31,162	31,162
Linseed	...	9,206	9,206
Tares	262	...	262
Dari	...	200	200
Cottonseed	...	2,500	2,500
Hempseed	...	210	210
Rapeseed	100	80	180
Flour sacks	30,374	7,414	37,788
Ryemeal	...	350	350
Ricemeal	...	3,400	3,400
Riceflour	...	4,000	14,000

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: Australian butter is meeting a good demand at last week's prices. Winter grass made parcels of "Choicest" quality are selling at 110s to 112s per cwt., other kinds are making 108s to 110s. The "China" arrived this week with 1,800 boxes from New South Wales, 980 boxes from Victoria, and 200 boxes from South Australia. The "Sincere" arrived on August 30th with 1,035 boxes from Sydney and 650 from Victoria. The price of Victorian butter is 102s. 8d. per cwt. f.o.b., and of New South Wales 107s. each. The higher price of New South Wales is most unusual, but is due to climatic conditions. The Copenhagen Official Quotation remains unchanged, and prices generally of Continental butters are in a similar position. Danish is selling in this country at about 5s per cwt. above last year's prices, but the official quotation is 7s. above. Cheese: The demand is somewhat dull, although prices remain firm at 56s. on the spot. The c.i.f. quotations from Canada are about 55s 6d. with an expected rise.—W. WEDDEL AND Co.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden. Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies of fruit and vegetables at market, business generally being fairly good. Quotations per English measure: Grapes, 0d to 5s per lb.; pears, cooking to 3s 6d per sieve; ditto, 3s 6d to 5s 6d per box; peaches, 2s to 10s 6d; green figs, 6d to 1s 3d; nectarines, 1s 6d to 3s per dozen; apples, 2s 6d to 7s per bushel; ditto, 1s 6d to 2s per peck; plums (Victoria), 2s 6d to 3s 6d (Ponds Seedlings), 2s 6d to 4s; lemons, 3s 6d to 4s 6d half sieve; melons, 6d to 1s 6d; filberts, 3s to 3s 6d per lb.; nuts, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per lb.; parsley, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per dozen bunches; tomatoes, 1s 6d to 3s; celery, 6d to 1s per bundle; cucumbers, 8s to 10s 6d per dozen; mushrooms, 2s to 3s; cauliflowers, 1s to 2s 6d; salads, 2s to 3s per dozen; cabbages, 3s to 5s per dozen; onions, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; onions, 2s to 3s per cwt.; marrows, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen; beans, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; swedes, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; leeks, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; Jerusalem artichokes, 2s 6d to 3s per half-sieve; cos lettuces, 2s 6d to 3s per dozen; endive, 2s to 3s per dozen; capsicums, 2s to 3s per 12lb; ditto (outdoor), 2s to 3s per half-sieve; potatoes, 50s to 70s per ton.

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday.—There is an active demand for the best samples, which realise from 5os to 70s per cwt., but there is a very indifferent market for the medium and lower grades.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The new stacks of wheat look large, and there is an over-average yield of straw, no less than of grain, in many counties and off the stronger soils. The oat stacks are bulkier than had been anticipated, but barley is not up to expectation, even in straw. The threshings of barley at present afford no real index to the quality of the crop as a whole, which, seeing how very second-rate the offers have as yet been, is a good thing. The barley grown on the fine "malting" lands is too precious a crop to be hurried, and the wise farmer will not thresh before October. There is blight among the potatoes in too many counties, and insect pests among the turnips, but, for the most part, roots and tubers promise to be considerable yields, and there is a good deal of autumn hay.

Germany has a full average yield of all cereals save rye, but the quality of wheat and barley is seldom quite first class. It already looks as if the best pale and bright barley samples would be at a premium in Europe generally.

Italy undoubtedly has a large wheat crop. Threshings are proving this, the yield being above anticipation in the whole country, except a portion of the north.

Russia reports short wheat yields in the eastern provinces, and poor crops generally in the Caucasus and the Asiatic districts, where the riots have been so serious. But wheat and barley exceed an average yield in the chief producing provinces.

The Hungarian Minister of Agriculture (whose annual survey appeared on Wednesday) does not rank very high as a crop estimator, and we do not propose to take notice of his calculations outside the areas with which he has a specific right to deal. For these areas his figures are interesting, and have usually been found reliable. He assigns to Roumania a wheat crop of 9,890,000 qr., against 5,300,000 qr. last year; to Bulgaria, 4,922,000 qr., against 5,500,000 qr.; to Servia, 1,702,000 qr., against 1,200,000 qr.; to Turkey, some 7,912,000 qr., against 6,900,000 qr.; and to Greece, 1,702,000 qr., against 1,500,000 qr. His own national estimate is as follows:—

	Quarters.
Austria	7,130,000
Hungary	21,252,000
Total	28,382,000

For 1904 the returns were:—

	Quarters.
Austria	7,800,000
Hungary	18,400,000
Total	26,200,000

The Chilian wheat crop, reaped in January and February last, has only recently been the subject of an official estimate. The returns are as follows:

	Quarters.
1905	1,840,000
1904	3,500,000

The falling off is not in yield per acre so much as in the area under cultivation, and Chili has now passed from the best of the countries growing more wheat than she needs into the reverse category.

A report from Cape Colony just to hand compares the figures for 1904 with those for 1892; the reason for the latter date being chosen is not obvious to us, but is probably of local significance. Anyhow, a decline of 1,500,000 qr. in wheat production is shown on the twelve years, and Cape Colony now imports fully half a million quarters of foreign wheat.

The standing controversy between the Free Traders and the Tariff Reformers at least has the advantage of bringing out new facts and evidences. It is certainly interesting to learn that for the last thirty years the price of wheat in England has been 1s. 8d. per qr. dearer than in the United States, but it is difficult to see what conclusion either controversialist can hope to draw from the fact. America imposes an import duty of 7s. per qr. on foreign wheat, but then she is an export country for the most part, and the duty is little more than an unfriendly act towards those Canadian farmers who live near her northern borders. In America, we may note in passing, "an average price" is itself a very difficult thing to be settled. If States are omitted, where is the average? If each State is included, is New York to be balanced by Utah, or a great wheat region like Ohio by a semi-desert like Arizona?

The supply of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom is now moderate.

	Quarters.
American	76,000
Russian	375,000
Indian	506,000
Argentine	590,000
Australasian	325,000
Various	70,000
Total	1,942,000
A week ago	2,100,000

The supply of flour on passage is 186,000 sacks, or not much more than a third of an average expectation.

Of maize the supply on passage continues large.

Russian	40,000
Argentine	950,000
American	270,000
Total	1,260,000

The expectations of oats are not so large as they were in later August, but 325,000 qr. are still on passage, nearly all from Russia.

Of barley 465,000 qr. are on passage; Russia in this case also is the principal contributory.

Other supplies on passage are as follows:—

	September 9.	A week ago.
Rice	35,000 tons.	28,000 tons.
Linseed	200,000 qrs.	189,000 qrs.
Cottonseed	11,000 tons.	21,000 tons.

There are also on passage 12,000 qr. of rapeseed and 8,000 qr. of beans.

Imports of the United Kingdom for the past week have been as follows:—

Wheat, 444,000 qrs.; a good supply.
Flour, 48,600 sacks; a third of an average.
Barley, 174,000 qrs.; more than usual.
Oats, 76,000 qrs.; a small supply.
Maize, 178,000 qrs.; a little under the average.

Imports of cereals for the three summer months have been as follows:—

	June.	July.	August.
Wheat	1,769,000	2,831,000	2,035,000
Barley	367,000	193,000	265,000
Oats	836,000	1,077,000	506,000
Maize	647,000	825,000	1,016,000

Of flour the imports were remarkably small, actual totals being:—

June	297,000 sacks.
July	268,800 sacks.
August	292,800 sacks.
Total	860,600 sacks.

Since the new cereal year came in Mark Lane trade in British produce has been as follows:—

	Deliveries.	Sales.
Wheat	5,385 qrs.	4,839 qrs.
Barley	2,950 qrs.	256 qrs.
Oats	4,700 qrs.	2,070 qrs.

It will be seen that wheat has been in far and away the best request, and then oats. There is not much demand at present for barley.

Last week's shipments were as follows:—From America, wheat 75,000 qr., barley 6,000 qr., oats 35,000 qr., maize 127,000 qr., and flour 74,000 sacks; from Argentine, wheat 163,000 qr., maize 375,000 qr., and linseed 44,000 qr; from Russia, wheat 530,000 qr., barley 483,000 qr., oats 241,000 qr., and maize 8,000 qr; from Roumania, wheat 444,000 qr., and barley 87,000 qr.; from India, wheat 70,000 qr., and linseed 9,000 qr.; and from Australia, wheat 1,000 qr. The large wheat shipments of Roumania are the chief shipping event of the week.

Linseed during the past week has been hard to sell at currencies. Indian is offered at 38s. to 38s. 6d. per qr. for cargoes, and Argentine for 6d. to 1s. less than Indian. There are a few offers of American at 37s. to 38s. per qr. for November shipment, but for the most part the United States require all their own linseed. Linseed oil has been the turn in buyers' favour, with 17s. per cwt. accepted for pipes and 17s. 3d. for barrels. Cottonseed on the 5th and 6th was weak, but rallied before the end of the trading period and closed fairly firm at £5 8s. 9d. per ton for cash. This was for Egyptian. For Indian there is little or no spot demand, but for winter shipment Bombay telegraphs a quotation of £4 15s. per ton. In the rice trade there is not much doing on spot, but the supply on passage has increased to 35,000 tons.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September 11.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Russian	42	to 43
Morocco	16	to 18
American	40	to 41
Dutch	41	to 45
Calcutta	38	to 40
Argentine	37	to 39
Turkish	44	to 45
Persian	39	to 40

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.	
Egyptian	5 6	to 5 7
Indian	4 6	to 4 9

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Dutch	52	to 54
Cawnpore Yellow	37	to 38
,, Brown	35	to 36
Calcutta ,,	35	to 36
Gujerat	41	to 42
Ferozepore	35	to 36
Roumanian N'veau	34	to 36
,, Ravison	24	to 26

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	
Indian	42	to 44

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb.	
White	44	to 48
Black	42	to 46

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September 11.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was a little less pressure to-day to sell new English wheat, but the offers at under 30s. were still far too numerous. Foreign was firmer from the 8th, with a good retail inquiry for Indian and Russian, and a fair demand for Argentine. Other sorts were not easily placed. Maize was the turn in buyers' favour, though cargoes and futures are firmer. This market just now is decidedly unsettled. Barley was dull, and cheaper for English, but there was no particular change in foreign. Oats were steady for new English, and 3d. dearer for both Russian and American. Considering the large arrivals, this is an especially good sign. Beans and peas were firm, the former seem to sell best when offered already split. Egyptian split came at 21s. 6d. per 320 lb. Tares sold well at a good price. Chilian clover seed made 52s. per cwt.; the new English crop is a fine one, and will now be on offer shortly. Linseed cake was in very poor demand, and some holders were willing to accept 2s. 6d. per ton less money to effect sales.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	34	— 35
New White	,,	29	— 32
Old Red	,,	33	— 34
New ,,	,,	28	— 30
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	30	— 34
Brewing	,,	27	— 29
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	,,	26	— 30
Black	,,	31	— 33
Crystallized	,,	33	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	55	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	30	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	52	— 56
(Spring)	,,	54	— 58
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	29	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.:		
M'toba Best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29	— 30
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
(400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
(400 lb.)	20	— 22
,, Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 22
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	—14,6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb.)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb.)	15	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	26	— 27
Turkish	25	— 26
American	23—23/6	
Argentine	22/9	—23
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	32	— 33
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	58	— 59
Victoria Dun	51	— 52
Grain	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

WHEAT AND OATS CLOSED A LITTLE MORE FIRMLY THAN THEY OPENED, BUT MAIZE WAS 6d. CHEAPER, AND RUSSIAN BARLEY ALSO WAS WEAK.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, September 11.

The top price of flour was reduced to 30s., and the market for Town Whites and Town Households tended in the same direction. It is the cheap and free offer of an East Anglian flour which have had this effect on the prices quoted by the chief London mills. Choice Country Patent were offered to-day for the modest quotations subjoined, and at 6d. under these terms for delivery within a month. Another sort of flour which is fully 6d. lower to buyers who can wait a month for delivery is fine Hungarian. The mills of Buda-Pesth are busy grinding the new crop, but prompt delivery is difficult to secure.

Importers of American flour offer little for delivery on this side of Michaelmas, and they prefer to sell with no guarantee for delivery before the end of October. To buyers willing to meet their convenience to this extent, they quote Minneapolis at 27s, 9d. to 28s., second Spring Patent Minnesota 26s. 6d. to 29s., good Manitoba Patent 28s. 6d. to 28s. 9d., Ohio Patent 24s. 9d. to 25s., Milwaukee Standard 24s. to 24s. 6d., and Kansas 23s. 6d. to 24s. per sack. Other flour sales included Weinstein's Best Russian at 28s..

LONDON FLOUR.

		s. d
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30
Town Whites	,,	27
,, Households	,,	24
No. 2	,,	21
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25
,, No. 2	,,	23
Paste Flour	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents (Old Crop Flr)	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ord'y Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23
Best Patents (New Crop Flour)	,,	24 — 25
Fine Roller whites	,,	23 — 24
Ord'y Roller ,, ,,	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made ,,	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	21—21/3
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20—20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26 — 28
,, Bakers'	,,	20/9—21
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	27 — 28
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 32
,, 1	,,	30 — 31
,, 2	,,	29 — 30
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	14	— 15
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	— 35
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	— 14
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	— 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9	— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 22
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 9d.	Sept. delivery.	
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Jan.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Mar.	,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Sept. delivery.	
,,	4s. 9d.	Nov.	,,
,,	4s. 3d.	Jan.	,,

These quotations showed a slight improvement in both articles between the 2nd and 9th instant.

American winter wheat for December delivery was in fair request to-day at 6s. 8d. per cental. American maize of the old crop was held above buyers' ideas, but new crop for January delivery was in request at 4s. 3d. per cental.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Trade remains quiet, and in view of American quotations buyers appear indisposed to operate, except for immediate requirements. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in fair demand; prices unchanged. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

The trade for milling offals remains slow, with prices unchanged from last week. JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Trade to day has been quiet, but the time has been firm, and a fair business has passed at fully late prices. T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

We have moderate arrivals of wheat. The trade is firm at prices of last Monday. Flour unchanged in value. Maize.—Large arrivals, and prices are in favour of buyers. Barley sells slowly at late prices. Oats. A fair demand at an advance of 3d. and 6d. per qr.—COVENTRY.

Flour. — Owing to freer arrivals of American Winter wheat spot values are now on a parity with shipment prices. Grain.—Indian corn firmer at 13s. 7½d. per 280 lb. Oats are rather firmer and meeting with more attention, the price being relatively low. Barley now more plentiful, and 1s. per boll lower for American. Beans and peas firm. Oilcake unchanged. Mill Stuffs continue in good demand, and mills have no difficulty in keeping clear of stock. — MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: The trade has been dull during the past week, but with a declining oil market and no material change in prices of seed, London made remain firm. There is a demand for American made. Undecorticated cotton cake: Not much inquiry, but values are about the same as last. Decorticated cotton cake and meal. There has been a little buying for future requirements and the small stocks on hand fetch full prices. Linseed: Market steady.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0	
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7 7 6		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay			
Russian Oil Cake	,,	ex quay	7 10 0	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 17 6		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 15 0		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 12 6		
Egyptian ,, ,, ,,	(in bags) ex quay	4 11 3		
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail Burton	4 19 6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 9 0		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0		
La Plata do. per 416 lbs	ex warehouse	2 2 0	to 2 7 0	
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse			
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.				
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London			
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)				
Bombay ,, ,,				
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.				

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

As compared with Saturday, wheat and maize open in buyers' favour for cargoes, but small parcels (200 to 500 tons) of wheat are in request. Oats and barley are held for 3d. advance. Argentine linseed cargoes favour buyers; all other oil-seed cargoes are firm.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 31s 6d per 480lb., October shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 30s 6d per 480lb., October shipment; No. 3 Northern Manitoba, 28s. 6d. per 480lb., October shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 31s 9d per 482lb., October shipment; Santa Fé, 29s 3d per 480lb. October shipment; No. 1 Red Walla, 31s per 500lb., October shipment; Roumanian, 29s 6d per 492lb., October shipment; Roumanian, 29s per 480lb., prompt shipment; White calcutta, 31s 6d per 492lb., on passage; White Kurrachee, 31s 3d per 492lb., on passage.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 3d per 480lb., on passage; American, 20s per 480lb., to be shipped by January 15.

BARLEY. Azoff, 18s 3d per 400lb., prompt shipment; Roumanian, 20s 3d per 424lb., September shipment.

OATS.—South Russian, 14s 3d per 304lb., September shipment.

PEAS.—Green Calcutta, 23s 9d per 504lb., September shipment.

LINSEED.—Bombay, 38s 6d per 416lb., September shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 15s per 2,240lb., new crop. November shipment.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, report:—The gale of last week has somewhat retarded picking, and it is now quite certain that all the hops will not be picked. The market continues fully supplied, and prices remain unchanged. The demand improves, and doubtless will continue to do so as the season advances, the fine quality and low prices tempting brewers to stock up with English hops. The imports of hops into England for the month ending August 31, 1905, were 1,529 cwt.; for the corresponding month last year, 5,483 cwt. The exports of British and foreign hops for the month ending August 31, 1905, were 1,155 cwt.; for the corresponding month last year, 439 cwt.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—In spite of the inclement weather the demand for trifolium still keeps up. Stocks are extremely light, prices firm. Rape, mustard, and winter tares move off at unchanged prices. There is no speculation in spring sowing seeds.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 11, 1905 British	Total Sept. 14, 1903	Monday Sept. 12, 1904
Beasts	1,099	1,099	1,399
Sheep and Lambs	6,179	6,179	5,800
Calves	10	10	—
Milch Cows	35	35	9

Quotations per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d to 4s 2d	4s 3d to 4s 8d	4s 9d to 4s 10d
Sheep	4s 10d to 5s 2d	5s 3d to 5s 6d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
Lambs	4s 8d to 5s 0d	5s 2d to 5s 6d	5s 8d to 5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £17 to £22.

British arrivals included as follows: Scotland, and Eastern Counties, 31; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 927; Devon, 15; Ireland, 51.

We note to-day a decrease of 39 head in the number of beasts offered for sale, compared with Monday last. The arrivals from the Midland Counties as usual at this season of the year, forming the majority of the supply. The Irish arrivals consisted entirely of fat cattle, viz.: 23 Dublins and 27 Waterfords, trade for which, though slow, was firm, as regard to value, late currencies governing all sales. For all descriptions of both prime and second quality English beasts, trade also ruled firm, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one. Fat butchering cows and bulls, in average numbers, also met a slightly better enquiry, the best meeting an advance of fully 2d. per 8 lbs. A clearance is expected.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 12, 1904.
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 2d	
Fat Cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was an increase of 240 in the number of sheep and lambs penned. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a fairly steady nature, with an upward tendency in regard to value, in some cases to the extent of 2d. per 8 lbs., anything small and choice finding ready purchasers. Scotch were in average numbers, and also shared in the generally higher tone of the trade. Fairly large supply of Irish, which sold slowly but steadily, salesmen both asking and obtaining an advance of 2d. per 8 lbs. on last Monday's quotations. Lambs greatly in excess of the enquiry, nevertheless no quotable decline in value can be noted. Clearance expected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 12, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 0d to 6s 2d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
6 st Half-bred ditto	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d

Calf trade nominal.

London (Central), Monday. Fair supply; trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Lamb: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d. Veal, 3s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 209, sheep and lambs 1,870, pigs 452. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 9s 11d; lamb, 8d to 10d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 3d. Fat and store cattle middling trade, fat sheep good demand, stores fair, fat and store pigs very sharp trade and much dearer, milch cows short supply, middling trade, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 917. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, shows a decrease of 329 head, and consisted of 759 from the United States, and 158 from Canada. Trade was of a firm and steady nature at an advance of from 1d to 2d on last week's quotations. The best on offer to dress from 4cwt. made from 4s 1d to 4s 2d exceptionally; seconds, 4s to 4s 1d; Canadians, 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. (offal given in). On Saturday, the supply consisted of 1,685 from the United States, and 185 from Canada, which, with a firm and steady trade, were quoted at from 3s 11 to 4s 1d for the former and from 3s 9d to 3s 11d for the latter. Besides the above number given, 300 States and 300 Canadians were withheld for Monday's market. No sheep on the market to-day.

Liverpool, Monday. There was a larger supply of cattle in market to-day; exceptionally good sorts made late rates, but inferior were lower. A few more sheep on offer; demand slow at lower prices for all classes. Lamb trade practically over. Beef, 9d to 5d per lb.; mutton, 8d to 6d. At market, 1,277 beasts, and 10,157 sheep.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—There was a fairly good supply and demand. Prices:—Young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; young partridges, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; old, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per brace; geese, 5s to 6s; country ducks, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 0d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 8d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 8d; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 8d; hen game, 1s 3d; snipe, 6d to 8d; quails, 1s to 1s 3d; reared pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 3d to 4d; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scotch hares, 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 9d to 11d.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday. Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were, from Ireland, 1,700 boxes and from foreign ports, 12,867 bales. At the reduced prices for bacon the market closed steadier, with quotations ranging:—Irish, 59s to 60s up to 68s; Danish, 58s to 64s up to 66s; Canadian, 57s to 59s up to 62s. Butter: The butter market was quiet. French, 92s to 110s; Danish, 92s to 106s; Russian, 98s to 106s; Irish, 98s to 112s; Canadian, 92s to 112; Australian, 102s to 114s; American, 98s to 108s. Lard was a quiet market. Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 58s; American, 40s 6d to 41s.

Cottonseed.—Alexandria (Sept. 9).—Shipments for the first eight days of the new cereal year are 9,400 tons, against 13,400 tons in the same period last year.—(By cable.)

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At Islington Cattle Market on Monday there was an increase in the supply, the majority of it being drawn from the Midland counties and Ireland, this being usual at this season of the year, the latter supply consisted of 37 Dublins (10 of which were black polled cattle) and 23 Waterfords; these, however, met with a very limited inquiry at a slight decline in value. For both prime and second-quality fat beasts the same remark applies. On both market days fat butchering cows and bulls were in poor demand by both town and country buyers, late currencies, however, governed all transactions.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade was slow throughout the week, in fact, on Wednesday no sales were made, consequently quotations were not recorded. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,561, as against 4,360 during the previous week, consisting of 1,090 British (decrease 210) and 3,471 foreign (increase 411), consisting of 2,499 from the United States and 972 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d., ex. 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 6d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday was of a firm and steady nature, rates favouring the seller, especially was this so for small sheep; Scotch descriptions also sold well, on the other hand, Irish sheep, though shorter in point of numbers, met with a dull trade, salesmen having to accept from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. less money to effect sales. Lambs were in excess of the demand, nevertheless, no lower rates were quoted. On Thursday, trade remained firm with an upward tendency in value. No sheep on offer at Deptford. The total number penned at both markets was 7,320, as aginst 7,810 during the preceding week, consisting entirely of British consignments. Leading pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 6 stone halfbreds ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Calves numbered 30, and met with a firm and steady trade at from 5s. 2d. to 5s.4d. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

The markets are keeping pretty well supplied with both fat and store things, but the offers are by no means excessive in either case, and there is a lack of quality in the great bulk of the supplies. The choicest springers now selling very freely from £17 up to £22 a piece, which is from 20s. to 30s. a head more than they were making a fortnight since. A general run for store bullocks is from about £22 to £26 per pair for the more useful kinds, with a good healthy demand at the price; but for anything that can only be classed as secondary in character there is much less inquiry, though we rather expect to see the rougher kinds in a good deal more favour once the question of beef is assured; and this, it seems now to be almost beyond a show of doubt. Store sheep are still proving somewhat disappointing in respect to the returns they are bringing. Still, although sheep are wanted, there is a disposition to give only a moderate price, and whilst buyers are actuated by this feeling there is no great prospect of any material advance, though as far as we can see there are very few sheep sent back unsold at the numerous sales and fairs in progress all over the western district.

In fat stock, cattle showing anything like quality are steadily hardening in value, and we may put the advance at from 10s. to 15s. a head, if not more for the best, which are now bringing from 52s. to 56s. per cwt. for small, medium-sized heifers and steers, and animals not quite so choice at about 50s., with very good demand at the price; but for decidedly second rate qualities there is a much slower sale foreign importations seriously affecting prices down to as low as 44s. or 45s., which is certainly a very low price for home-bred produce. Good-class calves keep firm at late value 7½d. to 8½d. per lb. but there is practically no change to note in value, though the more ordinary runs are certainly more neglected than they were. Fat sheep, on the other hand, are selling a little more freely than they were, and at a distinct improvement in value, more particularly for wethers, some of the best of wethers are making 8½d. per lb. and over, though from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb. is a more average rate for ordinary grades; heavy ewes, 6d. to 7d. Lamb continues to find a good sale for those of good quality, the best bringing 9½d. to 10d.; but those lacking finish meet a much quieter sale at 8½d. to 9d. Fat pigs maintain their old firmness all round, some of the neatest weights selling up to 10s. 9d. per score, though from 9s. to 10s. is a more average figure for nice qualities; and 8s. to 8s. 6d. for coarser breeds.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been larger. Trade throughout generally quieter, and about 10s. a head less for the best, and 20s. for the secondary had to be accepted. Sheep have been a fair show. Anything good maintained previous prices, but secondary kinds were the turn cheaper. A full supply of fat lambs, and these met a good inquiry without change in value. A moderate supply of store sheep. These got well sold out at fully higher prices for lambs, and previous prices for sheep. Store cattle still continue to be shown in small numbers. Farmers generally are not yet ready to buy, and a slow demand was experienced, and a part left unsold. There was a good trade for milch cows of the best descriptions. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s. 8d.; current, from 34s. to 35. 6d.; Irish, from 30s. to 33s.; mutton, from 8½d. to 9d. per lb.— JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

Dublin Market on last Thursday had largely increased supplies of both cattle and sheep, the number of cattle being 3,481, or over 400 more than the previous Thursday, and sheep, 10,024, or 880 more. The attendance of both home buyers and shippers was good, and trade opened actively. There was an improved demand for shipping cattle, and business all round was of a satisfactory nature, though it could not be said that there was any material change in prices. It is expected that for the next four months the Dublin Market will be largely supplied with cattle, as it is calculated that nearly 20,000, which should have been marketed during the summer months will only be coming in before the close of the year.

Prime ox and heifer beef sold at from 54s. to 56s. and up to 60s. per cwt. for extra choice; good second class beef, from 47s. to 50s; and inferior beasts at 45s. to 46s. per cwt. An early clearance was effected. The increased supply of sheep did not appear to interfere with trade, and the previous week's rates were fairly well maintained. Heavy hoggets made a rather slow sale, owing to the dulness of trade in London, but average-weight hoggets sold freely for the English Midland markets.

Good fat ewes sold well, but for inferior and wasting sheep it was difficult to negotiate at very irregular prices, and a number were left over unsold. Though the lamb season is supposed to be over, there was an active demand for them at full prices for well-meated ones. Best wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 7d., and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb. upwards.

Large fat hoggets sold at from 44s. to 56s., and small to medium at from 32s. to 42s. each. Large heavy lambs were worth from 30s. to 40s., and other sorts from 20s. each, upwards. Veal was in supply to fill all requirements, with a slow trade, choice selling at from 7d. to 8d. per lb., and coarse calves from 5d. per lb. upwards. Only milch cows of prime quality were in demand, and best springers sold up to £20 and £21 each; other sorts brought from £8 upwards, and were considered to be fully 30s. under the prices of the previous week. The store cattle trade is dull, and at the country fairs only animals in good condition are in demand, thin stores being almost unsaleable. Some large sales of rams and breeding ewes took place in Dublin and other parts during the week, and satisfactory prices were realised. The best figures got by Mr. Gavin Low at his thirty-fifth annual sale of pedigree rams were:—For Oxford Down rams, from 7 to 9½ gs.; Lincolns, 5 gs.; Shrops., 8 to 10 gs., and Border Leicesters from 7 to 9½ gs. Large sales of Cheviot and horned ewes took place.

There was a small supply of pigs in the market, and buyers were also less. Large country fairs were responsible for the absence of many buyers. Prices were slightly higher, but not to any quotable extent. Choice light-weight pigs made from 52s. 6d. to 54s. per cwt., inferior pigs from 35s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls from Midland counties, trade for which, though slow, was firm in value, last trade for which, though slow, was firm in value, last Monday's quotations being well maintained. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 7s 10d to 8s 3d per 8lb. Decrease of 280 in the number penned in sheep market, compared with last Thursday; trade for both wethers and ewes was slow, but steady; small, choice sheep selling best. Lambs met little or no demand. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows: 7½ to 8st. Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 9st. ditto, 5s 8d; 10st. ditto, 5s 6d; 10st. halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st. Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5st. fat Down lambs, 6s to 6s 2d; 6st. halfbred ditto, 5s 10d to 6s. Short supply of calves, which met a slow trade. Best offered, to dress, from 144lb. to 166lb., quoted at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb., sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s; calves, 3s 8d to 5s 4d; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 2d. Total supply: Beasts, 30; sheep and lambs, 1,440; calves, 20; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Fair supplies and trade slow, but firm; English beef, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool-killed, 3s to 3s 7d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; ditto seconds, 2s 8d to 3s 4d; ditto forequarters, 1s 8d to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 5s to 5s 4d; ditto lambs, 4s 4d to 5s 4d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s 6d. English lamb, 4s 4d to 5s 4d. Veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d. English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 4d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Prime beef scarce, and quoted up to 4s 6d per stone; inferior and cow beef about 4s. Mutton unchanged, small half-bred wethers making up to 5s 10d, and Kents to 5s. Veal and lamb unchanged. Pork, owing to large supply, fell about 2d per stone, a few roasters making over 4s; large hogs made nearly the same price.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 30 fat beasts, 63 calves, 497 fat sheep and lambs, 180 pigs, and 105 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime two-year-old Devon steers made from £17 10s to £20; heifers, £19 5s; well-bred two-year-old Polled Aberdeens, £16 to £17 15s; three-parts-fat Shorthorn steers, £19; heifers, £19; cows, £13 10s; fat calves, 80s to £5 15s; small, 20s to 55s; fat hogs, 60s to 75s; porkers, 42s to 55s 6d; small, 26s to 38s; store pigs, 12s 6d to 24s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £21; prime quality Down wethers and ewes, 52s to 57s 6d; small, 46s to 50s; old ewes, 30s to 38s; rams, 42s to 52s; eight-months-old Down lambs, 45s to 55s; small, 38s to 43s; Southdown lambs, 33s to 38s; three-months-old sucking lambs, 30s to 36s; Exmoor sheep, 35s 6d; black-faced Scotch wethers, 35s; mixed Down store lambs, 36s. A firm trade for the prime quality fat beasts, and a clearance made; not much inquiry for low qualities, and to make sales lower prices had to be accepted. A good show of fat sheep and fat lambs (mostly Downs of choice quality) attracted the attention of buyers from the locality and from distant markets. A clearance made, with an advance on the prices, for the fancy lots. Dairy cows of good class sold readily with a brisk trade; store cattle moved off slowly and with difficulty business was done. Fat calves sold readily at late rates. Fat porkers and store pigs met a fair trade and a slight reduction on last week's market. Ruling values:—Best beasts, 6½d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6½d; old ewes, rams, and inferiors, 5d to 5½d per lb.; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; fat porkers, 9s to 10s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Only eight beasts on offer, and these experienced no demand.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade good for bacon pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; a few Herefords, 7d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 9d per lb.; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 9s 10d per score; sows, 7s 10d to 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—At to-day's market, which was exceptionally large and well attended, it being September Fair Day, beef was in plentiful supply, and trade quiet at late rates. Mutton and lamb were offered in about the usual quantity, and an average business was done, values being unchanged. Pigs were again in limited number and prices unchanged.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	8	6
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	0

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—There was a large supply of sheep. Good ewes made up to 43s, rough old ewes from 28s to 33s, useful old sheep 38s; lambs averaged from 27s to 29s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supplies on the Sands comprised between 300 and 400 Irish beasts, chiefly good heifers for wintering purposes. Buyers attended in good numbers, and there was a distinct improvement in business. Small heifers made £8 10s to £10 10s, and better sorts almost ready for the butcher, £14 to £15 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Good supplies of cattle, and a better demand. Best lots of store and dairy stock were sold without much difficulty at last week's top prices. Inferior cattle were not easy to dispose of, and for these quotations were irregular. The sheep pens were filled, and a good business was done at satisfactory prices. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £16 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 17s to 40s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a bad supply all round. Beef (grass) sold at from 4s 4d to 4s 8d; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; lamb, 6s 6d to 7s per stone of 8lb.; and pork, 9s per score.

Doncaster, Saturday. Only a moderate supply of cattle, and small attendance, with a slow demand at late rates. Milch beasts made £16 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10; and yoom stores, £4 to £6 each. Better supply of sheep and lambs, and the latter were 1s per head dearer; ewes made 42s to 50s, and lambs 35s to 38s each.

Dorchester, Saturday. Good average supplies came to hand to-day at Messrs. G. Ensor and Son's sale at the cattle market, but the attendance was somewhat affected by the drenching rain which set in the first thing and lasted practically all through the day. Trade was affected by these adverse conditions, and a good clearance resulted. Milch beasts were a decidedly better trade at prices ranging from £17 to about £20 as a general run for the best, and others £12 to £16 10s; barreners in good fresh condition also found a readier sale at from about £10 to £— per pair. In fat stock the best steers and heifers sold up to 11s 6d per score (or from £16 to £— each); seconds, 9s 6d to 10s 6d. Well-finished mutton of nice quality also commanded a good sale at 8d to 8¾d per lb.; seconds, and best ewes, 7d to 7½d; old sheep, 6d to 6½d.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts 3,481, increase 407; sheep 10,024, increase 880; calves 45, decrease 1. There was again a good demand for choicely finished heavy weight bullocks and heifers, and last week's quotations were readily obtained; secondary and inferior sorts in fair request, but prices show no improvement. The large increase in sheep caused a quieter trade, and late rates were maintained with difficulty. Lambs, except the very best, getting out of season. Cattle, live weight, best, 29s to 32s per cwt; exceptional for Angus crosses up to 34s per cwt; secondary and inferior qualities, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 54d to 74d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — There were small supplies of store sheep and a slight increase of cattle. Cattle dull, but sheep met with a fair selling trade. Half-bred sheep, 34s to 40s; Cheviots, 33s to 40s; blackfaced to 28s; half-bred lambs to 31s; Shorthorn cows to £26 15s; Ayrshires to £19 10s; crosses to £24.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply; prices tending downwards. Steers and marden heifers, 11s; cows, 9s to 10s; some unsold. Very large supply of sheep; very dragging sale; best wethers, large size, 7½d; small, 8d; ewes, 6d to 6½d. All real good mutton sold out. Breeding ewes in large supply; very quiet trade, 36s to 42s; some unsold. Lambs, choice, 9d to 10d; plain not wanted. Calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Supplies of cattle and sheep were scarcely so heavy as last week. There was a good demand for all classes, and prices were firm. Best hoggs, 8¼d to 8¾d; best wethers, 8d; secondary, 7½d; best lambs, 9d per lb.; top Scotch cattle, 64s; extreme, 58s to 60s current; Irish, 58s per cwt. Dead meat slow, but values firm; best Scotch beef, 6d to 6½d; best States, 5¾d to 5¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. — Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co., report their sales as follows:—A shorter supply of 50 cows and calves and incalvers, and a very good trade, almost every lot being sold. A larger supply of store cattle, with a considerable improvement in prices.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a big supply of stock, but the demand was poor. Best bullock and heifer beef realised 6¼d per lb., and best cow 5d to 6d. Calves, a fair supply, made 7d. Very full supply of sheep, with trade fairly good for wethers, although not so good for ewes; prices remaining the same as last week. Store and fat lambs sold fairly well, making 8½d. Porks, moderate supply, 5½d.

Leicester, Saturday.—With greatly improved pastures there was more disposition to do business, and although there were only moderate supplies of stock, buyers were better represented. Choice milch cows sold freely at £20 to £22, and good lots at £17 10s to £19 10s per head; secondary, £14 10s to £16 10s; Irish bullocks, £11 to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £13; and calves, 15s to 35s per head. Sheep were a small supply, and sold slowly at irregular prices.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small show of store cattle, and very little business doing. Sheep were in better supply, and trade was fair for lambs at 28s to 35s, and gimmers up to 55s. No ewes or wethers.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade slow, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Very few stores, £6 to £11 each. Average show of fat sheep, trade firm, 9s to 9s 6d per stone. Lambs, 28s to 35s; fat lambs, 25s to 36s per stone.

Norwich, Saturday.—The trade for fat cattle, supply of which was quite equal to the demand, was about the same as for the past few weeks, prices being 7s 6d to 8s per 14lb. Larger number of store beasts offered, but all Irish, £6 to £17 per head being the prices quoted. Trade for ewes and lambs was dull, and the supply was an average one, young breeding ewes making 55s to 62s per head, and lambs 28s to 38s. A firm demand for fat sheep, at 10s to 10s 6d per stone, a little more money being paid for best animals. Trade good for fat pigs, at 6s 3d to 6s 6d per stone, with an extra 6d for best lots. A short supply of stores met with a ready sale.

Nottingham, Saturday.—An average show of milch beasts, and a fair trade. Best made £18 to £22, and in-calf heifers £14 to £19. Small show of store beasts, with trade about the same. Strong heifers and steers realised £10 to £14, and younger beasts from £6 to £10. Calves fetched from 25s to 50s. There were no sheep or pigs.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of cattle and sheep, and the fair was well attended. Only a slow trade was experienced all round. Cows and bulls made 5d to 5½d, heifers and bullocks 6d to 6¼d, choice heifers 6½d per lb. There was a very slow trade in sheep. Hoggs 8d to 8¼d, tups 5d to 5½d, ewes 5½d to 6½d, and lambs 8d to 8¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Very few store stock on offer, but quite sufficient to satisfy all requirements. Barely the rates of the previous Saturday were obtained, milch cows making £16 to £18; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 35s to 45s per head.

Romford, Wednesday. — Fat beasts scarce; trade slow; best animals 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Fair supply of calves; average trade at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in good supply; trade unchanged; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; lambs, 5s 6d to 5s 8d per stone. Larger supply of pigs; trade rather better.

Thame, Tuesday.—Entries were not quite so numerous as previous weeks. Buyers were again in attendance from the usual quarters. Choice beasts again sold readily, secondary quality and cows were decidedly slower. Sheep were in better demand, and realise fully 2d per stone more money. Veal all disposed of. Bacon dear. Pork especially in demand. Large supplies of weaning calves a late rates. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 107 fat beasts, 213 fat sheep, 87 fat and weaning calves, and 101 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £19 10s; fat heifers, £15 to £20 7s 6d; fat wethers, 45s to 55s; fat ewes, 40s to 48s 6d; fat lambs, 30s to 45s; fat calves, £3 10s to £5; weaning cow calves, 36s o 64s; bull calves, 10s to 55s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 5s; porkers, 28s to 45s; store pigs, 10s to 26s.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply; slow trade all round. Beef, 5¼d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6¼d to 8¾d per lb.; lamb, 8¼d to 8¾d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. Moderate supply of stock. Trade slow. Best mutton and lamb made fully late rates. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best Southdown and cross-bred mutton, 8d to 9d per lb. Ewes declined quite ½d per lb., making 5½d to 6½d; lamb, 8½d to 9½d per lb.

York, Thursday.—This was the first of the extra markets for the sale of breeding sheep. There was a good show of all classes. About 1,000 north-country ewes were penned, and made 35s to 45s each. There were no rams on offer, but it is anticipated that they will be forward next week, when a very large show of ewes is expected. The best twice-crossed shearling sheep made up to 50s; medium sorts, 44s to 48s; Masham shearlings, 38s to 44s each. The best twice-crossed lambs realised up to 36s 6d, medium, 26s to 34s each. A few north-country lambs were on offer, and made 23s to 28s; and a few Holderness lambs fetched up to 24s. English store cattle were not shown, and there was little or no trade for the few lots of Irish store cattle penned. Calving

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals of linseed for the week are 45 quarters from Harlingen, 1,000 Riga, 8,592 Rosario, 15,004 St. Petersburg; total, 22,751 quarters. The shipments for week ending September 1 are: Plate, 13,000 Orders, 9,500 Continent; Calcutta, 7,000 London; Bombay, 2,000 Continent; total, 31,500 quarters. Linseed has remained quietly steady throughout the week. River Plate: Spot, 36s 9d accepted; afloat and September made 37s. Duluth: October-November, held for 38s. Cotton seed: The market has ruled dull all the week, and £5 7s 6d accepted again for Egyptian on spot, which is to-day's value, passage and September shipment. A fair business done in new crop Sept.-Oct., also Nov.-Jan., at £5 15s., whereat still sellers. Bombay on spot done at £4 12s 6d, and a little new crop Jan.-Feb. changed hands at £4 14s, and this price still obtainable. Oilseed cakes: There is no change to report.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday. — Linseed: The market has been steady, with a rather better demand, but sellers are now more pressing, and at the close the tone very dull. Calcutta London Spot, 38s and August-September, 38s 3d; September-October, 38s 3d; La Plata, July-August, 37s. Hull Quiet, little business passing. La Plata spot, 36s 9d; passage, 37s; September-October, 37s 3d. Rapeseed is extremely quiet, with very little doing. Brown Cawnpore, Sept.-Oct., 34s 9d; Brown Calcutta, Sept.-Oct., 34s 6d. Cottonseed has declined in value, especially for new crop. London—Spot, £5 8s 9d; Sept., £5 10s sellers; Sept. Fayoumi, £5 16s 3d sellers; Nov. Jan., £5 16s 3d. Hull—Spot passage and August, £5 8s 9d; Sept., £5 8s 9d; Sept. Fayoumi, £5 15s; Oct. to Jan., £5 15s. Linseed oil has improved in value. We quote spot and month in pipes, £17; barrels, £17 5s; Sept.-Dec., £17 7s 6d; Jan.-April, £17 15s. Hull naked spot, £16 5s; Sept.-Dec., £16 10s; Jan.-April, £16 15s. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm. London made, £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made, £4 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Markets have been poorly attended during the past week, buyers only filling their actual requirements, but as supplies continue to come along very sparingly values are still well maintained at last week's quotations. Russian command most attention at last week's prices for mats, with bags slightly cheaper. A little business has been passing in American, but values are unchanged. East India seed pures are only nominally quoted. London made are neglected, but prices remain the same. Cotton cakes: There has been a total absence of demand during the past week, and with some fresh arrivals quotations are a trifle easier for most descriptions, with Egyptians offering at 1s 3d per ton less money, and English and Bombays unaltered. Decorticated are going more freely into consumption, and a fair trade has been done in London made at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal, £5 5s for special digestive meal. American stocks are practically exhausted, but a limited quantity can still be had at £6 15s., "Open Hand" brand being £7 and meal at £6 12s 6d per ton ex docks. Rape cakes quiet. East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal: A fair trade has been done in white American for winter despatch from the west at a slight reduction on last week's prices, but English is rather dearer in consequence of some heavy selling for abroad, and sellers now ask 1s 3d per ton more money. Maize gluten meal is but nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: Stocks have been cleared off, and with little offering in first hands the market is steady at £4 12s 6d per ton ex ship terms. Broken Rangoon rice is relatively cheap at £4 15s per ton. Broken Rangoon are scarce and firmly held at £5 10s per ton. Nitrate of soda is again slightly easier on spot, at £10 13s 9d per ton ex docks.—PINNOCK BROS.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 7 6	to 7 8 9
in mats.....	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 0 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 11 3	to 4 13 9
"		
English	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
" " " Meal.....	6 17 6	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	6 17 6	to 6 15 0
Meal "	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 7 6	to 5 10 0
American, Dec./Jan. .....(c.i.f.)	5 3 9	to 5 5 0
Maize Gluten Meal..... ....June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
"	4 12 6	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	10 13 9	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Old hay, £2 5s to £3 17s 6d per ton; new hay, £2 5s to £3 5s per ton; straw, 2s 6d to 2s 9d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; best hay, 80s to 90s per ton; other hay, 75s to 85s per ton; best old clover, 80s to 90s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed straw, 50s to 55s per ton; oat straw, 50s to 60s per ton; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s per ton.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef, first-class, 5½d; second-class, 4¾d to 4¾d; third-class, 5¼d to 5¾d. Mutton: First-class, Scotch Cheviots, 7¾d; others, 7d; second-class, 6d to 6¼d; third-class, 5d to 5¼d. Veal: First-class, 6¼d; second-class, 5¼d to 5¾d; third-class, 4¾d to 4¾d. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5¾d; second-class, 4¾d to 5d; third-class, 3¾d to 4d. Porket pigs: First-class, 6¾d; second-class, 6¼d to 6¼d; third-class, 5¾d to 6d. Lamb: First-class, 7d; second-class, 6d to 6¼d per lb.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a smaller scale, and a better demand was experienced at previous prices. Best clover, 72s 6d to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 53s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 50s; mixture and sainfoin, 65s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 38s per load.

MILK.

London, Saturday.—For the week ending September 9: Milk has been in good demand, and although some has been sold at 7d per imperial gallon, higher prices up to 1s have been obtainable.—THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Arrivals were liberal, especially of Cheddars. A moderate demand was experienced, cheese Cheddars commanding in some cases top quotations. Cheddars, 54s to 56s; Dunlops, 50s to 52s per cwt.

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s to 1s 2d. Beeston: 1s to 1s 1d. Colne: 1s 3½d. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Holsworthy: 1s 2d. Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Kirbymoorside: 10d to 11d. Knaresborough: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Louth: 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Market Weighton: 1s to 1s 1d. New ton Abbot: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Northallerton: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per roll of 24 oz. Stockton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Truro: 1s to 1s 1s 2d. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. Northtawton: 1s 3d. Penistone: 1s 1d. Penzance: 1s to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Chester: 1s 2d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Derby: 1s 3d. Exeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 10d to 11d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24oz. roll. Redruth: 1s to 1s 2d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11½d to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1½d to 1s 2d. Malton: 11d to 1s. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 2d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday. — Barnsley: 10 and 11. Boston: 13. Colne: 2s per score. Goole: 11 and 12. Holsworthy: 12. Hereford: 12 and 13. Keighley: 10 and 11. Kirbymoorside: 12. Knaresborough: 10 and 11. Louth: 14. Market Drayton: 12. Market Weighton: 13. Newton Abbot: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Northallerton: 11 and 12. Stockton: 9 and 10. Truro: 11. Uttoxeter: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per score. Worksop: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 9 and 10. Brigg: 13 or 14. Driffield: 13 or 14. Evesham: 11d to 1s 0½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 10. Penzance: 11d per dozen. Northtawton: 14. Penistone: 11. Ripon: 12. Scarborough: 10. Wetherby: 10 or 11.

Friday.—Altrincham: 8 and 9. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Barnstaple: 10 to 12. Camelford: 12. Chester: 9 and 10. Crewe: 10. Congleton: 9 and 10. Derby: 11. Exeter: 10. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 12. Lincoln: 13 and 14. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9and 10. Nantwich: 10 and 11. Northwich: 9. Otley: 10. Redruth: 12. Runcorn: 9 and 10. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 9 to 11. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 10. Totnes: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby, 11 and 12. Carlisle, 10 and 11. Doncaster, 11. Grantham, 12 to 14. Howden, 13 to 14. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 7 to 10. Malton: 11 and 12. Pontefract: 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 10 and 11. Shrewsbury: 10. Skipton: 10 and 11. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 10. Worcester: 10. York: 12. Bridgnorth: 10.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were received this morning, and experienced a very slow demand. Silts, 55s. and Blacklands, 45s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was little stirring at this market, despite the fact that there was a fair attendance of buyers. Buyers were not numerous, and the few lots which changed hands were at last week's prices. In the retail market prices were 4d to 7d per stone.

Spitalfields, Saturday. The market was very heavily supplied indeed, and trade ruled exceptionally slow. Duke of Yorks, 50s to 60s; Puritans, 50s to 60s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 65s; Beauty of Hebrons, 50s to 60s; British Queens 50s to 55s; Blacklands, 45s to 50s; Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Kent wool, 11½d to 12d.; lamb wool, 8d; halfbred fleeces, 1s to 1s 0½d; and Downs 1s 1d per lb.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hggs., £12 10s to £14; halfbred hoggs, £12 10s to £13 10s; wethers, £12 to £13 5s; Kent fleeces, £12 to £12 15s; South Down ewes and wethers, £10 to £14; Leicester ditto, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.: Vic. Fleece super, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured super, 1s 1d to 1s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured aver., 1s 1d to 1s 3½d; greasy average, 11d to 2s; N.Z. Scoured average, 1s 3d to 1s 9½d; greasy average, 1s 0d to 1s 1½d; Cape scoured super, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; three average 2s 1d to 2s 1d; greasy average, 7½d to 9d; Natal Scoured, 1s 3d to 1s 5d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Cape: W. good to super, 1s 2d to 1s 3d. New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 1s to 1s 1d; coarse, 10d to 11d.

Halifax, Saturday. The tendency of wool is still to higher prices. Home-grown hog wools especially are hardening, and some varieties appear to be scarce. Yorkshire hogs are now quoted 1s 2d. Lincoln fleeces from 1s 1½d to 1s 4d, picked Shropshires are about 1s 4d; while North hogs are very steady at late rates. In weather wools Lincolns are selling at 1s 1d, and half-breds at 1s 1½d. Merino wools are also fetching high prices.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Lothian Ram Society's Show and Sales.

The annual show and sale under the auspices of the Lothian Ram Society took place at Coltbridge, Murrayfield, on Wednesday and Thursday. As usual the sale on the first day was confined to blackfaced rams and ram lambs and Cheviot lambs. The total number of all breeds was 917, or a decrease of 77 on last year. Blackfaced tups numbered 69, or 97 fewer, and tup lambs 35, or 47 fewer. There was, however, a good entry of Cheviot rams. The awards and prices on the first day were as follows:—

Best Blackfaced Shearling Ram—1, John Archibald, Overshiels; 2, John Murray, Midcrosswood; 3, A. D. Mitchell, West Loch. Best Group of Five Blackfaced Shearling Rams—1, John Archibald; 2, John Murray; 3, A. D. Mitchell. Best Cheviot Shearling Ram—1 and h.c., A. and J. K. Smith, Leaston; 2, A. T. Wright, Longnewton; 3, Wm. Millar, South Slipperfield; v.h.c., John Murray, Parkhall. Best Group of Five Cheviot Shearling Rams—1 and 2, A. and J. K. Smith; 3, John Murray; v.h.c., A. T. Wright; h.c., William Millar. The highest price was paid for the last lot offered at the sale. This was one in the Parkhill consignment, which was placed only fourth in the prize-list, but which was second at the Highland Society's Glasgow Show. Miss Grieve, Skelfhill, was the purchaser at £58. The Leaston first prize single ram sold at £23 to Mr. Burnett, Greenside Hall, while the Longnewton second-prize-taker and the third prize ram from Slipperfield brought £7 and £12 10s. respectively.

On the second day the Leicesters, Shropshires, Oxford, and half-breds were offered. The numbers forward were pretty much the same as last year's show and sale, though there was a shrinkage in the Leicesters, 413 being penned, as against 466 last year. The entries in the other breeds were well up, and altogether there were about 700 within the yard. Prizes offered for the Border Leicesters were allocated by Mr. James Dunlop, Midland, Fenwick, as follows:—Best Leicester Shearling Ram—1, David Hume, Barrelwell, Brechin; 2, R. G. Murray, Spittal, Biggar; 3, A. and J. K. Smith, Leaston; v.h.c. and c., the Earl of Morton, Dalmahoy; h.c., J. and J. R. C. Smith, Galalaw. Best Group of Five Leicester Shearling Rams—1, David Hume; 2, Messrs Smith, Leaston; 3, Messrs. Smith, Galalaw; v.h.c. and h.c., John Mark, Sunnyside; c., William Scott, Thornhouse.

Mr. Hume's first prize single shearling ram was taken out at £30 by Mr. Sharp, Ewingston. The Barrelwell prize-winning group of five averaged £19 4s., the top figure being £24. The Leaston consignment of two score met a good demand, the representative of the Earl of Derby being an extensive purchaser. For 13 he paid from £8 to £15. Mr. Douglas, Early Pier, bought the third prize shearling for £16; while the average for the second prize group was £14 4s., the highest being £16 10s. Mr. Murray's second prize single shearling ram ran out to £33, the highest price of the sale, paid by Mr. Murray, Heaviside.

The Aghavoe Shropshire Sheep.

This important annual event was held at the Glebe Farm, Aghavoe, Ireland, on August 30, when Mr. R. F. H. White exposed for sale 40 shearling rams, 60 shearling and breeding ewes, 10 ram lambs, 25 ewe lambs, and 50 crossbred Aberdeen-Angus cattle. Mr. White's recent successes at the Royal Dublin Show (where he secured the bulk of the prizes for Shropshire sheep) attracted a large company, and Mr. Alfred Mansell, of Surewsbury, who officiated as auctioneer, can be congratulated on a very successful sale. The champion shearling ram at Dublin went cheaply to Mr. Barker at 21 gs. The second prize ram was much fancied, and made the good price of 40 gs., his purchaser being Mr. T. S. Minton, of Montford, England. No. 4, a grand ram, one of the Dublin cup winners, by Ulster Councillor, was secured by Mr. R. H. Stubbes at 27 gs. Another ram, also a son of Ulster Councillor from a John Bull ewe, was purchased for Mr. A. A. Mansell of Tasmania. The first prize two-shear at Dublin made 17 gs. to Mr. Jackson, who got a very cheap ram. A good, steady sale followed, the general average being £9 5s. 1d. Shearling ewes, a nice matchy lot, sold well, Mr. Jackson giving 95s., 70s., 57s. 6d., 55s., Mr. Green 72s. 6d., and Mr Duncan 55s.; the average working out at £3 3s. 8d.

The Japanese Cavalry Horse.

The "Times" correspondent with the Japanese Army has written an interesting account of our ally's cavalry in time of war. The combatant aspect is not the one which appeals to our readers, but he has something interesting to say about the type of horse used. It appears Japan produces poor horses. They are lacking in size, shape, and weight, and, being mostly entire, their tempers are frequently fiendish. Animals of this description are not calculated to gain the affections of men; and so there is not among the Japanese that sympathy and understanding for horses which are essential to horsemastership. Horsemastership partakes very much of the instinct which teaches a mother how to take care of her child. A good man with horses knows when the digestion of his charge is out of order, understands what is comfort for him, and what is discomfort, when to feed him up and when to cut his feed, and feels when strength is exhausted and rest imperative. Were it not for results, one would be inclined to accuse the Japanese of being entirely devoid of the faculty of horsemastership, and appear to suffer from chronic indigestion; whilst their ideas of what means comfort for a horse are frequently opposed to mere common sense. During a halt horses will be allowed to stand in a burning sun or a biting wind, heads tied high in the air, girths unloosed, generally suggesting the acme of discomfort. In their stalls the horses, by continual pawing, as if in protest of their treatment, will wear a deep hole, in which, with weight thrown on to the forelegs, they will be allowed to stand all day, tied up so that they cannot move. Nevertheless, excellent results have been obtained, and it is impossible to deny that the Japanese have exercised great judgment in their treatment of horses, however opposed to Western ideas some of their methods may be. As I wrote last year from General Kuroki's army in regard to their transport horses:—"They have acted on the principle which a prudent man adopts in regard to his income—that of living within it. They ask a horse to do only that which is easily within his compass. They load him, not with what he can pull on the level road, but with what he can drag up a steep mountain pass without inducing serious fatigue." That practically sums up the Japanese treatment of horses. A continual regard for the capacity of horses and care never to exceed that capacity has resulted in an economy in remounts that makes one blush for our own extravagance in South Africa, despite our vaunted knowledge of horseflesh.

The unvarying food of the Japanese horse throughout the war has been barley, uncrushed and unboiled. It might be thought that only stomachs lined with brass could deal with such scouring food. Yet the Japanese horse keeps in wonderful condition. Good coats, bright eyes, and arching necks are characteristics of this curious, thousand-cornered animal. On service they feed him twice a day, deciding that as a mid-day meal is always uncertain in the field it is better to accustom him to do without. Shoeing, on the German system, is carefully attended to—cold when on the move, hot when possible. The hoofs of Japanese horses are usually contracted, and feet cause more trouble than anything else. Horses are usually allowed to stand in water near a cavalry camp. A good deal of this might be obviated in the stable by keeping the ground level and by applying wet bandages after long journeys on hard ground. Though the forelegs of Japanese horses are usually very close together, there is very little brushing, a testimony to the condition in which the horses are kept. So far no disease has manifested itself; and from the fine type and unvarying excellence of condition of the Chinese, or, properly speaking, Mongolian, pony, it may be assumed that the Manchurian climate is highly favourable to horses. In regard to the horses, it may finally be remarked that after fifteen months in the field the Japanese cavalry have only required 50 per cent. of remounts, a result in extraordinary contrast to our South African campaign, in which annual remounts of 250 per cent. were required for cavalry, and 400 per cent. for mounted infantry and irregulars.

DAIRY.

Milk Deficient in Fat: Interesting Case.

A case of some interest to dairy farmers was heard at Wolverhampton on Wednesday by the Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. N. C. A. Neville. The defendant was Robert Bradburn, a dairy farmer, of Wednesfield, and the charge against him was that he had sold milk from which 20 per cent. of the original fat had been abstracted.—Mr. Van Tromp, the inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, prosecuted, and stated that several samples of defendant's milk had been taken by the assistant inspector, and Mr. Jones, the county analyst, had certified that it was deficient in fat to the extent of 20 per cent. There was no dispute as to the samples, as Mr. Bradburn and himself had taken samples of the milk from time to time, and many analyses had been made. The cows were milked three times a day at irregular intervals, and the analyses showed that the morning's milk was not as rich in fat as the afternoon and evening milk. Mr. Van Tromp would not say that the milk had been improperly manipulated, but he asked the Stipendiary to say that probably owing to improper feeding or other causes the milk did not come up to the proper standard, and was not legal milk according to the requirements of the Act and the Board of Agriculture regulations.

In answer to Mr. R. A. Willcock, who appeared to defend, witness said he could not understand why the morning milk was so low in its percentage. He had not known such a case before. There was no question as regards the milking, as the inspector had been present; but all the samples which had been taken showed that the milk given by the cows was weaker in the morning than in the afternoon and evening. He believed that Mr. Bradburn had taken scientific advice and done all he could to find out what was wrong and what could be done to improve the quality of the milk.

The Stipendiary said there had been no improper milking in this case, and he was of opinion that the defendant had done all he could to find out the causes of the milk being poor. It might be that the cows during the night absorbed some of the fat, and this accounted for the milk being poor in the morning. The case was dismissed.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—"Pitch about 55 tons; good attendance of buyers; business fairly brisk. Prices:—Finest lots 57s. 6d. to 62s., one special dairy making 64s.; medium 52s. to 56s.; lower grades down to 45s."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

During May and June of this year an interesting series of articles on "Aberdeen-Angus Cattle: Their Recent History" appeared in the columns of the *Banffshire Journal*, the writer being Mr. J. R. Barclay. These papers have now been published in small book form, and thus should be read by even a larger number of those interested in this popular breed of cattle, for the work is well done and worthy of careful perusal.

Mr. Perry, of the Hardy Plant Farm, Winchmore-hill, N., has issued Part I. of his new autumn catalogue, this part being devoted to bulbs and tubers. It contains particulars of many new plants offered for the first time, as well as the old ones which have won for themselves such popularity.

The Board of Agriculture has issued a circular calling the attention of Agricultural Associations to a letter addressed by the President to railway companies, suggesting the desirability of local conferences between officers of the companies and agriculturists to discuss any questions of railway charges and facilities that need attention. The replies from the companies are stated to be of a very cordial character, and it is suggested that the Agricultural Associations should communicate with the Board if any of their members have complaints or suggestions to make in relation to the subject, in order that arrangements for conferences may be made.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

SHAFTESBURY FARMERS' CLUB,
At SHAFTESBURY,
OCTOBER 4th, 1905.
Entries close September 30th.
T. PINNEY, Secretary,
High Street, Shaftesbury.

ROYAL SOUTH BUCKS AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION,
Near SLOUGH STATION,
OCTOBER 4th, 1905.
Entries closed: Root Crops, July 1st; Pulled Roots, August 31st.
R. H. BARRETT, Secretary,
Stacey House, Slough, Bucks.

BRITISH DAIRY FARMERS' ASSOCIATION,
At the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON,
OCTOBER 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, 1905.
Entries closed September 4th.
W. C. YOUNG, Secretary,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

TUXFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
At TUXFORD,
OCTOBER 3rd, 1905.
Entries close September 23rd.
C. E. WHITTINGTON, Secretary,
Tuxford, Newark.

Live Stock Record.

POISONOUS v. NON-POISONOUS SHEEP-DIPS.

On July 31 last we drew attention to a very sad case of a large number of sheep having died owing to the improper use of a poisonous sheep-dip, and of a jury having awarded to the owner no less than £1,400 damages for his loss. The ingredients for this dip were partly arsenical, and the remarks we made bore mainly on a circular of the Board of Agriculture in which a division had been made between arsenical preparations and dips composed of sulphur and lime or carbolic acid, which are non-poisonous. The Board gave recognition to the large number of sheep-dips on sale, and had made arrangements to test any or all of them if submitted, in which case those found efficacious, and which could be employed with impunity, would receive a diploma of recommendation.

The subject is so important that it cannot possibly be discussed too much. Not that we think there is any danger of losses of sheep from poisonous dips frequently happening; much less of sheep owners in general having the slightest cause to feel apprehension in making use of those of the best brands. They have been before the public too long for any doubt to be cast either on their efficacy or harmlessness. Sheep-dipping is no new thing, having been habitually practised by the majority of English flockowners for half a century or more. When a farmer has been using a dip for several years, and never lost a sheep in consequence, he would be very foolish to refrain from employing it again because he learns for the first time that it has arsenic in its composition. As a matter of fact, all our best and most reliable dips are of the arsenical class, and those of the well-known brands have been used on so many thousands and tens of thousands of sheep devoid of the slightest loss, that they stand in need of no Government hall-mark to make them popular. Still, the tests offered by the Board of Agriculture may prove of service in respect to fresh, newly-introduced preparations, especially if they should prevent any improperly prepared ones, calculated to poison sheep, to come into commerce.

The Departmental Committee did not recommend any special dip, giving the very excellent reason for this that "the evidence and the experiments both lead to the conclusion that the best representative dips of the types commonly used in the country are effective against the sheep-scab acari, and, to a great extent, against keds, and are also advantageous for the general health of sheep." In the report on the Bangor experiments it is admitted that the carbolic, no less than the arsenic, dips require skilful preparation, as, "unless the strength is carefully regulated, they cause irritation to the sheep for some time after dipping." This undoubtedly is the keynote of the opera; and it is because of the skilful preparation of our most popular sheep-dips that they have been so very successfully made use of in the past without in any way proving deleterious to the health of the animals subjected to their influence.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The late Sir Jacob Wilson's well-known herd of Shorthorn cattle is to be dispersed by auction on Friday next, the 15th inst., at Chillingham Barns, Northumberland, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. Nothing but the very best was ever used in the herd, and the result is seen in the exceptional merit of the animals to be sold, the young stock being from highly-bred milking dams in natural breeding state, whilst some of the calves are worth training on for show. The sale is noteworthy, though regrettable, and is sure to attract a large company of breeders from all parts.

Some good prices should be obtained at the sale of Aberdeen Angus cattle to be held at Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire, on Tuesday, the 26th inst., for all the animals to be sold are of the very best breeding, and amongst them are some excellent milkers. They have chiefly been bred by the Rev. C. Bolden, who has won prizes with them at the Royal, Bath and West, Royal Counties, and other shows, whilst breeders in America have shown their appreciation by taking a number of the bulls, cows, and heifers. Included in the catalogue are five yearling heifers from Mr. Bridges's famous herd at Horley, Surrey, and, as is only to be expected, they are animals worthy of entrance to any herd. The scene of the sale is only a little over one hour's journey from London, and is easily got at from other centres, so that a good attendance of breeders may be anticipated; the four other sales held here have been successful ones. There will be a luncheon at 12 noon, and the sale will commence half an hour later.

I would draw the attention of intending exhibitors at the Altrincham Agricultural Society's show to the fact that they can only make entries at double fees now, for single-fee entries closed on Saturday, and those at double fees will only be received up to Wednesday, the 13th inst. It is the largest one-day show in the Kingdom, and this year the area has been increased by 5 acres, so that the entries are likely to be more numerous than usual, for the handsome sum of £1,750 is offered in prizes, with nearly 200 specials, medals, and championships. The greatest care is taken of all exhibits, which are all under cover, and fed by experienced assistants. There are four railway stations that serve the show ground, and trains from Manchester run out to Altrincham every few minutes, so that there is every convenience for visitors. The Secretary is Mr. J. Herbert Hall, 2, Dunham Road, Altrincham, who will foward a prize list and entry form free on receipt of postcard.

On Wednesday, the 26th inst., at Clapton, Thrapston, Northamptonshire, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will dispose of a number of Mr. Rowland Wood's pure-bred Shorthorns. The herd is of long standing, and has a good reputation in the Midland counties, not alone for its good dairy properties, but for its young bulls. Sixteen bulls sold from the herd this year have averaged £82 18s. 6d., a very satisfactory sum from a tenant farmer's stock; whilst animals from the herd have frequently won prizes at Birmingham, both at the spring and autumn sales.

Speaking at a luncheon held in connection with the agricultural show held at Long Newton, Stockton, on Tuesday last week, the Marchioness of Londonderry advised farmers to breed the best stock and, in horses, to pay particular attention to a good class of hunter. "We cannot go over the land in motor-cars," was one of her observations, "and so long as the tenant farmers of this country preserve foxes, good hunters will always be required."

Notes and Jottings.

In Essex the other day the question of grooming cows was discussed, and when first broached appeared to create some amusement amongst certain of the company. These gentlemen had evidently not tested this business for themselves (far the better way of ascertaining results), or they would not have been simply amused. There are few things connected with either milch or fatting cattle, or even young stock when confined in their sheds during the winter season, that pay so well as using plenty of "elbowgrease" upon them. So far as milch cattle are concerned, the matter of cleanliness alone is worth great consideration, but is not in it when compared with the benefit accruing to the cows themselves.

Far back in the last century the late Mr. McCombie, of Tillyfour, who turned out the finest fat cattle of his day, was very particular in having the brush kept going over his favourites once every day. The comfort the poor animals derive from it causes them to rest in peace, and put on flesh, instead of being, as the majority of the ungroomed animals are, fidgeting and trying to rub their shoulders and necks against their mangers or standing boards, and their other ends against each other. Only some two or three years since the writer was inspecting a large farm in Suffolk, where several yards of Galloways and their crosses were being fattened, and was struck with the gentleness that prevailed amongst these cattle in every fold.

It must be borne in mind that in a general way the breed of cattle mentioned are as little civilised as any of our bovine race, yet though a perfect stranger, the bullocks in each of these yards came up with an enquiring look, rubbed their heads, and tried to caress with their rough tongues like the greatest of pets. In asking how it was that these cattle were so docile, their owner said, "It all comes of having them groomed. All these cattle are brushed over once a day, and it has a marvellous effect on their quietness. They rest better, fatten better, and pay better by far than if left to themselves." This was the case when in a loose yard. What must it be when the poor animals are helplessly tied by the neck?

In most of the cattle markets the autumn fall in prices has come rather earlier than usual. In most of the markets in the leading fattening districts the last few days before writing these lines beef and stores, too, have been very flat, and the flatness also noted in the Metropolitan Market, where the quotation for the best stock was given at 6¾d. per lb. The recent rains have refreshed pastures marvellously, and given on the best land quite a fair bite, but apparently graziers think that winter will soon be upon them, and that it is better to take a bad price now than a worse later on. "Wise, too." There is, however, from all reports, both at home and abroad, a fair prospect of prices in best-finished beef at Christmas.

Discussing the question with some extensive butchers immediately previous to writing these notes, great complaints were made by them as to the lack of suet in the cattle this season. Already, though early, suet is in greater demand than usual, so that the not over fat cattle that

are suiting the weather and the consumer, so far as beef is concerned, are, so far as the suet is concerned, inconveniencing a large portion of the community. This alone speaks very much in favour of a good demand later on for cattle that are finished and likely to die well. By-the-bye, nothing makes so much kidney suet (and with this weight) as a little maize in some shape or other.

Still the Shorthorn keeps at the head of affairs so far as prices and export are concerned. At home very good prices and an excellent average were produced at the sale of Lord Brougham's Shorthorns near Penrith, the average of fifty-four head being put upon £50 each. In the Argentine, too, capital prices and keen demand appear to exist, a sale by auction having just taken place in that country, where the bulls averaged £204 15s., the cows £250 16s. 8d., and the heifers £241. From the particulars given it would appear that these Shorthorns were all round more of the beef than the milking types. A good, really good, Shorthorn, however, of either type is sure of a purchaser at the present time.

Travelling through the Midlands the other day a herd of bullocks were fattening in a rich green pasture that were certainly of the old smoky-faced Montgomeryshire breed. What a time it is since the eye rested upon a herd of these fine old cattle—and useful rent-payers, too! When the jubilee of the "Royal" was held at Windsor there were, I believe, one or two exhibits of this breed, but they appear to be well-nigh ousted from their own hunting-ground by the white faces. This is a matter much to be regretted. The breed must have some good points that will probably be much wanted ere long. Surely some wealthy lover of our old breeds might be found to take up the interests of this decaying breed and reinstate them. We ought not to lose any breed of cattle now.

On the same journey that brought to view these old, handsome, smoky faces some fine Herefords were seen on very rich grass, and enough of it, but their owner was very wisely giving them some good, sound, sweet hay. This will be a great help to them now. The grass is very washy, and when eaten plentifully, whilst still saturated with the heavy night dews, is a very chilling breakfast. In a field adjoining those mentioned were also some of the most symmetrical Welsh runts it has been my pleasure to see for a long time. Rotund, well-ribbed cattle, and in fine condition, and—"sqeak it softly"—they were, from all appearances, real Welsh, no alien blood in them; and there is no doubt they will find a ready market.

Welsh breeders, by the bye, are doing an excellent thing in amalgamating the northern and southern breeds of blacks. Unity is strength, and in these latter days there is quite a tendency to too much "herd-book literature." It is very satisfactory to read that the funds of the Welsh Cattle Society are on a sound basis, and the council are acting wisely, there is little doubt, in discussing the question of a reduced subscription to tenant farmer occupiers of limited acreage. This will tend to give increased interest to these farmers, and the tenant farmer is the soundest foundation on which to build up any breed of live stock. The tenant farmer must have them sound in constitution; he must have them rent-payers; and these are the kind of animals—the only kind—that are worth encouraging.

The Welsh Society are also broaching another very important subject in connection with their cattle, and that is equally important to all other breeds—namely, the establishing of a scale of points. This is a very vital matter, and it is much to be regretted that such a thing is not more generally looked up and consulted at our leading shows of cattle. It would not, perhaps, be a superfluous innovation if all our breeds of cattle were once or twice in the year say, at any rate, at our "Royal" Show—judged by their scale of points. Such a proceeding would be immensely instructive, both to the rising race at home and to all foreigners who visit our country, and would also be more satisfactory to exhibitors or, at least, ought to be if properly carried out.

The amalgamation of these Welsh herd book societies, it is to be hoped, will not be without its effect upon some of our other breeds. Our good old friends the Shorthorns would be much better, and, more important, if the lineage of the whole of the sects could be traced under one heading. Why should the Lincoln red be alienated from the red, white, and roan? Then there appears quite a probability that a Dairy Shorthorn herd book will be forthcoming ere long, thus making confusion more confused. Too much study is a weariness, and seeing that all denominations of Shorthorns are in reality simply "Shorthorns," it would appear quite superfluous to distinguish them by having separate herd-books.

The receipts of cattle at the Chicago Market during one week (six days) prior to August 22 totalled no less than 75,115 head. In spite of this enormous supply, reports state that really prime cattle become scarcer at every succeeding market. To those who have large herds of fat cattle to get rid of there is little room for congratulation that the number of cattle shipped from Chicago during a week at the above date was some 1,600 less than at the same period last year, and when markets are overdone every thousand makes a difference. The general outlook in this important centre—important to English feeders as well as American—is said to be much brighter than for two or three weeks past, especially in the best article.

Sale of Mr. Henry Williams' Shorthorns.

An important sale of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. Henry Williams, was conducted by Messrs. Thornton and Co. on Tuesday at Moor Park, Harrogate. The herd was founded over twenty years ago from the stocks of the most distinguished breeders in Yorkshire and the North of England, and latterly some good animals were added to the herd from bzreeders of great repute in Scotland. The stock was brought out in good condition. The weather, being very wet, undoubtedly kept many visitors from attending the sale. The biddings for the cows were not very brisk, but the heifers and calves generally made satisfactory prices. Mr. A. Haley was an extensive buyer, among his purchases being a handsome white heifer by Sir Archibald Christen at 61gs, and Lavinia, a five-year-old cow bred by Mr. A. M. Gordon, at 40gs. Lord Brougham and Vaux gave 42gs. for Rose of Antrim, and 52gs. for her red heifer calf by Italian, which was considered to be one of, if not the best young animal in the sale. A very charming yearling heifer, Augusta Olive, after sharp competition, fell to the bid of Mrs. Walsh, from Ireland, at 65gs., this being the highest price of the afternoon. The bulls did not realise very high prices. Mr. G. H. Proctor, the Mayor of Durham, secured the stud bull, Orangeman, cheaply at 35gs., and Mr. A. S. Thornton and Mr. A Milnthorpe got useful animals at 25gs. each. The following were the leading prices and buyers:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Rolleston Baroness, roan, c. February 1, 1898; s. Herdsman's Choice 68769 ..... Mr. T. Parlour	22
Mimosa, roan, c. September 14, 1898; s. Captain of the Guard 58596 ..... Mr. G. H. Procter	19
Fern Empress, roan, c. February 22, 1899; s. Bright Stephen 63722 ..... Mr. R. Stubbs	19
Home Again, red, c. June 5, 1899; s. Royal Bright 71438 ..... Mr. C. Robinson	19
Lavinia, red and little white, c. March 21, 1900; s. Crystal Star 72311 ..... Mr. A. A. Haley	40
Her roan C.C., c. May 22, 1905; s. General Bruce 86049 ..... Mr. A. A. Haley	20
Holker Countess Burlington 5th, roan, c. July 13, 1900; s. King Oswald 74795 ..... Mr. A. A. Haley	26
Mountain Queen, roan, c. February 17, 1901; s. Marechal Niel 72989 ..... Mr. S. Frank	23
Heiress, roan, c. January 3, 1902; s. Sir Archibald Christon 75639 ..... Mr. W. R. Trotter	25
Sweet Windsor 48th, red, c. March 22, 1902; s. Radnor of Cluny 64620 ..... Mr. J. P. Raynar	27
Ruby Bracelet, red roan, c. June 5, 1902; s. Augustus 78257 ..... Mr. C. O. Eaton	26
Honeyflower, roan, c. August 18, 1902; s. Augustus 78257 ..... Mr. C. Robinson	20
Rose of Autumn, red c. September 19, 1902; s. General Gordon 78948 ..... Lord Brougham	42
Her red C.C., c. March 22, 1905; s. Italian 86252 ..... Lord Brougham	52
Madonna, red and white, c. January 15, 1903; s. Vintner 82545 ..... Mr. A. Milnthorpe	20
Maria, roan, c. March 2, 1903; s. Sir Archibald Christon 75639 ..... Mr. C. Robinson	21
Vine Root, roan, c. March 29, 1903; s. General Gordon 78948 ..... Mr. G. Harrison	34
Pearl Bracelet, red roan, c. June 8, 1903; s. Sir Archibald Christon 75639 ..... Mr. T. Stamper	21
Lady Christon Studley, roan, c. October 22, 1903; s. Sir Archibald Christon 75639 ..... Mr. R. Booth	45
Augusta Snowflake, white, c. November 25, 1903; s. Achibald Studley 84791 ..... Mr. A. A. Haley	61
Royal Daisy, roan, c. January 15, 1904; s. Orangeman 84263 ..... Mr. G. Harrison	20
Roan Baroness, roan, c. January 26, 1904; s. Orangeman 84263 ..... Mr. J. Rooke	21
Heirloom, red, c. February 17, 1904; s. Orangeman 84263 ..... Mr. T. Pears	26
Red Vineleaf, red, c. June 8, 1904; s. General Bruce 86049 ..... Colonel Beach	25
Charm, roan, c. September 4, 1904; s. Coronation 85656 ..... Mr. J. P. Raynar	21
Augusta Olive, roan, c. September 25, 1904; s. Orangeman 84263 ..... Mrs. Walsh	65

BULLS.

	Gs.
Orangeman 84263, red, c. February 23, 1902; s. Bapton Glory 76081 ..... Mr. G. H. Procter	35
Drayton Governor 85786 (Mr. J. A. Williams'), red, c. January 22, 1903; s. Pitlivie Governor 79562 ..... Mr. W. Milner	23
Captain Bruce, roan, c. September 22, 1903; s. Vintner 82545 ..... Mr. A. S. Thornton	25
Pride of Sherborne, roan, c. November 2, 1903; s. Scottish Monarch 77828 ..... Mr. W. R. Trotter	22
Orator, roan, c. December 7, 1903; s. Sir Archibald Christon ..... Mr. T. Leefe	41
Othello, roan, c. June 6, 1904; s. Orangeman 84263 ..... Mr. A. Milnthorpe	25
Merry Scot, roan, c. January 26, 1905; s. Merry Cavalier 86617 ..... Mr. A. A. Haley	21
Brutus (twin to a heifer), roan, c. March 2, 1905; s. General Bruce 86049 ..... Mrs. Percy Knox-Gore	21

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
54 Cows, heifers, and calves	22 7 5 ...	1,208 0 6
9 Bulls	26 16 4	241 10 0
63 Head	23 0 2	1,449 10 6

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
September			
12	Shorthorn Cattle	Late Mr. W. J. Buckley ...	Penyfai, Llanelly.
12	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ..	Sir G. Macpherson Grant and Col. Smith Grant	Ballindalloch Castle, Ballindalloch.
12	Shropshire Sheep	Mr. T. Fenn	Stonebrook House, Ludlow.
12	Horses	Various	Derby Repository.
12	Clun and Radnor Sheep ..	Various	Knighton, Radnorshire.
13	Rams	Members of the Ayr Ram Society	Ayr.
13	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. E. Jones	Manoravon, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.
13	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ...	Mr. Finlay	Aberlour, Banffshire.
13	Kentish and Half Bred Sheep	Various	Newingreen.
14	Shropshire Sheep	Various	Lichfield.
14	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ..	Countess Seafield and Messrs. G. Bruce, Wilson and Forbes	Tochineal, Cullen, N.B.
14	Shropshire Sheep	Various	Shrewsbury.
14	Shire & Hackney Horses	Mr. G. Taylor	Kirby Bedon Stud Farm, Norwich.
14	Hampshire Down Sheep ...	Various	Wilton Fair.
14	Kent and Half Bred Sheep	Various	Wye.
15	Shorthorn Cattle	Late Sir J. Wilson ...	Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland.
15	Jersey Cattle	Late Mr. F. Barchard ...	Horsted Place, Uckfield, Sussex.
15	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ...	Mr. G. J. Walker and Mr. Cran	Portlethen, Aberdeen.
15	Welsh Sheep	Mr. Conwy Bell	Brynffynon, Rhuddlan, near Rhyl.
15	Horses, Cattle and Sheep	Mr. Walpole Greenwell ...	Chilmead Farm, Nutfield, Surrey.
15	Sussex Cattle, &c.	Mr. E. Lloyd	New Pin Farm, Five Ashes, Mayfield, Sussex.
15	Kent and Half Bred Sheep	Various	Ashford.
15	Shire and Cart Horses ...	Various	Wimborne, Dorset.
16	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ...	Earl of Airlie, Colonel M'Introy, and Messrs. P. Chalmers, Willsher, and Kennedy.	Aldbar Castle, Brechin.

Sale of Shorthornes at Plumpton

On Wednesday, at Ashurst Farm, Plumpton, close to the Plumpton race course, Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell, of Haywards Heath, brought under the hammer the fine herd of Shorthorn milch cows belonging to Mr. W. Hodgkinson, who is relinquishing the milk business. The prime large-framed cows were nearly all selected from the Vale of Aylesbury, and high characters were given of the milk producing propensities of the herd. There was a large attendance, and very good prices were realised, the whole herd being sold with one exception. The highest figure obtained was £25 for a light roan cow, with calf by side, bought by Mr. Crowleigh, of Heathfield. Several cows sold at £22, £21 10s., and £20 The prices ranged down to £15. The herd of 37 cows and one bull realised £691, averaging about £18 4s. per head.

Sale of Sussex Cattle at Haywards Heath.

The annual autumn sale of pedigree cattle held at Haywards Heath by Messrs. T. Bannister and Co., took place on Friday, in the presence of a goodly company, but trade was not brisk, nor prices high, the best being 25 gs. obtained by Mr. E. E. Braby, for two bulls, viz., Champion of Drungewick, bought by Mr. A. E. Dudeney, of Barcombe; and Earl of Drungewick, bought for Lord Leconfield; other prices ranged up to 22 gs. Details are appended, the name of the seller being given in parenthesis:—

BULLS.—Lynwick Prince (Mr. John Aungier, Rudgwick), Mr. F. G. Bolton, Littlehampton, 22 guineas; Champion of Drungewick (Mr. E. E. Braby), Mr. A. E. Dudeney, Barcombe, 25 guineas; unnamed (Colonel J. C. Humphreys, Cuckfield), Mr. C. D. Leland, East Grinstead, 15½ guineas; Earl of Drungewick 2nd (Mr. E. E. Braby), Lord Leconfield, 25 guineas; Limehurst Marshal (Mr. T. Bannister, Haywards Heath), Mr. W. H. Langmead, Yapton, 15 guineas; Champion of Drungewick 2nd (Mr. E. E. Braby), Mr. J. Kenward, Hamsey, 20 guineas; Limehurst Jester (Mr. T. Bannister), Mrs. M. A. Packham, Fletching, 15½ guineas; Ticehurst (Mr. W. Ford, Ticehurst), Mr. J. Wallis, Lewes, 21 guineas; Bolney Boy (Mr. E. Roberts, Bolney), Mr. G. Williams, Henfield, 12½ guineas; North Quedley (Miss L. Cohen, Tunbridge Wells), Messrs. Gander Bros., Haywards Heath, 12½ guineas; Birling Gap (Mrs. A. Taylor, Summer Hill, Five Ashes), Messrs. Holmden and Sons, Forest Row, 12½ guineas; Quedley Chapel (Mr. F. Bradley, Wivelsfield), Messrs. Gander Brothers, Haywards Heath, 8 guineas; unnamed (Mrs. A. Taylor), Mr. A. Best, Fletching, 11½ guineas.

COWS AND HEIFERS.—Brantridge Derby 5th (Colonel Humphreys), Mr. F. G. Bolton, Littlehampton, 14 guineas; Brantridge Derby 7th (ditto), Mr. G. Williams, Henfield, 15½ guineas; unnamed (ditto), Sir Weetman D. Pearson, Bart., M.P., 15½ guineas; Bewbush Pirate (Mr. P. F. R. Saillard), Mr. F. G. Bolton, Littlehampton, 20 guineas; unnamed (Earl of Derby), Mr. C. Edwards, Lingfield, 16 guineas.

Sale of the Whittingham Red Polls.

The remainder of the Red Polled herd, bred at Whittingham for so many years, was sold by auction on Thursday, in very inclement weather, by Messrs. Thornton and Co., at Kirby Bedon Stud Farm, Norwich. There was a small but representative company, nearly all the principal breeders being present; but the bad weather, combined with the distance from the station, had its effect upon the sale, and only commercial prices were realised. The stock, however, was purchased for many distant counties, several going to Ireland, Shropshire, Oxfordshire, Kent, Essex, and South Wales. On Thursday 107 head were sold at an average of £14 3s., thus the entire herd of 300 head, sold in three parts since last October, have averaged £20 all round, and proves that the old "Home Birds" have still many supporters, not only in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, but in other parts of England. We give below a list of the principal lots, with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Kathleen 9461, c. July 27, 1891; s. Starston Pride 2085 Mr. J. L. Smith	20
Grace Darling 12371, c. August 15, 1897; s. Sailor Prince 5185 ..... Mr. F. L. Lovd	27
Geneva 2nd 16638, c. Jan. 24, 1900; s. Red Rover 5149 Mr. E. H. Holland	29
Silex 17666, c. Jan. 24, 1900; s. Buffalo Bill 5348 Mr. J. L. Smith	28
Risky Duchess 17541, c. August 31 1900; s. Rendlesham Risky 6573 ..... Sir E. S. Hardinge	21
Witch 12403, c. August 25, 1901; s. Majolini 3662 Mr. H. Howard Vyse	31
Red May 18246, c. Nov. 9 1901; s. Red Paddy 6562 Mr. A. Attenborough	18½
Sissy 18315, c. Oct. 2, 1902; s. Bryan 6842 Mr. H. Howard Vyse	20
Trust 19561, c. Jan. 18, 1903; s. Colonel 7957 Mr. G. Shepheard	18

BULLS.

Kruger 9115, c. May 2, 1901; s. Rowdy Boy 6595 Mr. J. Dawson	22
Ranger 9402, c. May 26, 1903; s. Redmond 5147 Hon. R. Hardinge	17½
Sentry 9499, c. May 7, 1904; s. Mark 9470 Mr. C. W. Manuel Lewis	20
Harvester 9434, c. June 7, 1904; s. Kruger 9115 Mr G W Eldred	17½
Doctor 9414, c. July 9, 1904, s. Defiance 5946 Mr H Rackham	17½
Reliskan, c. Feb. 1, 1905, s. Redmond 5147 Mr H. Rackham	36

Birmingham Shorthorn Show and Sale.

The annual autumnal show and sale of Shorthorns at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, though not so important as the spring fixture, has its attractions for both breeders and buyers, and that held on Thursday proved no exception to the rule. True the entries were not quite so numerous as last year, but the total 277 was a good one, and the quality was, on the whole, up to the average, though there were a few poorish animals forward. There was, however, keen competition for the prizes, and then, when the sale began, the best specimens of the breed commanded considerable attention, and fair prices were realised. There was a large attendance of visitors and buyers, and some of the most useful heifers and bulls were bought for exportation to Germany and South America. The auctioneers were Messrs. Lythall and Co., and the judges Messrs. G. Bickford (Somerford, Brewood, Staffordshire), G. Taylor (Cranford, Hounslow), W. Bell (Ratcheugh, Alnwick), and J. Peter (Berkeley, Gloucestershire).

The cows and heifers numbered 124, and of these more than one-half were entered in the class for cows and heifers exceding three years old. The first prize was taken by Mr. G. Gerrard, Hindlip, Worcester, with Wandering Lass, a particularly nice cow, as fresh and sweet as a heifer, in spite of the fact that she is nine years old, and has had six calves. She was bought by Mr. G. Harrison, the well-known Shorthorn breeder, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, for 30 gs., The same purchaser also gave 23 gs. to Mr. T. M. Dewhurst, Lichfield, for the second prize-taker, Shelford Daisy Girl, six years old. The Earl of Harrowby, Sandon Hall, Staffordshire, sold the seven-year-old Cricket, which was highly commended, to Mr. W. H. Rider for 31 gs. Mr. Howorth gave 30 gs. for the seven-year-old highly-commended cow Susan Girl, the property of Mr. S. C. Pilgrim, Hinckley; and Mr. F. A. W. Wythes, Bedford, received 31 gs. from Mr. Scott for the highly-commended Bonny Lass 11th, seven years old. At 60 gs. the Earl of Sefton purchased the commended "Sweet Melody," six years old, from Mr. J. Newton, Warburton, Cheshire; Mr. W. C. Cooper, Whittlebury, Towcester, sold the highly-commended Marigold 53rd, five years old, to Mr. J. B. Brooks for 31 gs.; and Mr. Scott paid 30 gs. to Mr. T. Stokes, Warmington, for the three-year-old highly-commended Englethorpe Empress 3rd.

Several of the heifers between two and three years old were remarkably good in point of quality. Th best of the lot was Gwendoline 9th, the property of Mrs. L. H. Holland, Newport, and she was sold to Mr. Steward for 55 gs. Mr. Rider secured very cheaply, at 22 gs., the second prize-taker, Coral Wreath, shown by Mr. B. Read, Dursley; and at 42 gs. Mr. J. R. Newton sold the reserve exhibit, Sweeter Melody, to Mr. Scott; while Mrs. L. H. Holland's commended Honeysuckle went to Mr. J. B. Brooks for 31 gs.

The yearling heifers were a creditable collection, and here Mr. T. Atkinson, Bury, took the first award with Towy Princess, bought by Mr. G. Harrison for 51 gs. The second prize went to Whitewall Emma, belonging to Mr. A. A. Haley, Malton, and the purchaser, at 41 gs., was Mr. E. Smith, whilst Mr. C. Smith gave 42 gs. for the reserve heifer, Shenstone Highness, exhibited by Mr. R. P. Cooper, Shenstone, Lichfield, Mr. D. H. Mytton's commended Sample going to Mr. Haley at 32 gs.

There were not many heifer calves, but they looked healthy and promising. Mr. A. A. Haley won the first prize with Whitewall Anna 2nd, a useful animal, which was disposed of to Mr. W. Bass at 40 gs. Mr. G. Harrison gave 28 gs. for the second winner, White Socks, shown by Mrs. L. H. Holland; and the Earl of Sefton bought two highly-commended youngsters, one Charming Duchess 91st, for which he paid Messrs. Dyke Bros., Banbury, 45 gs., and the other Barn Hall Pride, for which he gave 30 gs. to Mr. A. C. Brown, Ombersley, Droitwich.

The principal class of bulls was for animals between twelve and eighteen months old. Ninety-five were entered, and they included several splendid specimens. The best of the lot was Star of Strawberries, a promising youngster seventeen months old, shown by Mr. J. Graves, Wigton. The home buyers and the foreign representatives were anxious to secure him, and after some sharp bidding Mr. Bucka became the purchaser at 105 gs., the highest price realised during the sale. The bull is to be exported to Germany, and he will be accompanied by the second prize winner, Whitewall Broadbrooks 2nd, for which Mr. Bucka paid 60 gs. to Mr. A. A. Haley. Mr. J. W. Barnes, Wigton, sold Benedict, the third prize winner, to Mr. McCulloch for 38 gs.; Mr. C. Coxon bought the fourth prize-taker, Carwin Josephine, from Mr. J. A. Preece, Thrapton, for 45 gs.; and Mr. G. Harrison paid the fifth winner, Roseberry, to Mr. Bibby for 35 gs. Mr. H. Turner, however, had to bid 80 gs. before he secured Mr. E. F. Blackwell's highly commended Rural Baron. Mr. R. P. Cooper gave 50 gs. to Mr. A. Hughes, Knowle, for the commended Packwood Hugo; the Earl of Macclesfield paid 40 gs. to Mr. W. S. Dowding, Longney, for the reserve bull, Lord Lee; and Mr. McCulloch gave 41 gs. to Major G. L. Holford, Tetbury, for Royal Matchless. Numerous other sales were effected up to 41 gs.

The last class was for bulls and bull calves of any age. No prizes were offered, but the entries numbered 57. A two-year-old bull, Claines Dolphin, entered by Mr. W. S. Carless, Worcester, attracted much attention, and Mr. G. Harrison had to go up to 75 gs. before he could secure possession of him. Mr. W. Wright gave 53 gs. to Mr. L. de Rothschild, Leighton Buzzard, for the twenty-one-months-old Golden Cross; Messrs. J. Haslam and Sons, Takeley, Essex, received 30 gs. from Mr. Wythes for the twenty months-old Takeley Silver Cup; Lieutenant-Colonel Turnor, Malmesbury, sold Pinkney Victor, eighteen months old, to Mr. J. B. Brooks for 31 gs.; and Mr. J. Slater gave 32 gs. to Mr. J. W. Sanders, Gilmorton, Lutterworth, for Carolus 15th, eleven months old.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Longford Town, on Tuesday, there was a very slow sale for cattle, only those of choice quality and in very good condition being sold. Calves, first class, £4 5s. to £4 13s. 4d., second class, £3 10s.; yearlings, second class, £6 to £6 5s; two-years-old, first class, £11 to £12, second class, £8 to £9 10s.; three-years-old, first class, £14 to £14 10s., second class, £10 10s. to £12; springers, first class, £17 to £19, second class, £13 to £15.

At Ballinasloe Fair, Co. Galway, held on the following day—Fair not quite so large as last year and composed chiefly of ewes suitable for breeding purposes; demand brisk, and almost a complete clearance effected at prices favouring sellers. Lambs, first class, £1 9s. to £1 10s., second class, £1 4s. to £1 7s., third class, £1 to £1 1s. 6d.; two-years-old and upwards, first class, £2 6s. to £2 9s., second class, £1 19s. to £2 5s., third class, £1 10s. to £1 14s. 6d.; young pigs, eight to ten weeks old, sold at from 25s. to 30s. each.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 2, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	47	59	90	43	2,719	4,576	6,500
	Outbreaks.	No.	12	26	11	13	604	996	1,160
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	6	3	1	5	659	1,068	1,177
Rabies.	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Animls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	59	66	70	56	1,438	1,893	1,693
	Outbreaks.	No.	30	42	27	21	867	1,572	1,026
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	190
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	19	9	12	18	993	1,056	892
	Outbreaks.	No.	18	7	10	11	665	666	945

Period.	Week ended Sept. 2, 1905	Corresponding week in 1904 / 1903 / 1902	Total for 35 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904 / 1903 / 1902
Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No. 47	59 / 90 / 43	2,719	4,576 / 5,688 / 6,500
Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	No. 12	26 / 11 / 13	604	996 / 1,160 / 1,915
Sheep-Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	No. 6	3 / 1 / 5	659	1,068 / 1,177 / 1,122
Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Animls.	No. ...	... / ... / ...	...	... / ... / 11
Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	No. ...	... / ... / ...	...	... / ... / 12
Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	No. 59	66 / 70 / 56	1,438	1,893 / 1,693 / 1,995
Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	No. 30	42 / 27 / 21	867	1,572 / 1,026 / 784
Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	No. ...	... / ... / ...	...	... / ... / 190
Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	No. ...	... / ... / ...	...	... / ... / 1
Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	No. 19	9 / 12 / 18	993	1,056 / 892 / 702
Anthrax. Outbreaks.	No. 18	7 / 10 / 11	665	666 / 945 / 470

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

There was probably never such a demand for high-class harness ponies as there is at the present, and the prices they bring are out of all proportion to those realised by horses of a larger size. Of course, ponies good enough to show are few in number compared with horses of a larger growth, and this may, and probably does, affect the price somewhat, but, at the same time, the demand for them is decidedly cheering, and shows that horses still hold a place in the affections of the nation.

Whether the demand for ponies is caused altogether by the many prizes offered for ponies in harness, and by the emulation of exhibitors, may well be questioned, for our native breeds of ponies seem to be in more active demand than ever, and good individuals of the breeds bring more remunerative prices. The various societies that have these native breeds of ponies under their fostering care have so far done well in keeping the ancient types well in view. There was a danger—perhaps it still exists—of so-called improvement being made in such a manner as to alter the characteristics of the breeds altogether. All honour to those who have fought to preserve the old type, for it may fairly be laid down that with the old type will disappear many of the old and valuable attributes of our native breeds.

It is curious how frequently the cross between the thoroughbred horse and the pony mare turns out a good weight-carrying hunter. I have one in my mind's eye as I write. He was by Cape Flyaway, not a very powerful thoroughbred, but a very stoutly-bred one, being by The Flying Dutchman—Canezou, by Melbourne. His dam was a pony under 14 hands high, and on the light side. The horse in question was under rather than over 15 hands 3 inches; he was a short-legged, deep-girthed, well-ribbed horse, built on correct lines, and was one of the best fifteen-stone horses I ever saw. It has always been the opinion of Lord Harrington that the old English pony made an excellent foundation for hunter-breeding, and I have seen many excellent hunters bred in the way I have mentioned. Another I remember was a very remarkable instance of a horse differing from and, at the same time, resembling his parents. He was a four-year-old when I saw him, and he was by An Arab, that certainly did not stand 14 hands 2 inches, off an old-fashioned pony that had been used to play polo. Like sire and dam, he was a rare galloper and full of quality, and he had some Arab character about his head and neck and quarters, but he was rather over 16 hands high. He looked, all over him, a weight-carrier, and as if he would be well master of 16 stone when he arrived at maturity.

It is interesting to learn what our ancestors thought of hunters and hunter-breeding, and to that painstaking maker of books, Gervase Markham, we are indebted for much valuable information respecting horses and their treatment. Writing of hunters, he says:—"If you will chuse a horse for hunting, let his shape in general be strong and well knit together, making equall proportions; for as unequall shapes shew weakness so equall members assure strength and indurance. Your unequall shapes are a great head to a little neck, a big body to a thin buttock, a large limb to a little foot, or any of these contraries, or where any member suits not with the whole proportion of the body or with any limb next adjoyning. Above all, let your hunting horse have a large, lean head, wide nostrils, open chauld, a big weasand, and the windpipe straight, loose, well covered, and not bent in the pride of his Reining: The English horse bastardised with any of the former Races first spoke of is all of the best." Open chauld, I take it, means open jowled. "The Races first spoke of" are the "Courser of Naples," which Markham tells us are the best, "the Almain, the Switzman, or the French."

These races would undoubtedly all be of Eastern descent. The Neapolitan horses had long been famous. More than half a century before Gervase Markham's book was written Shakespeare makes Portia say of the Neapolitan Prince that he is a colt indeed who doth nothing but talk of his horse, and the other breeds are all highly spoken of by old writers. The Neapolitans were famous merchants, and in their Mediterranean trading would constantly be coming in contact with Eastern merchants, from whom they would occasionally at any rate, purchase stallions, and it is probably due to their greater infusion of Eastern blood that the Neapolitan horses owed the superiority which they evidently possessed. Now, our English horses of the sixteenth century were what we should call ponies in these days—or, at any rate, a great proportion of them were—and it is not a little curious to find a seventeenth century writer and a twentieth century master of foxhounds recommending the same cross for the breeding of hunters.

It will be noticed that our ancestors attached a great deal of importance to characteristics which are not much noticed; at any rate, which are not much talked of in the present day. It is seldom, for instance, that much notice is taken of the windpipe when men are buying, though, of course, a veterinary surgeon will take particular notice of it if he suspects that anything is wrong with a horse's respiratory organs. Yet it is a very important point to consider, especially when buying young horses. Speaking of this point, Capt. Hayes, than whom there was never a more painstaking writer or closer observer, writes:—"The windpipe should be large, and well detached from the neck, as it will then indicate a good breathing power. Roaring often accompanies a wasted appearance of the tissues which cover the larynx, and is caused by paralysis of one or both of the muscles which open the larynx. The size of these muscles is too small to account for this partially emaciated condition." Practically the seventeenth century and the twentieth century experts are of the same opinion as to the shape a horse's throat should be.

Trade was not very good at Mr. Haslewood's annual sale at Buxton, and young stock sold well within its value. Two-year-olds at from 28gs. to 37½gs. seemed cheap enough, for the quality was good. Still, these are not unremunerative prices for young stock, which up to that age does not cost such a very great deal for keeping. A two-year-old thoroughbred by Dubuque brought 95gs., a remunerative price enough, and Dubuque himself was sold at about his value at 375gs. He is now ten years old, and he has in all probability seen his best day as a show horse. But there is plenty of good work left in him yet, and as his stock is turning out remarkably well, he is sure to be well patronised for many years to come. Then there is always the chance—though it is perhaps a remote one—of siring a big winner, and then he would be in great demand indeed. He is well bred enough for anything, being by Doubloon—Ivy Mantle by Mask, her dam Epomœa by Springfield. Doubloon combined the blood of Sterling, The Duke and Gemma di Vergy, so that it would be difficult to find a better bred one. And he is a big, powerful horse withal.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale in Buxton.

The annual sale of horses belonging to Mr. A. O. Haslewood, Fairfield Stud Farm, near Buxton, took place on the 2nd inst., and was rather disappointing, bidding being somewhat slow, and prices not so good as the animals deserved. The following were among the sales of stallions:—Admiral, bay thoroughbred, two years old, by Dubuque, which won a silver medal as a yearling at the Staffordshire County Show, 95 gs.; Baird, thoroughbred, seven years old, by Fourposter, dam Bayonne, 200 gs.; Nectar II., No. 6,143 in H.S.H., sire Ganymede, 115 gs.; Springald, by Galliard, dam Cataract, 85 gs.; Dubuque, thoroughbred, by Doubloon Ivy Mantle, 16 hands, winner of the King's premium, 375 gs.; Braintree, by Rosebery Despatch Roe, King's premium winner 1904, 310 gs.; Irish Comet, by Egerton—Idalia, five years, 97 guineas; The Black Watch, by Calwick Victor, 95 guineas.

Sale at Walton Hall, Warrington.

Sir Gilbert Greenall's fame as a breeder of pedigree hackneys and ponies is widespread, so that a big attendance is only to be expected at any sale of his stock, and expectations were fully realised at a sale of about seventy of his animals held at Walton Hall, Warrington, on Friday, and with keen competition, some good prices were realised. A special attraction of the sale was that the whole of the yearling hackney and pony colts were included placing before breeders an opportunity of acquiring young stallions of the very highest breeding on both sire and dam's side. In addition, a few choice young fillies were sold, and the whole of the three-year-old geldings, many of which give great promise of making show or match horses. Besides these, about twelve mares and their foals were offered on account of leaving daughters and sisters in the studs to continue the breed.

As previously mentioned, a brisk trade was experienced. The top price was 255gs., to which sum, Lord Ashdown, Co. Galway, had to go before he could secure the handsome yearling colt Terrington Recruit. Another Irish breeder, the Hon. F. Wrench, Dublin, secured the next best yearling colt, namely, Terrington Finsbury, for which he had to give 110gs. Two-year-old fillies also sold well, one fetching 170gs. and six others well over 50gs., in fact, two nearly touched three figures, as will be seen from the following list of the chief sales:—

YEARLING COLTS.

		Gs.
Terrington Recruit	Lord Ashdown	255
Terrington Finsbury	Hon. F. Wrench	118
Terrington Conjurer	Mr. Archdale	60
Terrington Cleophas	Mr. Montgomery	57
Terrington Candidate	Mr. Montgomery	37
Terrington Ghourka	Mr. Blackburn	26

YEARLING FILLIES.

Terrington Asset	Mr. Evans	37
Terrington Cordova	Lord Ashdown	30

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Flourish	Mr. McKibben	170
Ringleader	Mr. R. Heaton	95
Callender	Mr. Heaton	90
Flodden	Mr. Heaton	77
Terrington Ruth	Mr. Evans	68
Terrington Hyacinth	Mr. Montgomery	68
Viceroy	Mr. Irvine	65

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Miss Caxton	Mr. Gemmell	57
Chestnut filly	Mr. Evans	100
Ringobell	Mr. Smith	88
Chestnut colt	Mr. D. Evans	61
Bury Daisy	Sir Walter Gilbey	66
Terrington Bella Dona	Mr. Smith	62
Moor's Modesty	Mr. Archdale	51
Modesty		52

PONY BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Omen	Mr. Evans	32
Tissington Safety Pin	Mr. Rushford	46
Polly Perkins	Mr. Rushford	37

THREE-YEAR-OLD PONY GELDINGS.

Goldmine	Mr. Deurdon	75
Graduate	Mr. Eyre	30

Sale at Peterborough.

A special sale of Shire horses, pedigree hackneys, and harness horses was held at Peterborough on Wednesday in connection with Peterborough Foal Show by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck. Prizes were offered for the shire geldings and mares not eligible for the Stud Book, and for eligible Shire mares. In the ineligible class, a bay mare of Mr. T. Gee's, by Winchilsea, took the first prize, and sold for 36gs.; while the second prize went to Mr. J. H. Cade, of Banbury, for a five-year-old mare by Barometer, which fetched 35gs. In mares eligible for the Stud Book, Mr. E. Gee took the first prize with a four-year-old mare by Normoor Regent, which made 33gs., and the same breeder also took the second prize with a four-year-old by Bury Blood Royal, which was not sold.

Perth Ram Society's Show and Sale.

The Perth Ram Society's annual show and sale of blackfaced rams at Perth took place last week, and was very successful. Taking the stock all through, they were shown in excellent condition, a result largely due to the open winter and the fine summer. The trade in general was exceedingly satisfactory, especially for sheep showing size and breeding. The first prize pen of Cadzow shearling rams averaged £24 6s.; the second prize pen, from Crossflatt, £20 8s.; the third, from Overshiels, £16 8s.; the fourth, from Claggan, £16 13s.; the fifth, from South Brownhill, £11 13s. 6d; and the sixth, from Lettre, £14 2s. In the ram lamb section, the first prize pen, from Messrs Cadzow, Weston, realised £6 15s.; the second and fourth, from Mr. Grieve, Ladybank, £7 15s. and £5 5s. respectively; while the third, from Woolfords, fetched £6 1s. The best prize for a shearling ram was 50s., secured by Mr. D. McRae, Stenhouse, next to this coming £40, this sum being obtained by Messrs. A. and D. McDougall, Claggan; Mr. C. Fraser, Rankinston; and Messrs. Cadzow, Boreland. Other top prices for shearlings were:—36gs., 35gs., 33gs., 28gs., 26gs., 25gs., 23gs., 21gs., 18gs., etc. Top figure for lambs was £12, given for some of Mr. Angus Grieve's, whilst £10 was the next best price, and this was secured by Messrs Paterson and Cadzow and Mr. R. Cadzow.

Among recent wills proved is that of Mr. J. W. Rowland, of Fishtoft, Lincolnshire, a well-known agriculturist, and an alderman of Holland County Council, who left £20,070.

At Clonmel Fair, Co. Tipperary, held on Tuesday, there was a fair supply of stock; trade moderately good for cattle in forward condition, but small, thin animals sold slowly, and a number failed to find buyers. Good supply of springers, for which there was a fair demand; while at Brandon, Co. Cork, on the same day, there was a large fair but few buyers in attendance; demand slow, and thin cattle almost unsaleable.

Notes and Jottings.

What are the most profitable breeds of sheep? This has been a query often asked, and has been replied to in many different ways. Some say the cross-bred, and others the pure-bred, the tenour of the reply being mainly determined by the experience of the author. Viewed, however, in a general way, it may be taken that in districts in which breeding has not proved remunerative, the cross-bred is the better sheep, but in those districts in which both breeding and feeding can be carried on, then the pure-bred is pretty nearly, if not quite so fully, as profitable.

If, however, the cross-bred be the choice, it is well that these should be the resultant cross between two pure-breds, and not from the mating of cross-bred animals. The first cross is that which experience has proved the more successful, and hence it is either this or the pure-bred most generally kept in the district that should be chosen.

Flock masters ought to avoid the old practice of breeding sheep from cross-bred ewes by mating with a pure-bred ram. Years ago this was a common practice, but, from personal experience, the result was not altogether satisfactory. Looking backward along the road we have traversed affords many instances in which success has been secured from both the first cross and also the pure-bred. If full information be obtained of each case, it will generally be found that not a little of the success secured depended upon the management. When we have before us from time to time in the agricultural press the results secured in many series of experiments with either cross-bred or pure-bred sheep and lambs, it is always well to remember that these results have been obtained under thorough management, and that the only way to secure similar results is to adopt the same thorough and systematic management.

It is also advisable, when reading the results of experiments either in respect to breeding or feeding, to remember that before such results can be relied upon, it is necessary for them to be continued for a series of years. It is the short duration of experiments that has, in our opinion, often been the cause of failure to repeat similar results when put into actual practice. In some lamb-breeding experiments, as they are termed, carried out at Newton Rigg, we find from the report the result of last year is again fully confirmed this year, so far as one regards the produce of the Wensleydale and Border Leicester ram lambs upon Cheviot-Border Leicester cross-bred ewes, but—and proving the need of lengthened experiments—the produce of the Oxford ram lamb upon the same kind of ewes gave reverse results from those of the previous year.

Another experiment in cross-breeding has come to our notice. This took place in New South Wales, and the test was between the Suffolk-Merino and the Lincoln-Merino. The result was more favourable to the first-named cross than the latter, for at the age of six months the Suffolk-Merino lambs scaled 81.5 lb., and the Lincoln-Merino lambs scaled 77 lb. This experiment is one of those which have given a result not generally anticipated. Why it should be that the Lincoln-Merino cross-bred lamb should be so much lighter in weight than the Suffolk Merino is strange, and the cause for this large difference in weight would, if it is possible to be ascertained, be of great interest.

The export buyer has never been more prominent amongst our flocks than in the present season. Not a week now for some time has passed but that we have had to record one or more important sales of stud sheep for export. During the past week we have received information of the sale of all the yearling Lincoln rams from the flocks owned by Messrs. Joseph Brocklebank and Mr. John Anderson, the purchaser in each case being Mr. F. Miller, the well-known export buyer for the Argentine, to which country the whole of these fine rams are shipped.

Mr. T. C. B. Dixon, whose notably successful sale of Lincoln yearling rams was reported a fortnight since, has since then sold a further selection of yearling rams to Mr. A. A. Haley, who was a considerable purchaser at his annual home sale for the Argentine.

Mr. Alfred Amos, the breeder of Kent and Romney Marsh rams has sold a third consignment of yearling rams for the Argentine, the purchasers in this case being Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. for an Argentine client.

Mr. W. Millen, of Syndale Valley, Faversham, Kent, has also during the past week sold another consignment of yearling rams and ewes, the selector in this case being Mr. W. W. Chapman, whose clients, Messrs. J. Hoare and Co., are London agents for the purchaser, who resides in the Falkland Islands.

Another export sale recorded during the past week was some Hampshire Down ram lambs, which were despatched by Mr. James Flower to an Argentine client who has had three annual shipments of lambs from Mr. Flower. In each instance the lambs have been shipped direct to the Argentine from Chilmark, and the repetition of the same order for three years in succession clearly shows what great satisfaction has been given.

Southdown breeders have again this season, taken it as a whole, experienced a disappointing demand for their rams. We have not yet before us a full compilation of the ram sales as a whole, but from the results that are at hand it is evident that the Southdown rams and ram lambs have not been in near so keen demand others of other breeds have.

The choice quality of the Southdown mutton, and the great weight of first-class mutton produced by these sheep in proportion to the weight of food consumed, ought to make them more popular than they are at the present time. It is difficult to understand the noticeable falling-off in the demand for this breed, for none has a higher reputation either for mutton or wool production, when the cost of it and the market value be compared with that of any other breed.

A very choice lot of well-bred Southdown sheep, which combine high merit and special quality, will be sold by auction by direction of Mr. Elmer Speed, of Knowlton Court, Canterbury, on October 2 next by Messrs. C. Stride and Son, in consequence of the farm in hand being let.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Ashford.

At Ashford on Tuesday Messrs. Swaffer Bros. held their second lamb fair, disposing of the greater part of 1,500 sheep and lambs. Kent lambs made from about 24s. to 29s. and 29s. 6d., the latter price being given for a pen of Kent ewe lambs. Half-breds sold up to 27s. and some two-lambed ewes up to 45s.

Battle.

The nineteenth annual sheep and lamb fair at Battle was held on Wednesday at the fair field, North Trade Road, and attracted considerable interest. The catalogue for the auction sale embraced about 3,000 sheep, lambs, and rams. The attendance of buyers was highly satisfactory, and trade very fair. Southdown ewes and wether lambs averaged from 21s. to 35s., and tegs and ewes from 23s. up to 48s. The following were the averages of the various descriptions:—506 ewe and wether lambs, £1 4s. 5½d.; 495 ewe and wether lambs, £1 5s. 5½d.; 936 ewe and wether lambs, £1 1s. 4d.; 890 tegs and ewes, £1 9s. 9d.; and 21 rams, £2 3s. 8d.

Billingborough.

Important consignments of pedigree sheep from some of the leading Lincolnshire and Hampshire Down flocks were forward at Billingborough on Wednesday, in connection with the annual sheep fair. In Lincoln rams, Mr. F. Money, Silk Willoughby, Sleaford, secured first prize; Mr. J. E. Casswell, Laughton, Folkingham, second; and Mr. F. Ward, Quarrington, third. The prize offered for Hampshire Down rams was awarded to Lord Rothschild, Tring Park. For the best pen of Lincoln long-wool theaves, Mr. T. T. Houghton, Billingborough, secured first, second, and third; Mr. E. J. Grummitt, Folkingham, was first for the best twenty half-bred lambs; Mr. B. Garton, Helpringham, second; and Mr. J. Truswell, Billingborough, third.

A large company attended the auction of the prize and other sheep conducted by Mr. Walter Ward. The first prize winners in the Lincoln long-wool class made 7 gs. to 13½ gs.; Mr. J. E. Casswell's rams ranged from 4½ gs. to 7 gs.; the rams sent by Mr. Ward, of Quarrington, varied from 4½ gs. to 5½ gs. Hampshire Down rams were sent from the flocks of Lord Rothschild and Mr. Edward Pink, Kingsdom, Sevenoaks, and these made up to 62s. Mr. Pink's rams averaged about 2¾ gs. About 500 sheep were offered by auction, and the theaves sold up to 62s., whilst prize-winning pens of lambs made 46s., 41s., and 40s. 6d. respectively.

Brampton.

Hetherington's Auction Company, Carlisle, on Wednesday conducted the annual sale of lambs on Brampton Sands, on behalf of Messrs. Dobson, Geltsdale and Tarnhouse Farms. The lambs generally were scarcely so good as last season's, and were under a further disadvantage owing to the heavy rains. There was a large gathering of buyers, and competition proved keen. The lambs from Geltsdale made the following prices: Cross lambs, to 27s.; Cheviot wedder lambs, to 20s. 6d.; Cheviot ewe lambs, to 17s.; black-faced tup lambs, to 17s. 6d.; and black-faced ewe lambs, to 18s. 6d. The prices for the Tarnhouse lambs were:—Cheviot wedder lambs, to 21s. 6d.; Cheviot ewe lambs, to 20s. 9d.; black-faced lambs, to 17s. 3d.

Bury St. Edmund's.

The Bury Sheep Fair, which for several years has taken the place of the old Horringer Fair, was held in the Cattle Market, Bury St. Edmund's, on Tuesday. The chief department of interest was Messrs. Simpson and Sons' Auction Mart, where the supply of sheep was considerably larger than last year, the Suffolk ram lambs including many of excellent quality. There was also a very large attendance of buyers, and there was a very sharp trade, especially for the best bred lots. Suffolk rams met a brisk trade at prices from 2½gs. to 10gs. This was the general range, but the latter figure was exceeded in one or two instances, 15gs. being obtained more than once. The trade for Southdown, Oxford, and Cotswold ranms was poor compared with that experienced for Suffolks, and prices did not go higher than 7gs.

Cirencester

The second of the yearly ram fairs at Cirencester took place on Monday, and was well supplied, whilst buyers were forward in large numbers. Fat and store sheep numbered about 5,000 head, and required extra accommodation than that of the ordinary pens, others being improvised and the sale of rams and ram lambs conducted in an adjacent meadow. Trade was generally good. Stock ewes sold readily at from 41s. to 56s. a head. A noticeable lot was 240 grand Oxford Down ewes from the Earl of Eldon, which averaged 47s. each. A consignment of cross-bred theaves from Mrs. Taylor, Rendcombe Park, made 50s. each. A lot of forty ewes from Sir M. Hick-Beach's farm sold at 52s. each; 170 from Mr. E. Handy made 47s. each; 80 from Mr. A. Handy made 47s. 6d. each; Mr. T. Pinniger's theaves made 48s. each; 80 from Lord Biddulph sold at 45s. each; 80 theaves from Mrs. Taylor's Home Farm made 50s. each; and Mrs. Cooke (Quennington) sold 100 ewes at 45s. each. The supply of lambs was rather short, and those on offer sold well, animals of fairly good breeding and size making from 33s. to 45s each. Ordinary stock lambs were in request at 32s. 6d to 35s. 6d. each. Altogether the sheep trade was considered a very fair one.

In the ram fair there was a brisk trade. Mr. Moore sold for Mr. John Fowler, of Aston Farm, seventeen out of twenty Cotswold ram lambs at an average of 4¾ gs.; for Mr. Hugh Baker, Chedglow Manor, one Oxford Down two-shear ram at 15½ gs. (to Mr. A. Smith, Bagendon), one shearling ram 11 gs. (Mr. Daniels, Hazelcote), and twelve Oxford Down ram lambs at an average of 6½ gs., 8½ gs. being the highest price; for Mr. A. Apperley, of Hyde Farm, fifteen Hampshire Down ram lambs sold at an average of 5½ gs., two going at 10 gs. to Mr. Jaspar Gardener (Bisley) and Mr. Edward Blackwell (Overley), and one at 8 gs. to Mr. Everall (for Mr. J. H. Large, Crudwell). Fifteen Oxford Down shearling rams sold at an average of 7½ gs., the highest figure being 10 gs., paid by Mr. W. Drew, Beverstone, others making 9 gs. and 8 gs. for Mr. A. W. Porter, Barington. Ten Hampshire Down shearling rams, all close-shorn, made an average of about 5 gs.

Mr. A. F. Hobbs sold about 1,000 ewes, theaves, and lambs, consignments realising 36s., 38s., 40s., 41s., 41s. 9d., 43s., 43s. 3d., and 44s. Lambs made up to 35s. Mr. Hobbs also submitted by auction 155 ram lambs, and several consignments sold well. Those fram Sir Alexander Henderson, M.P., Buscot Park, averaged £4 8s. 3., one being sold to go to Westmorland; Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Kelmscote, Lechlade, averaged £8 2s. 3d., the highest price of 12 gs. being paid by Mr. B. Swanwick, Coates; Mr. W. T. Stevens, Ranbury, averaged £4 10s. 5d., the highest price, 6 gs., being given by Mr. Sydney Dennis. Mr. W. J. P. Reading, Langford, Lechlade, averaged £5 6s. 6d.; Mr. W. Arkell, Kempsford, £5 9s. 10d., 10½ gs. being paid by Mr. Cave, of Holwall Downs, and 10 gs.

by Mr. Sansome, for Lord Eldon. Sir M. Hicks-Beach, M.P., Williamstrip Farm, averaged £6 6s. 11d., the highest price being 8½ gs., paid by Mr. L. Smith, Winson. The Hon. R. Hardinge, South Lawn, Burford, averaged £4 5s.

Mr. J. H. Taylor sold fifteen Oxford Down ram lambs for Mr. G. Adams, of Wadley, Faringdon, at an average of 5 gs.; twenty for Mr. J. Horlick, of Cowley Manor, at an average £6 13s. 9d.; highest price 9 gs. (Mr. Murby, Cotswold Farm); sixteen well-bred ram lambs for Mr. H. Akers, Blackbourton, average £7 8s. 3d., highest price 10½ gs. (Mr. J. Pineger, Chelworth). The trade for Cotswolds was not so good as at the August fair. Mr. Taylor sold four Cotswold shearlings for Mr. C. Barton, of Fyfield, average 8 gs., seven for Mr. W. Houlton, of Broadfiel, at from 5½gs. to 8gs., and others.

Crewkerne.

At the fair held at Crewkerne on Wednesday there was a large entry of sheep and lambs, over 3,000 being penned. The following were the chief sales:—Mr. Ingham Baker's lambs, 48s. 6d.; Mr. W. Pile's Down lambs, 35s. 6d.; Mr. Bryant's cross-breds, 35s. 6d.; Mr. R. W. Hebditch's cross-breds, 40s.; Mr. Hurford's Downs, 33s. 6d.; Captain Bragge's Downs, 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. Mr. Broughton's Downs, 45s.; Mr. G. Poole's wether lambs, 30s. to 46s.; Mr. Tolley's pure lambs, 29s. 6d. to 33s. 6d.; Down ewes, 44s.; Mr. T. Pile's Down wethers, 33s. 6d.; Mr. A. Wyatt's cross-bred lambs, 41s. 6d.; Mr. C. Priddy's, 28s. 6d. to 41s. 6d.; Mr. R. Wyatt's Down pure lambs, 34s. 6d.; Mr. J. Dunell's Down lambs, 34s 6d.; Mr. W. Penny's, 31s. to 42s.

Dorchester.

The September sheep sales at Dorchester took place on the 2nd inst. Messrs. Ensor and Son had nearly 2,000 penned. There was a good attendance of buyers, and although sales cannot be described as fast, they were fairly good, but a complete clearance was not effected. Offgoing ewes made up to 44s. 6d. for the best, and from 27s. to 37s. for second drafts; two-teeth ewes, 39s. to 49s. 6d.; grazing ewes, 26s. to 32s.; two-teeth wethers, 45s. to 50s. 6d.; wether lambs, 35s. 6d. to 37s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 26s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.

Messrs. Hy. Duke and Son held their annual sale of early Down lambs and other draft sheep, the entries exceeding by far any previous season's. The sale was well attended, and trade proved firm, though prices generally showed a slight drop in lambs and a drop in ewes of quite 1s. 6d. to 2s. per head. Best Down lambs made 39s. to 43s.; working Down lambs, 28s. to 34s.; Down ewes, 36s. to 43s 6d.; Dorset horn ewes, 38s. to 46s.; Dorset horn ewe lambs scarce and much in demand at 40s.

Mr. Farmer's Shropshires.

Owing to Mr. J. E. Farmer having given up Wigley Farm, his entire herd of Shropshires, known the country over, was on Tuesday dispersed by auction at Felton, near Ludlow, Mr. Alfred Mansell being the auctioneer. Every ram used in the flock since 1881 had been entered in the flock book, and these comprised many notable sires purchased by Mr. Farmer at prices ranging up to 150gs. The rams were all practically pasture rangers, big, strong sheep, full of flesh, but in active and serviceable condition. The ewes were a particularly nice lot, true of type, and showing the result of a long course of careful and judicious breeding. Sir W. M. Curtis, Bart. (Caynham Court), presided at the customary luncheon, and there was a large company present. At the sale the prices realised were as follows: Shearling rams, from 18gs. down to 5½gs.; pasture rangers, 11gs. down to 5½gs.; shearling ewes, from 115s., 80s., 75s., 65s., 67s. 6d. down to 48s. each; two-shear ewes, 80s., 72s. 6d., 65s.; young stock ewes, 67s. 6d., 65s., 60s., 55s. down to 48s.; ewe lambs, 48s., 32s. 6d., 35s., 34s. down to 32s.; ram lambs, 4gs., 3½gs., 5gs., down to 2gs. each.

Hull.

In the Hull Cattle Market, on Tuesday, Mr. Santon conducted a special sale of rams, and included in the catalogue were eleven from Mr. E. Richardson's Arnold flock, which realised good prices, viz.—£25 4s., Mr. R. Jackson, Cherry Burton; £21 10s. 6d., Mr. Blashill, Beswick; £15 15s., Mr. Strickland, Brandsby; £16 18s., and £14 3s. 6d., Mr. O. Simpson, Leven; £12 12s., Mr. Brumby, South Dalton, and Mr. Dunhill, Market Weighton; £11 0s. 6d., Mr. Strickland; £10 10s., Mr. Woodcock, Barton; £7 7s., Mr. Dunhill; and £8 8s., Mr. Watson, Beverley. Mr. R. Taylor, Withernwick, also sent several rams which realised from £5 5s. to £16 16s.

Kerry Hill Sheep.

The annual show and sale of sheep of the Kerry Hill breed, under the auspices of the Kerry Hill Sheep Breeders' Association, was held at Kerry on the 1st inst., and was a great success. Between 5,000 and 6,000 sheep were penned. Mr. E. R. Morris conducted the sale of the rams, and Mr. J. D. Marshall that of the ewes and wethers. The top price for both ewes and wethers was secured by Mr. J. Morris, Gwernygoe, who sold a pen of ewes to Mr. Peter Coates at 54s. each, and a pen of wethers to Mr. Adams, Cleobury Mortimer, at 64s. each. The top price for rams was paid by Mr. Price, Cwmearl, for a ram typical of the breed in every respect, the figure being 35 gs. This animal was from Gwernygoe, and, though only given second place in the prize list, was generally admired. Another sold by Mr. Jones, Gwernyhnarth, made 30 gs.

Lanark.

Some remarkably good prices were obtained at the sale of Blackfaced rams held at Lanark on Tuesday by Messrs. Lawrie and Symington. The top figure was £130, and this was obtained by Mr. M. Hamilton, Woolfords, for his shearling ram which won a second prize at the Highland Glasgow Show; the purchaser was Mr. Howatson, Glenbuch. Others from Mr. Hamilton's flock sold well, his average for thirteen working out at £37 3s., the best of the sale. Mr. S. Scott, Bogside, sold sixteen at an average per head of £26 6s. 10d., top figure being £95, whilst Messrs. Cadzow Bros. also got an average of £20 3s. 8d. for nineteen shearlings, the highest price being £58. Shearling rams from other flocks sold at £56, £55, £48, £45, £40, £37, £30, £27, £26, etc. The top figure for lamb rams was £21, secured by Mr. J. Anderson, Greenockdyke, others ranging from £17 to £1.

Perth.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Limited, held their annual show and sale of Border Leicester and Shropshire sheep at Perth on Wednesday, when the numbers entered were 447 Leicester rams and ram lambs, 19 Shropshires, and 228 ewes and gimmers, as compared with 551 rams and ram lambs, 27 Shropshires, and 143 ewes and gimmers last year. For general breeding, all round the display of Leicesters was about equal to that of recent years. The sheep were well grown as a rule, and shown in capital bloom, although some lots looked as though they had been shaded quite enough from the sun during the warm days of summer, and perhaps over-protected on the crowns of their heads.

Leicesters met a good trade at satisfactory prices. The Newmill lot met a fair demand, and for the second prize-winner bidding was very brisk. Ultimately it was knocked down to Mr. Robertson, Dublin, at £23. The fourth prize met even more spirited competition, and, starting at £10, was taken out at £30 by Mr. Pople, Newhouse. With a lot of ten, good prices were maintained, and the average came out at £11 5s., as against £6 10s. 4d. last year. Competition was also keen for the Barrelwell collection, and the first prize single brought out a bid of £30, and was knocked down £2 later to Mr. Gordon, Arabella. The Barrelwell lot also included the second prize pen, and the leading prices given for the best in the pen were £18 and £14 by Mr. Wood, Carnoustie; £16 by Mr. Geekie, Rosemount; and £15 10s. by Mr. M'Corqudale, Carnoustie. A number of the pen also brought £10 a head. With twenty animals Mr. Hume realised a total of £231 12s. 6d., and an average of £11 11s. 7d., an increase of £2 17s. on last year. Mr. Richmond, Dron, placed the large consignment of fifty-four in the ring, and for them got an average of £8 3s. 1d., his highest price being £13 15s., given by Mr. Hutcheson, Beechwood, the next best being £11 by Mr. Cunningham, Leitham. Competition was seen at its best when the Hayston lot were selling, and £27 was rapidly run up for the third prize single, followed shortly after by £30 for the fifth prize, the purchasers being the Countess of Cromartie and Mr. Grant, Ingliston, respectively. The consignment also included the first-prize pen, and the principal figures paid for the outstanding of these was £25 by Mr. Douglas, Auchcairnie; £15 from Mr. Duguid, Durris, and Mr. Robertson, Dublin; £12 10s. from Mr. Dunbar, Laurencekirk; and £12 from Mr. Ballingall, Tarbrax. The total consignment of twenty-five realised £319 17s. 6d., or an average of £12 15s. 11d., which showed an increase of £3 17s. 5d. on last year's figures.

Peterborough.

There was a substantial increase in the number of entries at the Peterborough Ram Fair, in the Stanley Recreation Ground, on Wednesday, about 450 sheep being penned. There were plenty of customers, and the best sheep ran up to excellent prices, but the average would be better if breeders did not include so many of the smaller and younger rams in their consignments.

Messrs. Fox and Vergette had 215 Hampshire Downs. Mr. W. C. Young, of Salisbury, sent about the cream of the fair, both for size and quality. They averaged £6 6s. 6d., and included the highest-priced ram in the fair. This was 13½ gs., which Mr. Brocklesby, of Barton-on-Humber, gave. The Marquis of Winchester's new flock at the fair averaged £4 18s. each, the best prices being 8 gs., 7 gs., and 6 gs. Mr. Fowell Buxton sent some youngsters which averaged £4, the top price being £7½ gs., whilst Mr. Scott-Murray's group averaged £5, the best prices being 9½ gs. and 7½ gs.

Mr. J. H. Dibden, of Salisbury, sold a grand lot of rams at an average of 6 gs. each. Mr. Baker, of Morton, gave 12 gs., Mr. Minta, of Apthorne, 11½ gs., and Mr. Simpson, of Ramsey, 8½ gs.

Sir Richard Ryecroft, Bart., M.F.H., sold thirty-five smart and good-coloured young rams at £3 12s. Mr. A. F. T. Drake, of Dogdean, one of the doyens of the Hampshire Down Breeding Association, sent his first consignment. They were a lot of good sheep, and sold at £4 10s. apiece, whilst forty Hampshire Down draft ewes sent by the Hon. N. C. Rothschild met with a ready sale at 49s a head.

The Quarrington Lincolns.

The annual sale of Mr. F. Ward's well-known Quarrington Lincoln Longwool rams took place at Quarrington on the 2nd inst., and, as usual, was well attended by home and foreign buyers. One hundred first-class rams were offered, and met a ready sale at good prices, the average per head working out at £20 2s. 4d. Scopwick Better Times was secured by Mr. H. Dudding at 110 gs., which was the top figure of the sale. The other best sales were as follows:—

Dowsby Quality (7807), Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, 56 guineas; Dowsby Quality (7807), Mr. J. Cartwright, 40 guineas; Pointon Standpoint (7999), Mr. Stephenson, 27 guineas; Scopwick Better Times (8057), Mr. T. Caswell, 41 guineas; Pointon Standpoint (7999), Mr. S. W. Stephenson, 51 guineas; Quarrington Mainstay (8012), Mr. F. Scorer, 30 guineas; Quarrington Mainstay (8012), Mr. W. B. Swallow, 31 guineas; Pointon Enterprise (7041), Mr. G. Marris, 53 guineas; Quarrington Cashier (7556), Mr. Hughes, 30 guineas; Quarrington Venture (7562), Lord Ancaster, 27 guineas; Scopwick Better Times (8057), Mr. J. Cartwright, 29 guineas; Quarrington Woolled One (7563), Mr. J. G. Johnson, 22 guineas; Quarrington Banker (7554), Mr. T. Caswell, 34 guineas; Pointon Standpoint (7999), Mr. J. G. Johnson, 27 guineas; Quarrington Woolled One (7563), Mr. R. Wright, 21 guineas; Pointon Enterprise (7041), Mr. C. Howard, 42 guineas; Quarrington Wright's Victor (7564), Mr. F. Smith, 30 guineas; Quarrington Woolled One (7563), Mr. Hughes, 30 guineas; Quarrington Venture (7562), Mr. Clarke, Scopwick, 31 guineas; Bradford Reserve (6712), Mr. Langdale, 24 guineas; Quarrington Cashier (7556), Mr. T. Barker, 25 guineas; Pointon Standpoint (7999), Mr. Waterhouse, 25 guineas; Pointon Standpoint (7999), Mr. W. H. Pate, 35 guineas; Pointon Standpoint (7999), Mr. Hughes, 26 guineas; Pointon Enterprise (7041), Mr. Blankley, 38 guineas; Quarrington Banker (7554), Mr. J. Pears, 30 guineas.

Tenterden.

Tenterden sheep and lamb fair was held on Friday, and, favoured by ideal weather, there was a good attendance of local buyers. The buyers from adjoining counties, more familiarly known as "foreign buyers," were, however, generally speaking, conspicuous by their absence. This had its effect upon the trade; but, on the whole, fair prices were made. The best Kent ewes were easily disposed of, making from 39s. to 45s., but the old sheep dragged rather, prices ranging from 18s. to 35s. Ewe tegs made probably more money than has been made for some years, only medium sheep selling at from 50s. to 55s.; while wether tegs fetched from 34s. to 47s. Lambs changed hands quickly, good Kents making 26s. to 29s. 6d.

Truro.

A sale held under the auspices of the South Devon Flock Book Association took place at Truro on Wednesday. Messrs. M. L. Blamey and Son sold six rams from the flock of Mr. John Jennings, St. Ewe, at an average of seven guineas each. Mr. W. H. Brewer had consignments totalling fifty from noted flocks, and the following averages were made:—Five from Mr. W. Lanyon, Newlyn East, £9 5s.; eight from Mr. G. A. Northey, Gwarnick, £8 10s.; five from Mr. R. H. Ward, Ladock, £9 6s.; seven from Mr. J. C. Lawry, Gorran, £9 16s.; twelve from Mr. W. T. Kendall, Bodrugan, £10 5s.; six from Mr. J. A. Spry, Veryan, £8 10s.; three from Mr. W. Mitchell, Kenwyn, £5 8s.; four ram lambs from Mr. W. Mitchell, £3 5s. The highest price was made by a ram from Mr. J. C. Lawry's flock, which realised £15 12s. 6d. Messrs. H. Thomas, Son, and Co. sold six from the flock of Mr. M. H. Holman, Restronguet, at an average of over 5½ gs. each.

The next session at the South Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, will commence on Monday, October 2, when there will be 94 students in residence. The inaugural address of the session will be given by Professor Marshall Ward, F.R.S., Professor of Botany, Cambridge University.

Peterborough Foal.

The twenty-fifth annual foal show, under the auspices of the Peterborough Agricultural Society, was held on Wednesday last in the Recreation Ground, immediately adjoining the Cattle Market. The weather proved very favourable for the event, and a good many people were at the ringside, intent upon business and deeply interested in the awards alike of the heavy horses, hackneys, and hunters. Few societies devote so much money and energy to the improvement of breeding horses as the Peterborough Society do, and the results have for years been most satisfactory, many of the highest-priced horses having been bred in the district, and the general quality of the farm horses and lighter horses being much improved.

Hunters.

This breed took precedence in the catalogue, and was judged by Major H. Wickham, of Barnwell Castle, Oundle. There were eleven foals entered, one of which was absent. Of the remaining ten that faced the judges, first honour was accorded Mr. H. R. Roe's filly foal by Lucifer II., out of the well-known breeding mare Finale by Omega, a foal with power, good bone, and well coupled together, also enough quality. Mr. John Hack came second with a colt foal by Wise Ruler, with head and neck of beautiful character, good shoulders, and of generally good hunter type. Mr. J. E. L. Whitehead followed for third place with a colt foal by Ballymena that has good quality and hunter style, and the reserve card was given to Mr. W. T. Hayr for a well-shaped and well-bred colt by Barbarian out of the fine-shouldered mare Mrs. O'Shea, a colt that looks as much like making a high-class hunter as anything in the class.

Hackneys.

This breed came next in order of catalogue, and were judged by Mr. L. Rodwell, East Rudham, King's Lynn. There were nine entries, the majority of which presented a fair amount of growth and future promise of developing into big and useful carriage horses. Several of them were rather faulty in their hind action, otherwise the quality and breeding displayed were very satisfactory. The first prize was awarded to Mr. A. C. Beck's colt foal (sire Copalder Cadet), a well-grown one with good shoulders, and the right sort of style and quality. Second came Mr. G. Carver's foal by Lord Socks, out of a mare by Copalder Cadet, that showed very fair hind action and good shape. Third honour was given to Mr. John Tibbett for a youngish but good-looking foal by Halloo Garton Dane; and reserve fell to the lot of Mr. A. Rowell, of West Rudham, for a growing, smart foal by Orangeman from Fashion by Cadet.

Shires.

This breed formed by far the greatest portion of the display, and were an excellent show in each of their respective classes. They were judged by Mr. S. Cartwright, of Keddington Grange, Louth, and Mr. James Gould, of Lymm, Warrington. The colt foal class came first with eighteen entries, all of which, save one, were in their places. The winner was a weighty, good-quality colt of Mr. Craig's, with the best possible feet and joints under him that has been winning at several shows in Leicestershire and the district. He was sired by Lockinge Forest King. Second prize was awarded Mr. Hamer Towgood for a colt of great promise, excellent build, and quality, by Lockinge Albert, out of the well-known mare Rolleston Fuchsia, and third to a weighty, good-limbed colt of Sir A. Henderson's out of Blythwood Nora Creina, one of the best Shire mares of the day, and got by Markeaton Royal Harold. A fourth prize is given, and this fell to Mr. J. J. Gilbert's well-built, famous quality, and weighty colt by Dunsmore Jameson, Mr. W. Richardson taking reserve with a very early and promising foal by Normoor Statesman, that has been very successful on the Cambridge side. Minor honours were also bestowed upon a Lockinge Forest King foal of Mr. McCreery's, and upon very useful foals shown by Mr. W. Gee and Mr. G. L. Morris.

Filly foals had eleven entries, and these were a very level, good class, full of Shire character, quality, and weight, and no less than four out of the five leading foals were got by the renowned Dunsmore sire, Dunsmore Jameson. The first prize went pretty readily to Earl Egerton's filly by Tatton Friar, a very shapely and exquisite-limbed foal, and with growth and general quality. The second and succeeding ones were as previously stated by Dunsmore Jameson, the first of these being Mr. Crawford's rare-backed and beautiful-jointed filly, with quality, out of the famous mare Somesby Ruth, by Paxton. Next, Mr. J. Hodson's foal, one of the best of the season, out of the big and good mare Thorny Blossom, and that has done well recently in Derbyshire. Next, Mr. Tom Kay's, out of the sweet mare Darby, and with fine shape and quality, and reserve Mr. W. B. Blundell's, also a weighty, well-built, and all-round good foal. Minor honours were again given to Mr. McCreery and to Sir A. Henderson for very fine foals.

The tenant farmer's class was capitally filled, the prizes going to Mr. Craig, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Richardson, and Mr. W. Gee for foals that have been already mentioned. Sir Walter Gilby also offers special prizes for the get of his famous stallion Blythwood Conqueror, bred by the Peterborough Society. This class was filled by several very fine quality foals shown by Mr. Vergette, Mr. F. W. Griffin, and Messrs. Wyles and Hunting.

A champion prize, given by Messrs. Barford and Perkins, and a handsome challenge cup, presented by Sir P. A. Muntz, were both awarded to Mr. Craig's Lockinge Forest King foal, first in the open and local colt foal classes; and the reserve for these honours was accorded to Lord Egerton's first-prize filly foal by Tatton Friar, the contest being a very close one. The result was generally approved.

Bath Horse

Bath Horse Show, held on Wednesday and Thursday, was for the third year in succession marked by inclement weather, and the organisers are to be commiserated with on their ill fortune. The grand stand had been fully booked up, proving the stability of the event as a social fixture, but the attendance was, of course, affected, and the entry was far from being up to the average. There were 214 horses entered, against 265 in 1904 and 288 in 1903, and the falling off was almost entirely in the hunters, which numbered only sixty-five, against ninety-four last year and 114 in 1901, which constituted a record. The judges were:—Hunter classes, Messrs. Digby Collins, Newton Ferriers, Callington, and W. A. Harford, Petty France, Badminton; hack and harness classes, Messrs. A. Fewson, Hedon, Hull, and J. McMeeken, Moss Park, Dumbreck, N.B.

In the hunter classes, Mr. J. Drage, of Chapel Brampton, Northampton, who was the principal winner last year, had on the present occasion to play second fiddle to Mr. J. H. Stokes, of Great Bowden, Market Harborough, who practically swept the board of the prizes, Mr. Drage having to be content with one first prize, three seconds, and a third. Mr. Stokes won the £25 silver cup, given by Captain Forester for the champion hunter, with his six-year-old bay, Whiskey, which was champion at Richmond this summer, and at Buxton. Whiskey was shown in the open class for horses four years old and upwards, and here was first, beating Mr. Stanley Webb's Viking, fourth at Dublin. Mr. Stokes also won the open weight-carrying class with his six-year-old brown gelding Baronet, who beat Mr. Drage's Carlow. There was a large class of four-year-olds—one of the few really wellfilled hunter classes—and here again Mr. J. H. Stokes had first with the white-legged Madrid, and was also reserve with Goldfinch, Mr. Drage again being second with Klondyke, and Mr. J. C. Barton, of Fairford, was third with Williamstrip III. Madrid won two other firsts—the novice class and that for four-year-olds and upwards to carry 15 st. and upwards—and thus in the six hunter classes judged in the morning of the first day Mr. Stokes had five firsts; Mr. Drage took the odd one, Klondyke being first in the class for four-year-olds and upwards to carry 14 st. In the latter class Mr. Barton's Williamstrip was second. Mr. Drage was second in the novice class with Carlow, and Mr. Stokes third with Goldfinch.

The yearling hunter class attracted a very satisfactory entry, and from among a number of promising animals the judges selected for premier position a chestnut gelding, Juggler, shown by Mr. R. Hoddinott of Springfield, Gillingham, Dorset; Mr. W. Butler, of Ellesmere, Salop, securing second prize with a brown gelding, Ian Hamilton. The best among two-year-olds suitable for making hunters was a chestnut filly, Paleface, exhibited by Mr. J. A. Mullens, of Longcross, Surrey; second prize going to Mr. W. J. Tatem's Penylan Ormerod, from Cardiff. Mr. Mullens also showed the best three-year-old, a dark bay gelding, Sheen. A bay mare, Surprise, the property of Mr. J. H. Watson, of Greenhill, Kidderminster, which was second in this class, also secured two silver medals offered under certain scheduled conditions by the Hunter's Improvement Society. In the open class for hunter brood mares in foal or with foal at foot, the chief prize went to Golden Stream, shown by Mr. Leonard Taylor, of Biddlestone, Chippenham. Second place was given to Mr. James Moore's bay mare, Bandy, from Wellington, Salop, which also won the gold medal offered under certain conditions by the Hunters' Improvement Society.

The hunter judges this year dealt with the covert hacks, and placed Mrs. W. C. N. Chapman, of Hippington, Canterbury, first with Marion, and Mr. Stokes second with Gem, while Mr. Stanley Webb, of Studeley Court, Stourbridge, was third with his bay, Kinver. Midland horses were to the fore in the weight-carrying cob class (not over 14 hands). Mr. F. J. Batchelor, of Hopwood, Alvechurch, won with May Hopwood, and Mr. T. Smith, of the Shirley Stud, Hall Green, was second with his chestnut Shirley Defiance, by Manfred. Mrs. Chapman's Marion won again in the open class for riding horses not less than 14 hands. The class for horses over 13.2 hands and under 14.2 hands was won by Mr. Sydney Pethick, Tiverton, with Qui Vive, and Mr. Walter Winans took a third with Popgun. The pony class was won by the celebrated old mare, formerly the property of Mr. Franklin, of Derby, Lady Go Bang, now shown by Mr. Griffiths, of Smethwick. Mr. Foster, of Moseley, was second with Mel Valley Treasure.

The open double harness class attracted some well-known winners, and the judge's task was not easy. Eventually they placed first the stylish pair of black chestnuts, Sam Weller and Beckingham Gentleman, exhibited and driven by Miss E. K. Cunliffe, of Tyrrels Wood, Leatherhead. Mrs. Hartley Batt, of Westbourne Street, Hyde Park, London, was second with the bays Hopwood Horace and Hopwood Spark, while the third prize went to Dr. Francis, of Brecon. The single-harness classes were filled, and in the open contest for cob or pony Phœbe Watton, shown by Mr. C. Radcliffe, of Cardiff, and driven by Mr. Butcher, the well-known whip, was first, Mr. W. Winans, of Surrenden Park, Pluckley, Kent, taking second prize. In the class for smaller horses, premier honours went to Mrs. Batts' Heathfield Squire, which won at Richmond this year the 20-gs. cup for single-harness horses. Mr. Radcliffe's Bravo was second, and Mr. T. Smith's Shirley Defiance, from Worcester, third. Of three tandems, Mr. Radcliffe's pair, Marie Tempest and Phœbe Watton, were first, Mr. W. Foster, Moseley, being second, and Mr. Cunard, of Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell, third.

The first prize in the open class for single-harness ponies went to the first prize riding pony Lady Gobang, belonging to Mr. G. Griffiths. Mr. W. Foster's Mel Valley Treasure, from Moseley, was second, and Ryburn Masher, the property of Mr. W. S. Cunard, of Bracknell, third. Mel Valley Treasure had several other successes. In the open double-harness class Mr. Cunard's Wild Lucy and Jenny Lind were first. Mrs. Batt, of Hyde Park, London, added to her previous successes by taking first in a restricted class with Hopwood Horace, which, with the companion bay gelding, Hopwood Spark, also took the first prize in the large tandem class. This pair was second in double harness. The second-best tandem was Miss E. S. Ross's black pair Rowton Blackthorn and Rowton Vinca, from Sale, Cheshire. Mr. S. Rice, of Knowle, won with the chestnut gelding Lord Dash, in a single-harness class restricted to exhibitors living within nine miles of Bath. The Hackney Horse Society's silver medal was won by Dr. Francis's Lady Dandy, a brown mare bred at the Royal stables at Sandringham, whilst Mr. T. Smith, of Hall Green, near Birmingham, secured the same Society's gold medal with the chestnut gelding Shirley Defiance, which was second as a weight-carrying cob. There was a capital show of ponies, ridden by children under thirteen, the verdict being in favour of Peauty, a very smart little bay, shown by Mr. T. Lindrea, of Westbury, Bristol, to which a silver cup was awarded. The jumping competitions were as popular as ever, but were badly affected by the rain.

The Chemical Works (late H. and E. Albert), London, have hit upon a capital idea for making known the value of their basic slag. At some of the big agricultural shows this season they have given souvenirs, which are in the form of handy pocket pamphlets, freely and well illustrated, in which are demonstrated the advantages arising from the use of basic slag, and photos are given of pastures grown in various counties surrounding the show, with and without basic slag. The difference is truly remarkable, and the souvenirs have doubtless proved instructive to those who have perused them carefully.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Abergavenny.

The sixty-first annual show of the Abergavenny Agricultural Society took place on Thursday, and unfortunately the weather was showery, this having a bad effect on the attendance. The entries were five more than last year, and, generally speaking, the quality of the exhibits, more especially in the horse classes, showed a great improvement. In the cattle section Herefords were very prominent, and were the best collection ever seen in Abergavenny. They supplied the best bull in the show in Sirdar, shown by Mr. Rees Keene, who secured the championship medal. Sheep and pigs were a creditable lot.

Gillingham.

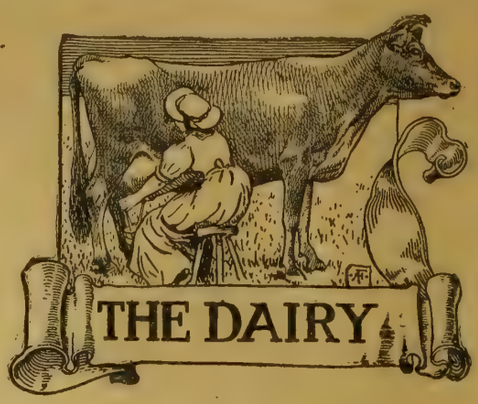
The annual show of Gillingham Agricultural Society took place on Monday, and was attended with more than usual success. There were about 250 entries, and in each section the quality was on the whole good. Dairy produce, however, was hardly up to the average, but the seven classes for horn stock were all well filled, and, as there was not a weak class in this department, either numerically or in point of quality, it was regarded as one of the most satisfactory features of the show. Horses were not great, but a creditable lot; whilst in the classes for pigs of any breed the two noted Motcombe breeders, Mr. N. Benjafield, of Shorts Green Farm, and Mr. A. Hiscock, of the Manor Farm, shared the honours in a thin entry.

Mid Somerset.

The show of the Mid Somerset Agricultural Society increases in popularity each year, both entries and attendance showing improvements. At Shepton Mallet last Tuesday there were no fewer than 821 entries, as against 780 last year, and the patronage of the exhibitor left little to be desired. The entries of cheese for four years in succession have advanced rapidly, and during the last two years there has been an advance of 30 entries each year. An excellent lot of cheese was sent in for competition in the first class, which was for Cheddars, and open to the world, and a keen contest ensued for the £20 prize, which was eventually awarded to Mr. H. White, of Mapowder, who also was fortunate enough to obtain the handsome silver champion bowl given by Mr. B. G. Falle for the best lot of Cheddar cheese in the show. There was a capital exhibition of butter from various parts of the country, about seven counties being represented altogether. The cattle classes were in numbers slightly above the average, but this department hardly showed the advance this year which other sections of the show have done; quality was, however, quite up to the usual high standard. Fat cattle made a nice show, and so also did dairy cows and Channel Island cattle. There was a very fine entry in the horse sections. Only on one occasion—1902, the jubilee of the Society—were the entries exceeded, and some of the classes which came before the judges were good in point of quality as well as numbers. In the general produce classes there was a fair entry, but for some reason the cider-makers did not respond quite so well as usual, or as had been anticipated from the excellent vintage of last season. There were also the usual competitions for long service for agricultural labourers and for practical farm work, and a milking competition to encourage young milkers employed on farms in the district.

Rutland

Situated in the midst of a wide agricultural district, Oakham is always the scene of a highly interesting gathering upon the occasion of the annual show promoted by the Rutland Agricultural Society, and the seventy fifth exhibition held there on Thursday was as good as any of its predecessors. For the success of Thursday's show everything promised well with the exception of the weather, which was very dull in the morning, with occasional heavy showers sweeping over the ground. As usual, the show was held in two portions, the horses being dealt with in the limekiln field, while the cattle and sheep were more comfortably stalled and judged in the covered Poultry Market, about a quarter of a mile away. Each section was capitally represented, the classes including many animals which have been seen out at district shows during the summer, and the quality was high in all departments. The total entries numbered 317, as compared with 320 last year, the detailed figures being as follow:—Cattle, 67, against 81 in 1904; sheep, 70, against 15; Shires, 96, against 105; light horses, 120, against 119. The average, therefore, was fairly well maintained.



Staffordshire Farmers and Surplus Milk.

The Earl of Lichfield presided over a large and influential meeting of farmers from all parts of Staffordshire held at Uttoxeter, on Wednesday, to consider what steps should be taken to deal with the surplus milk question, and to secure bettter prices for milk by the establishment of a factory or factories or by other means.

The Uttoxeter Committee had recommended that a company be formed to be called the Staffordshire Farmers' Dairy Company with a capital of £20,000 divided into 2,000 debenture shares of £5 each, entitled to a cumulative dividend of 5 per cent. per annum. This capital it was not proposed to issue at once, but in instalments as the directors might deem advisable. One half, it was anticipated, would be subscribed by the landowners, and the other half by the farmers. The factory, to be specially erected, would be fitted with all the most modern appliances capable of dealing with a very large quantity of milk in the most profitable way, according to the requirements of the current market. The whole scheme was to be worked and managed on the co-operative principle, and the surplus profits after payment of dividends on capital were to be divided among those dealers who were shareholders in the company *pro rata*. As to the price paid for milk advice would be given by the Farmers' Association. It was noted by the Uttoxeter Committee that satisfactory dividends were paid by many proprietary companies, and that they therefore saw no reason why a co-operative factory, worked as suggested by men of business capabilities, should not be equally satisfactory.

The Chairman, whilst fully recognising the importance of farmers co-operating to deal with the question of dealing with their milk, did not altogether approve of the scheme as put forth by the Uttoxeter branch on the ground that it was too ambitious, and he doubted if it would altogether solve the question which had occupied the minds of the Executive Committee and the county association for fully three years. He, personally, was more in favour of factories confined to limited areas, so that farmers would be able to take back the by-product. Three or four years ago the starting of such factories was proposed, and he now repeated promises of support to such projects which he had given. Moreover, he believed the other landowners of the county were ready to do the same, because they believed in the management of these small factories by the farmers themselves. By such means there was a chance at small expense of doing well and getting reasonable prices. They could only be comparatively successful if they had the support of the Association with regard to the sale of their produce in the large towns.

In the discussion which afterwards took place Mr. Woolridge urged strongly that the surplus milk could be most efficiently and at least expense dealt with by a large factory. It would be very well to have small factories if the milk had to be kept at home.

Mr. White, a Derbyshire farmer, was of opinion that farmers could deal themsleves with the milk more satisfactorily than any factory could, and this point was emphasised by Mr. George Heaton, who, with others, had visited Ireland to see how such work was done. He cautioned his brother farmers against risking £20,000, and suggested that if such an experiment were to be made it should be in a small way.

Some reply to this criticism was made by Mr. Ellaway Smith, who remarked that farmers would have been able to make use of the surplus milk if farming methods had not changed. But how many farmers were able properly to make use of their surplus milk in the production of cheese or butter? They wanted the top price for the product, and that was why they wanted the best machinery and the best men. Mr. Smith submitted a formal resolution, and as subsequently amended this read:—

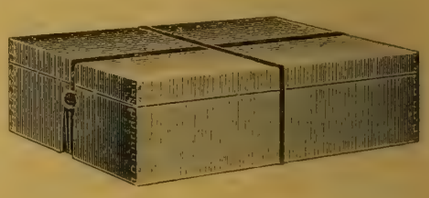
"That a factory be established at Uttoxeter to serve such an area as may be found advisable on co-operative lines, a certain price for the milk to be paid monthly, and the balance of profits (if any) after payment of interest on capital and working expenses to be divided yearly amongst the suppliers of the factory *pro rata* per gallon."

This having found a seconder in Mr. E. Gibbs, the Earl of Lichfield intimated that in his view the resolution might be adopted in this amended form by all present. As he read it, the proposal was not to erect a large central factory for the county. The resolution was then adopted.

A New Method of Fruit Packing.

To meet the demand by fruit-growers and salesmen for an inexpensive and attractive, yet thoroughly reliable method of packing fruit, a new fruit-box has been manufactured by Messrs. Edward Spencer and Co., London. In this box, as will be seen from the illustration, each fruit is contained in a wooden cylinder, which obviates any chance of the fruit being bruised.

These cylinders add very little to the weight, yet greatly increase the strength of the whole box. The box is entirely machine-made, dovetailed and rebated together so as not to depend on glue. No nails, or metal of any kind, are used. The box is fitted with a drop-over lid, flush with the frame, and is grooved at the end for sealing with wax or lead. It is rectangular in shape. The illustration shows a handy size of box made to take a dozen peaches. This size is retailed at 6s. each, and can be used repeatedly.



A great variety of sizes can be had to hold any quantity of the cylinders, which are also made in six sizes from 2⅜ to 6¼ in. diameter. The boxes can also be supplied without the cylinders either with drop-over lids or with slide lids. By using these boxes growers should save a considerable amount in carriage, in addition to having easy minds as to their fruit arriving at its destination in perfect condition.

Milk and Phthisis —Dr. Greenhalgh, medical officer of Accrington, has called attention to the serious death rate in the town arising from phthisis and other forms of tubercular disease, one cause of which he believes to be the use of milk of cows suffering from tuberculosis. He has, therefore, advised the veterinary inspection of all the cows supplying milk for the borough. The Health Committee recommend the Town Council to take the course proposed, so far, in the first instance, as the cows within the borough itself are concerned. A good deal of milk comes from places outside the town, and special arrangements would have to be made for the examination of the cows in those districts. No insurmountable obstacles would be likely to arise in this regard, however, because the owners of the animals would feel compelled to fall in with the desires of the municipal authority.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Hop Year.

The publication of the August records of over-sea trade marks a point from which we can fitly review the course of our transactions for the trade year commencing with each new season on September 1. Statistics are interesting enough, as by them facts are brought to light which otherwise might remain in the region of speculative obscurity. Whether they are satisfactory or not depends mainly upon the character of their revelations. If they are in accord with our wishes or predictions, we are inclined to approve and trust them, but we are quite as ready to question their accuracy when we find that they upset our calculations, or, in their stubborn way, prove that our estimates have been unsoundly based. The figures now before me tell a distasteful story, and I have anxiously examined them with the object of extracting some possible comfort therefrom, but am compelled regretfully to conclude that they are too convincing, and that, unpalatable as they are, I must accept the lessons they so emphatically teach. Twelve months ago we opened our market with confidence. With very few exceptions, the expectations of all engaged in the English hop trade favoured the probability of a steady run of high prices. Growers, factors, and merchants were alike influenced by the circumstances which then appeared to be sufficiently safe to warrant the profitable outlook. The knowledge of a short English crop provided an apparently solid foundation, upon which was erected a conjectural structure of assured success, supported by faith in the shortage of foreign supplies. The extent of our self-deception in this latter particular is abundantly demonstrated by the following striking figures. During the hop year of 1903-4 our gross imports amounted to 159,671 cwt. The first four months brought in comparatively few foreign hops, but about two-thirds of the whole were shipped into our market during the later period of that season. No sooner had the 1904-5 season commenced than the good figures then realised for English growths attracted the attention of foreign traders, and within the months of September to December, 1904, we received from America and the Continent no less than 209,394 cwt., an unprecedented quantity for so limited a period. This enormous and unexpected burden speedily put a stop to our pleasant hopes for a steadily remunerative season. Values were necessarily reduced, as customers naturally took advantage of the foreign supplies, and with the holders of English hops elation was displaced by depression. Then occurred a singular change. The foreigner had apparently exhausted himself, for during the eight months that followed imports have fallen down to a total of only 34,337 cwt., making the aggregate for the hop year ending August 31 last 243,731 cwt. But the damage had been completed. Our stronghold had been shattered by the early furious bombardment, and despite the combined efforts of some of our brave men, we have not been able to rebuild it. Unfortunately we have not been assisted by our export trade, which has fallen from 31,691 cwt. in 1903-4 to 21,547 cwt in 1904-5, so that the net increase of imports, on the comparison of the two seasons, is shown to be not far short of 100,000 cwt.

In this weighty fact, taken in connection with the prospects of an abundant crop in England, as well as in all other hop-growing districts of the world, we find the chief explanation of the low quotations now generally prevailing. Our statistics are disappointing, but we are bound to "face the music," and make the best of the trying times that are apparently in front of us. Our growers have, however, passed through a similar experience before, and have successfully surmounted it. I have confidence that their indomitable determination will stand them in good stead now, and that they will overcome their present difficulties, and come out of the fight as victors in the end. One bit of consolation is suggested. If our prices remain at a low level the foreign competitor will hardly find room to come in, and so long as he does not intrude, there is hope for the betterment of our position. Would that his unwelcome advances could be checked by a measure of fiscal reform, in which the interests of our industry were fairly considered and provide for.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers are printed in the MARK LANE EXPRESS, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

The New Crop.

I am pleased to read in a circular issued this week by one of our leading merchant firms the following words: "The general opinion is that about 600,000 cwt. will be secured from English plantations if the whole crop is harvested." I trust that in the interest of the hop growing industry this opinion is well founded, as the quantity named will amply suffice for our requirements, and if this is the limit of our production, there is a much more promising season in front of our planters than we have hitherto been led to anticipate. But if one is to be guided by the reports of the results of picking thus far to hand, I fear that the final record may exceed the figure quoted. There is, however, much virtue in that little word "if," which qualifies all the estimates hitherto made. The picking is certainly being hindered by a proportion of unfavourable weather. Delay means maturity in advance of the speed of the gathering, and there are signs that in some heavily-fruited gardens it will be almost impossible to keep pace. Again, a moist atmosphere retards the drying process, and other dangers, such as a run of mould, etc., may arise from the same cause. Therefore uncertainty is still an element to be considered. Judging by the prices at which new hops are being sold this week, it should be advantageous to planters if all inferior qualities were left to blow away. There is some talk that this may be done, but I can quite appreciate the hesitancy of a grower to voluntarily sacrifice the fruits of any part of his year's work and outlay. The practice of past years suggests that every effort will be exerted to gather the whole crop, and, if this be accomplished, we must, I fear, be prepared for a big yield, with its necessary accompaniment of slow sale at very low and unremunerative prices. If talking or writing could improve the position, I would willingly exercise my voice and pen in the furtherance of so good a cause. But facts are facts, and truth is truth, and I cannot see that anything is gained by present concealment or distortion of what we are bound eventually to admit. Therefore we can only hold on to the finish, and endeavour to make the best of whatever is in store for us.

The Borough.

is daily crowded with country visitors, whose anxiety to realise is unfortunately too evident. The more desirous they are to sell, the more reticent are the buyers. Therefore, though a fair amount of trade has been done this week, it cannot be called brisk. Prices are consequently very unsatisfactory. Poor stuff, which is offered at 30s. to 35s., is neglected, the usual run of business being upon decent qualities that can be bought at 40s. to 50s. Here and there a few choice lots have realised 55s., but, as a factor said to me, "60s. takes some making." Such money cannot pay growers, whatever their crop may be, and it is to be sincerely hoped that, after the subsidence of the first wave of selling pressure, the market will settle down into a better condition and the trade become sounder than it now appears.

The Weald of Kent.

Though there are some gardens in the Weald of Kent and Sussex that have no bine in them at present, picking may be described as general, and from the earlier pickings waggons laden with pockets of the new crop may already be seen on the way to the railway stations, although present prices do not encourage early sales.

The weather of the past few days has been anything but favourable. The heavy rains have well-nigh brought operations to a standstill, and, being accompanied by strong wind and a low temperature, damage to the crop is a certainty. I have not had many opportunities of inspecting the gardens in the Weald.

No doubt, the crop is very much larger than that of last year; but, as far as my observation has enabled me to judge, I take leave to doubt whether it will equal the estimate of 15 cwt. an acre. It is too much of a top crop. Laterals in many cases are scarce, and of the few that were thrown out a large proportion are blind. Therefor, apart from consideration of weather, I think a 15 cwt. average estimate beyond what will be realised; and should such weather as that of the latter end of this week continue for any length of time, the quantity sent to market will be considerably less.

There has been no lack of pickers. The London contingent was much larger than usual; and among those who tramped down on the chance of finding a job, hundreds have had to face disappointment. Without work, without money, and in many cases exposed to inclement weather, their condition is deplorable. M.

September 9.

Hop Reports.

Messrs. Weeks, Jones, and Co.'s annual circular runs as follows: "The present year will doubtless be remembered as a very exceptional one in regard to the production of the hop crop, owing to the remarkable absence, from the start of the plant to the present time, of any serious attack on the plantations by the usual enemies of the plant. At no time has there been any real anxiety in regard to the prospects of the growth which is now being ingathered, with the exception of a tendency to premature ripeness, which has lately shown itself in many grounds, but which has been checked by the recent rains and dull weather. The result is a sound, naturally-grown crop which, in our opinion, although considerably smaller than the growths of 1899 and 1901, is still a plentiful one.

The English acreage is returned at 48,968 acres, a slight increase over last year's return, which was the smallest for nearly a century. After an extensive inspection of the plantations, we cannot point to any particular district as being specially favoured, indeed the feature of the year appears to be the comparative evenness of the growth. Many of the grounds which were good last year will show very little increase this season; the increased production being brought about mainly by the larger yield from the grounds which last year grew only small quantities.

A few parcels of new hops have changed hands; these have been principally "earlies," and the prices realised have been disappointing.

We feel confident that brewers will use English hops again in increasing quantities, and if so, instead of the consumption of beer further decreasing, we may anticipate an improvement in the brewing trade which will eventually react favourably upon our market. It is, therefore, not unreasonable to anticipate that the combination of short stocks, exceptionally good hops, and moderate prices, will bring about a brisk demand for all descriptions when once the trade has fairly opened. The needs of the brewers must be very large, and with the positive certainty that small crops will come again, they will no doubt be glad of the opportunity of buying the present growth at prices which will prevent a reduction of acreage. Any further reduction would be fatal to their own interests, as well as to those of all who are connected with the industry.

Foreign Notes.

America.

A letter dated August 22 gives final estimates of the United States hop crop. These, being furnished by a correspondent whose information I have always found reliable, may, I think, be accepted as an approximately true statement. He now puts Oregon at 110,000 bales, California at 70,000, Washington at 48,000, and New York at 65,000 bales; showing a total of 293,000. With respect to New York there appears to be a little uncertainty, some estimates running much higher than the figure given, but, taking an impartial view, the quantity named is doubtless very nearly correct. This shows that the 1905 crop will exceed that of last year, by something like 40,000 bales, and, with recent experience in front of us, we may fairly conclude that an important surplus will be available for export. A cable message re-

Nuremberg.

The market is now well supplied with new hops, which are taken up by dealers and brewers nearly as fast as they arrive. The quality and condition are generally reported as satisfactory, although the supplies from some districts are not sufficiently dry to please buyers, who, being surrounded by an almost unlimited variety to select from, are naturally reserved and critical in their operations. Latest quotations range from about 50s. for medium market qualities to 70s. and 85s. for best Hallertans, and 80s. to 95s. for best Wurtembergs. My readers may again be reminded that these figures represent the values of the produce as they are placed on the market in a partially dried state, and that 20s. to 25s. must be added for cost of further drying, the loss of weight incurred in the process, and the outlay for cloth, packing, etc.

Belgium.

Some bad weather during the picking has had an effect upon the market in causing a slight reaction in the direction of firmness. It is not expected, however, that the final output will be materially reduced, although the completion of the harvest may be delayed. In the meantime quotations for the 1905 crop for next month delivery remain at about 45 francs for Alosts, and 40 francs for Pops, these figures representing in English money 32s. to 36s. There is not much interest in yearlings, but their scarcity is demonstrated by their current value of 48s. to 56s. The new crop is reported as coming down in fulfilment of expectations, and likely to total a heavier weight than last year.

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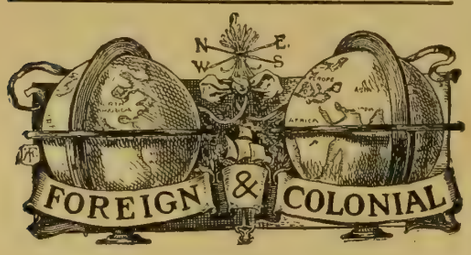

Canadian Wheat Production.

On the subject of wheat production in North-West Canada, a report in the form of a Blue-book has been presented to the Board of Trade by Mr. James Mavor, Professor of Political Economy in the University of Toronto. The publication is accompanied by a number of excellent maps and charts. Pages one to eleven furnish a brief outline of the geology, physical geography, and climatology of the region, while pages twelve to thirty-four give an account of the settlement of the North-West. Then follows an account of the history, present conditions, and prospects of agriculture, with special reference to wheat-growing. There is also included a discussion of certain estimates of the potential area of wheat-growing and the possible production and export of wheat in the future.

That discussion is supplemented by two sections treating of the question of population and of prices in relation to productivity, while another division has reference to transportation by road, railway, and internal waterways, the report being completed with a summary of general conclusions. The comparative smallness of the population of the United Kingdom which is now engaged in agriculture seems to preclude the possibility of immigration at once effective enough and numerically considerable enough to occupy the country before colonists from other countries have already possessed themselves of at least a great part of it. Recruiting of the western towns from the United Kingdom may occur, but only in the teeth of opposition from the trades unions, whose members look upon every newcomer into a town in search of work as an interloper, and only with a certain disadvantage to the North-West, where the demand at present is for farmers and not for artisans. From these considerations it seems fair to conclude that the bulk of the immigration is more likely to be from the United States and from Continental Europe than from the United Kingdom.

While the suitability of a large proportion of the area in question for agricultural production may be regarded as quite undoubted, the extent to which a particular crop wheat, for instance will be grown in the future must depend upon a series of complex influences, the precise weight of which cannot be predicted, especially for remote periods of time. It would appear, says the report, that Great Britain and the United States and perhaps also in the future to an important extent, Japan must enter into purchasing competition for Canadian wheat. Tariffs would in each case require to be taken into account.

It is obvious, however, as the report points out, that should the United States admit Canadian wheat for milling purposes duty free (in the interests of the United States and without any quid pro quo on the part of Canada), two results would follow: First, that there would be a stimulus to wheat production in Canada, and second, that the United States would be placed in as favourable a situation for purchasing as any other country, with the added advantages of close proximity and with the added advantages of close proxmity and cheap carriage. A relaxation of the "drawback" regulations, which would have had the effect of admitting Canadian wheat intended to be milled for export at a net duty of 1 per cent., was urged at the end of 1904, but the United States Senate refused to sanction the arrangement. Very great improvements in the productive power of the country, and a very considerable increase in the effective population, as well as a more exclusive regard to wheat cultivation, would have to take place before the North-West could be regarded as being in a position to be relied upon to produce for export to Great Britain a quantity of wheat even nearly sufficient for the growing requirements of this country.

POULTRY.

Utility Poultry Club Laying Competition.

The Utility Poultry Club will, as usual, hold a four months' laying competition, commencing on October 16, 1905, and ending on February 4, 1906.

The competition, which will be held at Royston, Herts, under the management of Miss M. Yates, is for the purpose of determining those breeds and strains of fowls which are capable of producing a fair number of eggs during the winter months.

Miss Yates, who managed the competition last year, has made certain alterations and improvements in the arrangements of the houses for the comfort of the birds, and the nests have been placed inside the houses, instead of opening outside, as before.

Pens of birds entered for competition must consist of four pullets of a recognised breed hatched during 1905. Trap nests will be used, and a careful record of the individual laying of each pullet recorded.

A number of prizes, amounting in value to £22, will be awarded to the successful pens, and the prize-list will probably be still further increased. The Utility Poultry Club will, in addition, give its gold medals and first-class certificates to pens producing 240 eggs in the sixteen weeks, and silver medals and certificates to pens producing 200 eggs.

Applications for particulars, which are now ready, should be made to Mr. Cyril Dunkley, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, to whom all communications with regard to the laying competition should be addressed.

Entries close on Saturday, September 16, 1905.

Particulars as to membership of the club may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. W. Richardson, 260, Nantwich-road, Crewe.

BREWERS', MALTSTERS', DISTILLERS'

AND ALLIED TRADERS'

. . 27th ANNUAL . .

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Cider and Perry Competition (ENTRIES CLOSE SEPTEMBER 28th.)

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The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ENGLISH HOP GROWERS.
(Founded June 1894.)
SECRETARY.—THOMAS IRONMONGER.
CENTRAL OFFICE.—86, HOP EXCHANGE, BOROUGH, LONDON.

GENERAL OBJECTS.

To promote united action among English hop growers as a body for the improvement of the industry.

To promote, support, or oppose such legislative and other measures as may affect the industry.

To collect and publish, for the benefit of members, special statistical and other useful information relating to English and foreign hop-culture.

To arrange for arbitrations in cases of dispute between sellers and buyers of hops, for the avoidance of litigation.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Ordinary members, 3d. per acre of hops under cultivation; honorary members, £1 1s.; hop factors, £1 1s.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

Stud-Book—Volume XXVIII.

Entries now being received at 50 per cent. additional on ordinary fees. No Schedules issued after 1st October.

ARCHD. MACNEILAGE, Secretary.
93, Hope Street, Glasgow.

GRANSDEN AND DISTRICT.
At GREAT GRANSDEN.
SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905.
Entries closed September 12th.

R. J. KISBY, Secretary,
Great Gransden, Sandy, Bedfordshire.

CHESTER DAIRY SHOW.
At CHESTER,
OCTOBER 17th and 18th, 1905.
Entries close October 12th.
ROBERT CHALLINOR, Secretary,
St. Werburghs Street, Chester.

SHAFTESBURY FARMERS' CLUB
At SHAFTESBURY,
OCTOBER 4th, 1905.
Entries close September 30th.

T. PINNEY Secretary,
High Street, Shaftesbury.

AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

DAIRY AND FARM PRODUCE SHOW at KILMARNOCK, N.B.,
OCTOBER 19th and 20th.

Entries close October 6th.
JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
5, Alloway Street, Ayr.

BRITISH DAIRY FARMERS' ASSOCIATION.
At the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON,
OCTOBER 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, 1905.
Entries closed September 4th.
W. C. YOUNG, Secretary,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

TUXFORD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.
At TUXFORD,
OCTOBER 3rd, 1905.
Entries close September 23rd.
C. E. WHITINGTON, Secretary,
Tuxford, Newark.

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AUCTION SALES.

THURSDAY, NEXT.
THE MANOR AND EAST HOE FARMS, SOBERTON,
Half a mile from Droxford Station on the Meon Valley Railway, and near Bishop's Waltham, Wickham, Hants.
IMPORTANT SALE OF THE WHOLE OF THE
LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK,
comprising
200 HAMPSHIRE DOWN EWE AND WETHER LAMBS,
80 SHORTHORN STEERS AND HEIFERS,
13 UPSTANDING CART HORSES,
With size and substance, and
CHESTNUT NAG MARE.

The very useful and general assortment of FARM and BARN IMPLEMENTS, TOOLS and HARNESS, for the working of 800 acres of land.

Also about 500 TONS of clean CLOVER, SAINFOIN, MIXTURE, and MEADOW HAY, the growth of 1903, 1904, and 1905, 150 TONS of old WHEAT and OAT STRAW and HAULM, in all 51 RICKS, all close to good roads, and within easy reach of rail, which

FRANK STUBBS in conjunction with
FRANK MATHEWS,
Is favoured with instructions from Montagu H. Foster, Esq., (the farms being let) to SELL by AUCTION on the Premises at the Manor Farm, Soberton, on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1905, at eleven o'clock.

Catalogues of Frank Mathews, Fareham; or Frank Stubbs, Bishop's Waltham, and Alresford.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP-BREEDERS ASSOCIATION'S Eight Annual Show and Sale of REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS,
under the management of the above Association, will be held on

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th, 1905, in the CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT, commencing at 10.30 a.m. sharp.

The entries, which number 364, have been made by the following breeders:—

The Right Hon. Lord Harris,
Capt. Somerset Webb,
Mr. A. Amos,
Mr. J. Darnell Blount,
Mr. G. Buley,
Mr. F. de B. Collard,
Messrs. F. A. & E. H. M. Denny,
Mr. G. Farmer,
Mr. C. File,
Mr. J. File,
Mr. E. Hambrook,
Mr. E. Hawkins,
Mr. S. Kingsnorth,
Mr. W. E. Long,
Mr. W. Millen,
Mr. F. Neame
Mr. J. B. Palmer,
Mr. J. E. Quested,
Mr. H. Rigden,

The judging will take place at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, September 29th, 1905, and the sale will commence at 10.30 a.m. prompt.

Refreshments will be obtainable on the Sale Ground as usual.

Catalogues and all information in respect to the Show and Sale, to be obtained from

W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary,
Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk St., Strand, London, W.C.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 21. — Mr. Alfred Brown's BERKSHIRE and LARGE and MIDDLE WHITE PIGS, at Hill Farm, Southampton (West).

FRIDAY NEXT, SEPTEMBER 22.—Capt. Spicer's herd of JERSEYS, at Spye Park, Chippenham.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27.—Sir Alexander Henderson's, Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Buscot Park, Faringdon.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29.—About 60 SHORTHORNS from Mr. W. Bateman's prize dairy herd, at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. Vickers' entire and old-established herd of SHORTHORNS, at Churchfield, Tunstall, Kirkby Lonsdale.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. T. E. Clarke's and Mr. Thomas Adamson's SHORTHORNS, at Ainsworth Lodge, Bolton, Lancashire.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.—Mr. N. Benjafield's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.—About 60 JERSEY CATTLE, at Bletchley.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.—The Duchess of Devonshire's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Eastbourne.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

THE HOME FARM, KNOWLTON COURT ESTATE.
DOVER, KENT.
2½ miles from Adisham Station on S. E. and Chatham Railway.
HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE of the very valuable LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 1905.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON, in conjunction with
MESSRS. HONEYBALL AND FINN,
are favoured with instructions from Francis Elmer-Speed, Esq. (the Home Farm being let), to SELL by AUCTION on the premises, on the above date, the
LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising THE PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK of about
370 HEAD in flock ages;
about 70 Head of Cattle, including:—
The HERD OF 21 PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE,
The small but choice HERD OF 7 PEDIGREE SUSSEX CATTLE,
14 BLUE-GREY STEERS AND HEIFERS, rising two years old,
7 PURE-BRED POLLED ANGUS STEERS AND HEIFERS,
4 PURE-BRED GALLOWAY HEIFERS,
12 WEST HIGHLAND HEIFERS with Calves by side and in-calf,
A Prime PURE-BRED SUSSEX STEER two years old, and a prime cross-bred STEER two years old, suitable for Showing,
10 STAUNCH AND ACTIVE CART-HORSES, a 3-months Cart Colt,
120 YORKSHIRE AND BERKSHIRE PIGS,
A Capital Assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND TOOLS, &c.
Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.
Luncheon provided on the premises at 12.30 at 2s. per head, returnable to purchasers of £2 and upwards.
Catalogues, with full pedigrees of Sheep and Cattle, on application to the Auctioneers, 65, East Street, Chichester, or of Messrs. HONEYBALL AND FINN, Queen Street, Deal, Kent

Auction Sales continued on Page 322.

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

ESSEX. THE LODGE FARM, FAIRSTEAD.
3½ miles from Hatfield, and 4½ miles from Witham, G.E.R.

G. B. HILLIARD & SON are instructed by Mr. S. W. Blyth, who has let the Farm, to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises,
On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905,
The Live and Dead Farming Stock, comprising
6 ACTIVE CART HORSES,
60 HEAD OF POULTRY,
7-h.p. TRACTION ENGINE by Marshall & Co.,
Ransome's FINISHING THRESHING MACHINE and ELEVATOR,
SET 8-h.p. PLOUGHING ENGINES by John Fowler & Co.,
9 and 11 TURNING CULTIVATOR and BALANCE PLOUGH and other Machinery,
And the usual assortment of
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c.
Sale to commence at 2 o'clock punctually.
Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Chelmsford.

MACDONALD FRASER & CO., LTD., of PERTH, N.B., will SELL by AUCTION at Preston Bissett, (2½ miles from Finmere, G.C.R., and 4 miles from Buckingham) on TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 44 head of ABERDEEN ANGUS CATTLE being 39 high class Cows, Heifers, Bulls, and Bull calves bred by Rev. C. Bolden, and 5 choice Heifers, bred by Mr. Bridges.
Catalogues on application to the Auctioneers.

OXFORD DOWNS.
The Kelmscott Flock, the property of Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade.

SHEARLING RAMS or RAM LAMBS from this Flock will be SOLD by AUCTION at the under-mentioned Fair:
NORTHAMPTON ... ,, 19th.
Ram Lambs from this flock obtained 1st and 4th Prizes at Park Royal this season.

BUCKS.

AYLESBURY DISTRICT.

220 HEAD OF SHORTHORN DAIRY STOCK, all selected for the one purpose of milk production. The property of Mr. S. H. Norman and the Exors. of the late Mr. W. Manning, for SALE by AUCTION at
WEST PARK FARM, WING,
On FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER, 22nd;
PARK FARM, WEST WYCOMBE,
On THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th.
A first-rate opportunity to replenish, or for those starting a dairy herd. Catalogues of Messrs W. BROWN & CO.,
Auctioneers, Aylesbury.

LOWER ENHAM, ANDOVER.
IMPORTANT SALE of about 300 tons of prime Sainfoin and Mixture Hay, together with the whole of the Live and Dead Agricultural Stock, the property of Mr. W. A. HUNT (who is relinquishing farming), which Messrs. FREDERICK ELLEN & SON will SELL by AUCTION on the premises on THURSDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1905.
Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, The Mart, Andover, Hants.

SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD LTD.

THE ANNUAL SALE of PEDIGREE CLYDESDALE MARES, FILLIES and FOALS, also HACKNEY PONIES, CATTLE and SHEEP, will be held at Seaham Harbour, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

Catalogues in preparation. Apply, R. Brydon, Seaham Harbour.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer, and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARMS to be LET in Sussex and numerous other counties. Dairy, Flock and Poultry Farms. 2 to 900 acres. Send 2d. stamps for list, and state requirements to GLADDING & CO., Farm Specialists and Valuers, Hove, Sussex.

WANTED, a share in working Poultry Farm, with a view to partnership. VARDON, Langton Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells.

BICESTER, OXON. To be LET, with possession at Michaelmas, 1905, by arrangement, Kingsend Fields Farm, Bicester. Convenient House and buildings, with 148 acres of land, 57 of which are pasture. Apply, J. F. Haynes.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARM.—Wanted to rent, about 100 acres, suitable for Poultry farming; within 15—25 miles of London; Kent preferred.—Address, "V," Office of this paper.

EAST KENT.—To LET, at Michaelmas next, LOYTERTON FARM, in the parishes of Lynsted and Doddington, comprising comfortable house, three cottages, homestead of agricultural buildings and 252a. 2r. 38p. of agricultural land, viz.—

	A.	R.	P.
Part orchard	25	3	33
Hops (part interplanted with fruit)	28	2	6
Fruit plantation	3	0	0
Pasture	23	0	28
House, buildings, cottages and gardens	4	2	1
Arable	163	0	20
Wood	4	0	30
	252	2	38

For further particulars, apply Messrs. H. & R. L. COBB, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and at Higham, near Rochester

INVESTIGATE these States of North America traversed by the Southern Railway:—Virginia, North & South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and Tennessee—368,000 square miles of country comprising the richest mineral, timber and farming sections. Lands produce every staple crop suited to the country at large and many others re tricted to this section by superior climatic conditions. Descriptive pamphlets and maps sent free,—Address, M. V. RICHARDS, Land and Industrial Agent, Southern Railway, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

WANTED to rent from Michaelmas next, in South-West of England, a Grass Farm (hill or down) of from 300 to 500 acres, suitable to run Cheviot sheep. Rent not to exceed 12s. per acre.—Particulars to SPINKE, c/o G. COWING, Esq., Yatesbury, Calne, Wilts.

GENUINE MILK BUSINESS and Freehold for Sale in Surrey, 15 miles from London; two houses, nec ssary buildings, about 1 acre; 15 Cows, 20 barns daily, Cream, Butter, Eggs, good neighbourhood; same hands 30 years.—C. & F. RUTLEY, Land Agents, 11, Dowgate Hill, E.C.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.
DAIRY SHOW,
To be held at the
AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,
OCTOBER 3rd to 6th, 1905.

For the convenience of exhibitors at the above Show, the London and North Western Railway Company have made arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Exhibits to be run to London on Monday, October 2nd, by the trains leaving Carlisle at 8.30 a.m., Liverpool (Lime Street) at 12.0 noon, Manchester (London Road) at 12.10 noon, Shrewsbury at 12 35 p.m., Northampton (Castle) at 3.16 and 3.38 p m. These will be in addition to the vans running regularly on the Through Trains to London.

Consignments from the Branch Lines, and from Nottingham, Peterboro', Oxford, Cambridge, &c, will be placed in these vans at the various Junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Show.

Rates for the conveyance of Exhibits, which in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities are requested to order their consignments "Per London and North Western Railway."

Exhibitors are requested to be careful to write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer enquiries with regard to the arrangements for the return journey.

All information can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Mr. H. A. Walker, Euston Station, London; or Mr. F. H. Dent, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September, 1905.

TENDER.

BOROUGH OF HAMPSTEAD.
TO CORN MERCHANTS.

THE COUNCIL of this Borough invite TENDERS for the supply of HORSE PROVENDER for six months, from 1st October, 1905. Forms of Tender containing full particulars may be had of the Borough Engineer at the Town Hall.

Tenders to be sent to me by 4 p.m. on THURSDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER. The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order, ARTHUR P. JOHNSON,
Town Clerk.
Town Hall, Hampstead, N.W.
13th September, 1905.

AUCTIONEERS AND LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

CLUN FOREST AND KERRY HILL SHEEP.—Henry Jones, Sutton, Montgomery, established over thirty years, personally acquainted with all best flocks of these noted breeds, selects and supplies on commission, direct from breeder. Wethers, Ewes, and Store Lambs, in lots to suit purchasers. Terms cash. References given and required.

H. & E. M'GRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and di ect from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

CATTLE.

FOR SALE, exceptionally fine Red Dexter Bull Calf, six months, eligible for Herd Book; also excellent imported Jersey Heifer, due end of September.—CUCKOW, Walton, Suffolk.

BANKS, INSURANCES.

BIRKBECK BANK
Established 1851.
Current Accounts. 2% Interest allowed on minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £10.
Deposits. 2% Interest allowed on Deposit Accounts.
Advances made. **Stocks and Shares** bought and sold.—Apply SECRETARY, Southampton Buildings. High Holborn, W.C.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
4, Threadneedle Street, London.
Paid-up Capital, £1,600,000.
Reserve Fund, £1,220,000.
Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000.
An allowance of 10s. per cent. on sums of £100 and upwards, is made to purchasers of Letters of Credits, Drafts payable on demand, and Cable Transfers issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.
Bills negotiated or sent for collection.
Deposits received in London at interest for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.
R. W. JEANS, Manager.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
ACCIDENT AND DISEASE.
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, Diphtheria, Appendicitis, &c.)
BURGLARY & FIDELITY INSURANCE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
Established 1849. Claims paid £4,800,000.
A. VIAN, *Secretary*.
64, Cornhill, London.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, Lombard Street, London, E.C.
Established 1782.
LOWEST Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
Assured Free of all Liability.
Electric Lighting Rules Supplied.

POULTRY.

EGGS.—Champion winners of White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks, White, also Brown, Leghorns 2s. 6d., sitting. POULTRYMAN, Nafferton Hall, near Hull.

HENS.—Now making 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. each, of LARGE FAT, LIVE, OLD HENS, small 1s. 6d. Established 100 years.—WALLER & CO., The Live Poultry Commission Salesmen, Central Market, Smithfield, London.

PUBLICATION.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

EDUCATIONAL.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
CIRENCESTER.
PATRON—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
FARMING AND COLONIAL BRANCH. ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND FORESTRY BRANCH.—For Land Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc. For Prospectus, with particulars of Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, etc., apply to the Principal. NEXT SESSION begins TUES., OCTOBER 10, 1905.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS,
AND
THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

COMPLETE COURSE of AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.
Lectures in College and at the Farm from October 16th, 1905, to March 17th, 1906.
Special provision for Practical Instruction. Fee £10.
Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examition.. There is also a Special Course for the B.Sc. Degree.
Prospectus from THE REGISTRAR, The University, Leeds.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ESTATE MANAGEMENT and FORESTRY,
DOWNTON, SALISBURY.
For LAND AGENTS, AGRICULTURISTS and COLONISTS.
Prospectus and full information on application to Professor Wrightson, at above address. NEXT TERM commences October 2nd.

SITUATION, AGENCIES, WANTED AND VACANT.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Belting, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

RABBIT NETTING.—Best twine, tanned, rot-proof; 100 yards, 17s. 6d.; 75, 14s.; 50, 9s.; corded complete. Purse Nets, 5d., 6d., 7d.; 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d. 5s. 6d. dozen; large, well-made. New catalogue, Nets, Traps, all appliances. 1d.—SAMUEL YOUNG, Net Trap Manufacturer, Crewkerne, Somerset. Mention paper.

MY SPECIALITY.—Imperishable IRON SHEETS, as supplied for 25 years to largest Estates. Once fixed, these are everlasting. Full particulars and prices free. The old house for cheapest Iron Fencing, Gates Wire Netting, Tanks, Felt, Iron Tubes, and General Estate Requisites. Terms cash.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.—Improved Waterproof Oil Sheets, guaranteed, 1s. 5d. and 1s. 10d. per square yard; any size supplied; galvanised sheep netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 17 gauge, 6s. 3d. per 50 yard roll, other gauges proportionate prices; galvanised wire netting, all widths and meshes at lowest prices; galvanised corrugated sheets, finest quality, 5ft. 1s. 1d.; 6ft. 1s. 3½d.; 7ft. 1s. 6d.; 8ft. 1s. 9d.; 9ft. 2s. 1d.; 10ft. 2s. 5d.; galvanised rick covers, all sizes, at lowest prices; galvanised steel cisterns, 50 gals. 12s. 6d.; 100 gals, 19s. 6d.; 150 gals. 30s.; 240 gals. 46s. All cisterns carriage paid. All sizes stocked. Send for new catalogue

JAMES BLAKEWAY, Stourbridge, Worcestershire. Specialist in the Castration of Rig Horses. Terms and testimonials from many well-known owners and veterinary surgeons on application.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.
Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2d.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.
Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 500 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard
Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 5d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d; 8 ft., 1s 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.
Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 90 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.
J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LAITA.—The best milk substitute for calves, and best results; popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., Carriage paid. Send 12s. 6d. for a sample bag to R. J. NELL & CO., Ltd., Speed Food Mills, Louth, Lincs. Agents wanted.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading.

BASIC SLAG.—Highest Percentages Phosphates guaranteed. We sell thousands of tons, consequently quote lowest possible prices. Hundreds of our customers testify to its marvellous efficacy. Write us now.—Cannock Agricultural Co., Ld. (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock, Staffs.

BASIC SLAG, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phosphates; also 38 to 45 and 30 to 35 per cent. qualities. KAINIT, MOSS LITTER, &c.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent., phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

SACKS! Best twilled 4 lb. 4 bush. Corn Sacks, 25, 1s. 1d.; 50, 1s.; 100, 11⅔; marked, carriage paid. Sample 1s. 6d.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

VESICO SUDORIFIC (*Flying Horse* non-itching blister), for Lame and Unsound Horses, Weak Joints, Strained Sinews, Diseased Bone, Puffy Swellings, and other defects. Sold in pots, 2s. 6d. or 5s., from GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol, or through Chemists.

SEEDS, PLANTS, &c.

SEED POTATOES.—Prospective purchasers are invited to inspect trials and crops on my farms, during the season, by appointment.—W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

EXCELSIOR WHEAT, 1st PRIZE, BIRMINGHAM, 1901. Grown and selected expressly for seed for the last 25 years. Has produced 64 BUSHELS GRAIN, 3 TONS STRAW per acre. Strongest storm resister grown. 40s. per quarter, 36 stones nett, sacks included, on rail; cash with order.—THOMAS CHETTLE, Manor Farm, Reading

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THE

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OF

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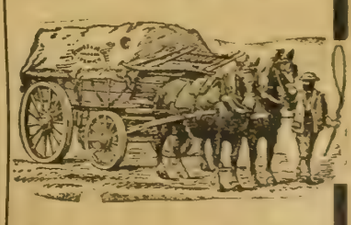

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There will invariably be found a greater deficiency in feeding value than the difference in price implies.

We have no difficulty in retaining customers who have used our Cakes and Meals regularly, as the more our brands are known the better they are liked, but we have the difficulty of price to contend with in those feeders who do not know our goods. We specially invite such to make a comparative feeding test, feeling sure that it will bring us new customers and also benefit the buyer.

NOTE THIS.

Our first principle has always been to supply the best possible quality, and sell large quantities at a small margin of profit. In feeding stuffs the lowest priced article is certainly not the cheapest. SILCOCK'S brands are the highest standard of Compound Foods. Linseed Cake and Maize are at present priced above their feeding value, and by using Silcock's Cakes and Meals you will obtain really first-class articles and save money.

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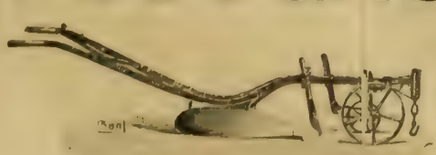

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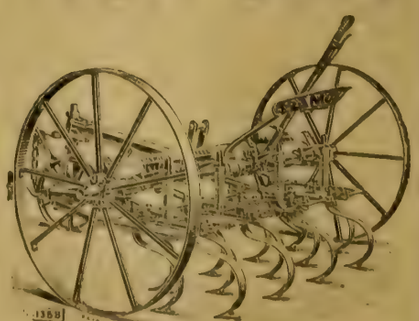

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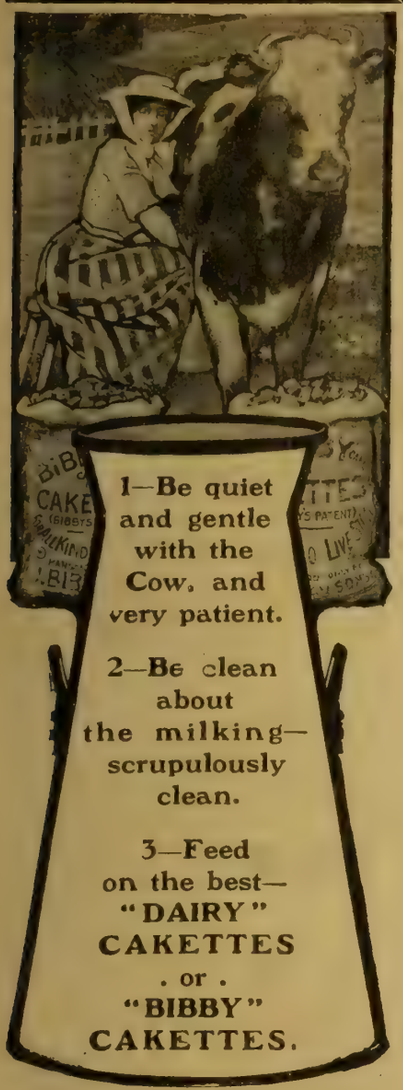
1—Be quiet and gentle with the Cow, and very patient.
2—Be clean about the milking—scrupulously clean.
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"DAIRY" CAKETTES
. or .
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NOTE.

If Dairy Cows are allowed to go off their milk at this time of the year, nothing will bring them on again; hence the importance of keeping up the supply by timely attention to Rule 3.

YOUNG STEERS and HEIFERS.

NOW is the time for the farmer to give a little Cake to the young Steers, if he wants them to come into the auction-ring in the autumn in fresh, thriving condition, with good bright coats on them, and looking big and well. It pays to do them well.

The Heifers, also, which are intended for the dairy, should have a little . . .

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to make them thrive and get some size and stamina before the strain of milking comes on them.

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.
SEPTEMBER 18, 1905.

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THE CEREAL YEAR.

II.

Feeding Stuffs.

The interaction of wheat and flour supplies on one another is obvious, and, demand for bread remaining wonderfully constant from year to year, the business done by the English mills can be estimated by the simple process of deducting the imported flour from the total food wants. When we come to the trade in feeding stuffs the problem is much more complex. Our annual consumption of these staples is exceedingly hard to reckon, and we are as yet very far from knowing at all clearly what quantity of each cereal is likely to be bought in any given cereal year. The imports of maize show the greatest approach to uniformity.

In a year when we import less than ten million quarters of Indian corn the price is pretty sure to rise, and if there is at any time less than half a million quarters on passage it is safe to hold for an advance. On the other hand, the fact of there being over a million quarters on passage at any moment is almost always a warning to sell before the cargoes come tumbling in. That maize will always keep in this fairly equable condition nobody would, however, venture to prophesy, for in 1896-7, in 1898-9, and in 1899-1900 the cereal year saw over thirteen million quarters consumed. On the other hand, in 1894-5 we managed with 6,444,000 quarters. The cereal year just concluded has imported 9,917,000 quarters, and the average value has been between 22s. and 23s. per quarter for yellow and flat corn. The extreme scarcity of the round variety has been a feature of the recent campaign.

The maize trade is so far clear sailing that it is exclusively a foreign product. When we come to barley and oats the case is different. In the past cereal year sales of British barley have been estimated at 6,251,479 quarters, as compared with a ten years' average of 7,275,532 quarters. Thus there has been a decidedly increased call, or so one might suppose, for imported barley. When, however, we turn to the actual imports we find them to have been 5,839,000 quarters only, against 8,792,000 quarters in the preceding season. It is manifest that the whole barley trade of the past cereal year has shown a considerable shrinkage. Oats appears to have gained. The estimated sales of British have been 11,438,123 quarters, against a decennial average of 10,629,624 quarters, and the ascertained imports of foreign have been 6,324,000 quarters, against 5,707,000 quarters in the previous year.

These figures are fairly clear to the mere statistician, but the practical farmer has great difficulty in accepting this transference of demand from barley to oats. How many farmers of our acquaintance have bought oatmeal in 1904-5 where in 1903-4 they bought barley-meal? How many people fed their horses on barley in 1903-4? Yet the great increase in the use of both English and foreign oats in the cereal year just closed argues that some cause for the increased sale must exist. Of course, the consumption of hay by all our equine and bovine stock has to be weighed, and the use of oilcake for cattle, and the keeping of meal-fed pigs. It is all but impossible to "average up" the total provisioning of our live stock. With respect to prices, barley has averaged 24s. 4d., which

is 3d. above the average of the past ten years. Oats have averaged 17s. 1d., which is the exact mean of ten years' sales. The average price of linseed for the cereal year has been 37s. 8d. per quarter. High prices prevailed in May, June, and July, but the liberal shipments from Argentina have since then brought about a decline.

There has been a moderate demand for beans and peas, but lentils have fallen off in request, and the good business done in dari and millet in 1903-4 has not been maintained in 1904-5. Tares have shown first-rate quality, and have sold at really good prices, while buckwheat has been in improved request, and has risen to 30s. per quarter. The cheapness of rye has led to increased sales, and a larger business than formerly has been done in haricots, of which Burma is now a very prominent exporter. A quiet and steady trade has passed in rice, increasing quantities of which are now imported in the ground form.

Seasonable Topics.

The heavy rains which have fallen of late are responsible for a marked change in the appearance of potato tops, and there can no longer be any doubt about the presence of the dreaded blight. Late potatoes a few weeks ago were all green and growing; but now the leaves are seared and black, as if they had been burnt, and the streaks of decay in the stems mark the means of progress of the disease down to the tubers. Various opinions are expressed as to the advisability of cutting off the tops of potatoes when stems and leaves are diseased. For our own part we do not advocate doing this if the disease appears before the tubers are fully developed, as the cutting of the top has a check on further swelling; but at this time of the year it is another matter. Tubers are not likely to swell much more now, and in the case of crops which cannot be lifted just yet, the cutting away of the tops will have a tendency to check the spread of the disease. The tops, however, should be burnt as soon as dry, and not be left in a rotting heap to foster the germs of the fungus, as is too often the case. We know of no task more pleasant than digging potatoes when big crops of sound tubers turn out; but what a sickening job it is when one-half of the potatoes are rotten masses of decay, and have to be written off as dead loss. A year or two ago, when the boom was on, we heard a lot about disease-resisting potatoes. What a lot of moonshine it all is! We have had opportunities of testing varieties, which a few seasons ago were worth more than their weight in gold, and have come to the conclusion that if ever they possessed disease-proof powers, they have quickly lost them. Great care will have to be exercised this season in sorting potatoes on the ground before they are put away in the clamps. Many of the tubers we have already lifted are slightly tainted with disease, and if stored in a dry place they may be of some use for home consumption, if not for sale; but to store such tubers in the moist conditions of a clamp would mean further decay in themselves, and the contamination of sound ware.

Potato Disease.

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It is hardly to be expected that a lady of such notoriety as the Countess of Warwick would be able to manage her affairs privately, and a short time ago the daily press made it known to the world that there had been a split in the female camp at the Agricultural and Horticultural College at Studley Castle, and, as a result, the whole teaching staff had resigned en bloc. We are not in a position to discuss the cause of the trouble, but we know the Countess of Warwick to be a lady who is not easily thwarted, and we learn now that the next term will open with a new staff. Miss Mabel Faithfull, who hails from Winchester, has been appointed warden. The teaching staff has been revised, and several former students have returned to the college to take up appointments as instructors. The time has arrived, by the way, when establishments of this kind can no longer be looked upon as experimental, and it would be interesting to know what percentage of the young ladies who have received college training are now making a living from the land.

A Split in the Camp.

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It is hoped and expected that in the next Parliament the agriculturist will receive a little more attention than he has in the present, and, probably, with the object of doing something for him, the Unionist candidate for the Louth Division of Lincolnshire, Mr. Comyn Platt, seems bent on learning for himself the conditions of the life of an agricultural labourer. We learn that Mr. Comyn Platt has just done a day's work in the harvest field, taking his share of [illegible] for which he received a shilling, and slept the night in a barn. We do not know how the gentleman enjoyed his experience, particularly the sleeping part; but if the barn was any worse than some of the so-called cottages in which the sons of toil take their rest, we do not envy him. After all, if you are to know, there is nothing like seeing for yourself; but a few weeks do not constitute a lifetime, and, if the agricultural labourer is to be represented in Parliament, we should prefer a man of the Joseph Arch type, who was a labourer born and bred, and knew from experience what it is to work hard and live hard on the land.

Seeing for Himself.

❦ ❦ ❦

There are signs on every hand that the spirit of co-operation is spreading in this country, and an instance of it is given in a scheme that has been set on foot in Wiltshire for the co-operative insurance of pigs. The movement is in the form of a county association, which has for its object the amalgamation of existing pig insurance clubs, and the formation of new clubs is villages where they do not at present exist. The following extracts from the rules give an idea of the worthy objects of the association:—1. To afford means by which members may, upon strictly mutual principles, insure against loss of their pigs through disease, accident, or other causes. 2. To use every available means to encourage improvement in the quality of pigs in the county. 3. To secure the best conditions for their health and well-being and profitable keeping. There are already some 100 pig clubs in Wiltshire, but it was to introduce a better method, and widen the basis of insurance that the Wiltshire Pig Insurance and Provident Association was formed. The association will be duly registered under the Friendly Societies Act; each branch elects its own officers, manages its own affairs under the supervision of a central council, composed of representatives from each club, and issues insurance certificates to its members. The insurance premiums are paid into a central fund, out of which all claims for compensation are paid. In connection with the association, a co-operative trading society is being formed, whereby pig-keepers will be enabled to secure feeding-stuffs of reliable quality at cheaper rates. The supply of suitable styes, and the collection of store pigs for delivery to factories and markets are also matters to be undertaken. In other words, the objects of the movement are to prevent loss to pig-keepers by insurance; by co-operation to make pig-keeping cost less and pay better; by directdealing to retain in the pockets of pig-keepers the profits now made by middlemen; to reduce the cost of marketing; to maintain a uniform quality in bacon pigs; and assist pig-keepers to compete with the tremendous influx of foreign bacon. Mr. F. Rayner, of 16, St. John Street, Devizes, is responsible for starting the movement in Wilts, and he has had the hearty co-operation of the Agricultural Organisation Society, Dacre Street, Westminster, S.W.

Pig Insurance Clubs.

❦ ❦ ❦

The instance mentioned in the foregoing paragraph of insurance and co-operation, leads one to wonder whether the same kind of thing could not be carried out for the benefit, particularly of small holders in various branches of agriculture. There are hundreds of small places in this country on which many dozen sparrow-grass up to half a dozen cows, with, perhaps, a few calves. In the case of the majority of small holders, the whole of a man's capital is invested in his stock, and, in some cases, he has to borrow a little money in order to purchase his cow when he starts farming. So long as the stock thrives, all is well, but every cowkeeper is subject to losses, and, if a cow dies, the small holder stands in a fair way of being ruined. Indeed, it is no uncommon thing in country villages, for a public collection to be made to enable some small holder to replace a cow that has died, and this speaks well for the neighbourly spirit which prevails; but, after all, it is charity. If associations could be started on Friendly Society principles, in which small holders could insure their stock for a small outlay, the everlasting bugbear as to what would happen if they lost a cow would be removed. A sad, but not exceptional case came before our notice some time ago. A labouring man, by dint of his own industry, saved up a few pounds which enabled him to buy a cow or two, and set up on a small holding. Soon after beginning he had a run of bad luck to which all farmers are liable, and, after losing his cow, and seeing his hard-earned savings vanish, he had to relinquish the little holding on which his heart had been fixed for so many years, and go back to a labourer's cottage. Had that man been in a position to insure his little all, the disaster might have been averted.

Insurance for Small Holders.

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There appears to be little room for sentiment in the agriculture of these days, and many of the old customs which had associations with the harvest have passed away. It used to be a kind of red-letter day when the reaping of the corn began, and a still greater event when the last load was brought home, and master and man, mistress and maid, joined hands in the festivities of harvest home. Now it is all taken as a matter of course, the modern machine has knocked all the sentiment out of reaping, and robbed the gleaner of her occupation and little perquisite. The last load differs in no particular from any of the rest, except that the farmer heaves a sigh of relief that all the corn is gathered in. A familiar sound in the countryside just now is the buzzing of the threshing machine, which has little connection with the bang, bang, all the winter through of the flail being swung in the barn. It is true that some farmers belonging to the old school still stick to the customs of their fathers, and join their workmen in a friendly supper when the harvest is over, but as the years roll on, there seems to be less of that friendly sympathy which was once characteristic of masters and men. But even if the old customs were revived, we doubt whether they would satisfy the demands of this age, which are all for change and excitement. One thinks of the old days when men gathered round the festive board on the occasion of harvest home, sung the same songs that they did last year and many a year before, and joined in the choruses with the same enthusiasm as if the whole thing were new and novel. The farm hand learnt his one song as a boy, and sang it every harvest home till at last he could only creak it out, and then, when he was gone, and, perhaps, partly forgotten, he was remembered at the annual harvest supper, if only by the recollection of his song. We say that much of this sentiment has gone out of farming, but we like to think and talk sometimes about the old customs which our forefathers held so dear.

Harvest Home.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Sept. 9, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	12,290	11,187	Wheat ...	1,488,000	2,247,500
Sheep.....	5,861	2,797	Flour	202,900	290,500
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	596,500	449,200
Horses ...	183	574	Oats	118,600	428,000
			Peas	35,010	25,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	50,050	13,220
Beef	100,851	98,103	Maize ...	689,500	1,251,600
Mutton...	55,177	82,256	Apples ...	22,788	18,375
Pork	10,836	7,851	Apricots		
Bacon ...	94,410	87,871	&Peaches	40	8
Beef,salt	978	1,628		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	28,811	23,085	Bananas	75,280	178,143
Pork,salt	4,197	4,307		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat,salt			Cherries	—	—
& Fresh	8,059	13,531	Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	7,386	10,229	Goosebr's	—	—
Butter ...	72,148	75,550	Grapes ..	18,906	17,112
M'rg'rine	14,082	20,031	Lemons...	9,720	4,228
Cheese ...	55,627	65,139	Oranges	3,187	136
Milk,			Pears.....	31,984	22,878
Fresh,			Plums ...	6,587	28,020
in cans			Oth'r Fr't	38,906	21,929
or				Tons	Tons.
drums.		30	Hay	1,352	1,957
Milk,			Straw ...	2,148	2,304
Cream	75	157	MossLitt'r	—	1,346
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	14,290	14,918	Hops	2,208	186
Milk			Locust		
pr'sv'd,			Beans	9,921	80
other				Bush.	Bush.
kinds ...	112	109	Onions ...	213,093	208,069
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	70,501	31,058
Eggs	338,707	418,165	Tomatoes	22,057	31,317
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry&	Value	Value.	Veg'bles	£3,040	£4,265
Game	£1,715	£1,340		Cwt.	Cwt
			Dried ...	2,697	411
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	36,761	41,162	by can-		
Lard	26,318	20,203	ning ...	12,848	4,103

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

"It would be a great mistake to send special delegate members to the House of Commons. . . . . The man who was an avowed representative of a certain interest might be listened to with attention as an expert, but not to such an extent as an independent member." Thus Mr. A. H. Lee, M.P., to the Fareham Farmers' Club in reference to the suggested organised representation of agriculture in the House of Commons. But why, Mr. Lee? It is not, of course, proposed that this organised representation should hold aloof from ordinary partisan sentiments and purposes. It is not suggested that these agricultural M.P.'s should refuse to associate themselves with the party machinery of the Liberals or the Conservatives. All that is advised is that on subjects affecting agriculture this special representation should act in harmony with a defined rural programme formulated by the most practical minds in the interests, and act in such a cohesive manner that it must compel Parliamentary appreciation and attention. Can it be for a moment assumed that an intelligent politician holding definite views affecting agriculture, and himself possessing knowledge of its needs, will have less weight than a politician reflecting no accepted propaganda and programme, and himself only susceptible, even on matters affecting the interest, to the convenience of his party chiefs? Let me take an illustration from a favoured source of mine—from the ranks of the Labour men. Has Mr. John Burns, or Mr. Keir Hardie, or Mr. Bell, or Mr. Will Crooks any less significance with the House of Commons because they are known to represent a mass of opinion among the workers, and because they are known to have a certain delegated authority? Mr. Lee knows they have not. Would they have more importance if they refused to subscribe to a definite programme for the benefit of their class? Mr. Lee knows they would not. Agriculture is the Cinderella among our economic interests. It has been so long disregarded that the indignation of observant men has reached an explosive height. Would this disregard, the first fruit of the system of which Mr. Lee is the apologist, have been possible with a body of stalwart agricultural M.P.'s subscribing to a definite programme, and seeking, by united effort and by responsible constitutional means, to realise it?

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What does Mr. Lee mean by "independent Member?" What does he mean by his contrast of the "independent Member" with the "expert"? After all, an expert in this matter is simply a man possessing scientific and practical knowledge of a specific subject. If an "independent Member"—who, I assume, would be a personage without this particular equipment—would possess more influence with the Assembly, then we have at once a revelation of the source of the inutility and fallowness of Parliament, so far as agriculture is concerned. But for a moment let us inquire into the right of this "independent Member" to his own description. The title is simply a usurpation. The so-called "independent Member" is the obedient vassal of his party on all subjects, he does its behests in pleasure or in pain; he follows the bell-wether. It is the expert who is the real "independent Member." He would be in our special instance no political Pharisee; he would not gather his cloak around him, and thank God he is not as other men; he would not profess to be untouched by the ordinary political predilections on Imperial subjects which move the general mass of frail political humanity. He would on the question affecting his own interest—confessedly a derided and neglected interest—act in obedience not merely to his own practical knowledge, but in accordance with what the farmers' representatives in special conferences assembled, regard as just, necessary, and moderate. If the "independent Member"—the gentleman with no special mission or representative authority—were to wield more influence than these men, then our Parliamentary institution possesses a character which does not entirely justify the reverence we give it.

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I commend Mr. Ailwyn-Fellowes's action in intervening on behalf of the farmers with the railway companies to the hearty appreciation of the interest. Of course, it would be a mistake to assume that this sympathetic act can have the importance or influence which would attach to specific Governmental action. Railways only exist by the sanction of the State, and the State should see to it that not merely is there no preferential rate to the advantage of the foreigner, but that no section of the trading community should be unfairly penalised—nay, that the railways should deliberately seek to facilitate and cheapen transit to the markets. The fact that railway companies are willing to discuss the complaints of over-charge with the farmers is of more moment than all the protestations made before the Committee at present inquiring into the question. It is a confession of the justice of the general contention of the farmers that the discrimination of the railway companies has been to their disadvantage, and that the absence of a sufficient sympathetic temper has been a discouragement. Now, may I make a suggestion to the Minister for Agriculture as a corollary to the more friendly attitude on the part of the companies? Could not the Board adopt a more distinctive affirmative policy—a policy which would go beyond the utterance of soothing platitudes—towards the proposal to call into existence a co-operative system of distribution? The companies affirm that if such a system existed—and it would inevitably have associated with it a more scientific method of packing—they could materially cheapen the cost of transit. Should not such an assurance from the companies evoke a disciplined attempt, an attempt which would not depend upon an ill-regulated individual impulse, to call such a system into existence? Mr. Ailwyn-Fellowes' practical mind will appreciate the point.

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A Conservative M.P. has written me in support of his contention that the Conservative party must inevitably be the Agricultural party. "Why," says the hon. Member, "there is not a proposal of the Darlington Conference that is not acceptable to the Conservative party." Well, let it be so. The word "acceptable" provides, however, the touchstone of Conservative enthusiasm. What we want is not mere acceptation, not a mere lay profession of inactive sympathy, not a mere academic approval. What we want is the crystallisation of this sympathy, this academic approval, in legislation. Supposing there had been a body of stalwart agricultural representatives pledged to this programme, and resolved to support it at all hazards, and despite any inconveniences to partisan calculations, would the Butter Bill have been shelved as it was shelved, and would Professor James Long have had the opportunity of accusing Mr. Balfour of disloyalty to the rural interest? Organisation for a specific purpose, organisation permeated with the resolute spirit, is the best goad to apply to the laggard spirit of statesmen. This Conservative M.P. is not by any means, as Mr. Lee's utterance has shown, an isolated antagonist of this policy of agricultural organisation. Frankly, I am glad of the sentiment of fear which has been aroused. We do not want to be demagogic in our Parliamentary methods; but the ruffling of the dovecots cannot but be provocative of good. When Conservative and Liberal officialdom understands that it cannot command agricultural support under all and any conditions, then that officialdom will offer agricultural M.P.'s a gratifying bait. In Parliamentary life the spoils go only to the assertive.

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"Are you certain, after all, that Mr. George Lambert or Mr. Channing is destined for the Liberal portfolio of agriculture? Both of these men are associated with a defined policy of tenant-right and land reform; and the appointment of either to this position would be accepted by the country as a pledge that the party is resolved to realise this policy. This would be an undeniable embarrassment to the Liberal leaders, already beset by clamorous sections anxious that they should have the premier place in the official party programme." This remark was made to me by a politician who is in close touch with the Liberal headquarters. I admitted the force of the observation, but asked whom else the Liberal chieftains could appoint to the position with any assurance that the appointment would be sympathetically received. "Have you forgotten Earl Carrington," inquired he. I had. Certainly Lord Carrington—whose appointment to Cabinet-rank is more assured than is that of either Mr. Lambert or Mr Channing—has yielded many evidences of his interest in tenant-reform and in practical agriculture. The land court composed of his own tenants was a bold experiment, which has been more than justified by the fact that his estates are among the best-controlled and most contented in the kingdom. His experiments in connection with the creation of small holdings would be in itself an assurance to the small holders that their weal would be a consideration of the Ministry. A land reformer, he has not been regarded as a herald of a distinctive policy; an enlightened landlord, he has never sought to embody his own practice in a strenuous Bill. Lord Carrington would thus be generously welcomed in the position without being regarded as a portent of the immediate adoption of a wide-reaching scheme of economic and land reform.

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The reports received at the Liberal headquarters from their registration agents in the counties has filled the Liberal chief officials with a great joy. They are chortling fervently over what they describe as their improved positions in the rural constituencies. They aver that for any parallel to the assured satisfactory state (that if from their point of view) of the forthcoming register they must go back to the early eighties before the advent of Liberal-Unionism. Their gratification is all the keener because, as they assert, this improvement will be found to have the best expression in the southern counties, in East Anglia, and in the Midlands—in other words, in the areas in which they fared badly at the general election. Pantingly-eager as they have been and are for another election, they aver—I am, in fact, quoting the language of one of their number—that they will have some compensation for their disappointment in the greater electoral strength which they will secure in the new year in these areas. I heard another of their number declare that even in a county like Somersetshire, where family traditions are so influential, and where inherited ties are not loosely retained, it is by no means certain that the Conservative party will be able to hold its own. "I should not be surprised," said this official, "to see Sir Alexander Acland-Hood beaten, despite his personal popularity and his territorial significance." How far these jubilant anticipations are justified I do not pretend to estimate. At all events, that the Liberals are in a state of self-hugging satisfaction I can personally vouch. It may be that the Conservative officials are cultivating the reticence of real strength, that in sparing their breath wasted by their rivals in bold optimism they are really husbanding their strength. Still, the fact remains: the Liberals are confident that the new register will mean a much-improved party position in the rural constituencies.

Farm Stock Sale at Framfield.—Mr. F. H. Baxendale, J.P., Hailwell Farm, Framfield, Sussex, instructed Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell to dispose of his live and dead farm stock, and the sale took place on Thursday in the presence of a goodly company of buyers. The chief item of the sale was the herd of pedigree Red Polled cattle, and for these there was a good demand at prices up to £26 10s. Cross-bred heifers made up to £14, and Sussex heifers to £20. Of the Southdown flock ten full-mouth ewes sold at 34s. and 32s. 6d. each, ten broken-mouth ewes at 25s. 6d., eight broken-mouth ewes at 20s., ten ewe lambs at 29s. 6d., ten wether lambs at 26s., ten ewe and wether lambs at 26s., and fourteen ewe and wether lambs at 20s.

Midland Notes.

There was an interesting feature at the recent Ashby Show in the form of a Swepstone exhibitor's exact imitations of some of the Continental cheeses which are doing so much to make things harder for the dairy farmer at home. In the present state of the trade there is not much inducement for anybody who can find a steady sale for whole milk to embark on cheese-making, and it may be doubted whether Sir Charles McLaren's plea for a revival of the Leicestershire cheese industry will have much effect. Leicestershire can produce some of the finest cheese in England, but the treatment it meets in the market is discouraging. Why Gruyère and Gorgonzola and Camembert and the rest should be preferred to the fine native makes which are among the best in the world is one of those things which are hard to understand; but so it is, and in the circumstances cheese-making is Leicestershire seems likely to be sacrificed more and more to the milk trade. But what a pity!

Mr. J. E. Farmer may congratulate himself on the success attending the recent dispersion of his Shropshire flock, but there were some regretful faces to be seen at the ring-side. We have had so many similar dispersions in the last year or two—the Mansell sale, for instance, that of Mrs. Barrs's Odstone flock, Mr. Harry Williams's, the Sherlowe sale, Mr. T. Fenn's, and others that will readily occur to mind. The breed has lost another strong supporter, too, in the late Mr. P. L. Mills. Yet, as breeders, one by one, drop out, others are constantly coming forward: the crack flocks are scattered, but in a season or two those they have put in the shade by their successes are found occupying their places and winning just as much of admiration. One could not have more striking testimony to the general evenness and all-round merits of the breed.

As time goes on it becomes increasingly evident that the first optimistic accounts of the corn harvest need some little modification. The *Times* reports, which credits Nottingham with practically a perfect wheat crop, and Staffordshire with one 6 per cent. better still, will not commend themselves as expressing the whole truth to the owners of grain which has been lying out exposed to wet for many days together; and even the well saved crops are showing curious and disappointing variations in yield. In the case of spring corn differences in the date of sowing, which have affected the welfare of the crop right through the season, are enough to account for it; but the wheats looked so uniformly healthy and well ripened, that the irregularity of the threshing results is rather remarkable, and one hears much speculation as to the cause.

Round about North Nottinghamshire, and in other places where it has been tried, the Banner oat, which was introduced into England a few seasons ago, has again proved itself well worth attention. Though it is not yet much known in the Midlands, the Banner seems to thrive here, and its plump, nicely skinned grain is attractive in the market. The Wide Awake, which gave such good results in the Midland Dairy Institute's tests last season, is also well reported upon. So good a cropper ought certainly to be profitable, even though the grain is far from remarkable in quality.

Whatever else may be laid to their charge, Midland farmers have not been slow to recognise the possibilities of co-operation, in which respect they have set a fine example to some other parts of the country. The motor waggon service which has been started in the Teme valley looks like proving a great boon, and, considering the amount of produce to be carried, ought to pay the Great Western Railway Company handsomely, as well as the farmers. Great things are hoped, too, of the new Herefordshire experiment which is on altogether novel lines. If it were only for the grading of the fruit which it is to undertake, the society would more than justify its existence, for when they are attractively and carefully packed, the few tip-top fruits out of a big consignment will often make pretty nearly as much as the whole unassorted lot together. But the packing must be neat and attractive to the eye, and it is here that the Herefordshire and Worcestershire growers so often fail. If the society can also manage to improve the orchards by inducing owners to clear out some of the indifferent varieties and worn-out trees, there will be further cause for gratefulness, but the old difficulty—insecurity of tenure—stands too often in the way of progress in that direction.

September 15, 1905.

THE DAIRY.

Butter-Faking in Manchester.

It seems that butter-faking is being carried on somewhat extensively by the grocery and provision trades in Manchester. The Northern Council of Grocers' Associations have had the matter under consideration, and at a recent meeting serious allegations were made to the effect that certain dealers were using machinery and mixing butter with an article which, while it does not absolutely defy analysis, has given rise to very few prosecutions. It is stated that butter has been seen to go into business premises in certain quantities, and those who witnessed this have been surprised to see it come out in increased bulk.

It is asserted that the Government are aware of this practice, and that they also know that foreign butter is taken in, and beautiful grass butter imported from New Zealand which, owing to its waxiness and freedom from water and the high quality of its constituents, lends itself to this mixture better than any other. It is regarded as a shame and a scandal that while people in this country receive butter in a perfect state from New Zealand it should be manipulated on this side and palmed on the public as being something which it is not. It is also contended that, in addition to butter from New Zealand, Canadian and even English creameries, as well as Danish butter, has been subjected to manipulation with the same article.

At a recent meeting of the Northern Grocers' Council a resolution was passed sincerely regretting that although the Government have full knowledge of the frauds being perpetrated on the public in regard to the sale of butter they failed to pass the Butter Bill last session, and as the passing of the measure is of the highest possible importance to the trade, which almost unanimously desires to sell the genuine article, every effort should be put forth to secure the passing of the Bill in order to put an end to the practice now going on. It is said that the so-called fresh butters are sold at a less price than that for which the grocers can sell Kiel butter.

The Hon. A. E. Fellowes on Railway Rates for Farm Produce.

The President of the Board of Agriculture (the Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P.) attended the luncheon held in connection with the show of the Waveney Valley Agricultural Association, held on Tuesday, at Harleston, and in the course of a speech made reference to the subject of railway rates for agricultural produce. He said that he had found, since he had been connected with the Department of Agriculture, that there were an increasing number of complaints as to the exhorbitant rates of the companies, and he had been able during the past few months to come to such an understanding with the great railway companies that, if there was any feeling of dissatisfaction in a district as to the rates, the farmers had only to lay the matter before the Board, and they would talk matters over with representatives of the company, and see if something could be arranged that would be more satisfactory to the farmer.

Some four or five months ago there was a big meeting of farmers—four or five hundred—and the Goods Manager of the Great Eastern Railway Company, and it had done an enormous amount of good, having got rid of the feeling of animosity, which he was afraid had existed between agriculturists and the railway companies. If there was any dissatisfaction in the Harleston district in regard to the railway rates, or anything of the sort, if they would communicate with the Board of Agriculture, they would do their best to arrange a meeting at Harleston between a local deputation of farmers and an official of the company. He thought that was a move in the right direction, and he hoped it would bear fruit in the future, bringing the railway companies and farmers together, to their mutual benefit.

Barnstaple Fair. At this fair on Wednesday the trade for cattle was very poor. Barely 500 head of cattle were driven in, and the average quotations were: Beef, 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score; two to two and a half years old steers, £14; younger ditto, £10 10s.; one and a half to two years old heifers, £10 10s.; barreners, £10 to £13; cows and calves, £13 to £16. Trade in the sheep market was better, but the big prices asked early in the day were not realised, although most of the 2,500 head driven in changed hands later. The majority were breeding ewes in good condition. Best Notts made 40s. to 45s.; mongrels, 36s. to 40s.; horned, 33s. to 36s.; whilst a few fat lambs made 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and fat ewes 6d.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Blackberries are the cause of the patch-worked appearance of the hedgerows of our Suffolk lanes in the interval of school hours, for the children, with their many-coloured hats and white pinafores, now that the first blackberries have put in an appearance, linger on their way home to meals to gather this delicious fruit of our sunny lanes; while the fields themselves, since the rains, have put on quite a new garb. For example, the clover, which appeared short and brown in the drought that ripened the corn harvest, is now pellicled with green and dotted with pink, while the shrunken turnips are swelling, and the ground is nice and soft for the plough. Where clover seed was sown in spring between the barleys the young growth of fodder has turned the fields of golden stubbles to green, and there where the wheat stubble was dotted over with heaps of manure a fortnight ago the ploughs upturned the rich brown soil, so that the colouring of our landscape is again changed as the season passes.

The stormy character of the past three weeks has done much towards preventing farmers from rushing their thrashed corns on to the market, and it is to be hoped that they will not glut the market when more favourable thrashing weather comes; on the other hand, owners of thrashing machines report that they are overcrowded with orders. The different corn exchanges in East Anglia have been much better attended of late, so the knowledge gained by the farmers may arrest their desire to market the grain at a reduction in price, although many were anxious to get some idea concerning the price maltsters are going to give for their barley. In this connection many complaints are heard of the yield of barley this season, while many samples shown on 'Change last week were thin and hard-looking, although more even in colour than might have been expected so early in the season.

It is sad to record, especially when we remember the splendid harvest weather that we have had this autumn, that in some parts of the Eastern counties corn is *yet* to be seen in the field. And so it is not surprising to learn that at Burton Pedwardine, Lincolnshire, a flock of sheep broke into a field of wheat the other day and ate so freely of the grain that seventeen have died from stomachic distension.

It would be impossible, by reason of the limited space granted to the writer of these "Notes," and the number of agricultural shows and meetings that have taken place during the past week, to do justice to these exhibitions, but one cannot but help noting the fact that there is a distinct revival in British agriculture. Ploughing competitions are takng place this and next month throughout East Anglia, and it is hoped by these means to instil a desire in young men to learn to plough as their ancestors were proud to do. In this connection we hear that the Dunmow District Agricultural Competitions Association is this year to be revived. These competitions have not been carried out since 1840.

Yesterday the seventeenth annual show of the Romford and South Essex Horse Breeders' Association was held at Ingatestone. About £112 was offered in prizes, as well as several silver cups, and the number of entries was well maintained, but it is noteworthy than an improvement is perceptible at this show nearly every year.

A meeting was held at the Lecture Hall, Beccles, on Friday last, with the object of bringing the advantages of co-operation to the notice of those who were not members of the Eastern Counties Farmers' Co-operative Association, Ltd., and to discuss the desirability of forming a local trading committee. Mr. F. W. D. Robinson, J.P., occupied the chair, and was supported by Sir R. P. Beauchamp and Mr. E. J. Cheney, of Brockford Hall, as well as many influential farmers in the district. After an interesting discussion, it was decided to form a local trading committee, and eleven gentlemen were thereupon elected to serve.

September 15, 1905.

Buxton September Fair took place on Monday, when there was the largest attendance known for some years. Prices: Calving cows, up to £22; ditto, heifers, £12 to £15; bulls, year old, £5; two years old, up to £14; fat wethers, 6½d.; ewes, 6d. to 7d.; fat lambs, up to 8¼d. per lb.; store ditto, 20s. to 30s. each. Only a few horses were shown.

From Bucks to Scotland.

SIR,—The harvest is about finished just in this district, but I hear there is a good deal out on and under the Chiltern Hills. I hear of rather disappointing yields of wheat generally, as I expected, for I always thought the wheat crop overestimated. We have had nice rains for the roots and young clovers, but none too much for the pastures, which were got very dry. Work will be well forward, and plenty of rye and vetches can be done at once. Although the late swedes have grown immensely, the root crop cannot be a heavy one.

I have been over a vast tract of country during the past week from here to Norfolk, and thence to Scotland—and although the roots look healthy, there are a good many fields that are patchy and not very heavy, but they say in Norfolk that they have a record crop of mangolds, whilst swedes are vastly improved.

The harvest in Scotland is very much of it to cart; they have had such hindering wet weather for three weeks, which has much improved their root crops, which were previously indifferent. To see the women pitching the sheaves on to the carts in Scotland seems curious to a Southern eye.

The lamb trade, they say, is improving, which stimulated the ram trade at their great sale at Kelso; the quantity shown there is immense, over 900 Oxford Down rams, besides their border, Leicester, and half-breds, which numbered over 1,200. It is a wonderful sight to see the Kelso Fair field, and sales going on at seven rings at the same time; yet the best sheep sold well of all breeds, whilst inferior ones were not wanted, and made but little more than butchers' price. J. T.

Sept. 4, 1905.

The Position in Berkshire.

SIR,—The harvest is now finished, excepting a very few pieces of backward planted barley and oats, and although we have had some heavy rains lately, the greater part was put together in good condition.

Wheat is the best crop of the year, and as thrashing proceeds it proves to be rather above an average both in quantity and quality.

Barley is about an average crop, but it went off rather too quickly during the hot weather in July, and although not a fine quality for malting purposes, it is very heavy.

Oats are a disappointing crop, and are under an average; beans and peas are various, but nearly an average.

Potatoes are turning out well, and there is very little disease. Roots are not so good as expected, mangolds and swedes have done best, but the later turnips did very badly during July, and are a poor crop.

The late rains made the lattermath clover grow very fast, and there will be rather a large quantity saved for feed, but this is a very precarious crop if it should become bad weather.

All kinds of stock have done well, and although trade is not very fast for young cattle, they are selling at moderate prices. Mutton is dear, and sheep are selling well, but pigs are a dull trade.

The wheat markets have gone back, and the average price is considerably less, but we do not hear of a reduction in the price of bread, and yet wheat is heavier and the quality better.

Straw is cheaper and difficult to sell, but hay keeps about the same price. J. L.

Sept. 14, 1905.

Light Crops in Breconshire.

SIR,—The past fortnight has been continuously wet, and a large amount of oats and barley on the highland farms had been severely damaged. Most of the wheat crops in the county were secured before the change in the weather, and a large quantity of oats and barley in the lowest parts of the country was also housed.

Crops generally are very light, especially oats and barley, but the wheat crop is a fair average crop. Grass is very plentiful after the last rain, and the late turnips are very much improved.

Sept. 12, 1905. OWEN PRICE.

Beer—Malt, Hops, and other things.

SIR,—No doubt many of your readers have seen the correspondence going on in a daily paper on the question, "Why is Beer Dwindling?" and, perhaps, some (like myself) have been amused at the subterfuges to which some of the brewers have been driven in their attempts to justify their practices. They argue:

1st. That light beers, such as are now in favour, cannot be brewed from malt and hops alone.—This is effectually proved to be untrue by the fact that the best brewers of such beer do not use substitutes of any kind.

2nd. That malt and hop beer is not so wholesome as that containing glucose, because the process of preparing this article destroys the bacteriological impurities found in malt and hop beer!—The experience of our forefathers, and that of present day consumers of the genuine product of malt and hops, sufficiently refute this ingenious defence of adulteration. But, further, is not beer boiled? and is not boiling well known to be the best means of destroying all disease germs? No bacteria could survive five minutes in the brewing copper. Therefore, the theory of unwholesome malt and hop beer may be dismissed as unworthy of a serious thought.

3rd. That substitutes are not used to any appreciable extent. This does not appear to harmonise entirely with the arguments of the numerous correspondents who have endeavoured to justify their use. In support of his denial, the brewer who says they are not much used gives certain figures which, he says, were obtained from a Parliamentary paper. He does not say what paper, or on what authority the figures are based. Probably your readers do not require much enlightenment on this question, but if they do, they have only to examine a copy of the *Brewers' Journal*, and notice the large number of pages occupied by the advertisements of the manufacturers of substitutes for malt and hops. Are we seriously asked to believe that these manufacturers pay the high rates charged for such advertisements without recouping themselves out of the profits of their business? And how can this be done if such a multitude of them have to divide such a very small amount of trade? Many brewers are ready to declare that they never use anything but malt and hops, and, no doubt, the statement is correct in some cases; but, if so, why their uncompromising opposition to a Pure Beer Bill, which would give legal sanction to their practice, and prevent others from undermining their trade by adulteration? One would have thought they had a larger interest than anybody in giving a kind of Protection to malt and hop beer; but their attitude on this question appears to be utterly inconsistent with their practice.

4th. That chemicals are not generally used in brewing. If so, let me ask why a chemist is found on the staff at so many large breweries? A scientific man must be well paid; and if no chemicals are used, what can he find to do? and why does the brewer pay him a good salary for doing nothing? Nobody would suggest that the brewers are such bad men of business as to throw away money in this fashion. It is another instance of assertion and practice contradicting each other.

Various causes have been suggested for the diminution in the consumption of beer. It may be due to the bad quality of the "stuff" (as it is called by some) sold at the public-houses; or to the scarcity of money compelling people to drink less; or to the spread of temperance principles. Probably all three of these causes have had some effect; but I am not personally concerned about this aspect of the question. I am neither a farmer, a hop grower, a brewer, nor a publican, and I have not the slightest conceivable interest in the beer trade; but I feel very strongly on all points connected with honesty in business, and I am convinced that this trade will never be on a satisfactory footing until the law declares that "beer" shall be the product of malt and hops only, and that no beverage extracted from other materials shall be sold as such. Let people be free to make any kind of drink they like, and let those drink it who choose; but stop the sale of it under a false designation. It is not beer, and should not be sold as beer. M.

Tunbridge Wells, September 13, 1905.

Cheerful Aspects in West Sussex.

SIR,—The weather during the past month has been all we could desire; first a fine time to clear up the harvest, then a week or two of showers, which have made keen prospects much brighter. Wheat thrashes out over an average crop, barley is a good crop where it was sown in good time, oats are very varied, the earliest sowings are good, both in yield and quality, the backwarder sowings are poor.

Work is well forward, the foul stubbles have nearly all been cleared, ploughing and sowing catch crops and winter oats are in full swing, and most farmers will be ready to begin wheat sowing at the proper time; a great contrast to two years ago.

Mangolds are growing fair, and will be a fair crop, swedes and turnips grow very rapidly and have much improved the grass in the pasture, has made another start, and altogether keep prospects for the coming winter are much better than a month ago, and are reflected in the store markets, sheep selling well and a fair inquiry for grazing beast.

Not so many farms as usual are being given up this Michaelmas, and all are let again, which, in my opinion, is one of the best tests of the condition of the farming interest. H. W. D.

September 14, 1905.

Effect of the Continued Wet in South Hampshire.

SIR,—Hay: Seed hay, rye, grass, and clover first year were generally good, two and three years old hardly any. First year's sainfoin very heavy; old leys, nothing on them to cut.

The corn harvest, taking it all round, has been an average one and no more; much of the wheat very good indeed—the crop of the year. Barley where sown early good; but late sowing very bad, the cold, dry May had a prejudicial effect upon vegetation; cereal crops on light land suffered to a greater extent than heavy soil.

Winter oats an average crop, but spring sown irregular, some pieces very good, and some very thin, many acres not more than knee high. I think wheat will be about 20 per cent. above average, barley average, oats 20 per cent. below average. In this neighbourhood harvest was practically finished by August 25, all the corn was ricked in good order. We had some heavy rains in August, but drying winds saved the corn from growing.

Roots were generally backward, but since the early part of August turnips and swedes have done well; but, unfortunately, there are numerous farms to be seen throughout the county where the prospects of a useful crop are very far from rosy. Mangolds are good, but fly was very troublesome, and a good many fields had to be sown twice, and some three times. Indeed, there are many farms where the crop of roots will be particularly light. Owing to recent rains, the country is now better off for keep than at any time during the season.

Sheep and cattle have done well, and prices for sheep and wool are much better. Beef has not been a good trade. Stores were very difficult to buy in the spring, and, I am afraid, beef graziers will not look back on 1905 with any very pleasant feelings. Sheep breeders have had the best of it this year. The much higher price for wool, with a continued fair price for mutton all along, have rendered this department much more agreeable. Lambs have sold, and continue to sell, very well about 3s. above last year.

The continued wet weather has seriously interfered with autumn cultivation, as the land is now too wet for couching and cleaning stubble. I am afraid this will not be the good year everyone expected, and a man who can more than make two ends meet with ordinary farming and average luck, even this year, would succeed in any walk of life. S. T.

September 15, 1905.

North Herefordshire.

SIR,—In this district the crops of wheat and barley are good, above an average where the land is properly looked after, but on some farms it's the average, and crops bad and full of weeds, which rob the soil and crops of the moisture and the manure. That the crop should feel the benefit of oats are the worst crop of the year, and this neglect applies to the root crop. I see some that were planted a second time, and are good when cleaned, and those that are neglected are bad and spoiled before anything is done at them.

The hops are a heavy crop, plenty that will produce a ton to the acre, and every little hopyard seems full of hops, but the price will be very low, and cause acres to be done away with, probably though thi swould be unfortunate on account of the quantity of labour employed in the growth of hops. All kinds of stock are healthy, and the sheep are selling well, but cattle, both fat and stores, are low in price.

Our pasture are a good bite at present, but the feeding stock will soon require a little help.

The fruit of all kinds are not half a crop.

September 15, 1905. H. W.

Carmarthen.

SIR,—Serious weather, rain every day for more than three weeks, and our corn in many places spoiling. There is much not cut, and what is

cut and bound, and put in pin field mows, are blown about by the wind and storms and is wet. Very few have cut all in this county, and little has been carried. Labourers are scarce, for every half-day that is fine they are wanted in many places. The crops are good, and the yield found by the little that has been thrashed, to be fairly good.

The fine and warm weather we had in June and July filled the ears well, and are full and plump, and is a pity to see it growing and rotting.

Potatoes are a good crop, slightly diseased now with this rain, and green crops are improving. Fruit are a failure; few apples or pears this year after heavy crop last year; stone fruit are also scarce.

Grass is plentiful, and cattle are looking well, but meet a slow sale at our fairs, as the Canadian store and fat cattle are allowed to enter our ports free, and will lessen the price of our cattle. Our best fat cattle fetch 6d. per lb., and inferious 4d. to 5d. per lb. Two-year-old from £9 to £11 each, and yearling from £5 to £8, according to size and quality. Our sheep sell better, and wool is advancing. D. P.

September 15, 1905.

Foreign Crop Prospects.

FRANCE.—The fact that harvesting is now completed in France still leaves the question of yield undetermined, the situation being complicated by the irregular quality shown in the threshings, departments hitherto sending in faultless quality now giving samples leaving considerable to be desired. The wet weather which has of late interfered with harvesting operations has by way of compensation thoroughly saturated the soil and put it in excellent condition for beginning autumn work.

HOLLAND AND BELGIUM.—Threshing returns are not yielding satisfactory results in quality at any rate, and it is clear that during the later stages the grain crops suffered from too much rain.

GERMANY.—Reports, while conflicting to some extent, are on the whole unfavourable so far as the ungathered balance of the crops is concerned. weather conditions ruling adverse in nearly all parts of the Empire. The rainfall in some parts has been so persistent that the root crops are suffering.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.—The weather has been favourable for vegetables, pasture lands, and feeding stuffs, but complaints are prevalent of the unsatisfactory quality of the new wheat coming into sight. In some quarters also the outturn in quantity is disappointing, and as a whole results are short of early expectations.

ITALY.—Conditions have not undergone any change of moment, and except in the North, where the yield is deficient and lacking in quality, results are regarded as quite satisfactory in both wheat and maize.

RUSSIA.—The estimates of the Central Committee fix the yield of wheat in 72 governments at 66,675,000 qrs., against 82,817,720 qrs. last year; of rye at 78,000,000 qrs., against 117,280,000 qrs.; of barley at 34,110,000 qrs., against 41,148,000 qrs.; and of maize at 5,775,000 qrs., against 3,031,950 qrs. A still later estimate published in the *Gazette of Trade and Industry*, of a semi-official character, but for only sixty-four provinces gives wheat 55,625,000 qrs.; winter rye, 69,000,000 qrs.; oats, 75,197,000 qrs.; and barley 32,220,000 qrs. These, while still leaving siderable to conjecture, seem to determine that while wheat is about an average crop, others are short.

ROUMANIA.—Now that harvest results can be fairly estimated it is seen that they have not realised early expectations. The wheat outturn, while sufficient in quantity is lacking in quality, while maize, owing to the damage done by prolonged drought, will hardly average 55 per. cent. of an average crop. In many districts the crop is an entire failure. It is reported that the rape harvest has been entirely sold, and there is a free outward movement of wheat at satisfactory prices.

UNITED STATES.—The Washington Agricultural Bureau in its September report gives the condition of Spring wheat at 87.5, about 2 points down from the August report, against 66.2 September last year: of maize, 89.5 against 89.0 last month, and 84.6 last year, and of oats 90.3 against 90.8 and 85.6. The New York Produce Exchange statistician on the foregoing basis calculates the following yields: Spring wheat 280,047,000 bushels, maize 2,716,918,000 bushels, and oats 930,317,000 bushels. His estimate of winter and Spring wheat combined is 704,447,000 bushels, against 552,400,000 bushels for last harvest. Mr. Snow, of Chicago, estimates the total wheat crop at 740,000,000 bushels. These estimates have only once been exceeded by actual views, viz., in 1901, when the crop reached 759,062,000 bushels. No gathered crop of maize has ever been as large as the foregoing estimate.

ARGENTINA.—Our cable from Buenos Aires this morning says that advices from the interior regarding the crop situation could hardly be better so far as weather conditions are concerned, while so far no damage of any moment has been done by locusts.

CANADA.—Advices coming to hand lose nothing in optimism, and they are so uniform that it is difficult to avoid the conviction that they are entirely trustworthy. Estimates up to 100,000,000 bushels are now appearing, with a general disposition to accept 90,000,000 bushels as by no means extravagant.

INDIA.—The much needed rains have fallen in the drought affected districts, and although too late to prevent bad effects, they have entirely removed fears of famine, and general prospects have been materially brightened. It may not yet be too late in the Punjaub and Rajputana to insure some food grain crops.

AUSTRALIA.—The latest mail advices from our Sydney correspondent predict that with continued favourable weather another record yield of wheat is likely, prospects being of a glowing character. Cable reports received this week confirm the foregoing, saying that owing to the copious rainfall, harvest prospects are exceptionally good, and the pastoral outlook very promising.—*Dornbusch*, (September 15).

Cheap Model Cottage Awards.

The *County Gentleman* has issued the following list of prize winners in the Cheap Cottages Exhibition now being held at Letchworth, Herts:—

Class 1.—One cottage to cost not more than £150: First prize, £100, Messrs. Green Brothers, Whittington, near Chesterfield, architect, Percy Houfton, Chesterfield; second, £50, Messrs. Bennett and Bidwell, Letchworth; third, £25, Messrs. Potter and Co., London.

Class 2.—For the best pair of five-roomed cottages, including scullery or kitchen scullery, erected at a cost not to exceed £300: First, £50, Messrs. Potter and Company, London; second, £30, A. H. Clough, Burley Ringwood; third, £20, The Co-Partnership Tenants Housing Council, London.

Class 3. For the best group of three of four cottages, no one cottage to contain more than six rooms, including scullery, and erected at a cost not to exceed £35 per room. A prize of £25 is awarded to Geoffrey Lucas, A.R.I.B.A., of London, and Hitchin, Herts.

Class 4.—For the best detached cottage or pair of cottages, each containing not more than six rooms, including scullery, and erected at a cost not to exceed £35 per room: A prize of £100 is awarded to A. Randall Wells, of Hastings.

Prize of £100 offered by anonymous donor for the cheapest cottage for value: A. H. Clough, of Burley Ringwood.

Prizes for wooden cottages: First, £50, F. W. Troup, London; second, £25, Messrs. Smith and Brewer, London, two designs.

Prizes for best designs of cottages, etc., on same lines: Class 1: First, £10, Messrs. Bennett and Bidwell, Letchworth; second, £5, W. A. T. Carter, Wimbledon. Class 2: First, £10, W. R. Mosley, Slough; second, £5, W. Marshall, Hatfield. Class 3: First, £10, L. F. Crane, London. Class 4, £10, G. Lucas.

The special prize of £10 offered by Mr. H. G. Elwes, F.R.S., for best design and specification of a wooden cottage to be constructed entirely of English timber, has been awarded for a design submitted conjointly by Mr. Ditmar Blow, King's Bench Walk, London, and Mr. Ernest Gimson, of Sapperton, Glos.

Good Cider from Poor Apples.

We are officially informed that the Committee of Governors of the National Fruit and Cider Institute have decided this season to carry out a series of experiments to determine how far apples, which are known ordinarily to produce very poor cider, can be made to yield an improved cider by careful and scientific treatment of the juice, i.e., how to obtain the best results from inferior fruit, and try to discover wherein lies the difficulty of converting the juice of such fruit into good cider.

The committee will be prepared to receive from any grower of such apples a quantity of not less than half a ton for such experiments, and will be willing either to pay a reasonable price for the apples, or to return the cider to the grower on payment of such a sum as would partly compensate them for the expense of making the cider. The committee will be glad to receive offers of such apples from bona fide cider makers, and letters should be addressed to the National Fruit and Cider Institute, Long Ashton, Bristol.

A profitable undertaking of the Tonbridge Board of Guardians is pig-keeping at the workhouse. During the past year a profit of £250 has been derived from this source. The pigs, which are bought when young, are practically no expense, eating the waste from the establishment. They are afterwards killed, and received into the workhouse stores.

MILLING.

Flour still maintains a quiet tone, but, if anything, prices are more firm. There has been little doing in forward selling, but bakers are taking deliveries of old contracts, so that most mills are kept fairly clear. It is said that a great deal less flour was sold at the Bakers' Exhibition than has been the case during recent years.

In many parts offals are making more money, and as oil-cake and other feeding stuffs of the kind are comparatively dear millers should do well in these products.

English wheat varies a great deal in quality. Some which was harvested early is in very fine condition and gives great satisfaction. Other samples, however, are a bit "off," and it is necessary to make purchases with caution. A good deal needs conditioning, and in many cases it is only safe to put a small portion in the grist. In fact, few millers have yet found out the amount which it is safe to use without seriously lowering the strength of the flour. Matters will improve, however, as time goes on. The same wheats are available on British markets as has been the case for some time:—Manitoba, of lower grades, Indians, Red Winter, Russian, Plate, and Australian. Where White English can be obtained, there is no need to pay a fancy price for the last-named, and a good mixture should be made with a little Manitoba, Russian, if clean and of good quality, Plate, and a little Red and White English.

Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.

At a meeting of the Directors of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, held on Wednesday, a letter was submitted from Sir T. Elliott, K.C.B., Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, in reply to an inquiry by the Directors of the Chamber, intimating that the Departmental Committee on Abortion understand that their reference extends to any form of abortion in cattle or other live stock sufficiently widespread to raise the possibility of contagion, an interpretation in which the Board of Agriculture fully concur. It was remitted to the Chairman's Committee to arrange about leading evidence before that Committee, and also before the Departmental Committee on Small Holdings. Mr. Hutcheson, Beechwood, reported, on behalf of a Sub-committee in connection with the forthcoming conferences with the President of the Board of Agriculture, that sufficient contributions have been received to enable the Chamber to entertain the Directors and delegates from associated societies to luncheon, and that the halls of the West United Free Church, Perth, have been placed at the disposal of the Directors for the conferences. The programmes both for the forenoon and afternoon conferences to be held on 27th prox., and also for the luncheon, were adjusted, and include resolutions on the following, among other subjects, namely:—

Sheep-dipping regulations, motor-car restrictions, use of studs in the wheels of traction engines, the Dogs Regulation Bill, the Butter Bill, the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, the amendment of the Ground Game Act, the sale of poisonous compounds for agricultural and horticultural purposes, model regulations regarding dairies, etc., the amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

It is anticipated that, in addition to the President of the Board of Agriculture, Sir Thomas Elliott, the Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, and also Lord Mansfield, Mr. Dewar, M.P., Mr. Buchanan, M.P., and others will be present and take part. Mr. John Stroyan, M.P., as honorary president of the Chamber, will preside at the afternoon conference and at dinner.

Mr. Thomas Blossom Oliver, of Fir Tree House, Spaldrington, near Howden, a well-known East Riding farmer and stock breeder, died in a nursing home at Hull on Wednesday. Mr. Oliver, who was 54 years of age, farmed a large acreage in Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire. He was the guardian of the poor and rural district councillor at Howden for many years, and on highways was an authority of some repute.

The Irish Potato Crop.—In view of recent alarming statements about the condition of the Irish potato crop, the Irish "Farmers' Gazette" has obtained reports on the subject from trustworthy correspondents in the various western counties. These reports show not only that the rumours of a potato famine on a large scale are entirely without foundation, but that there is every prospect of an uncommonly good harvest. The general tendency of the various reports is to show that, except in very low-lying districts, and in places where spraying is still neglected, the Irish potato crop of 1905 will compare very favourably with those of recent years.

Harvest Weather.

1, Essex Street, Strand, Monday, September 18th, 1905.

SPECIAL THREE-DAY FORECAST. GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general distribution of barometric pressure may be described as a belt of fair anti-cyclone over the British Isles between two cyclonic belts, one between Iceland and Norway, and the other over France and the Mediterranean. Just now the anti-cyclonic belt is narrowing, and temporary showers are probable later over Scotland and Northern England and along our Southern borders. After this the belt will probably expand, and give another fair spell over most of the area. The temperature will be cool over the East and South, and about normal over the West and North. The winds will be chiefly Easterly and fresh in the South, and Westerly and moderate in the North. As the conditions vary considerably locally, it will be better to refer to the Local Predictions for more definite information.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland:—At first, W. to S.W. moderate winds, fair to cloudy, and some showers, chiefly over the Western borders; later, mostly fair with variable to N.W. winds.

,, 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—**At first, mostly fair with S.W. to variable freshening winds; later, some temporary coastal showers, and then fairer with E. to N.W. winds.**

,, 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—**At first, E. by N.E. fresh to strong winds, fair to cloudy; later, some showers; finally fairer. Temperature cool.**

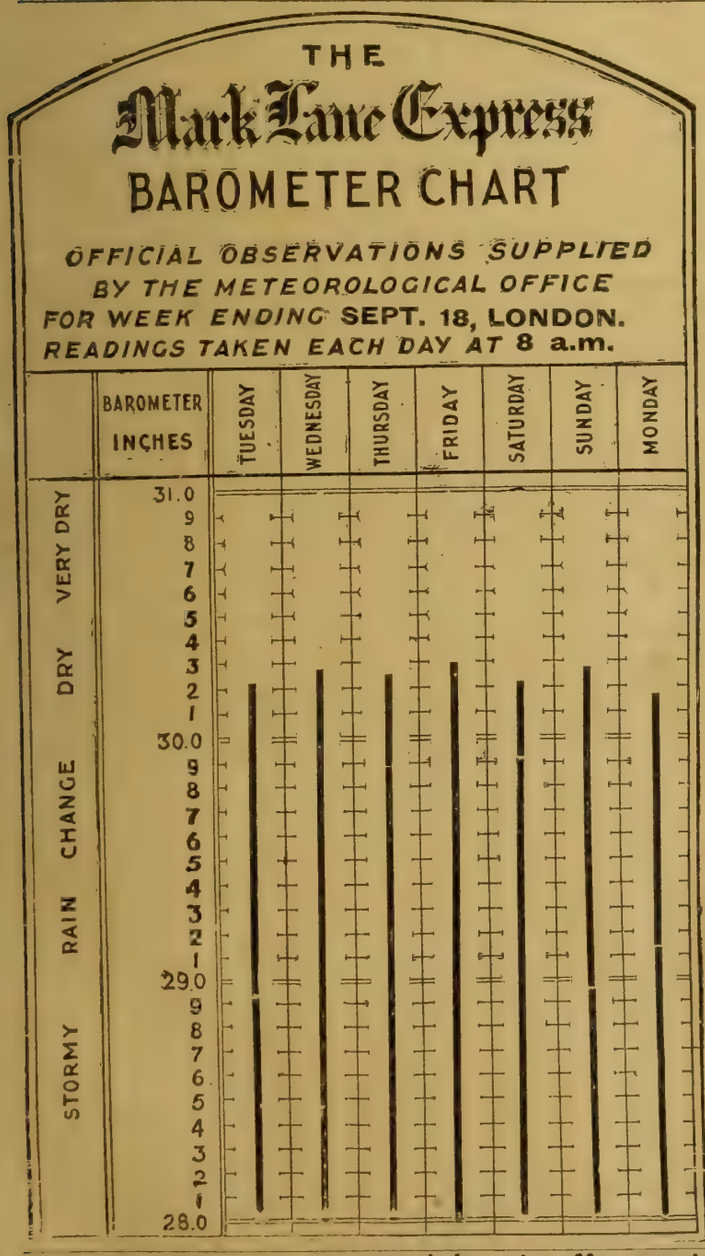
,, 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West Riding).—**At first, E. or N.E. fresh or strong winds, mostly fair and cool; later, some temporary light showers in the Eastern section; finally, fairer with wind tending to shift to N.W. and W.**

No. 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire. The same as No. 4.

,, 6.—Ireland.—**At first S.W. winds moderate. Some rain, chiefly in the West and North; fair in the South and East. Later, fairer generally. Wind Easterly to Northerly in the South and North-Westerly in the North.**

,, 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales. Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmorland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—**At first, Easterly or South-Easterly fresh winds, fair to cloudy. Later some temporary light showers. Finally fairer with N.W. winds. Temperature about normal.**

,, 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—**Mostly fair throughout with a chance of some temporary light showers after after the first day; wind E.'ly to N.'ly and W.'ly; fresh or strong to moderate. Temperature cool.**



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express*.)

Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (Sept. 12)	...	30.22
Wednesday (,, 13)	...	30.28
Thursday (,, 14)	...	30.24
Friday (,, 15)	...	30.30
Saturday (,, 16)	...	30.21
Sunday (,, 17)	...	30.28
Monday (,, 18)	...	30.18

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	5.40 a.m.
,, Sets...	...	6.[illegible] p.m.
Moon Rises	...	8.27 p.m.
,, Sets	...	10.11 p.m.

Age of Moon—Twenty days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 18th.

GENERAL INFERENCE.—The anticyclone appears to be gradually moving eastwards or north-eastwards, while our Islands are coming under the influence of two low pressure systems—one over France and the other off our north-west coasts. Less settled weather is probable shortly, but to-day it will be fair in most places.

SCOTLAND, N.—Southerly and South Westerly winds, freshening; dull, some rain.

SCOTLAND, E.; ENGLAND, N.E.—Rather variable winds; cloudy or dull; fair to day; some rain to-morrow.

ENGLAND, E.—Same as England, S.

MIDLAND COUNTIES.—Light winds, mainly Easterly; cloudy or overcast; moderate temperature.

ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Easterly or North-Easterly winds, fresh or strong in places; fair, then unsettled, with some rain; moderate temperature.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland, N.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).—Same as Scotland, E.

ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Same as England, S.

IRELAND, N. & S.—Southerly and South-Westerly winds, freshening; cloudy or overcast, some rain; moderate temperature.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Very poor attendance. Wheat, both English and foreign, steadily held at Monday's rates, but demand very limited. South Russian quoted at 31s to 35s; No. 2 Club Calcutta, 31s 6d; No. 3 Northern Manitoba, at 33s 6d. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize steady at late rates. Mixed American ex ship quoted at 23s 4½d, and River Plate landed at 23s 6d. Barley firm to the turn in sellers' favour. Odessa Nico ex ship to arrive quoted at 18s 4½d to 18s 6d, and ex quay at 19s. Oats firmer. Small business passing at 1½d to 3d advance. Common sorts quoted 14s 3d to 14s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Though the tone of the market was a little better shaped, and business gradually broadens, complacency was once more the general order of things at the London Corn Exchange, rises and falls being well divided at present. The market for oats was even more pronounced, and flat maize responded since Wednesday, barley being well held; otherwise no particular changes have occurred on the week to alter the price list. Supplies of new English wheat, so far, are by no means large, threshings being still impeded by recent unsettled weather. Meanwhile millers remain sufficiently stocked, and only buy for actual requirements. Quotations unaltered, whites, delivered up, ranging at 29s to 32s, and reds 28s 6d to 31s per qr., 504lb., according to sample. Imported descriptions dull, but in holders' favour. No. 3 Northern Manitoba 33s ex ship, 33s 6d ex quay. No. 2 Club Calcutta 31s 6d ex store, and scarcely offered, as there is so little expected for some months ahead. Australian and New Zealand remain neglected, the former being named at 33s, and latter at 29s to 32s, according to sample, both ex store, 496lb. Good to fine South Russian ex granary 31s 6d to 34s 6d. Plate nominal. American flour remains scarce on spot, but consumers were again indifferent. Operators are waiting for the first arrivals of spring, due in about two months. Flat maize 3d firmer since Wednesday, round corn being at a similar decline. Mixed American 23s 3d ex ship, 24s ex quay. Plate 23s, 23s 6d landed, subject to sample.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat trade improved, and sales made at 27s to 29s, or perhaps 30s. English malting barley met a poor demand, and new samples made 26s to 28s per quarter. New oats rose 1s, and made 16s to 19s. New beans were comparatively cheap. Mazagins made 28s to 29s; and ticks, 31s to 33s. New peas rose 1s, and were quoted at 29s to 30s. Maize firm at 26s to 28s; and foreign barley unchanged at 21s to 22s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 27s to 28s; barley, 23s to 30s; beans, new, 29s to 30s; ditto old, 31s to 32s; oats, 16s to 18s; ditto old, 20s to 23s; peas, 29s to 31s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Good attendance. Larger supplies of grain. Prices for all qualities of barley remain unchanged. Oats scarce. Wheat made 28s to 30s; new oats, 19s to 20s 6d; barley, 23s 6d to 29s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at this market, but trade generally was quiet, buyers being very scarce. Foreign wheats met with a poor demand at the following quotations:—Russians, 31s 6d to 33s per qr. (496lb.); Indians, 30s 6d to 31s; River Plates, 31s to 32s per qr., all at Sharpness. Both flat and Plate maize were unchanged in value, as also was grinding barley. There was a good supply of English wheats, which made from 28s to 30s 6d per qr. (496lb.) delivered. Oats, 17s 3d to 18s per 312lb.; beans, 12s 6d per bag (196lb.) delivered.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade, and small attendance. New white wheat, 29s to 31s 6d; new red ditto, 28s to 30s; barley, 28s to 35s; grinding ditto, 21s to 23s; oats, English, 15s to 18s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Bristol, Thursday. — Trade remains quiet. English wheat remains unchanged, not so much offering on to-day's market. Foreign wheats, 3d to 6d dearer. Barley, 3d dearer. Maize and oats unchanged. More inquiry for flour at recent rates. GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in fair average supply, with a steady demand, and no quotable change in values on the week. Reds, 27s to 28s 6d; whites, 27s to 29s; revets, 27s to 28s per qr. Barley: There was more offering, and buying has fairly commenced, although maltsters will hardly begin wetting until we get colder weather. The demand for medium grades was fairly healthy but at only the moderate prices of 25s to 31s per qr. The buyers of better class stuff were operating at 31s to 34s per qr. the latter price appearing to be their limit. A sample of exceptional quality, however, attracted some attention, and was ultimately sold at the satisfactory price of 36s per qr. Oats meet a steady demand at late rates of 16s to 17s 6d per qr. Beans also firm at 28s to 29s per 36 stones.

Worksop, Wednesday. Reduced attendance. Rather larger show of new grain in very fair condition. Last week's prices were fully maintained. Quotations:—White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red ditto, 27s to 28s. A very indifferent show of barleys, a few malting samples, mostly of moderate quality, being shewn, and quoted at 27s to 30s per qr.; feeding barleys made 24s to 25s; oats, black, 15s to 16s 6d, white ditto, 16s to 18s; maize, flat, 26s; ditto round, 27s to 28s per qr.; bran, £4 10s to £5 1s; fine sharps, £5 to £6 10s; barley meal, £6 to £6 10s per ton.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Rather less wheat and more barley shown. Wheat sold steadily at last Saturday's rates. Barley was more in evidence, and prices showed very little change on the week. Beans and oats quite firm in value. Wheat: Reds, 27s to 28s, and white up to 29s per 504lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Steady trade in wheat, 65lb samples ranging up to 31s. English oats continue dearer. Milling lots making 16s 9d, and 45lb samples up to 19s. Barley plentiful, but little inquiry yet.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Large supply of oats in our market to-day, good demand at last week's prices. New, 14s to 15s 6d per 336lb.; old, 22s 3d to 24s per 336lb.—Thomas Robinson.

Chester, Saturday.—Small attendance. English grain in moderate supply. Wheat nothing doing, but best samples would be firmer. Indian corn in fair demand at last week's rates. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 4s 5d to 4s 5½d, red, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 75lb; barley, grinding, 4s to 4s 2d per 60lb, 5 qrs. sold 4s 3d to 4s per 60lb; oats, new, 3s 6d to 3s 8d, old 3s 9d to 3s 10d per 45lb; Indian corn, 3s 6d to 3s 7d per 480lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance and trade quiet. Wheat in small supply, but not a large quantity offered. New white wheat 28s 6d to 29s 6d, new red 28s 6d to 29s, grinding barley 25s 6d to 26s 6d; [illegible] 24s to 25s, peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 31s to 32s; tares, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; maize, 25s 6d to 25s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—With a moderate supply of wheat the tendency was to firmness, and the full prices of last week were readily obtainable. More barley offering, best samples sold readily, but the lower qualitites were a dull sale. Beans and peas scarce and inquired for. Oats sold readily at full prices.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday. Small supply; spring corn very scarce, and prices about the same as last week. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 11s 6d to 12s per 186lb.; new, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 186lb.; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb.; oats, old, 25s to 25s per 352lb.; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 352lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday.—New wheat firm at last week's full rates; spring corn unchanged. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 24s to 28s; old beans, 33s to 34s; new, 30s to 31s; old oats, 23s to 24s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small quantity of new corn at market to-day, and the prices show no alteration in value. The following were the quotations:—Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; new wheat, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 20s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Fair supply of English wheat, and prices firm at 10s to 11s per load. Foreign was also firm at late rates. Only a small supply of oats, and last week's prices repeated. Maize made 3d per qr. less. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The corn market was largely attended to-day, supplies of wheat being scarcely as large as previous markets; a firm trade pervaded, business at unchanged rates, and foreign was equally firmly held. Malting barley included some very good samples, for which there was a fairly brisk sale at late values, whilst grinding showed a rise of 3d to 6d per qr. All kinds of feeding stuffs tending to higher values.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 15s to 18s; malting barley, 15s to 15s 6d; grinding ditto, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s 4d to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Good attendance; trade fairly brisk. English wheat plentiful, best sorts 3s 3d to 3s 6d. English barley ruled about 3s 6d for good quality. Grinding barley 3d dearer. Maize unchanged. Oats rather firmer. Flour steady. English wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat firm, and the turn against buyers, who, however, refuse to follow. Flour a slow sale at late rates. Mixed American maize dull at 13s 7½d to 13s 9d and round 14s per 280lb. Foreign oats and barley held for 3d advance. Home oats slow. Medium bran steady at 82s 6d per ton; broad qualities 10s more. Market closed on Monday next.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, with slow sale. Maize, 3d per boll cheaper on the week. Beans and peas quiet and unchanged. Oats (Scotch), 3d to 6d per boll down on the week. Oatmeal, 6d per sack cheaper since Wednesday. Other articles unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat rather more freely offered, and prices favour buyers. Foreign firmly held, and occasionally 3d dearer. Grinding barley strong at 3d advance. Maize unaltered. Oats held for 3d more money.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — A large attendance, and business generally was of a brisk description. Wheat was in fair supply, dry samples making fully last week's prices, 27s to 29s per qr.; samples out of condition easier in price. Barley was also a fair representation, making 25s to 33s per qr. Beans sold at 30s to 32s; blue peas, 35s to 45s; and oats, 17s to 19s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Attendance moderate. Wheats in plentiful supply, but buyers were not eager, and values showed a tendency to flag, especially for the lower grades. A few samples of English barleys were on offer, but the condition was generally unsatisfactory. Oats in fair supply. Trade slow at recent rates. Beans same as last week. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per 56lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb; new, 2s to 2s 6d per 40lb; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d per 65 1-3lb; new, 3s 6d to 3s 9d per 65 1-3lb; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65 1-3lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in fair supply and a steady demand, at last week's prices, of 28s to 29s 6d per 504lbs, delivered at Ipswich. There was a small supply of malting barley, generally in good condition, but often rather small in the grain, especially from the lighter lands. Most of the business was done at prices varying from 25s to 31s per quarter, but a few finer parcels changed hands at 32s to 33s per quarter. Oats steady, at 16s. to 17s 6d per quarter. Beans steady, at 29s to 29s 6d per quarter. Indian corn, including lentils, gram, and green peas, were 6d per quarter better. Maize the turn easier; flat at 24s, and Plate at 23s 6d to 24s per quarter. Linseed cakes were 5s per ton dearer. Cotton cakes firm. Other feeding stuffs firm, with bran £4 15s to £5 per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday. — The wheat trade has ruled firm throughout the past week, the tendency of prices being slightly in sellers' favour, and although the demand has been far from active, a fair business has passed in all approved qualities, values of English depending largely on the condition. Indians slightly easier on reported rains. Malting barley meets some inquiry, but prices can scarcely be quoted yet. Spot maize, 9d lower. Other articles unchanged. DUNNS AND CO.

Leicester, Saturday. Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with larger supplies of home-grown wheat, which met a ready sale at firm rates. Red wheat made 28s to 29s, and white wheat 29s to 31s per 36 stones; barley steady at 25s to 34s per 32 stones; new oats, 18s to 20s, and old oats 24s to 25s per 26 stones; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d per 280 lb.

Lincoln, Friday. There was a fair show of English wheat in tolerably good condition, and selling readily at last week's prices. Not enough doing in barleys to test prices. Oats a small show and firm trade.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: The market has had a fair attendance, and wheat meets more demand, red sorts being the turn dearer but Indian is 3d lower. Flour in rather better demand for foreign, but home-milled brands rule quiet; no change is quoted in values of either. Maize: Mixed meets a better demand, but prices are 3d below last Tuesday. Plate is quiet at 3d decline. European sorts are very dull and occasionally 1d dearer. Barley: Malting firm, but quiet at quotations; feeding steady without change. Beans continue strong, and again 3d dearer. Peas in rather better demand, and held occasionally rather firmer. Oats: Foreign move steadily at recent currencies, but English are in fair demand and more steadily held at the quotations. Oatmeal firm, but inactive. Oilcake in fair demand for English cottonseed cakes; foreign makes quiet, but no change of moment is quoted in prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—The wheat trade to-day was without alteration from last week, the tone is firm, but no rise in prices. Barley is in good request for really good samples, which are not plentiful. Oats held up well, as the English are not abundant, and corn from London is dearer than of late. Not any change in the cost of other grain.

Manchester, Thursday.—Again a rather scanty attendance at to-day's weekly market. English wheat had an upward tendency, but ruled unchanged on the week; foreign wheat slightly dearer for most sorts; Australian about 1d per cental higher. Flour slow and unchanged. Indian corn in buyers' favour; American mixed 1d and Plate occasionally 1d lower. English oats in small supply, and dearer at 4s 2d to 4s 6d here; foreign firmer. Barley, foreign, unchanged. Peas easier. Beans unchanged. Bran and thirds quietly steady.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat varied in condition, and sold slowly at last week's prices. Barley in increased supply, but prices were irregular. Oats supported previous prices. Beans rather less money. Wheat, 27s to 28s. Malting baley, 25s to 28s. Oats, 16s to 18s. Beans, 23s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—Fine qualities of wheats was held firmly at last week's prices. Maize steady at last week's quotations, for mixed American; Plate easier; beans favouring buyers; peas unchanged; the trade for barley was irregular, and prices ranged from 23s 6d to 27s, according to qualities; old oats firm; new samples in the favour of buyers.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—There was a larger attendance, but supplies were moderate. There was little more inquiry for barley, but no material change in prices. New wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; barley, 24s to 26s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; new black oats, 16s to 17s; beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a good supply of wheat at our market to-day, with a firm trade at late rates. Barley was in fair supply, with a slow trade, prices very various. The weather has been fine and bright during the past week. Wheat, red, 28s to 29s per qr., weight 63lb. per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending September 11, 1905: Wheat, 2,251, 27s 1½d; barley, 1,346, 22s 10d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in good supply, condition of some parcels not good; a fair business passed at about 6d per qr. decline. Barley: A few samples of the new crop offering of varying qualities; values not fixed. Oats were held for firm rates; beans the same. —ROBT. HUBBLE.

Reading, Saturday.—The attendance and the supply were rather on the small side, and business was somewhat slack. Last week's prices were maintained. Wheat, 28s to 31s; new barley, 24s to 30s; old barley, 21s to 24s; new oats, 16s to 19s; old oats, 18s 6d to 22s 6d; flour, 21s to 23s 6d.

Retford, Saturday.—Only a small supply of wheat, the samples being generally in good condition. Demand improved, especially as there is already the commencement of an inquiry for seed, and currencies were slightly stiffened, being 27s to 28s per qr. More malting barley on offer, but the demand was not great. A fair amount of business was transacted, the best lots making 28s to 31s; secondary, 25s to 27s per qr. Shortage of oats and moderate trade at 16s to 17s for white, and 15s 6d to 16s 6d for black. Round maize, 26s per 34 stones; no flat maize on offer; rye, 19s to 20s per 34 stones; new English beans, 23s 6d to 30s 6d per 38 stones.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d; new wheat, 12s to 12s 9d; old white oats, 16s to 17s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 225lb. Peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d. Beans, 13s. to 14s. per 240lb.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain on offer at this day's market. Wheat rather lower to sell. Barley and oats quiet. Arrivals, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was only a fair attendance on our market to-day, owing to Kingsbridge Show. Wheat firm. Barley 6d dearer. Maize and oats steady. —ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—The market to-day was again thinly attended. Last week's quotations for new grain must be repeated, but there is a quiet trade, and for best qualities only. Flour unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 6d to 13s; ditto red, 12s to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto new, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220lb., 16s 6d to 17s; bran, 10s 6d to 11s.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A fair supply of wheat, trade steady; the best samples making quite as much money. Barley not active, but there is more disposition to buy the better qualities. Not many oats offering and they are rather dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Ripon, Thursday.—Inquiries are being made for wheat for seed purposes, and good samples are making full prices. With a rather better attendance a fair trade is being done. Prices:—New wheat, 27s to 28s 6d; ditto foreign, 32s to 35s; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; ditto malting, 26s to 28s; new oats, 17s to 17s 6d; maize, round, 25s to 26s; ditto flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.; bran, £4 15s to £5 10s per ton.

Stamford, Friday. A very humdrum predominated, and there was an almost imperceptible difference in the trend of the market from last week. Wheats could not command quite so much, making 27s to 27s 6d; 17s to 18s per quarter was obtained for new oats. New beans made 29s to 31s, whilst old samples fetched 31s up to 33s 6d. Barleys still vary greatly, but the price has got within a much smaller compass, viz., 25s to 30s.

Warwick, Saturday. Fair supply of wheat, which sold at the full prices of last week; condition is rather variable. A few samples of malting barley on offer; prices not yet fixed. Good demand for feeding stuffs; prices rather higher.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat fair supply, demand rather quiet at last week's prices; foreign a shade dearer. Barley and oats unaltered. Maize, 3d to 6d easier. Flour, steady trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A moderate supply of grain; full prices paid for best dry samples of wheat; reds, 28s to 28s 6d. Oats quite firm, 16s 6d to 17s 6d. Barley, 24s to 27s. JAMES FLETCHER.

Yeovil, Friday.—English wheat, 30s to 32s; secondary, 27s 6d to 29s; foreign, 30s to 36s; malting barley, 30s to 34s; feeding, 24s to 25s 6d; foreign, 19s to 19s 6d; beans, 35s to 36s 6d; oats, black, 18s to 19s; white, 19s to 18s 6d; bush, black, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 25s; rye, 20s 6d to 21s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Improved demand for flour, particularly millings from old wheat; fine made 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s per sack. Good inquiry for meals and offals at about recent rates.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—A good attendance and a fair amount of business was transacted. Quotations: New wheat, 11s to 12s per 216lb.; flat corn, 27s 6d per 480lb.; English beans, 13s 6d per 196lb.; new oats, 10s to 11s per 196lb.; old oats, 13s to 14s per 196lb.

York. Saturday.—A better supply of wheat, and dry samples sold at last week's rates, fine white making 28s to 29s, and red and mixed 27s to 28s per qr. of 36 stones. Good samples of barley were in demand at 27s to 29s. Middling made 25s to 27s, and feeding 23s to 25s per qr. of 32 stones. Oats firm but scarce, white Tartary quoted 16s to 17s, black 16s 6d to 19s 6d; and white Garton 17s to 18s per qr. of 24 stones. Rye, 20s to 21s per qr. of 36 stones; and beans, 11d to 1s per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Weather changeable, heavy rains and fine sunshine alternating. Trade animative, and prices of most articles tend in sellers' favour. There is a brisk demand for maize and feeding barley. The imports from September 1 till September 13 amounted to 31,638 tons wheat, 10,914 tons rye, 30,385 tons barley, 33,310 tons maize. Fine red Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is selling at 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 504 lb., f.o.b.; American hard winter No. 2, 30s 6d, 78-80, Ko Danubian afloat, 29s. 80, Ko; River Plate, 30s 3d to 30s 9d per 480 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet, 9 15-20 South Russian September-October is offering at 23s per 480 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. The demand for malting barley is improving; considerable quantities of good Bohemian have been taken at 32s 6d to 34s; fine at 34s 6d to 36s; fine Stoeakians are selling at 35s 6d to 37s 6d; good Saale is held at 33s 6d to 36s; East Prussian at 29s to 30s per 448 lb. f.o.b. The late heavy arrivals of Russian feeding barley are quickly cleared off, and 60-61 Ko quality is now held at 17s 3d to 17s 6d per 400 lb. ex. ship here. American and Russian white oats meet a free sale at 15s to 16s 3d per 320 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a good consumptive demand for maize, also for later delivery. Mixed prompt is held at 23s 9d to 24s; January shipment at 21s; River Plate afloat, 22s 6d per 480 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—THOS. TATLOCK.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Barley report: Business remains rather quiet here, as quality is generally disappointing, and our local maltsters and brewers do not care to lay in any stocks, but buy only for immediate requirements. Prices are fairly well maintained, and choice lots are held at former returned figures. The export of Hungarian barley from France has been limited so far, but, as the quality is good, would undoubtedly increase if holders would reduce prices.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Paris. Wednesday.—Prices tend to stiffen in the leading provincial markets, as offers of wheat are falling off, and qualities are gradually deteriorating. At the Bourse de Commerce, under the influence of the small offers at the spot market, the opening tendency was calm, but subsequently stiffened. Prices, nevertheless, do not show any marked change on those ruling yesterday for flour and wheat. Business was a little steadier, though the total turnover was not large. Rye: Nothing doing; prices nominal. Oats are in good demand; the tendency is firm, and prices have recovered from 10 to 25c., according to month. At the weekly spot market the bad weather has hampered the trade in home grown wheat. There is plenty of wheat, but the qualities are such that millers will have to be careful in making their purchases. In foreign wheat there is still nothing doing. In consumption marks of flour business is quiet, and prices remain unchanged. In rice flour the rise continues, due to the lack of arrivals. Of oats there is nothing new to report. In barley the fall continues, as qualities are getting worse instead of better. Maize is quiet.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

The cargo market for wheat has recently been firm, and the enquiry is up to an average. Sales have included South Australian at 33s. per 480 lb., Blue Stem at 32s. per 500 lb., White Walla at 31s. 3d. per 500 lb., Red Walla at 30s. 9d. per 480 lb., Entre Rios at 29s. per 472 lb., Santa Fé at 29s. 3d. per 480 lb., Roumanian at 29s. 9d. per 492 lb., Fine Russian Winter at 33s. per 492 lb., and Odessa Ghurka at 31s. 3d. per 492 lb.

Maize cargoes are held for 3d. advance, but buyers will not admit any rise, and trade is temporarily at a standstill

Barley cargoes are advancing. Californian has made 25s. per 448 lb., Odessa 18s. 3d. per 400 lb., and Nicolaieff 18s. 6d. per 400 lb.

Oats are in excellent demand, and the following transactions are reported:—White Libau cargoes at 15s. 6d. per 320 lb., No. 2 Mixed American at 14s. 9d. per 304 lb., White Clipped American at 15s. 6d. per 320 lb., and Canadian at 15s. 3d. per 320 lb.

A cargo of White Calcutta peas has made 28s. 3d. per 504 lb., and one of Smyrna beans has realised 32s. 6d. per 480 lb.

The Secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards (June shipments) have been made up, viz.:—Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee, Soft Red ditto, Choice White Bombay, Choice White Delhi from Kurrachee, Albara from Calcutta, No. 2 Club Calcutta. Lentils.—Bombay. Gram.—Calcutta. Peas.—Calcutta White, Calcutta Green.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were 10 wheat (3 B. Blanca, 1 Buenos Aires, 1 Concepcion, 1 Geelong, 2 Melbourne, 1 Rosario, 1 Wallaroo), 1 barley (Valparaiso)—Total 11.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call for the week were 6 wheat (1 Antwerp, 2 Cork, 2 Dublin, 1 Rotterdam), 1 barley (Gloucester)—Total 7.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 282 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 5 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 46 linseed.—Total 367.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 222 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 2 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 4 maize, 4 beans, 4 locust beans

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	8	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 16, 1905:—

Wheat	2,354,000	cwts.
Wheat-flour	337,500	,,
Barley	690,600	,,
Oats	290,800	,,
Maize	1,538,400	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,854,900	2,086,000	2,349,235	1,332,400
Wheat-flour	171,100	435,000	417,503	448,400
Barley	590,400	1,053,400	1,239,432	688,700
Oats	233,900	221,700	383,124	408,700
Maize	813,800	1,225,000	581,743	1,024,400

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to September 16, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	61,468½	28	4	41,284½	26	0	21,729⅝	17	1
1901	80,279½	26	0	70,096¾	25	5	26,476⅝	17	4
1902	39,112⅝	27	1	7,600¾	26	4	28,822¼	18	4
1903	45,165	27	5	5,976¾	24	2	20,224⅜	16	4
1904	51,889½	29	7	45,918¾	24	9	37,554½	15	11

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	4

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats, s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	10
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,505,000
Barley	,,	437,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	335,000
Maize	,,	256,000	505,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	53,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	258,000
Maize	,,	30,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites.		Town Households.	
	s.	d.		s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	20	0	(per sack)	27 0
,, 13 ,,	20	0	,,	26 0

No change since last date given.)

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended September 16, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	83,185½	qrs.	26s. 11d.
Barley	36,986⅜	qrs.	23s. 7d.
Oats	23,705	qrs.	16s. 0d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within 10 miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 12, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure. £	s.	d.
Wheat	2,543	2	3,748	6	6	1	7	11
Barley	2,031	4	[illegible]			1	5	2
Oats	2,961	7	[illegible]			0	16	2

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 17	51,[illegible]	29	7	45,[illegible]	24	9	37,[illegible]	16	11
,, 24	53,[illegible]	29	10	89,[illegible]	25	10	42,[illegible]	16	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,[illegible]	25	5	44,[illegible]	16	8
,, 8	54,697½	30	2	143,[illegible]	25	6	43,[illegible]	16	9
,, 15	45,462½	30	5	125,[illegible]	25	4	24,[illegible]	16	7
,, 22	45,960½	30	4	213,190½	25	5	31,445½	16	11
,, 29	47,947½	30	6	221,041½	24	11	29,704½	16	10
Nov. 5	43,313½	30	6	205,[illegible]	25	0	35,145½	16	9
,, 12	43,740½	30	3	204,441½	24	6	32,[illegible]	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,[illegible]	16	0
,, 26	41,359½	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942½	30	4	166,509½	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,[illegible]	24	4	39,[illegible]	16	2
,, 17	44,717½	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,[illegible]	16	2
,, 24	33,336½	30	3	99,597½	24	7	28,914½	16	1
,, 31	21,163½	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,[illegible]	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757½	30	4	45,191	24	4	13,[illegible]	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,[illegible]	24	6	34,[illegible]	16	3
,, 21	45,646½	30	5	90,[illegible]	25	0	32,[illegible]	16	7
,, 28	48,[illegible]	30	6	89,[illegible]	25	1	41,[illegible]	16	7
Feb. 4	49,412½	30	6	75,317½	25	9	41,[illegible]	16	7
,, 11	50,[illegible]	30	7	67,[illegible]	25	2	38,[illegible]	16	5
,, 18	44,[illegible]	30	5	51,[illegible]	25	2	36,[illegible]	16	9
,, 25	42,165½	30	10	39,[illegible]	25	0	30,[illegible]	16	10
Mar. 4	36,[illegible]	30	8	40,[illegible]	25	2	30,[illegible]	16	10
,, 11	38,[illegible]	30	9	23,[illegible]	25	2	24,[illegible]	16	10
,, 18	31,[illegible]	30	10	18,[illegible]	24	11	20,[illegible]	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,[illegible]	25	2	18,[illegible]	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,[illegible]	25	1	17,[illegible]	16	11
,, 8	25,660	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,[illegible]	17	9
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,[illegible]	24	3	14,[illegible]	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,[illegible]	24	4	14,[illegible]	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183½	30	8	3,014	25	3	11,[illegible]	18	9
,, 13	53,146½	27	1	4,172	19	10	18,[illegible]	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	2,[illegible]	18	5
,, 27	21,508½	30	11	761½	24	4	9,[illegible]	18	8
June 3	20,954	31	3	724	23	6	5,912½	19	1
,, 10	16,[illegible]	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,[illegible]	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,[illegible]	19	1
,, 24	11,[illegible]	31	7	145½	23	9	3,[illegible]	18	11
July 1	9,[illegible]	31	4	289½	23	2	3,[illegible]	19	7
,, 8	7,[illegible]	32	1	378½	22	11	2,[illegible]	19	6
,, 15	4,[illegible]	32	3	341	23	10	1,[illegible]	19	7
,, 22	6,[illegible]	32	2	72[illegible]	23	7	2,[illegible]	18	11
,, 29	7,[illegible]	32	3	241	19	9	2,[illegible]	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	371½	22	0	4,[illegible]	18	4
,, 12	8,[illegible]	30	5	648½	22	5	8,[illegible]	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,[illegible]	23	4	13,[illegible]	16	4
,, 26	88,[illegible]	27	1	6,[illegible]	23	6	20,855	16	9
Sept. 2	92,[illegible]	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,[illegible]	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,[illegible]	23	4	20,622½	15	11
,, 16	83,[illegible]	2	11	36,[illegible]	23	7	23,705	16	0

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
September 6 to 13, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	4,781	[illegible]	[illegible]
Barley	1,950	[illegible]	[illegible]
Malt	17,800	...	17,800
Oats	4,591	122,000	[illegible]
Beans	401	4	405
Peas	258	2,584	2,842
Tares	124	...	124
Maize	...	35,077	35,077
Buckwheat	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rye	...	2,420	2,420
Lentils	...	5,460	5,460
Dari	...	250	250
Farmseeds	800	5,800	6,600
Flour ..... sacks	21,676	45,440	[illegible]
Ricemeal	...	5,000	5,000
Riceflour	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oatmeal	...	3,000	3,000

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 6d. Chester: 1s 2d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Exeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 9d to 11d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per 24 oz roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 2d. Macclesfield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ramsey: 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Tornes: 1s 1d to 1s 3d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11½d to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 3d. Howden: 1s to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 2d. Malton: 1s to 1s 1d. Pontefract: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 3d. Worcester: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Friday.—Altrincham: 9 and 10. Ashburton: 12 to 14 per dozen. Barnstaple: 11 to 13. Camelford: 10. Chester: 9. Crewe: 9 and 10. Congleton: 9. Dartmouth: 12. Derby: 10. Exeter: 10. Helmsley: 13. Knutsford: 9 and 10. Leyburn: 12 and 13. Lincoln: 14. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9 and 10. Nantwich: 10 and 11. Northwich: 9. Otley: 10. Redruth: 1s 1d per dozen. Ramsey: 9 and 10. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 8 to 10s. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 10 and 11. Tornes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11 and 12. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 10 and 11. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 11 and 13. Ipswich: 12 to 14. Lancaster: 9. Malton: 12 and 13. Pontefract: 12 and 13. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 11 and 12. Shrewsbury: 10 to 12. Skipton: 9 and 10. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 10. Worcester: 12. York: 11 and 12.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The English wheat crop is threshing out well, but the quality is a little less uniform than at first expected. Locally there are some very big oat crops, but the yield of that cereal as a whole is not up to the average. Barley deliveries show an extraordinary variability, mellow and harsh types coming from contiguous fields, and the amount of discoloration being also extremely varied. Careful selection will be needed, but we do not yet despair of the crop showing, after such selection, an average quantity of fit malting grain.

The American wheat crop is estimated by the New York Produce Exchange at 88,000,000 qr. This is an estimate which is likely to stand examination. In Canada a very good yield is reported

The Russian Government published on the 15th inst. its first official estimate of crops for the whole Empire. Converted into English measures it is as follows:—

	Quarters.
Wheat	66,675,000
Barley	34,110,000
Rye	78,000,000

Of oats it is reported that 64 provinces have yielded 75,197,000 qr. From eight provinces returns are not yet available.

The supply of wheat on passage being now 20 to 30 per cent. below the mean, holders of foreign wheat on spot have manifested a firmer spirit of late, and from the 12th to the 16th inclusive the markets where foreign wheat plays a leading rôle were upholding the purely country markets. It is very difficult to lay down any hard and fast rule on buying and selling, but when less than two million qr. of foreign wheat is on passage to the United Kingdom it is scarcely ever expedient to press sales of the home crop. It is practically impossible for the wheat markets to be over-supplied with foreign wheat between now and the end of October, so that a really resolute attitude on the part of British farmers must cause a rally in prices between now and then. That such an attitude will actually be adopted is our strong hope. The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom on the 16th inst. was only 1,800,000 qr., against an average of perhaps 2,500,000 qr., and the expectations of foreign flour, 250,000 sacks, were just half an average.

Our expectations of foreign barley are moderate, but of maize, linseed, and oats they exceed an average. Of rice they are only 38,000 tons, against 57,000 tons a year ago. Of cottonseed they are also moderate, viz., 12,000 tons, against 21,000 tons a year ago.

Stocks of wheat in various foreign ports on September 1 thus compare with a year ago:—

Quarters.	1905.	1904.
Paris	90,000	75,000
Other French towns	275,000	150,000
Antwerp	120,000	150,000
Ten chief German towns	175,000	300,000
Fifteen Russian ports	950,000	1,000,000
Four chief Argentine ports	310,000	430,000

It will be seen that France alone holds an increased quantity of foreign wheat and that the decrease elsewhere more than counterbalances the French increase. Supplies of breadstuffs on passage on the Continent on September 16 were as follows:—

	Quarters.
1905	1,925,000
1904	1,510,000
1903	1,310,000

Flour prices at the mid-month thus compare with recent seasons:—

Sept. 15.	1905.	1904.	1903.
Top Price	29s 0d	32s 0d	30s 0d
Best American	29s 0d	32s 0d	27s 6d
Iron Duke	28s 0d	28s 0d	28s 0d
Town Whites	27s 0d	30s 0d	25s 6d
Household	24s 6d	27s 0d	25s 6d

It will be seen that while American is still dearer than in 1905, Whites and Households are cheaper.

Last week's imports were as follows:

Wheat, 524,000 quarters; a large supply.
Flour, 117,000 sacks; a moderate supply.
Barley, 126,000 quarters; an average supply.
Oats, 157,000 quarters; above an average.
Maize, 49,000 quarters; very large arrivals.

The sales of English wheat at the statute markets were large, but not quite so heavy as in the preceding week. The total imports and home supplies of breadstuffs may be reckoned as follows:

	Quarters.
English wheat	196,000
Imported breadstuffs	621,000
Total breadstuffs	817,000

According to the latest returns, wheat stocks include 620,000 qr. in Liverpool and Fleetwood, 69,000 qr. in Manchester, 142,000 qr. in Bristol, 21,000 qr. in Hull, 146,000 qr. in Gloucester, 102,000 qr. in Leith and Edinburgh, and 56,000 qr. in the Clyde Estuary, including, of course, Glasgow. London is said to hold 200,000 qr. of wheat, but no returns will be published until early in October. The cry for regular monthly Board of Trade returns of London wheat stocks is loud, but, incredible as it may appear, we believe that an Act of Parliament is requisite before the authorities can do anything.

Last week's shipments from America were 56,000 qr. of wheat, 12,000 qr. of barley, 107,000 qr. of oats, 138,000 qr. of maize, and 108,000 sacks of flour. These figures show a considerable increase in the case of oats and flour, but remain exceedingly small for wheat and barley.

South America last week shipped 84,000 qr. of wheat, 270,000 qr. of maize, and 61,000 qr. of linseed. These exports show a slight but general decline on the week.

Canadian wheat exports to British ports for the three last cereal years have been as follows:—

September 1, 1904—August 31, 1905 .. 1,248,000 qrs.
September 1, 1903—August 31, 1904 .. 2,928,000 qrs.
September 1, 1902—August 31, 1903 .. 3,304,000 qrs.

These are not satisfactory figures but the new cereal year is expected to show a material improvement.

Indian wheat shipments to the United Kingdom for the same three cereal years have been as follows:—

September 1, 1904—August 31, 1905 .. 6,787,000 qrs.
September 1, 1903—August 31, 1904 .. 5,401,000 qrs.
September 1, 1902—August 31, 1903 .. 2,778,000 qrs.

These figures show that India has done remarkably well, and though the crop of 1905 reaped in April was smaller than that of 1904 by eight million qr., the shipments since May 1 have been liberal.

Australasia shipped wheat to the United Kingdom as follows:—

September 1, 1904—August 31, 1905 .. 3,042,000 qrs.
September 1, 1903—August 31, 1904 .. 1,534,000 qrs.
September 1, 1902—August 31, 1903 .. 19,000 qrs.

Our South African colonies are, we regret to say, importers and not exporters of wheat.

Maize shipments from January 1 to September 15 were as follows:—

America to U.K.	3,800,000 qrs.
America to Cont.	5,050,000 qrs.
Argentina to U.K.	4,600,000 qrs.
Argentina to Cont.	2,500,000 qrs.
Russia to U.K.	215,000 qrs.
Russia to Cont.	460,000 qrs.
Various to U.K.	200,000 qrs.
Various to Cont.	150,000 qrs.
Total	16,975,000 qrs.

This is a larger total than in the like period of 1904, but a good deal less than in the season of 1903. La Plata this year has surpassed her previous exports—even those of 1903, but America has shipped less to the United Kingdom though more to the Continent. The absence of Roumania from the list of maize shippers is a remarkable fact of the present season. In 1903 over two million qr. of maize left Roumanian ports and contributed materially to the good total of that export campaign.

Rye shipments for the period August 1-September 16 have been as folows:—

Qrs.—Russia.	Other Countries.	Total.
1905 570,000	.. 60,000 ..	630,000
1904 500,000	.. 3,000 ..	503,000
1903 475,000	.. 110,000 ..	585,000

It will be seen that despite the falling-off in the "various" item since 1903, the total trade in rye has increased. The American and Roumanian rye crops this season are said to leave no exportable surpluses.

Russian linseed shipments for August are ascertained to have been as follows:—

1905	53,000 qrs.
1904	21,000 qrs.
1903	45,000 qrs.

Very little wild rapeseed or ravison is being shipped this season. In August the total clearances for all Euxine ports were under 4,000 qr., against 13,905 qr. in the month of August, 1904, and about ten thousand qr. in an average month.

London imports of rapeseed have been:—

January 1—September 15, 1905 .... 40,400 qrs.
January 1—September 15, 1904 .... 30,800 qrs. ..

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September, 18.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	46 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	41 to 45
Calcutta	37 to 39
Argentine	36 to 37
Turkish	43 to 45
Persian	38 to 39

COTTONSEED. per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/6 to 5/7
Indian	4/6 to 4/9

RAPESEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Dutch	52 to 54
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	41 to 42
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian Fine	34 to 36
,, Wild	24 to 26

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Indian	38 to 39

SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb.	
White	41 to 48
Black	42 to 46

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September 18.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day was freely offered. Good dry samples fit for early use in the mill made 30s. and upwards per 504 lb. but damp and secondary grain was rather pressed on sale at 27s. to 28s. for the same good weight, 25s. to 27s. for light weight. Meyer wheat was the turn dearer from the 15th. Russian, Argentine, and Australian sold well, and Indian was quite as good a trade as formerly. American wheat does not move off very well. Maize was decidedly steadier from the 11th, but business was not brisk. Oats were 3d. dearer for Russian sorts, and firm for American. No changes were quoted in new English. Malting barley was a larger show of samples, but very few of them reached really fine quality. Feeding barley was the turn in sellers' favour. Beans and peas were quiet at previous prices. There is a decline of 1s. per qr. on the week on Calcutta, Argentine, and Persian linseed, and of 2s. per qr. on poppyseed. Prices for rapeseed and cottonseed are as good as they were a week ago.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	33	— 34
New White	,,	29	— 32
Old Red	,,	32	— 33
New ,,	,,	28	— 30
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	30	— 34
Brewing	,,	27	— 29
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	,,	26	— 30
Black	,,	31	— 33
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	75	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	29	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	52	— 56
(Spring)	,,	54	— 58
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 29
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.:		
Mitoba Best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33/6	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29/6	— 30
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 22
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	—14/6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb.)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb.)	15	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	23—23/3	
Argentine	22/6	—23
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	32	— 33
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 43
Canadian	39	— 41
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH STEADINESS IN ALL THE LEADING STAPLES, AND THERE WAS A VERY FAIR GENERAL BUSINESS DOING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, September 18.

There was a fair business doing in household flour at 24s. cash, and a modest trade in London whites at 27s. also cash. Country flour was a big business at prices as given. The Cambridge, Ipswich, and Norwich millers, always of importance on the London market, have latterly been more than ever to the front. American flour was weak and in buyers' favour. Hungarian flour also looked like going lower very shortly. Australian flour was slow at previous prices. French flour was neglected. Hardly any Argentine flour was obtainable. There was no special change in middlings, pollard, or bran. Whole meal contined to command a steady sale at currencies.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30
Town Whites	,,	27
,, Households	,,	24
No. 2	,,	21
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25
,, No. 2	,,	23
Paste Flour	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents (Old Crop FFr)	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ord'y Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23
Best Patents (New Crop Flour)	,,	24 — 25
Fine Roller whites	,,	23 — 24
rd'y Roller ,,	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/9 — 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20 — 20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26 — 28
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6 — 21
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	27 — 28
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 32
,, 1	,,	30 — 31
,, 2	,,	29 — 30
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	16	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	— 35
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	— 14
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	— 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9	— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 22
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 9d.	Sept. delivery.	
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Nov.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Jan.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Mar.	,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Nov. delivery.	
,,	4s. 3d.	Jan.	,,
,,	4s. 3d.	Mar.	,,

Futures to-day Futures to-day are quiet for American red winter wheat, at 6s 8d for December delivery. Maize, at 4s 4d for January delivery, is rather dearer from Saturday.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fairly good demand for a fair supply. Prices: Young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; young partridges, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 1s 6d to 2s per brace; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Essex fowls, 2s to 3s; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s; geese, 6s to 7s 6d; country ducks, 2s to 2s 6d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 6d; black game, 1s 2d; snipe, 6d to 8d; quails, 1s to 1s 4d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 9d to 1s; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour. Trade continues slow, with rather more firmness on the part of sellers. Grain. Indian corn quiet at 1s. 7½d. per 280 lb. Shipping prices of oats are higher, which helps the sale of spot lots at prices in sellers' favour. Barley again in small compass, and is held at 9d. to 1s. per boll advance. Pease steady. Beans very firm. Oil-cake in fair demand. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and Thirds unchanged at 82s. 6d. to 87s. 6d. per ton. McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—Bran in fairly good demand; no further change to report in prices. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour. Trade quiet, and prices practically unchanged. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

THE AMERICAN MAIZE CROP. By mid-September the American maize crop is regarded as safe in all the principal States. The yield is expected to be 327,500,000 qr. on the ascertained acreage. If it reaches this total, it will constitute a record. The above is the essence of two cablegrams which reached Mark Lane in the course of to-day's market.—(Special to M. L. E., September 18, 1905).

Wheat arrivals are small. The trade is firm at full prices of last Monday. Flour unchanged. Maize meets a better demand at full prices. Barley 3d. per qr. dearer. Oats in good demand at an improvment of 9d. to 1s. per qr.—COVENTRY AND CO.

Milling Offals.—The demand just about keeps mills clear; no change in prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—The demand for trifolium still drags along, in spite of the high price stocks exceptionally. Prices firm. Rape, mustard, rye, and winter tares moving off at unchanged prices. Samples of the new spring seeds coming out slowly.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: The demand is a little better. American made continues in favour at present prices, though shippers now ask considerably more money. There is no change to report in London-made values. Undecorticated cotton cake: Trade dull, and hardly any business passing whatever. Market is lower. Decorticated cotton cake meal: The inquiry is very good and with continued scarcity of stocks prices are well maintained. Linseed steady at last quotations.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7 10 0	
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay		
Russian Oil Cake	,, ex quay	7 8 9	to 7 13 9
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 17 6	
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 12 6	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 12 6	
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 17 6	
Morocco Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 8 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 1 6	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	to 2 6 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	
Larmea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.			
London—Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London		
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,, ,,			
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

All cereals seem hardening for future shipment, the cargo sales put through since Saturday inclining to higher prices for wheat, barley, oats, maize, and beans.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Rosaria, 29s 6d per 480 lb. prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 31s 6d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Red Walla, 31s per 500 lb., prompt shipment; Blue Stem, 32s per 500 lb., prompt shipment; Roumanian, 30s per 492 lb., October shipment; Roumanian, 29s 3d per 480 lb., October shipment; White Calcutta, 31s 9d per 492 lb., on passage; White Kurrachee, 31s 3d per 492 lb., on passage.

BARLEY.—Roumanian, 20s 3d per 416 lb., October shipment; Kustendje, 20s per 416 lb., October shipment.

OATS.—Petersburg, 14s 9d per 312 lb., prompt shipment; Volojda, 15s 6d per 320 lb., October shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480 lb., November shipment; American, 20s per 480 lb., January shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 32s 9d per 480 lb., November shipment.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 35s 3d per 416 lb., arrived; Bombay, 38s per 416 lb., October shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 7s 6d per 2,240 lb., October shipment.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, report:—There has been a considerable clearance of English hops during the past week. Choice hops are being particularly inquired for.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were, from Ireland 1,752 bales, and from foreign ports 13,767 bales. The prices for bacon were generally reduced last week, resulting in a steadier trade with more demand, prices ranging: Irish, 58s to 63s. up to 66s; Danish, 52s to 59s. up to 64s; Canadian, 52s to 56s up to 58s, and quoted 60s. Butter: The butter market was generally slow, with French, 90s. to 110s; Danish, 118s to 121s; Russian, 96s to 106s; Irish, 98s to 112s; Canadian, 90s to 112s; Australian, 96s to 112s; American, 86s to 104s. Lard: The lard market was quiet. Irish, 44s to 64s; Danish, 58s; American, 38s 3d to 40s 6d.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 18, 1905 Between.	Total, Sept. 18, 1905	Monday Sept. 19, 1904
Beasts	1,200	1,245	1,130
Sheep and Lambs	6,200	6,200	7,100
Calves	5	5	5
Milch Cows	60	60	60

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d	4s 0d	4s 2d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 4d	4s 6d
Lambs	4s 10d	5s 4d	6s 2d

Milch cows, per head, £17 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 50; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,000; Devon, 25; Ireland, 104.

We note to-day an increase of 150 head compared with the corresponding day last week, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Midland counties. Trade was of a steady nature in the early morning, but became slower as the day advanced. Nevertheless, late currencies gave neat all transactions. The Irish arrivals consisted of 91 Dublins and 13 Waterfords, this class of cattle meeting with one of the slowest trades noted for several weeks, consequently a decline of 2d. had to be accepted to effect sales. Fat butchering cows and bulls, of which too many middling quality were on offer, met with a limited demand by country buyers, rates falling in consequence 2d. per 8 lb. A clearance is, however, expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 19, 1904.
Devons	4s 6d to 4s 8d	
Herefords	4s 6d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 4d ex 4s 6d	4s 4d ex 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 0d	
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 6d ex 3s 8d

There was an increase of 770 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a steady nature, both in regard to tone and value, the tendency being an upward one. Scotch descriptions met with a good demand at late currencies; the same remark applies to the Irish trade, with an advance in value of 2d. per 8 lb. Lambs were in short supply and met with little inquiry, the season being now practically over; consequently neither trade nor prices are worth quoting. The supply included 300 Scotch, 1,730 Irish, and 464 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 19, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
5 st Down Lambs	—	5s 8d to 5s 10d
6 st Half-bred ditto	—	5s 6d to 5s 8d

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Fair supply, trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; English, 3s 9d to 3s 9d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 6d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Scotch lamb, 5s to 5s 4d; Dutch, 4s 6d to 4s 8d. Veal, 3s to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s 4d to 5s per 8 pounds.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 324, sheep 2,119, pigs 383, horses 16. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 9d to 7s 6d. Fat and store cattle fair; fat sheep good demand, stores fair; fat and store pigs good demand; milch cows fair show, trade, prices £15 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,150. To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed an increase of 219 head, the supply consisting of 516 from the United States and 620 from Canada. Trade was of a slightly slower nature, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 1d per 8 lb. The best States on offer to quote from 3s 11d to 4s 1d; seconds, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; and Canadians, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 7d per 8 lb. (sinking the offal). On Saturday 1,889 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and with a firm and steady trade were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d per 8 lb. (offal given in.)

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle practically unaltered, demand slow and prices unchanged. Considerable decrease in number of sheep on offer, notwithstanding this, trade was of a dragging character for all classes; strong and middling sheep 2s lower, though lamb descriptions did not suffer to quite the same extent. Beef, 5½d to 5d per lb.; mutton, 8d to 6d. At market—1,274 cattle and 8,441 sheep.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Trade fairly brisk, a plentiful supply of fruit and greenstuffs being on offer. Quotations: Grapes, 0d to 3s; pears, 2s 6d to 6s 6d per half-sieve; ditto, 4s. 6d to 7s 6d per box; blackberries, 1s 6d to 2s per peck; apples, 3s to 7s 6d per bushel; plums, 1s 6d to 4s; damsons, 2s to 2s 6d per half-sieve; pinecapples, 1s 6d to 3s each; melons, 0d to 1s 6d; peaches, 1s to 1s; nectarines, 1s to 1s 6d; green figs, 6d to 1s 6d per doz.; cob nuts, 4s to 5s 6d; filberts, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; walnuts, 4s to 4s 6d per 12 lb; tomatoes, 1s 6d to 2s 9d; onions (green), 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; ditto (picklers), 5s to 6s per cwt.; marrows, 3s to 5s 6d; cabbages, 3s to 5s per tally; scarlet runners, 9d to 1s 6d; [illegible] 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; green artichokes, 1s 6d to [illegible] per dozen; carrots, 1s 6d to 3s; turnips, 1s 6d to [illegible]; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 3s 6d to 12s; celery, 8s to 10s per dozen rolls; mushrooms, 6s to 10s per 12 lb; cucumbers, 2s 6d to 3s; endive, 9d to 1s 3d; cauliflowers, 1s to 2s per dozen; cos lettuce, 9d to 1s 3d per score; potatoes, 45s to 70s per ton.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday. A good supply, and trade quiet. Quotations: Caerphillies, 4s to 5s per cwt.; dairies, 54s to 56s; truckles, 58s to 60s; Derbies, 52s to 63s.; and Cheddars, 58s to 58s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese were not so liberal to-day. A quieter tone pervaded the market, sellers being disposed to meet buyers. Dealers were not inclined to buy till they work off a portion of the stock they possess. Business generally goes quieter from now till the Kilmarnock cheese takes place. Cheddars varied from 54s to 60s, and Dunlops from 52s to 58s per cwt.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week there was an increase in the number of beasts offered for sale. Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality, which consisted chiefly of Midlands and Irish (these latter comprising 30 Dublins and 27 Waterfords) was, taken as a whole, of a firmer and steadier nature; the tendency in regard to value favouring the sellers. Irish cattle though slow of sale, were firm and steady, late rates being well maintained. On Thursday, trade as usual was entirely confined to fat butchering cows and bulls from the Midlands, trade for which, though slow, was firm in regard to value, late currencies governing all transactions. At Deptford there was an increase in the supply compared with the previous week, trade notwithstanding this was firm and steady, at a slight advance in value. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 5,196, as against 4,561 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,090 British, and 4,106 foreign (increase 635), these latter consisted of 3,418 from the United States, and 688 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone runts, 4s. 4d., exception, 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadian, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d., exception, 3s. 8d.

The sheep trade at Islington, with an increase in the supply, was decidedly firmer, in some cases, sellers both asking and obtaining 2d. per 8 lb. more money, this remark being applicable to both wethers and ewes. Scotch were in average supply and shared in the generally better tone of the trade. Irish met a steady inquiry at a similar advance of 2d. Lambs were in excess of the demand, nevertheless no decline in value is quotable. At Deptford a few Canadian sheep were offered for sale and met with a fairly steady trade. The total number penned at both markets was 8,117 (increase 797), consisting of 7,450 British (increase 130), and 667 Canadians. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 8½ stone Canadians, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 5 stone fat Down lambs, 6s. to 6s. 2d.; 6 stone half-bred ditto, 5s. 10d. to 6s.

Calves numbered 30 and met with a slow, but firm, trade at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.

Pigs—80, trade fairly steady; top value, small breeds, were quoted at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Just at present interest centres largely in the great sheep sales now in progress or about to take place, and although sales, except occasionally, have scarcely come up to expectations, still there is not any great room for discouragement, working lambs being the most notable exception to this, as in some cases, and for ewes as well, they are hardly making the money they did last June. Some flockmasters consider there has been a decline of from 1s. to 2s. a head, but whether this is so or not, one thing is certain, and that is that sheep, as a ruel, are worth no more, even if so much, as two or three months since. A general run in these parts for regular draft ewes may be given as from about 38s. to 50s.; two-teeth ewes, 44s. to 52s.; grazing ewes, 37s. to 43s.; wether lambs, 34s. to 42s., and those for butchering purposes 44s. to 54s.; Chilver lambs, 29s. to 37s.; mixed lambs, 27s. to 34s. Many thousands have changed hands at these prices during the past week, and still larger numbers are down for sale during the next fortnight, which will practically see the end of most of the off-going sheep, what is sold later being mostly culls.

Amongst store cattle milch beasts are just now selling more freely than anything else, and prices are steadily moving upwards, the best now selling from £17 to £20, or £21, and seconds from £13 to £16. Young stock, especially those calving down early, are also in active request, at steadily hardening values. Barreners, though relatively not much dearer than they were last week, are, with the rapid growth of the pastures after the rain, also finding a much readier sale, but only the least, so far, are making up to £26 or £27 per pair, as many are not yet in a position to buy, a more ordinary range for the bulk of the animals now on the market being from about £20 to £25, and for very plain bullocks or poor class cows there is a very quiet sale at from £16 to £18, or £19, this class of animal, as yet, not being wanted, though they may be later on.

In fat stock there are a few good steers, and heifers occasionally to be met with, and these command a fairly active sale at from 54s. to 58s. per cwt. for the very primest qualities, and for anything not possessing quite the finish 46s. to 50s.; inferior, with a more restricted demand, from 44s. to 45s., this quotation applying to old cows and coarse bulls. Calves, though still saleable, are back again for anything, but the very choicest for these 7½d. to 8¼d. is the current value, and for those not quite so well turned out of hand 6d. to 7d., with a much quieter sale at the price. Choice wether mutton, of which there is some exceptionally good now coming out, is very firm in price, making up to 8½d. for the ripest meaty lambs, but seconds are not bringing the price they were, and cannot be quoted more than 7d. to 7½d., and the rougher grades not quite so much. Young, well-furnished ewes continue to find a steady sale at 7½d., but old sheep meet a very poor sale of 6d. to 6½d., very little of this class being wanted, purveyors centering their attention almost entirely on the better-class meat. Pigs are not selling as well as they were, prices once more favouring the buyer, even for the best the outside value of which is 9s. to 10s. per score for the very neatest gilts; baconers, 8s. to 8s. 6d.; and coarse, heavy, which are lacking in demand compared with a few weeks back, 7s. 6d. to 8s.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer has been a fair average. For everything of good quality decidedly higher prices have been got, while secondary descriptions also made rather more money. Sheep have been shown in fair numbers, but there was a scarcity of good quality, and high prices have been realised, with a satisfactory clearance. Fat lambs also command a ready sale. Fat calves considerably dearer, while pigs have also shown an upward tendency. Rather more store cattle on offer. There was a good demand and a nearly total clearance effected at fully previous prices. For half-bred ewes there has been an active inquiry, and last year's prices exxceeded by 1s. to 2s. a head. Lambs also in good demand, and everything of a fair class got sold out. Milch cows met a rather better trade.

Quotation:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 39s. 9d.; current from 35s. to 37s. 6d.; Irish from 32s. to 35s. 6d.; mutton from 8d. to 9d. per lb.

John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

Business was pretty much on the same lines as on the previous Thursday, except that rough and lean animals were more difficult to move. For prime bullocks and heifers there was a brisk inquiry, and for the choicest descriptions a quick sale. A great deal of very indifferent beef is being at present pressed on the Dublin market, owners seeming determined to get rid of surplus stock before the winter sets in, and seem to ignore the fact that these cattle are heavily handicapped in having to compete with the splendid American, etc., frozen beef now being so largely landed at English ports. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 54s. to 56s., and, in the case of a few extra lots, up to 58s. per cwt; good second-class beef from 47s. to 52s. 6d.; and other sorts from 45s. per cwt. upwards. In the mutton department, best qualities of aged wethers met with a good sale at about former rates, and shipping hoggets also sold well. For ewes—particularly those of a coarser sort—there was a very slack demand at lower prices. The season for lamb is practically over, and though there are plenty of lambs in market, there was a very disappointing inquiry, except for choice ones purchased by local victuallers. For prime wether mutton from 7d. to 7½d. per lb. was given; ewe ditto, 6d. to 7d.; and coarse sheep from 5d. to 5½d. Large, heavy hoggets sold at from 45s. to 56s. each, and small to medium ditto from 32s. to 42s. Lambs made from 20s. up to 40s. each, with a slow sale. Really good veal calves sold readily at from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., but coarse calves were neglected at from 5d. per lb. upwards.

For milch cows trade was much the same as the previous day. For large, young springers there was a good demand at full prices, but other sorts sold slowly, with prices tending downwards.

The store cattle trade seems to be on the look up, and at the various sales held in Dublin the transactions were satisfactory. The great fair of Banagher, which opened on Friday, September 15, gives the tone to the trade for autumn, so the business done there is anxiously looked to. In the north of Ireland the fairs all appear to have an upward tendency so far as cattle are concerned. In the pig market there was a further decrease in supplies, and with a fairly good attendance of buyers, business was supported with more vigour, and for the best quality terms were better, but, taken as a whole, it could not be said that prices were in advance of the previous week, but an early clearance was effected. Best light-weight pigs made from 52s. to 54s. per cwt.; coarse at from 35s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply, compared with Thursday last, showed an increase of thirty head, and consisted almost entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, for which trade was slow but firm, late currencies governing all transactions. The few fat beasts offered met little or no inquiry, consequently quotations not worth recording. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Sheep trade ruled fairly firm, late rates being well upheld, choice small weights finding ready purchasers; this remark applies equally to Scotch sheep. Lambs were in very little request, the season being over. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows: 7½st to 8st Down sheep, 5s 10d to 6s; 8st. Scotch, 5s 10d; 9st Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10st. ditto, 5s 6d; 10st. half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st. Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 5st fat Down lambs, 6s to 6s 2d. Calf trade slow, but firm. First consignment of pigs this season, for which trade ruled fairly steady, neat small porkers being quoted at 4s 6d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb., sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 8d; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 4d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 6d; lambs, 4s 10d to 6s 2d. Total supply: Beasts, 60; sheep and lambs, 1,330; calves, 20; pigs, 80; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Heavy supplies were on the market, for which a fair inquiry prevailed, at firm prices. Arrivals of beef included 70 tons Scottish, 230 Liverpool sides, 2,000 hindquarters, and 1,500 forequarters American refrigerated, also 2,400 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long sides, 4s to 4s 2d; English, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; American Deptford killed, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Liverpool sides, 3s 4d to 3s 7d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 8d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; River Plate, frozen, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 6d to 5s 2d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. Lamb: Scotch, 5s to 5s 4d; New Zealand, 3s 2d to 3s 8d; Dutch, 4s 6d to 4s 8d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 6d to 5s; Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 10d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Fair trade for good beef at 4s 6d to 4s 8d; cows, at 3s 8d to 4s; mutton rather cheaper for inferior grades; Downs, 5s 2d to 5s 10d; Kents, up to 5s; ewes, 3s 8d to 4s per stone. Lamb, veal, and pork unchanged.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 45 fat beasts, 59 calves, 359 fat sheep and lambs, 114 pigs, and 208 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat shorthorn steers made up to £22, heifers £19, cows £15, bulls £14 10s, Devon steers up to £18 15s, and prime West Highland steers £18 to £22 10s, black polled cows £13 5s, fat calves 75s to £5 10s, small 20s to 60s, fat hogs 70s to 97s 6d, fat porkers 26s to 57s, store pigs 14s to 21s 6d, dairy cows £8 10s to £20, prime quality Down wethers and ewes 52s to 57s, small ditto 45s to 50s, eight months' old Down lambs 46s to 50s, small 35s to 42s, old ewes 36s to 42s, rams 45s to 52s, three months old sucking lambs 28s to 36s, black-faced Scotch wethers 33s 6d to 37s 6d, Welsh sheep 22s to 23s 6d. Prime quality fat beasts in demand, and full prices paid for them. Second-class and inferior a slow trade. Fat sheep and lambs met a good inquiry, and a clearance very nearly made, and prices well maintained. The best class milch cows found a ready sale at late rates. Store cattle continued a slow business. Fat calves met a fair trade at reduced prices. Fat porkers, with a short entry, made high prices. Store pigs also met with a good inquiry. Ruling values: Best quality fat beasts, 6½d to 7d; secondary ditto, 6d to 6½d; cows, bulls, and interior beasts, 5d to 5½d; best fat sheep and lambs, 8¼d to 9d; secondary ditto, 7½d to 8d per lb.; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; three months' old sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8¼d; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 10s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Only 33 cattle offered, but this was an advance of 25 on the previous Saturday. Quality of stock good. Trade slow. Prices per head:—Heifers, £9 10s to £11 10s; ball polled-bullocks, £12 10s; cows, £16 10s to £23.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade good for pigs, and slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6¾d to 7½d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.; bacon pigs, 10s per score; porkets, 10s 3d per score; cutting, 9s 9d to 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Business quiet, and prices practically the same as those last week. Beef was in moderate supply, and trade slow at current rates. There was rather less mutton than usual, and with trade steady values were unchanged, though the lamb trade, which is nearly over, was quiet, and prices declined to 8d and 8½d per lb.; pigs were not numerous, and there was an average demand at last week's prices.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
8sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¼ in. ...	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	,, 2⅜ in. ...	8	6
Under 12 sc.	,, 3 in. ...	8	0

C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Canterbury, Saturday. A steady trade. Lambs, 21s to 33s each; wether tegs, up to 44s 6d; and ewe tegs, up to 50s; useful ewes ranged from 33s to 38s, and a few special animals up to 45s. Some Shropshire ram tegs were making £5 apiece.

Carlisle, Saturday.—In view of Carlisle Latter Fair on Tuesday there was an exceptionally large supply of Irish cattle on the Sands to-day, chiefly heifers of a good class. Buyers were numerous, and a steady trade was experienced. Small heifers made £6 10s to £10 10s, wintering heifers £10 10s to £14, and those for finishing off purposes £15 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—Large supplies of stock in excellent condition. Buyers attended in good numbers, and the market opened with a better demand all round. Later on business became a little quieter, but prices were decidedly firmer. Sheep pens were well filled, and a

considerable trade was done at satisfactory prices. Milch cows made £16 to £22, calves £14 to £20, barrens £10 to £13, heifers £9 to £15, stirks £6 to £10, and sheep 17s to 41s each.

Chichester, Wednesday. Trade for store cattle was dragging, and many lots were turned out unsold. Good fresh calved cows and heifers sold well, and late prices were maintained. There was more demand for fat cattle and a slight advance in rates. Quotations: Prime Devon steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown wether sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; prime West Country ditto, 6s 2d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; porkers, 3s 8d to 4s.

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Calves, £4 to £6 each; seconds, 64s to 78s; and rearers, 16s to 38s. Wether mutton met a quick sale at 8d to 8½d per lb. (or 46s to 53s per head); ewes, 36s to 50s (or 7d to 7½d). Lambs, 35s to 43s (or 10d); seconds, 32s to 34s (or 9d). Pigs brought extreme rates; porkers, 44s to 58s (or 10s to 10s 3d per score); baconers, 60s to 65s (or 9s to 9s 6d); cows, £4 to £7 5s; stores, 25s to 48s; slips, 14s to 22s.

Dorchester. Saturday. Very good offers of most things came to hand at to-day's market, at which sales were held by Messrs. Duke and Son and by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson. Good things met a ready sale at full prices, but secondary things were in restricted demand at prices scarcely as good as of late. Milch beasts made up to £21 for the best heifers, others making £16 10s to £21; secondary, £11 15s to £15 15s. Good fat beasts sold very well, heifers and steers bringing £15 15s; heifers to £22 15s. Limited offer of mutton, but quite enough for the trade, late rates ruling; wethers selling up to 44s (or 7d per lb.), and wethers to 48s 6d each (or 8d).

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle, and plenty of sheep, but no improvement in trade. Cattle sold at late rates, milch beasts making £17 to £22, bullocks £12 to £17, heifers and drapes £11 to £16, stirks £6 to £8, and young stores £4 to £6 each. Lambs a slower sale at 30s to 37s, and Lincolnshire ewes 42s to 54s each.

Leicester, Saturday.—With the greatly improved pastures there were large consignments of home-bred stock, which came to hand in very fair condition, and trade showed a slight improvement, buyers and dealers being better represented. Choice milch cows were scarce, and sold freely at £20 to £22 per head. Good lots made £17 to £19, secondary £15 to £16, Irish bullocks £12 to £15, Welsh cattle £9 to £13, and calves 16s to 35s each. Sheep were a large supply, and sold readily, lamb hoggs making 25s to 34s, and breeding ewes 38s to 45s per head.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market:—Beasts 3,823, increase 342; sheep 9,162, decrease 862; calves 46, increase 1. Choice cattle very scarce and in good demand at last week's top quotation. Middling and inferior sorts much in excess of requirements; demand for these slow and prices lower. Sheep, quieter trade at late rates. Lambs, except the very choicest, getting out of season. Cattle, live weight, best, 29s to 32s per cwt.; exceptional for Angus crosses up to 34s per cwt.; secondary and inferior qualities, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — There was a fair show and a slightly better demand. Cheviot sheep sold at 30s to 36s, Cheviot lambs 22s to 30s, Cheviot ewes to 32s, horned bullocks £13 to £14 10s, polled bullocks to £15, stirks to £9, shorthorned cows £22 to £28, and Ayrshire £15 15s to £18 18s.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beef; trade slow. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s per score; cows, 9s to 10s. Good many remained unsold. Immense supply of sheep, quality not generally good; wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb.; ewes, 6d to 6½d; lambs, 10d. All the best cleared out. Breeding ewes, 36s to 42s. Large number on offer, but a good many remained unsold. Very slow sale for Bridgwater class of sheep, 36s to 42s. Good number failed to find purchasers. Calves, 7½d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Trade was fairly good for live stock. Sheep and lambs inclined to ease. Top hoggs, 9d; secondary, 8½d to 8¾d; top wedders, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7½d to 8d; top lambs, 9d to 9½d per lb; top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 57s to 58s; secondary, 53s to 55s per cwt. Dead meat firm; Scotch beef, 6d; Staffs, 5½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—A good supply of cows and calves and in-calvers, which sold very readily at advanced prices. A moderate supply of store cattle and fair trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A moderate supply of beef, which maintained late rates; best heifer and bullock up to 6½d per lb., and cow beef at about 4½d per lb., trade for which was slow. Veal, a fair supply for the time of year, made up to 7d. per lb. Sheep were a big supply, mostly store ewes, the best lots of which sold at satisfactory prices. There were but few wethers or ewes, the prices for which were 8d and 6d per lb. respectively. Fat and store lambs were a moderate market, the former at about 8½d per lb., and the latter making from 25s up to 32s and 33s apiece. Pigs were a larger supply than last week. Porks realised 5½d per lb., bacons 5d per lb. Store pigs met with a firm trade. Store cattle slow. The highest prices for Shropshire rams was 10 guineas, and Shropshire ewes 51s. Ryeland and cross-bred ewes sold fairly well up to 42s each.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a good supply of fat cattle, half of which were yarded and the remainder grass cattle from the Midland Counties and Ireland. The home-fed animals were of medium weight and first-class quality, and met a sharp trade up to 9s per stone. Grass cattle were not so much in request as last week, and prices were lower, 7s 9d being the top quotation. More grazing steers were on offer; trade was slow, but several changed hands; shorthorn steers, 18 months' old, £9 to £8 10s; polled ditto, £9 2s 6d to £8 15s; shorthorn steers, 16 months, £8 10s to £8. At the special sale of cows about forty were offered; good cows were scarce and in fair demand, up to £21 10s for fresh-calved shorthorns, red polled to £18 10s, polled to £17 10s. Secondary sorts and heifers were very dull, and prices ruled lower. In the sheep market there was a brisk demand for all descriptions; half-bred shearlings to 65s, Suffolk hoggets to 58s. Suffolk-breeding ewes were shown in good numbers, and realised more money, several being wanted for the Midlands; three-shear ewes, 52s 6d to 60s; full mouth, 52s to 45s; Lincoln rams, 7½ to 6½ guineas. More fat swine were penned, and a sharp trade was experienced at fully last week's prices, ranging from 6s 9d to 6s per stone, according to size and quality. Numbers at sales and market: 879 cattle, 2,061 sheep, and 1,206 swine.

Lincoln, Friday.—The sheep pens were well filled, and good prices were realised, young ewes making 50s to 60s, drape ewes up to 40s, lambs 22s to 36s, and gimmers 60s to 70s per head. There was a poor show of beasts, and trade was bad.

Lynn, Tuesday. Few store beasts, trade slow, £6 to £12 each; fat beasts short supply and dearer, 7s to 8s per stone; store sheep average supply, 38s to 44s each; fat sheep firm trade at 9s 6d a stone; breeding ewes, 45s to 66s; rams, £5 to £8 each; store lambs, 28s to 36s; fat lambs, 25s to 36s each.

Manchester, Friday. Beef: Firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 4¼d to 4¾d; thirds, 3¼d to 3¾d. Mutton: First Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d, and others 7d; seconds, 6d to 6¾d; thirds, 5d to 5¼d. Veal: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5¾d to 6d; thirds, 4¾d to 5. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7d; seconds, 6¼d to 6¾d; thirds, 6d to 6¼d.

Norwich, Saturday. Average supply of fat beasts, trade being firm at 7s to 8s per 14lb; more store cattle offered and better demand, values ranging from £5 to £17 per head. Large number of store sheep and lambs penned, and slight advance in prices recorded, lambs making from 28s to 42s per head, and breeding ewes 25s to 60s. Trade firm, and prices showed a hardening tendency for fat sheep, which were in somewhat short supply, choicest lots making 11s per stone, others being quoted at 10s to 10s 6d. Fat pigs made 6s 6d to 6s 9d per stone, with extra 3d for best. Animals in average supply.

Nottingham, Saturday. Better supply of stock all round, and an improved trade resulted. Best in-calf cows made £18 to £24, in-calf heifers £15 to £17, strong steers (2½ years old) up to £16, and smaller quality £7 to £10 each. Calves were a better trade, and made from 35s up to 70s each. There were no sheep or pigs.

Preston, Wednesday.—Only a moderate attendance of buyers, although a capital show of both cattle and sheep was seen. Consequently trade was slow in both departments, while calves were also in moderate demand. Cows and bulls made 5d to 5½d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6¼d, with a few choice heifers at 6¾d; hoggs, 8¼d to 8¾d; lambs, 8¾d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; tups, 5d to 5¾d; and calves, 6d to 7¼d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—There were very few beasts, and only a poor muster of dealers and farmers. Milch cows were a dragging trade, the best not making more than £18, and ordinary sorts £15 to £16 per head. There was a fair inquiry for two-year-old steers and heifers at £10 to £12, yearlings £6 to £8, and calves 35s to 40s per head.

Colchester, Saturday.—Trade was quiet, and both beef and mutton were in short supply. Grass beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone of 8lb; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; pork, 9s per score of 20lb.

Romford, Wednesday. Average supply of fat beasts; trade slow; best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves scarce; average trade at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Good supply of sheep; trade fair; best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Slow demand for store beasts. Pigs in good supply; trade better.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was again a capital supply of all descriptions of stock, although cattle were not of such high quality as usually seen in this market. Choice fat beasts continue to sell well, middling and secondary quality a dragging trade throughout. Mutton was decidedly better, a clearance being effected. Veal, bacon, and pork, continue to sell well. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 131 fat beasts, 222 fat sheep, 92 fat and weaning calves, and 110 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £21 17s 6d; fat heifers, £15 to £20 12s 6d; fat wethers, 48s to 60s; fat ewes, 40s to 53s; fat lambs, 30s to 38s; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 65s; bull calves, 10s to 55s; bacon hogs, £3 to £5 5s; porkers, 26s to 42s; stores, 10s to 28s.

Truro, Wednesday. — Business fairly brisk; attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 56s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £18 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; large and small pigs and suckers, 10s to 42s each. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 7d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcasses), 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market:—Bullocks, 266; calves, 62; sheep, 1,579; pigs, 130; horses, 5.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Fewer animals penned and only a quiet trade. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 8d to 8½d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score; porkets, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 7s to 8s per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—The attendance of buyers and the show of stock of all kinds were alike small. Good mutton, however, retained its recent high price. Beef was a very small show, and prices generally were 6d down on the week. Best qualities made 6s 6d to 6s 9d, and secondary sorts 6s to 6s 6d per stone. A large number of cross-bred store lambs were penned, and fetched 27s to 36s per head. Best Southdown and cross-bred wethers made 8d to 9d, ewes and other sorts from 5d to 7d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—First quality cows and heifers with calves, £18 10s to £20; secondary quality, £15 10s to £17 10s; in-calvers, £16 17s 6d to £19 5s; fresh barreners, £13 to £16; stirks, £7 5s to £8 10s; steers, £8 10s to £9 5s; ewes, 37s 6d to 45s; wethers, 40s to 50s; wether lambs, 35s to 40s; ewe lambs, 33s to 38s.

FOREIGN

Yorkhill, Monday.—Good average supplies of American and Canadian cattle were on offer to-day, 912 head being penned in the lairages, the majority (697) being from Montreal. There was a large attendance of buyers, and for good quality bullocks a steady demand was experienced at top quotations, but secondary, middling, and inferior descriptions were in no great request, and sold slowly at late rates. Bulls were scarce and dear at a shade over last week's values for prime beasts, while heavier animals were cashed at about recent quotations. Canadian bullocks of light, useful weights and sizes made up to 57s per cwt. deadweight, with secondary qualities from 54s to 56s per cwt. Bulls met an exceptionally good demand, prime beasts making up to 50s per cwt., and heavier sorts down to 43s per cwt.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for week ending Sept. 12, 1905.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average Live weight.	Average price per head.	Average price per cwt.
		c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	11 8 0	19 12 6	1 13 5
2	,, ,, ...	12 0 0	19 10 0	1 12 6
2	,, ,, ...	10 0 14	15 12 6	1 10 10
3	,, (very good) ...	11 1 14	17 0 0	1 9 11
1	,, ,, ...	10 1 14	16 5 0	1 9 5
1	,, ,, ...	11 3 0	17 5 0	1 9 4
2	,, (good) ...	10 2 0	14 17 6	1 8 4
2	,, ,, ...	10 0 14	14 5 0	1 8 2

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals for linseed for the week are 16 quarters from Harlingen, 4,992 Russian, 4,832 St. Petersburg, 1,961 San Pedro, 1,241 Calcutta, 4,247 quarters. The shipments for week ending September 16 are Plate 24,000 Hull, 15,000 Orders, 7,000 Continent; Bombay, 5,000 Continent; total 49,000 quarters. Linseed has been moderately offered from both the Argentine and North America, resulting in a further drop in the Plate spot, 32s 9d the value Aug Sept 32s 3d, Sept Oct 32s 3d nearest. Duluth Sept Oct 37s quoted. Continental The market showed more steadiness on Tuesday and values advanced to £5 2s 3d per quarter, and the month's shipment, but the business passing has been restricted, and yesterday £5 2s 6d again quoted spot. New crop for October and November January shipments after being held to the close of last week for £5 2s 6d, are easier at £5 1s 3d. Bombays has offered sparingly at £4 15s, September-October, and one or two re-sales, January February, transpired at £4 14s 6d, of which none there are sellers to-day. Oilseed cakes: A very quiet trade for all kinds, pending completion of harvest, but prices remain steady owing to the low prices current for oils. KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday. Linseed: The market has been very depressed this week, the beneficial rains reported in India having induced shippers to offer freely, closing steady. Calcutta London Spot, 37s; and Aug Sept., 37s; Sept.-Oct., 37s.; La Plata, Aug.-Sept., 36s. Hull flat, with scarcely any demand; La Plata spot, 35s 7½d., passage 35s 6d; Sept. Oct., 35s 3d. Rapeseed meets with a rather better demand, but prices in India are still almost prohibitive, and business is much restricted. Brown Cawnpore, Sept. Oct., 36s; Brown Calcutta, Sept. Oct., 35s 9d. Cottonseed: The market has continued steady in Egypt but in Hull prices have declined, owing to the action of local operators. London: September, £5 11s 3d. September Fayoumi, £5 16s 3d sellers; Nov.-Jan., £5 16s 3d. Hull Spot, passage and August, £5 7s 6d to £5 6s 3d. September, £5 8s 9d; September Fayoumi, £5 12s 6d; October to January, £5 12s 6d. Linseed oil has experienced a considerable decline in value, but closes rather steadier. We quote spot and month in pipes, £16; barrels, £16 5s; Sept.-Dec., £16 7s 6d; Jan.-April, £16 12s 6d; Hull naked spot, £15 2s 6d; Sept.-Dec £15 15s; Jan.-April, £15 7s 6d. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm. London made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed cakes: In spite of a firmer attitude on the part of shippers, values are with difficulty maintained, and there are to-day second-hand sellers at last week's lowest quotations, which, however, meet with a poor response, especially on the part of country dealers, who refuse to operate beyond their immediate requirements. Russian may be bought without change in value. American offer for prompt and winter shipments at 5s per ton more money. East India seed pures unaltered. London made continue to find a dragging trade at last week's prices. Cotton Cakes: The trade is particularly disappointing, and in view of some fairly heavy arrivals of Egyptians, the market is depressed, holders being willing to accept a small reduction. English meet a slow sale at 1s 3d per ton less money. Decorticated: London-made move off steadily at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal; and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand is quoted at £6 17s 6d, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes neglected; East India and ravison unchanged. Maize Germ meal: Some quantity of white American for winter despatch has changed hands at £5 2s 6d c.i.f., which is about present value. English remain quiet and without alteration. Maize Gluten meal is firmly held at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: Very little offers in warehouse, and for this full prices of £4 17s 6d to £5 are demanded, while shippers are unwilling to accept less than £4 15s ex-ship terms for parcels to come along. Broken Rangoon rice, in bags, may still be bought at the low figure of £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are again the turn dearer, at £5 5s per ton for whole, and £5 10s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is unchanged, at £10 15s per ton ex-quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 7	6 to 7 8 9
,, in mats	7 6	3 to 7 7 6
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 5 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
,, for shipment	4 10 0	to 4 12 6
English	4 11	3 to 4 15 6
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal	6 17 6	
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	6 17 6	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 7 6	to 5 8 9
American, Dec./Jan. ..... (c.i.f.)	5 2 6	
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive	4 15 0	
,, ...	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The market for salted Canadian continues dull, but for saltless there is a good demand. Prices, however, are weaker, at 106s to 108s for "Choicest" Easterns, and 104s to 106s for "Choice" parcels of saltless. Western brands are trending 104s to 106s for salt, and 108s to 110s for saltless. The receipts of Australian butter during the second week of this month have been most exceptionally large, owing to four vessels arriving virtually together, two of which, with large cargoes, were considerably overdue, but "Choicest" brands of winter grass made goods are realising 108s to 110s per cwt., with an occasional 112s. Cheese: There has been only a fair demand for Canadian at unchanged prices. C.i.f. quotations, however, are coming easier.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

Sale of the Late Sir Jacob Wilson's Shorthorns.

The entire herd of pure-bred Shorthorns bred by the late Sir Jacob Wilson, of Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland, was dispersed on Friday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. About half a score of heifers from Lord Polwarth's well-known herd at Mertoun were also included in the sale, as well as a couple of bulls, the property of the Earl of Tankerville. There was a large and distinguished company to see the last of the herd which had been bred for so many years from the old Booth lines of blood by the late Sir Jacob Wilson. The cows were brought out in ordinary breeding condition, and not in any way made up for sale. The calves were a very good lot, rich in colour and full of promise. They were all by the fine bull, White Czar, bred by Mrs. Grey at Callaby, by Mr. Duthie's Pride of Freedom. He is a fine, handsome, white bull, and, having proved himself a first-class sire, was sold very cheaply to Mr. S. Wilson at 27 gs. The calves made high prices, in many cases more than their dams. Mr. Tait, representing the Windsor herd of his Majesty the King, and after a rare struggle with the Duke of Northumberland's agent, secured the gem of the sale in Lady Hetha Studley, a six-months-old heifer calf, at 110 gs., her dam making 80 gs. to Lord Polwarth. Another beautiful calf in Alpine Queen was purchased for the Windsor herd at 76 gs., Lord Polwarth again being the buyer of her dam at 30 gs. The Duke of Northumberland gave 56 gs. for Lady Maisie, a January heifer calf, and Sir Oswald Mosley 42 gs. for Strawberry Bloom 13th, calved in February. It was considered a most successful sale, an average of £30 13s. 8d. being obtained for the forty-seven head sold:—

The following is a list of the best prices, with buyers' names:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Sister Rose, red, c. May 24, 1902; s., Merry Christian 59485 ..... Mr. J. Watt	25
Alpine Gift, roan, c. Oct. 12, 1896; s., Sir Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Lord Polwarth	30
Alpine Queen, roan, c. Feb. 17, 1905; s., White Czar 85060 ..... H.M. the King	76
Lady Marjorie Studley, red and white, c. Oct. 22, 1896; s., Merry Christian 59485 ..... Mr. R. Booth	20
Sister Roselle, roan, c. Nov. 1, 1897; s., Sir Silvester Studley 66363 ..... Mr. J. C. Fenwick	23
Elegant 3rd (Lord Polwarth's), roan, c. Feb. 13, 1898; s., Earl Marshal 70343 ..... Mr. T. Stafford	25
Strawberry Bloom 8th, red and white, c. Oct. 25, 1898; s., Sir Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Mr. H. Salvin	27
Strawberry Bloom 13th, roan, c. Feb. 2, 1905; s., White Czar 85050 ..... Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.	42
Lady Helen Studley, red, c. Nov. 10, 1898; s., Sir Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Lord Polwarth	80
Lady Hetha Studley, rich roan, c. March 9, 1905; s., Baron Butterfly 82783 ..... H.M. the King	110
Adriana, red and little white, c. March 28, 1899; s., Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Mr. J. J. Mowbray	30
Sister May, red roan, c. May 25, 1900; s., Sir Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Mr. H. Salvin	22
Lady Matty, red, c. May 19, 1901; s., Sir Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Mr. A. F. Nichol	27
Lady Maisie, roan, c. Jan. 26, 1905; s., White Czar 85060 ..... Duke of Northumberland	56
Rather Superior, roan, c. June 6, 1901; s., Sir Lawrence Riby 67926 ..... Mr. C. W. Tindall	31
Cowslip Bud (Lord Polwarth's), red, c. Jan. 19, 1902; s., Knight of the Border ..... Mrs. Hamerton	25
Ada, red and little white, c. April 21, 1902; s., Sir Norse Christon 77904 ..... Sir J. Gilmour Montrave	50
Delight (Lord Polwarth's), roan, c. March 25, 1902; s., Royal Centurion 69448 .... Mr. W. Davidson Combill	26
Zeal 79th (Lord Polwarth's), red, c. May 9, 1902; s., Crown Imperial 80810 ..... Mr. H. Salvin	21
Lady Hesba Studley, red and little white, c. Jan. 16, 1903; s., Sir Norse Christon 77904 .. Mr. A. F. Nichol	25
Sister Rosadora, red and little white, c. Feb. 18, 1903; s., Sir Norse Christon 77904 ..... Mr. J. W. Philips	27
Sister Rowena, red roan, c. May 14, 1905; s., Baron Westwood 87329 ..... Duke of Northumberland	45
Sister Stella, roan, c. April 24, 1903; s., Searchlight 79328 ..... Mr. E. W. Staningforth	30
Cowslip Bouquet (Lord Polwarth's), roan, c. May 10, 1903; s., Sir Algar Studley 75635 ..... Major Brocklehurst	35
Zeal 79th (Lord Polwarth's), roan, c. June 5, 1903; s., Sir Leopold Studley 73542 ..... Dr. Smyth	23
Gay Carrie (Lord Polwarth's), roan, c. Sept. 1, 1903; s., Royal Cardigan 77710 ..... Major Brocklehurst	41
Sister Maud, red roan, c. Sept. 11, 1903; s., Sir Norse Christon 77904 ..... Mr. John McKay	21
Cowslip Fragrance (Lord Polwarth's), red, c. Nov. 5, 1903; s., Red Admiral 77579 ..... Mr. H. Salvin	21
Cleopatra (Lord Polwarth's), roan, c. Dec. 5, 1903; s., Crown Imperial 80810 ..... Mr. J. Watt	26
Sister Rosine, roan, c. May 23, 1904; s., Sir Hector Studley 87379 ..... Mr. Jos. Straker	24
Strawberry Bloom 14th red, c. June 23, 1904; s., Sir Hector Studley 87379 ..... Mr. Jos. Straker	26

BULLS.

White Czar 85060 (Earl of Tankerville's), white, c. March 2, 1902; s., Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. S. Wilson	27
Lord Lambdoch, red, c. March 2, 1901; s., Sir Norse Christon 77904 ..... Mr. G. Turnbull	20
..... white, c. June 17, 1904; s., White Czar 85060 ..... Mr. J. McKay	21
Grand Duke (Earl of Tankerville's), white, c. Oct. 17, 1904; s., White Czar 85060 ..... Mr. W. Hill	20

SUMMARY

	Average. £ s. d.	Total £ s. d.
... Cows, heifers and calves	... 1 6	... 1,315 ... 6
... Bulls	... 6	... 127 ... 0
47 Head	30 13 8	..... 1,442 3 6

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Bristol.

Messrs. George Nichols, Howes, Young, Arder, and Co., held a sale of rams at Bristol fair on the 8th inst., the catalogue including consignments from the eminent flockmasters. The first lot offered were the Hampshire Downs, belonging to Mr. J. Matthews, for which there was a ready sale, the prices ranging up to 10½gs. Mr. J. Bucknell's were the next offered. These were a nice class of lamb, and much appreciated. Mr. Howes then proceeded to offer the cross-breds, the first lot being Mr. Jeffery Matthews', several of which realised 10gs., there being a good demand for this class of sheep. Mr. Large's Oxford Downs were then put up, and met with a very good sale. The last consignment to be offered were the rams from Cleve Hill Farm, the property of Mr. Bridgman. These rams attracted great attention, and it was quite clear there would be no trouble in disposing of them, as they possessed great size, without sacrificing quality. There were 36 offered, all of which sold, the highest price being 13gs., and they made the good average of £9.

Mr. S. Brock's Southdowns.

The pure-bred Southdown flock belonging to Mr. Seaward Brock, Manor Farm, East Dean, near Eastbourne, was dispersed by auction on Friday by Mr. H. J. Burt, in the presence of a goodly company of breeders. The home of the flock had been on the most exposed part of the East Dean hills, and by using some of the best blood, notably Toop, Tompkins, Emery, and Stanford, Mr. Brock had very much improved the character of his sheep. The ewes were in a natural breeding condition, never having been fed upon an ounce of cake, and were a good lot, fit to go to any part of the county. The fact that it was intended to clear all lots without reserve gave bidders the advantage. The highest price obtained for full-mouthed ewes was 46s., and for six-toothed ewes 55s. Four-toothed ewes were knocked down at 61s., and two-toother ewes 60s. The price for rams went up to 5 gs., the lowest price being 32s. 6d. Seventy six-tooth ewes, the property of Mrs. Hale, of Crowlink Farm, were also included in the sale, and were sold at prices averaging from 53s. to 51s. The following figures will show the total realised under the various headings, the extra lots which were sold at the end of the sale being included in the first three totals:—

Seventy-nine full-mouthed ewes, £159 19s.; 115 six-tooth ewes, £296 5s.; 108 four-tooth ewes. £300 10s.; 111 two-tooth ewes. £321 14s.; 105 ewe lambs, £185 10s.; 111 wether lambs. £192 1s. 6d.; 9 two-tooth rams, £22 3s. 6d.; 70 six-tooth ewes. £182 10s.

Carlisle.

At Carlisle on Friday Messrs. Harrison held a special sale of Border Leicester and Oxford Down rams, half-bred and cross-bred ewes and gimmers, and cross lambs. The entries comprised 160 rams and between 8,000 and 9,000 sheep and lambs. Buyers attended in large numbers. A good demand was experienced for all classes at satisfactory prices, the chief of which are as follows:—Border Leicester rams—Oak Bank, Longtown, £12 5s; Manor House, Oughterby, £12; Kirkoswald, £9 10s.; Kirkoswald Demesne, £8 10s.; Stone House, Hayton, £7 7s. 6d.; Ivegill Grange, £7 5s.; Grinsdale, £6 12s. 6d. Oxford Down rams—Low House, £5 5s.; The Bank, £5; Holme Wrangle, £4 15s.; Scales Hall, £4 10s. Sheep.—Half-bred ewes made to 37s. 3d.; cross ewes, 35s.; half-bred gimmers, 36s.; cross gimmers, 43s. 6d. and 37s. 3d.; Cheviot gimmers, 27s.; and cross lambs, 31s. 6d.

Kidderminster.

Messrs. Nock and Joseland held their 18th annual sale of sheep at Kidderminster on the 8th inst., when the supply of stock in quantity and quality surpassed all previous records. The entry numbered nearly 5,500 sheep and lambs, and included entries from some of the leading prize-winning flocks at the Royal and various county shows. In consequence of the increasing popularity of the Oxford and Hampshire breeds for crossing purposes, the ram sale commenced with these classes, the first consignment to be offered being 25 capital Oxford lambs from Mr. George Adams, Faringdon, which made up to 7gs. each, 15 from Mr. G. Corbishley, Pershore, up to 7½gs., whilst from the noted prize-winning flock of Mr. W. A. Treweeke, Ryne Hill, Chipping Norton, 3 shearlings made from 10gs. to 11½gs., and 15 lambs made up to 11½gs., and others 7gs., 8½gs., and 9gs. each; from Mr. J. ...orlick, Cheltenham, shearlings made 11gs. and lambs 5gs.; 6 shearlings from Mr. Phipps Smith, Abbots Salford, made up to 10gs each.

Amongst the Hampshires the only entry was 2 shearlings and 22 lambs from Mr. Simpson Jay, Wimbledon, which elicited keen competition, the shearlings making 8gs. and 10gs., and the 22 lambs making up to 12gs. each, and averaging nearly £9 per head; 9 Shropshire shearlings from Mr. J. W. Dee, Wollas Hill, make up to 8½gs. each, and 15 from the old-established flock of Mr. Geo. Gerrard, Offerton, up to 6½gs. each. Others sold up to 8gs. The great entry of ewes included all the favourite breeds and were a very level lot; with a very large company of buyers, very few pens were unsold and those only of second quality.

Lincoln.

Lincoln September Ram Fair was held on Friday in favourable weather, and, as usual, attracted a large company of breeders and dealers. There was a good show of Lincoln Longwool sheep, and both the rams and the breeding sheep were in demand at prices which compare very favourably with those made at the last fair. The sheep were in excellent condition, as were also a number of Hampshire Down rams. The latter, however, were in less favour than the Longwools, though a clearance was effected before the fair closed.

Messrs. T. B. Richardson and Son sold 100 Lincoln Longwool rams. Sixteen pure-bred shearlings, from the flock of Mr. J. Pears, The Mere, made 177 gs., the highest price being 20 gs. Twenty shearlings, also pure-bred, belonging to Mr. J. Evens, Burton, sold for £155 2s. 9d., the top price being 15 gs. Mr. F. Smith, of Navenby, sent ten pedigree shearlings, which averaged £14 5s. 6d., the highest price being 16½ gs. Five shearlings, bred by Mr. S. G. Wildsmith, Harmston, made from 7 gs. to 9 gs. each, and numerous others up to 9 gs., whilst three, bred by Mr. C. E. Howard, Naton Rise, made 8 gs., 8½ gs., and 16 gs. respectively. Messrs. Richardson and Son also sold about 500 ewes, gimmers, and lambs, which made up to 67s. 6d. per head, this price being obtained by Messrs. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, for Longwool gimmers.

Mr. J. E. Walter sold 120 Longwool rams and 1,200 head of breeding sheep. Of the rams the highest prices were realised by those bred by Mr. W. Bayles, Welton. One made 33 gs., another 18½ gs., and a third 17 gs. Mr. C. S. Dickinson, Branston, sent 20 rams, which sold at prices up to 14½ gs.; whilst 18 gs. was paid for a ram from the Birley Moor flock, near Sheffield. Others made up to 12 gs. Of the gimmers, the best in the fair were those bred by Mr. G. E. Saunders, Scampton, which made up to £3 10s. 6d. each, the highest price of the day.

Late Col. Wisden's Southdowns.

By order of the executors of the late Colonel Wisden, Mr. H. J. Burt, of Steyning, on Monday, at Warren Home Farm, Broadwater, disposed of the pure-bred Southdown herd flock, numbering over 800, and made up of 160 two-tooth ewes, 148 four-tooth ewes, 136 six-tooth ewes, 124 full-mouth ewes, 234 ewe and wether lambs, and three rams. The flock was established at Warren Farm 31 years ago by the late Lieutenant-Colonel T. F. Wisden, J.P., D.L., the foundation being 400 grand ewes which he purchased out of the Duke of Richmond's flock at Goodwood. Up till some six years ago the sheep were frequently shown, and were successful in winning prizes at Horsham, Hailsham, Steyning, Henfield, and Lewes. The home of the flock has been on Cissbury Hill, and the animals were recommended as an extremely hardy, healthy, and good rent-paying lot of ewes, fit to go to any part of the country.

Despite the wet weather there was a very good attendance of well-known flock farmers from all parts of the country, and business was always brisk. The highest price obtained for full-mouthed ewes was 43s., the lowest 26s.; six-tooth ewes ranged from 47s. to 40s.; four-tooth ewes from 57s. to 45s.; two-tooth ewes from 59s. to 31s.; ewe lambs from 36s. to 27s.; wether lambs from 34s. to 26s.; and rams from 6½ gs. to 2½ gs. The totals realised for the various ages were:—124 full-mouthed ewes, £245 13s.; 136 six-tooth ewes, £300 3s.; 148 four-tooth ewes, £388; 160 two-tooth ewes, £376 13s.; 173 ewe lambs, £275 4s.; 61 wether lambs, £60 6s.; and three rams, £14 3s. 6d. Total, £1,660 2s. 6d.

York.

The first of the large autumn ewe fairs at York took place on Thursday, when fully 20,000 sheep of all classes were penned. For North country ewes a very slow trade prevailed on account of the high prices asked, and the comparative earliness of this year's fairs. The best made up to 50s., and others 42s. to 48s. each. North country lambs, shown in small number, made up to 32s. The best twice-crossed shearlings met with a very good trade at 46s. to 52s.; Masham shearlings, 30s. to 44s.; and Masham ewes, 36s. to 44s. each. Two or three special lots of twice-crossed lambs made up to 40s., and others from 30s. to 35s. each. A few Masham lambs were on offer, and made from 22s. to 25s., and a few South country ewes were selling at 35s. to 45s. each.

[*The remainder of Sheep Sales will be found on page 345.*]

Live Stock Record.

SWINE ERYSIPELAS.

The epidemic which has recently been making such terrible havoc among the pigs of the Chatteris district in Cambridgeshire was at first mistaken locally and reported as swine fever. But veterinary authorities have pronounced it to be swine erysipelas, a malady well known in France and Germany, and, according to some statements, there have been a few previous outbreaks in this country. But, if so, it was a much milder and less infectious type of the disease, for the only cases the Board of Agriculture had any previous knowledge of were isolated ones, readily suppressed without spreading beyond the farms of the outbreaks, and the animals that were attacked recovered. A Hunts farmer, it is true, states that he remembers two instances of a very similar malady causing great mortality—the one in Beds, the other in Hunts—but infection did not extend beyond the attacked parishes. The present outbreak appears to have assumed a virulent form on Midsummer Day in the parish of Doddington, whence it spread to Chatteris, and now fresh outbreaks have been recorded at Tydd and Thorney.

The farmers of the Chatteris district have scarcely any pigs left. When the mortality got to be rife pigs were sent away from the adjoining farms to those attacked "at the rate of four or five truck-loads at a time," according to one local paper. But death took them off from the stricken farms wholesale with great rapidity. When the Board of Agriculture sent Mr. A. W. Landon to officiate as chief inspector, one farmer had lost seventy-one and another thirty-seven pigs, the deaths on several other farms ranging from ten or a dozen to eighteen. The cottagers of Doddington had lost about fifty, and the death-roll a week since was over four hundred, for which not a farthing compensation was to be expected. Mr. F. W. Seward, of Chatteris, told a newspaper interviewer that he had lost £70 worth of pigs, and all the Board of Agriculture had allowed him was 8s. 6d. to defray the cost of burying them. All the outbreaks have as yet been dealt with as swine fever cases, in which the Board only pays compensation when it orders pigs to be killed. If they die before any orders are given for their slaughter the entire loss falls on the owners of the animals. Only half their value is allowed if found to be infected by disease when the Board does issue orders for slaughter, and this inadequacy of compensation has caused numerous bitter complaints before to-day.

In vain does the Chief Inspector tell the suffering farmers and cottagers that the Board has no funds to give compensation in any other way, or more liberally than it does at present. The air has been full of discontent and angry complaints because, while compensation is withheld, a cordon is drawn around the district so that even fat pigs cannot be moved from one place to another for slaughter except by special licence. Mr. Seward, one of the greatest sufferers, says that he applied to the Board to allow his unaffected pigs to be sent to Leicester for slaughter. But the special licence he received only allowed him to remove them to another part of Chatteris, which licence he did not avail himself of, because he knew that "the carcases could not be sold there." The Board has also been censured for delay in its proceedings owing to the red-tape formalities which have to be gone through. On the owner of an attacked pig finding something amiss he has to seek the police-constable, who inspects the animal, and has to send a report to his superior officer that he suspects it to be a case of swine fever. Then a series of what the men of Chatteris have not been slow in terming "useless" communications and transactions have to take place, and the animal most likely dies before the authorised veterinary inspector visits the place. Mr. Landon, on being told by a Press interviewer that people were reasoning thus, replied, "The disease was so terribly and fatally swift, what could we do?" He had good reason to declare the fatal scourge to be of this character certainly, for when the local inspector first inspected Mr. Heading's farm he found 19 pigs dead, but five succumbed next day, and fifteen the next, and "they continued to go off like flies," it was said, until very few of the large herd survived.

The cause of this pestilence breaking out in Cambridgeshire is popularly believed to be due to the use of foreign meal, in which the psora of it had presence, and that it was thus imported. This view is not, however, entertained by the Chief Veterinary Inspector. That it has been imported in some way or other appears tolerably certain, because in the past so rare here, but often breaking out there. The Board of Agriculture is making every effort to trace the outbreak to its source, and is about to issue a leaflet on the disease, in which it will be fully described, together with the experiences of French pig-owners in treating it. They inoculate their pigs with a preventive serum, it appears; and the Veterinary Department of the Board is making this remedy its particular study, and making every possible inquiry to ascertain how far it has proved effective as a preventive. Meantime, it is to be fervently hoped the malady itself will be speedily stamped out in the Eastern Counties. During the past fortnight there were fewer outbreaks in the Chatteris district; but that was not held to be of much import, it was said, as the farms thereabout had so very few left to be attacked. On the other hand, the outbreaks in these districts of Tydd and Thorner were regarded very seriously.

Practical Experience.—Mr. T. Comyn Platt, the Conservative candidate for the Louth Division, has just had some interesting experiences in the harvest field. Being at North Ormsby on the farm of Mr. W. M. Casswell, where extra hands were needed, Mr. Platt offered his services, and was accepted. He therefore began first thing in the morning, stopped the ordinary half-hour for breakfast, dinner, and tea, and finished up at 7.30 with the rest of the men. Mr. Platt has formed a favourable opinion of the agricultural labourer as the result of his closer acquaintance with him in his daily work, for, in the course of a letter to a friend, he said, "As luck would have it, we were loading wheat all day. . . . Never have I known such a heavy sheaf as is this year to be found in Lincolnshire. However, I did my day's work, got my money, and feel all the better for the experience. I have heard it said that these men don't know what it is to work! I can only say that I have tramped across Africa, have harvested in Greece, and helped to unload a ship on the Caspian Sea, but never have I done a bigger day's work; certainly I have never met men who worked harder, more continuously, or with a better will than the Lincolnshire labourer.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

I received during the past week catalogues of two important Shorthorn sales, to be held this month by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., viz., on the 19th inst. at Tring Park, Herts, and on the 27th inst. at Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berks. It is hardly necessary to add that the animals belong respectively to Lord Rothschild and Sir Alexander Henderson, Bart., two of our most prominent Shorthorn breeders. Like good wine, the animals to be sold "need no bush," for they are worthy representatives of notable herds, and descendants from the very best blood. What more can an intending purchaser require?

The Buscot herd, which has been in existence about fifteen years, was founded by judicious purchases from those famous herds established at the Royal farms at Windsor and Sandringham; also from the late Duke of Devonshire at Holker, Lord Fitzhardinge at Berkeley, Lord Rosebery at Dalmeny, as well as from the capital stocks bred by Messrs. Garne, Edmonds, and Hobbs in Gloucestershire. It has been kept up to the fashionable taste of the day by the use of high-class bulls from the late Mr. W. S. Marr's herd at Uppermill, Aberdeenshire. Wanderer's Prince 78105, purchased when a calf seven months old for 180 gs., has proved a most fortunate investment, especially when crossed with those large-framed cows of the old Bates strain, of which the herd contains a large number of grand animals. Although not a show bull himself, his great substance and quick feeding properties as well as his robust constitution have rendered him an excellent and impressive sire; he grazes out daily with the cows, most of which are in calf to him. His stock have been exhibited with remarkable success. Baron Buscot 30497, his son from Mr. J. T. Hobbs's Quicksilver 31st, won several prizes, and was placed first at the first R.A.S.E. Show at Park Royal, 1903, where he was sold for 500 gs., whilst the heifer Lady Buscot Grace this year has won first prize at the Bath and West Show at Nottingham, first and reserve for champion at the Essex Show, second at the R.A.S.E. Show, Park Royal, and other prizes.

The animals for sale on the 27th inst. comprise a large number of fine cows and heifers, descended from the late Mr. E. Bowly's stock at Siddington, celebrated in the seventies for the high prices then realised; many of them are of the Maids and Roses of Oxford as well as of the Chorus and Musical families. The Lady Bates tribe obtained at Holker is numerously represented: also Mr. J. Thorley's Ringdale Favourites, from which several prize winners have been bred. There are specimens too of the Cruickshank Clippers and Lancasters, the Trethewy's Ruths and Garne Magics from Aldsworth, at which sale in 1901 the bull Now or Never 67544 was purchased, and has since been used in the herd, as well as his sons Buscot Marquis 85485 from Dalmeny Lady 2nd of the favourite Lancaster tribe, and Buscot Revenue 85488 from Moss Rose of the old Garne Pye tribe. To continue the same strain of fashionable blood the young bulls Missie's Crown and Royal Pennant were purchasd at the Uppermill Sale last October; the former is by Mr. Willis's Bapton Sapphire from Missie 168th, the latter by Mr. Marr's Royal Diamond from Princess of Morn of the Miss Ramsden family. These are now in service with the heifers, which will be found a singularly good lot of two-year-olds and yearlings, several of which are most promising for exhibition next season.

At a public meeting, held on the show

ground at the close of the Waveney Valley Agricultural Association's show at Harleston, on Tuesday, it was unanimously agreed "That the Norfolk Agricultural Association be invited to hold its sumer show in 1906 at Harleston," and it was also resolved that in the event of the Association accepting the invitation, the Waveney Valley Agricultural Association be requested to drop its show for the year, and to give its utmost support to the County Show.

A consignment of 24 Wensleydale Longwool rams from the noted registered flock of B. J. Hodgson, Hallwith, Spennithorne, were sold to Messrs. R. Vissen and J. Zuwrbien, Beemsten, Noord-Holland, and were shipped from Hull on 2nd inst. to Antwerp.

A nicely got-up private catalogue has recently been issued of the Dowsby Hall flocks of Lincoln Longwool sheep and the Durham Shorthorn herd, belonging to Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons, Dowsby Hall, Folkingham, Lincs. The flock is the largest registered flock of pure-bred Lincolns in Great Britain, consisting of 1,550 breeding ewes, which have been bred for many years from choice prize-winning sires, and almost every animal in the flock traces back to a Royal champion. The success of the flock in England has been most marked, having won two £50 challenge plates against all breeds of Longwools, two £15 breed cups, four champion, six reserve champions, forty first, forty second, and eighteen third prizes at the Royal and other English county shows during the last three years, whilst rams and ewes from the flock have been sold to go to all parts of the world to start new flocks and for show purposes.

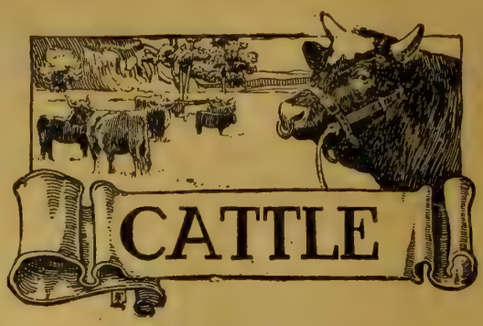
Messrs. Dean and Sons' herd of Shorthorns was founded in the year 1878, and has been most carefully bred, purchases having from time to time been made from the oldest strains of pure Bates' cattle. Scotch sires of the very best strains have been carefully selected for the last few years, and the herd now consists of eighty breeding cows and heifers, besides other young stock. The noted bull Imperial Favourite (86233), which cost 700 gs. when six months old at Mr, Marr's sale in 1903, and was this year champion bull at the Peterborough Show against all ages, is still in serivce, whilst Lord Wild Eyes 18th (vol. 51), a home-bred bull sired by Baron (82777), grandsire Royal Star (71502). Lord Lovat's noted bull, has done most valuable service, and has left some excellent calves. He was shipped per s.s. "Raeburn" on July 22, for Buenos Ayres.

The Newport (Mon.) Corporation have decided, on the proposition of the Mayor (Councillor Robert Wilkinson), to invite the Bath and West and Southern Counties Show to hold their show at Newport in 1907.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live-stock exporters, of Shrewsbury, recently shipped twenty-five beautiful Shropshire ewes, bred by Mr. Tom Davies, to the account of Mr. Robert Miller, of Ontario. Mr. Miller has had a large number of Shropshires sent him this season, and the ones above mentioned are well worthy of their predecessors.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, of Shrewsbury, recently sold to Mr. G. Hall, of South Africa, twenty well-grown, strong ram lambs from the flock of Mr. J. H. N. Walford. All the lambs were specially selected for dense wool and nice character.

Crawley Fair.—The annual September cattle, horse, and sheep fair at Crawley, took place on the 9th inst. For quantity of stock the fair was the best that has been held for many years; yet trade was very bad, in spite of the fact that a good company was present. Very few beasts changed hands throughout the fair, and these at low prices, compared with those that have been ruling lately. Trade was dragging all round. Messrs. Wood, Son, and Gardner had a splendid entry—about 125 head of horned stock, 150 sheep and 30 horses—but they only experienced middling trade. The beasts went at from £12 10s for two year olds, down to £6 a head for yearlings. Lambs went fairly well, reaching as high as 33s. 6d.



Notes and Jottings.

The Metropolitan Cattle Market on Monday last appears to have been rather more cheerful, the top quotation for choice Devons and Herefords being 4s. 8d. per 8 lb. The supplies appear to have been drawn, as is usually the case at this time of year, mainly from the Midland counties of England. Scotch cattle were conspicuous by their entire absence, and Ireland contributing but 57 head. It is not often that these arteries of supply are so very limited as this represents, and perhaps the reasons may be attributed on the part of the Irish cattle to the fact that the season has not been as good as usual for finishing them in the Emerald Isle, and as regards the Scotch supply a great many cattle are now sent direct to the more Southerly markets in Hampshire, Sussex, and Kent from Scotland, instead of passing through the London market. A commendable proceeding.

The question of butterfat in milk appears to continue a very vexed one. The case published in your last issue is a very interesting one, and the result very satisfactory to the producer. In such cases it would, however, be of great advantage to dairy farmers and all interested in such cases if the food used was made known. There is no doubt that many of the most milk-producing foods as regards quantity are simply worse than worthless as regards quality, and then there is the marvellous variation in the quality of milk from different breeds, and even more difference, or at any rate quite as great, in the milk of different animals of the same breed. A little more information as to these things would be immensely instructive when disputes of that nature arise.

The season appears to have been a very hard one for breeders of Red Polled cattle as far as public auction prices are concerned. Both the highest individual as well as the average prices have scarcely reached a profitable point, whether this is due to an over supply of that breed or to other causes is difficult to ascertain. At our leading shows of the breed this year the displays have been very satisfactory, and the breed can fairly claim to be a dual-purpose one, and with the great agitation that is taking place with regard to the breeding of milking cattle it is not encouraging to find that a breed of such proven value for the pail has to be disposed of at such low down prices as obtained at the clearing out of the famous Whittingham herd.

Whilst making notes of a milky nature a line of reference to the meeting and doings of the Staffordshire farmers may not be out of place. Like many other dairy farmers, those of Staffordshire are evidently not satisfied with the present means and ways of disposing of their produce, and appear to rather favour the formation of a Farmers' Dairy Company in their midst. Many dairy companies have been formed in various parts of the country during the past decade, and previously, but one hears of but little if any advantage accruing to the farmers who are producers from this course, and the writer, at any rate, has no hesitation in commending the remarks of the members present at the meeting mentioned, who were of opinion "the farmers could deal with the milk more satisfactorily themselves than any factory could."

The question of officialism and a great amount of red tape, which perhaps in these cases may often be called "a pale red," appears to be one which absorbs a great deal of time, and with that a great deal of money that would be of great benefit to the farmers. The writer can speak somewhat feelingly upon this point, having joined one or two such institutions in the past with anything but satisfactory results, whilst after returning to the old-fashioned custom of dealing with it at home matters improved incredibly. The expenses of wiring to and from the station or the factory are avoided, the better feeding (if adopted) than your neighbour gives is all placed to your own credit, and all offals are at home for the benefit of something or other, often applied with the best results by being given to the "gintleman that pays the rint."

Looking over the Board of Agriculture returns for Ireland is not altogether a pleasant proceeding, the decline in the census of cattle for so comparatively small a country being almost alarming. It is very difficult to locate the cause of this. The very high prices in keen demand prevailing for store cattle in recent years, one would have thought, would have resulted in a vast increase rather than a decline. Has the very fashionable course of cross-breeding anything to do with this? It too often happens that cross-bred females

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
September			
19	Shorthorn Cattle	Lord Rothschild	Tring Park, Tring.
19	Oxford Down Sheep ...	Mr. R. W. Hobbs	Northampton Fair.
19	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ..	Mr. C. Stephenson ...	Balliol College Farm, Long Benton.
19	Leicester Sheep	Various	Little Driffield Fair, Yorks.
20	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. R. Wood	Clapton, Thrapston, Northamptonshire.
20	Shire Horses	Mr. G. Symondson and Mr. A. Amey	Waltham Abbey.
20	Hunters, Harness Horses, &c.	Various	Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
20	Hunters, Hacks, and Harness Horses	Various	Compton Stud, Templecombe.
20	Hackney Horses	Mr. R. G. Ingham ...	Elland, Yorkshire.
20	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ...	Mr. C. E. Hunter	Selaby, Darlington.
20	Middle White Pigs ...	Mr. S. C. Paget	Harewood near Leeds.
20	West Highland Cattle ...	Earl of Southesk	Kinnaird Castle, Brechin.
21	Berkshire, and Large and Middle White Pigs	Mr. A. Brown	Hill Farm, Southampton.
21	Horses, Cattle, &c. ...	Sir Reginald Beauchamp	Petygards Sporle, Swaffham.
21	Lincoln Red Shorthorns ..	Mr. J. Marriot	The West Lea, Cropwell Butler, near Radcliffe on-Trent.
21	Aberdeen Angus Cattle and Leicester Sheep	Mr. Sharp	Bardrill Blackford, Perthshire
21 & 22	Cheviot and Blackfaced Sheep, &c.	Various	Lockerbie Auction Mart.
22	Jersey Cattle	Capt. Spicer	Spye Park, Chippenham.
22 & 23	Horses	Various	Corporation Horse Repository, Cardiff.
22	Sheep, Cattle, &c. ...	Mr. T. G. Williams ...	Hartley Farm, Gloucestershire.
22	Horses	Various	Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
22	Aberdeen Angus Cattle ...	Various	Perth Auction Mart.
22	Hereford Cattle and Shropshire Sheep	Executors of the late Mr. Farr	Court of Noke, near Pembridge.
23	Sussex Cattle	Sir A. Ashburnham-Clement	Pound Farm, Guestling, Sussex.
23	Shorthorn Bulls and Berkshire Pigs	Various	Reading.

are precocious developers for the butcher, and worth a good price to sell, and thus tempt their owners to dispose of them instead of retaining them as breeders, whereas in a pure bred herd the females are usually of the greatest value for breeding purposes, and so are retained with that object in view. This is worth thinking about

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What a pretty picture the three yearling Aberdeen Angus heifers made on the cover of last week's issue. The Langshott herd may be proud of breeding such, but what a famous sire Equerry of Ballindalloch proved. His male progeny fattened readily, and his females, like the group referred to, present wonderful uniformity. What satisfaction it is to any enthusiastic breeder when his stock sires produce young stock of uniform character. There is no other feature in breeding that is so thoroughly satisfactory as this, and when it does take place it is almost certain to follow on to third or fourth generations. Stock as remote as this will often be so like their ancestors in such instances, that a close observer and keen judge will recognise them at once if he had been acquainted with their frontal head.

Picking up a daily paper a terrible scare was observed. It ran thus: "Meat Famine in Germany." What a marvellous change time has wrought on the Continent of Europe in respect to its meat supply. Looking back over the hills of time it seems but the other day that we stood in the Islington Cattle Market with long lines of four-years-old Dutch and other bullocks from the Eastern side, as well as those handsome and docile Spanish and Portuguese oxen, with their sober-looking coats and picturesque horns. By degrees the altered circumstances have obtained in the following way. First, the four-years-old oxen were gradually displaced by early matured two-year-olds; gradually, the number of two-year-olds and all other imported ones became smaller, until it finally ceased altogether.

Then for a period, and even at times to-day, English bullocks have been shipped to the Continent, and finally the Continent becomes so absolutely dependent upon American meat that the scare of a "meat famine" appears in the leading papers. The demand for meat has increased enormously in the British Islands during the past twenty years, and much more so on the Continent, this increased consumption being due to the dual causes of an ever-increasing population and ever-increasing wages and a higher scale of living. From an English breeder's point of view, the ceasing of imported stock from Europe has been nothing short of a godsend. It was thence the devastating cattle-plague came, and thence the almost equally to be dreaded foot-and-mouth complaint was brought. Truly, we have great cause for being thankful that foreign cattle are no longer admitted.

Sale of Shorthorns at Manoravon.

Manoravon has for some years been known for its Welsh ponies and Shorthorn cattle, and a large number of farmers and breeders (several coming over from the Penyfai sale on Tuesday) attended the sale of a large portion of Mr. Evan Jones's Shorthorns on Wednesday, in the Towy Valley, despite the fact that the weather was most inclement, heavy rain falling the greater part of the day. The beautiful bunch of two-year-old heifers and the grand lot of bull calves were greatly admired. The pick of the sale was undoubtedly the white heifer Crocus 5th, first-prize winner at the United Counties Show this season, and after quick competition she went to Sir Arthur Stepney at the Dell for 67 gs. Among the best purchasers were Mr. H. Sessions, of Ilton, who secured several of the best of the cows and heifers, Mr. J. S. Hobbs, of Maiseyhampton, and Mr. F. Stratton, of the Duffryn. Altogether the sale was considered most satisfactory, the cows with their calves averaging nearly £24 each. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. were the auctioneers.

We give below a list of the chief lots: -

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Czarina 28th, red and white, c. April 18, 1896; s., Lincoln Forester 70770 ..... Mr. F. Lloyd	19
Duchess 9th, roan, c. April 16, 1898; s., Dainty Baron 70223 ..... Mr. J. Allen Thomas	18
Crocus 4th, roan, c. Feb. 11, 1899; s., Magnanimous 70909 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	35
Jessie White, white, c. Feb. 17, 1899; s., Magnanimous 70909 ..... Mr. R. Rees	21
Charming Bess, roan, c. March 11, 1900; s., Rampart 75355 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	36
Diadem 2nd, red, c. Nov. 20, 1899; s., Westerfield 73865 ..... Mr. Richardson	27
Virtue, red and white, c. Jan. 14, 1901; s., Rampart 75355 ..... Mr. J. R. Thomas	20
Charming Bess, roan, c. Jan. 14, 1901; s., Rampart 75355 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	31
Lady Rampart, roan, c. March 11, 1901; s., Rampart 75355 ..... Mr. F. Stratton	25
Tulip 19th, red and white, c. June 25, 1901; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	19½
Her red cow calf, c. March 24, 1905, by Roan Hanley 82072 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	13½
Golden Dawn, red and white, c. July 25, 1901; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	26
Lady Ethelred, red, c. Feb. 15, 1902; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	25
Her red and little white bull calf, c. March 24, 1905, by Roan Hanley 82072 ..... Mr. J. Swell	6
Diadem 3rd, roan, c. April 9, 1902; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. F. Lloyd	31
Golden Gleam, roan, c. June 25, 1902; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. D. Burnett	31
Victoria Chorus, c. June 13, 1902; s., Earl Cawdor's Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	25
Miss Mite, white, c. Sept. 20, 1902; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. R. Footman	20
Lady Eliza, roan, c. Jan. 30, 1903; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. D. Howell Thomas	19½
Tulip 20th, roan, c. April 6, 1903; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	20
Quickly 3rd, roan, c. April 11, 1903; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	31
Charming Biddy, roan, c. May 6, 1903; s., Roan Hanley 82072 ..... Mr. D. Burnett	24
Victoria Jubil, red, c. July 1, 1903; s., Earl Cawdor's Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. R. Stratton	22
Crocus 5th, white, c. Jan. 5, 1904; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Sir Arthur Stepney	67
Lady Emma, roan, c. Aug. 26, 1904; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. F. Stratton	20
BULL CALVES.	
Don, roan, c. Jan. 2, 1905; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. R. Rees	14½
Dragon, roan, c. Jan. 12, 1905; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Lord Dynevor	26
Hugo, roan, c. Jan. 17, 1905; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	22
Vicugna, red, c. March 18, 1905; s., Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. R. Stratton	28

SUMMARY.	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
41 Cows and heifers	20 15 2	853 2 6
8 Bull calves	16 13 4	133 7 0
49 Head	20 2 8	986 9 6

Sale of Shorthorns at Llanelly.

The sale of the late Mr. W. J. Buckley's herd of Shorthorn cattle, as well as some choice cattle from Sir Arthur Stepney's and Mr. H. C. Lewis's herds in Pembrokeshire, took place at Penyfai, Llanelly, on Tuesday, Messrs. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. Many of the animals were of the north-country breeding that has been so sought after in recent years, more especially the "Missies," and these made good prices, Mr. E. Potter and Mr. H. C. Lewis taking the best into Westmorland and Pembroke respectively, whilst several of the best lots were purchased by Mr. C. D. Phillips to go to Monmouthshire. There was a large company present, and the stock were brought out in excellent breeding condition. An average of nearly £26 was obtained. The flock of Shropshire sheep was also sold at fair prices.

We give below a sale list of the principal lots, with purchasers' names and prices; the animals, except where otherwise stated, were the late Mr. Buckley's: -

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Princess Missie, red roan, c. February 27, 1896; s. Prince William 69320 ..... Mr. E. Potter	54
Bellona 2nd (Sir A. Stepney, Bart.), red roan, c. March 9, 1896; s. Livy 61118 ..... Mr. H. Sessions	17½
Blooming Rose, rich roan, c. May 10, 1897; s. Red Prince 67707 ..... Mr. Mansel Lewis	17½
Golden Flower, red, c. November 14, 1898; s. Dream of Millions 72378 ..... Mr. T. A. Buttar	41
Ury Lass 2nd, red, c. January 15, 1899; s. Easter Gift 72549 ..... Mr. C. Edmonds	29
Blossom (Sir A. Stepney, Bart.), red, c. July 20, 1899; s. Deputy Lieutenant 72336 ..... Mr. C. D. Phillips	18
Sweet Dewdrop, rich roan, c. March 25, 1900; s. Cabin Boy 66766 ..... Mr. Mansel Lewis	17
Old Fashion 5th (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), roan, c. April 18, 1900; s. Pedestrian 73185 ..... Mr. C. D. Phillips	25
Hawthorn, roan, c. May 5, 1900; s. Royal Highness 73516 ..... Mr. J. M. Gwynne	20
Snowflake, roan, c. February 8, 1901; s. Pearl Diver 75203 ..... Mr. R. Footman	24
Warton Jessy (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white, c. June 13, 1900; s. Bloodstone 72062 ..... Mr. C. D. Phillips	23
Arc Gwynne 15th (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), roan, c. June 8, 1901; s. Speculator 75714 ..... Mr. C. D. Phillips	32
Her roan B.C., c. April 29, 1905; s. Bapton Sceptre 82773 ..... Mr. J. Lear	14½
Countess Nancy 2nd, red and little white, c. February 9, 1902; s. Count Richard 72276 ..... Mr. Williams	17
Snowflake 2nd, roan, c. February 14, 1902; s. Lord Barrington Bates 5th 77032 ..... Mr. J. Howell	21
Leezzie Lindsay (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white, c. June 10, 1902; s. Norse Chief 75144 ..... Mr. C. D. Phillips	25
Belinda (Sir A. Stepney, Bart.), red, c. April 8, 1903; s. Deputy Lieutenant 72336 ..... Mr. D. H. Thomas	20
Princess Missie 4th, red, c. May 10, 1903; s. Darling Lad 78586 ..... Mr. H. C. Lewis	100
Penyfai Lily, rich roan, c. July 23, 1903; s. Granite Rock 81210 ..... Dr. Evans	18½
Old Fashioned Girl (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), roan, c. August 21, 1903; s. Prince 81897 ..... Mr. G. Freeman	41
Snowflake 3rd, white, c. September 5, 1903; s. Pitlivie Governor 79562 ..... Mr. J. Howell	21
Princess Missie 5th, red, c. March 2, 1904; s. Granite Rock 81210 ..... Mr. H. Lewis	67
Golden Flower 2nd, red, c. July 19, 1904; s. Scottish Minstrel 84727 ..... Mr. C. Edmonds	24
Snowflake 4th, white, c. October 1, 1904; s. Penyfai Charmer 86806 ..... Colonel Turberville	13
Leezzie Lindsay 2nd (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white, c. October 16, 1904; s. Bapton Sceptre 82773 ..... Mr. T. E. Lewis-Bowen	27

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Princess Missie 6th, red and white, c. December 17, 1904; s. Darling Lad 78586 ..... Mr. H. C. Lewis 50

Miss Winsome, roan, c. December 3, 1904; s. Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. D. Burnett 31

Red Cowslip 3rd, red and white, c. March 5, 1905; s. Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. R. Rees 26

Red Cowslip 5th, red and white, c. March 5, 1905; s. Monarch 81728 ..... Mr. R. Rees 26

Glancegam (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white, c. January 7, 1904; s. Bapton Sceptre ..... Mr. R. Footman 19

Acacia (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white, c. March 2, 1904; s. Bapton Sceptre ..... Mr. R. Footman 19

Missie Prince (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white, c. December 30, 1904; s. Scottish Minstrel 84727 ..... Mr. R. Footman 19

Bullfinch (Mr. H. C. Lewis's), red and little white roan, c. January 9, 1905; s. Bapton Sceptre ..... Mr. W. Davis 17

SUMMARY.	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
36 Cows and heifers	28 0 7	1,009 1 0
10 Bulls	18 1 2	180 12 0
46 Head	35 1. 5	1,569 15 0

Aberdeen Angus Sales in Scotland.

Ballindalloch and Auchorachan Herds.

Last week Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., of Perth, conducted a number of important sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle in Scotland, commencing on Tuesday with the dispersal at Lagmore Farm, Ballindalloch, of a number of choice animals from Sir G. Macpherson Grant's herd at Ballindalloch, and Colonel Smith Grant's, Auchorachan. The Ballindalloch herd has long been recognised as one of the very foremost of the breed, and as the Auchorachan herd was founded some thirty years ago from the same stock, there was nothing left to be desired as regards the breeding of either consignments. The Ballindalloch collection included thirteen cows, all in profitable condition, served by Eblamere, Everard, Edensor, Eblito, and England, all Erica sires. There were also three two-year-old heifers, five choice yearling heifers, and one bull. The Auchorachan lot was made up of seven cows, four two-year-old heifers, and nine beautiful yearling heifers.

There was a good attendance at the sale, and bidding was at times brisk, but prices did not rule so high as could have been expected. Of the forty-two animals catalogued, one was not forward and two were withdrawn, the offers in each case falling considerably short of the reserve figure. For the thirty-nine animals exposed, a total was realised of £1,569 15s., giving the fairly good average of £40 5s. The highest price of the day was 105 gs., which was realised for the Ballindalloch eight-year-old cow Eliota, by Eltham. She was fancied by Mr. Kerr, of Harvieston, and by the representatives of Mr. J. R. Findlay, Aberlour, and between them they speedily got the price up to 100 gs., and at 5 gs. more she passed into the Aberlour herd. There was also a spirited contest for the Ballindalloch three-year-old Beneficent Maid, a typical Miss Burgess cow, by Bion, and showing the best characteristics of the breed. The final competitors were Mr. Wylie Hill, of Balthayock and Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, the latter securing her at 77 gs. Details of these and other sales are given in the following list, the name of the herd from which the animals came being given in parenthesis: -

COWS

	Gs.
Elasticity 2nd (of Stonehurst 22422 (Auchorachan), c. Feb. 1, 1894; s., Financier of Ballindalloch 8[illegible] ..... Countess of Seafield	42
Pure Pride E. 23014 (Auchorachan), c. March 6, 1895; s., Equestrian 9655 ..... Sir G. Macpherson Grant	56
Krissa 24207 (Ballindalloch), c. June 6, 1895; s., Prospero of Dalmore 11[illegible] ..... c. July 21; s., Eblito 14306 ..... Countess of Seafield	37
Maravilla 24209 (Auchorachan), c. March 3, 1896; s., Prince Inca 7844 ..... Mr. Macpherson (Auchmellie)	22
Eliota 25489 (Ballindalloch), c. Jan. 29, 1897; s., Eltham 9120 ..... Mr. J. R. Finlay	105
Pride of the Corrie 31949 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 25, 1898; s., Victor 2nd of Noth 11371 ..... Mr. Maxwell	33
Musk Rose 30139 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 17, 1899; s., Eblito 14306 ..... Mr. Reid	28
Equidora 29949 (Ballindalloch), c. March 11, 1900; s., Mailbag 13537 ..... Mr. Grant (Dalvey)	50
Pride of Corrie 31949 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 15, 1900; s., Eblito 14306 ..... C. L. Smith Grant	41
Edyvra 31935 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 21, 1900; s., Bion 11454 ..... Mr. G. Grant (Curry)	42
Katoomba 31944 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 21, 1900; s., Bion 11454 ..... Mr. G. Grant (Curry)	42
Equatoria 2nd 31955 (Auchorachan), c. March 10, 1901; s., Monday 15765 ..... Mr. Grant (West Elchies)	48
Elision 31937 (Ballindalloch), c. March 14, 1901; s., Prince of Irsh 13844 ..... Mr. Chalmers	60
Eunyanthea 31938 (Ballindalloch), c. March [illegible]; s., Eblito 14306 ..... Mr. M'Ainsh	41
Matilda 6th of Minmore 32718 (Auchorachan), c. April 18, 1901; s., Liner 15651 ..... Mr. W. S. Ferguson	34
Garry 33764 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 8, 1901; s., Eblito 14303 ..... Mr. Maxwell	25
Dulce Pride 2nd 35773 (Auchorachan), c. Jan. [illegible], 1902; s., Portsman of Aberlour 17040 ..... Mr. F. C. Irvine	32
Eukita 33761 (Ballindalloch), c. Jan. 25, 1902; s., Eblito 14306 ..... Mr. Maxwell	41
Beneficent Maid 35821 (Ballindalloch), c. March 5, 1902; s., Bion 11454 ..... Mr. Wylie Hill	77

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Maratea 35624 (Auchorachan), c. Dec. 11, 1902; s., Delamere 13[illegible] ..... Mr. Ferguson	30
Emma 35610 (Auchorachan), c. Dec. 29, 1902; s., Navigator 18257 ..... Mr. Douglas	37
Prevalasa 35609 (Ballindalloch), c. Jan. 2, 1903; s., Delamere 13[illegible] ..... Col. Smith Grant	30

Jovian 35606 (Ballindalloch), c. March 24, 1903; s., Delamere 13305 .....Mr. Johnson 27
Hister 35623 (Auchorachan), c. March 25, 1903; s., Engineer 16532 .....Mr. Johnston 27
Equavelle 35603 (Ballindalloch), c. April 2, 1903; s., Eblito 14306 .....Mr. P. Grant (Carrbridge) 60

ONE YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Equidelle 37423 (Ballindalloch), c. Dec. 19, 1903; s., Delamere 13305 .....Mr. Wylie Hill 60
Auchorachan Queen 37432 (Auchorachan), c. Jan. 1, 1904; s., Pope of Rome 21069 .....Mr. Johnston 23
Pride B 6th of Auchorachan 37440 (Auchorachan), c. Jan. 2, 1904; s., Evictor 19106 ..Mr. J. R. Finlay 46
Erica Pride 8th 37437 (Auchorachan), c. Jan. 24, 1904; s., Prince Forest 21106 .....Mr. Smith 24
Emilia 37434 (Auchorachan), c. Feb. 5. 1904; s., Eustachius 16561 .....Mr. Wilson 25
Envincement 37424 (Ballindalloch), c. Feb. 17, 1904; s., Kriston 18021 .....Mr. M'Ainsh 34
Kimono 37428 (Ballindalloch), c. March 4, 1904; s., Moderator of Ballindalloch 20932 ..Rev. T. G. Little 27
Garcinia 37426 (Ballindalloch), c. March 8, 1904; s., Kriston 18021 .....Mr. M'Ainsh 25
Quincy 37443 (Auchorachan), c. March 16, 1904; s., Evictor 19106 .....Mr. Ferguson 26
Erica Fairy 4th 37436 (Auchorachan), c. April 12, 1904; s., Prince Forest 21106 .....Mr. Macrae 26
Evoluta 37425 (Ballindalloch), c. April 13, 1904; s., Kriston 18021 .....Mr. J. E. Kerr 46

SUMMARY.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
12 Cows	110 5 0	51 10 9
3 Two-year-old heifers	63 0 0	44 2 0
5 Yearling heifers	63 0 0	40 6 5
20 Head		42 12 4
Col. Smith Grant's.		
7 Cows	58 16 0	40 13 0
4 Two-year-old heifers	38 17 0	29 8 0
8 Yearling heifers	48 6 0	26 18 2
19 Head		32 9 11

Mr. J. R. Findlay's

On Wednesday Aberlour was the scene of the sale, where, after an interval of nine years, a draft from Mr. J. R. Findlay's herd was disposed of. It has been the aim (and how it has been fulfilled is well known) of Mr. Findlay to keep the herd in good, healthy condition, and by careful selection and purchases from some of the most famous herds in the country to improve the breeding and the general quality of the stock. The cows have all proved good breeders. The present sale was rendered necessary on account of the herd having outgrown the accommodation available at the home farm. The animals catalogued numbered forty, and included many of the best representatives of the herd.

There was another large attendance, and, as a rule, there was no lack of spirit in the bidding. The whole of the forty animals catalogued were put through the ring, and they brought an aggregate of £1,403 17s., or an average of £35 1s. 11d. But for the moderate prices obtained for the four heifer calves and the two bulls exposed the general average would have been considerably higher. As it was, the result was very satisfactory, one of the cows bringing 190 gs. and one of the yearling heifers 100 gs. The former was the four-year-old Pride of Honour, a get of Performer out of the Alick dam Preference Pride. This beautiful and highly bred cow has had a distinguished career, including many championships at the Northern showyards, and her record also includes a second at the Highland Show, and a first at the Royal Northern, and reserve to a Shorthorn bull for the championship of all breeds at Inverness. For this exceptionally fine animal there was a smart competition between Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combscauseway, and Mr. John Grant, Advie Mains. Bidding began at 70 gs., but it was not until double this figure was reached that the keenness of the contest became apparent. Mr. J. M. Fraser, who was selling, tried hard to reach 200 gs., but Mr. Grant could not be induced to name that sum, and at the figure mentioned the animal was taken out by Mr. Gordon. For the yearling heifer there was also a lively bidding. Mr. James Cameron, on behalf of Mr. Wylie Hill, and Colonel Smith Grant and Mr. Kerr, of Harviestoun, all being in the running. In the end she was secured for the Auchorachan herd. The following is a list of the chief sales:

COWS

Pramella of Aberlour 24090, c. July 21, 1895; s. Mainstay of Aberlour 11977 .....Mr. Allan 29
Proud Maid 25367, c. December 23, 1896; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. Craig 28
Queen Mavis 7th 25515, c. December 20, 1896; s. Inspector 3957 .....Mr. Douglas 25
Pride of Hope 4th 32349, c. December 9, 1902; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. W. Wilson 42
Duchess of Aberlour 32369, c. April 10, 1899; s. Reporter of Aberlour 14921 .....Mr. Allan 28
Queen Bee of Aberlour 34278, c. May 4, 1900; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. M'Gowan 36
Wee Bell of Cragganmore 32671, c. December 7, 1899; s. Beaconsfield 16677 .....Mr. Johnstone 30
Princess 4th of Aberlour 29017, c. March 19, 1900; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. A. Beedie 25
Lady Fame 33415, c. December 19, 1900; s. Eblito 14306 .....Mr. Allan 30
Lily of Aberlour 34550, c. December 26, 1900; s. Keir Keeper 3584 .....Colonel Smith Grant 36
Duchess of Aberlour 34551, c. January 26, 1901; s. Keir Keeper 3584 .....Mr. Hector 44
Duchess 3rd of Aberlour 34464, c. June 6, 1901; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. Chapman 30
Pride of Honour 33608, c. December 5, 1901; s. Performer of Aberlour 17018 .....Mr. A. T. Gordon 190
Matilda B 33603, c. December 29, 1901; s. Performer of Aberlour 17018 .....Mr. Munro 27
Queen Mavis 8th 33611, c. January 27, 1902; s. Performer of Aberlour 17018 .....Mr. Johnstone 21
Erica C 33600, c. February 17, 1902; s. Reporter of Aberlour 14921 ....Trustees of the late Mr. Eadie 26
Pride of Craigellachie 33607, c. March 31, 1902; s. Juba of Ballindalloch 16719 .....Mr. Walker 26

TWO YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Homocea of Glamis 36432, c. December 12, 1902; s. Fairyking of Kirkbridge 11662 .....Mr. Inkson 30
Pride of Spey 3rd 35489, c. December 15, 1902; s. Performer of Aberlour 17018 .....Mr. Allan 47
Witch of Aberlour 35492, c. January 3, 1903; s. Performer of Aberlour 17018 .....Mr. W. S. Ferguson 38
Pride of Hope 5th 35488, c. January 4, 1903; s. Performer of Aberlour 17018 .....Mr. Walker 34
Maidment of Aberlour 37288, c. January 20, 1903; s. Portsman of Aberlour 17040 .....Mr. M'Gowan 41

ONE-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Pride of Spey 4th 37292, c. December 2, 1903; s. Echevin 17732 .....Colonel Smith Grant 100
Katoena of Aberlour 37286, c. December 3, 1903; s. Proud Osmond 19749 ....Sir G. Macpherson-Grant 28
Lydia of Aberlour 37287, c. January 10, 1904; s. Proud Esmond 19749 .....Countess of Seafield 24
Protea 37293, c. February 9, 1904; s. Echevin 17732 .....Mr. Wylie Hill 37
Entada 37283, c. March 2, 1904; s. Echevin 17732 .....Mr. Barclay 22

HEIFER CALVES.

Peg, c. February 10, 1905; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. J. Grant 24
Erisma, c. February 23, 1905; s. Alick of Aberlour 12231 .....Mr. Chapman 17

BULLS.

Kriston 18021, c. April 26, 1900; s. Eblito 14306 .....Mr. Munro 41
Elaborator of Ballindalloch 21807, c. December 30, 1902; s. Eblito 14306 .....Mr. Forbes 31

SUMMARY.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
21 Cows	199 10 0	37 18 0
6 Two-year-old heifers	47 0 0	36 4 6
7 Yearling heifers	105 0 0	36 3 0
4 Heifer calves	25 4 0	15 9 9
2 Bulls	43 1 0	37 16 0
40 Head		35 1 11

[*Owing to pressure on space the other sales are unavoidably held over until our next issue.*]

Sale of Sussex Cattle at Mayfield.

Mr. Edward Lloyd, of New Pin Farm, Five Ashes, Mayfield, Sussex, is relinquishing farming, and on Friday Messrs. T. Bannister and Co., of Haywards Heath, sold the live and dead stock, the catalogue including a valuable herd of pedigree Sussex Cattle. There was a large attendance and keen competition. The Sussex cattle sold as follows; dairy cattle and several horses were also sold, the best price for the latter being 46 gs.:—

Redleaf Laura, purchased by Mr. E. Rayner, Wadhurst, 21 guineas; bull calf, Mr. E. Rayner, 5 guineas; Mayfield Molly 4th, Count Munster, Maresfield, 21 guineas; bull calf, Count Munster, 17 guineas; Noble Lady 22nd, Mr. Wickens, Mayfield, 22 guineas; Blue Bell 2nd, Mr. H. J. Chapman, Lewes, 25 guineas; heifer calf, Mr. H. J. Chapman, 6 guineas; Blechnum 3rd, Mr. E. Rayner, 25 guineas; bull calf, Mr. H. T. West, Woodmancote, 9 guineas; Helen, Mr. H. J. Chapman, 27 guineas; heifer calf, Mr. H. J. Chapman, 7 guineas; Penshurst Barbara, Mr. H. J. Chapman, 22 guineas; bull calf, Mr. H. J. Chapman, 16 guineas; Skipper's Queenie, Mr. H. Bell, Reigate, 12½ guineas; heifer, Mr. H. Bell, 22 guineas; Skipper's Annie, Mr. E. Symes, Five Ashes, 18 guineas; heifer, Miss Taylor, Five Ashes, 21 guineas. Steers were purchased by Mr. Wickens, a pair at 36 guineas; Mr. Wilson a pair at 26 guineas; Mr. E. Symes one at 18 guineas; Mr. H. S. Greaves, Buxted, two at 10½ guineas each; Mr. A. E. Dudeney, Barcombe, two at 13 guineas each, and one at 28 guineas. Mr. E. Rayner purchased a Sussex cow at 15 guineas, and her steer calf at 9½ guineas.

The Horsted Jerseys.

The entire herd of pure-bred Jersey cattle, bred by the late Mr. Francis Barchard, was sold by auction at Horsted Place, Sussex, on Friday, by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. The late Mr. Barchard was not only a great admirer but an eminent breeder of both cattle and sheep. For many years he kept on his beautiful estate a herd of Shorthorns and a herd of Black Polled cattle, as well as a famous flock of Southdown sheep, which were eventually dispersed at high prices, and were quite notable events in the county of Sussex. The herd of Jersey cattle had been in existence about thirty years. It consisted of two families: the Empresses, descended from a first-rate cow imported in 1876; and the Rushes, which came from Mr. R. J. Pope. The principle adopted by Mr. Barchard was the selection of the highest bred sires, without being in themselves showyard winners. This principle he found successful with his Shorthorns and Black Polls as well as with his sheep, and the high prices they realised on their dispersion showed that the public appreciated his system. The same was applied to the rearing of the Jersey herd. There was a large attendance at Friday's sale, but the animals sold cheaply, as have other Jerseys of late, top prices being but 34 and 33 gs., whilst a very few realised over 20 gs., and some sold as low as 5 gs. Some in-calf two-year-old and yearling heifers from Mr. Q. J. Streatfeild's (Uckfield) and Mr. G. M. Maryon Wilson's (Searles) herds were included in the catalogue. The chief lots and purchasers were as follows, the animals, except where otherwise stated, being the late Mr. Barchard's:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Empress 19th, c. July 14, 1897 .....Mr. C. E. Hogg	20
Daisy Sweet, c. Oct. 7, 1897 .....Mr. Hogg	25
Golden Rush, c. Nov. 21, 1889 .....Lady E. Hope	34
Mint (Mr. R. J. Streatfeild's), c. Sept. 9, 1901 (with bull calf) .....Mr. Hogg	33
Shred (Major Burney's), c. Dec., 1901 Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand	20
Golden Lady, c. April 12, 1902 .....Mr. V. P. Miss	20
Golden Lass, c. April 12, 1902 .....Mr. Duncanson	20
Empress 27th, c. May 15, 1902 .....Mr. Hogg	19
Queen Rush, c. April 24, 1903 .....Mr. V. P. Miss	17½
Fantasy (Mr G. M. Maryon-Wilson's), c. May 7, 1903 Mr. Hogg	18
Hasty Maid (Mr. Maryon-Wilson's), c. May 18, 1903 Mr. Allan Cooper	16½
Credulity (Mr. Maryon-Wilson's), c. May 30, 1903 Mr. Hogg	16
Dinna Forget (Mr. Maryon-Wilson's), c. May 30, 1903 Mr. Hogg	17½
Christmas Carol 2nd (Mr. Maryon-Wilson's), c. June 14, 1903 (together with her heifer calf) Mr. T. H. W. Buckley	16½
Gay Lady (Mr. Maryon-Wilson's), c. June 18, 1903 Mr. J. Hall Renton	18½

BULL.

Lord Buck, c. April 13, 1904 .....Mr. Hogg 25

Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At Blessington, Co. Wicklow, on 13th September, there was a small supply of very moderate cattle; slow demand and a clearance not effected. Calves, 2nd class, £2 17s. 6d. to £3 5s.; yearlings, 2nd class, £6 5s; two-years-old, 2nd class, £8 7s. 6d. to £9 15s. Large supply of Wicklow Mountain (Cheviot) ewes, for which there was brisk demand, a good clearance being effected. Two-years-old and upwards, 2nd class, £1 10s. 6d. to £1 17s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

***Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending** Sept. 9, 1905:—*

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	22	29 34 66	2,771	4,615 5,122 6,396
	Outbreaks.	No.	6	7 15 19	610	1,003 1,734 1,934
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	1	4 8 4	661	1,072 1,195 1,126
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	... ...	...	 11
	Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	No.	...	... 1 ...	...	 12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	66 51 57	1,512	1,958 1,734 1,462
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	29 20 31	871	1,191 1,056 818
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	... ...	...	 120
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	... ...	...	 1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	31	29 21 10	964	1,055 853 778
	Outbreaks.	No.	21	20 12 9	686	986 557 485
Period.				Week ended Sept. 9, 1905 ... Corresponding week in ... Total for 36 weeks in ... Corresponding period in		1904 1903 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

The President of the Board of Agriculture paid an official visit, on the 9th inst., to the Blythwood and Walpole Farms at Stansted, left by Sir James Blyth to the Government for the investigations of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis. He was received by the chairman of that body, Sir Michael Foster, M.P.

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Horse Notes.

It is essential, now that a Royal Commission on Motor-cars and the Ways of Motor-car Drivers is about to sit, that horse owners and horse breeders should make known their requirements with no uncertain voice, and put themselves in communication with the Commission as soon as possible. Every man, from the breeder of the racehorse and the hunter, to the breeder of the cart horse, and to the small farmer whose horse stock is represented by a couple of low-priced farm drudges, is equally interested, and if concerted action is taken there is, at any rate, a chance that those who pay for the maintenance of the roads may, in the not very distant future, be able to use them with a moderate degree of safety. But if this golden opportunity be missed the roads will be for the motorist alone, and it will be impossible for the pedestrians, equestrians, or coachmen to use the roads at all, whilst farm labourers will do so at the peril of their lives.

There is nothing so certain as that the motorists of all classes will combine to get as much licence as is possible, even for the scorcher. The industry, as it arrogantly calls itself, is not too scrupulous in the means it uses to obtain its ends, and it has money behind it. It is, therefore, necessary for those who wish to retain a partial use of the roads for the maintenance of which they pay, to organise, and that without delay.

I would not be misunderstood. For the motor-car itself I have no dislike; it is the motor-car recklessly driven, without any regard to the safety or convenience of others who use the roads that I have such a rooted objection. And in this particular, the horse I was riding a few days ago is like his owner. I was riding along a straight road, and saw in the distance a motor-car coming along at the speed of an express train. No sooner did it come within the range of vision than it was upon me, and so great was the pace that it was impossible for me to read the number. My signal to slacken speed was unheeded, as I knew it would be, and the car was upon us in a flash, and the next thing was that my horse and I were struggling in the ditch by the side of the road. Fortunately, we did not part company, though it was very nearly a roll right over. That it was not, was entirely due to the exceptionally good shoulders of the horse I was riding. And when I got my horse turned round the motor-car was, to all intents and purposes, out of the range of vision.

Now, if by any chance a bad accident had happened—if I had been badly hurt or killed, especially the latter; and, if by any lucky chance, the fiend in human shape who was driving the car had been pulled up, he would have sworn that the accident was entirely due to my loss of nerve, and to the bad managing of my horse; the papers which support "the industry" would have taken up his cry, and the unanimous verdict would have, probably, been, "Serve him right." But I did not lose my nerve, and if I could have caught the driver I would have demonstrated to him that there was something else I had not entirely lost either. As for the horse being badly broken, that was only one out of five motor-cars that I met, or that passed me, in the course of that ride, and it was the only one my horse took the least notice of.

It is, I admit, somewhat hard that those who drive decently should be inconvenienced by restrictions because of a few Yahoos who have not a thought for the convenience or the safety of others; but I can see no help for it. There are, of course, many ways of limiting the speed. Big racing-cars might be prevented going on the roads altogether, and only cars of a certain low horse-power licensed. Or it might be made obligatory to use solid instead of pneumatic tyres. Personally, I should be sorry to see these means adopted, because there are many men whose driving is careful, and who never cause any danger to other passengers. But I am afraid there is no other way. For instance, it was impossible to recognise and bring to justice the man who put my life in jeopardy for a minute or two the other day. We were the only occupants of the road, and he was gone before I had any chance of identifying him, whilst putting the telegraph in operation was entirely out of the question. I have no doubt of his being punished if he could be caught, both by the magistrates and by the Automobile Club, whose notices on the question of furious driving have, by the way, not had the slightest effect upon "scorchers," who know very well that their chances of being caught are remote, and who, therefore, hold all rules at defiance.

There is one thing that cannot be too strongly impressed upon those who drive motors or who ride on bicycles, and that is that it is impossible to train horses so that they shall take no notice of objects coming suddenly upon them. It is easy enough to train the average horse to meet or pass a motor car coming at a reasonable rate of speed, but no horse is to be depended upon to meet an object which comes upon him suddenly, whence he cannot tell, and which is upon him as soon as it is fairly within the range of his startled vision. Horses have got accustomed to railways, and will stand with their noses on the railway gates whilst a train moves slowly into or out of a station. But the case is very different if an express comes rattling by. And it is the same with the very quietest of horses under such circumstances. I have horses that have been boxed for hunting purposes once a fortnight and oftener for the last five or six seasons. They will walk into a horse-box as unconcernedly as into their own stables. But if an express train comes past them in a hurry they will bolt in an instant. They bolt because they do not realise what it is that comes on them, not because they are terrified of the thing itself.

It is interesting at this distance of time to study the controversy which raged upwards of a hundred years ago concerning the respective merits of oxen and horses for farm labour. Messrs. J. Bailey and G. Bailey, who in 1797 published a well-written and interesting book on the Agriculture of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Northumberland, make a comparison between the cost of oxen and horses for farm work. They lay it down as an indisputable fact that it takes eight oxen to do the work of two horses, or at any rate for the first year, though after that they say half-a-dozen will do the same work. The cost of an ox is reckoned at £6 5s. per annum, made up as follows:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Summering, 2 acres of grass at 20s.		2 0 0
Wintering on turnips and straw	2 0 0	
,, ,, hay	4 0 0	
Average		3 0 0
Interest on cost of oxen	0 10 0	
Harness, &c.	0 15 0	
		1 5 0
		6 5 0

The ox is presumed to improve in value £1 per annum, so that the net cost per ox is £5 5s. This works out with a team of oxen consisting of eight the first year and six the two following years to an average cost of £40 per annum.

The cost of a horse's keep in those days is enough to make any horse-owner who has to pay for his provender wish that he had lived then. The prime cost of keeping a horse for a year is estimated, roughly, at £15 15s., made up in the following manner:—

	£ s. d.
Summering, 2 acres of grass	2 0 0
Wintering:—	
Straw, 13 weeks at 9d.	0 10 0
Hay 1½ tons at £2	3 0 0
70 bushels of oats at 2s.	7 0 0
Shoeing and harness	1 0 0
Annuity to pay off £25 in 16 years	2 5 0
	15 15 0

The annuity, of course, is what must be written off for depreciation, and seems fairly calculated. It will be noticed that the straw is totalled at 10s. instead of 9s. 9d., which is the exact amount, probably to make even money in the average. It is, however, a matter of very slight importance. So that even at the date when labour was cheap, the horses came out at a cost of £8 10s. per annum less than the oxen. Such being the case, it is a wonder that oxen were used such a long time as they were.

It is interesting to notice that even in those days the Northumberland farmers went to Clydesdale for the best of their draught horses, and they are described as standing from 15 hands 2 inches to 16 hands, and as "strong, hardy, remarkable good and true pullers; a restive horse being rarely found amongst them." We are also told that "the horses bred in the county are of various sorts, from the full blood racer, to the strong, heavy, rough legged black." The latter, I take it, would be the ancestor of the Vardy horse; about which breed, curiously enough, there is no history to be found in any old book I have come across. There seems to be a certain tradition hanging around them, and I have heard individuals of the breed highly praised. The late Sir Jacob Wilson told me that he remembered seeing them in the days of his youth, but that even then they had become practically extinct. I have never even heard the derivation of the name. In all probability the increasing esteem in which the Northumberland farmers held the Clydesdale caused the cross-bred to be absorbed. Whatever the reason, there can be little doubt but what the active, sharp-stepping Vardy, with his good shoulders, would have been invaluable nowadays as a foundation for breeding heavy troop horses.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Mr. Hargrave's Hackney Ponies.

Messrs. Henry Manley and Sons, Ltd., offered for sale on the 9th inst. some 70 pedigree Hackney ponies, the property of Mr. Ward Hargrave, at The Normans, Rusper, near Horsham. Owing to the extremely inclement weather, which compelled the auctioneers to adjourn a portion of the sale to the vicinity of a large tent, the attendance was not large. Mr. Walter Lloyd, of Haywards Heath, presided at the luncheon, and gave the usual toasts. Mr. Hargrave, in responding, stated that his object in pony breeding had been to endeavour to breed something better than the parents in the produce. Many well-known Hackney and pony breeders attended the sale, and purchases were also made for exportation to Canada. Mr. Walter Lloyd secured the pick of the foals, a nice quality filly descended from Lady Lambert, and sold at 25 gs. Lady Hannah, one of the best of the brood mares, and the recipient of a h.c. ticket in London this year, was withdrawn at a bid of 65 gs. A three-year-old colt out of the foundation stock mare, Parbold Blackbird, made 27 gs. Lady Hannah's yearling colt realised 22 gs., and a three-year-old gelding out of the brood mare Tittums 30 gs. The finished harness ponies sold well, Mr. Jay paying 56 gs. for Fuchsia and Mr. Lewis (Brighton) 50 gs. for the Berkeley Model gelding Jack. In consequence of Mr. Hargrave having decided to retain his three stallions, these were not submitted for competition.

Mr. Garret Taylor's Shires and Hackneys.

On Thursday, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck conducted an unreserved sale of the entire stud of Shire horses, and also a number of Hackneys and ponies belonging to Mr. Garrett Taylor, at Kirby Bedon Stud Farm, Norwich, and the fixture attracted a very large company of buyers. The animals were all of the highest quality, and a large proportion of the Shires were descended from the famous Hitchin Conqueror. Bidding was brisk throughout the sale, and some fairly good prices were obtained, but buyers undoubtedly secured a number of bargains through the sale being an unreserved one. The Shires sold best, and a couple of them realised a three-figure price, namely, 180 gs., given by Mr. C. Tindall for Kirby Bedon Conqueror, a splendid stallion by Blythwood Conqueror; and 150 gs., given by the representative of His Majesty the King for the brood mare Laurel by Maxie out of Blossom. Details of the other principal prices are appended, and the sale resulted in a grand total of £2,408 3s. 6d., the Shires contributing £1,842 15s., and the Hackneys £565 8s. 6d.

SHIRES.

	Gs.
THREE YEAR-OLD FILLIES.	
Kirby Bedon Fruit 42391, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. B. Barwood, Cringleford	40
Kirby Bedon Thatch 42392, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. B. Barwood	41
Kirby Bedon Dora 42389, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... H.M. the King	84
Kirby Bedon Thera 42393, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. B. Barwood	3
Kirby Bedon Fearless 42390, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. B. Barwood	36
TWO YEAR OLD FILLIES.	
Kirby Bedon Empress 45411, s. Hendre Conqueror 17388 ... Mr. Hawkins	51
Kirby Bedon Skylark 45410, bay, s. Bright Metal Cobb ... Mr. J. Hall, Bexley	29
Kirby Bedon Gay Lady 45413, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. Richmond	72
Kirby Bedon Pretty Lass 45415, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. Rackham	50
Kirby Bedon Trusty 45417, s. Grafton III. 14065 ... Mr. R. Hudson	21
YEARLING FILLIES.	
Kirby Bedon Fine Lady, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. Hall	41
Kirby Bedon Firefly, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ... Mr. Richmond	55
YEARLING COLT	
Kirby Bedon Ruler, s. Manor Regent 17493 ... Mr. C. Tindall	95

STALLIONS.

Kirby Bedon Triumph 21575, f. 1902; s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ..... Mr. Rackham 43
Blythwood Red Pottage 22129, f. 1901; s. Blythwood Conqueror 14997 ..... Mr. Francis 58
Kirby Bedon Conqueror 19744, f. 1900; s. Blythwood Conqueror 14997 ..... Mr. C. Tindall 180
Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128, f. 1898; s. Blythwood Conquest 15491 ..... Mr. W. Case 40

FOUR-YEAR OLD MARES.

Kirby Bedon Pet 45414, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ..... Mr. Bruce, Winchester 56
Kirby Bedon Fair Lass 45412, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 ..... Mr. Bruce 60

BROOD MARES.

Kirby Bedon Hilda 32751, f. 1899; s. Gallant Lad 14641 ..... Mr. Temple 64
Kirby Bedon Cosy 32749, f. 1899; s. Blythwood Conqueror 14997 ..... Mr. Hawkins 46
Kirby Bedon Topsy 29106, f. 1898; s. Grafton III. 14065 ..... Mr. Parker 52
Laurel 22046, f. 1895; s. Maxie 13306 H.M. the King 130
Indian Fruit 18368, f. 1893; s. Gordon III. 11496 Mr. Matthews 35

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Victorine of Waresley 34314, f. 1899; s. Waresley Triumph 16453 ..... Mr. Richmond 56
Colt foal, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 Mr. Hollands 16½
Trip 43611, f. 1897; s. Grafton III. 10465 Mr. B. Barwood 41
Torch 27106, f. 1897; s. Blythwood Conqueror 14997 Mr. Fulcher 26
Stewton Flower Girl 24851, f. 1896; s. Golden King 13114 ..... Mr. Bruce 60
Filly foal, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 Sir Walter Gilbey 30
Saxon Topsy 24691, f. 1896; s. Saxon Boy 14252 Mr. Brereton 19
Colt foal, s. Kirby Bedon Conquest 18128 Mr. Hollands 16
Theory 18996, f. 1893; s. Weathercock 4787 Mr. Brereton 28

MARES.

MARES.

Kirby Bedon Marigold 13623, 14.3½, f. 1899; s. Royal Dane 5703 ..... Mr. C. W. H. Cozens-Hardy 35
Kirby Bedon Stella 14466, 14.3½, f. 1900; s. Generosity 5634 ..... Mr. R. W. Palham 34
Mare, 14.1½, f. 1900; s. Generosity 5634 Mr. Rolph, Lakenheath 27
Kirby Bedon Royal Belle 15206, 14.2, f. 1901; s. Kirby Bedon Royal 7141 ..... Mr. Rackham 34

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Kirby Bedon Rosabelle 15928, s. Generosity 5634 Mr. R. W. Palmer 34
Kirby Bedon Lassie 15927, s. Field Marshall 2986 Mr. A. Stimpson 24

GELDINGS.

Chestnut, 15.1, 11 years old; s. Danegelt 174 Mr. Bruce 31
Chestnut, 16 hands, 6 years old; s. Generosity 5634 Mr. Palmer 34
Chestnut, 16 hands, 6 years old; s. Generosity 5634 Mr. Palmer 60
Bay, 14 hands, 6 years old; s. Generosity 5634 Mr. Palmer 34

PONIES.

Kirby Bedon Sweetmeat 15207, mare, 13.1½, f. 1901; s. Snorter 4595 ..... Mr. Hipperson 28
Gelding, 3 years old; s. Prospector 6516 Mr. C. Keeble 31

Show and Sale of Clydesdales at Stirling.

The seventh annual show and sale of Clydesdale horses, held at Stirling by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., took place on Wednesday, when 118 animals were forward, about the same as last year, but there was a slight falling-off in the quality of the different lots shown. The outstanding classes were the sections for geldings and fillies rising three years old, and the animals placed in these classes were of very good merit. Foals were also a good show. The judges were Messrs. Bean, Ballochy, and Greig, Crookstone, and their awards were as follows:—

FILLIES, rising 3 years old.—1, Mr. M'Caull, Barbush, for his brown filly, sired by The Dean, and sold at £33 10s.; 2, Mr. Binnie, of Plean, sold at £33 10s.; 3, Mr. Kinross, Hillend, sold at £26. Others in this section made from £24 to £35.

GELDINGS, rising 3 years old.—1, Mr. Moir, Nethercarse, sold at £42 10s.; 2, Mr. Risk, Culmore, sold at £40; 3, Messrs. Reid, Hillside, theirs in this section made from £27 to £37.

FILLIES, rising 2 years old.—1, Mr. Walls, Muirtown, sold at £25 10s.; 2, Messrs. Reid, Hillside, sold at £19 10s.; 3, Mr. Meikle, Craigrie.

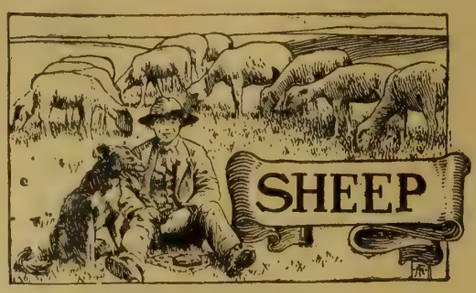
GELDINGS, rising 2 years old.—1, Messrs. Dobbie, Touchmollar, sold at £30; 2, Mr. Murray, of Polmaise; 3, Mrs. Campbell, Gartmore.

FOALS.—1, Mr. Bullions, Roseburnlane, sold at £18; 2, Mr. Thomson, Cauldbarns; 3, Mr. Couper, Kinneddar.

At the sale there was a large and representative attendance of buyers from all quarters, but, unless for the best class of geldings and fillies, a slow demand was experienced. A fairly good clearance was made, the best competition being for geldings rising 3 years old. Work horses sold to £40, colts to £25 10s; ponies to £18.

The Flanshaw Hackneys.

At Flanshaw Stud Farm, near Wakefield, on Monday, when Mr. F. Fox, of Dewsbury, offered for sale a number of pedigree and prize-winning Hackney and harness horses, the property of Messrs. J. and H. Moorhouse, there was a large attendance but a poor trade, a good number of the lots being withdrawn. The principal prices realised were as follow:—Yearling colt, sire Duke Arthur, dam Orphan Belle, price 50 gs.; harness gelding, Derby Duke, 45 gs.; bay gelding, foaled 1901, 40 gs.; Electric Jess, 38½ gs.



Notes and Jottings.

August shipments of stud and other sheep for export numbered 935 head; 59.09 per cent. less than the number exported during the corresponding month in August, 1904. This falling of in the number of head shipped, however, has not been in respect to stud sheep, but to those not generally taken in large numbers, namely, store sheep. This is fully confirmed if the average declared value of the shipments in these two months be taken as indicative of the merit of the exported sheep. Those shipped in August, 1904, were valued at an average of £5 5s. per head, and those shipped in August, 1905, at £12 1s. 1d. per head.

Reference to the records of former years shows that the average declared value of our exported sheep during last month was the highest that has been recorded for that month since August, 1900, when 906 head were exported of the average declared value of £12 9s. 3d.

The sheep imported during the past month numbered 11,214 head of the average declared value of £1 11s. 7d. per head. Compared with twelve months previously, these figures disclose a reduction of 48.81 per cent. in respect to number imported, and a reduction of 8d. per head in declared value.

The number imported last month was the smallest on record for this month during the past eleven years, with one exception, namely, in August, 1902, when 11,209 head were imported at an average of £1 4s. 5d. per head.

The sources from whence we obtain our imported sheep are two—the United States and Canada. The former country sent us during August last 6,505 head, or 55.53 per cent. less than in August, 1904; and the latter 4,709 head, which, compared with August, 1904, shows a decline of 17.25 per cent.

The aggregate declared value of the live sheep and mutton imported during the past month was £758,017, or 21.90 per cent. more than during the same period of 1904.

The quantity of mutton imported last month was 383,076 cwt., 28.95 per cent. more than in August, 1904. The main sources of supply were: Argentina from whence came 157,409 cwt., which, compared with the quantity imported in August, 1904, shows an increase of 28.21 per cent.; and New Zealand, which sent us 189,161 cwt., or 33.26 per cent more than in August, 1904.

A selection of fifteen yearling ewes and one yearling ram has been made from Mr. Arthur Finn's well-known Westbroke flock of Kent or Romney Marsh sheep, at Westbroke Lydd. This selection is an important one, for it is but very seldom, indeed, that any export purchaser takes so large a number of yearling ewes at a time. The quality and character of these sheep is also very superior, for the yearling ewes are the first selection from somewhere about 500; another ram, Westbroke No. 20 of 1904, was specially selected for this shipment out of about 120 yearling rams, which will be disposed of from the Westbroke flock this season.

Flock masters who are engaged in breeding stud rams for export should note that, under the new regulations applicable to the importation of stud animals to the Argentine (amongst which sheep are included), and to which reference was made a fortnight back, provide:—

1. That it is compulsory to present on arrival at the port of debarkation in the Argentine, with every animal imported as a stud animal, a properly legalised export pedigree certificate.

2. No animal that has not with it this certificate of pedigree can be entered in the Governmental Register of Stud Animals.

3. A pedigree certificate to be recognised as such must be issued by the respective breed societies on the usual form, and sealed and signed by the proper official of the society.

The weather of the past week has been wet and colder, a decided change from that we have recently been experiencing. Have all flock-masters noted this and acted accordingly? We fear not; for, in more than one instance which has come to our notice, we find exactly the same treatment being meted out to the lambs and sheep generally.

This is wrong in every sense of the word. The food requisite for dry and warm weather is certainly not so for wet and cold. The writer knows full well many who read this will say, "What in the world does the scribbler know about sheep or their management?" To this one can reply: "Probably as much as any flock-master"; because the writer's experience of sheep, their management in all ways, is life-long; for over thirty years the subject has been one of special study, and during a greater part of this period opportunity has been afforded for practical management of flocks, in which both showyard work, coupled with ram breeding, and the ordinary commercial flock work was under his direct control.

To condemn any system of management it is needful to say why. Therefore, let any who are conversant with flock management just pause and think a bit. At what period of the year are the losses, as a rule, greatest, say, for instance, amongst young sheep or lambs? and the reply will be from now till midwinter. Why is this so? Simply, to briefly put the matter, because, as a rule, the food given is not that which is most suitable to the well-being of the young lambs or sheep.

To allow lambs simply to exist, as many thousands have to do, on the soddened grasses, clover, etc., is simply bad management, and, in effect, the best possible system to produce disease and loss; or, at the best, a lot of weakened and half-grown sheep. If, on the contrary, some good sound food be given them—it need not be much per head, nor of an expensive kind—the lambs, instead of gradually becoming weaker and losing flesh and substance, would, at any rate, maintain their strength and, to some extent, continue to grow. These would, when springtime came, be at once able to start right away and assimilate with the fullest advantage the food then at command; whilst the other section would, if they survive, be weeks at least before they made any material progress at all, and when at last a start was made, the degree of progress would be infinitely slower.

These few brief notes are well worthy of the attention of the observant flock-master. The cost of the better keep would not be much per head, far less than the cost of the extra keep required in the springtime to restart the poor and neglected lambs, besides which those properly wintered would come to market sooner, grow more wool, and thus make a far better return even if sold for slaughter; whilst if they were ewe lambs kept for stock purposes, their value would be 1s. a head more than the other class.

Suffolk Sheep Flock Competition

The annual flock competitions, organised by the Suffolk Sheep Society, which have been held annually since 1886, have been most generously supported by prominent and influential members of the Suffolk Sheep Society—by the gift of challenge cups—but there has, in recent years, been a regrettable lack of competition in some districts, due, it is said, to the feeling that the larger flocks could not compete with smaller flocks with much prospect of success, and there was also, no doubt, a disinclination to enter the lists against those flocks which had already proved their superiority by repeated victories.

In order to encourage a larger number of flock-owners to prove the high standard of their flocks, the council of the Suffolk Sheep Society have, after very careful consideration of the subject, decided that in place of district competitions the flocks shall be shown in two divisions, the first being for previous winners of cups, and the second for flocks which have never won a cup. Each division will be sub-divided in two classes, viz., (a) flocks exceeding 240 ewes; (b) flocks not exceeding 240 ewes and not less than 120 ewes.

The challenge cups offered for competition under this revised scheme are as follows:—

Division I.—Class A: The Baird Cup, presented by Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Baird. Class B: The Davis Cup, presented by Colonel R. P. Davis.

Division II. Class A: The Wentworth Reeve Cup, presented by Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve. Class B: The Adair Cup, presented by Sir Frederick Adair, Bart.

The Pretyman Cup, for the best ewe lambs. Presented by Mr. E. G. Pretyman, M.P.

The Bristol Champion Challenge Cup. A gold cup of the value of 50 guineas, offered for the best

flock of Suffolk breeding ewes, shown in Divisions I. and II.

The last day for entry is Friday, the 15th inst., and the judging of flocks will commence on October 1, or as soon as arrangements permit.

Bristol Wool Fair.

This fair was held on Wednesday, and was well attended, and there was an exceptionally good demand for Downs, both skins and fleeces, with a strong upward tendency. In some cases holders found themselves compelled to decline orders from a scarcity of supply. Best Southdowns made as much as 1s. 3d. per lb., and matchings were certainly one halfpenny higher than the current prices for the last fortnight. There was also a moderate demand for skin wools, the prices for which were fully maintained, and some buyers complained of the prices asked in this department. Shortheads were quoted at 9d. and 9½d., and cardings 11d. to 1s.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Border Union Agricultural Society's Ram Sale.

This important annual event took place at Kelso on the 8th inst., and was most successful, the entry being a record one, and the quality generally an improvement, and the prices good. The entries comprised no fewer than 988 Border Leicesters, 325 half-breds, and 1,017 Oxford and Suffolk Downs, or a total of 2,330, as against 2,049 in 1904. Each ram was sold singly, and in disposing of such a large number no fewer than fourteen auctioneering firms were engaged. The Border Leicesters sold best, and for these many handsome prices were realised. The top price was £130, which sum was obtained by Mr. David Hume, Barrelwell, for the Highland and Angus county champion, by Prime Favourite, from a Stanley ewe. He is a sheep of good substance, with well set on head, and nice skin, and he came in for very keen competition; Mr. Dun, Laidlawstiel, stayed longest, and eventually got this choice ram. Others from Mr. Hume's flock also sold well, and this breeder had the satisfaction of making top average for the sale, his 19 animals averaging £35 9s. per head. Messrs. Smith, Galalaw, got £125 for a great sheep, by Gala Quality from a little-known ewe, the buyer, after a keen contest, being Mr. Wallace Auchenbrain. Space does not permit of detailing the other big prices for Leicesters, but we may mention that they included the following figures:—£90, £80, £71, £70, £56, £52, £50, £40, £35, etc. Half-breds realised up to £26, other chief prices being £24, £23, £21, £18, etc. Suffolk Downs made up to £11, and Oxford Downs up to £28.

Castle Douglas.

Mr. Wallet's annual sale of shearling rams—Border Leicester, Yorkshire, and Wensleydale—at Castle Douglas was held on Thursday, when about 340 were presented. There was a large attendance, and a brisk demand was experienced for Border Leicesters, prices being from £1 10s. to £2 dearer than last year. The chief prices were £17, £15, £11, £9, etc., whilst the best average in the section was £11 12s. 6d. for twenty, this being obtained by Mr. Templeton, Sandyknowe, Kelso. In the Yorkshire ring a business very favourable to exposers was done. The top price and average in this ring were obtained by the executors of the late Mr. T. Willis, Carperby, who disposed of 12 at an average per head of £10 5s., the top figure being £21 10s. Other prices ranged from £10 downwards.

Mr. C. Coxon's Shropshires.

Messrs. Winterton and Sons, of Lichfield, acting with Messrs. Lowe, Tamworth, sold, at Elford Park, Tamworth, on the 8th inst., the Shropshire sheep and Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. Charles Coxon, whose flock is well known all over the country. Forty-six rams were offered, and made the satisfactory average of £14 each. Captain Townsend hired No. 1 at 25 gs., Major Kenworthy gave 35 gs., Sir P. A. Muntz 16 gs., Mr. H. Sankey 21 gs., Mr. Webb 14 gs. for South America, and he was also the purchaser of ten others for Russia; Mr. Beale gave 20 gs., Mr. Dyott 17 gs. Messrs. G. and J. Brown hired No. 21 for 20 gs., Mr. G. Beale 18 gs. The ewes made up to 5 gs. each, the average for sixty-five being £3 9s. 6d. Shorthorn cows made 27 gs., 22½ gs., 21 gs., 20 gs., 23 gs.; bullocks £36 the pair.

Mr. T. Fenn's Shropshires.

On Tuesday Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. offered for sale the whole of the flock of Shropshire sheep so long maintained at Stonebrook House, Downton Castle, near Ludlow, by Mr. Thomas Fenn. The dispersion of a flock having a world-wide reputation was brought about by Mr. Fenn's determination to give up farming owing to advancing age. No history of Shropshire sheep could be complete without reference to Mr. Fenn's famous flock at Stonebrook House. It is one of the oldest flocks extant, contains a good deal of the Mansell strain, and is well and favourably known in every country where Shropshire sheep are bred. Every sire Mr. Fenn has introduced is registered in the Shropshire Flock Book from 1868, when the Royal winner, Abbot of Bary (54), a son of the famous Nonpareil (908), was used. Stonebrook representatives have for many years taken high positions at the leading English shows, and the flock has been largely resorted to by contemporary breeders for sires. The flock never looked better than on the day of its last appearance as one collection, and the uniformity of character, purity of type, and perfection of form were remarkable.

Prior to the sale there was a luncheon, at which general regret was expressed at the dispersal of such an excellent flock.

Mr. Fenn, in thanking the company for their kind expressions, said he hoped that whatever they bought that day would prove useful, and bring to them as much profit and pleasure as it had been to him to breed Shropshire sheep during the last forty-four years. It was a severe wrench to him to give up breeding Shropshires, but after forty years he had decided to leave it to younger hands, and he hoped they would be successful.

Bidding was brisk at the sale, and good prices were realised, as the following list will show:—

RAMS.—Two-shear ram, Countersign, 100 guineas, Mr. F. Bibby, Hardwick Grange, Shrewsbury; four-shear ram, Downton (11417), 30gs, Mr. T. A. Buttar, Coupar Angus; two-shear ram, 20gs, Mr. Powell, Hereford; three shear ram, Gladiator, 33gs, Mr. T. A. Buttar; three-shear ram, Downton Branch, 25gs, Mr. J. J. Brewin. Shearling rams: 27gs, Mr. Cole (the incoming tenant); 16gs, Mr. Phillips; 20gs, Mr. Cole; 7gs, Mr. Edwards; 13gs, Mr. A. Everall; 6gs, Mr. Richmond; 46gs, Mr. T. Simon; 6½gs, Mr. Ridgway.

PASTURE RANGERS.—11gs, Mr. G. Howells, Leinthall; 15gs, Mr. Powell, Lower Hill, Hereford; 15gs, Mr. Sydney Hill; 5½gs, Mr. Rickards; 8gs, Mr. Morgan, Dinmore; 7gs, Mr. J. Capel Phillips; 5½gs, Mr. Powell; 9gs, Mr. Morris, Hereford; 21gs, Mr. J. S. Harding; 13gs, Mr. Farmer, Tugford; 8gs, Mr. Webb; 7gs, 6½gs, Mr. Webb; 7gs, Mr. Boughton Knight; 9½gs, Lord Llangattock; 6½gs, Mr. Boughton Knight; 7½gs, Mr. Mellings, Walton; 5½gs, Mr. Humphreys.

EWES.—Shearling ewes, pens of five: 10gs each, Mr. F. Bibby, Hardwick Grange; 8gs, Mr. Wilson, Australia; 5gs, Mr. Bebb; 6½gs, Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P.; 3½gs, Mr. Brewin, Birkenhead; 4½gs, Mr. Pritchard; 3½gs (twice), Mr. Boughton Knight; 3gs, 2¾gs, 3gs, 2½gs, Mr. Howley; 48s, 49s, Mr. Parr. Two-shear ewes: 82s 6d, Mr. F. Bibby Hardwick Grange; 55s, Mr. Cole; 67s 6d, 60s, Mr. Cole. Young stock ewes: 115s each, 67s 6d, 90s, 80s, 67s 6d, 60s, Mr. Cole; 130s, Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P.; 80s, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., South Wales; 52s, 57s 6d, 57s 6d, Mr. Parker, Aston Eyres; 62s 6d, Mr. Bell; 55s, 62s, Mr. Potter; 57s 6d, Mr. Groom, Wellington; 60s, Messrs. Marston Brothers. Ewe lambs: 7½gs each, Mr. Brewin; 3gs, 2½gs, 40s, 44s, 40s, 41s, 42s, 38s, Mr. Cole; 2½gs, Mr. Bell; 35s, 38s, Mr. Brown; 40s, 37s, Mr. Coxon; 34s, Mr. Farmer, Tugford; 28s, Mr. Parr.

RAM LAMBS.—17gs, Mr. Napper; 4½gs, Lord Boyne; 8gs, Mr. P. G. Hughes, South America; 50gs, Mr. Brewin; 5½gs, 5½gs, 12gs, 12gs, 7½gs, 6gs, Mr. P. G. Hughes; 20gs, Mr. Woods, Valletts; 4gs, Mr. Marston; 15gs and 8gs, Mr. Cole; 12gs, Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P.; 8gs, Mr. Bell; 3½gs, Mr. Jones, Crow Leasow; 3gs, Mr. Brown; 3½gs, Mr. G. Hamar; 23gs, Mr. White; 26gs, Mr. Berry; 4½gs, Mr. Nott; 8½gs, 3½gs, Hon. Victor Cavendish, M.P.; 4½gs, 4gs, Mr. Woodgate, Leinthall; 8gs, Lord Boyne; 3½gs, Mr. Moore; 2½gs, Mr. Bellyse; 3gs, Mr. Hamar.

PAIRS OF LAMBS.—Sold from 8½gs the pair to 3gs.

Findon.

Findon great sheep fair, the origin of which dates back over a hundred years, was held in most fair weather, on Thursday, at Nepcote Green, Findon, a picturesque spot in the valley below the Southdowns, and was largely attended, many well-known Sussex flock-masters and farmers being present. The number of sheep and lambs penned was between 6,500 and 7,000, slightly fewer than last year. Business commenced soon after nine o'clock, and was all over by one o'clock. There was a good demand for Southdown ewes and lambs, and the quality was well up to the average. Over 3,000 Southdown ewes and lambs were entered for the auction by Mr. Harry Jas. Burt, of Steyning, which was the most important part of the day's doings and at which some very good prices were realised. The highest was that given by Mr. Holliday for 100 ewes of Mr. A. Short's (Findon) flock, namely, 47s. 6d.; the next best price being 46s. 6d. given by Mr. Dunn (for the Duke of Norfolk) for 100 ewes of Mr. H. R. P. Wyatt's flock; whilst the lowest was 18s. The following prices were realised for rams and ram lambs:—Mr. Dunn (for Duke of Norfolk) at 5½ guineas; Mr. A. Short at 4 guineas, 6 guineas, and 7½ guineas; Mr. Batchelor at 3 guineas; Mr. Gardener (Crawley) at 4½ guineas; Mr. Brockhurst at 35s.; and Mr. Dunn at 3 guineas. There were in addition a few good private sales, and the top price for lambs was realised by Mr. Warren, of East Preston, who made 44s.

Glasgow.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co.'s 21st annual show and sale of rams and ram lambs, at Glasgow, took place on Tuesday within their premises, Cattle Market. The total number catalogued was 504, consisting of 50 Leicesters, 190 black face shearlings, and 264 black face ram lambs. These figures show an increase over last year's entries, and are about equal to those of 1903. In the Leicester section many well-bred sheep were exposed both in the shearling and lamb classes, the whole being brought out specially for crossing purposes. The black face shearlings were a strong class, no fewer than nine pens of five sheep being drawn out for competition. At the conclusion of the judging a start was made with the sale of Leicesters. There was a large crowd of buyers from all parts of Scotland, the Western Islands, and Ireland. The Leicester shearlings met a good demand, making up to £29 (secured by Mr. Buchanan), others selling at £15, £10, £11, etc.

Horncastle.

There was a very large show of sheep at Horncastle September Fair, held on Thursday, nearly 2,000 being penned in excess of last year. Gimmers made up to 70s., and ewes 58s. Mr. Joseph E. Walter sold a large number of rams by auction. Messrs. Crowder's Thornton rams made up to 11 gs.; Mr. R. Robert's Thimbleby rams made up to 10½ gs.; Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe's Baumber rams, 10½ gs.; Mr. J. Redmore's, Hemingby, 8½ gs.; and Mr. George Langdale's Market Stainton rams, 10 gs. per head.

Lichfield.

Between 3,000 and 4,000 sheep were offered by Messrs. Winterton and Sons at Lichfield on Thursday, and they met a brisk trade at good prices, several lots being bought for exportation. Mr. J. Brown's 30 rams made 20, 13, 12, 13, 11, and 8 guineas, and averaged £9 each; Mr. George Brown's 10½, 11, and 10 guineas; Mr. A. S. Berry (15) 20, 15, 17, and 9 guineas, and averaged £10 each; Mr. J. L. Coxon up to 9½ gs.; Mr. J. Myatt, 7½ gs.; Mr. J. Fowlers, 10½ gs.; Mr. Hunter, 8 gs.; Mr. P. W. Boston's ram lambs, 11½ gs.; Mr. Corbishley's lambs, 7½ gs. Ewes were sold at good prices, the chief being:—Mr. J. Brown's, 78s., 60s., 58s.; Mr. A. S. Berry, 62s., 60s., 62s.; Mr. J. L. Coxon, 55s.; Mr. W. Roberts, 51s.; Mr. Ashmall, 53s.; Mr. J. H. Parkes, 56s.; Mr. Myatt, 56s.; Mr. Hulme, 56s.; Messrs. Ashill (200), up to 50s.; Mr. Hunter, 52s.; Mr. Wylie, 52s.

Sleaford.

The sixteenth annual show and sale of registered Lincoln sheep at Sleaford took place on Thursday, when Messrs. Hincks and Lawrence offered by auction 3,827 Longwool theaves and ewes, 420 Longwool and half-bred lambs, 172 registered Lincoln Longwool rams, and 69 pedigree Hampshire Down rams. Lincoln rams made 14 gs. to 45 gs. each, Hampshire rams 3 gs. to 6 gs. each, theaves 54s. to 60s., but the prize pens realised 66s. to 69s., and one pen from Mr. J. Blankley, of Denton, reached 74s. per head; lambs made 36s. to 40s. each, and ewes fully late rates. Awards were made as follows:—Lincoln rams.—1, Mr. F. Money, Silk Willoughby; 2, Mr. C. Clarke, Scopwick. Pen of twenty theaves—1, Mr. T. Houghton, Billingborough; 2, Ms. E. Knight, jun., of Walcot. Pen of thirty lambs—1, Mr. J. Todd, of Kirkby Green; 2, Mr. B. Leedale, of Digby. There was a large attendance of buyers.

Stamford.

Some choice consignments of rams were forward at the sale, held at Stamford, on Monday, by Messrs. J. Martyn Collins and Co., and Messrs. Royce, of Oakham, Stamfor and Melton Mowbray. The following were the top prices and averages of the different exhibitors:—Mr. Fred Ward, Quarrington—Top price, 20 gs.; aggregate for 12, £120 15s.; average, £10 1s. 3d. Mr. Jas. Hornsby, Laxton Park, Stamford—Top price, 7¼ gs.; aggregate for 16, £59 6s. 6d.; average, £3 14s. 2d. Mr. Jas. Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury—Top price, 8 gs.; aggregate for 15, £91 9s. 3d.; average £6 3s. 3d. Major Pinder, Newstead, Stamford—Top price, 13 gs.; aggregate for 20, £165 2s. 3d.; average, £8 5s. 1d. Mr. Brown, Clanfield, Horndean, Hampshire.—Top price, 6 gs.; aggregate for 6, £29 8s.; average, £4 18s.

Wigton.

Hope's Auction Company had over 3,000 lambs of all classes forward at their special sale at Wigton on Wednesday. The buck were second and third draws. With a large attendance there was a spirited sale at the highest prices of the season here by several shillings a head. Half-bred lambs made 19s. 6d. to 27s., cross lambs up to 28s., and Cheviots up to 19s. 6d. each.

[*The remainder of Sheep Sales will be found at page 338.*]

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Bury St. Edmunds.

The colt and foal show held at Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday was the most successful yet seen in that town. The entries were larger than on any previous occasion—there were about twenty entries more than last year, and the quality was better; whilst the attendance of visitors was most satisfactory. The great object of establishing a sale had evidently been attained, for associated with the show there had been catalogued entries of about 200 horses, viz., 85 cart mares and geldings, 65 two-year-old and yearling cart colts, 30 Suffolk and Shire-bred foals, and 20 Hackneys. Messrs. Simpson and Sons conducted the sale, which was a brisk one, and some good prices were obtained. The best were 57 gs. for a three-year-old Suffolk filly sent by Mr. H. Turner, 55 gs. for a four-year-old Shire gelding sent by Mr. P. Brown, and 52 gs. obtained by Mr. Newdick for a three-year-old gelding. Others sold from 37 gs.

Chiltern Hills.

The fifty-third annual show of the Chiltern Hills (Wendover) Agricultural Association was held in the beautiful park of the president, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild, C.V.O., at Halton. It was the sixth of the new series, and if the elements had but proved propitious it would undoubtedly have been the most successful. Some additional attractions had been provided, the arrangements for the convenience and enjoyment of the visitors still further extended and improved, and the entries showed a gratifying increase in nearly every department. It was most unfortunate, therefore, that the sun should have refused to shine upon the undertaking, except in a few fitful gleams late in the afternoon, and that leaden skies and drenching showers should instead have sadly marred what otherwise would have been a most animated and attractive scene. The attendance, however, was larger than could have been hoped for under such discouraging conditions, the "gate" exceeding that of last year. The agricultural show proper, although not extensive, was a very comprehensive one, and in every way creditable to the district. It included agricultural horses, hunters, horned stock, sheep, pigs, corn, roots, butter, dead poultry, eggs, vegetables, etc. The total number of entries was about 760, roots representing 60, corn 45, growing crops 12, agricultural horses 38, ploughing 17, building and thatching 5, rewards to labourers 25, hunters, nags, and jumpers 36, horned stock 70, sheep 18, pigs 11, butter 25, poultry and eggs 59, cottagers' vegetables 278. As regards the quality it may be said that, on the whole, it was most creditable.

Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks.

The Chiltern Hills and Southern Bucks Agricultural Asociations held their annual show on Wednesday, in Daws Hill Park, High Wycombe, by permission of Earl Carrington. The broken character of the weather of late caused considerable apprehension as to the kind of meteorological conditions that would prevail, but the fixture was happily favoured by a pleasant, bright autumn day, and was attended with a gratifying measure of success.

The show of stock, though not very extensive, was creditable to the district and to the exhibitors. The total number of entries in all the sections was 500, or two more than last year, there were, however, decreases in the classes for agricultural horses (63 against 72), horned stock (46 against 49), sheep (10 against 12), and hunters and nags (145 against 190); but increases in all the other sections, which included roots and corn, pigs, butter, dead poultry and eggs, and honey. The roots were scarcely up to the standard which was expected from the representative entries received, but some fair mangel was shown. The corn was disappointing as a whole, although there were some fair samples of white and red wheat. The agricultural horses included some grand animals, and a good many other of a very serviceable stamp. Every entry turned up, and, as a whole, it was pronounced decidedly the best show of heavy horses ever seen at this gathering. There was an excellent collection of hunters and hacks, and, as usual, considerable interest was excited in the tradesmen's turn-outs and the jumping competitions. There was a keen and interesting competition in the cattle classes, which were open to the United Kingdom, and these made a good show; the local cattle classes were, however, but poorly filled. The sheep were considered by the judge very satisfactory, considering that the exhibitors were tenant farmers only, the quality leaving nothing to be desired; but pigs were represented by a solitary boar.

Coleshill Horse.

Favoured with fine weather, a good attendance, and a good entry, the thirteenth annual show of the Coleshill Horse Show Society, held on Monday, was, perhaps, the most successful of the series. The entries showed a gratifying increase over last year, numbering 150 compared with 136 on the occasion of the previous show. The increase related chiefly to the driving and jumping classes, which contained excellent horses and competitors in first-class shows. Sixteen horses appeared in the jumping contests, which were witnessed by a large crowd in the afternoon. In the Shire classes there was an entry of 72, and there were several capital contests. The quality of the exhibits was very creditable, and the all-round success of the show must have been gratifying to the promoters, who are to be congratulated on providing an improved show each year.

Montgomeryshire.

The annual show of the Montgomeryshire Agricultural Association was held on Thursday at Maes Gwastad, Welshpool, a most suitable site kindly placed at the disposal of the promoters by the Earl of Powis. Delightful weather in the morning attracted a splendid attendance of spectators, whose comfort, however, was somewhat affected during the afternoon by several heavy showers of rain. There were no fewer than 310 entries in the different classes, a great improvement on the number at the previous show. The most gratifying increase was in the Shire horse classes, the number being 120 against 92, and they made a very fine show. In the class of mares with foal at foot, Messrs. Edward Jones and Sons were easy winners with their Welsh National Show winner, Queen Bertha. This mare also took the silver bowl, together with the Shire Horse Society's gold medal, as well as the special prize offered by Mr. Humphreys Owen, M.P., for the best Shire mare bred and owned by a tenant farmer in the county, Messrs. Jones being the breeders of the mare. They also won the Shire Horse Society's prize to the breeder of the winner of the gold medal. Twenty hunters were shown, an exactly similar number to those last year, and they were a commendable lot; while ponies decreased from 78 to 60. A new feature of the show was the introduction of classes for cattle, and these drew together 50 entries. The competition in this section was confined to tenant farmers and cottagers, and the entry was therefore considered gratifying. It is hoped the Society will see their way next year to still further extend the scope of their work by introducing classes for sheep, which are a source of considerable profit to farmers in the district, and which it would well pay the agricultural industry to develop.

South Tyne.

The annual show of the South Tyne Agricultural Society, held in the pretty grounds adjoining Bellister Castle, Haltwhistle, on the 9th inst., was completely spoiled by a storm. After a beautiful morning, rain commenced between 11 and 12 o'clock, and later came down in torrents, accompanied with a gale. There was naturally, a general stampede to any place of shelter, and the outlook became alarming, there being every appearance that the marquees would be wrecked. For about three hours the sight was pitiful. There was a general clearance off the ground with the stock, while large numbers who came unprepared for such a storm were drenched. There was no possibility of going on with the judging, in fact several of the competitors removed their stock before the judging took place. A hurried meeting of the council was summoned, and it was decided to make an attempt to finish the awards, and the judges went on with their work amid the rain. Fortunately the storm somewhat abated, but the financial result of the show was disastrous, only £40 being taken as gate money and catalogues sold, as compared with £112 last year. Hundreds of people who came by the noonday trains could not leave the railway station. The programme of the show was completely altered, and was concluded at a much later hour than usual. The entries for the show were a record, being 1,250 as against 1,197 the previous year. On the whole, the result of the day was most disappointing and disheartening to the society, as there was every indication that the show would have been a record one, both as regards attendance and quality of exhibits.

Thame.

Each year the show of the Thame Agricultural Society grows in importance, and the improvements made meet with the appreciation they deserve. The show held on Thursday was in every way a success, there being good entries and attendance, and most favourable weather. Prizes were offered for hunters, cart horses, colts, cow-stock, jumping and driving, ploughing, shepherds, hedging and thatching, roots, honey, and long servitude, the total value of the awards being about £300. The entries were much more numerous than last year, when there was an increase on the previous year, an indication that the show is gaining in favour amongst the agriculturists of the district, whilst the quality of the exhibits was of a high order all round. In the cart-horse section the entries were also fairly numerous, and the work of the judges was by no means easy. The foals were a useful lot of animals, especially those competing in the class for those eligible for the Shire Horse Stud Book, showing the good the Shire Horse Society has done in recent years by getting the best animals in their books. In the cattle class some good dairy cows and heifers, and also sturk heifers, were shown, but the steers were not quite so good. There was a large show of roots. The swedes were fairly good, considering the season, but the mangolds were of such exceptional merit that the judges highly commended the whole of the entries in the champion class.

Wardle.

The show of the Wardle Agricultural Society has the reputation of being the oldest in Lancashire. Its beginnings were in a small way; at one time it was held in a house in the village, and later in Wardle Mill Yard. Now it attracts exhibits from a large area, as was proved at the sixty-eighth show held on Wednesday at Wardle, which is about three miles from Rochdale. There were 1,162 entries—a decrease of 16 on the previous show. The cattle, which numbered 66, were a fine lot of animals, whilst there were 115 horses, and concerning these it may be said that the heavy classes were superior to last year's, but the light horses were, on the whole, not so good. In the morning there were slight showers, but later the sun shone brilliantly, and the attendance numbered over 2,000.

Woodstock.

The forty-eighth annual show of the Woodstock Agricultural and Horticultural Association was held yesterday in Blenheim Park, by permission of the Duke of Marlborough, who was unfortunately unable to be present. The Duchess of Marlborough, who takes a very keen interest in the work of the association, and supports the show with entries, was also prevented from paying her usual visit. There are few more comprehensive village shows than that of Woodstock, for, in addition to sections for agricultural produce and stock, there is always a good dog show; and, up to a few years ago, the fixture was one at which specimens of the genuine Blenheim or the Marlborough spaniel could be seen. There were two classes for this variety at last week's show, and there were benched four long spaniels of the old-fashioned variety, which are taller than the type which is now accepted as the Blenheim. In the agricultural section the Shire horses were the most interesting group, the silver medal of the Shire Horse Society being awarded to Mr. F. C. Taylor's two-year-old, by Glyn Diamond Duke; the Duke of Marlborough's three-year-old, the leader in his class, being reserve. A filly from the Blenheim stud also headed her class.

Yeovil.

"A most successful show" was the verdict of the large number of persons who visited the Yeovil Agricultural Society's Exhibition at Yeovil on Thursday, and the Society is to be congratulated on its continuous progress. The improvement which attended the efforts of the Society in earlier years has been well maintained of late, all the principal classes being well up to modern standards. Totals of entries are occasionally misleading, and especially would this be so if bare numbers appeared in connection with this exhibition, for there was a falling off compared with the last exhibition. Analysis, however, revealed that the decrease was practically limited to the butter section, and that all others presented a satisfactory increase, the quality especially being excellent. The reason of the decrease in the butter is due to the increasing number of farmers disposing of their milk to the factories, or entraining it to the cities. The other section of the dairy department—cheese—showed gratifying indications of being on the up grade, the competition being close, and the support accorded by exhibitors being so generous as to make the display quite a feature of the exhibition. The cattle classes were an interesting lot, including, as they did, representative displays of Devons and Shorthorns. Agricultural horses turned out in fair numbers, and the majority of them were healthy, strong-looking animals, quite of the best type for heavy farm work, whilst the hunting classes were well supported, as were also the sheep, which were chiefly Somersets, Dorset Horns, and Downs.

Wills.—Mr. Geo. Ernest Moberly, A.M.I.C.E., Cottesmore, Tuddenham Road, Ipswich, a member of the firm of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Jefferies, agricultural machinery makers, and a native of Whilby, left estate of the gross value of £22,606, of which the net personality has been sworn at £20,350.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

Our Actual Crop.

will soon be ascertained, but at present it is almost impossible for the most learned amongst us to make any other than an approximate pronouncement. There is no doubt that a large quantity of hops have already been gathered, the frequency of the loads passing through our streets on their way to the warehouses, providing sufficient evidence thereof. But factors are receiving constant communication from growers, who say that, owing to the damage done to the hanging hops, by the gales, the extreme alternations of temperature and other causes, they are deciding to leave considerable areas unpicked. They are naturally induced to such conclusions by the very low prices realizable for off-colour samples, in which there is not sufficient return to cover the out-of-pocket outlay for picking, drying, and packing. Again, the wet weather has hindered the supplies to the oasts, and in some cases the kilns have not been able to keep pace with the pickers. Without any desire to exaggerate the possible effects of these circumstances, it appears as if they must necessarily affect our final results, and that probably our crop returns will not come up to the big figures that were once so confidently predicted.

The Borough Trade.

is in the meantime in a very unsatisfactory condition. Planters wanting money for immediate use are begging for bids, and buyers appear to be only spasmodically inclined to operate. During two or three days of this week, there have been signs of comparative activity of demand, such moderate business as was then done, being alternated with actual dulness. The result is naturally want of tone, and although a little firmness for coloury samples has been talked about, I am afraid it has but slight foundation in real experience. At present the hops offering are principally from the smaller growers, therefore we can hardly estimate the market properly or safely. I am prepared for a recovery from the present debased position when the panic, that seems to be influencing many sellers, shall have subsided. The course of business at Worcester Fair being held to-day, will probably influence the London market for the next week or so. From what I hear from the Midland growers, I am of opinion that they are not generally inclined to give their hops away, and I trust they will help their brethren in the South by such firmness as they may consider to be reasonable.

The Hop Syndicate.

has unfortunately decided to dissolve. This decision was come to at a general meeting of members held on Wednesday last. They have "fought a good fight," but circumstances have hindered the realisation of their hopes, and they have "finished their course" with general disappointment. But the value of combined action has been abundantly demonstrated, and it is more than probable that past experience will be used as the foundation for future operations.

Hop Report.

Messrs. G. Gascoyne and Co.'s report for 1905 is as follows:—The English hop crop of 1905, which before the commencement of picking was universally regarded as promising to be a vintage year, has every appearance now of being a disappointing crop. Throughout its growth there had been an almost entire absence of aphis blight, and the wealth of sunshine which the plant absorbed during the critical period of the fruit's development promised a harvest rich alike in quality and quantity. Sunny days and warm nights are essential conditions to a plenteous yield, and where the plant was untainted by mould, the quality was further improved by the occasional rains of the month of August.

Unfortunately, towards the close of the month, there was a considerable acreage which developed this insidious disease, and its ravages will make a difference to the quantity of usable hops. The early varieties appear to have been most badly attacked, and the first parcels on offer being of a disappointing character, met with little response from consumers. This diminution of the yield will have to be taken into consideration in computing the quantity likely to be available for consumption, as the official returns are somewhat misleading in taking no account as to how much of the growth is fit for brewing purposes.

There is another factor which will also affect the returns, and that is the quality of the later pickings. In a year like the present, the grower is hampered by want of sufficient kiln accommodation, with the result that before he can get anything like the whole of his growth picked and cured, the later sorts have become over-ripe, and depreciated to such an extent in colour that they will not pay for picking, and the only course open to him is to leave them on the poles and let the wind disperse them. Unless there is a big advance on opening prices, this course will certainly be taken by hundreds of growers this season. When these allowances are made for the early rubbih and the unpickable later hops, it will be seen that the quantity available for brewing purposes is likely to fall far short of what appeared to be in sight before picking commenced. It is the hops which come between the very early and the later sorts which promise to be the best quality, and at the extremely low prices now ruling, they are the finest value obtainable for many years. Never, probably, within the memory of any member of the trade has such an unprecedented state of affairs existed. Absolutely all stocks of old hops are exhausted; brewers reserves are admittedly at almost vanishing point; we have in view only a fair crop of usable material and yet prices have opened at a level which could only be justified if we had in hand the big reserves which existed in 1901.

All official reports and notices of the National Association of English Hop Growers, are printed in the Mark Lane Express, *and current information from all parts of the world, likely to be of interest and benefit to the members of the society, and Hop Growers generally.*

Foreign Notes.

America.

Some day I suppose I shall be able to refer to the ascertained facts of the United States crop. At present, in spite of the picking being well under weigh, and in some districts practically finished, the figures quoted appear to be only conjectural, and opinions as to the final results differ as widely as ever. My friends in Washington, writing under date September 1, say that "crops remain in excellent condition, and are likely to overrun all former estimates," and, referring to some other current reports issued by holders of 1904 hops, say "these parties are still trying to fool the growers, but events have discredited them in all quarters." Under same date, I have a letter from a Californian correspondent, who, speaking of his own district, says "we are in the midst of our picking, and will finish our crop in about two weeks more. We expect about such a crop as last season, but shall not be surprised if it comes down shorter than expected all through this Coast." The writer sends me also the results of his observations during a week's journey, then just completed, through the best parts of Oregon. He speaks of the most promising yards as not likely to yield more than moderately, and that many yards are badly blighted, some ruined, some damaged to the extent of half the crop, and he concludes that "if Oregon harvests as many hops as last year, it will be all she can do, under the most favourable conditions." It is evident that we must wait a little longer before we can arrive at certainty.

Nuremberg.

Concerning the yield, as ascertained from the ingathering thus far, the reports are generally up to previous expectations. But unfavourable weather, including much rain and cold nights, with occasional storms, gives rise to fear that the later sorts will be deteriorated in colour and quality, and that possibly the quantity harvested will be lessened. The hops already received from Hallertan, Spalt, and Baden are very satisfactory; some samples in the air-dried condition that I have seen leave nothing to be desired as regards their richness in lupulin. The tone of the market remains fairly healthy for medium and best qualities, the demand keeping about on a level with the supply. The lower sorts are at present somewhat neglected, and values thereof have receded. Recent quotations are approximately from 30s. to 40s. for common market hops, Hallertans running from 50s. to 75s., Sealed Hallertans from 75s. to 80s., best Spalts from 85s. to 95s., Wurtembergs from 60s. to 90s., and Badens from 65s. to 85s. These figures represent the money paid to growers for green or partially dried produce.

Belgium.

The Poperinghe white bines are now picked, and the harvesting of the later growths will soon be completed. The position is much the same in the Alost districts. Both as regards quantity and quality, the results are satisfactory, almost beyond expectation. It appears to be certain that last year's yield will be exceeded. Some samples of 1905 Pops were shown to me this week. The colour is excellent, and the condition proves the progress made by Belgian planters. They are somewhat deficient in brewing quality, but the low prices at which they are offered will doubtless commend them to the notice of English buyers.

Judges for the Smithfield Show.

Cattle.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex.—Alfred C. Skinner, Pound Farm, Bishops Lydeard; Alfred Stanford, Eatons, Steyning, Sussex.

Herefords and Red Polled.—Rees Keene, Llanvihangel Court, Rogiet, Newport, Mon.; A. D. Bruce, Estate Office, Elvetham Park, Winchfield.

Shorthorns and Cross-breds. James Peter, Berkeley Castle Estate Office, Berkeley, Glos.; C. H. Eady, The Manor, Lockinge, Wantage.

Aberdeen Angus and Galloways. — William Whyte, Hatton of Fassie, Glamis, N.B.; James Biggar, Grange Farm, Dalbeattie, N.B.

Welsh and Highland.—J. W. Harris, Pilrhoth, Llanstephan Road, Carmarthen; Robert Mac diarmid, Castles, Lochawe, Argyll.

Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-bred Cattle. F. A. Hordern, Buxted, Sussex; G. F. Roumieu, Bethune House, Farnham, Surrey.

£25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup.—Richard Stratton, The Duffryn, Newport, Mon.; W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, Perth.

Sheep.

Leicestershires, Border Leicesters, Cotswolds, and Lincolns.—William Marshall, Cottam House, Driffield; Henry Smith, The Grove, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

Kentish or Romney Marsh, Devons, etc.—Alfred Amos, Wye, Ashford, Kent; William Tuckett, Stockleigh Pomeroy, near Crediton.

Cheviots and Mountains.—William Davidson, Cornhill Farm, Cornhill-on-Tweed; Simon Linton, Oakwood, Selkirk.

Southdowns and Shropshires.—Hugh Penfold, Moat Farm, Marston, Ampthill; A. S. Berry, Church Farm, Whittington, Lichfield.

Hampshire Downs and Suffolks.—E. J. Bennett, Chilmark, Salisbury; J. T. Smith, Dodnash Priory, Bentley, Ipswich.

Oxford Downs and Cross-breds. — John M. Eady, Lancefield, Thorpe Malsor, Kettering; T. Blake Eagle, Manor Farm, Thrupp, Oxford.

Ryeland and Dorset, etc.—David Price, Bulwark House, Brecon; John Kidner, Dodhill House, Taunton.

Champion Plates for Long- and Short-Woolled Sheep and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup.—William Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Barry, Glamorganshire; Charles Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth.

Pigs.

Small White or Small Black, Middle and Large White Breeds.—Edwin Buss, Springhill, Fordcombe, Kent; D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, Nottingham.

Large Blacks and Berkshires.—W. Townsend, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.; J. W. Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.

Tamworth and Cross-breds.—J. B. Hill, Smethwick Hall, Congleton; Anthony F. Nichol, Bradford, Belford.

Champion Plates and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup.—Walter Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon; D. W. Philip, The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham.

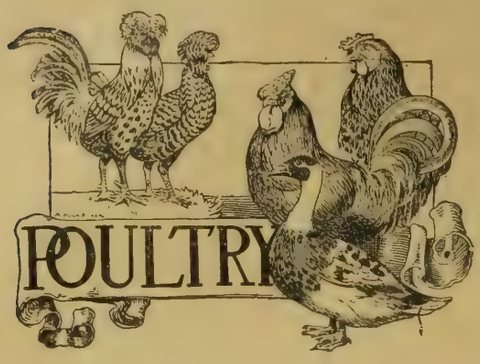
Carcase Competition.

Cattle and Sheep.—R. Bright, Ivingtonbury, Leominster; C. Clark, Aberdeen House, Upper Clapton, N.E.

Pigs.—J. E. Cottrell, Abingdon, Berks; R. P. Venner, 97, Southampton Street, Reading.

Table Poultry.—C. E. Brooke, 11, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.; E. Phillips, 9, Sloane Street, S.W.

Louth September Fair. The chief feature of this fair, held on Friday, was the large show of drape ewes which made 42s. to 48s. Best fat beasts were in small supply, but there was a large show of rougher sorts. Breeding sheep and lambs were described as tending upwards in price, but as the former were in good fat condition they were said to be not so dear as they seemed. A few Hampshire rams were on offer, and ram lambs made 4¼ guineas. Other chief prices were:—Bullocks up to £24 10s.; heifers, £21 12s. 6d.; cows, £22 10s.; in-calvers, £11; steers, £12; drapes, £9 15s.; Lincoln wethers to 63s.; young ewes and half-bred gimmers to 60s.; half-bred wethers to 58s.; ewes to 57s. 6d.; and lambs to 42s. 6d.



Paying Breeds.

The question as to which are the most profitable breeds is one which must necessarily receive the attention of those who are taking up poultry-keeping, whether as a hobby or a means of livelihood. Then there are quite a number of people who add a fresh breed to their present stock, and they naturally look out for one which is really profitable.

As the years go on we notice some of the breeds which were formerly very popular sinking into obscurity, and others becoming more popular. It is noticeable that those breeds which are the most popular at the present day have good utilitarian qualities to recommend them.

As we have frequently said, it is absolutely impossible for a breed to gain popularity and retain it, unless it has some good, useful qualities, as the large majority of poultry-keeprs are utilitarians, and the birds they keep must yield something beyond the cost of maintenance, or they have to be given up very quickly. All the "culls" from exhibitors' and good-class breeders' yards are sold to utility poultry-keepers, and breeds which have not good laying or table qualities to recommend them will not be taken up.

For the production of eggs alone, the non-sitting breeds are most profitable. Those who have small runs, and keep a few fowls for laying only, cannot do better than go in for non-sitters, as these fowls waste no time in sitting, and when bred from good laying strains they lay nearly the whole year through, for a great many of them lay even while they are moulting. The breed which once held the premier position as egg-producers has now become obsolete, and has been superseded by more profitable breeds. We are referring to the Black Spanish.

The Leghorns are undoubtedly the most popular breed, and it is difficult to state which of the three varieties—Whites, Blacks, and Browns—are in the greatest request. For many years the White Leghorns were kept very largely, but recently the Blacks and Browns have been making rapid strides, as they are not only grand layers and very hardy, but, as their plumage does not show the dirt, they look as well on a town run as in the country; and even although fowls may lay as well when their plumage is dirty, their owners do not care to see a lot of dirty-looking fowls about, and the trim appearance of the Black and Brown Leghorns under adverse conditions has had a great deal to do with their becoming so popular. They are grand layers, and cannot be put in the wrong place.

Black Minorcas and Blue Andalusians share the honour of producing the largest-sized eggs amongst the non-sitting breeds. Black Minorcas are undoubtedly the next in popularity to the Leghorns, and although they are not quite so hardy, it is our opinion that they will always retain their place, because of the size of their eggs, the number they lay, and their beautiful appearance.

The Andalusians are equally profitable, but every one knows that in breeding these it is impossible to avoid some of the birds coming mismarked in plumage, as the best Blue birds throw black spots, and white birds often appear, and a few come white with blue or black feathers in them. Notwithstanding this, they are popular and profitable.

Houdans are non-sitters, and excellent laying strains are to be found amongst them. In addition to their good laying qualities, they are very good table birds, and are the only non-sitters which can be classed as good table birds. There are more Houdan cockerels used for mating with pure breeds to produce first crosses, and with cross-bred hens to get good layers and table birds combined, than of any other non-sitting breed.

Some people consider that Houdans are delicate; but this is not so if their crests are just trimmed a little over their eyes, as then the air can get to the birds' faces, and should there be any colds amongst the birds, they can be detected at once, which is not possible when the crests are allowed to completely cover the birds' eyes.

Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks, in all their varieties, continue to hold their own. The Partridge and White Wyandottes are becoming as popular as the Silvers and Goldens, and we believe they will be more popular in time, as they produce much larger eggs than the older varieties.

Langshans are not making any headway—in fact, we must say we consider they are losing ground each year; and Brahmas and Cochins are also going out entirely, being superseded by the newer varieties of English and American production for utility purposes.

Dark and Silver Grey Dorkings are still largely kept for breeding table birds, and in the improved laying strains of these breeds are to be found some very profitable fowls. Indian Game are bred largely for producing good table birds.

Then we come to the Orpingtons, which are acknowledged by all who have kept them to be the most popular and profitable breed of the day, as they combine excellent laying and table qualities with hardiness, and they are in great demand, whether for exhibition or utility purposes. The Blacks are in very much greater demand this year than they have ever been before, whereas the number of Buffs bred every year is increasing very rapidly.

The White Orpingtons bid fair to become as popular as the Buffs for country poultry-keepers. They are so handsome, and such grand layers and table birds, that it is not to be wondered at that they are taking so well.

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and

Live Stock Record.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW,
DECEMBER 4th to 8th, 1905, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
ENTRIES close as follows.—Implement Department, Oct. 2nd; post entries, Oct. 5th; Live Stock (cattle, sheep, pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, Nov. 1st; post entries, Nov. 6th. Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to— E. J. POWELL, Sec.,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

DAIRY SHOW, Agricultural Hall, London, N.
TUESDAY till FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th.
CATTLE, GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS. ALL KINDS OF DAIRY PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c.
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Cheap Excursions on principal lines.

FROME SHOW. This Great Show will be held on
WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 27th SEPTEMBER, 1905.
Excursion Trains from all parts.
Dog Show same day.
T. C. HARDING, Secretary, Frome.

THE WENSLEYDALE BLUE-FACED SHEEP SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW and SALE of WENSLEYDALE RAMS will be held at HELLIFIELD, on OCTOBER 3rd, 1905.
ENTRIES, OVER 250 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS.
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CHESTER DAIRY SHOW.
At CHESTER,
OCTOBER 17th and 18th, 1905.
Entries close October 12th.
ROBERT CHALLINOR, Secretary, St. Werburghs Street, Chester.

SHAFTESBURY FARMERS' CLUB
At SHAFTESBURY,
OCTOBER 4th, 1905.
Entries close September 30th.
T. PINNEY Secretary, High Street, Shaftesbury.

AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
DAIRY AND FARM PRODUCE SHOW at KILMARNOCK, N.B.,
OCT. 19th and 20th. Entries close Oct. 6th.
JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

GALLOWAY CATTLE SALES ASSOCIATION'S DAIRY SHOW,
At CASTLE DOUGLAS,
OCTOBER 19th, 1905.
Entries close fortnight before.
Messrs. HEWATS and DUNN, Secretaries, Castle Douglas, N.B.

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AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—
FRIDAY, NEXT, SEPTEMBER 29.—About 60 SHORTHORNS from Mr. W. Bateman's prize dairy herd at Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4.—Mr J. Vickers' entire and old-established herd of SHORTHORNS, at Churchfield, Tunstall, Kirkby Lonsdale.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. T. E. Clarke's and Mr. Thomas Adamson's SHORTHORNS, at Ainsworth Lodge, Bolton, Lancashire.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6.—Mr. N. Benjafield's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Motcombe, Shaftesbury.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.—About 80 JERSEY CATTLE, at Bletchley.
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.—The Duchess of Devonshire's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Eastbourne.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Sir W. H. Wills', Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Mr. E. Harwood's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Woodhouse, Almondsbury, Bristol.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.—Mr. C. H. Jolliffe's SHORTHORNS, at Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. C. M. Doyne's SHORTHORNS, at Wells, Gorey, co. Wexford.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Major Cradock's SHORTHORNS, at Derryc, Roscrea, co. Tipperary.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.—Young SHORTHORN BULLS, and COWS and HEIFERS, at York.
Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH SHEEP-BREEDERS ASSOCIATION'S Eight Annual Show and Sale of REGISTERED KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH RAMS,
under the management of the above Association, will be held on
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th, 1905, in the CATTLE MARKET, ASHFORD, KENT, commencing at 10.30 a.m. sharp.
The entries, which number 364, have been made by the following breeders;—
The Right Hon. Lord Harris,
Capt. Somerset Webb,
Mr. A. Amos,
Mr. J. Darrell Blount,
Mr. G. Buley,
Mr. F. de B. Collard,
Messrs. F. A. & E. H. M. Denny,
Mr. G. Farmer,
Mr. C. File,
Mr. J. File,
Mr. E. Hambrook,
Mr. E. Hawkins,
Mr. S. Kingsnorth,
Mr. W. E. Long,
Mr. W. Millen,
Mr. F. Neame
Mr. J. B. Palmer,
Mr. J. E. Quested,
Mr. H. Rigden,
The judging will take place at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, September 29th, 1905, and the sale will commence at 10.30 a.m. prompt.
Refreshments will be obtainable on the Sale Ground as usual.
Catalogues and all information in respect to the Show and Sale, to be obtained from
W. W. CHAPMAN, Secretary,
Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk St., Strand, London, W.C.

AUCTION SALES.

ESSEX. THE LODGE FARM, FAIRSTEAD.
3½ miles from Hatfield, and 4½ miles from Witham, G.E.R.

G. B. HILLIARD & SON are instructed by Mr. S. W. Blyth, who has let the Farm, to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises,
On TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1905,
The Live and Dead Farming Stock, comprising
6 ACTIVE CART HORSES,
60 HEAD OF POULTRY,
7-h.p. TRACTION ENGINE by Marshall & Co.;
Ransome's FINISHING THRESHING MACHINE and ELEVATOR,
SET 8-h.p. PLOUGHING ENGINES by John Fowler & Co.,
9 and 11 TURNING CULTIVATOR and BALANCE PLOUGH and other Machinery,
And the usual assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, HARNESS, &c.
Sale to commence at 2 o'clock punctually.
Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Chelmsford.

SUSSEX (between Littlehampton and Bognor), 10 miles from Worthing and 8 miles from Chichester.—An exceedingly valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, known as the "Yapton Estate," situate at Yapton, about 1 mile from Ford Junction and 1½ miles from Barnham Junction, both on the Portsmouth Line of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway, and 2 miles from the sea; it comprises the singularly productive and compact agricultural holding known as Wick's Farm, with superior residence and commodious buildings; 9 capital cottages; a very choice accommodation property known as Church Farm, well equipped and including market fruit garden; several enclosures of valuable Building and Accommodation Land; the whole producing a rental of about £750 per annum. Also the valuable and well-secured Investment consisting of commuted tithe rent charges upon lands situate in the parish of Yapton, amounting to £165 17s. 5d. per annum.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE (in conjunction with Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON) will offer the ABOVE FOR SALE by AUCTION, at the "TERMINUS HOTEL," LITTLEHAMPTON, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1905, at TWO o'clock precisely, in the following Lots (Lots 1 to 4 first being offered as a whole) unless previously sold by private treaty.

Lot	Description.	Area a.	r.	p.
1.	Wick's Farm and nine Cottages..	332	1	34
2, 3 & 4.	Building and Accommodation Land	29	1	18
5.	Church Farm	28	2	30
6.	Commuted Tithe Rent Charges	—	—	—
	Total ..	390	1	2

Particulars of Messrs. HUNT, CURREY, NICHOLSON & CO., Solicitors, Lewes; Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON, Land Agents and Valuers, Hailsham; or of the AUCTIONEERS, 10, Mount St., London, W.

LOWER ENHAM, ANDOVER.
IMPORTANT SALE of about 300 tons of prime Sainfoin and Mixture Hay, together with the whole of the Live and Dead Agricultural Stock, the property of Mr. W. A. HUNT (who is relinquishing farming), which Messrs. FREDERICK ELLEN & SON will SELL by AUCTION on the premises on THURSDAY, 28th SEPTEMBER, 1905.
Catalogues may be obtained of the Auctioneers, The Mart, Andover, Hants.

Auction Sales continued on Page 350.

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

TO HAY CONTRACTORS, MERCHANTS, STOCK OWNERS AND OTHERS.

IDLEIGH COURT FARM, ASH, NEAR WROTHAM, KENT.

About 2½ miles from both Fawkham and Meopham Stations, S. E. & C. Rly.

MESSRS. DANN & LUCAS have received instructions from F. R. Stoneham Esq., to SELL by AUCTION on WEDNESDAY 4th OCTOBER 1905, at 3 o'clock precisely, on the premises, in Lots, about 240 tons of EXCELLENT UPLAND HAY in ten stacks, containing some good samples of Meadow, Lucerne, Rye Grass, and Trifolium Hay of this and previous years' growth.

The Stacks are all situate close to good hard roads within Two Miles of Longfield Railway Siding, S. E. & C. Rly., whence the Hay can be conveyed to the London Markets and elsewhere. The Hay has been grown in a high upland district and should recommend itself to Hay Merchants and Stock Owners who require Hay of sound quality.

May be viewed at any time previous to the sale. Mr. Lukehurst, at the Farm will show the Lots if desired.

Catalogues may be obtained at the principal Inns in the neighbourhood, at the Farm, and of the Auctioneers, Dartford, Kent, and 23, Budge Row, Cannon Street, E.C.

IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE of PEDIGREED CLYDESDALE HORSES, HACKNEY and HACKNEY PONY FOALS, STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, the property of the Seaham Stud Co. (late Londonderry Stud), at Seaham Harbour, co. Durham,

On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

SUMMARY.

9 Pedigreed Clydesdale Brood Mares.
6 Pedigreed Clydesdale Fillies, 1 to 3 years old.
5 Pedigreed Clydesdale Entire Colts, 1 and 2 years old.
25 Pedigreed Clydesdale Colt and Filly Foals.
1 Gelding.
5 Pedigreed Hackney Foals.
14 Pedigreed Hackney Pony Foals.
1 Driving Cob.
70 Store Cattle, Shorthorns, and Crosses.
48 Cross Wensleydale Gimmers.

For Catalogues, with pedigree and particulars, apply to R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour; or the Auctioneers, Messrs. A. T. and E. A. CROW, Sunderland.

SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD LTD.

THE ANNUAL SALE of PEDIGREE CLYDESDALE MARES, FILLIES and FOALS, also HACKNEY PONIES, CATTLE and SHEEP, will be held at Seaham Harbour, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

Catalogues in preparation. Apply, R. Brydon, Seaham Harbour.

STROOD ANNUAL STOCK SALE.

MESSRS. COBB will SELL BY AUCTION in the FAIR MEADOW, FRINDSBURY, near ROCHESTER, within a few minutes' walk of the Strood Stations on the S.E. and C. Rly.,
on
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1905,
at 11 o'clock precisely,

68

PURE-BRED KENT RAMS and RAM TEGS

from the well-known Registered Flocks of Messrs. F. Baker and C. J. G. Hulkes;
3 HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS,
and about

3,272

KENT, HAMPSHIRE, and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, viz.:

436 Kent Ewe Tegs,
430 Kent Wether Tegs,
506 Kent 1, 2, and 3 Lamb Ewes,
450 Kent Turn-marked Ewes,
46 Barrens,
128 Maids,
15 Two-year-old Wethers,
119 Hampshire Down Lambs,
130 Half-bred Tegs,
997 Kent and Half-bred Lambs,

The property of Messrs. W. Stunt, C. Lake, C. J. G. Hulkes, Tuff and Miskin, H. M. Cobb, W. Miskin, G. Castle, J. Pye, C. J. S. Whitburn, C. H. Scriven, J. Mugeridge, R. Mugeridge, A. Norman, J. W. Dickins, G. Smith, Formby & Co., Ltd., G. H. Brooke, J. Clark, J. Edmonds, T. Lingham, R. Goord, L. Fuller, J. Bellamy, H. Pye jun., H. Pye, Wakeley Bros., T. Westbrook, W. H. Potter, and D. Hankin.

Luncheon will be provided.

Arrangements will be made for a Supply of Trucks at Strood Station.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Bull Hotels Rochester and Sittingbourne; Angel and Gardeners Inn, Strood; Fountain Hotel, Canterbury; Star Hotel, Maidstone; Saracen Head Hotel, Ashford; Ship Hotel, Faversham; and of Messrs Cobb, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester.

Mark Lane Express

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26 " "	5/- "
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Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

AUCTION SALES.

THE HOME FARM, KNOWLTON COURT ESTATE,
DOVER, KENT.
2½ miles from Adisham Station on S. E. and Chatham Railway.
HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE of the very valuable LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 1905.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON, in conjunction with MESSRS. HONEYBALL AND FINN, are favoured with instructions from Francis Elmer-Speed, Esq. (the Home Farm being let), to SELL by AUCTION on the premises, on the above date, the

LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising THE PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK
(Register No. 206 in Flock Book) of about 570 HEAD in flock ages;
about 70 Head of Cattle, including:—
The HERD OF 24 PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE,
The small but choice HERD OF 7 PEDIGREE SUSSEX CATTLE,
14 BLUE-GREY STEERS AND HEIFERS, rising two years old,
7 PURE-BRED POLLED ANGUS STEERS AND HEIFERS,
4 PURE-BRED GALLOWAY HEIFERS,
12 WEST HIGHLAND HEIFERS with Calves by side and in-calf,
A Prime PURE-BRED SUSSEX STEER two years old, and a prime cross-bred STEER two years old, suitable for Showing.
10 STAUNCH AND ACTIVE CART-HORSES, a 30-months Cart Colt,
120 YORKSHIRE AND BERKSHIRE PIGS.
A Capital Assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND TOOLS, &c.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

Luncheon provided on the premises at 12 30 at 2s. per head, returnable to purchasers of £2 and upwards.

Catalogues, with full pedigrees of Sheep and Cattle, on application to Messrs. STRIDE & SON, 63, East Street, Chichester, and Messrs. HONEYBALL & FINN, Queen Street, Deal, Kent

SALE OF THE FAMOUS EARTHAM SOUTHDOWN FLOCK.

EARTHAM ESTATE, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX,
Four miles from Barnham Junction Station, and six miles from Chichester Station (L. B. & S. C. Railway).

DISPERSAL SALE OF THE WHOLE OF SIR JOHN MILBANKE'S PURE-BRED OLD-ESTABLISHED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCK
(Registered No. 236 in Flock Book), consisting of about

1,000

HEAD OF EWES AND EWE LAMBS, in flock ages, which

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON are favoured with instructions from Major Sir John Milbanke, Bart., V.C. (who has sold the estate), to SELL by AUCTION, at the HOME FARM, Eartham,
On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th Next.

The Eartham Flock is one of the old standard Hill Flocks of the Southdown Breed, having for more than half a century past continuously received the greatest care and judgment in its breeding, selection, and drafting.

With true Southdown type and character, and the finest quality of both mutton and wool, these ewes possess exceptional size, strength, and constitution, and the lengthy growing mutton-making lambs from this flock have for many years been one of the features of the Southdown Lamb Sales in Chichester Market.

None of the sheep will be in any way made up for sale, but will be sold in their natural breeding condition, the ewes running the downs until the day of sale.

Luncheon by ticket only at One o'clock.

Sale to commence punctually at Two o'clock.

The flock is open to inspection at any time by appointment with Mr. William Smart, Home Farm, Eartham.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

AUCTION SALES.

EWELL HACKNEY STUD, EWELL, SURREY,
TUESDAY, OCT. 3rd, 1905.

MR. W. BAINBRIDGE will SELL by AUCTION as above 29 High Class prize winning Hackneys, the property of W. Oppenheimer Esq., who, owing to press of business, is unable to devote the necessary personal attention in such an important stud, and thus has decided to sell without reserve, with one or two exceptions,

13 Brood Mares and Foals,
3 Three-year-old Fillies,
1 Two-year-old Filly,
5 Harness Horses,
5 Yearlings and 2 Two-year-olds.

Also by permission will be included 8 High Class Hackneys from the celebrated stud of R. P. Evans, Esq., Woodhatch, Reigate,
On view Sept 27th and 28th.
Luncheon 12.30. Sale 1.30.
Catalogue of W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer, and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARMS to be LET in Sussex and numerous other counties. Dairy, Flock and Poultry Farms. 2 to 900 acres. Send 2d. stamps for list, and state requirements to GLADDING & CO., Farm Specialists and Valuers, Hove, Sussex.

WANTED, a share in working Poultry Farm, with a view to partnership,—VARDON, Langton Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells.

WEST SUSSEX, near Haslemere.—To be let, from Michaelmas, excellent residental Farm of 380 acres (240 pasture), with or without sporting over 450 acres (170 woodland); excellent modern house, ample buildings, five cottages.—Apply, The Cowdray Estate Office, Midhurst.

POULTRY.

EGGS.—Champion winners of White Wyandottes, Buff Orpingtons, Barred Rocks, White, also Brown, Leghorns 2s. 6d., sitting.—POULTRYMAN, Nafferton Hall, near Hull.

HENS.—Now making 1s. 9d. to 2s. 3d. each, of LARGE FAT, LIVE, OLD HENS, small 1s. 6d. Established 100 years.—WALLER & CO., The Live Poultry Commission Salesmen, Central Market, Smithfield, London.

PUBLICATION.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Bretl Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3 Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & CO., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

SACKS! Best twilled 4 lb. 4 bush. Corn Sacks, 25, 1s. 1d.; 50, 1s.; 100, 11d.; marked, carriage paid. Sample 1s. 6d.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

STEAM WAGONS, all types and sizes, Oil Engines, fixed and portable, up to 25 h.p. Send for catalogue.—SAYLER & Co., Ltd., Engineers, Hereford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading

MY SPECIALITY.—Imperishable IRON SHEETS, as supplied for 25 years to largest Estates. Once fixed, these are everlasting. Full particulars and prices free. The old house for cheapest Iron Fencing, Gates, Wire Netting, Tanks, Felt, Iron Tubes, and General Estate Requisites. Terms cash.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.—Improved Waterproof Oil Sheets, guaranteed, 1s. 5d. and 1s. 10d. per square yard; any size supplied; galvanised sheep netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 17 gauge, 6s. 3d. per 50 yard roll, other gauges proportionate prices; galvanised wire netting, all widths and meshes at lowest prices; galvanised corrugated sheets, finest quality, 5ft. 1s. 1d.; 6ft. 1s. 3½d.; 7ft. 1s. 6d.; 8ft. 1s. 9d.; 9ft. 2s. 1d.; 10ft. 2s. 5d.; galvanised rick covers, all sizes, at lowest prices; galvanised steel cisterns, 50 gals. 12s. 6d.; 100 gals, 19s. 6d.; 150 gals. 30s.; 240 gals. 46s. All cisterns carriage paid. All sizes stocked. Send for new catalogue

WATERPROOF COVERS, same materials and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 12s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

LAITA.—The best milk substitute for calves, and best results; popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., Carriage paid.—Send 12s. 6d. for a sample bag to R. J. NELL & CO., Ltd., Spiced Food Mills, Louth, Lincs Agents wanted.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading.

BASIC SLAG.—Highest Percentages Phosphates guaranteed. We sell thousands of tons, consequently quote lowest possible prices. Hundreds of our customers testify to its marvellous efficacy. Write us now.—Cannock Agricultural Co., Ld. (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock, Staffs.

BASIC SLAG, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phosphates; also 38 to 45 and 30 to 35 per cent. qualities. KAINIT, MOSS LITTER, &c.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent., phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs: 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

PEDICURA for HORSES' FEET, cures thrush, seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, foul smell of feet. Prevents and helps cure sandcrack and corns. Good for greasy heels, itchy mane, tail, or legs. Produces a sound, healthy growth of hoof. Tins 2s. 6d. or 10s. 6d. through Chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

JAMES BLAKEWAY, Stourbridge, Worcestershire. Specialist in the Castration of Rig Horses. Terms and testimonials from many well-known owners and veterinary surgeons on application.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2d.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING. —50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates. Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 30s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 500 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 5d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d.; 8 ft., 1s 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

EDUCATIONAL

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
CIRENCESTER.
PATRON—H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
FARMING AND COLONIAL BRANCH. ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND FORESTRY BRANCH.—For Land Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc. For Prospectus, with particulars of Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, etc., apply to the Principal. NEXT SESSION begins TUES., OCTOBER 10, 1905.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS,
AND
THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

COMPLETE COURSE of AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.
Lectures in College and at the Farm from October 16th, 1905, to March 17th, 1906.
Special provision for Practical Instruction. Fee £10.
Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examition. There is also a Special Course for the B.Sc. Degree.
Prospectus from THE REGISTRAR, The University, Leeds.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, ESTATE MANAGEMENT and FORESTRY
DOWNTON, SALISBURY.
For LAND AGENTS, AGRICULTURISTS and COLONISTS.
Prospectus and full information on application to Professor Wrightson, at above address.
NEXT TERM commences October 2nd.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY, AGRICULTURAL COURSE Prospectus, Edinburgh Agricultural College; also regulations, degree of B. Sc., and Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture. —Apply to Clerk of Senatus.

AUCTIONEERS AND LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

CLUN FOREST AND KERRY HILL SHEEP.—Henry Jones, Sutton, Montgomery, established over thirty years, personally acquainted with all best flocks of these noted breeds, selects and supplies on commission, direct from breeder. Wethers, Ewes, and Store Lambs, in lots to suit purchasers. Terms cash. References given and required.

H. & E. M'GRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS. — To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers. — JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP — Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

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Established 1851.
Current Accounts. 2% Interest allowed on minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £10.
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FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September, 1905.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.
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To be held at the AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON,
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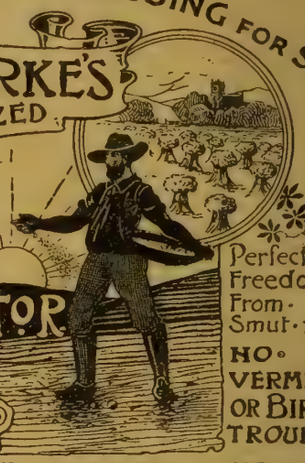

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ESTABLISHED 1832.
SEPTEMBER 25, 1905.

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WEATHER FORECASTS AND FORECASTING.

With this issue we bring to a conclusion the series of Special Harvest Weather Forecasts which have been appearing during the past three months. The science—and we presume it will be admitted it is a science—of weather forecasting is still in its infancy, and the trouble to the lay mind is that there are so many different methods in vogue by which it is attempted to form an opinion upon the meteorological probabilities. Astrology, tidal influences, and cycles of years all have their followers, and it is difficult to say which system one prefers when there are so many enthusiasts ready to convince the doubter.

Suffice it to say, however, that the principle upon which the forecasts of the MARK LANE EXPRESS have been made are not based upon any of the systems mentioned above, but rather upon an intelligent and careful study of the cyclonic and anticyclonic systems and their relative positions over Europe. We have not attempted to forecast beyond the limited period of three days, but we do claim that our efforts have been in the main trustworthy, and our readers who have followed the predictions will have found that their main features, with but few exceptions, have turned out to be accurate.

"Never prophesy unless you know" is an aphorism of Artemus Ward, and in general the advice is such that it cannot be disregarded with impunity, but meteorology is of universal interest and of such vital importance to the human race, more especially to the tiller of the soil, that it has always figured largely in the mind of man in all ages. Our attempts during the summer to afford our subscribers an idea, based upon reliable facts, of the forthcoming weather have, we trust, been appreciated. We have not claimed infallibility for the predictions appearing in our columns, but if weather forecasting is to be placed on a plane anywhere near approaching the exact sciences, it can only be done by repeated trials and observations extending over a series of years, and we hope to this end our efforts have not been "as a voice crying in the wilderness."

ROADSIDE TREES AND HEDGES

The complaints made from time to time of overhanging trees and high hedges keeping the sun and wind from the roads, and so retarding their drying, have recently become more acute—principally owing to the exacting demands of the motor traffic. As the time for dealing with such complaints is at hand, it may be useful to recall the provisions of the Highway Act, 1835, under which the nuisance may be abated.

Abatement, rather than prevention, is the question to be considered. It is not necessary, therefore, to do more than mention Section 64, which provides that no tree, bush, or shrub shall be planted on any carriageway or cartway or within 15 ft. from the centre thereof. This section, however, has a certain historic interest, inasmuch as it necessitated a section in the Public Health Act, 1890, to enable highway authorities in urban districts to plant trees in their streets.

Section 65 of the Act of 1835 provides that if the Surveyor of Highways thinks that any carriageway or pathway is prejudiced by the shade of any hedges, or by any trees (except those planted for ornament, or for shelter to any hop-ground, house, building, or courtyard) growing in or near such hedges or fences, and that the sun and wind are thereby excluded from the highway, or if any obstruction is caused in any road by any hedge or tree, the Surveyor may cause the owner of the offending hedges or trees to show cause why his hedges are not cut, pruned, or plashed, or his trees not pruned or lopped so as to admit the sun and wind to the road, or why the obstruction should not be removed. The justices are to hear and determine the complaint, and may order the hedges or trees to be cut or lopped, or the obstruction removed, within ten days, on pain of a penalty of forty shillings. If the order is not complied with, the Surveyor is authorised and required to do the work for the benefit and improvement of the highway, to the best of his skill and judgment, and may recover the cost of so doing from the defaulting owner. The next section, however, limits the compulsory cutting of hedges to the period between September 30 and March 31, whilst the felling of oak trees can only be compelled in the months of April, May, or June, and of ash, elm, or other trees in December, January, February, or March—unless they are causing an actual obstruction of the highway.

It will be noticed that the Act contains an exception in favour of "ornamental" timber—in the legal sense of the word. But even ornamental timber could be cut if it constituted a positive obstruction, as it is a nuisance at common law to allow trees to hang over a highway so as to obstruct the passage, and any person may lop them so far as necessary to remove the obstruction.

The Act is somewhat aggressive in its tone, as it authorises proceedings without any previous warning or notice requiring the nuisance to be abated. In practice, however, such notices are almost invariably given, and are usually complied with where

there is reasonable cause of complaint, and thus the extremity of proceeding under the Act is seldom resorted to. A case, however, was recently brought before the Justices of the Isle of Wight, in which a property owner was summoned to show cause why he should not remove an overhanging bough of a tree, which obstructed the motor-omnibus traffic. For the defence it was contended that the tree, which was very ornamental, was not an obstruction to ordinary traffic; that a motor-omnibus was not a carriage within the meaning of the Highway Act; and that the tree, having been in the road before the dedication of the highway to the public, could not be interfered with. The Bench, however, held that a motor omnibus was a carriage within the meaning of the Act, and that the bough of the tree was an obstruction which could be removed under the Act. Accordingly they ordered its removal within twenty-one days, but consented to state a case for appeal.

To go to the other end of England, we notice that a good deal of misunderstanding is asserted to exist in Teesdale as to the obligations of landowners to lop trees overhanging highways. It is alleged that on one estate the trees are positively dangerous to motorists, cyclists, and vehicular traffic generally, whilst on another chairs have been knocked off the top of trollies laden with furniture, and the chimney of a caravan has been completely demolished by overhanging trees. Evidently the branches are too low—or the loads were too high.

Seasonable Topics.

Abandoned Hops.

A few weeks ago the outlook for hops was bright and cheerful. From all hop-growing districts came reports of heavy crops, and all that seemed wanting was good weather for picking. Unfortunately, however, climatic conditions for this important operation have not been all that could be desired, and from Kent we are getting rather dismal news of the progress of the hop-picking. In the first place, low prices are prevailing, which in itself is not encouraging, and, secondly, crops have gone off badly. The outset of the picking was marked by violent gales and heavy rains, which knocked the fruit about badly in many places, and since then fogs by night and hot sunshine by day have caused the hops to turn brown and go off quickly. It is not uncommon to see patches abandoned in order that brighter hops in other gardens may be secured, but pickers and dryers are hard put to in their attempts to keep pace with the decay that is going on. As it always does in such circumstances, good cultivation has made its mark, and in the best-worked gardens the hops have withstood the ravages of disease and weather far better than in cases where the treatment is of a second-rate character. In spite of this, however, the fact remains that the weight of hops picked will not be so heavy as was at one time anticipated.

* * *

Something Wrong.

Speaking generally, the corn harvest may be said to be over, and the hum of the threshing machine, which is a familiar sound just now, tells its own story of the golden grain parting company from the ear. Still the corn is not all in yet, and during a long drive in the West of England the other day we observed several fields that had not made the acquaintanceship of the reaper and binder. Oats were the crop uncut, and they did not look particularly valuable, but surely they ought to be cut if not in stack by now. We tried to make an excuse on the grounds of late sowing and unfavourable weather, for oats are always a difficult crop to harvest when the clerk of the weather is unkind, and, in the case of one field, we discussed the matter with a local farmer. After describing the position of the field, the man, who evidently knew the party who farmed it, only laughed and observed: "Oh, there's no accounting for him, he never seems to bother himself about anything, and how he carries on is a mystery to me." So there was something wrong after all in the case of the uncut oats, as there generally is when you see matters neglected or all behind. There always were dilatory farmers, and we suppose there always will be, and these cases form real conundrums to their more energetic neighbours as to how they continue to carry on. Sometimes they go under, but frequently they manage to rub along in a slip-shod sort of fashion, while men of greater energy and more inclined to speculate make ventures which end disastrously. By their ways shall we know them. This is quite true of the dilatory farmer, who generally begins to think about his ploughing, his haymaking, and his corn cutting when his neighbours are half-way through, and he is still muddling on when everybody around him has finished. If such a man makes ends meet that is all, but he is not much good to his landlord and the tenant who follows him invariably has to suffer through his dilatoriness.

Ram Sales.

Nothing has been more encouraging this season than the reports of ram sales, for never have breeders been furnished with a better lot of sires, and, judging from the brisk character of the sales, there never was a better demand for them. In regard to quantity, there may or may not have been more pedigree rams bred than are wanted for home use, but foreign sheep farmers have been eager to buy, and apparently when they find what they want, price is no object to them. In view of facts and figures, ram breeding must be a profitable branch of agriculture just now. Quite so; but let us qualify the expression by adding to those who are established in it. We hear nothing of the failures, and do not advise amateurs to rush into it with the idea of getting rich quickly, for a reputation as a successful ram breeder is not built up in a year or two. Indeed, some of the most famous flocks are in possession of men who are carrying on work that was begun years and years ago by their fathers or grandfathers, and in some cases, we may add, they are improving the reputations made by their sires. One can picture the surprise of a ram breeder of the old and departed school if he could drop in at a present-day ram sale and see a group of foreign buyers, gentlemanly men with hardly a farmer look about them, but in possession of bulky cheque books and substantial banking accounts. These are the men whom the present-day ram breeder has to cater for, and the wider the market the higher the prices. Foreign competition may affect us in some ways, but so long as breeders keep up the present standard of pedigree sheep, the old country will be a market for them.

* * *

Scabby Potatoes.

Though scab on potatoes is only a skin affection and does not materially affect the eating quality of the tubers, it spoils their appearance and consequently reduces their market value. Just exactly what scab is, and what causes it are questions very much open to discussion, and, while some experts hold the view that it is a fungus disease which is transmitted from the parent tube to the offspring, and the living germs remain in the soil, others are of the opinion that the trouble is brought about by the mechanical condition of the soil. Be this as it may, the fact remains that potatoes on some lands always come scabby, while on others they come out perfectly clean; and in support of the latter theory it may be observed that on newly turned-up land potatoes frequently come scabby, as they also do in sharp, gritty soil, and we have frequently noticed that the liberal application of coal ashes to the ground is conducive to scab. Whether potatoes can be dressed in any way to prevent or check the increase of scab is a matter of interest to growers, and last Spring we obtained 14 lbs. of badly scabbed Up to Dates for the purpose of experiment. Half the quantity were soaked for two hours in a solution of commercial formalin, at the rate of half a pint to 14 gallons of water, and the remainder were planted without any dressing. The whole were planted on land where potatoes do not scab much in the ordinary way, and results show that the percentage of scabbed tubers was slightly higher in the roots from the undressed seed, though in neither case was the proportion large. In both cases, however, the young tubers that had come into direct contact with the seed potato were badly scabbed, and this supports the contention that scab is transmitted from parent to offspring; at any rate, when they come in contact during the period of growth.

* * *

The Unemployed Question.

Things have changed since the banners and drums of the Salvation Army appeared in our streets, and the followers of General Booth were held up to derision and ridicule on every side. A man less earnest would have thrown up the sponge in those days of persecution, but General Booth was made of different stuff, and he stands to-day, with the exception, perhaps, of King Edward VII., the best-loved man of the century. It is not only as a religious leader that General Booth shines, but even more so as a social reformer, and we find him, at an age when most men who live to be so old are contented with armchair and slippers, promoting a gigantic scheme of emigration, which has for its object the removal of workless and landless men from this country to menless land on the other side of the world. Australia favours the movement, and offers thousands of acres of fertile land that is only waiting for the hand of the cultivator. The scheme is not one of charity, but it offers help to those who are willing to work, but have no chance in the old country. Some may argue that we want men on the land at home. Just so, but unfortunately the land does not offer much prospect for them, and that is the true secret of the deplorable rush to towns; and, besides, there are thousands of country-bred men in towns who would not live if they came back to the land at home, but who may under the scheme proposed make something for themselves in a new and undeveloped country. We shall always have the drones, the thriftless, idle individuals who will work nowhere, but are contented to prey on their fellow creatures. How to deal with this section is a problem, but the genuine unemployed is another matter, and if General Booth's scheme is a means of helping the genuine worker who is kept down through sheer force of circumstances, then it is worthy of support.

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Leaving a Farm.

With Michaelmas at hand we have the season when changes are made, notices are sent in, and the preliminary steps are taken for making a try in another quarter. Few men leave farms on which they have been for years without some feelings of regret. They grow attached to the place, scenes, and people about, get familiar, and even those who are in the fortunate position of being able to give up and retire on the results of their labours, feel a wrench when it comes to leaving the old homestead. Some men make it a general custom every few years to give notice, though they have not the slightest intention of leaving. They want a reduction of rent, a new building, or some other concession, and if the landlord does not see eye to eye with them they give notice. Perhaps the landlord is averse to changes, so some arrangement is made to appease the discontented tenant, and he stops on, but landlords are not all alike, and it is not always wise of a tenant to give notice unless he really intends to leave, for the simple reason that the landlord may take him at his word, and he may find himself in the undignified position of begging to be allowed to stop on. Many men are forced to give notice against both will and inclination, but through sheer force of circumstances. We were talking to such a one the other day, who wanted to give up an unprofitable portion of his farm and retain the homestead and the adjoining land. The landlord could not see his way to divide the farm, and the man has no alternative to giving up. It is easy enough to talk about sinking sentiment, but in some natures the task is difficult, and this man is grieving at the idea of leaving the place where he has lived nearly all his life, and making a fresh start somewhere else. It is not unnatural, and this Michaelmas no doubt notices will be given and taken, and next March homesteads will be left by farmers who, for a time at any rate, will leave their hearts behind them.

Successful Lincolnshire Allotments.—The allotment holders of North Somercotes, Lincolnshire, recently threshed their corn, and 71 quarters of good grain, the produce of 13 acres held by 14 men, was weighed off from the machine. This yield is double that of last year. Some of the plots averaged over seven quarters to the acre.

There was but a small show and few buyers at the fair held at Partney on Tuesday. Drapes realised £11 to £15 apiece; two and a-half-year-old beast, £16 to £18; two year olds, £13 to £15; and young beast, £10 to £12. A very good lot of foals on offer, and business was fairly good at prices ranging from £14 to £20 for cart foals, but there was no trade for Hackneys.

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

I am glad that my protest against the autocracy of the amateur in matters affecting agriculture has been strengthened by the authority of Mr. W. E. Bear. "It is only," says Mr. Bear, in the course of a striking article in the *Economic Journal*, "in business affairs connected with the land that outsiders consider themselves capable of instructing insiders." Not only is this true, but the worst is that authoritative minds in our statecraft seem inclined to accept this vanity on the part of the uninstructed and the uninformed. Take the pretensions of certain of our great urban organisations in connection with the unemployed problem. At Whitehall their projects for shifting the army of wastreldom on to the land—projects inspired by the unwholesome belief that any shiftless ne'er-do-well is good enough for the countryside, that any human derelict can successfully fight his own moral and physical infirmities in the atmosphere of the farmyard—are received with a complacent acquiescence that encourages the municipal pundits in their irritating Quixotries. One day, of course, these proposals will be crystallised in definite extravagant experiments; and then Whitehall will perceive that in patronising the crudities of ambitious ignorance it has inflicted a sore harm upon the community. But it is not only "in business affairs connected with the land" that outsiders are considered to be more capable of instructing than insiders. It is also the case in connection with politics concerning the land. Only in this instance the uninformed Parliamentarians who are without practical knowledge of the land and its economic necessities masquerade, vide Mr. A. H. Lee, M.P., as "independents," and as men likely to wield more influence than Parliamentarians having this experience and dowered with a representative and delegated authority.

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General Booth is likely to find the Labour leaders among the enemies of his over-sea colonial scheme. Their position may be said to be a reflection of the criticism I ventured to offer to Mr. Rider Haggard's original proposals. "We want our own manhood in our own villages," says, in effect, Mr. William Crooks, M.P. I asked, in commenting upon Mr. Rider Haggard's suggestion, whether his baits would not be attractive, not so much to the human flotsam and jetsam of our towns, but to the lusty muscle and sinew of the countryside? The very nature of his suggestions would induce to a romantic interpretation. They would be represented, if accepted by the authorities, in vivid colouring very different to prosaic fact. Hence it is that as a sequel we should in all probability see a further denudation of our villages. Of course, neither Mr. Rider Haggard nor General Booth would desire this. Their anxiety is to make practical citizens of men who either finally become a burden on the community, or else develop into street-corner loafers. Once, however, the process of settlement was resorted to, how could the line be drawn? It would be difficult—nay, it would be a cynical impropriety—to reject an applicant simply because he was not sufficient of a loafer. That the unemployed problem must be dealt with is certain. At present it is a festering sore in the edifice of our civilisation. We must, however, be careful that the process of human rehabilitation of the unfortunates of our life does not prove a lure to the hardy manhood of our villages. We want labour on our countryside. If it be possible by an educative system to secure it, then let that system be at least experimentally tried here at home.

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I do not know whether Mr. E. A. Pratt is an inspired defender of the railway companies. If he be—and his letter in the *Times* of a few days ago is a reflection of what I may describe as the railway-directorial mind—then I am afraid his inspiration is not always wise. If there be any logical deduction possible from his letter, it is that excessive railway charges to agriculturists are justified by the Rating Act. In other words, the Rating Act places so great an affliction on the railway companies, that they are obliged to compensate themselves in some other way, and railway rates for rural produce are apparently esteemed the most desirable method. I would that this contention had been presented to Parliament either when the Rates Bill was being debated or some railway question was being considered. It would have been a sufficient reply to the very astute manœuvring on behalf of the companies of which the lobby is the frequent scene. Its blunt avowal—of course, Mr. Pratt does not make it in the fashion I have; my assertion is a free deduction from his letter—would have been an admirable checkmate. The Rates Bill was designed for the relief of the agricultural interest. The House of Commons would assuredly have been impressed, and that not pleasantly, with the frank assurance from a railway director that if the railways were compelled to benefit the farmers in this one direction, they would take care to penalise them in another.

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What if the towns which declare themselves to have been bitterly prejudiced in the financial sense by the Act were to recoup themselves by doubling the fees in their markets? Mr. Pratt, too, forgets the fact that one of the chief contentions before the railway inquiry is that the railway charges to agriculturists are not excessive? Does he contend that before the Rating Act the railway charges were too moderate? The defence of the railway companies' attitude has hitherto been very astutely and ably conducted by Mr. Pratt, but in this case I rather think that he has, in his eagerness, over-reached himself. However, it would be well if we could be officially assured that there is a deliberate movement on foot to recoup rated bodies the additional sums they may have to pay under the Rating Act. If there be such a movement, then the benefit assumed to be derived under the measure is simply a delusion.

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I see that the programme for the autumn campaign of the Tariff Reform League will include lectures at such distinctive rural resorts and centres as Tonbridge, Lewes, Aylesbury, and Hereford. Now, may I again plead that the oratorical emissaries should not be permitted to follow the example of their leaders and evade the points of direct interest to the farmers. Those points can be all epitomised in the question: If there is to be an encouraged Colonial preference with the Colonies under the projected economic system, how can the British farmer possibly benefit? Let it not be forgotten that this system of preference, which is simply, so far as the English producer is concerned, a system of encouraged competition, could only apply to agricultural products. Neither Canada nor Australia would seriously compete with any of the products of the great industrial centres. The British farmer would thus have to pay the bribe for inducing the colonists to trade with British manufacturers under favourable conditions to the latter. How serious is this bribe is sufficiently illustrated by the assurance of both the Canadian Premier and the Canadian Minister of Agriculture, that in a few years Canada—where the farmer pays no rent, has not the intolerable burden of rating which the British farmer has, Atlas-like, to bear, and where the Government looks upon the farmer as a person to be aided even out of the State coffers—will be able to supply all the food-necessities of the United Kingdom. What is the farmer to receive by way of compensation for thus penalising himself in order that the trades of the great towns may benefit?

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To the constant repetition of these points—which, of course, any sane man can see are not conceived in a spirit of antagonism to the principle of Protection—there has been opposed a sedulous silence. This silence is, of course, the diplomatic policy in the interest of the urban manufacturers. Farmers now, however, have it within their power to demand that this attitude shall be abandoned—that silence shall give way to clear speech. To be a cat's-paw in benefiting urbanism is—well, is really not a very dignified rôle. So far as I can see, the new economy may mean the encouragement of a rival to the farmer who will be able to invariably undersell him. If, instead of a Canadian competition a German competition were suggested, there would be a furious explosion of national wrath. Frankly, what does it matter to the British farmer—apart, of course, from the very excellent sentiment of patriotism, but which after all, would not in this case pay the rent—whether the tragedy of his economic undoing be inspired in Germany or in Canada? He would be undone all the same.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Sept. 16, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	12,977	13,190	Wheat ...	2,854,900	2,354,000
Sheep.....	6,946	2,606	Flour.....	171,100	337,500
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	599,400	650,600
Horses ...	256	113	Oats	233,900	290,200
			Peas	75,800	55,900
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	7,900	19,450
Beef	39,600	96,212	Maize ...	813,800	1,538,400
Mutton...	119,607	83,722	Apples ...	45,948	27,945
Pork	12,677	8,170	Apricots		
Bacon ...	108,386	97,369	&Peaches	76	521
Beef, salt	1,374	2,907		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	25,801	20,746	Bananas	110,278	136,532
Pork, salt	5,893	5,448		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	9,732	10,035	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	12,584	26,914	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	73,764	69,375	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	24,055	16,691	Grapes ..	54,650	37,497
Cheese ...	76,324	52,945	Lemons...	18,449	3,335
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Oranges	5,171	3,149
			Pears.....	27,965	24,56
			Plums ...	10,557	21,2
			Oth'r Fr't	24,869	34,050
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	3,794	1,856
Milk, Cream	60	62	Straw ..	2,637	2,333
			MossLitt'r	—	2,190
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,153	20,765	Hops	4,552	811
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	90	106	Locust Beans	30	3,260
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	201,260	310,168
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Eggs	443,632	448,653	Potatoes	69,407	27,293
			Tomatoes	22,840	19,113
Poultry & Game	Value. £5,354	Value. £6,416	Other Veg'bles	Value £3,651	Value. £2,349
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	18,273	3,986
Rabbits...	37,129	22,511	Pres'v'd by canning ..	9,817	7,098
Lard	36,941	33,852			

The President of the Board of Agriculture (the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes) has promised to attend the dinner in connection with the Alford Bull fair on November 7. The Duke of Portland will be in the chair.

The show of the Frome District Agricultural Society is fixed for Wednesday next. There is an entry of no less than 779, being over 50 more than last year. The cheese entries are above the usual average. The large cheese tent, 240 feet long and 42 feet wide, will contain nearly 400 entries of the finest Cheddar that can be produced in the world. The butter classes are patronised by the best makers. In the working dairy the actual making of butter by 35 exhibitors may be witnessed, many of the competitors being crack hands. Miss Stubbs, of the County Education Butter School, will give demonstrations in butter-making. Table poultry and eggs are a larger entry than last year. Mr. Walkley, the Somerset county poultry expert, will give demonstrations in trussing poultry. In the jumping and driving competitions most of the best horses are competing. There is a good entry of cart horses and colts. Shorthorn and Jersey cattle include some from the best herds. Sheep and pigs are also a good entry. There will be a grand display of fireworks in the evening. The band of the Volunteer 3rd Battalion P.A.S.L.I. (Frome Detachment) will be in attendance throughout the day. The usual excursion trains will run from all parts. The Frome Fanciers' Associatic will hold a great show of dogs, poultry, pigeons cage-birds, and rabbits on the ground on the same day. The annual dinner will be held on the 26th inst., when the president, Mr. A. R. Baily, will take the chair.

NORTHERN NOTES.

It will seem a little strange to the dwellers in the southern counties to learn that the remnants of the northern harvest are only just being gathered in, and yet such is the fact. Some corn is still out in Scotland, even near the Borders, and along the east coast on this side of the Tweed and the Tyne, even along the North Yorkshire sea-board, the work of the harvest was only finished last week. The past two weeks were splendid—perhaps the finest of the season—and some of the last secured crops have been carted in splendid condition.

The Michaelmas summer—the Indian summer—when we get one, is probably the pleasantest time of the year. The power of the sun is curtailed, the heat is not oppressive, the air is often beautifully clear, and the evenings are warm and pleasant. The morning dew passes quickly away, and walking, cycling, and motoring, and, indeed, all outdoor exercises, can be experienced and enjoyed by even the weakest and most delicate. People rush to the seaside for their holidays earlier in the season, but a holiday by the sea during one of our Indian summers is long remembered. Are we to have such a one this autumn? The weather indications at this moment are all in that direction.

Country life is now at its best, the heat is not troublesome, just great enough to be appreciated; the shooting season, the fateful time for the young partridge, is in full swing; cub-hunting is on everywhere, and soon the real hunting season will open. The fisherman finds the exercise of his craft to be most enjoyable, and the resotr to the golf links is a source of unfeigned pleasure to both those who play the game and those who stand and watch it.

Rough on the farmer that this beautiful weather comes now instead of during those anxious weeks of harvest when the crops—the result of the year's toil and preparation—seemed in such imminent danger, but, after all, better late than never. The grain is drying and hardening in the stack, thatching work is executed under favourable auspices, the autumn cleaning of land is facilitated, and the root crops are making good progress. It is, however, only too true that in those districts where turnips suffered so severely from the drought, the root crops can never recover half the ground then lost, but the progress made is greater than could have been anticipated, and the weather is all in their favour.

Thus far the test of the threshing machine confirms the forecasts given before the harvest. Wheat yields well, and although by no means a record crop, it is well above the average. And some samples are very good, although others are not so dry as might be desired. At first millers fought very shy of the northern wheats, and a strenuous attempt was made to bring down prices well below 9d. per stone, but the attempt has failed, and rates have an upward trend. Barley, too, yields well, perhaps not so well as wheat, but this crop, too, is above an average one in quantity. Many samples have been weathered and discoloured, the best are being allowed to mellow in the stack, and it is not yet possible to pass a final verdict on the quality of the barley crop of this year's growth. Oats are turning out quite as badly as was anticipated on many farms in the districts where the drought prevailed so long, the record will be touched—that is, the record of the minimum growth. And some samples are wretchedly thin and light, but there are a few good ones, and it may be said the quality of the crop is superior to its quantity.

Grass grows well. This is not a matter for surprise, but it is worthy of note that cattle are doing well on the new growth, a somewhat uncommon experience at this season.

Sheep continue very dear. Some put it down to the favourable demand for mutton, but the fact is that sheep are scarce, and flocks have been depleted. Very large numbers of lambs have been sold to the butchers, and we may confidently predict that the price of mutton will not decline, while the values of breeding sheep are rising.

The new swine disease stated to be a form of erysipelas, not uncommon on the Continent has caused a good deal of uneasiness but fortunately its presence has been confined within an area of some twenty miles, and the stringent measures adopted by the local authorities and the Board of Agriculture will, it may be believed, prevent the disease from spreading further. For animals once attacked there seems little hope of cure. How did the disease originate? Is the official version, that the germs of the disease were brought into this country in some meals or food stuffs imported from the Continent, likely to be correct? It is hard to say, but some authorities draw very different conclusions as to the cause of the outbreak and as to the origin of the disease. Is there any analogy between this, and those mysterious outbreaks of anthrax which at intervals puzzle the inquirer, and lead to the belief "That there are (many) more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of" by our scientists. Some people imagine that an analogy, and a very close one, may well be drawn here.

Unusual diseases in animals and unusual diseases amongst mankind seem to often appear together, and just lately medical men and the Public Health Department of the Local Government Board have been much concerned with the presence of cerebro-spinal fever (spotted sickness) amongst us. Fortunately this disease has been localised, and its spreading prevented, and it is earnestly to be hoped that this fatal complaint will soon be eradicated from the country.

September 22, 1905. M. Y.

Agricultural Education in Devonshire.

There was an interesting and important discussion affecting agricultural education at last week's meeting of the Devon County Council. Sir T. Acland states that a special sub-committee of the Education Committee had considered the whole question of the finance of education other than elementary, and they recommended that the following items be eliminated from the scheme:—Under the head of agriculture—grant for bee-keeping, £150; grant to the County Agricultural Association, £150; grant in connection with the County Nursing Association, £150; ambulance, £200. It was also recommended that the amounts for practical horticulture should be reduced from £200 to £150, and for classes in agricultural processes from £300 to £150. The committee did not believe they could allocate money as they previously had to competitions in hedging, sheep-shearing, dairy competitions, bee-keeping, etc., being of opinion that it did not come under the term "higher education than elementary." The money entrusted to them was for instruction, and not prizes.

Mr. Spear regretted the proposal to withdraw the grant to the Devon County Agricultural Association of £150, and to reduce the £300 for agricultural processes to £150. By the committee's proposals £1,770 would be devoted towards agriculture, and the large sum of £9,220 for evening continuation schools, technical education, and science classes. The agricultural industry was the largest in the county, and it was equally important to get young people efficient in agricultural pursuits, as in other branches of industry. The committee's proposal treated agriculture very unfairly. He had an experience of how the money allocated to agriculture was spent, and could testify that it did a vast amount of good. The competitions had a most beneficial effect in the country districts. When it was known that prizes would be given annually for competitions the young people in the country districts did their best by securing instruction to make themselves efficient. The disparity in the amounts to be voted for agriculture and other purposes was so great that he felt compelled to move an amendment. He moved that the £150 be voted to the association, and £300 for agricultural processes.

Mr. Franklin seconded, believing that if the small amount now given in prizes at agricultural competitions was stopped, much of the good work done would be destroyed. Rather than the competitions should be abandoned, he believed farmers would wilingly submit to a small rate for the purpose of providing the prizes.

Lord Clifford reminded the Council that the proposed reductions were necessary to bring the expenditure down to the income. It was useless for the Council to recommend that the full grants be given unless they stated where the money should come from. There was no surplus for the purpose.

General Sir Redvers Buller believed it would be a great mistake to take away any money devoted to agriculture, but the committee felt they could not make the grants under the head of elementary education. If the Council desired to make the full grants there should be a special resolution on the matter.

The Chairman: That cannot be done, because the auditor will surcharge us.

After further discussion, it was decided that £150 be voted to the Devon County Agricultural Association for demonstrations in connection with the association, and that £300 be granted for the purposes of agricultural processes instead of the committee's recommendation of £150.

Mr. Sillifant and Rev. J. D. Pitman wished to include £150 for the promotion of bee culture, but the proposition was rejected.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

The work of preparation for the coming season is quickly going forward in East Anglia, and newly-ploughed fields have added quite a distinct feature to our landscape, and although the future is of necessity obscure, farmers this year feel more confident inasmuch as it appears that more prosperous times are at hand. Prices have somewhat fallen during the past month, but with better thrashing weather, and the improvement of the cereals by keeping, a better tone now prevails, and should farmers in the Eastern Counties keep their heads and not rush their produce on the markets, prices will materially improve, as the quality is there.

Farmers who have had more than thirty years' practical experience in farming have told the writer that they never have harvested such a bulky crop of corn, and the yield, both of wheat and barley, will be much above the average on the medium soils. On the other hand, oats are the lightest of the cereals, and beans are said to be only fair, although they were cut early and promised to be very good. In this connection it is interesting to compare the *Times* special reports on the condition of the late harvest in East Anglia, and here we find that while wheat stands at 99 per cent. of a perfectly healthy crop of average growth, the highest figure recorded since 1898, Norfolk lost a little in the past months, the figures for this county standing at 93 as against 96 a month ago. But as regards the barley crop we notice that whereas England stands at 91½ per cent. of a healthy average crop, Norfolk has a figure of 94, exactly the same as five weeks ago. The root crop of England, by the way, is put at 86, and here we may note an improvement of two points for Norfolk during the past six weeks.

Bishop Stortford market was visited by the writer on Thursday last, and although the visit was somewhat a disappointing one, as the barleys on view were neither numerous nor of special quality, "overside attractions" did not lack interest. In the first place, the roadway in Potters Street, at the narrowest part, suddenly gave way, revealing a large cavity that had apparently been caused by a steam roller that in the early morning had passed along and broken the sewer, much to the inconvenience of those that wanted to be busy at market. While business was slack, however, the writer heard that the oldest inhabitant, who, by the way, was a native of Farnham, Essex, named David Warwick, formerly a shepherd on the Hassobury estate, had passed away, at the age of ninety-three, in the Bishop Stortford Infirmary.

In past years the Witham ploughing matches have been claimed to be the largest of their kind in England, as many as eighty ploughs being at work at one time. To preserve such a prosperous institution was worthy of an effort, and the competitions on Monday last showed no falling off either in interest or excellent workmanship. Hitherto the representatives of all ten parishes have ploughed together upon Blunts Hall Farm, Witham, where land has been provided by the Hon. C. H. Strutt, M.P., but this year representation was made from "the men on the hills" that the conditions of low-lying country were not quite the same as those to which they were accustomed. To meet this, ploughmen belonging to the two Braxteds and Wickham Bishops were allowed to do their work upon Sexton's Farm, Great Braxted, while those from the other seven parishes met at Blunts Hall. Each man had to plough thirteen furrows to a stitch and take up the brow, the depth of the work being between 3½ and 4 inches.

After the day's work the ploughmen, together with the members of the committee and local farmers, were entertained by the President, the Hon. C. H. Strutt, M.P., who distributed the prizes to the successful competitors.

September 22, 1905.

Those who follow the guidance offered in Sutton's Bulb Catalogue will experience no difficulty in securing a most welcome supply of flowers from November to May, when they are of the highest value. The descriptive lists are models of order, carefully compiled to assist the amateur and to remind the gardener on those points which aid selection either for a few beds or a grand terrace garden. Those who have had comparatively little experience with bulbs will probably find one or more of the admirably selected collections suit the requirements of home and garden. Nearly every page of Sutton's Bulb Annual is illustrated with reproductions from photographs, many of them suggesting modes of treatment that will be valuable to lovers of horticulture. The work can be obtained from the publishers, Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, and those who secure a copy will find it full of interesting information.

Midland Notes.

The harvest moon is passing. Even during the past few nights it has been remaining fourteen hours above the horizon, but the season is gone for another year when our evening luminary makes its appearance, night after night, almost simultaneously with the setting of the sun. Good use was made of that brief time in many districts where there was grain still lying in the fields, and it has been no uncommon sight in the North and North-east Midlands to see the carts making their slow way to the stackyards by moonlight. We shall now see the evenings drawing in perceptibly faster, and one or two touches of frost in the early morning are a further reminder of the changing of the season.

One of the lessons which this summer has enforced upon us is the power of kale to resist drought, and to start growing again immediately upon the fall of rain. Kale might be grown more than it is in the Midlands, for it is not so easily discouraged by a bad season as swedes or turnips, and is not exacting in the matter of soils.

Very pleasant to see was the good stamp of the tenant farmers' horses at Kineton a few days back, and since then we have had a capital show at Brackley. There were some at the latter exhibition who failed to share the Earl of Effingham's hopeful views as to the future of agriculture. But on the subject of farm lettings his lordship was undeniably right. There is less difficulty in finding farm tenants, and what is more there are many fewer farms to let; even advertisements of farms wanted seem to be showing a tendency to increase in number. In one Midland paper which is much used for these purposes the three weeks of this present September have seen twenty-four "wanted" and sixty-six "to let" announcements, while in the same three weeks of 1904 the numbers were nine and eighty-nine—a change in the proportions which is surely not without significance.

Those with long memories may well cry "Ichabod!" over the country fair, whose glories are indeed departed, Worcester furnishing one of the very few exceptions which go to prove the rule. Even there the pleasure fair is gradually dying out, but it was good to see the pockets of hops—something like 5,000 in number—which overflowed the capacity of the market last Tuesday, and had to be stacked in the entrance to the Shire Hall. The vitality of the fair is the more remarkable when it is remembered that most of the hops sold in at Worcester come from Hereford, where an attempt to start a market some few years ago turned out disappointingly.

If this had not been a good year for garden and orchard fruits, the season seems to have suited the wild fruits of the hedgerows. The prices of the wholesale market do not allow of much profit being made from blackberries, especially where the picking of them has to be paid for, and the occasional farmer who tries to make the most of the fruit on his own land is apt to find himself regarded as "near" and unneighbourly. But some of the higglers whose carts bring country produce into Birmingham suburban streets, and who do not despise small things, must be doing well out of the blackberries, which are uncommonly abundant.

What is a tenant farmer? That sometimes ticklish question has been asked again at more than one Midland show this season, and lately the case was specially cited to the present writer of an exhibitor—and winner—in local tenant farmer classes who neither lives on the land he farms nor relies upon it for his income. Virtually he rents a pleasure farm, on which it pleases him to spend some of the profits of a thriving city business. There are, no doubt, many such, and they are often enough keen cultivators of the soil, and liberal buyers of live stock. But it is hardly fair to the bona-fide tenant farmer, whose holding is his means of support, to set him to compete in such company, and if some of our agricultural societies would overhaul their rules a little they might not be doing a bad thing.

September 22, 1905.

The annual sheep and cattle fair at Gisburne, known as "The Old Fair," was held on Wednesday, when there was a large attendance and a very good show of stock. The show of sheep and lambs was especially good, and a brisk trade was done in them at improved prices. Young geld cattle made £8 to £11, young heifers £5 to £9 10s., bullocks £5 to £8, half-bred store lambs 20s. to 30s., horned lambs 9s. 6d. to 13s. 6d., half-bred shearlings 33s. to 42s., half-bred ewes 33s. to 45s., Irish ewes 21s. to 27s. each, and Scotch ewes 21s. to 28s. each.

Developing Forest Lands.

SIR,—I have not forgotten the kindness you showed in your issue of November 14 last in giving hospitality in your columns to the views I ventured to express on the above subject; and, having quite recently visited the Forest of Dean, I should like to draw public attention to the School of Forestry which has been established there under the direction of Mr. C. O. Hanson, late of the Indian Forest Service. I am glad to be able thoroughly to endorse the statement in the Blue Book issued last year testifying to the keen interest which is taken by Mr. Philip Baylis (Deputy Surveyor of the "Dean" and High Meadow Woods) in the efforts that are being made to increase and improve the knowledge and experience of the forest staff in the practical science of Sylviculture, and, I may add, in the promotion and development of British Forestry generally. Mr. Hanson's students at present mostly consist of young woodmen employed in the "Dean." Those in the service of the Crown are paid on school-days according to the customary rate of remuneration, and arrangements are also made for receiving others not in the employ of the Crown. But it is evident that the work might be greatly extended to the public advantage and become a centre for training students similar to the well-known establishment at Nancy, where under the careful supervision of Colonel Pearson, of Kington (who devoted so many years of his active life to that service), the young aspirants for Indian forest appointments have heretofore been sent at the State's expense, owing, alas! to the absence of home facilities.

There can be no doubt that the subject of forestry in England has now become a matter of primary importance. It is universally admitted that in the past mistakes have been made in the "management" of this and other forests, and at present the Crown has only enclosed—so the officials contend—8,000 of the 11,000 acres which it is entitled to reserve under certain special Acts of Parliament. The great importance of the subject to Great Britain was forcibly pointed out in a report made to the India Office by M. Boppe, of Nancy, Inspecteur des Eaux et Forêts in France. He considers the "Dean" pre-eminently *une forêt de l'avenir*, and thinks it would form an excellent field for the study of the treatment of standard oaks, saying that in such a forest, where the soil is so exceptionally fertile, it might be possible to find a solution of the oft-discussed problem of obtaining the maximum production in quality and quantity from a forest of oak. M. Boppe also points out that "were it only for the purpose of replanting the five or six millions of moor and waste land which cover one-third of the Highlands there is a sufficient reason for the formation of such a school." He continues:—"Considering the present depressed state of agriculture all over Europe, it becomes more and more necessary to endeavour to draw the greatest possible advantage from the land, and by properly adapting a different vegetation to different soils to seek to obtain, through the medium of the enormous capital which the present generation can command, the maximum production from a minimum area. It is thus that the forests are called upon to play an important part in the immediate future, and the farmer will henceforth find a powerful auxiliary in the forester."

It is evident that, under Mr. Baylis and Mr. Hanson, everything possible is now being done for the development of these forest lands, and it is to be hoped that in the future arrangements will be made by which a larger number of students of various classes will be able to take advantage of the unique opportunities afforded of practical and scientific instruction in forestry. At present the work of this school would seem to be almost exclusively confined to men of the mechanical and labouring classes. It is, as M. Boppe shows, a matter of importance to every civilised nation, and especially to England—which, with her colonial possessions, is perhaps of all countries in the world the one most richly endowed with valuable timber forests—that this vast accumulation of forest riches should not fall into the hands of ignorant persons or be squandered away without thought of the future. Here there is a splendid training ground (*Pflegestaette*, as the German foresters say) for those interested in the science of forestry—a science in which the mistakes of to-day, if we are not careful, will perhaps be perpetuated in future years, if not generations.

It is generally admitted that in the coming winter the difficult problem of the unemployed will be with us in even greater intensity than it has ever been before. The Act passed this session must result in various public works being proposed more or less of a problematical character. But it is certain that afforestation schemes need not be unremunerative. In a recent letter which I have received from the well-known Continental expert, Dr. A. Schwappach, of Eberswalde, he says:—"Your proposal to employ the unemployed in forestry operative work is by no means a bad idea. I welcome it. The workless hands for which employment is wisely sought, in a big cosmopolitan city like yours, would not, of course, be immediately available for productive forest work, but they could be trained to the task."

In further correspondence I have had with foreign specialists I find the following interesting statement:—"At Luetzel, in the district of Luneberg, and at Northeim on the Weper, the Hanoverian State Forests extend to 11,725 acres; and a recent purchase of peaty land near Gross Fullen was made with the express object (a) of pursuing forestry investigations and (b) with a view to the establishment of a colony for the unemployed. This embraces 1,092 acres. The amount of land placed under forest by the help of a loan fund is at present 16,644 acres, so that it will be seen that the action of the Provincial Legislature has resulted in the afforestation of 29,461 acres." In the proposals for public work for the unemployed this matter should not be lost sight of, and I am convinced that if the work be undertaken after due consultation with the best expert knowledge now available on the subject a great national benefit will accrue.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.,
Member of Scottish Arboricultural Society.
London, September 20, 1905.

Agricultural Co-operation.

SIR,—I notice that the word "co-operation" is being freely used in reference to various proposals which have been put forward of late for combination amongst farmers and agriculturists. While I am glad to see that the idea of combination is making so much headway amongst farmers, and that it is receiving so much encouragement from the Press, I am compelled to protest against the misuse of the word "co-operation" and its application to undertakings which are not truly co-operative.

The term "agricultural co-operation" only applies strictly to those forms of combination advocated by the Agricultural Organisation Society, and it is important to us that agricultural co-operation should not be brought into disrepute and our movement compromised by the failure or indiscretions of undertakings to which the term "co-operation" is wrongly applied. Many of the undertakings now proposed are, indeed, on utterly unsound lines, and for the very reason that they are not co-operative, will either fail altogether, or will not succeed in accomplishing the beneficial results which are expected from them.

The best way to form an agricultural co-operative society is to register under the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act, and so to frame the rules that the amount of the nominal capital is not fixed; that shares can be allotted at any time to any farmer applying for them; that the interest payable upon the capital is limited to a small percentage, and that the bulk of the profits is divided amongst the members as a bonus upon the amount of their sales through, and purchases from, the society.

A limited liability company in which farmers take shares may be a form of combination, but it is not co-operation, and as a farmers' combination pany, when they would become mere shareholders hold shares in approximate proportion to the amount of their dealings with the company, the interest on their shares is roughly equivalent to a bonus on their transactions; but this is a condition which could hardly exist even at first, and if it did exist would very probably soon cease to do so. Some of the members might leave the district and cease to have dealings with the company, when they would become mere shareholders drawing profits from the business done through the company by the other farmers. Moreover, if the profits were at all large, the shares in the company would rise in value, and some shareholders would dispose of their shares to persons other than farmers, who would then likewise draw profits which should go into the farmers' pockets. Again, if after the company were formed a farmer wished to obtain shares, he might have to purchase them at a premium and pay so highly for them, that the dividend would merely represent interest at ordinary investment rates on the money which he had paid for them. So in a very few years such a company would become an ordinary trading concern, the objects of which would not be to benefit the farmers, but to make

the biggest possible profit for the shareholders, and it would then be no better than any other middleman.

A true co-operative society is very different from this. By the limitation of the interest on the share capital (usually to five per cent.) it is prevented from becoming a mere investment for capitalists. Whatever profit is made, over and above the five per cent. charged for interest on capital, is divided among the farmers in proportion to the trade they have done through the society in the shape of a bonus at the end of the year. The fact, again, that the amount of the share capital is not fixed, and that fresh shares may be allotted any time on application, prevents the shares rising in value, and enables any farmer in the district to become a member without paying heavily for the privilege.

I might enumerate many other advantages which co-operative societies, such as I have described, enjoy over the ordinary limited liability companies, but my purpose is to show what is true co-operation as applied to agriculture. It is all the more necessary that this should be clearly understood, since it is becoming generally admitted that co-operation is the form of combination which is likely to do most for the regeneration of agriculture. One deputation of farmers after another has visited Denmark and has returned convinced of the necessity of adopting Danish methods in this county, but this can only be done in the manner which I have indicated.—

Yours truly, J. NUGENT HARRIS,
Secretary of the Agricultural Organisation Society,
September 18, 1905.

Harvest in North Lincolnshire.

SIR,—All our harvest is new home, some of the later fields in not too good condition, with a few sprouts. Prices of corn are very low, a rush to the market causing a corresponding reduction in the dealers' bids. I and my neighbours also have just got our lambs penned on the early turnips. They, of course, look somewhat thin, as usual, but they are taking the roots well, and will soon improve. They are, as a rule, very healthy, although I have heard of a few losses in another district. Prices of mutton are good for those who have any to sell, the only bright spot in our penning, for wool, although dearer, for which we are thankful, is at 30s. per 28 lb., only three-fourths of it average value yet.

Our potato crop here is much diseased, especially Dates, and pig food will be very plentiful. The price of good ones even is lower almost than I ever remember, and no buyers. Often and often am I asked if I can say what sort should be planted. I cannot answer.

September 22, 1905. NORTH LINDSEY.

Dorsetshire Prospects.

SIR,—We are close on Michaelmas, which practically closes the agricultural year. In many respects it has been a favourable season. Although the Dorset farmer believes in the old adage of a dry March and wet May—which this year was exactly reversed, as we had a wet March and dry May, the result being, in my opinion, the worst crop of oats grown for years. Also in my case, a failure in the mangel crop. Swedes and roots drilled the last few days of May and early part of June are particularly good, making, on the whole, the root crop a little below average. Sainfoin hay is very good. The dry pasture hay was light. All was taken in good condition, and with a considerable amount of hay left from last year, I see no fear of scarcity for the coming winter.

Wheat I consider the crop of the season, and expect a good yield both in quantity and quality. As to barley, very little is grown in this neighbourhood. I have a heavy crop of straw, but being grown after roots the quality will probably be coarse.

Sheep, of which we are very proud, and consider of the first importance, matured remarkably well. We had a good lambing, a fair crop of lambs, and they have continued very healthy. Prices have been on the whole fair; wool much better.

Dairy cows and cattle generally have done very well, and are in a very healthy condition. Therefore, I consider the season of 1905 a favourable one. A great drawback to agriculture is the burden on the land, which I hope the Government will shortly be able in a measure to relieve.

September 20, 1905. J. B.

Fine Weather in Wiltshire.

SIR,—Since harvest finished splendid weather has enabled many a farmer to clean land fouled by the rainy seasons of two and three years ago. Trifolium is sown, rye and winter barley go in well, and roots, although patchy in districts, are looking healthy and making rapid growth, sheep and stock generally thriving.

The later sheep fairs have been satisfactory to the seller, and were it not for the price of corn prospects would look brighter than usual. In many parts the yield will not be as heavy as expected.

Labour is plentiful. At Wilton Fair the number of carters and shepherds looking for a job was greater than usual, but this is partly accounted for by the spirit of change in the youth of the present age.

September 21, 1905. D. W.

OBITUARY.

Col. Sir Robert Gunter.

Yorkshire has lost one of her most prominent and popular men by the death of Colonel Sir Robert Gunter, M.P., which took place at his Yorkshire residence, Wetherby Grange, on Monday, aged seventy-three. For some weeks past Sir Robert Gunter had been seriously ill, and latterly little or no hope had been entertained of his recovery, and little surprise was therefore felt by his friends at the news of his decease. The immediate cause of death was exhaustion, consequent upon a prolonged attack of neuritis. Sir Robert's interests and his sympathies touched many aspects of the life of his adopted county—military, agricultural, political, and administrative—not to name those personal relationships which made him a leading, and always welcome, figure in social circles. It was chiefly as an agriculturist, however, that Yorkshiremen best knew Colonel Gunter, to give him the familiar style and title that still clung to him after he received his baronetcy. On most matters connected with agriculture he could speak from practical knowledge, for he farmed about a thousand acres of land, and was a successful breeder of cattle and horses.

In the sixties and early seventies the Wetherby herd of Shorthorns was one of the most celebrated in the country. Colonel Gunter established the herd soon after taking up his residence at Wetherby Grange, and with the assistance of his steward, Mr. Knowles, himself an authority on Shorthorn breeding, quickly secured for it the high reputation which it was destined to achieve. At one time the Wetherby Shorthorns carried off most of the principal prizes at the Royal, the Yorkshire, and other big shows. But after a while Colonel Gunter came to the conclusion that the showing of cattle, involving the necessity of keeping them in a highly-fed state for exhibition purposes, was not conducive to successful breeding; consequently he ceased showing, and for a great many years no Wetherby Grange beast has been seen in the ring.

The old Duchess breed is now almost extinct, but all along there has been maintained at Wetherby Grange a large and useful herd of Shorthorns. Of late years Sir Robert devoted considerable attention to the rearing of heavy horses, and many of the fine muscular animals employed in the brewery trade of the district have been bred at Wetherby Grange. In the Wetherby Agricultural Society Sir Robert took a great interest, having been its President for a long period, and he lent his park for the annual show. He was largely instrumental in securing the holding of the great Yorkshire meeting at Wetherby—in his own park—in 1868; and eleven years later, when the Yorkshire Show took place in Leeds, he was president of the County Society.

Mr. George Bagnall.

We regret to record the death of Mr. George Bagnall, which occurred at his residence, Greatworth, Northamptonshire, on September 12, at the age of seventy-one years.

In the agricultural world, and amongst all his friends, he was widely known and highly respected.

Coming into the Westwell Farm after the death of his father in 1856, he farmed a large area of land with considerable success. His noted flock of Cotswold sheep was held in high reputation, both here and abroad, as well as having gained premier honours at the Royal, Bath and West of England, and all the leading shows in England, France, and America.

His services were often sought in the showyard as a judge of stock, and he was also an ardent sportsman, game preserver, and supporter of foxhunting. He was also for many years a member of the Whitney Board of Guardians and Assessment Committee.

He was one of the old type of yeomen, very firm, candid, and straightforward in all pertaining both to his private and business transactions.

Mr. Bagnall was left a widower in 1881, and leaves five sons and two daughters to mourn the loss of a kind and considerate parent. The funeral took place at Westwell, the interment being in the same grave as his wife, amid every manifestation of sorrow and respect.

The burial service was impressively read by the Rev. T. B. Rainey, of Holwell, and amongst those who attended were Thomas, William, George, Douglas, and Alex, sons of the deceased, Mr. and Mrs. Bazeley, and Miss Bagnall, son-in-law and daughters, Dr. Cheatle, Messrs. R. Jacobs, Clement Pinnell and Charles Pinnell, J. Cave, Puckering, etc.

Mr. B. Fletcher, farmer, of Carlton, near Yeadon, a well-known and successful exhibitor of dairy cattle at Otley and other agricultural shows, died early on Tuesday morning, aged sixty-two years. The deceased gentleman was a member of the Wharfedale Board of Guardians, and had sat continuously as the representative for Carlton for fully a quarter of a century.

A well-known Tyneside farmer passed away last week in the person of Mr. W. Rowell, of Staley Townfoot Farm, which was farmed by deceased's father and grandfather. The deceased, who was in his sixty-eighth year, was a familiar figure at the local auction marts, and took prizes at the Christmas fat stock shows. Though he had been in failing health for some months, he was able to transact business, and attended the lamb sales in Hexham the day before his death, so that his demise on the following day was most unexpected.

Potato Blight in the Fens.

In the course of a special article, the *Peterborough Advertiser* states that disaster has overtaken potato crops in the Great Fen district of Huntingdonshire, and that never since the memorable failure of the "Old Regents" in 1876 has such destructive blight visited the potato lands as that which has fallen upon it during the last fortnight. Hundreds of acres of potatoes of many varieties are now partially, and in isolated cases wholly, ruined by the ravages of the blight. The greatest consternation prevails amongst the farmers, who, anticipating a heavy harvest, have been suddenly overcome by this most lamentable visitation.

"Up-to-Dates" and "British Queens" are the greatest sufferers, perhaps because they are the largest crop of the Ramsey district. The greater part of the acreage under potatoes is monopolised by these soft varieties, and excepting in but a few isolated instances, all have come under the influence of the dire visitation. It is the more remarkable because in the great bulk of cases the crops have been grown from first Scottish seed, bought at advanced prices by the enterprising growers. Many of the crops are so destroyed that they will not realise sufficient to recoup the grower for the cost of his seed. Consignments to the markets have rotted in the railway trucks whilst on the journey, and many orders have been cancelled. The "Royal Kidneys," "Northern Stars," "King Edwards," "John Llewellyns" have generally escaped, but they are not grown in the same quantities as the "Up-to-Dates" and "Queens." Blight is showing in the "Evergoods," although in places they have resisted the disease. In fact, the worst fears have been realised.

In Lotting Fen very serious loss has been sustained by the small growers, amongst whom there is much alarm. Three or four weeks ago slight blight appeared in a few varieties in the Ramsey Fen, but no misgivings were entertained of the great bulk of the main crop. But the damp weather of the last fortnight, followed by periods of hot blistering sunshine, rapidly brought on the blight.

Interviewed at Peterborough Market on the 13th inst., Mr. John Rowell said that the blight was the most disastrous ever known in the Ramsey district. Many acres there will not be dug at all, as they would not pay for the labour. Royal Kidneys and certain kinds of Scottish seed have resisted the disease. Fogs heralded the first signs of the blight some time ago, the haulm becoming blackened and the heavy rains in August completed the ruin of the main crop. Large growers will sustain heavy losses, and the cottagers will similarly suffer. The crops on the light Fen land have escaped, and the fields are simply full of potatoes, and a huge crop is anticipated.

Cheesemaking in Lancashire.

A scheme is on foot for developing the cheesemaking industry of Lancashire, which is growing to large proportions. A meeting has been held at Preston with the object of founding a county dairy show at which cheese should be exhibited, as well as other dairy products. The conference was attended by representatives of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society and the Lancashire Farmers' Association, and by the committee of the Preston Cheese Fairs' Association. It is suggested that the first exhibition shall be held at Preston, the centre of the agricultural districts of Lancashire, and that subsequent exhibitions shall be held in other parts of the country.

Harvest Weather.

1, Essex Street, Strand, Monday, September 25th, 1905.

SPECIAL THREE-DAY FORECAST. GENERAL PREDICTION.

The general distribution of pressure, with a belt of high pressure to the North and over Scandinavia, continues to favour Easterly winds of moderate strength and generally fair and dry weather over the North and, at first, West. In the Centre, South, and East there will be cloudy skies and some rain until the small cyclonic system central over Dover passes into Germany. The subsequent changes are less certain, but no very sudden change may be expected for the next two or three days, and until the general distribution of pressure alters from high to low in the North and low to high in the South. The general sequence will be:—(1) North-Easterly to Northerly moderate winds; fair in the North and West; showery to fairer in the South-East. (2) Fairer more generally, with variable moderate winds. (3) Finally some showers, chiefly in the N.W. and S.W.; fair to cloudy elsewhere.

LOCAL PREDICTIONS.

No 1.—Scotland.—At first, fine or fair with moderate N.E. winds; later, E. winds, fair to cloudy; finally, E. to S.E. winds, some showers in the West. Temperature about normal.

,, 2.—England (N.E.) and part of Scotland:—Peebles, Selkirk, Durham, Lincoln, Northumberland, Roxburgh, Yorkshire, (N. & E. Ridings).—At first, fine to fair in Northern section, dull to showery in Southern; later, fairer generally; wind chiefly North-Easterly to Northerly and variable. Temperature normal to cool.

,, 3—England (East):—Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Norfolk.—At first, some drizzling rain; later, fairer; finally fair to cloudy; wind moderate, Easterly to Northerly, and variable to South-Easterly. Temperature about normal to cool.

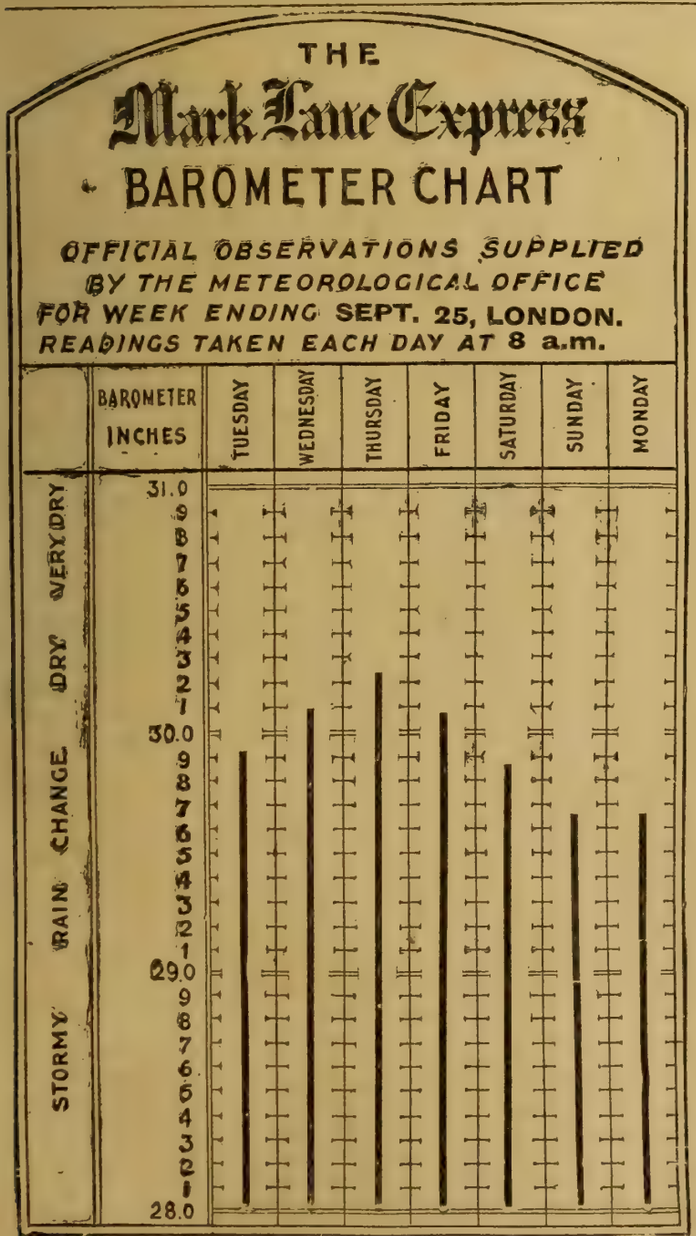
,, 4—Midland Counties:—Buckingham, Derby, Gloucester (part), Hereford, Leicester, Northampton, Nottinghamshire, Oxford, Rutland, Shropshire, Stafford, Warwick, Worcestershire, Yorkshire (West Riding).—At first, cloudy or dull with some rain in the S.E. section; later, fairer more generally; finally, fair to cloudy, and some showers in the S.W. section; wind North-Easterly to Northerly and variable to South-Easterly. Temperature about normal.

,, 5.—England (South):—Middlesex, Berkshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Wiltshire, Channel Islands, Hampshire.—At first, some drizzling rain, and moderate North-Easterly winds. Later, fair to fine, with Northerly to North-Westerly winds. Finally, Easterly to South-Easterly winds, fair to cloudy, and some showers. Temperature about normal on the whole.

No. 6.—Ireland.—At first fine, with North-Easterly to Northerly winds. Later, Easterly to South-Easterly winds, fair to cloudy, and some showers in the S.W. Finally, South-Easterly to North-Easterly winds, fair in the North and East, some rain in the West and South, to fairer. Temperature about normal.

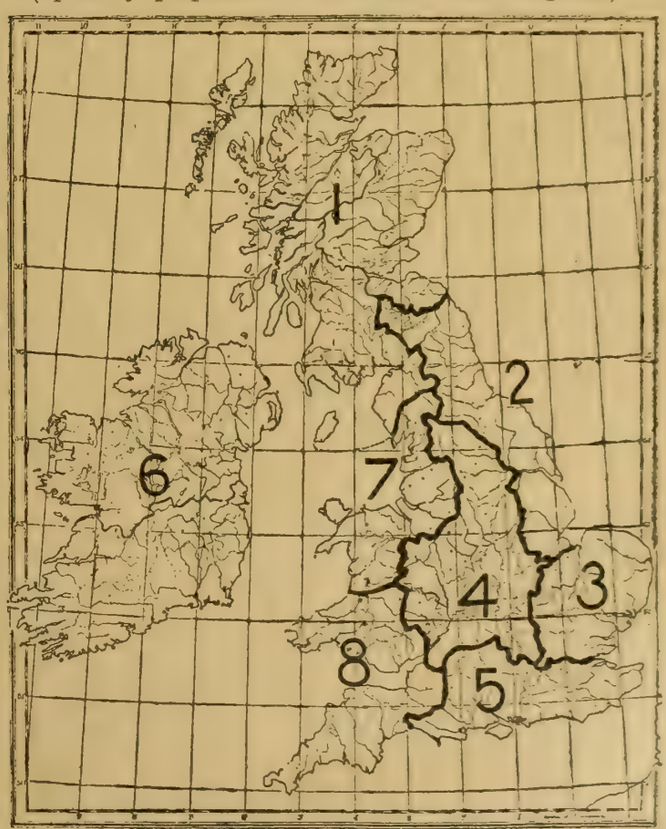
,, 7.—England (North-West) and North Wales:—Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmorland, Anglesey, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Montgomery.—Continuing at first and later mostly fair, with North-Easterly to Northerly moderate winds. Finally, South-Easterly to Easterly winds, fair to cloudy, and some showers.

,, 8.—England (South-West) and South Wales:—Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Glamorgan, Pembroke, Radnor, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucester (part), Monmouth, Somerset.—At first, fine to fair, with North-Easterly winds. Later, fair to cloudy, with Easterly winds. Finally, South-Easterly winds, some rain. Temperature normal to cool.



Map of the British Isles showing groups of Counties representing the above Meteorological Districts.

(Specially prepared for the *Mark Lane Express.*)



Height of Barometer.

Tuesday (Sept. 19)	...	29.93
Wednesday (,, 20)	...	30.10
Thursday (,, 21)	...	30.23
Friday (,, 22)	...	30.07
Saturday (,, 23)	...	29.86
Sunday (,, 24)	...	29.66
Monday (,, 25)	...	29.66

THE SUN AND MOON.

Sun Rises	...	5.51 a.m.
,, Sets	...	5.55 p.m.
Moon Rises	...	1.7 a.m.
,, Sets	...	4.18 p.m.

Age of Moon—Twenty-seven days.

One-Day Forecast prepared by the Meteorological Office at 11 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 25th.

GENERAL INFERENCE.—The depression over our south-eastern counties and the adjacent portion of the Continent appears to be moving towards Germany, and decreasing somewhat in depth.

SCOTLAND, N.; SCOTLAND, E.—North-Easterly and Easterly winds, light or moderate; fair; cold.

ENGLAND, N.E.—North-Easterly to Northerly winds, moderate or fresh; fair generally, but some showers; very cool.

ENGLAND, E.—Same as England, S.

MIDLAND COUNTIES.—Northerly winds, light or moderate; fair as a whole; very cool.

ENGLAND, S. (London and Channel).—Northerly or North-Westerly winds, moderate or light; dull, with some rain, then improving gradually; temperature continuing low.

SCOTLAND, W.—Same as Scotland, N. and E.

ENGLAND, N.W. (and N. Wales).; ENGLAND, S.W. (and S. Wales).—Same as Midland Counties.

IRELAND, N. & S.—Moderate winds, mainly Northerly; fair; cool.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—There was a very poor attendance, and the general tone of the market was quiet at nominally unchanged prices. English wheats were sparingly offered at 29s to 31s for white and 28s to 30s 6d for red. Foreign grades quiet and tending easier; choice white Karachi quoted at 32s, La Plata at 31s to 33s, No. 2 Northern Manitoba at 35s, and No. 3 at 33s 6d. Maize steady; mixed American ex quay offered at 24s 6d, ex ship at 23s 9d, and La Plata landed at 23s 9d to 24s. Flour quiet at 21s for Iron Duke and 30s to 30s 6d for Hungarian. Barley dull; Odessa-Nicolaieff is obtainable at 19s to 19s 3d and Persian at 18s 3d. Oats firm but slow; 39lb Russian held for 15s to 15s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Nothing was particularly altered at the London Corn Exchange, the general tone remaining distinctly in holders' favour, business being kept within narrow limits, and the attendance of an average character. English wheat gradually comes up in better supply, but meets with a good reception, both in London and the country, and anything fit for milling use sells wihout difficulty. American flour unaltered. Patents continue in small supply, but the deficiency is not felt, while operators await the new spring wheat result in prospective. Grinding barley dull, and about unchanged. Maize maintained. Mixed American scarce, at 23s 3d, ex ship; 24s ex quay.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Market quiet. Trade for wheat at late rates, 27s to 30s. English oats dearer, 16s to 20s. Foreign barley easier, at 21s to 22s. Good number of samples of English malting barley offered, but condition not very satisfactory, most being discoloured, and prices offered ranged from 26s to 30s; more would be paid if samples met maltsters' requirements. New Mazagan beans 28s to 29s; new ticks, 31s to 33s per quarter. Tares, 6s to 6s 6d per bushel.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 30s to 31s; ditto (old), 32s to 33s; oats, 17s to 20s; peas 27s to 30s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance, with large supplies of barley. Fine quality maintained last week's prices, medium and lower sorts unchanged. New oats shown. Barley, 23s to 29s; oats, 18s 6d to 21s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a good attendance at the market, and the trade had a firmer tone about it, prices generally having a stronger tendency. Foreign wheats met with a fair inquiry, and were 6d per quarter dearer on the week. English wheats maintained late rates. Grinding barley was 3d dearer at 19s per quarter (400lb) at Sharpness. Both Plate and flat maize were unchanged. English oats were 6d dearer at 18s per quarter (312lb), and beans made 3d per bag more money.

Brighton, Thursday.—Small attendance and quiet trade. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 29s to 30s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; oats, English, 15s 6d to 18s 6d; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 30s to 31s. Oats 9d dearer; barley firm.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was an average attendance on market to-day; fair trade doing. English wheat in moderate supply at fully last week's prices. Foreign very firm. Maize 3d dearer. Barley unchanged. Oats 3d dearer. Flour in better demand at late rates.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—Wheat in rather moderate supply, but no improvement in the trade. Reds, 27s 6d to 28s; whites, 27s 6d to 28s 6d per quarter. Barley in average supply; ordinary to medium samples were firm on the week at the turn more money. 26s to 31s per quarter. The demand was chiefly for the finer malting descriptions, which sold readily at 32s to 36s per quarter. New oats and beans very firm. Other feeding corns firm, with round maize 3d. dearer, at 25s, and flat steady at 26s per quarter.

Cambridge, Saturday.—We have had another week of fine weather, favourable for threshing, and supplies have, consequently, been rather more abundant. At this market on Saturday, a moderate supply of wheat sold readily, at last week's full prices. Beans and oats were 6d dearer. Barley in fair supply, and met a better demand, at last Saturday's rates. Wheat, red, 27s to 29s, and white up to 30s per 504lbs.

Canterbury Saturday.—Rather firmer trade in wheat, with best samples for seed making 32s per 65lb.; milling up to 31s. Malting barley 26s to 30s, and occasionally 32s for very choice. Oats rather dearer, ranging up to 18s for spring corn, and to 20s 6d for black winters scaling 45lb.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Fair supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at last week's prices. New, 18s to 18s 6d per 336lb.; old, 22s 9d to 23s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain offering a little more freely, and prices were maintained. Mixed corn same as last week, but some improvement in the demand for feeding stuffs generally. Quotations: Wheat, white, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; red, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 20lb.; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; ditto, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indiancorn, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A fair attendance, but small quantities on offer and not much trade. New white wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; new red ditto, 28s 6d to 29s 6d, barley, 26s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s 6d to 26s; oats, English, 16s to 24s; rye, 21s to 23s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 31s to 33s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 23s to 25s; flour, 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—With a moderate supply the market for wheat was very steady and late rates firmly maintained. For the better class of barley the demand was good, and 1s per quarter advance was established. Beans and oats 6d per quarter dearer.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A moderate attendance. Not a large supply of wheat. Barley in fair demand, and but few samples of oats and beans showing. Prices ruled: Wheat, old, 11s 6d to 12s per 496lb.; new, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 496lb.; barley, 29s to 32s per 448lb.; oats, old, 23s to 25s per 312lb.; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 312lb.; beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 496lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 496lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat firm but quiet at last week's rates. Spring corn unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 2s 8d to 2s 9d; red, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; malting barley, 24s to 26s; beans, old, 24s to 24s; new, 20s to 21s; old, 23s to 24s; new 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a larger quantity of corn on the market to-day, and the prices show no alteration in value. The following were the quotations:—Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s to 14s; new wheat, 14s 6d to 15s 6d, best barley, 26s to 32s, secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 20s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a moderate supply of English wheat, and about an average attendance. Prices firm, at 10s to 11s per load. Strong demand for foreign wheat, at an advance of 6d per qr. Maize was a shade cheaper. Beans very firm. A fair supply of oats, but trade only moderate. Barley at late rates.

Dorchester, Saturday. — Not quite so much wheat offering as of late, farmers evidently being alive to the fact that in the present state of the trade it is unwise to force their stocks unnecessarily on the market, and thus assist in keeping prices at the present low level. Business was consequently firmer to-day, but at unaltered rates for home grown; foreign, on the other hand, being held for advanced rates. In malting barley holders showed great firmness, and no distinct rise can be quoted. Grinding, however, is 3d dearer. Feeding stuffs firm, but there is a total absence of any great demand.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s to 17s d; malting barley, 15s to 15s 6d; grinding ditto, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 9s to 11s; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade rather dull. English wheat firm, and occasionally made rather more money. English barley unchanged. Grinding barley and maize 3d dearer. Oats firm; some sorts rather dearer. Flour firm. English wheat 3s 6d to 3s 7d; English barley, 3s 3d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 27s 6d; fines 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour—Quiet trade passing at unchanged prices. Maize a shade easier and in buyers' favour. Beans firmer, but a quiet trade. Foreign barley and oats 3d to 6d per boll dearer on the week, but Scotch oats a little easier. Peas unchanged. Oatmeal 6d to 1s. per sack cheaper since last Wednesday's market.—GIBSON AND CLYRK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market firm for wheat, sellers asking 1½d to 3d advance for springs in forward positions, but buyers show no anxiety; hard winters equally firm. Flour slow and the turn against buyers. Mixed American and round maize unchanged. Foreign barley, foreign oats, and grinding beans maintain late full prices. Bran quiet at 82s 6d per ton for medium. Other articles unaltered.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply, and values are unchanged on the week. Reds making 3s 6d to 3s 7d per bushel. There is a better tone all round in the foreign trade, wheat meeting with more demand at 3d to 6d advance. Feeders strong, with oats and barley 6d and maize 3d dearer.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—A fair supply of wheat, the best quality of which made an advance of 6d per qr., the quotations being 28s to 29s per qr. Samples of wheat out of condition met a dragging trade, and realised 26s to 27s per qr. An average supply of barley, the best qualities making up to 32s, and common sorts 24s to 28s per qr. Trade in beans was quiet at 30s to 32s per qr.; blue peas, 40s to 45s; oats, 6d per qr. dearer on the week, and sold at 16s to 19s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A smaller attendance. English wheats very slow at last week's figures. Nothing doing in barleys. Oats dull. Beans very firm. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 62lb; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per 56lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb; new oats, 2s to 2s 6d; old beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½ lb; new beans, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½ lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in no great supply, but millers are now rather full of stock, and the trade therefore shows no improvement, at 28s to 29s 6d per qr., delivered at Ipswich. Barley: A fair supply, mostly of only medium quality. There was a better inquiry for these than last week's, and rather higher prices were realised, at 26s to 31s per qr. A rather limited supply of better-class samples met with a brisk demand from several quarters, and a healthy business was done, at 32s to 35s and in one or two cases up to 38s per qr. Oats were in small supply, and fully as dear on the week, at 16s 6d to 18s per qr.; foreign scarce and firm. Beans: New, firm, at 29s per 35 stones. Maize: Round 3d dearer, at 24s; flat steady and unchanged, at 25s per qr. Other feeding corns, including Indian lentils, etc., all firm on the week.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade is slowly but surely gathering strength. The heavy Black Sea shipments, chiefly for the Continent, are offset by the small exports from other countries. There is no pressure to sell American wheats, and Indians will soon be a scarce article; prices rule rather higher on the week. Maltsters still buy sparingly, and prices are irregular. Fine foreign barley scarce and dear. Feeding stuffs unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat firmly held at Tuesday's full prices, and all kinds of foreign were 3d dearer, choice lots reaching 35s. English and foreign malting barley was without change, feeding barley being a shade lower. There was no change in beans, peas, oats, maize, and flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with larger supplies of home-grown wheats. Wheat 29s to 31s per 35 stones. Barley was in rather Trade steady at firm rates. Red wheats 28s to 30s; white faulty condition, and trade slow at 25s to 30s per 32 stones. New oats, in very irregular condition, made 18s to 20s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show of English wheat, which readily at the full prices of last week, viz., 28s 6d per qr. delievered, 1s less on rail. Moderate show of barley, and quiet trade at irregular prices. Small supply of oats, and prices 6d per qr. higher. Beans also a small show and unchanged.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: The market has a fair attendance, and wheat is firmly held for ½d to 1d advance, with a fair trade passing in Russian and Manitobas. Graded wheat, owing to the sharp advance in futures, is practically withdrawn from the market, and nominally 5d to 6d higher than last Tuesday. Flour: A rather better inquiry for foreign at late rates. English a quiet trade, without actual change in prices. Maize: Mixed is quiet, but steady at unchanged prices. Plate steady, but quiet at former quotations. European sorts are quiet, unchanged. Barley: Malting is steady, unchanged. Feeding the turn in sellers' favour. Beans firm at full prices. Peas steady, unchanged for white sorts, but green Indian quiet, and generally easier. Oats in rather better demand for both British and American qualities; late rates are maintained. Oatmeal, though inactive, is firmly held at fully late prices, with small offerings. Oilcake in better demand for both American and English cakes. No change is made in values. SEGAR AND TRANSFLEET.

Maidstone, Thursday.—A moderate attendance, and fair show of wheat, which moved off at no change in the cost from last week. Barley also was unaltered in value or demand. Oats are slightly firmer, as no foreign black except American. Other grain as heretofore.

Manchester, Thursday.—Rather a small attendance compared with last week. English wheat firm, and in moderate demand at about last week's prices. In foreign, Plate is 1d to 1½d per cental higher; other qualities firm at last week's prices. Flour unchanged, but exceedingly steady. Spot stocks of Indian corn are rather small, but to arrive mixed American 5s 1½d; Plate on the spot 5s. English oats very scarce at late rates, and occasionally ½d per bushel dearer; little offering in offering in foreign. Foreign barley about ½d dearer Peas and beans unchanged but firm. Bran, thirds, and other feeding stuffs have an upward tendency, but not quotably dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat in fair supply, which repeated last week's prices. Barley rather more showing, values still rather irregular. Oats and beans unchanged in value. Wheat, 26s to 28s per quarter; barley, 23s to 28s per quarter; oats, 15s to 18s per quarter; beans, 29s to 33s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A steady demand for foreign wheats, at an advance of 3d per 504lb. English changed hands at last week's prices. Maize steady at last week's prices. Old oats of sweet quality was firmly held at an advance of 3d per quarter; unsweet quality difficult to dispose of, and lower prices had to be taken to make sales. Beans firm and dearer. Pease unchanged. Local barleys were steadily held, and last week's prices were made, prices varying from 22s to 27s, according to quality.

Northampton, Saturday. — Good show of wheat, which sold readily at prices practically unchanged. More demand for barley. Quotations:—New wheat, 27s to 28s. Malting barley, 26s to 32s; barley, 26s to 30s. New white oats, 17s to 18s; new black oats, 16s to 18s. New beans, 28s to 30s. Peas, 27s. Flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no alteration in the wheat trade since last Saturday, prices being about the same. Fair supply of barley on offer, which met a slow trade. Fine but cold weather has prevailed during the past week, with N.E. winds. Wheat, red, 28s to 29s per quarter, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending September 18, 1905:—Wheat, 2,499—27s. Barley, 3,680—22s 8d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Less wheat offering, and values well supported. Barley small supply, prices still irregular. Maltsters in no hurry to buy. Oats and beans both a limited show, and values well maintained.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a fair attenrance at the market, and trade showed some improvement at steady rates. Wheat was firmly held, and barley was rather dearer.

Peterborough, Saturday. — A fair supply of wheat, which met a steady demand at last week's rates. More barley offering. Good samples sold readily at full prices. Ordinary terms rather slow. Oats firm and in sellers' favour.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a good attendance on our market to-day. Wheat firmer. Barley, maize, and oats 3d to 6d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—During the week the market for wheat, especially white, has been strong. Beans, peas, and barley all firm. There was not much business at to-day's market, and the attendance was meagre, with values unchanged in all articles. Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 6d to 13s; ditto red, 12s to 12s 6d; oats, old, 3s to 3s 2d per bushel; ditto new white, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; ditto yellow, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; beans, per windle of 220lb., 16s 6d to 17s.

Reading, Saturday.—Fair attendance, but not much trade. Wheat sold at 30s to 32s. Good barley, 28s to 34s; second-rate went cheaply at 22s. Oats made from 16s to 21s. Old beans were very dear, and fetched as much as 39s, and bran showed a rise of 5s per ton for the week. Flour sold from 21s 6d to 26s, and good quality hay made 65s to 80s per ton, and straw 30s to 38s. Mangels were quoted at 18s per ton free delivery.

Retford, Saturday. — Practically no change in the value of grain. Wheat was a dull trade at 27s to 28s 6d per qr.; one or two choice lots for seed were offered at 29s to 29s 6d; but the season for these is yet early. There was no malting barley worth more than 29s, the general run being 25s to 28s, and grinding 23s to 24s per qr.; maize, 26s; black oats, 16s to 17s; white ditto, 17s to 18s; and English beans, 30s per qr.

Ripon Thursday.—A good supply of samples of new wheat, which have a firm tone, and a fair trade is being done. A good attendance. Prices:—New wheat, 27s to 29s; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; new oats, 17s to 17s 6d; round maize, 25s to 26s; flat maize, 25s to 26s 6d; bran, £4 15s to £5 10s per ton.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 14s to 14s 6d per 225lb; new wheat, 12s to 12s 9d; old white oats, 16s to 17s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Much larger attendance, holders reluctantly accepting a substantial reduction in many branches. Wheats were quite 6d to 1s lower on the week, the ruling quotations being 26s to 26s 6d, and 27s in the most exceptional cases; new oats, 17s to 17s 6d and 18s 28s; beans, old, 33s to 34s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 23s to 29s per qr.; beans, 30s to 32s, and 32s to 34s for old samples.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Rather more grain offering. Wheat steady at late rates. Spring corn unchanged in value. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 956 quarters; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very little quantity of wheat on offer; what there is makes slightly reduced prices compared with last week's. Small supply of barley; fairly good quality. Feeding stuffs about the same.

Winchester, Saturday. English wheat a better inquiry and a shade dearer. Foreign firm, unchanged. Barley, 3d to 6d advance. Maize and oats unaltered. Flour, a good steady trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday. Less grain offering. Wheat in demand at 28s. to 28s 6d. Oats firm, 16s 6d to 18s. Barley, 24s to 27s. JAMES FLETCHER.

Yeovil, Friday.—Free offer of new season's grain, and in some instances wheat made from 3d to 6d more money. Barley and oats firmly held, without quotable change. Best quality English wheat sold at from 30s 6d to 32s per quarter; secondary, 28s to 29s; foreign wheat, 32s 3d to 35s 3d; malting barley, 30s to 34s; feeding barley, 20s 6d to 23s 6d; fine ditto, 19s to 19s 9d; beans, 33s 6d to 37s 6d; oats, white, 15s to 19s 9d; ditto black, 18s to 19s 6d; Irish black, 16s 3d to 17s 3d; maize, 23s to 25s; rye, 20s 6d to 23s 9d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour the turn dearer; business passing on the

basis of 24s 6d to 26s for fines. Milling offals selling well at firm rates.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—There was only a poor attendance, and the business passing was of a quiet character. Quotations::—White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; 216lb; flat corn, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per 480lb; English beans, 12s 9d to 18s per 196lb; oats, new, 9s 6d to 11s per 196lb; old, 14s to 15s per 196lb.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but not a large show of grain. Wheat was a very small show, and sold at last week's full prices. As the malting season is not yet in full swing the demand for barley was not great. Prices:—White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red ditto, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 27s to 30s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; black ditto, 15s. to 16s 6d; maize, 26s to 28s per quarter; fine sharps, £6 to £6 10s; barley meal, £6 to £6 10s; bran, £4 10s to £5 10s per ton.

York. Saturday.—The attendance was good, but wheat varied a great deal in condition, fine,dry samples being in demand. Fine white made up to 28s 6d and 29s 6d, whilst red and mixed were sold at 27s to 28s 6d per qr. of 36 stones. Malting barley wasin more general demand, fine making 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; and ordinary sorts, 23s to 25s per qr. of 32 stones. Oats were very firm, but scarce, white Tartary selling at 16s to 17s; black, 17s to 18s; and white Garton 18s to 19s per qr of 24 stone. Rye fetched from 20s to21s per qr. of 36 stone; beans, 10d to 11d per stone.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Weather dry and cool. We have a firm market for all articles, with a brisk trade doing in feeding barley, maize, and oats. The latter turned out a bad crop in Germany, owing to which considerable quantities are being imported from Russia and America. Fine dry red Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is selling at 30s 3d to 31s per 504lb. f.o.b. Prices in the Midland districts are too high and quality too poor for exportation. 80-81 Ko River Plate is offering at 29s 9d to 30s 6d; American hard winter No. 2 at 30s 9d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a better demand for rye, 25s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. is asked for 9 15-20 South Russian afloat. New Holstein and Mecklenburg barley is selling at 24s 6d to 28s 6d; Prussian at 28s 9d to 32s; Bohemian and Slovakian at 34s to 39s 6d; Danish at 28s to 30s 6d per 448lb. f.o.b. Considerable quantities of the latter are imported. Fine Bohemian and Slovakian is readily taken by German brewers, and prices are looking up. South Russian feeding barley in brisk demand, and 60-61 Ko spot parcels sold at 17s 6d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Our market closes quieter, but as direct offers are wanting, holders remain firm. Maize continues in demand; mixed American afloat is selling at 24s to 24s 3d, January shipment 21s 3d, River Plate September-October 22s 9d to 23s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris. Wednesday.—Offers of good wheat are still becoming rarer in the provincial markets, although there is plenty of inferior wheat about; in view of this, prices are very firm, and have again advanced 25c. Business is very difficult, due to the unequal quality of the parcels available. At the Bourse de Commerce firmness is the predominating note, but as offers are keeping pace with inquiries, prices remain unchanged, and as regards wheat, are rather in favour of buyers. Business opened fairly regular, but was quieter at the close, in spite of the firm tone which prevailed in the spot market. Rye.—Nothing doing and prices nominal. Oats in fair demand, with a rise in price of from 10c. to 15c. At the weekly spot market a very firm tone has prevailed in home-grown wheat. Millers have raised the price of their superior marks 1f. per quintal, and in the centres of production farmers are making steadily decreasing offers of good wheat. Business in consumption marks of flour continues difficult, and millers are keeping up their prices. Offers of rye, though not large, are still sufficient to meet all requirements. Oats continued to advance in price during the past eight days, as offers are becoming less frequent, though demands are still large.—DORNBUSCH.

THE BALTIC.

The cargo exchange seldom troubles itself with flour, but is just now interested in offers to ship new American flour in October at 25s. 6d. c.f.i. for patent North-Western, and at 23s. 6d. for patent winter from Kansas and other Central States. Another branch of business which is now active is in American oats, cargoes of which are offered for prompt shipment at prices according to sample, 15s. to 15s. 6d. per 320 lb., as a rule. Buyers are fairly numerous.

Wheat cargo sales of the week have not been very important, and prices remain very much as they were. Recorded transactions include 33s. per 480 lb. for fine Australian arrived, 29s. per 480 lb. for October shipment from Buenos Ayres, 30s. 9d. per 504 lb. for fine Danubian prompt shipment, and 31s. for Walla Walla per 500 lb. November shipment.

Maize has realised 23s. per 480 lb. for three cargoes of Argentine to hand, and 23s. 3d. is asked for November shipment by fast steamer. American for February shipment is as low as 20s. per 480 lb., so that the time of holders' profits is limited.

Barley has made 20s. per 416 lb. for October shipment of Roumanian, and 25s. per 448 lb. for November shipment of Californian. A couple of cargoes of ricemeal for November shipment from Rangoon have been placed at 95s. per ton.

A brief comparison of prices for cargoes on passage now and a year ago shows that values, if low for some sorts of wheat, are not so for all. Moreover, spring corn is firmer for cargoes generally than it was a year back.

	Prices Now.			A Year Ago.	
American Red Winter wheat	32s.	0d.	....	none	
Fine Manitoba wheat	32s.	6d.	....	none	
No. 3 Manitoba wheat	29s.	9d.	....	none	
White Calcutta wheat	31s.	3d.	....	31s.	6d.
Odessa Ghirka wheat	31s.	6d.	....	32s.	6d.
Australian wheat	32s.	9d.	....	33s.	6d.
American maize	23s.	0d.	....	22s.	0d.
Argentine maize	22s.	6d.	....	20s.	6d.
Russian barley	18s.	6d.	....	16s.	0d.

CORN STATISTICS.

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 10
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	26 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1890 ...	31 9 per qr.	... 28 8 per qr.	... 18 7 per qr.
1891 ...	37 1 ,,	... 28 2 ,,	... 20 0 ,,
1892 ...	30 4 ,,	... 26 2 ,,	... 19 11 ,,
1893 ...	26 4 ,,	... 25 6 ,,	... 18 9 ,,
1894 ...	22 10 ,,	... 24 6 ,,	... 17 1 ,,
1895 ...	23 1 ,,	... 21 11 ,,	... 14 6 ,,
1896 ...	26 2 ,,	... 22 11 ,,	... 14 9 ,,
1897 ...	30 2 ,,	... 23 6 ,,	... 16 11 ,,
1898 ...	34 0 ,,	... 27 2 ,,	... 18 5 ,,
1899 ...	25 8 ,,	... 25 7 ,,	... 17 0 ,,
1900 ...	26 11 ,,	... 25 9 ,,	... 17 9 ,,
1901 ...	26 9 ,,	... 25 3 ,,	... 18 5 ,,
1902 ...	28 0 ,,	... 25 8 ,,	... 20 2 ,,
1903 ...	26 9 ,,	... 22 11 ,,	... 17 2 ,,
1904 ...	28 4 ,,	... 22 4 ,,	... 16 4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,605,000
Barley	,, ...	427,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,, ...	531,000	568,000	385,000
Maize	,, ...	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks ...	770,000	883,000	450,000

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to September 23, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT.			BARLEY.			OATS.		
	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.	Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	72,604 ...	28	9	68,844½ ...	26	1	25,620½ ...	17	0
1901	80,488 ...	25	10	109,783½ ...	25	10	22,567½ ...	17	2
1902	54,972½ ...	26	6	18,894½ ...	26	4	26,126½ ...	18	0
1903	51,368½ ...	27	0	15,566½ ...	24	0	21,299½ ...	16	2
1904	53 304 ...	29	10	89,597½ ...	25	10	42,524½ ...	15	9

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

	s.	d.
September 1 ..... (per sack)	31	0
,, 11 ..... ,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites.			Town Households.		
	s.	d.		s.	d.
September 1 ..... (per sack)	30	0	..... (per sack)	27	0
,, 13 ..... ,,	29	0	..... ,,	26	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Sept. 24	53,304	29	10	89,597⅜	25	10	42,524⅜	15	9
Oct. 1	56,534½	29	10	119,553½	25	5	44,796½	15	8
,, 8	54,607½	30	2	153,280⅜	25	6	43,675½	15	9
,, 15	45,462½	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,509½	15	8
,, 22	45,960½	30	4	213,190½	25	5	31,445⅜	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,014⅜	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅜	25	0	35,145½	16	0
,, 12	43,740⅜	30	3	204,446⅜	24	6	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅜	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,630½	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997⅜	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106⅜	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662½	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486⅜	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080½	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	61,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	33,115⅜	30	9	23,448⅜	25	2	24,396½	16	10
,, 18	31,769	30	10	18,442⅜	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,423½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,236⅜	25	1	17,702½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	24,984½	30	8	2,876½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,571½	18	0
,, 13	53,446⅜	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,370⅜	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,912⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,59?⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,571⅜	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579½	31	4	289⅜	23	2	3,48?½	19	7
,, 8	7,884½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,532⅜	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅜	32	3	34½	23	10	1,962½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	52⅜	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691½	32	3	24½	19	9	3,065⅞	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	371⅜	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	548½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,768½	23	4	13,656½	16	4
,, 26	88,626⅜	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090½	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888⅜	23	4	20,622⅜	15	11
,, 16	83,185½	26	11	36 986⅜	22	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475½	23	10	30,715½	15	11

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended September 23, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	95,743 qrs.	26s. 8d.
Barley	70,475½ qrs.	23s. 10d.
Oats	30,715½ qrs.	15s. 11d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 19, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure.	Total Amount.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure.
	Quarters. Bus.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	... 4,787 5	... 6,703 7 11	... 1 8 0
Barley	... 3,888 2	... 4,858 6 9	... 1 5 0
Oats	... 4,842 3	... 4,110 12 8	... 0 17 0

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

September 13 to 20, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat ..... qrs.	4,092	31,321	35,413
Barley	1,291	14,423	15,715
Malt	17,647	500	18,147
Oats	4,024	91,611	95,635
Maize	...	88,902	88,902
Beans	740	32	772
Peas	519	125	644
Tares	61	...	61
Rye	200	...	200
Linseed	...	9,000	9,000
Cottonseed	...	3,849	3,849
Buckwheat	100	2,533	2,633
Haricots	...	592	592
Flour ..... sacks	28,478	21,927	50,405
Bran	130	...	130
Oatmeal	...	3,922	3,922

MANURES.

Liverpool. Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firm, and the spot price of 95 per cent. is £10 5s, whilst refined commands more money. For kainit and basic slag there are inquiries for autumn deliveries at prices which are subscribed. Feeding stuffs are a steady market, and there is more inquiry from consumers. Fattening cake, Liverpool make, in bags, £6 10s; feeding or dairy cake, Liverpool make, in bags, £6 2s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 5s to £10 7s 6d; East Indian bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 12s 6d; ditto English, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), in bags, £13 10s to £14 10s; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good to prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 3s 9d; ditto English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s; ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £5 17s 6d; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £5 18s 9d to £6 2s 6d—per ton. Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 6s to £2 7s 6d per quarter (416lb); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 4½d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36s sol., in bags—nominal. Basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s 6d to £1 13s 6d; ditto, prime quality,guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2 0s 6d; finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., inbags, £2 2s to £2 3s—per ton, at depots inland.

WOOL.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Staplers are buying freely at 12½d the fleece, and 8d for lamb wool, and it is reported that 13d has been made.

Halifax. Saturday. — The London sales, except to stiffen holders in maintaining quotations, have had little effect on wool sales here, the improvement having been discounted. Home-grown wools exhibit little change on the week. Shropshire hoggs are, exceptionally, advanced a little, but the extreme quotation is not conceded. Pick Irish wools are also somewhat improved in value. Spinners appear to be generally better employed, at slightly improving prices.

London. Tuesday.—There was a large attendance of both home and foreign buyers and spirited competition. The catalogues consisted chiefly of cross-breds, which met with a strong demand at an average advance of 5 per cent.—barely as much for the finer qualities, but fully 5 per cent. for coarse wools. Of merino sorts there was but a very small selection, which scarcely afforded a criterion; but, so far as could be judged, prices ruled par to 5 per cent. above July. Cape wools were unchanged but firm, especially for greasy parcels. — HELMUTH SCHWARTZE AND CO.

London. Saturday.—English—per pkge. of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £14; half-bred wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13s 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto; £12 10s to £13 10s. Colonial — per pound — Victoria: Fleece super. 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; New South Wales, second average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9½d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s; South Australia, greasy average, 9d to 9½d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; fleece average, 9½d to 10d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; crossbreds—grs.—Victoria good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; coarse, 10½d to 11½d.

HOPS.

Canterbury. Saturday. — A good inquiry for sound hops, and those of exceptional colour and quality have fetched 70s per cwt. The bulk of the trade is in Faggles, at from 40s to 50s, and extra choice up to 60s per cwt. Yearlings are in steady request, and some Mid-Kents have changed hands at 70s.

Worcester. Saturday.—Owing to the proximity of the fair, there were not many growers at market to-day. Business was not brisk, but many lots changed hands, especially bright, fine-coloured samples, which are scarce, and made good prices. Other parcels sold at about last week's rates. 4,021 pockets have passed the public scales this week, this is in addition to the large numbers which are now weighed over by the hop merchants.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Farmers continue to deliver more new wheat than is quite expedient, but there is, on the whole, more moderation in this respect as compared with the rush at the beginning of the month. There is also more firmness in holding, and factors have no longer instructions to effect a certain proportion of sales at no matter what sacrifice. Importers of wheat, so far from undermining the market, are helping to sustain it, and thus far into the new cereal year purchases for autumn shipment have been by no means large.

Since threshings began to add their story to that of the actual ingathering of wheat, it has become clear that certain regions have been much more fortunate than others. Kent, Surrey, and Sussex threshings are up to August expectations, while, in the S.W. of England, Cornwall, Devonshire, Dorset, Wiltshire, and Somerset have one of the best wheat yields for many years. On the other hand, the southern Midlands appear to have been a little deceived by the fine August aspect of the crops, threshings in Middlesex, Berkshire, Bedford, and Hertford proving a little below expectation pretty generally. The West has very fair crops, but nothing extraordinary. Northern England has been favoured; Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Durham especially so. Scotland has decidedly over an average wheat yield in Berwick, Haddington, Forfar, Fife, Aberdeen, and Perth, and a little wheat was grown, and grown profitably, even in the Highlands.

Barley threshings are a great deal less advanced than those of wheat, but enough is known to enable us to say that the best yields are in S.E. Scotland, North Norfolk, the counties of Suffolk and Cambridge, and in parts of Lincolnshire. In the second class, that which has attained a good average may probably be placed Essex, Kent, Sussex, and, in the South-west, Cornwall. Between Sussex and Cornwall, the seaboard counties of Hampshire, Dorset, and Devon speak none too well of their barley threshings. Late August rains were exceptionally heavy in this part of England. Some splendid crops of barley are reported from isolated parishes of the Fens. The only regions where barley seems to be really a poor crop are parts of Buckingham, of Surrey, of the Wye Valley, and of Wales.

Oats, it must be admitted, are deficient over large areas. The great district of York and Durham has a most disappointing yield, and very poor results are reported from Hampshire, from Derbyshire, from the Upper Thames Valley, and from the western Midlands, including Warwick and Stafford. On the other hand, parts of Cambridgeshire and the Fens have grand oat crops, Norfolk and Suffolk are by no means wholly grumbling, and Scotland—to which country oats are, comparatively speaking, more important than to England, has a yield probably 5 per cent. superior to that of South Britain.

The sales of English produce at the statute markets since September 1 have been:—

	Qrs. — This Season.	Last Season.
Wheat	255,000	131,000
Barley	70,000	81,000
Oats	69,000	101,000

It is wheat that is being rushed so unduly on offer. Other cereals are being postponed in market delivery to make way for wheat. But the price averaged is a significant warning of what results from over-supply.

	Prices — This Season. Per Qr.	Last Season. Per Qr.
Wheat	27s. 0d.	29s. 11d.
Barley	25s. 6d.	24s. 11d.
Oats	16s. 11d.	16s. 1d.

The prices making for new rye are very low, but a good quotation is current for new tares or vetches.

The country markets in England are now lowest in the Eastern Midlands, 28s. 2d. being accepted at Peterborough and 29s. 4d. at Lincoln. In East Anglia proper value is rather less depressed, Norwich quoting 30s. 2d. per qr. In the North 30s. 8d. is averaged at Doncaster, and in the South-West 30s. 3d. is the price at Salisbury.

Barley averages range from 22s. 6d. at Peterborough to 25s. 5d. at Salisbury, but are disappointing generally. Norwich quotes 25s. only, and Lincoln 22s. 11d. per qr. Better prices should become current as soon as the supply of malting quality becomes at all dominant.

Oats are very cheap, and, indeed, depressed in East Anglia, and the Norwich average of 15s. 7d. can only be described as a miserable one. Averages are rather better in the North.

The mean price of wheat in France is now 39s. 5d. per qr., being 1s. 5d. fall on the month. This may be taken as evidence of the new crop being more or less of a good one, for when we deduct 12s. 3d., the duty, from 39s. 5d. the decidedly low average of 27s. 2d. is disclosed as the native price. Paris, which is usually rather dearer than the country markets, is at present quoting a 41s. average, or 1s. 7d. above the average of the country.

In Germany prices are not so high as in France, and it must be remembered that the duty is less. Berlin quotes an average of 38s. 2d. for wheat, and Breslau, on passage, 35s. 3d. The latter is the great agricultural centre for East Prussia, Posen, Silesia, etc. It is usually 2s. to 3s. cheaper than Berlin.

The American visible supply of wheat is very small indeed for the season. The new wheat crop has been in stack for a month, even in the N.W.; and in the earlier States, for two months. Yet the total which has been sold to merchants and is in theor depots is only 300,000 qr. more than at this period last year. The visible supply of wheat in America for the past ten years on September 23 (or nearest Saturday thereto) has been as follows:

	Qrs.
1905	3,150,000
1904	2,850,000
1903	3,175,000
1902	4,525,000
1901	5,530,000
1900	9,400,000
1899	6,500,000
1898	2,000,000
1897	3,300,000
1896	7,800,000

The maximum holdings of merchants in the U.S.A. in September were 11,500,000 qr. on September 25, 1894; the minimum was 1,900,000 qr. early in September, 1898.

The meaning of a small visible supply a year ago was a small crop, but no such explanation will now serve. The American farmer clearly believes that his wheat will be worth, later on, more than the merchant is now prepared to give for it. This is a fact worth considering by British farmers. The price of foreign wheat in England cannot be gravely lowered during the next few months except by large American shipments.

American home wants of maize are extraordinarily difficult to estimate, but the figures for the year which will end October 31 next are likely to be about as follows:—

Crop, November 1, 1904	288,000,000 qrs.
Exports to October 31, 1905..	12,000,000 qrs.
Presumed home wants	276,000,000 qrs.

The exports are estimated on ten months' returns pro rata. If these figures prove accurate, and the new crop exceeds 300,000,000 qr., as appears likely, the export surplus for the new maize year, November 1, 1905, to October 31, 1906, should be not far short of 25,000,000 qr. Low prices for flat maize seem likely for a year from January next.

The recent recovery in maize on spot has been helped by the good Continental inquiry, there being 1,095,000 qr. on passage to Continental ports, against 898,000 qr. a year ago. The reserves of old maize in America in merchants' hands on the 23rd inst. were as follows:—

1905	530,000 qrs.
1904	460,000 qrs.
1903	760,000 qrs.

The price at New York is 20s. per qr., against 19s. in 1904 and 19s. 3d. in 1903.

Our present expectations of linseed are thus divided:—

	Qrs.
Argentine	120,000
Indian	50,000
Russian	10,000
American	5,000
Various	5,000
Total	190,000

A year ago 100,000 qr. were coming from Argentina, 120,000 qr. from India, and 10,000 qr. from all other countries—230,000 qr. in all.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September, 25.

LINSEED, per 416 lb.	s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	46 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	41 to 45
Calcutta	38 to 39
Argentine	37 to 38
Turkish	42 to 41
Persian	37 to 38

COTTONSEED, per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/6 to 5/7
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED, per 416 lb.	s. s.
Dutch	52 to 54
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	41 to 42
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	33 to 37

POPPYSEED, per 377 lb.	
Indian	39 to 40

SUNFLOWERSEED, per 448 lb.	
White	41 to 48
Black	42 to 43

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, September 25.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Plenty of new English wheat was to-day on offer at 28s. to 30s per qr., so that there is not much practical recovery. None the less, the tone is better. Foreign was a bit dull, but holders were uniformly firm. New English malting barley was still scarce and quality was a good deal below the average. A few fine lots up from Yorkshire made 32s to 33s. but most Norfolk samples came at 29s. to 30s. per qr. The trade in feeding barley was firm, and crushed barley tends to rise in price. Oats were rather dearer on the week; 17s. was paid for heavy Vologda, 16s. 6d. for good American, and 15s. 6d. for Odessa. Maize was firm. Some fine cleaned linseed from Russia fetched 41s. cash, while pure crushed linseed had buyers at about £13 per ton. Tares were in request, 56s. per qr. was freely paid for any good sample. Other sales to-day included Saffi canaryseed at 80s. per qr.; large hand-picked haricots at 67s. per qr.; and Tunisian dari at 24s. per qr.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	33	— 34
New White	,,	29	— 31
Old Red	,,	32	— 33
New ,,	,,	27	— 29
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	25	— 26
BARLEY, Malting	,,	31	— 35
Brewing	,,	26	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	22	— 24
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	,,	25	— 30
Black	,,	31	— 33
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	16	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	55	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	29	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	52	— 56
(Spring)	,,	54	— 58
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 26
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
M'itoba Best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33/6	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31/6	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29/6	— 30
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 35
Ouchak	33	— 35
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	— 14/6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb.)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb.)	15	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	23	— 23/3
Argentine	22/6	— 23
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	32	— 35
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 66
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	40	— 42
Canadian	39	— 41
Chilian	38	— 40
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

CLOSE OF THE MARKET

THE MARKET CLOSED QUIETLY, BUT NOT WORSE FROM THE OPENING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, September 25.

Top-price flour to-day was a quiet trade at 30s., town whites at 27s., and town households at 24s. per sack.

Country millers were in evidence, and they are accepting such moderate prices for their millings from the new home crop that London makes feel the competition severely, and secondary foreign sorts, like French, are completely outpaced. Australian also feels the competition. Stone-made country flour sold more freely than usual. There was also a good sale of wholemeal, and, without the market having been in any way captured by those who are called "brown bread faddists," there is undoubtedly a certain reaction in favour of the rougher grindings. American flour on spot was unchanged; 28s. is the price for best Minnesota October delivery. Sales to-day included fancy Belgium at 27s. 6d., Six Anchors (fine Hungarian) at 29s. 9d., and Manitoba finest patents at 29s. 6d., cash terms. Aberdeen oatmeal at 11s. per cwt. cash sold fairly well.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30
Town Whites	,,	27
,, Households	,,	24
No. 2	,,	21
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25
,, No. 2	,,	23
Paste Flour	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

Best Patents (Old Crop Flr)	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made ,,	,,	24 — 25
Ord'y Roller made ,,	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made ,,	,,	22 — 23
Best Patents (New Crop Flour)		24 — 25
Fine Roller whites ,,	,,	23 — 24
rd'y Roller ,, ,,	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made ,,	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/9—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26 — 28
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6—21
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	27 — 28
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 32
,, 1	,,	30 — 31
,, 2	,,	29 — 30
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	12
Pollard	,,	11	12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	28
,, Seconds	,,	25	26
Barley Meal	,,	16	20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	35
Groats	,,	34	35
Oat Flour	,,	35	36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	14
,, Cones	,,	18	19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	19
Rye Meal	,,	17	18
Pea Meal	,,	19	20
Bean Meal	,,	18	19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9	10
Rice Flour	,,	20	22
Rice Cones	,,	18	20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 8d.	Oct. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 7d.	Feb. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Oct. delivery.
,,	4s. 4d.	Jan. ,,

The tone of the Term Market to-day is a little firmer from the close of last week. Wheat for December delivery makes 6s. 9d. per cental; maize for January, 4s. 4d. per cental.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Higher prices are asked for shipment, but there is no change on spot. Grain.—Indian corn dull at 13s. 7d. per 280 lb. There has been a brisk demand for foreign oats at advancing prices. Scotch oats are offered freely and cheaply. Barley very scarce on spot. Pease quiet. Beans unchanged. Oilcake rather firmer. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and common thirds rather quieter. Fine thirds still in demand. — McKINNON AND McDONALD (Glasgow).

Offals.—The demand for bran continues steady; prices firm and tending upward. Flour.—Demand moderate; quotations unchanged; the tendency, however, for home-made flours in favour of buyers.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Milling Offals.—A poor trade at last week's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

We have liberal arrivals of wheat, which meet a steady demand at full prices. Flour a slow sale at late prices. Maize, barley, and oats unchanged in value.—COVENTRY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Demand is much improved, and, as oil has again experienced a considerable drop, prices are well maintained; American-made is the turn dearer, but remains at a comparative low figure. Undecorticated cotton cake: The inquiry is small and sellers are accepting lower prices in order to induce sales. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Trade for meal is extremely good, and the market is 2s 6d dearer; cake is also in fair demand. Linseed: There is considerably more business doing, both for feeding and crushing purposes.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7 7 6	
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay		
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7 7 6	to 7 15 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 17 6	
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 12 6	to 6 15 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 13 9	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 13 9	to 4 15 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 17 6	
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 5 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	to 2 5 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.			
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London		
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,, ,,			
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are held for threepence advance, but this checks trade. Cargoes of oats are in fair request at that amount of admitted improvement. Barley and maize cargoes are not quotably dearer, but they are helped by the strength of trade for wheat and oats.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Walla Walla, 31s 9d per 500lb., November shipment; Australian, 33s 3d per 480lb., due; Argentine, 31s 3d per 504lb., on passage; Argentine, 30s per 480lb., on passage; New Zealand Longberry, 31s per 480lb., on passage; New Zealand Shortberry, 29s per 480lb., on passage; North Russian, 33s per 492lb., on passage; White Calcutta, 31s 3d per 492lb., on passage.

MAIZE.—American, 23s 6d per 480lb., arrived.

BEANS.—New Zealand, 32s per 480lb., on passage.

BARLEY.—Californian, 28s per 448lb., on passage; Californian, 25s per 448lb., prompt shipment; Ouchak, 24s per 448lb., prompt shipment; Syrian, 23s per 448lb., prompt shipment; Smyrna, 21s per 400lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—Archangel, 14s 9d per 304lb., arrived; Odessa, 15s per 304lb., prompt shipment; Vologda, 16s 6d per 320lb., October shipment; American, 14s per 280lb., October shipment.

LINSEED.—Turkish, 42s per 416lb., October shipment; American, 40s per 416lb., October shipment; Persian, 38s per 416lb., October shipment.

CANARYSEED.—Turkish, 69s per 464lb., October shipment; Sicilian, 78s per 464lb., October shipment.

HEMPSEED.—Russian, 33s per 336lb., October shipment.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The demand for Canadian butter has been slow except for choicest lots of both salt and saltless, which have made full figures—viz., 110s to 114s per cwt. There are many lots of secondary quality of both kinds, some showing signs of storage, which are selling at 104s to 108s, but trade for such is somewhat slow at the present moment. The Copenhagen official quotation was yesterday raised to 103 kroner, and the last time it was as high as this figure was in 1901. Cheese: There is a firmer feeling on the cheese market, and prices have an improving tendency. Choicest Canadian goods are bringing 55s to 56s per cwt., with occasional sales at 57s. The c.i.f. price in Canada is also 57s per cwt. W. WEDDEL AND CO.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—The demand for trifolium practically over; winter tares more off freely at the current reasonable prices; seed wheat in fair demand; prices firm. New clover seeds now offering, qualities various; prices momentarily normal.—JOHN PICKARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Sept. 25, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Sept. 26, 1904.
Beasts	1,420	1,420	1,420
Sheep and Lambs	6,799	6,799	6,799
Calves	26	26	10
Milch Cows	99	99	90

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	Prime.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 8d
Sheep	4s 10d	5s 4d	6s 0d
Calves	3s 8d	4s 10d	5s 4d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals included as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 40; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,216; Devon, 20; Ireland, 84.

We note to-day an increase of 150 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. The majority, as usual at this season of the year, arrived from the Midland Counties and Ireland. These latter comprised 38 Dublins (10 of which were choice black polled cattle), 26 Waterfords, and 10 stone cattle (2½ to 3 years old). Irish descriptions met with a slow sale; but notwithstanding this, sellers were able to maintain late rates. For both prime and second quality English beasts the trade was dull, prices being difficult to maintain, even for the best. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited demand, consequently a decline of 1d. to 2d. in value had to be noted.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 26, 1904.
Devons	4s 6d ex 4s 8d	4s 6d ex 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 6d ex 4s 8d	4s 6d ex 4s 8d
Runts	4s 0d ex 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d ex 4/6
Lincolns	3s 10d ex 4s 0d	4s 0d ex 4s 0d
Irish	4s 0d ex 4s 5d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat Cows	3s 4d ex 3s 6d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was an increase of 30 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of a slow but steady nature, late currencies governing all transactions, the latter selling best. Scotch were in average numbers, and Irish were in smaller supply. Trade, however, for both descriptions was slow at a decline of 2d. per 8 lbs. in value. Lambs were difficult to vend. The supply consisted of 400 Scotch, 1,670 Irish, and 357 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance, notwithstanding the inclement weather, is expected to be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Sept. 26, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
8 st Scotch	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 8d to 6s 0d
10 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Half-bred ditto	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d

Calf trade was slow but firm, the best on offer to dress from 144 to 166 were quoted at 5s 4d. per 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Liberal supplies, quiet demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American, 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Lamb: Scotch: 4s 8d to 5s 2d; New Zealand, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; Dutch, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Veal, 2s 6d to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s to 4s 6d per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 376, sheep 1,599, pigs 297. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 8d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat and store cattle and sheep fair demand. Fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows fair show, and trade prices £16 to £22.

FOREIGN

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 1,463. To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed an increase of 327 head, the supply consisting of 540 States and 923 Canadians. Trade was of a slow nature, rates ruling 1d per 8 lb. in favour of the buyer. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s. Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d. 568 Canadian ewes were offered for sale at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb (offal given in). On Saturday 970 States and 576 Canadian beasts were offered for sale. Trade ruled firm and steady at a slight advance on last Wednesday's quotations. Prime States beasts made from 3s 10d to 4s 1d; ditto Canadian, 3s 7d to 3s 11d. Besides the above 500 States beasts were withheld. Included in to-day's arrivals were 433 Canadian sheep, trade for which, though slow, was firm in regard to value, top prices paid per 8lb as follows: Ewes, 4s 4d (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of cattle, demand slow; best qualities barely maintained last week's quotations, and middling and inferior sorts were lower. Sheep again shown in reduced numbers; trade in consequence was of firmer tone, all classes being cleared at slight advance on late rates. Beef, 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 6d. At market: 1,395 cattle and 6,806 sheep.

Irish Live Weight Quotations.

(Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed ither before or after sale, for week ending Sept. 12, 1905.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average Live weight.	Average price per head.	Average price per cwt.
		c. qr. lb.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime)	11 8 0	19 12 6	1 13 5
12	,, ,,	12 0 0	19 10 0	1 12 6
12	,, ,,	10 0 14	15 13 6	1 10 10
12	,, (very good)	11 1 14	17 0 0	1 9 11
1	,, ,,	10 1 14	15 5 0	1 9 5
1	,, ,,	11 3 0	17 5 0	1 9 4
12	,, (good)	10 2 0	14 17 6	1 8 4
12	,, ,,	10 0 14	14 5 0	1 8 2

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The market is well supplied with English hops, consumers are taking them freely at prices ruling.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The number of beasts on the chief market day of the week was slightly larger, the supply being chiefly drawn from the Midland counties and Ireland, Scotland not being represented. Trade in the early part of the morning was of a steady nature, but became slower as the day advanced; nevertheless, no alteration in regard to value can be noted. The Irish consignment consisted of 61 Dublins and 43 Waterfords; this class of cattle met with a dull and dragging trade, notwithstanding sellers being willing to accept a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with little country demand, consequently 2d. less money had to be accepted to effect sales. On Thursday sales were confined as usual to fat cows, bulls, and rough cattle, these being governed by Monday's currencies.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade became slower as the week advanced, consequently a decline in value ensued. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,528, as against 5,196 during the previous week, consisting of 1,260 British (increase 170) and 3,268 foreign (decrease 838), comprising 2,072 from the United States and 1,196 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (offal given in):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d., ex. 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Lincolns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 3s. 11d. to 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday was of a steady nature for both wethers and ewes, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one. Scotch met with a good demand at late rates, whilst Irish made an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. more money. On Thursday all sales were governed by Monday's quotations. Lambs were in small supply, consequently neither trade nor prices are worth quoting. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number penned at both markets was 8,693, as against 8,117 during the previous week, consisting of 8,260 British and 433 Canadians; these latter were quoted at from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered 25; these were quoted at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.

The few pigs on offer were quoted at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

The trade for all classes of stores—barreners, heifers and calves, and store heifers—continues unaccountably dull and depressed, the low values prevailing failing to attract buyers, and this seems all the more inexplicable seeing the abundance of grass keep there is almost everywhere just now. Barreners are selling almost even worse, scarce anything, excepting very high-condition animals, making over £12 or £13 apiece; but there are two assignable causes for this—one the earliness of the season for buying barreners, the other the indifferent character of the beef trade. The store sheep trade is giving evidence of some slight improvement, and this is attributed principally to the greatly improved condition of the root crops, due to the recent splendid rains, under the influence of which vast areas of what was given up as worthless have come on wonderfully, and now promise in many instances to prove a record crop.

Though by no means meeting a fast trade, both fat beasts and sheep, in the absence of anything like excessive deliveries, are bringing fairly good prices for anything that can be classed as choice, of which there is no great superabundance, the major part of both the beef and mutton now coming out, excepting here and there a few really good, ripe steers and heifers, being of a secondary character. Most of the beef is now selling at from 10s. to 11s. per score, though occasionally a very ripe Devon heifer or steer may bring an additional sixpence, but this is very rare. Wether mutton still commands plenty of attention at 8d. to 8½d. per lb. for the ripest, and 7½d. for seconds, and there is likewise an improvement in the ewe trade, best young sheep making 7½d. per lb., and older sheep of coarser weights, 6½d. to 7d. Pigs, though scarcely as dear as they were, are still bringing a very good return, but only baconers or porkers of exceptional quality and very small weights now bring 10s. per score, the major portion of the best classes of either baconers or porkers ranging between 8s. 6d. and 9s. 6d., and for much heavier pigs from 7s. to 8s. is an average quotation.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather under an average. A good trade has been experienced, and prices have advanced about 15s. a head over the previous week. Good sheep were scarce and rear. Ewes also shown in shorter numbers, while lambs were under an average. An active trade has been got, and prices have advanced 1s. a head all over. There was a small supply of fat calves, and they made more money. Pigs in moderate numbers, and they made the highest prices this season. Store sheep continue to meet a good trade at highly satisfactory prices for exposers. Rather more store cattle on offer. These met a quiet demand, and, although a considerable number of sales were effected, there were a few left unsold at the finish. Milch cows met rather a quieter market. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 39s.; current from 35s. to 37s.; mutton to fully 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED.

Trade in Ireland.

The attendance of both home and English buyers at Thursday's Dublin market was good, and the number of cattle and sheep offered for sale was up to a fair average. The best, well-finished beef held its own, prime ox and heifer beef making from 52s. to 55s., and for extra choice up to 57s. per cwt.; good second-class beef from 46s. to 50s., and inferior from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. Cow beef sold fairly well, being most bought up by local men. A slow trade was done. Wether mutton of prime quality made from 6¾d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6¾d.; and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb. upwards. Large heavy hoggets, 44s. to 56s. each; small to medium ditto, 32s. to 44s. Lambs averaged from 24s. for small up to 40s. for large fat. Prices were firm for veal calves of best quality, with a good demand from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb.; inferior calves from 5d. per lb. upwards. In view of the prospect of dear winterage, trade for store cattle and sheep is very slow, and thin animals are practically unsaleable. The late fair at Banagher—which, with Ballinasloe, is the leading market of autumn in Ireland—proved a disappointing one, the supply being far in excess of the demand. There was a good attendance of buyers in the pig market, and trade was fairly active, better prices being obtained for the nicer classes of pigs, but rough pigs were hard to clear. Choice light-weight made from 53s. to 55s. per cwt.; inferior from 36s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted of butchering cows and bulls, with few rough cattle, for which there was a fair demand at Monday's quotations. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Sheep supply showed increase of forty, compared with Thursday last. Trade ruled fairly steady for both wethers and ewes, late rates being maintained. No Scotch sheep offered. Best pens made per 8lb as follows:—7½st to 8st Downs, 5s 10d to 6s; 9st ditto, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 10st half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Irish 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d; 11st half-bred ditto, 3s 10d to 4s. Calves in small supply. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 6s; calves, 3s 6d to 5s 4d; pigs, 4s 4d to 4s 6d. Total supply: Beasts, 50; sheep, 1,370; calves, 20; pigs, 10; milch cows, 5.

Central, Friday.—Supplies were on a heavy scale, for which a slow inquiry again prevailed, and values in some instances ruled lower. Beef arrivals included 80 tons Scotch, 400 Liverpool sides, 2,900 hindquarters, 1,500 forequarters, and 2,000 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: — Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; English, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American Deptford-killed, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; Liverpool sides, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 10d to 4s; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; Ranchers from 1s 10d to 3s 2d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; forequarters, 1s 9d to 1s 11d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 6d to 3s; River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Dutch wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s 2d. Lamb: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s 2d; New Zealand, 2s 2d to 3s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch, 4s to 4s 6d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade slow at last week's prices. Mutton rather better. Small half-bred wethers made up to 6s, and neat kents up to 5s 4d per stone. Lamb sold readily at 6s 4d to 6s 8d. Pork a good trade, up to 4s 2d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 58 fat beasts, 69 calves, 342 fat sheep and lambs, 40 store lambs, 210 pigs, and 201 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat shorthorn steers made up to £17 10s, heifers £15 5s, cows £14 10s, Devon steers £19, polled Angus cows £19, West Highland cows £10, ditto with calf £12 15s, ditto two-year-old heifers £8 10s, fat calves 7½s to £5 5s, small 20s to 50s, fat hogs 6ls 6d to 8ls, porkers 42s to 50s, small 25s to 40s, store pigs 10s to 28s, dairy cows £5 to £30 15s, fat Downs wethers 58s 6d and ewes 54s 6d, eight months' old Down lambs 40s to 52s 6d, small 38s to 44s, old ewes 32s to 40s, rams up to 51s, three months' old sucking lambs, Downs 34s to 38s 6d, Southdowns 36s, cross-breds up to 29s. The best fat beasts were cleared at last weeks figures; second class, half fed, and inferior were a slow trade, and prices lower. A good trade, and a clearance made, of the short supply of fat sheep and fat lambs. Welsh cows of good class realised high prices, secondary descriptions lower prices. Store cattle trade continues a slow business, with little inquiry. Fat calves cleared with a slight reduction upon late prices. The pig trade, both for fat and stores, was very brisk, and the short supply was unequal to the demand. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6½d to 7d; secondary ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; secondary ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb; fat calves, 6d to 8d per lb; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 11s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—106 beasts, 73 more than the previous week, were penned. Attendance of farmers and buyers fair; quality of stock good; trade showed an improvement. Calves, £6 10s to £7 10s; heifers, £10 10s to £14 10s; stirks, £8 10s to £11 10s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £15; three-year-olds, £12 10s to £16; shorthorn bulls, £9 10s to £13; cows, £15 10s to £23.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs; trade good for pigs and slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb.; mutton 6½d to 8½d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb.; bacon pigs, 10s. per score; cutting pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; sows, 8s per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fair supply of beef, and trade slow at 58s per cwt. for best qualities, and 55s for secondary. Good number of sheep and lambs, and trade quiet. Light wethers, 8½d per lb.; prime wethers, 7¾d; heavy, 7d; ewes, 6d. Lambs quoted as light wethers, season being nearly over. Short supply of pigs, baconers selling at 9s per score, and porkers at 10s 3d. About 600 store cattle and trade slow, late rates not being maintained, and several remaining unsold.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	3
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9	3
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	8	9
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	3

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Best ewes meet a good demand at from 42s to 44s; useful ewes, 36s to 40s; good working lambs, 22s to 26s; and better class up to 30s; wether tegs, 38s to 43s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There were about 300 head of Irish cattle exposed on the Sands, including a number of wintering bullocks. Buyers were scarce, and trade quiet. Quotations: Wintering heifers, £8 10s to £12 10s; heifers for feeding, £14 to £15 10s; wintering bullocks, £7 10s to £9 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were again large, and buyers numerous. The demand, however, did not equal the supply, and although a large business was transacted, many lots remained unsold. There was a full show of sheep and lambs, and a good demand. The high prices asked rather checked business, but a large proportion changed hands in spite of the advance, and quotations closed firm. Milch cows made £17 to £22, calvers £16 to £20, barrens £10 to £13, heifers £9 to £15, stirks £6 to £10, and lambs 16s to 45s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—Beef: Stall-fed made from 4s 8d to 5s per stone, whilst grass beef made from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; mutton sold at from 5s 8d to 6s per stone; and pork 9s per score. There was a fair supply, and trade was good.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle and trade dull, more attention being paid to the sheep trade. £1 per head less was taken in some cases. Milch beasts made £15 to £22, bullocks £12 to £16, heifers and drapes £11 to £15, stirks £7 to £9, and young stores £4 to £6 each. Better supply of sheep. Gimmers sold at 48s to 58s, ewes 44s to 60s, and lambs, which were scarce, 30s to 40s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Messrs. Ensor and Son had extensive offers of stock at their to-day's repository sale, with a distinctly improved trade for milch beasts, which good sale at the advance, the best making £17 to £21 each, and others £14 to £16 10s; two-year-old barren heifers £22 to £25 per pair; barreners quiet sale at £22 to £26 per pair. Fat beef keeps fairly steady, heifers making £16 10s to £19 each, and steers £16 15s or £17 15s each (or 11s to 11s 6d per score); fat cows, £16 5s to £18 15s (or 10s to 10s 6d). Mutton trade quiet; fat ewes, 42s to 44s each (or 7d to 7½d per lb.); cross-bred lambs, 28s to 33s (or 9d to 9½d). Ready clearance all through.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,899, increase 66; sheep, 9,150, decrease 12; calves, 40, decrease 6. Caution was the prevailing tone in the cattle trade, fancy finish only making late rates; secondary and inferior qualities favouring buyers, and more difficult to place. In the sheep department the early morning bids were equal to last week's figures, but later on a quieter trade prevailed, and a clearance could not be effected. Lambs out of season. Cattle, live weight (best), 29s to 32s per cwt. Exceptional for Angus crosses, up to 34s per cwt. Secondary and inferior qualities, 26s to 28s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5¾d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—With larger supplies trade for cattle was quieter. Polled bullocks, £16; horned, 16 guineas; bulls, £9 10s. Sheep were in larger supply, and met a fair trade; half-bred lambs, 22s to 31s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 32s to 41s; smaller sorts, 23s to 31s. Cows met a slow trade; best shorthorns 26 guineas; Ayrshires, £14 to £19; crosses, £18 to £20.

Exeter, Friday.—Average supply of cattle; trade slow at late prices. Some remained unsold. Large supply of sheep, quality not generally good; only the best were saleable at 8d; ewes, 6½d per lb; breeding ewes, for which there were less demand, 36s to 40s, but many failed to find purchasers. Choice lambs, 9d to 10d per lb.; plain were unsaleable. A good many sheep of the Bridgwater class changed hands at less money than of late; calves, 7½d per lb. Barreners, £7 5s to £11; steers, £7 5s to £10; heifers, £9 to £10 7s 6d; yearlings, £6 to £7 2s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a fair demand for live stock at about late figures. Top Scotch cattle, 64s, current 60s; top Irish, 58s, secondary 54s to 56s per cwt.; top hoggs, 9d to 9¼d; secondary 8¾d to 8¾d; top wedders, 8d to 8½d; lambs 7d to 9d per lb. Dead meat slow and prices tending lower; best Scotch beef, 6d to 6½d; best States, 5½d to 5¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Upwards of 100 cows and calves and in-calvers which met a very good trade, the best prices being £23, £22 15s, and £22 10s. A large supply of store cattle with a better demand.

Hereford, Wednesday.—With fewer buyers the trade was not quite so good as of late. Beef did not do so well;

bullocks and heifers 6½d to 6¾d per lb., a farthing extra being made for exceptionally prime animals; cow beef sold at 4½d to 5½d per lb. The store cattle trade remained dull, and there were not many in the market. There was a fair supply of veal at about 7d per lb. Fat sheep being short, sold fairly well; wethers made from 7¾d to 8¼d per lb. Store lambs reached satisfactory prices, ranging from 29s to 34s each. Anything young and useful in store ewes went well. Shropshires at 40s to 48s, and Radnors 36s to 43s. Pigs were a smaller supply, but the trade was good; porkers of good quality made 5½d, and bacons 5d to 5½d per lb. Fat sows realised 8s per score.

Leicester. Saturday.—Full average supplies of home-bred stock. Buyers and dealers were well represented. Trade ruled steady at firm prices. Choice milch cows were scarce and in demand at £20 to £22, good lots £18 to £19, secondary £15 to £17, bullocks £11 to £14, Irish cattle £12 to £15. Welsh stock £9 to £12, and calves 15s to 35s each.

Lincoln. Friday.—Small show of horned stock, and a slow trade at last week's prices. Fair supply of sheep and a good demand, drape ewes realising 30s to 35s; young ewes, 45s to 50s; gimmers, 50s to 63s; and lambs, 28s to 38s per head.

Lynn. Tuesday.—A few store cattle, making £6 to £15. A larger show of fat beasts, prices unchanged, at 7s to 8s per stone for the very best. Few store sheep; trade firm at 38s to 45s each. Fat sheep an average supply, at 9s to 9s 6d per stone. Breeding ewes, 45s to 55s. Rams, £5 to £7. Store lambs, 30s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4½d to 4¾d; third-class, 3½d to 3¾d. Mutton: First-class, 7½d; second-class, 6½d to 7d; third-class, 5½d to 6d. Veal: First-class, 6½d; second-class, 5½d to 6d; third-class, 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5½d; second-class, 4½d to 5d; third-class, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: First-class, 7d; second-class, 6½d to 6¾d; third-class, 6d to 6½d.

Norwich. Saturday.—Supply of fat beasts more than equal to demand, and trade slow at 8s per stone; poor trade for store animals, and clearance not effected, and prices ranged from £6 to £18 per head. Quiet trade for sheep, lambs making 25s to 38s, and breeding ewes 45s to 62s per head. Limit number of fat sheep, and trade firmer than last week, prices quoted being at 10s to 11s 6d per stone, with extra 6d for best qualities. Big show of fat pigs, and trade brisk at 6s 6d to 6s 9d per stone, 7s being paid for best animals. Good demand for store pigs.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Rather larger supply of cattle, and a slight improvement manifest in the trade. For best milch cows £18 18s to £21, newly-calved heifers £16 to £18, barren cows £11 to £14, and strong steers from £9 upwards. No sheep or pigs on offer.

Retford. Saturday.—Scarcely sufficient stock on offer to test prices. Milch beasts found customers with difficulty at £14 to £18 per head. The quotations for steers, heifers, and calves unchanged.

Preston, Wednesday.—Only a moderate attendance, but a capital show of cattle and sheep. Brisk demand for nice fat calves, but sheep slow, and trade all round was dragging, with weaker prices. Cows and bulls made 4d. to 5½d., heifers and bullocks 5½d to 6¼d, hoggs 8½d to 8¾d, lambs 8¾d to 8¾d, ewes 6d to 6½d, tups 5½d to 6d, calves 6½d to 8d per lb. At market—Cattle 225, sheep 1,976, calves 150.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade fair: Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per stone. Sheep in fair supply; trade about the same: Best sheep, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; middlings 5s 2d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Slow trade for store beasts. Average supply of pigs; trade rather better.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies. Slower trade in store cattle and sheep. Good business in fat stock. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 7½d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9¾d to 10d per score. Numbers offered as follows: 722 cattle, sheep and lambs 3,533, calves 100, pigs 476.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was not such a large entry of stock as has been usual lately. Full attendance of buyers made beef trade decidedly better, a practical clearance being effected. Sheep were in great demand, and sold well throughout. Veal continues to meet a good demand. Bacon and pork scarce and dear. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 96 fat beasts, 239 fat sheep, 114 fat and weaning calves, and 38 fat pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £20 5s, fat heifers £15 10s to £20 5s, fat wethers 45s to 57s 6d; fat ewes 40s to 53s 6d, fat lambs 30s to 39s 6d, fat calves £3 to £4 13s, weaning cow calves 30s to 58s, bull calves 10s to 52s, bacon hogs £3 to £5 5s, porkers 26s to 48s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk. Attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; ewes, 38s to 52s; wethers, 7d to 7¼d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7¼d; pigs, 8s 6d to 40s each; beef 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured 6d to 7½d, cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 310; calves, 90; sheep, 1,161; pigs, 247; horses and ponies, 45.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate trade all round; average supply. Prices: Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8¾ per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¼ per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of all kinds of stock, with trade fairly brisk. Best quality beef made 7s to 7s 6d, and secondary 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone. Best Southdown and cross bred mutton 8d to 9d, ewes and other sorts 6d to 7d, and lamb 9d per lb.

York. Thursday.—This was the second of the extra markets held during September and October principally for the sale of breeding sheep, and every bit of accommodation was taken up, there being fully 15,000 sheep of all classes penned. There was, however, only a comparatively small attendance of buyers, and the supply, for an off market, proved quite twice equal to the demand. The trade for North-country ewes was worse than has been experienced for some years, and a very large number were turned out unsold. What sales were effected were at from 40s to 50s per head. Shearling sheep and the best classes of lambs met with some inquiry, the former making 46s to 60s, and the latter 28s to 35s each; and Masham lambs 22s to 26s each. The few calving and milch cows on offer contained nothing of very good quality, and the sales effected were at about late rates.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill. Monday.—Large supplies of Canadian and American cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to day, 888 head being penned in the lairages. All were delivered in fair shape and condition, and made a good appearance in the stances. There was a large attendance of buyers, though business was somewhat quite. A fair trade done at rates similar to those ruling last week, and clearances were effected at all the stances. Bullocks of useful weights and sizes made up to 56s per cwt. deadweight, while inferior qualities were easily down to 52s per cwt. Bulls made from 46s to 48s per cwt.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed: The arrivals are 1,979 quarters Buenos Ayres, 16,270 Calcutta, 220 Odessa, 7 Hartlingen, 10,295 Rosario, 5,005 St. Petersburg, total, 34,966 quarters. The shipments for the week ending September 15 are: Plate, 24,000 Hull, 21,000 orders, 11,000 Continent; Bombay, 34,000 Continent; total, 95,000 quarters. Linseed has been practically neglected through the week, and prices have dropped a further 9d to 1s per quarter. River Plate: Spot 35s taken; afloat and September-October 35s 3d sellers. October-November, 35s 6d. Duluth: October-November, 36s. Cottonseed: The market has shown little activity, with a few sales made at £5 6s 3d and £5 7s 6d spot. £5 7s 6d paid passage and September, at which rather buyers to-day. One or two sales November-January made at £5 12s 6d, sellers now asking £5 13s 9d. Bombay done at £4 14s September-October and January-February, and this remains the value. Oilseed cakes. Linseed cakes are steady at a decline of 2s 6d per ton. Demand moderate. Cotton cakes: Firm, unchanged. Bombay rather inclining firmer. Orders slow. KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed flat, with considerable pressure to sell both old and new crop; fair business passing in the latter. Calcutta London, spot 37s, and August-September 36s 9d, September-October 36s 6d, April-June 35s. Hull: Flat, with scarcely any demand. La Plata spot 34s 9d, passage 34s 9d, September-October 35s 3d, December-January sellers 34s 6d, and January-February 34s. Rapeseed finds few sellers, but the enquiry has rather improved. Brown Cawnpore, September-October 36s, brown Calcutta, September-October 36s. Cottonseed: There is scarcely any change to note in this article; Egypt has continued steady, and business here has been restricted, assisted to some extent by the advance in freights. London: September £5 12s 6d, Fayoumi £5 16s 3d sellers, November-January £5 15s. Hull: Spot, passage, and August £5 7s 6d, September £5 8s 9d, Fayoumi £5 13s 9d, October to January £5 12s 6d business reported. Linseed oil, after a slight improvement at the end of last week, has again declined, and closes quiet at lower rates. We quote spot and month in pipes £15 7s 6d, barrels £15 15s, October-December £15 17s 6d, January-April £16 5s. Hull naked spot £14 7s 6d, September-December £14 10s, January-April £14 15s. The stock in public warehouses in London on the 16th instant is given at 5,905 tons.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade rules dull, with only a small consumptive demand, while present high values continue to check business and there is almost a total absence of any speculative inquiry. Russian offer sparingly, and needy buyers are compelled to pay last week's full prices. American are unchanged for steamer parcels shortly due. East India seed pures have been sold without alteration in value. London made being in small production maintain their value. Cotton cakes: Egyptian are fairly plentiful on spot, but with a firmer attitude on the part of shippers prices remain steady. English meet a slow sale and are practically unchanged. Decorticated London-made cake and meal is in improved request at £7 2s 6d to £7 5s, and special digestive meal at £5 5s, with American "Open Hand" brand selling at £7, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes: Dull and neglected; East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal: White American for winter despatch is held for rather more money. English move off quietly at about late rates. Maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: This article is becoming particularly scarce and with shippers retiring from the market values are irregular at £4 15s to £5. Broken Rangoon rice is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans remain scarce and firmly held at £5 5s per ton for whole, and £5 10s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is scarce and firmly held at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
in mats.....	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American .....(c.i.f.)	7 5 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
,, for shipment.....		
English	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	7 2 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal.....	7 5 0	
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	7 0 0	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 8 9	to 5 10 0
American, Dec./Jan. .....(c.i.f.)	5 3 9	to 5 5 0
Maize Gluten Meal..... .....June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
,, ...	4 15 0	to 5 0 0
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex-quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled.....	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fairly good demand was experienced for a good supply. Prices: Young grouse, 5s to 6s; old, 3s 6d to 4s; young partridges, 2s 6d to 3s; old, 1s to 1s 9d per brace; geese, 6s to 7s; country ducks, 2s to 2s 3d; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Surrey fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; black game, 1s 4d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; quails, 8d to 1s; feathered pigeons, 7d to 8d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s; Scotch hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 9d to 11d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen. Venison: Haunches, 10s to 15s each; forequarters, 2d to 2½d per lb.

BUTTER

(Prices per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday [illegible] Barnsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Colne: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Dorchester: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Hereford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Hollowmoor: 1s 2d. [illegible] Keighley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Knaresborough: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Leyburn: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Malton: 1s 2d. Market Weighton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Newton Abbot: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per 24 oz roll. Northallerton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s to 1s 1d.

Friday Aberdeen: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Exeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 9d to 10d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 1s 3d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 25 ounce roll. Redruth: 1s 2d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11½d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 10d to 1s. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Howden: 1s to 1s 1d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 11d to 1s. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 2d. Worcester, 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 9 and 10. Boston: 13. Colne: 2s per score. Dorchester: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Goole: 11 and 12. Holsworthy: 12. Hereford: 11 and 12. Keighley: 9 and 10. Kirbymoorside: 12 and 13. Knaresborough: 11 and 12. Louth: 14. Market Drayton: 11 and 12. Market Weighton: 13 and 14. Newton Abbot: 1s 2d to 1s 4d per dozen. Northallerton: 12. Stockton: 9 and 10. Truro: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Uttoxeter: 1s 10d to 2s per score. Worksop: 2s per score.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 8 to 10. Brigg: 12 and 13. Driffield: 13 and 14. Evesham: 10½d to 11½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 10. Penzance: 1s to 1s 3d per dozen. Northtawton: 14. Penistone: 11. Plymouth: 10. Ripon: 11. Scarborough: 10. Wellington (Salop): 11 and 12. Wetherby: 11 and 12.

Friday.—Altrincham: 8 and 9. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 1d per dozen. Barnstaple: 12 to 14. Camelford: 11. Chester: 9 and 10. Crewe: 9 and 10. Congleton: 9. Dartmouth: 1s 2d per dozen. Derby: 9 and 10. Exeter: 10. Helmsley: 13. Knutsford: 10. Leyburn: 11 and 12. Lincoln: 13 and 14. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9 and 10. Nantwich: 10. Northwich: 9. Otley: 9 and 10. Redruth: 1s 1d per dozen. Runcorn: 8 and 9. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 8 and 9. Tavistock: 10. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 10 and 11. Berwick: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 9 and 10. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 14. Howden: 12 and 13. Ipswich: 10 to 14. Lancaster: 9 and 10. Malton: 12. Pontefract: 11 and 12. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 10. Shrewsbury: 10 to 12. Skipton: 9 and 10. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 10. Worcester: 10. York: 10 to 12.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply, and business was fair. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 45s to 53s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 53s to 54s; truckles, 52s to 58s; cheddars, 56s to 58s.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—The arrivals of cheese this week were light, but more than sufficient for the demand. The prices now sought check sales. Though the trade are well supplied, holders are not disposed to yield. Cheddars quoted from 56s to 60s per cwt., but several parcels of specially choice commanded 1s above top figure. Dunlops, 54s to 58s.

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday.—Good arrivals this morning experienced a very slow demand. Best Silts, 55s to 65s; Blacklands, 45s to 50s per ton.

Goole. Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, and plenty of potatoes on offer, which met with a better demand at 4s to 4s 3d per load of 255lb. In the retail market prices were about 4d to 6d per stone.

Southwark (Waterside). Saturday.—During the past week supplies have been quite equal to the demand, and prices, except for best samples, very weak. The following are this day's quotations: — Essex, Kent, and Surrey Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s; ditto Puritans, 50s to 55s; ditto British Queens, 50s to 55s; Lincoln Evergoods, 50s to 55s; ditto Up-to-Dates, 55s to 60s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 40s to 45s; ditto British Queens, 35s to 45s—per ton.

Spitalfields. Saturday. — Supplies were on a rather small scale, and samples are arriving in a slightly condition. Trade made generally quiet progress. Dunbar Yorks, 50s to 60s; Puritans, 50s to 60s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 65s; Beauty of Hebrons, 55s to 60s; British Queens, 50s to 55s; Blacklands, 45s to 50s; Up-to-Dates, 50s to 60s per ton.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham. Friday.—Fair supply, trade quiet. Quotations:—Old hay, £2 5s to £3 17s 6d per ton; new hay, £2 5s to £3 7s 6d per ton; straw, 25 6d per cwt.

Derby. Friday.—Quotations:—Hay, new, 75s to 90s; best, 95s to 100s; other, 75s to 85s; best old, 95s to 100s; straw, wheat, 25s to 30s; oat, 25s to 30s; oat, 50s to 60s; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s.

Manchester. Friday. Hay, 2½d to 3d; clover, 3½d to 4d; straw, wheat, 30s per 36 per stone.

Whitechapel Saturday. Supplies were moderate, and the demand proved poor at recent quotations. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 55s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 57s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 38s per load.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Ayr Ram Society's Show and Sale.

This annual fixture took place within the Cattle Market, Ayr, on the 14th and 15th inst., and proved satisfactory, a good entry of first-class animals being received. The sale, which started at half-past nine, was not concluded till nearly six o'clock. The highest price of the day was £40 for an Overshiels black-faced shearling, the purchaser being Mr. Hamilton, Woolfords. Mr. Robert Lees' (Lagg) first-prize ram went at £13 10s. to Mr. Hewatson, Carsheoch, and the second-prize ram, shown by Mr. M. Hamilton, Woolfords, to Mr. Murdoch, Drumhorn, at £14 10s. Mr. Robert Lees' first-prize group sold well, as follows:—One at £22 to Mr. Kerr, Islay; one at £20 10s. to Mr. M'Sproul, Mearns; and others at £15, £14 10s., and £9 10s. One of the Messrs. Cadzow Brothers' second-prize group sold at £20 to Mr. Sandilands, Corsebank, and others at £16, £11, £10 10s., and £9 10s. Mr. M. Hamilton's first-prize black-face tup lamb was sold at £10 10s. to Mr. M'Arthur, Snar, and Mr. R. Cadzow's second-prize lamb to Mr. Moffat, Gateside, at £15, Mr. R. Cadzow also won first prize with fine black-faced tup lambs. Two were sold to Mr. Hamilton, Nether Wellwood, at £15 10s. and £14 10s., and others at £9, £8 5s., and £5 5s.

Beaminster.

At this well-known Dorset fair, held on Tuesday, there was hardly such a good supply of sheep as in previous years, whilst trade was by no means brisk, in fact, was dragging all through. The general run of sheep prices was as follows:—Dorset horn ewes, 45s. to 57s.; Down ewes, 44s. to 50s.; horn wether lambs, 30s. to 36s.; cross-bred lambs, 31s. to 40s.; Down wether lambs, 33s. 6d. to 36s.; couples, 59s. to 65s.; horn chilver lambs, 38s. to 42s.; fat horn wethers, 45s. to 50s.; fat Down wethers, 46s. to 52s.; Down rams, 50s. to 59s.; horn ditto, 50s. to 60s.

Mr. H. Bridger's Southdowns.

Mr. H. Bridger, J.P., of Old Shoreham, having let Beeding Court Farm, Upper Beeding, the whole of the pure-bred Southdown Hill flock of 828 ewes in ages, stock ewe lambs, and rams was disposed of by auction on Monday, Mr. H. J. Burt, of Steyning, being the auctioneer. The Beeding Court flock was established by Mr. Bridger in 1894 on the late Mr. A. S. Elliott giving up the farm. Ewes were secured principally from such well-known owners of the period as Mr. George Homewood, Mr. Richard Brown, and the late Mrs. Penfold, Cokeham; as well as Mr. Isaac Baker, Wilmington. The sheep have been carefully bred, and the stock still further improved by draft ewes and lambs from good breeders. There was a good attendance at the sale and a brisk trade was experienced. 135 full-mouthed ewes realised £302 10s.; 162 six-tooths, £411; 157 four-tooths, £440 7s.; 190 two-tooths, £533 5s.! and 180 stock ewe lambs, £336 15s., the grand total for 824 animals being £2,023 17s.

Hawick.

Hawick annual ram sale was held on Wednesday, and was conducted by Messrs. Andrew Oliver and Son, in Hawick Auction Mart. There was a great display of Cheviots and Leicesters, this being the principal market in Scotland for the sale of the former. There was a brisk trade, and prices generally were firmer than last year. The numbers were 581 Cheviot and 288 Leicesters, Oxfords, and Blackfaces—total 869, compared with 834 last year. The highest price of the sale was given by Mr. Murray, Parkhall, who got one of the Hindhope lot for £50. From the same stock Mr. Miller, South Slipperfield, got one at £49; and Mr. Elliot, Meigle, one at £43. Mr. Moffat, Craick, gave £47 for a sheep from Newton Bellingham; and Mr. Thornton, Hyndlee, £39 for another ram from the same lot; whilst £44 was given by Mr. Veitch, of Wauchope, for a sheep out of Attonburn.

Little Driffield.

The annual chartered September fair at Little Driffield took place on Tuesday. The fair has for a great number of years been looked upon as a time for offering rams from the most prominent breeders in the neighbourhood, as well as from a wider area, and the lots offered last week established a record, there being 328. These were all shearlings of the Lincoln, Leicester, and Oxford Down type of sheep. There was a large attendance, and trade was good.

Messrs. Hornby and Wilberfoss had the largest number to offer (160) in their ring. Mr. R. Dixon, Dunnington, disposed of six of his Lincolns at an average of £7 17s. 6d. each, the highest price being £10 10s. Mr. Thomas Crompton, of Westfield, Nafferton, sent 22 Lincolns, all of which were readily sold, the average being £12 9s. 7d. each, the highest price being £21, Mr. W. D. Megginson, Towthorpe, disposed of 30 Leicesters at an average of £10 7s. 3d. per head, one making £25 4s., whilst ten shearling rams from Mr. J. J. Stamper, Highfield, Nunnington, made an average of £10 10s., the top price being £16 5s. Fifteen Oxford Down ram lambs from Mr. W. Wilson, Speeton, made an average of £4. 11s. 9d., the highest price being £7. Messrs. Sugden and Pearce Brown had 13 Lincoln rams from Mr. Robert Fisher, Leconfield, the average realised being £17 8s., one making £22 11s. 6d. Other lots sold at little less prices than those given above. Messrs. G. W. Clark and Sons had several consignments of Lincolns, and the best prices were obtained for those from Mr. J. Jackson, Buckton Hall. Ten of these made an average of £7 2s. per head, the highest price being £12 10s. Mr. E. F. Jordan, of Eastburn, sent 17 from his Leicester flock, which made an average of close upon £7 10s. each, up to £10 being paid, whilst a consignment of Oxford Down ram lambs from Mr. Ernest White, Clanfield, Oxford, made up to £2 17s. 6d. each. Messrs. Cranswick and Cranswick sold eight rams from the flock of Messrs. J. E. and C. H. Simpson, Pilmoor House, Hunmanby, at an average of over £8 17s. each, £13 10s. being paid for one, and for ten Leicesters sent by Mr. John Cranswick, Field House, Hunmanby, close upon £8 each was obtained, one making £11, whilst eleven long-wool rams from Mr. Joseph Cranswick, Rudston, averaged about £5 17s. each. In the general fair about 3,000 lambs were penned, and met a fair sale at 34s. to 40s. per head.

Louth.

The old-established sheep and ram fair at Louth was held on Friday, and there was a large show and a fair trade. The top price recorded was 27 gs., given for one of Mr. Taylor Sharpe's (Baumber) Lincoln Longwools, who had the highest average in the fair, viz., £10 17s. 4d. per head for twenty. The average for other Lincolns ranged up to £8 18s. 6d., whilst for twenty-six Hampshire Down ram lambs Mr. L. W. Stephenson, of South Thoresby, got an average of £9 2s. 1½d., others averaging up to £8 10s. 1d.

Northampton.

The annual Northampton Ram Fair, which was held on Tuesday, in the Cattle Market, turned out one of the most successful held for several years back. The number of rams penned, it is true, fell somewhat as compared with previous years, but not for a long time has there been such an attendance of buyers, nor have the prices given been so good. Messrs. Pierce and Thorpe had the honour of obtaining the highest price given for a ram, getting 20 gs. for an Oxford Down shearling sent by Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Kelmscote, Lechlade, and bought by Mr. Walter Passmore, Ashby St. Legers. Mr. Hobbs sent altogether ten splendid shearling rams, and for these he got the satisfactory average of £12 3s. 6d., the prices in addition to the 20 gs. including 13½ gs. (twice), 13 gs., 11½ gs., and 11 gs. (twice). Last year's highest price for a ram was also 20 gs. Mr. Hobbs also sent 48 ram lambs, sold at prices varying between 12 gs. (given by Mr. G. James, Irchester, for an animal which won a first prize at the Royal show) to 3 gs., the average being £6 17s. Messrs. Paxton and Holiday, Bicester, obtained the highest price for a ram lamb, Mr. Hunt, of Wheatley, paying them 17 gs. for an Oxford Down belonging to Mr. Henry Akers, Faringdon, Berks. A vast number of other consignments were disposed of at prices ranging up to those given.

Shrewsbury.

The Shrewsbury Great Autumnal Sale of Shropshire and cross-bred sheep took place on the 14th and 15th inst., and was conducted by Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., secretaries to the Shropshire Flock Book Society, Shrewsbury. On the first day 220 Shropshire rams were offered, and a large company of well-known breeders and flockmasters attended, including representatives from Scotland, Ireland, South America, South Wales, and most of the Midland counties. The trade was brisk and many rams changed hands. Mr. R. H. White, of Ireland, secured a grand specimen bred by Mr. T. G. Juckes at 28 gs. Mr. A. P. Turner paid 31 gs. for a ram bred by Mrs. Inge; eight other sheep from this flock made 27 gs. (Mr. R. C. Pryce), the lot averaging £15 5s. 10d. Mr. P. Everall's selection made 30 gs. to Australia, ranging down to 7 gs. Mr. T. Jones had a consignment of 25, which were all sold at an average of £7 15s. Mr. Joseph Everall had a consignment of 15, and these were sold at prices ranging from 16 gs., 14 gs., 13 gs., 11 gs., 10 gs., down to 7 gs. Mr. T. G. Juckes's lot sold well, viz., 28 gs., 14 gs., 13 gs., 11 gs., and 7 gs. Other consignments were received from Sir W. O. Corbet, Bart., Messrs. S. F. M. Nevett, E. J. Frank, E. Nock, S. Bromley, V. Bromley, Mrs. Everall, Messrs. J. Harding, R. C. Pryce, R. H. Gwynne, Lady Rothschild, etc.

On the second day 1,500 Shropshire ewes and 800 cross-bred ewes and wethers were passed under the hammer, and a grand clearance was effected. The company again was large, and many of the lots were eagerly sought after. Sir W. O. Corbet headed the list with 20 beautiful shearling ewes, which realised 100s., 75s., 67s. 6d., 67s. 6d. Mr. F. Bibby's pens sold at 55s., 53s., 51s., 50s. Mr. S. F. M. Nevett's 71s., 71s., 64s., to 53s. Mr. T. Jones's 61s., 59s., 58s., 57s., to 51s. Mrs. Everall's 52s., 51s. Mr. J. H. N. Walford's 59s., 57s., 54s. Mr. P. Everall's 51s., 50s. Mr. J. Everall's 71s., 57s., 55s., 53s., 52s. Mr. W. Oakley's 47s., 46s., 45s. Mr. J. Whitaker's 49s., 45s. Mr. E. J. Frank's 57s., 55s., 54s., 53s. Mr. R. C. Pryce's 75s., 70s., 60s., 59s. Mr. J. Munslow's 54s., 52s., 51s., 50s., 48s. The cross-bred ewes and wethers were a capital display, and sold from 42s. down to 31s.

Mr. J. Thompson's Leicesters.

Forty pure-bred Leicester shearling rams and upwards of 200 breeding ewes and gimmer shearlings, the property of Mr. Joseph Thompson, were sold by auction at Wauldby, Brough, East Yorks, on Friday. A large number of farmers and flockowners assembled, and there was keen competition for the first score of rams. The highest price was 21 gs. Other leading prices were 14½ gs. and 15 gs. The rams realised a total of £335 10s. 6d., or an average of just under 8 gs. each. The gimmer shearlings, sold in lots of ten, realised up to 60s. per head, and the ewes to 67s. each. The averages are about the same as last year's.

Ulverston.

On Tuesday the Ulverston and North Lonsdale Auction Mart Company held their annual show and sale of rams and keeping sheep at Lightburne Park, Ulverston. There was a good average entry for the show, and the quality was of a very high order, and included in the sale were 60 Shropshires belonging to Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., which were disposed of at an average price of about £3 10s., the winner in the Down ram or lamb class realising £3 12s. 6d. Altogether about 1,500 sheep passed through the ring.

(*Other Sheep Fairs and Sales, on page 373.*)

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

CROWN LANDS, SHIMPLING THORNE, SUFFOLK. To be Let, a good Corn and Barley Farm, lying in a ring fence, known as Shimpling Park Farm, comprising about 572 acres, of which 482 acres are arable and 87 acres grass. There is a Bailiff's House and 5 Cottages and 2 sets of modern Farm Buildings. The Farm is situated about midway between the market towns of Sudbury and Bury St. Edmunds, being about 7 miles from either town, and is distant about 3 miles from the Cockfield Station on the Great Eastern Railway. For further particulars, apply to Messrs. CLUTTON, 9, Whitehall Place, London, S.W., Crown Receivers.

CROWN LANDS, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, KENT.—To be Let, the valuable, compact Grazing and Corn Farm, known as "Neats Court Farm," containing about 790 acres, of which about 500 acres are pasture and marsh grazing land and 270 acres arable. The Farm is situated near to Queenborough Station on the South Eastern and London, Chatham and Dover Railway, and within easy reach of Sheerness and the market town of Sittingbourne. There is a good farmhouse with modern farm buildings and nine labourers' cottages. About 368 acres of marsh grazing land adjoining the Farm can be let with it if desired. The sporting will be included in the letting. For further particulars, apply to Messrs CLUTTON, Crown Receivers, 9, Whitehall Place, London S.W.

SUSSEX, EAST HANTS, AND CHICHESTER FAT STOCK, At CHICHESTER. NOVEMBER 22nd and 23rd. Entries close November 9th. F. N. HOBGEN, Secretary, East Street, Chichester.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT FARMERS' CLUB GRAIN & ROOT SHOW. At NORTH HAY MARKET, LIVERPOOL, OCTOBER 21st, 1905. Entries close October 7th. J. LUNT, Secretary, 61, Hackins Hey, Dale Street, Liverpool.

PENISTONE, THURLSTONE AND DISTRICT PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION. At PENISTONE, NOVEMBER 16th, 1905. Entries close November 11th. W. OGDEN, Secretary, Lyndene, Penistone.

WHITCHURCH DAIRY FARMERS' ASSOCIATION. At WHITCHURCH, NOVEMBER 14th and 15th, 1905. Entries close November 9th. T. NUNNERLEY, Secretary, Whitchurch, Salop.

Live Stock Record.

LIVE STOCK GAINS AND LOSSES.

By the issue of the second instalment of the Agricultural Returns for 1905, the respective numbers for England, Wales, and Scotland, and for all the counties, are unfolded to view. Critical inspection discloses facts not altogether of a satisfactory character, for some of them show considerable decreases of sheep to such an extent that taking England in its entirety there is a deficiency of 50,944 compared with the return of 1904, although the respective increases of 45,282 in Wales and 55,680 in Scotland, give an increase of 50,018 for Great Britain. The state of things in respect to cattle is altogether different. England exhibits an increase of 103,704, Wales 10,354, Scotland 14,610, which gives the aggregate of 128,668, as was stated in the preliminary returns. The total increase of 12,197 horses is made up by 8,182 in England, 1,661 in Wales, and 2,354 in Scotland.

Most of the English counties more or less display increases in cattle, the only exceptions being Leicester, Warwick, and Stafford, but as the numbering of the latter is only eleven less than in 1904, this is scarcely worthy of notice; nor is the deficiency of Warwick large, being 297. But that of Leicester amounts to 2,428, and, strange to state, so far from that county having compensatory gains in other stock, the returns disclose a deficiency in sheep amounting to 6,582, while horses are 194 less. Taking the English counties, the largest increases of cattle are indicated by the Yorkshire returns, the herds of that county having an augmentation of 15,084 — this notwithstanding an increase of 37,961 sheep and 647 horses. The county showing the next largest gain in cattle is Wilts, 7,074; and the sheep of Wilts appear more than they were in 1904 by 18,054; horses having also an increase of 73. Third in the list stands Sussex, with a cattle increase of 6,735, but against this that county had a sheep loss of 5,463, its equine number being 287 more. Cornwall had a satisfactory output, in a gain of 5,118 cattle, 3,319 sheep, and 507 horses. Somerset had a cattle gain of 4,730, a sheep loss of 4,351, a horse gain of 1,283. Next come the four counties of Northumberland, Lincoln, Oxon, and Gloucester, all with sheep losses to set against their cattle gains, the latter ranging from Lincoln's 4,639 to Gloucester's 4,032. The herd increases of Hants, Berks, Kent, Bucks, and Lancs all range between 3,000 and 3,600, and all of them, except Hants, have sheep gains also.

Strange to state, the English county which exhibits the greatest decline in sheep is Lincoln, it being 28,234. There are gains of 507 horses and 439 cattle, however, and the heavy export of pedigree sheep may partly account for the deficiency. But how is the loss of 14,329 sheep in the Northampton return to be accounted for? There is an increase of 126 horses and 855 cattle, it is true, but those who know the county would scarcely expect it to show this heavy loss of the ovian race after the satisfactory lamb crop of last spring. There are other losses, however, equally unaccountable, such as 9,400 in Notts, 14,015 in Suffolk, 7,378 in Cambs, 16,794 in Warwick, 9,316 in Gloucester, 8,951 in Essex, and seven other counties with over five thousand losses each. On the other side there are, of course, considerable gains, some of which have been mentioned, but in addition that of Dorset was 13,955, Westmorland 12,040, Kent 9,913.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

Speaking at the luncheon held in connection with the Easingwold Agricultural Society's show at Easingwold, on Wednesday, Lord Londonderry remarked that in the past he had been a firm believer in local shows, and they were now even more necessary in order to support the chief provincial show —if he might use the expression—the "Yorkshire," the Royal Society having now fixed upon London as its permanent home. Personally, he had always regretted that action, for he had always looked upon that show as a kind of movable feast, which first gave the South a chance and then the North. No doubt the desirability of the change was well considered by those responsible, but shows such as that at Easingwold should go a long way towards making the Yorkshire the great show for the whole of the North of England.

At a meeting of the Council of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club held last week, it was stated that the prize list for the forthcoming show would amount to about £1,400, the donations received to date being £120, or about the average.

The Wensleydale Bluefaced Sheep Society's Show and Sale of Wensleydale rams will be held at Helifield on October 3, when something like 250 rams and ram lambs will be forward. Catalogues can be had of the secretary of the society, Mr. J. H. Willis, Carperby, Aysgarth, R.S.O.

An unreserved sale of pedigreed Clydesdale horses, hackney and hackney pony foals, store cattle and sheep, the property of the Seaham Stud Co. (late Londonderry Stud), at Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham, will be held on Thursday, October 5. The catalogue comprises:—9 Clydesdale brood mares, 6 Clydesdale fillies (one to three years old), 5 Clydesdale entire colts (one and two years old), 25 Clydesdale colt and filly foals, 1 gelding, 5 hackney foals, 14 hackney pony foals, 1 driving cob, 70 store cattle, Shorthorns, and crosses, and 48 cross Wensleydale gimmers. The sales at Seaham Harbour have long held a wide popularity, the high-class quality of the stock being well known, and I am sure that the animals mentioned above will fully maintain the reputation of the stud. The auctioneers will be Messrs. A. T. and E. A. Crow, Sunderland.

I would remind intending exhibitors at the Smithfield Club Fat Stock Show that the time for closing of entries is drawing very near, and those who have not yet filled in the entry forms should do so at once. The entries close as follows:—Implement department, October 2 (post entries October 5); cattle, sheep, pigs carcase competition, and dead poultry, November 1 (post entries November 6). Prize lists, entry forms, and other information, can be obtained on application to Mr. E. J. Powell, the sec., 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

On Tuesday of next week Mr. W. Bainbridge will sell by auction, at the Ewell Hackney Stud, Ewell, Surrey, 29 class prize winning hackneys, the property of Mr. W. Oppenheimer, who, owing to press of business, is unable to devote the necessary personal attention to such an important stud, and thus has decided to sell without reserve, with one or two exceptions. The animals catalogued include:—13 brood mares and foals, 3 three-year-old fillies, 1 two-year-old filly, 5 harness horses and 5 yearlings and 2 two-year-olds. There will also be included 8 hackneys from the stud of Mr. R. P. Evans, Woodhatch, Reigate. These will be on view September 27 and 28. Luncheon at 12.30, and the sale will commence at 1.30. Catalogues can be had of Mr. W. Bainbridge, Walton House, Warrington.

Mr. Alfred Hughes, of Packwood Grange, shipped to Russia on the 9th inst., per s.s. Dago, from Hull, two pedigree Large White boars and one young sow, to the order of Messrs. Wm. Cooper and Nephews, of Berkhampstead. These were choice typical specimens of the breed, and were selected by Mr. Frank Webb at the Warwickshire Show at Coventry, having there been reserve number and highly commended in strong classes.

At a meeting of Cleveland Agricultural Society at Redcar, last week, it was reported that a profit of £10 had been made on this year's show, notwithstanding the heavy rainfall on the date of the exhibition. An invitation to hold another show at Redcar was received, and this was left over for discussion at the annual meeting, which was fixed for the last Wednesday in January.

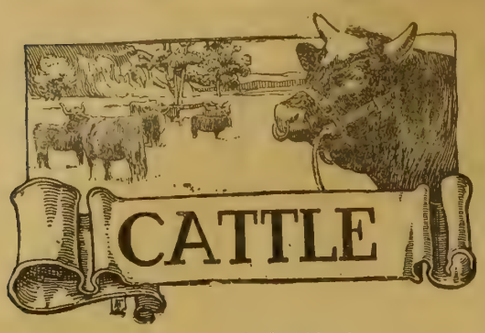
The prize schedule for the Royal Dublin Society's Winter Show at Ball's Bridge, on December 5, 6, and 7 has already made its appearance, and it shows that the prizes are on the usual liberal scale. Classes are provided for cattle with prizes of £6 and £5, firsts; seconds, £4 and £3; and thirds, £2 and £1; for sheep there are nine classes with prizes of £5 and £3; and pigs have one class in which the prizes are £3, £2, and £1. Other sections include dairy produce, honey, farm produce, poultry, etc. Entries close (except for poultry) on November 1 at single fees, and November 4 at double fees, poultry closing on November 6. Applications for entry forms should be made to the agricultural Superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin, stating the number of forms required, and in which class the exhibitor desires to enter.

I would remind breeders of hunters that the entries for Vol. II. of the Hunter Stud Book and Supplement close on Monday next, October 2, with the Secretary, Mr. A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. announce the sale of a number of Sir W. H. Wills's pure-bred Shorthorns, to take place on Tuesday, October 17, at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset, and on the following day, at Woodhouse, Almondsbury, Bristol, they will bring under the hammer fifty of Mr. E. Harwood's pedigree Shorthorns. Both sales will commence after a twelve-o'clock luncheon, and full details can be had of the auctioneers.

The 1906 Bath Horse Show has been fixed for Wednesday and Thursday, September 5 and 6, the entries closing on Saturday, August 18.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best Farm Account Books are "WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK," with Preface by Clare Sewell Read; 72nd edition; 6s.; larger size, 7s. 6d. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOKS, 3s. 6d.; JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., post free. Lists of Game and Dairy Account Books, post free, of Jarrold and Sons, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]



Notes and Jottings.

Brilliant days and frosty nights have characterised the weather generally during the past few days over a very large area of the United Kingdom. For general stock purposes it has been very favourable, but the cold snap at night seems rather to favour a probable early and severe winter. Seasons like the present should teach at least all farmers of mixed farms a valuable lesson with regard to the provision of extra food in the shape of catch crops or extra green crops on a few acres of tillage land. This, if not needed, can be converted into ensilage or dry fodder for use at some future time, and if needed will prevent the untimely sale of feeding cattle or young stock, and will increase their weight and value to an enormous extent.

A note of this kind has been given previously in these columns, and it is a note that will bear repeating many times. I am led to refer to the subject once more by having, during the past week, heard of some highly bred and good Shorthorn steers of a year and a half or more old being sold at about £8 each, and blue-grey crosses of the same age at 10s. a head less. These were being sold solely on account of shortness of feed owing to the dry weather having shortened the hay and straw crops upon these particular farms. Even in a dry time, vetches, lucerne, and several other forage plants will make a great bulk of food per acre, and thus help to tide over such times. Maize is a plant that might be much more commonly grown for such a purpose, and is both valuable and bulky. I saw a very heavy crop being cut on the 20th inst.

Writing notes about such low prices as those quoted brings to mind the petition of the Canadians to the English Government for a rescinding of the prohibitory regulation upon Canadian stores. What cheaper beast could anyone wish to have than such as those referred to at the prices named? Whilst travelling this week I also saw a large bill announcing the Government's reply to the Canadian petition referred to, and one paragraph in that reply, or rather in the petition, struck me as being worthy of notice. The paragraph I refer to runs thus: "That the statute prohibiting the importation of Canadian cattle into the United Kingdom should be repealed on the ground that Canadian herds are and have been free for many years past from those particular diseases against which the embargo was imposed."

It will be noticed it does not say "have been and are free from 'all infectious diseases,'" and it has been reported that some Canadian cattle suffer from other diseases not known in England up to the present, and that though not fatal diseases, would give a great deal of trouble and cause heavy expense if imported, which would be a certainty once our ports are again opened to all sorts and conditions of cattle from the Dominion. It is well that our new Minister is so practically acquainted with the troubles to which breeders of live stock would be liable with open doors to these stores, and that he maintains a firm stand against any relaxing of the present laws. Mr. Fellowes' plan of identifying himself so thoroughly with farmers and breeders in all parts of the country and ascertaining their views is just what is required in an ideal Minister.

Then the Government's reply to the petition also explains in a manner that should be satisfactory to both sides that the present system of prohibiting the importation of foreign—including Canadian—cattle is no detriment to any trade or business, and does not affect the consumer or producer adversely to any perceptible extent, and that an extensive business is being done in these cattle under the present restrictions in a manner that is proving most beneficial to all concerned. English farmers and breeders, we repeat once more, will do well to rear as many healthy and well bred calves as their farms and means will enable them to do, and to, as intimated in a note above, look well to the growing of a good volume of green fodder to assist in maintaining a heavy stock through a period of drought.

Several sales of pedigree cattle have taken place recently that prove to a great extent our most popular breeds of cattle. The Shorthorn always has stood first, the Hereford and Aberdeen-Angus breeds coming next in regard to averages and high prices, each of these three breeds in turn being very much above the prices of Red Polls, Sussex, or Devons, likewise any of the remaining lesser known breeds, and lesser tried ones. Though milking cattle of any note and on the market ready for taking into the milk-sellers' herds are getting dearer every day, and are now making high prices, yet the sales of pedigree stock of any of the milking breeds, when sold for breeding purposes, are, and have been for some time, very slow and disappointing.

At a recent show a class was scheduled in the cattle section under the title, "Fancy Cattle," and the exhibits in this class included Channel Island animals, and also some examples of what are known as Welsh Sheeted cattle, a breed that are scarcely known and are very few in number, and are in shape and general points very similar to the ordinary black Welsh, but in colour, instead of all being black, or with, perhaps, a little white underneath, or a slight white line along the back, have a milk-white band extending completely round the body from a little behind the shoulders up to the front of the hips, varying perhaps a little in some cases. The effect upon a group of them is very pleasing to the eye. They are quite an addition to the landscape in a nobleman's park, and are also extremely practically valuable.

Jersey cattle have been very much in demand recently as regards the female sex, owing to the scarcity of milk, many private households having run short in the supply of milk and butter, though the shortness of keep in July and August, and in such places where the family has been accustomed to Jersey produce, it cannot tolerate that of other breeds, hence purchases have to be made to keep the household going. For this purpose any satisfactory prices have been prevailing for animals of the breed that show a good flow of milk, whilst dry cattle and young stock, and also bulls of the same breed, have been and still are selling at prices too low down to be remunerative to the breeder or vendor.

The age to which some breeders keep old favourites is not commonly known, and not taken account of to the extent it might profitably be taken. A cow or a bull that remains faithful and productive to well on in the teens, and some even until after a score of summers have been passed, is perhaps the greatest recommendation that any herd can wish to have. It means that these animals have been profitable (for no one would keep them thus long if it were not so) it means that they have also been sound and most probably entirely free from tuberculosis, and it means, in a very great measure, that these same valuable properties have been bequeathed to and improved upon generations of cattle to come in almost countless numbers. There are cows in the country to-day that have bred as many as twenty calves each, and are still healthy and fruitful.

The Christmas shows are now fast looming upon us, and as farmer meets farmer each interested in the feeding line, and show stock in particular, almost the first question asked is, "Have you seen what so and so has got?" or "How has such a bullock or heifer gone on?" referring, perhaps, to some prominent animal in the junior classes at last Christmas shows, and purchased then for carrying on for further exhibition at the coming shows. Many of these cattle, it is known, have done remarkably well, and some excellent cattle have already been shown at some of the district shows, where classes are provided for fat cattle. Altogether, the probability is that the coming Christmas will witness quite as good animals as have been seen for several years past. There is not likely to be any falling off.

Aberdeen-Angus Sales in Scotland.

Tochineal.

To resume the thread of these sales where we were compelled to abandon it last week owing to exigencies of space, we will deal with the sale at Tochineal, Cullen, which took place on the Thursday, the animals offered being the property of the Countess-Dowager of Seafield, who sent from Cullen House nine cows, three two-year-old heifers, a yearling heifer, and two bulls; Mr. George Bruce, Tochineal, twelve cows, five two-year-old heifers, two yearling heifers, four heifer calves, and two bulls; Mr. William Wilson, Coynachie, six cows with their calves, four two-year-old heifers, and six yearling heifers; and Mr. Robert Forbes, Woodhead of Kinloss, who sent three cows, a two-year-old heifer, three yearling heifers, and a bull. All the four breeders have been for long ardent supporters of the Black Polls, and the stock offered was generally of a useful character, several of the animals being prizewinners at shows in the north-eastern counties. There was a good attendance of buyers, but trade was disappointing, and prices on the whole poor, considering the quality of the stock offered. The highest price of the sale was but 62 gs., which was paid for one of the Coynachie cows, and only twelve of the sixty-two animals sold during the day reached 30 gs. The following were the chief sales, the sellers being indicated by the name in parentheses after that of the animal:—

cows.

	Gs.
Pride of Summer 24017 (Cullen House), c. June 21, 1895; s. Edric .....Mr. Kerr	60
Etolia 3rd 25531 (Cullen House), c. Jan. 27, 1897; s. Ecossais .....Mr. M'Connochie	28
Dainty Erica 27473 (Cullen House), c. October 21, 1897; s. Earl Bernadotte .....Mr. Stevenson	30
Flowerlet 5th 27786 (Tochineal), c. December 3, 1897; s. Jew 12613.....Mr. Forbes	23
Lectern 26856 (Tochineal), c. January 11, 1898; s. Legacy 12677.....Colonel Smith Grant	22

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
September 26	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Mr. S. W. Blyth	The Lodge Farm, Fairstead, Essex.
26	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle ...	Rev. C. Bolden and Mr. Bridges	Preston Bissett, Bucks.
26	Cattle, Horses, and Sheep	Mr. J. Handley	Brigflatts, Sedbergh.
26	Shire Horses	Executors of the late Mr. J. H. Bryars	Sheffield.
26	Long-Woolled and Cross-bred Sheep and Devon Cattle	Mr. W. Lutley	Escott Farm, Carhampton, Somerset.
26	Shire Foals...	Various	Rugby.
26	Suffolk Ram Lambs ..	Various	Ipswich.
27	Shorthorns	Sir Alexander Henderson	Buscot Park, Faringdon.
27	Lincoln Red Shorthorns ..	Trustees of the late Mr. Alfred Smith	Surfleet, Lincolnshire.
27	Lincoln Sheep	Mr. J. Cliff	Greetwell, near. Brigg.
27	Aberdeen-Angus Cattle ...	Mr. J. J. Cridlan	Maisemore Park, Gloucester.
28	Horses	Mr. W. A. Winstanley ...	Chaigeley Hall Stud, near Clitheroe, Lancs.
28	Dorset Horn Sheep ...	Various	Dorchester (Poundbury) Great Sheep Fair.
28	Horses, including Shire Foals	Various	Lincolnshire Horse Repository, Grantham.
28	Hackneys, Harness Horses, &c.	Various	York Horse Repository.
29	Shorthorns	Mr. W. Bateman	Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster.
29	Kent or Romney Marsh Rams	Members of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep-breeders' Association	Cattle Market, Ashford.
29	Store Stock	Various	Shrewsbury.
30	Shetland Ponies, Cattle, and Sheep	Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie	Earlshall, Leuchars, N.B.

Elena Pride 27479 (Cullen House), c. April 28, 1898; s. Earl Bernadotte 13338.....Rev. T. G. Little 29
Flash Pride 29130 (Cullen House), c. May 27, 1899; s. Blennerhasset 14157.....Mr. Barclay 24
Esmeralda 2nd of Wester Fowlis 30927 (Tochineal), c. February 1, 1900; s. First Quality.....Mr. Smith 26
Extra Erica 34917 (Coynachie), c. March 17, 1900; s. Jipsey Baron 13532.....Colonel Smith Grant 37
Anna of Hawkhall 32425 (Tochineal), c. December 15, 1900; s. Perceval of Mountblairy.....Mr. Smith 28
Highland Darling 32632 (Cullen House), c. January 13, 1901; s. Portsman of Aberlour..Sir G. Abercromby 41
Coynachie Ruth 3rd 33010 (Coynachie), c. February 2, 1901; s. Statesman of Coynachie..Mr. Walker 48
Miss Stables 2nd 31856 (Kinloss), c. February 16, 1901; s. Interdict.....Mr. Allan 17
Her Bull Calf, Forres of Woodhead, c. March 29, 1905; s. Pope of Rome .....Mr. Allan 14
Bequest of Tochineal 31419 (Tochineal), c. March 6, 1901; s. Eymund .....Mr. Simpson 29
Patroness 5th of Woodhead 33668 (Kinloss), c. March 9, 1902; s. Interdict.....Mr. Smith 27
Irish Bine 34545 (Cullen House), c. April 14, 1902; s. Portsman of Aberlour.....Mr. Forbes 25
Fabiana 33580 (Coynachie), c. April 19, 1902; s. Echador.....Sir G. Cooper 62
Entice 2nd 35535 (Kinloss), c. August 3, 1902; s. Interdict .....Colonel Smith Grant 28

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Pride 9th of Coynachie 35649 (Coynachie), c. December 3, 1902; s. Statesman of Coynachie Sir G. Cooper 42
Rosebud of Tochineal 35156 (Tochineal), c. December 27, 1902; s. Pictorial.....Mr. Ferguson 20
Blooming Maid 2nd of Ardoch 35993 (Tochineal), c. December 31, 1902; s. Escort 2nd of Hillockhead Mr. Kerr 26
Her Majesty 2nd 36277 (Cullen House, c. January 29, 1903; s. Premier of Finlarig....Sir G. Abercromby 52
Pride of Aberdeen 224th 35682 (Tochineal), c. March 1, 1903; s. Baron Erica .....Mr. Kerr 50
Coynachie Darling 10th 36630 (Coynachie), c. March 18, 1903; s. Rupert 9th.....Rev. T. G. Little 21
Jubilee Erica 36287 (Cullen House), c. May 20, 1903; s. Portsman of Aberlour....Colonel Smith Grant 40
July Pride 38067 (Cullen House), c. July 28, 1903; s. Premier of Finlarig.....Mr. Findlay 27

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Erica of Coynachie 5th 38373 (Coynachie), c. February 11, 1904; s. Statesman of Coynachie Mr. Paterson 38
Pride of Aberdeen 269th 38382 (Coynachie), c. February 20, 1904; s. Statesman of Coynachie..Mr. Bell 23
Her Majesty of Cullen 3rd 38065 (Cullen House), c. February 26, 1904; s. Portsman of Aberlour Mr. Wilson 25
Encircle (Kinloss), c. June 3, 1904; s. Pope of Rome Mr. Dow 27

HEIFER CALVES.

Eveleen of Tochineal (Tochineal), c. November 19, 1904; s. Portsman of Aberlour.....Mr. Reid 15
Pride of Tochineal 2nd (Tochineal), c. January 16, 1905; s. Egmont of Tochineal.....Mr. Ferguson 17

BULL.

Portsman of Aberlour 17040 (Cullen House), c. March 13, 1899; s. Alick of Aberlour .....Mr. Ferguson 40
Countess Dowager of Seafield's.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
9 Cows	31 14 8	..	285 12 0
3 Two-year-old heifers	41 13 0	..	124 19 0
1 Yearling heifer	26 5 0	..	26 5 0
1 Bull	42 0 0	..	42 0 0
4 Head	34 4 0	..	478 16 0
Mr. G. Bruce's.			
11 Cows	22 5 9	..	245 3 6
5 Two-year-old heifers	26 17 7	..	134 8 0
2 Yearling heifers	15 4 6	..	30 9 0
3 Heifer calves	15 15 0	..	47 5 0
21 Head	21 15 6	..	457 5 6
Mr. W. Wilson's.			
6 Cows	35 7 0	..	212 2 0
4 Two-year-old heifers	25 9 3	..	101 17 0
5 Yearling heifers	21 12 7	..	108 3 0
4 Heifer calves	17 1 3	..	68 5 0
19 Head	25 16 2	..	490 7 0
Mr. R. Forbes's.			
3 Cows	25 4 0	..	75 12 0
1 Two-year-old heifer	18 7 6	..	18 7 6
3 Yearling heifers	19 19 0	..	59 17 0
1 Bull calf	14 14 0	..	14 14 0
8 Head	21 1 3	..	168 10 6

Portlethen and Morlich Herds.

On the following day the scene of the sale was Portlethen, near Aberdeen, where were brought under the hammer drafts from the herds of Mr. George J. Walker, Portlethen, and Mr. George Cran, Morlich. Mr. Walker's selection consisted of 11 cows, 5 two-year-old heifers, 8 yearling heifers, 9 heifer calves, and a four-year-old Erica bull; while Mr. Cran's consignment comprised 6 cows, 9 two-year-old heifers, 4 yearling heifers, and 3 heifers calves. Most of the stock was of fashionable breeding and all the animals were shown in the pink of condition. There was a large attendance of breeders and others interested, most of the representative men who had been at the three previous sales of the week being again present. Trade, however, showed no improvement, and once again buyers secured a lot of bargains. The Portlethen lot brought a total of £769 13s., or an average of £23 6s. 5d., while the average for Morlich was £28 12s. 2d., and the total was £629 9d. 6d. The top price for the cows was brought b the Morlich three-year-old Jemima LI., a daughter of Palgrave, which, with her heifer calf, went at 50 guineas to Sir George Couper, Hursley Park, Hampshire. She has been a noted prize-taker at North-Country shows, and was one of the prettiest representatives of the famous old Jemima family. She did not, however, secure the highest price of the sale, this being given for the two-year-old heifer, Jemima 56th, also from Morlich, and for her Sir George Cooper paid 56 guineas. A list of the chief lots is appended:

Millet 26752 (Portlethen), c. Jan. 28, 1898; s., Mailbag Mr. Smith 6s.
Euchra of Preston 26498 (Portlethen), c. March 11, 1898; s., Proud Duke of Ballindalloch Mr. W. S. Ferguson 34
Elise 28353 (Portlethen), c. March 25, 1899; s., Perkins Mr. G. Bruce 30
Jemima 37th of Morlich 28108 (Portlethen), c. April 25, 1899; s., Rover of Craibstone .. Col. Smith Grant 21
Kathleen of Morlich 3rd 29807 (Morlich), c. Feb. 9, 1900; s., Rover of Craibstone .....Mr. M'Laren 36
Jemima 44th of Morlich 29806 (Morlich), c. March 17, 1904; s., Rover of Craibstone .....Mr. Gordon 28
Pride of Morlich 4th 29811 (Morlich), c. April 2, 1900; s., Rover of Craibstone .. Rev. G. T. Little 32
Wilton Beauty 10th 32890 (Portlethen), c. Dec. 19, 1900; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Mr. Sharp 33
Jemima 47th of Morlich 31559 (Morlich), c. March 5, 1901; s., Rover of Craibstone ....Mr. W. Barcley 25
Wilton Beauty 13th 34797 (Portlethen), c. Nov 6, 1901; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Mr. Bell 24
Jemima 51st of Morlich 33394 (Morlich), c., Jan. 27, 1902; s., Palgrave .....Sir G. Couper 50
Lovelock 14th 34793 (Portlethen), c. Feb. 18, 1902; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Earl of Airlie 21
Wilton Beauty 15th 3 799 (Portlethen), c. March 14, 1902; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben Mr. J. W. Barclay 22
Eunice of Portlethen 34791 (Portlethen), c. March 24, 1902; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Mr. Blair 39

TWO YEAR OLD HEIFERS.

Wilton Beauty 16th 36534 (Portlethen), c. Dec. 18, 1902; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben Mr. W. S. Ferguson 24
Jemima 57th of Morlich 35275 (Morlich), c. Jan. 13, 1903; s., Jeshurun .....Mr. Tulloch 31
Jemima 59th of Morlich 35277 (Morlich), c. Jan. 15, 1903; s., Jeshurun .....Mr. W. S. Ferguson 26
Alice of Portlethen 8th 36525 (Portlethen), c. Jan. 29, 1903; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben ....Mr. W. Wilson 28
Jemima 56th of Morlich 35274 (Morlich), c. March 3, 1903; s., Jerushun .....Sir G. Couper 56
Jewess of Portlethen 36529 (Portlethen), c. March 4, 1903; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben ....Mr. G. Cran 36
Espuela 36528 (Portlethen), c. March 29, 1903; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Mr. Simpson 40
Arabella 17th 36526 (Portlethen), c. April 20, 1903; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Mr. Nicolson 26
Eriskay of Morlich 35273 (Morlich), c. May 13, 1903; s., Engineer of Preston .....Mr. J. Chalmers 48

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Pewter 38287 (Portlethen), c. Dec. 8, 1903; s., Everynight .....Mr. Bridges 27
Brunhilda 10th 38283 (Portlethen), c. Dec. 10, 1903; s., Empiric 2nd of Mulben .....Mr. Bell 16
Wilton Beauty 18th 38289 (Portlethen), c. March 3, 1904; s., Everynight .....Col. Smith Grant 16
Jemima 61st of Morlich 37054 (Morlich), c. March 12, 1904; s., Jeshurun .....Mr. J. W. Barclay 22
Eytelwein 38284 (Portlethen), c. March 20, 1904; s., Everynight .....Mr. P. Chalmers 43
Jemima 66th of Morlich 37059 (Morlich), c. April 3, 1904; s., Jeshurun .....Mr. Bridges 18

HEIFER CALVES.

Ednie (Portlethen), c. Dec. 16, 1904; s., Everynight Col. Smith Grant 22
Blarinda 5th (Portlethen), c. Jan. 2, 1905; s., Eyeball of Portlethen .....Mr. Simpson 16
Jemima 69th of Morlich (Morlich), c. Feb. 1, 1905; s., Jeshurun .....Sir G. Couper 32
Pride of Morlich 7th (Morlich), c. Feb. 23, 1905; s., Jeshurun .....Col. Smith Grant 32
Eyry (Portlethen), c. March 3, 1905; s., Everynight Col. Smith Grant 26
Early of Morlich 2nd (Morlich), c. April 4, 1905; s., Jeshurun .....Mr. G. Walker 16

SUMMARY.

	Mr. G. J. Walker's. Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
11 Cows	27 6 0	.....	300 6 0
5 Two-year-old heifers..	32 6 9	.....	161 14 0
8 Yearling heifers	21 5 3	.....	170 2 0
9 Heifer calves	15 5 8	.....	137 11 0
33 Head	22 6 5	.....	769 13 0
	Mr. G. Cran's.		
6 Cows	33 8 6	.....	200 11 0
9 Two-year-old heifers..	30 4 4	.....	271 19 0
4 Yearling heifers	18 4 10	.....	72 19 6
3 Heifer calves	28 0 0	.....	84 0 0
22 Head	28 12 3	.....	629 9 6

Aldbar.

The week's sales were brought to a conclusion on the Saturday with a joint sale at Aldbar, Brechin. In all, 61 head were forward, comprising 30 cows, 12 two-year-old heifers, and 19 yearling heifers. The Earl of Airlie's draft from Cortachy Castle embraced half-a-dozen cows, 5 two-year-old heifers, and 3 yearling heifers. Mr. George Willsher, Pitpointie, sent 10 cows, 2 two-year-old heifers, and 3 yearling heifers. Colonel M'Inroy, of The Burn, had 4 cows, 3 calves, a two-year-old heifer, and 4 yearling heifers. Mr. Chalmers, of Aldbar, had an entry of 3 cows, 2 two-year-old heifers, and 5 yearling heifers. Mr. James Kennedy, of Doonholm, has the only prominent herd of Aberdeen-Angus cattle in Ayrshire, and his lot, which included 7 cows, 2 two-year-old heifers, and 4 yearling heifers, made a very creditable appearance for a herd so much isolated from the recognised home of the breed. All the drafts contained well-bred animals, of high individual merit, and descended from some of the best-known families, including Ericas, Prides, Jemimas (of Morlich, Kinnochtry Princesses, Witches of Endor, Matildas, and other noted strains. The sale was another disappointing one, the prices obtained being on the whole the lowest of the week. Customers seemed to have got their wants pretty well supplied at the earlier sales, and the demand was very slack. The Aldbar herd came out best, bringing not only the highest individual price, but also the largest average. Details of the chief sales are appended

COWS.

Princess of Ireland [illegible] (Cortachy), c. Dec. 2[illegible] 1896; s. Roscommon 12[illegible] ..... Mr. Johnston 19
Jemima [illegible] (Morlich), c. April 6, 1897; s. Rover of Craibstone 1[illegible] ..... Mr. Sim 21
Nature [illegible] (Cortachy), c. Dec. 2, 1897; s. Roscommon 1[illegible] ..... Mr. Wilson 22
Enzie [illegible] (Doonholm), c. Jan. 5, 1[illegible] s. Victor [illegible] ..... Mr. Smith 18
Merry Nell of Pitpointie [illegible] (Pitpointie), c. Dec. 31, 1899; s. Royal Lad 1[illegible] ..... Mr. J. B. Sim 15
Dashing Pride [illegible] (Aldbar), c. Dec. 2, 1[illegible] Diplomat 1[illegible] ..... Mr. Wilson 25
Princess 7th of Monquhitter [illegible] (Cortachy), c. Dec. 29, 1899, s. Chieftain [illegible] (Cortachy) 5
Pride of Annesley 29767 (Aldbar), c. Jan. 2[illegible] s. Annesley 1[illegible] ..... Mr. C. Duffus 20
Melrota [illegible] (Doonholm), c. Feb. 1[illegible] Burnetum 1[illegible] ..... Mr. Duffus 15
Paardeberg [illegible] (The Burn), c. Feb. 27, 1[illegible] Reliance of Aldbar 13[illegible] ..... Mr. Duffus 20
Elsie of Meikle Tullo [illegible] (The Burn), c. March 29, 1901; s. Meridian of Glamis 15743 ....Sir L. Lyell 21
Her C.C., Burn Elise, c. Dec. 26, 1904; s. Ben Vrackie[illegible] ..... Mr. Speid 14
Mistress Nelly [illegible] (Pitpointie), c. May 3, 1[illegible] s. Just Judge of Morlich 1[illegible] ..... Mr. Ferguson 5
Estelle of Aldbar 33363 (Aldbar), c. April 25, 1[illegible] s. Elshender 16523 .....Mr. Ralston 50

TWO YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Aristoclea 34981 (Cortachy), c. Dec. 29, 1902; s. Judex of Glamis 16722 ..... Miss L. Lawson 34
Perone of Cortachy 34987 (Cortachy), c. Jan. 10, 1903; s. Judex of Glamis 16722 .....Mr. Ralston 32
Ayesha 34982 (Cortachy), c. Jan. 24, 1903; s. Judex of Glamis 16722 .....Mr. Ferguson 24
Burn Mirabelle 36004 (The Burn), c. Jan. 25, 1903; s. Ben Vrackie 16290 .....Mr. Duffus 25
Rodona 35856 (Doonholm), c. Feb. 7, 1903; s. Inceptor 19436 ..... Mr. Ralston 22
Lucy of Doonholm 35853 (Doonholm), c. April 6, 1903; s. Kilgraston 15610 .....Mr. Ralston 20
Annuity 8th 35220 (Aldbar), c. May 11, 1903; s. Kriston 18021 .....Mr. G. J. Walker 33

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Highland Heather 38356 (Pitpointie), c. Dec. 5, 1903; s. Ballo 18755 .....Mr. M'Laren 14½
Elsheila 37001 (Aldbar), c. Dec. 8, 1903; s. Pagan of Aldbar 21008 ..... Mr. Speid 45
Burn Merula 37772 (The Burn), c. Jan. 3, 1904; s. Ben Vrackie 16290 ..... Mr. Sharpe 21
Pride of Health 37005 (Aldbar), c. Jan. 6, 1904; s. Kriston 18021 .....Mr. Bridges 32
Enula 37629 (Doonholm), c. Jan. 9, 1904; s. Perplex 21040 .....Mr. Sim 27
Pride of Aldbar 6th 37004 (Aldbar), c. Jan. 16, 1904; s. Elshender 16523 ..... Miss Lowson 27
Melantho 37632 (Doonholm), c. Jan. 20, 1904; s. Mondamin 18240 .....Mr. Sharpe 17
Lady Jane of Aldbar 37002 (Aldbar), c. Jan. 23, 1904; s. Kriston 18021 .....Miss Lowson 21
Erima 37774 (The Burn), c. Jan. 31, 1904; s. Ben Vrackie 16290 .....Mr. Duffus 20
Economy of Aldbar 37000 (Aldbar), c. Feb. 12, 1904; s. Elshender 16523 .....Mr. Speid 41
Arnica 35719 (Cortachy), c. March 10, 1904; s. Ruglo 21285 .....Mr. Bridges 21

SUMMARY.

	Average.		Total.
MR. CHALMERS.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
3 Cows	40 5 0	....	120 15 0
2 Two-year-old heifers.	26 5 0	....	52 10 0
5 Yearling heifers	34 17 2	....	174 6 0
10 Head	34 [illegible]5 1	....	347 11 0
EARL OF AIRLIE'S.			
5 Cows	18 13 9	....	93 9 0
5 Two-year-old heifers..	27 3 10	....	135 19 6
3 Yearling heifers	16 9 0	....	49 7 0
13 Head	21 8 10	....	278 15 6
MR. J. KENNEDY'S.			
6 Cows	17 11 9	....	105 10 6
2 Two-year-old heifers..	22 1 0	....	44 2 0
4 Yearling heifers	18 4 10	....	72 19 6
12 Head	18 11 0	....	222 12 0
COLONEL M'INROY'S.			
3 Cows	19 5 0	....	57 16 0
1 Two-year-old heifer ..	26 5 0	....	26 5 0
4 Yearling heifers	18 7 6	....	73 10 0
3 Heifer calves	16 2 0	....	48 6 0
11 Head	18 14 2	....	205 15 0
MR. G. WILLSHER'S.			
10 Cows	20 4 3	....	202 2 6
2 Two-year-old heifers..	14 3 6	....	28 7 0
3 Yearling heifers	13 16 6	....	41 9 6
15 Head	18 2 7	....	271 19 0

Mr. C. E. Huuter's Aberdeen Angus.

On Wednesday Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co. disposed of yet another Aberdeen-Angus herd, this time that of Mr. C. E. Hunter's, of Selaby, Gainsford, who, being the prospective Unionist candidate for Scarborough, is moving there, hence the dispersal of his well-known herd. Mr. Hunter took up the breeding of this class of cattle about ten years ago, using as a foundation a few well-bred animals purchased from the Ballindalloch herd, of which Evidence, among those put into the ring, was one. Opportunities for acquiring at once a number of highly bred Trojan-Ericas as were here offered but seldom occur, and the result was a large and representative attendance. Scottish breeders were well represented, and there were also observed many others from different parts of England. The condition of the animals gave general satisfaction, and several lots realised very high prices, the fifty-five head realising £1,926 4s. 6d., or an

average of £35 odd. A yearling heifer, Eyelid, of the Trojan-Erica family—the sire being Examiner of Selaby, and the dam Eyelash of Selaby—made the top price, 115 gs., the purchaser being Mr. Kerr, of Harviestoun. Eyelid was bred by Mr. C. E. Hunter, and was calved on April 4, 1904. She was third at the Royal Show at London in June last and first at Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire shows, in addition to being very highly commended at the Highland. The cow Estimation, another Trojan-Erica, was sold to Mr. Fenwick of Birtley for 112 gs. Estimation, calved April, 1902, is a son of Estimate of Selaby, by Hyperion of Selaby, and was bred by Mr. Hunter. She was second at the Royal this year, and at the same show in 1903 secured third place as a yearling, whilst at Northumberland County and other shows she beat all comers. Numerous other good prices were obtained, as will be seen from the following sale list:—

COWS.

	Gs.
Hyssop 2nd 22331 (Heather Blossom), c. Feb. 24, 1894; s. Champagne ..... Mr. Wilson	21
Ebullition 22990 (Erica), c. Dec. 10, 1894; s. Jolly Fellow of Ballindalloch 9285 ..Mr. T. H. Bainbridge	32
Heatherbred of Selaby 25618 (Heather Blossom), c. March 12, 1897; s. Poland of Auchorachan 12844 Mr. Brennand	20
Bustling Maid 25616 (Miss Burgess), c. April 16, 1897; s. Kidnapper 9300 .....Col. M'Inroy	30
Estimate of Selaby 25617 (Erica), c. April 20, 1897; s. Kidnapper 9300 ..... Mr. Fenwick	70
Ruthless of Selaby 27038 (Ruth), c. June 14, 1897; s. Kidnapper 9300 ..... Mr. Sandleman	28
Ebryna 26853 (Erica), c. April 4, 1898; s. Sutherland 13983 ..... Mr. Maxwell	38
Rubina 30298 (Ruth), c. Dec. 14, 1899; s. Crowbar Mr. Brennand	44
Queen Mona 4th of Skegby 29745 (Mayflower of Mulben), c. March 11, 1900; s. Quince 13886 Mr. Atkinson	31
Godiva of Danesfield 30279 (Queen Mother), c. April 21, 1900; s. Junior Jehu 14536 ..... Mr. Calder	22
Ebony of Selaby 30289 (Erica), c. April 6, 1900; s. Diplomat 13310 ..... Col. M'Inroy	52
Europa of Selaby 30291 (Erica), c. April 29, 1900; s. Eurotas of Ballindalloch 9962 ..... Mr. Kerr	23
Evora of Selaby 32102 (Erica), c. Dec. 16, 1900; s. Diplomat 13310 .....Mr. Maxwell	42
Eyelash of Selaby 32103 (Erica), c. March 20, 1901; s. Diplomat 13310 ..... Mr. Fenwick	34
Juverna 32106 (Jipsey), c. March 23, 1901; s. Diplomat 13310 ..... Sir W. Eden	27
Evenlode 33963 (Erica), c. Dec. 6, 1901; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 ..... Mr. Fenwick	75
Prejudice of Selaby 33965 (Pride of Aberdeen), c. Dec. 22, 1901; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 Mr. Fenwick	40
Heatherfield 33964 (Heather Blossom), c. Jan. 11, 1902; s. Expert of Selaby 17822 ..... Sir W. Eden	28
Erotion 33961 (Erica), c. Jan. 15, 1902; s. Diplomat 13310 ..... Mr. Buncombe	35
Crowood 33969 (Coquette), c. Feb. 17, 1902; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 ..... Mr. Calder	27
Erinna 33960 (Erica), c. March 26, 1902; s. Expert of Selaby 17822 .....Mr. M'Ainish	31
Estimation 33962 (Erica), c. April 9, 1902; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 .....Mr. Fenwick	112
British Maid 33958 (Miss Burgess), c. April 10, 1902; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 .....Col. M'Inroy	66

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Hespera 35792 (Heather Blossom), c. Nov. 16, 1902; s. Expert of Selaby 17822 .....Sir W. Eden	21
Hispania 35793 (Heather Blossom), c. Dec. 10, 1902; s. Expert of Selaby 17822 .....Sir W. Eden	23
Ruritania 35794 (Ruth), c. Feb. 17, 1903; s. Examiner of Selaby 19107 .....Mr. Brennand	96
Ebria 35791 (Erica), c. April 20, 1903; s. Examiner of Selaby 19107 ..... Mr. Fenwick	62

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Napata 37551 (Nosegay), c. Dec. 12, 1903; s. Expert of Selaby 17822 .....Mr. Brennand	
Babbling Maid 37546 (Miss Burgess), c. Dec. 15, 1903; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 .....Mr. Brennand	38
Epione 37547 (Erica), c. Jan. 5, 1904; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 ..... Mr. Calder	70
Grœcia 37549 (Queen Mother), c. Jan. 22, 1904; s. Examiner of Selaby 19107 .....Mr. Wilson	21
Eyelid 37548 (Erica), c. April 14, 1904; s. Examiner of Selaby 19107 ..... Mr. Kerr	115

HEIFER CALVES.

Errata (Vol. XXX.) (Erica), c. Dec. 6, 1904; s. Valasquez 22780 ..... Mr. Findlay	53
Bountiful Maid (Vol. XXX.) (Miss Burgess), c. Jan. 23, 1905; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680..Mr. Bridges	16

STOCK BULLS.

Examiner of Selaby 19107 (Erica), c. May 1, 1901; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 .....Mr. M'Intyre	43
Valasquez 22780 (Lady Ida), c. Jan. 2, 1903; s. Eliminator of Ballindalloch 17756 .....Mr. Buncombe	28
Evenor 23200 (Erica), c. Feb. 21, 1904; s. Hyperion of Selaby 16680 ..... Mr. Whitestone	27

BULL CALVES.

Estimater (Vol. XXX.) (Erica), c. Dec. 15, 1904; s. Valasquez 22780 ..... Mr. Buncombe	26
Crowland (Vol. XXX.) (Coquette), c. Dec. 16, 1904; s. Valasquez 22780 ..... Mr. Hall	17
Evemouth (Vol. XXX.) (Erica), c. March 22, 1905; s. Examiner of Selaby 19107 .....Mr. Brennand	25

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
26 Cows	39 6 3	1,022 3 6
4 Two-year-old heifers....	50 0 6	212 2 0
7 Yearling heifers.....	45 12 0	319 4 0
6 Heifer calves	19 5 0	115 10 0
12 Bulls	21 8 9	257 5 0
55 Total	35 0 5	1,926 4 6

Mr. Clement Stephenson's Aberdeen Angus.

On Tuesday, Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser & Co., Ltd., sold by auction, at Balliol Farm, Long Benton near Newcastle, forty pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus, belonging to Mr. Clement Stephenson, the sale being necessitated by the herd having outgrown the accommodation. Mr. Stephenson, about twenty-five years ago, gained the distinction of being the first to introduce the breed into the north of England, and in the meantime he has produced many animals of national fame, and has been prominent among the prize-winners at our most important shows. It should be explained, however, that three years ago Mr. Stephenson discontinued the preparation of cattle for exhibition purposes, and that they have since been kept in as natural a breeding condition. Mr. Stephenson made use of Sir George Macpherson Grant's Erica bull "Englishman" in laying the foundation of his herd, and many descendants of that wonderful animal appeared in the ring. Other notable families, including the Jilts, the Brides, the Abbesses, and the Prides, were also represented. There was a large and representative attendance of breeders, but, as at the Scotch sale, prices were by no means so good as have been wished for, and some of the buyers undoubtedly got great bargains. Seventy-one guineas was the top price of the sale, and this sum was realised by Jovial, of Benton, which was undoubtedly the pick of the yearlings, and should distinguish herself in the showyards of next year. One of the Jilt breed, she looked the picture of perfection, and bidding for her was brisk. She ultimately was bought by Mr. J. J. Cridlan. Details of the other chief sales will be found in the following list:—

COWS.

	Gs.
Extract of Benton 32753, c. Jan. 12, 1901; s., Esmond of Ballindalloch .....Mr. W. S. Ferguson	36
Benton Bride 5th 32749, c. March 2, 1901; s., Esmond of Balindalloch .....Mr. Rea	22
Beatrice of Benton 34641, c. Dec. 22, 1901; s., Breckan of Ballindalloch .....Mr. Rea	22
Benton Bride 7th 34643, c. Feb. 2, 1902; s., Esmond of Ballindalloch .....Mr. Brennard	35
Jilt of Benton 6th 36395, c. July 24, 1902; s., Eliminator .....Mr. Calder	58

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Abbess of Benton 7th 36387, c. Dec. 1, 1902; s., Best Boy of Benton .....Lord Durham	21
Benton Bride 9th 36390, c. Jan. 10, 1903; s., Adrianus Mr. M'Intyre	25
Abbess of Benton 8th 36388, c. Feb. 7, 1903; s., Eliminator .....Mr. Calder	25
Jilt of Benton 7th 36396, c. Feb. 15, 1903; s., Eliminator .....Mr. Calder	40
Lively of Benton 38166, c. June 15, 1903; s., Eliminator .....Mr. Brennard	21
Joviality of Benton 38164 c. Sept. 7, 1903; s., Adrianus Mr. T. H. Bainbridge	60

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Elite of Benton 3rd 38160, c. Dec. 8, 1903; s., Adrianus .....Dr. Smythe	30
Fair Maid of Benton 2nd 38163, c. Dec. 21, 1903; s., Adrianus .....Mr. Wylie Hill	40
Exempt 38162, c. Dec. 23, 1903; s., Eliminator Mr. Brennard	46
Beau's Pride 38158, c. Dec. 31, 1903; s., Beau of Addington Park ....Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, M.P.	27
Jovial of Benton 38165, c. Jan. 1, 1904; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. J. J. Cridlan	71
Abstract 38156, c. Jan. 8, 1904; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. Bridges	28
Pride of Aberdeen 241st 38167, c. Jan. 29, 1904; s., Eliminator .....Mr. M'Ainish	22
Heifer—twin with a bull, c. Feb. 4, 1904; s., Eliminator .....Seaton Delaval Coal Co.	23
Exactly Right 2nd 38161, c. April 28, 1904; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Rev. C. Bolden	40

HEIFER CALVES.

Polka of Benton (Vol. XXX.), c. Dec. 10, 1904; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. J. J. Cridlan	20
Expectation (Vol XXX.), c. Dec. 28, 1904; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. G. Rea	15
Pride of Benton 3rd (Vol. XXX.), c. Jan. 24, 1905; s., Eliminator .....Seaton Delaval Coal Co.	14
Just Right (Vol. XXX.), c. April 1, 1905; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. Brennard	15

YEARLING BULL.

Expert of Benton 23207, c. Dec. 25, 1903; s., Beau of Addington Park ..Mr. W. C. B. Beaumont, M.P.	30

BULL CALVES.

Exemptor 2nd (Vol. XXX.), c. Dec. 16, 1904; s., Eliminator .....Mr. M'Intyre	20
Ben Battle (Vol. XXX.), c. Jan. 8, 1905; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. M'Intyre	18
Jurist of Benton (Vol. XXX.), c. Jan. 19, 1905; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. Rea	25
Perseverance (Vol. XXX.), c. Jan. 30, 195; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Mr. Greaves	19
Electrum (Vol. XXX.), c. Feb. 19, 1905; s., Beau of Addington Park .....Seaton Delaval Coal Co.	21

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
6 Cows	33 5 0	199 10 0
6 Two-year-old heifers..	33 12 0	201 12 0
11 One-year-old heifers ..	33 4 4	365 8 0
7 Heifer calves	14 11 0	101 17 0
1 Yearling bull	31 10 0	31 10 0
9 Bull calves	18 15 6	169 1 0
40 Head	26 14 5	1,068 18 0

Sale of Lord Rothschild's Shorthorns.

Tring Park, the Hertfordshire seat of Lord Rothschild, has long been known for its pure-bred stock, many of our Colonial friends making Tring one of their first visits in this country, to see the various breeds maintained on this celebrated estate. At the sale of a portion of the herd of Shorthorn cattle on Tuesday, by Messrs. Thornton and Co., there was a representative company, and the cattle were well brought out in healthy breeding condition, many of them being fit for the dairy.

H.M. the King was the purchaser of one of the best cows and her calf in Orange Blossom 34th, bred by Mr. James Hobbs, at 60 guineas. Among other purchasers might be mentioned Mr. C. Adeane, Mr. James Hobbs, Mr. Robert Hobbs, Mr. R. W. Hudson, and Mr. Vernon. The last-named gave 50 guineas for Remembrance, a red and white two-year-old, for exportation, and Mr. A. E. Unna purchased several good lots to go to Chili. The highest price for bulls was 115 guineas, at which sum Mr. W. E. Horne secured the roan yearling Friar, by Lavender Lord. The fifty-head catalogue realised £1,536 13s. 6d., or an average of £30 14s. 8d. A sale list is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Lady Fife, roan, c. October 20, 1896; s. Duke of Fife 5th.....Mr. T. Chapman	20
Irwin's Rose, roan, c. January 18, 1899; s. Golden Cherry's Prince .....W. Simons	24
Her B.C., roan, by Mountain Chieftain..G. Spencer	11
Snowdrop 34th, red roan, c. September 14, 1899; s. Trojan .....W. M. Mead	27
Pink 22nd, red roan, c. October 17, 1899; s. Trojan R. W. Hobbs	26
Blanche Beauty 5th, red and white, c. January 12, 1900; s. Jasper 2nd .....R. H. P. Hutchinson	24
Nettle, red and little white, c. February 23, 1900; s. Isinglass .....C. Adeane	24
Fairy Queen, red roan, c. November 24, 1900; s. Lord Eamont .....C. W. Mansel Lewis	28
Catthorpe Aster 2nd, red and little white, c. April 24, 1901; s. Oxford Lovely .....W. Crosland	35
Sweet Briar 36th, red, c. October 26, 1901; s. Red Rover .....Sir W. Farrer	29
Her C.C., red, c. August 19, 1905, by Magna Charta J. K. Knight	7½
Rosebranch, red and white, c. May 4, 1901; s. Red Rival .....J. L. Shirley	22
Blanche Beauty 9th, red and white, c. December 19, 1901; s. Hazledown .....G. Taylor	20
Turner 13th, roan, c. March 24, 1902; s. Royal Fife 9th .....R. W. Hudson	35
Butterfly 20th, red, c. April 6, 1902; s. Magna Charta Colonel Hadden	18
Her B.C., red roan, c. April 11, 1905; s. Baron Bates R. Bagnall	19
Sherbet, white, c. April 14, 1902; s. Scottish King A. J. Robarts	21
Jessica, red, c. June 5, 1902; s. Magna Charta A. E. Unna	20
Rose of Wicken 32nd, red, c. August 14, 1902; s. Lord of Winsomes .....J. T. Hobbs	25
s. Near Go .....H.M. the King	50
Her C.C., red roan, c. June 20, 1905; s. Loyal Squire H.M. the King	10
Dewy Morn, red, c. December 23, 1902; s. Magna Charta .....J. T. Hobbs	26
Her B.C., red, c. August 2, 1905; s. Baron Bates ? J. H. Knight	6½
Blossom, roan, c. February 17, 1903; s. Magna Charta A. E. Unna	44
Princess Josephine 76th, roan, c. March 4, 1903; s. Lord of Winsomes .....J. Williams	25
Wild Duchess of Worton 9th, roan, c. March 14, 1903; s. Waterloo Baron 2nd .....J. T. Hobbs	26
Hampton Gwendoline, red, c. March 24, 1903; s. Lord Chamberlain .....A. E. Unna	36
Remembrance, red and little white, c. May 19, 1903; s. Brave Beau .....R. Vernon	50
Sainfoin, red, c. July 31, 1903; s. Magna Charta W. E. Horne	21
Naomi, red, c. August 6, 1903; s. Magna Charta A. E. Unna	20
Syringa, roan, c. September 5, 1903; s. Magna Charta F. Crouch	21
Eira, roan, c. September 17, 1903; s. Magna Charta C. Adeane	30
Eileen, roan, c. September 17, 1903; s Magna Charta C. Adeane	25
Chewton Rose 3rd, rich roan, c. September 25 1903: s. Near Go .....T. Franklin	34
Columbine, red and little white, c. October 2 1903 s. Magna Charta .....A. E. Unna	23
Reson, roan, c. March 15, 1904; s. Royal Fife 9th A. C. Hall	25
Starlight, roan, c. April 11, 1904; s. Comet G. Taylor	20
Broom, roan, c. April 24, 1904; s. Silver Count B. Hall	21
Furbelow Countess 3rd, roan, c. June 12, 1904; s. Marden Brazenose .....W. E. Horne	26

BULLS.

Donovan 85772, roan, c. August 1, 1903; s. Magna Charta .....H. Hemsworth	36
Playmate 86854, roan, c. September 14, 1903; s. Magna Charta .....A. H. Gregson	37
Friar 88636, roan, c. March 7, 1904; s. Lavender Lord .....W. E. Horne	115
Dignity 88395, red and little white, c. August 31, 1904; s. Magna Charta .....A. C. Hall	25
Southern Cross 90194, red and very little white, c. September 9, 1904; s. Magna Charta....T. Simpson	29
Tom Bowling 90333, roan, c. September 17, 1904; s. Magna Charta .....D. B. Gibson	28
Bondsman, roan, c. September 17, 1894; s. Magna Charta .....Colonel Hadden	20
Specialist 90199, red, c. October 4, 1904; s. Magna Charta .....C. Whiting	32
Orchard Prince 89481, red, c. November 4, 1904; s. Magna Charta .....A. Luckin	27

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
40 Cows	28 16 8 ..	1,153 8 6
10 Bulls.....	38 6 6 ..	383 5 0
50 Head	30 14 8 ..	£1,536 13 6

Sale of Mr. R. Wood's Shorthorns at Clapton.

A portion of the herd of Shorthorns bred by Mr. Rowland Wood at Clapton, Thrapston, Northamptonshire, was sold by auction on Wednesday by Messrs. Thornton and Co., in the presence of a large and representative company. The herd is of long standing, and has a good reputation in the Midland counties, not only for its good dairy properties, but for its young bulls. Sixteen bulls sold from it this year have averaged £82 18s. 6d., and prizes have frequently been won at Birmingham both at the spring and autumn sales. Lady Barrington Butterfly 24th, the first cow offered, was the dam of the first prize bull at Bingley Hall last March, where he was bought by Mr. D. Maclennan for

550 gs. She is a very fine cow, but, being ten years old, she only made 34 gs. to Mr. J. C. Stockburn. Mr. Casares, buying for the Argentine, paid the top price of the sale for Village Rose, bred by Messrs. P. A. and G. T. Evans; she quickly ran up to 85 gs., and goes out of the country at that figure. Mr. J. Miller paid 80gs. for May Flower 25th, a very fine two-year-old red heifer, while Mr. W. Scott and Captain Reeve both gave 50 gs. for superior animals. The best price among the bulls was given by Mr. J. A. Preece for Lilford Connaught, sent by Lord Lilford for sale. He is by Mr. Woods' Prince Paul from Connaught Rose, a cow that has already bred two prize winners.

Some of the best prices were as follows:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Lady Barrington Butterfly 34th, red and little white, c. March 20, 1895; s. Marmion 65892 Mr. J. L. Stockburn	34
Brilliant Ruby, red, c. Feb. 17, 1896; s. Wrangler 68118 ..... Mr. H. M. S. Mackay	25
Louisa 43rd, roan, c. Nov. 28, 1897; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. T. Stokes	20
Laura 36th, red, c. Jan. 31, 1898; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	50
British Queen, roan, c. Feb. 13, 1898; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. J. A. Preece	20
Flower of Hatherop 19th, red, c. April 18, 1898; s. Airy Knight 2nd 69854 .... Messrs. Cooper Nephews	30
Her red C.C., c. August 13, 1905; s. Volunteer 2nd 78092 ..... Mr. W. Watts	26
Sea Gull, roan, c. July 1, 1898; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Captain Duncombe	41
Flower of Aylesby 33rd, roan, c. March 23, 1899; s. Stephen FitzLavender 73732 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	42
Her roan B.C., c. June 26, 1905; s. Silver Cup 84780 Mr. W. M. Scott	20
Prim, red, c. Feb. 9, 1900; s. Autumn Prince 68167 Mr. L. J. Briggs	22
Laura 38th, roan, c. Feb. 9, 1900; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. C. O. Eaton	27
Butterfly Duchess 16th, roan, s. Feb. 20, 1900; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. H. M. S Mackay	27
Compass, roan, c. April 12, 1900; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons	25
Princess Dagmar, red, c. August 2, 1900; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. J. Thornton	21
Village Rose, red roan, c. Feb. 7, 1901; s. Signalman 73615 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	85
Butterfly Duchess 17th, red and little white, c. May 17, 1901; s. Prince Leopold 77485 Mr. E. N. Casares	19½
Her red C.C., c. May 16, 1905; s. Clapton Conqueror 85587 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	18
Louisa 50th, red, c. Jan. 15, 1902; s. Prince Paul 77504 ..... Mr. W. Hepwell	20
Sea Gem, rich roan, c. April 1, 1902; s. Dunch Hill 73764 ..... Captain Duncombe	33
Louisa 51st, roan, c. April 12, 1902; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. J. Williams	42
May Flower 22nd, roan, c. May 14, 1902; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Mr. J. Copley	20
Brilliant Rose, red, c. June 8, 1902; s. Autumn Prince 68167 ..... Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons	24
May Flower 25th, red, c. March 1, 1903; s. Regent 73398 ..... Mr. J. Miller	80
Careful Lass, roan, c. July 21, 1903; s. Carwin Lad 78544 ..... Mr. B. Hall	40
Laura 41st, red, c. July 24, 1903; s. Regent 73398 Mr. J. Miller	47
Louisa 53rd, red, c. July 26, 1903; s. Regent 73398 Mr. H.M.S. Mackay	26
Laura 42nd, red roan, c. July 27, 1903; s. Prince Louis 81921 ..... Mr. B. Hall	41
May Flower 26th, red, c. July 31, 1903; s. Prince Louis 81921 ..... Captain Reeve	50
Broadmoor Duchess, red, c. Sept. 1, 1903; s. Carwin Lad 78544 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	36
Butterfly Duchess 20th, red, c. July 24, 1904; s. Coral Prince 85647 ..... Captain Reeve	23
Village Lily, red, c. Jan. 25, 1905; s. Look Ahead 83901 ..... Hon. Colonel Lawson	20
Proper, red, c. Feb. 12, 1905; s. Look Ahead 83901 Mr. B. King	28

BULLS.

Emperor of Waterloo 35th, red, c. Dec. 16, 1902; s. Chieftain 78588 ..... Mr. T. Chapman	23½
Lilford Connaught (Lord Lilford's), roan, c. March 17, 1904; s. Prince Paul 77504 ..... Mr. J. A. Preece	43

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
49 Cows and heifers	30 15 8	1,508 6 6
5 Bulls	22 17 10	114 9 0
54 Head	30 1 0	1,622 15 6

Sale of Lord Southesk's Highland Cattle.

The most important sale of Highland cattle held for some time past took place on Wednesday, when the herd belonging to the Earl of Southesk was brought under the hammer at Kinnaird Castle, near Brechin. The catalogue included almost the whole of the animals in the fold, only a few of the older cows being retained. The collection offered for sale was one of quite exceptional merit—the quality of the young cows and heifers surpassing, in the opinion of a high authority, any sale lots that have been put into the market since the Taymouth dispersion upwards of forty years ago. The majority of the cows and three-year-olds had also the advantage of being early calvers. Prior to the sale, which was conducted by Mr. Paton, of Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Perth, there was a luncheon, at which Lord Camperdown presided. In replying to the toast of his health, Lord Southesk said they knew how much he regretted that he should have to put so many of these fine cattle on the market, but, as no doubt they were aware, he was retaining a small number in order to continue the fold in the future.

The sale was characterised by great activity. It was early evident that many of the visitors had come to buy, and the best stock was in brisk demand. Apart from a lot of bullocks which were disposed of at the close of the proceedings, the breeding cattle sold numbered seventy-eight, and they realised £3,791 11s., making the very satisfactory general average of £48 12s. 2d. The three-year-old heifers brought the best average, namely, £83 12s. 4d.; in the sections for cows and for two-year-olds the highest figure of the day was obtained, £210 being reached in each of these lots. The cows were an extremely interesting collection, and they were eagerly sought after, especially the early calving ones, and in quite a number of cases even the late calvers were well run up. The highest price was obtained for the red brindled four-year-old Princess Morella, which was second at the Dumfries Highland as a two-year-old and first as a three-year-old at Perth. She is as pretty a specimen of the breed as one could desire, and for her there was a keen competition between Mr. Carnegie of Stronvar and Sir George Bulloch's representative; she ultimately went to Sir George's fold at 200 gs. This sum was also given by Sir W. O. Dalgleish for the two-year-old heifer Princess Almira, the winner at the Glasgow Highland in July. She is full sister to King Alaric, and is built in the fashion that the old Taymouth fanciers liked, being very wide and deep in body and close to the ground. Several other three-figure prices were realised, and for details of these we must refer our readers to the following list of chief lots:—

Cows.—Lady Erna, 8 years—Mr. Graham of Airthrie, 28gs.; Desdemona, 11 years—Mr. J. D. Fletcher of Rosehaugh, 28 gs.; Lady Sheila, 9 years—The Duke of Atholl, 51gs.; her bull calf—The Duke of Atholl, 34 gs.; Lady Marian, 7 years—Bulloch's Trustees, Megarnie, 33gs.; Lady Clara, 7 years—Mr. Carnegie of Stronvar, 105gs.; Lady Dois, 8 years—Sir George Bulloch of Rum, 38gs.; Lady Mary Malvinia, 6 years—Bulloch's Trustees, 130gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Robertson, Scorrybreck, 35gs.; Lady Dorian, 6 years, and bull calf—Sir George Bulloch, 75gs.; Lady Maud, 9 years—Sir George Bulloch, 75gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Douall of Logan, Wigton, 20gs; Lady Vera, 8 years—Mr. Sopper, Dunmaglass, 25gs.; Cassandra, 9 years—Mr Douall, Logan, 34gs.; Valeria, 8 years and bull calf—Mr. Sopper, Dunmaglass, 33gs; Princess Morella, 4 years—Sir George Bulloch, 20gs; her heifer calf—The Duke of Sutherland, 31gs.; Princess Selina, 4 years—Mr. Thomson, Strathaird, 42gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Sopper, Dunmaglass, 24gs; Princess Alma, 4 years—Mr. Carnegie, Stronvar, 66gs.; Princess Lilian, 4 years, and heifer calf—Bulloch's Trustees, 100gs.; Princess Helen, 4 years, and bull calf—Sir Donald Currie, Glenlyon, 46gs.; Madam Rhona, 4 years—Bulloch's Trustees, 65gs.; Pomona, 4 years—Mr. Sopper, 70gs.; Fauktine, 10 years— Sir Alexander Baird of Urie, 38gs.; Drusilla, 9 years—Lord Midleton, Strathcarron, 60gs.

THREE-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Princess Millicent—Mr. Carnegie of Stronvar, 135gs.; Princess Corona—Mr. Thomson, Straithaird, 75gs.; Princess Caledon—Mr. Macdonald of Dunach, 65gs.; Princess Monica—Sir George Bulloch, 190gs.; Princess Dorothea—Mr. Carnegie of Stronvar, 38gs.; Princess Valdina—Mr. Thomson, Strathaird, 190gs.; Princess Guenora—Mr. Carnegie of Stronvar, 42gs.; Princess Delia—Lord Middleton, 57gs.; Thora Malvina—The Duke of Sutherland, 41gs.; Princess Violet—Mr. Douall of Logan, 32gs.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Catalina—Mr. Sopper, 31gs.; Princess Dilecta—Mr. Douall, 24gs.; Princess Flora—Lord Middleton, 42gs.; Princess Almira—Sir W. O. Dalgleish, of Errol Park, 200gs.; Princess Rachel—Mr. Macdonald, Dunach, 36gs.; Princess Valona—Lord Middleton, 50gs.; Princess Varna—Mr. Carnegie, of Stronvar, 44gs.; Princess Dinora—Mr. Macdonald, Dunach, 26gs.; Princess Mariana—Mr Carnegie, of Stronvar, 36gs.; Princess Matilda—Sir Donald Currie, 33gs.; Donnach Buidhe of Dunlossit—Mr. Sopper, 46gs.; Proiseag 6th of Dunlossit—Mr. Sopper, 37gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Lydia Lucy—Sir W. O. Dagleish, of Errol Park, 100gs.; Princess Gallia—Mr. Thomson, Strathaird, 72gs.; Princess Valetta—Sir Donald Currie, 30gs.

BULLS.—Calum Ban of Atholl, 10 years—Mr. Stephen, of Cholderton, 40gs.; Prince Colin, 3 years—Mr. Robertson, Scorrybreck, 30gs.; King Alfred, yearling—Mr. Sopper, 35gs.; Gillemichel, yearling—Mr. Graham, of Airthrie, 22gs.

SUMMARY.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
24 Cows	210 0 0	61 10 3
11 Three-year-old heifers..	199 10 0	83 12 4
14 Two-year-old heifers....	210 0 0	47 9 6
10 Yearling heifers	105 0 0	34 9 10
4 Bulls	42 0 0	33 6 9
15 Calves	36 15 0	16 16 8

Sale of a Famous Herd of Sussex Cattle.

The celebrated herd of Sussex cattle bred at Ashurst for the past 130 years without a break, was brought under the hammer at Eatons Farm, Ashurst, on Friday, by Mr. Harry Jas. Burt, of Steyning, in conjunction with Messrs. King and Chasemore, of Horsham. There was a large attendance of buyers, for, in addition to the cattle, the horses, etc., were sold. As there was no reserve some great bargains were obtained. The highest price for a cow was but 19 gs., while for heifers the best figures were 31 gs., 22 gs., and 21 gs., the two stock bulls only realised 18 gs. and 15 gs., whilst the yearling bulls went at prices ranging from 7½ gs. to 19½ gs.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

Horse Notes.

The accounts of the cavalry manœuvres which appear in the morning papers are not very satisfactory to the heavily burdened taxpayer. The *Yorkshire Post*, commenting on the state of things, says: "The youth of a very large proportion of the horses upon which the regiments are mounted is stated to be the cause of many of the defects noticed. It is the old story of Treasury parsimony which compels the Army Remount people to put immature horses into the ranks, and the blame for the disappointing performances of the cavalry when tested as a division must not be laid altogether to the debit side of the regimental officer's ledger. The number of sick and sorry horses in the camp lines is far greater than it is pleasant to see."

It is no part of my duty here to criticise a Government Department or the policy of a Government, or else I might point out where there is more wastefulness than parsimony, and that the Remount Department, instead of coming first, as it ought to do, has to put up with the leavings, as it were. Ours is the most expensive and probably the worst equipped army in the world. What is the use of these autumn manœuvres when the cavalry, even in the carefully guarded language of men of optimistic tendency, is admitted to be a failure. For "disappointing performances" is only another way of spelling that ugly word. What would be the result of these "disappointing performances" if the war were real instead of mimic is too awful to contemplate. As it is we are wasting thousands in autumn manœuvres which cannot be carried on thoroughly with such an important arm as the cavalry in an inefficient state from want of being properly mounted.

I have frequently pointed out in these columns the absurdity of expecting farmers to breed more or less good-looking, serviceable, and sound horses and sell them at from £40 to £45. But it is quite possible for the Government to get remounts which in the long run would be much cheaper than those they now waste the public money over in such airy, light-hearted fashion. It does not require a genius to know that no four-year-old, or even no five-year-old, is fit to carry a trooper with all his impedimenta—and a trooper without his impedimenta might as well be at home in war time. It would be interesting to know how many four-year-olds are now in the ranks struggling under a burden they are quite unfitted to carry.

No one for a moment contradicts the statement that working immature horses means early and permanent breakdown. The hunting man whose riding weight is from 14 to 15 st. knows better than ride a four or five year old horse to hounds, and he seldom, if ever, rides a horse hard that is under seven years old. If he does he is pretty sure to regret it. Yet, notwithstanding the fact that theory and practice agree to the letter on the subject, immature horses are still drafted into the ranks by thousands. And it must not be forgotten that the trooper in marching order, and with all his accoutrements, rides considerably more than 15 st. So with using immature horses an early breakdown of a large proportion is assured, and this means an incalculable loss to the nation. And what is worse, our cavalry is not of the value it should be when it is wanted.

This is another factor, also, which is against us getting full value of work even out of such horses as we do get. They are generally bought out of condition, and they are drafted into the ranks before it is possible to get them properly conditioned. Here, again, is a frequent cause of breakdown.

Now, it stands to reason that a mature, sound horse will cost much more than the Government can afford to pay for remounts. A hunter six or seven years old, even if he will not pass a veterinary examination, will generally bring considerably over the regulation price paid for

remounts. But there is another way of going to work—one which is so obvious, and one, moreover, which is so economical if worked with proper care and by efficient officers that it is a wonder that it has never been adopted.

Horses under this plan would have to be purchased at from two to three years old, and it is sufficiently obvious that if the maximum price were £40, a much better class of horse could be purchased at that age than at the present age for £10 more money. These young horses would first have to be sent to properly arranged depots where they would be more generously fed than young horses are usually on farms. They would also be broken-in there; and it stands to reason that if they are drafted into the regiments at five years old—and they might be sent to regimental work in the October after they were five years old—they would be much better fitted for their work than the average six-year-old horse is under present conditions. The two years' generous keep with light work, would bring them to the ranks in such condition as few troopers are in two years after they have been drafted to a regiment.

Of course, there would be the cost of keep to add to the prime cost; but anyone knows that horses are cheaply kept if there are a great number of them together. Care would naturally have to be taken about the contracts, or we might have a repetition of South African mismanagement, but, with ordinary care, the quantities of forage that would be required should ensure individual horses being kept at the minimum cost. But this would be more than made up for by the increased efficiency of the horses, and it is quite certain that if this plan were adopted, we should not hear so much about "sick and sorry horses in the camp lines," when the troops are engaged in the pleasant task of a mimic campaign, in which the conditions are infinitely less trying to horses than in serious warfare.

It is interesting to learn that Sir James Boucant, who has written a book on the Arab horse, to which I shall hope to refer at a later date, has been trying an experiment, or rather is trying an experiment in horse breeding. Holding an opinion which—whether there is sufficient reason for it or not—prevails in many quarters, that the thoroughbred of the present day is of no use except for racing, he is crossing Australian mares with the Arab. This, at any rate, seems a much more likely plan to succeed than the attempt to manufacture the half-bred hunter sire. It is impossible—indeed, no one wishes to say that the Arab is not possessed of many virtues which the modern thoroughbred scarcely possesses, though, perhaps, the Arab is scarcely the superlative animal that his ardent admirers claim, and there are some points in which the thoroughbred is superior to the Arab, even as a sire of ordinary stock.

One curious thing about the Arab is, that those who have had to do with him a great deal hold extreme opinions about him. There are some who hold him the gamest, the most docile, and the most comfortable conveyance of all horses. Once get them on the subject of Arabs, and they quickly use up all the laudatory adjectives in the language. Their staying power is inexhaustible—they can travel on for ever; their manners are of the best, etc., etc. To others, again, the mention of an Arab is like a red rag to a bull. There is nothing too bad to lay to his charge. They are upright shouldered, they shake you to death in their canter, and though they will go on for a long time at a pace, it is such a slow pace that it is really no trial of a horse's staying power; they have no mouths and no manners. Both sides, evidently, are prejudiced; but I think there is a great deal too much said of the superior staying qualities of the Arab. That he can stay longer in the desert is probable, because the English thoroughbred is not acclimatised to the climate and the sand. But in this connection it must not be forgotten that, when the late Khedive of Egypt matched his best Arabs with English horses for a race over the desert, in which conditions as to distance and climate, etc., were supposed to be all in favour of the Arabs, they were beaten by miles, and that by a very moderate English plater.

I have never ridden an Arab myself, so I cannot speak from personal experience. It is probable that there are many Arabs that are pleasant to ride and many that are the reverse. There are certainly a large number that have not good shoulders as an English horseman understands good shoulders. But about the excellence of their legs and feet there is no mistake, and it is here that they may well improve our half bred stock. I once had a mare that was third in direct descent from an Arab, and she seemed to me to possess many of the good properties and some of the bad ones of her Arab progenitor. She was not quite a comfortable ride, she did not carry her head quite in the right place, and she was a bit of a puller. She could gallop, and she could jump, and she could stay from Monday morning till Saturday night. She was a curiously bred mare, her sire being a so-called half-bred full of Knight of St. Patrick blood, her dam was by a thoroughbred, and her granddam by an Arab from a Scottish trotting pony—one, very probably, of the Douglas breed, but of that I cannot be certain. She was the best of the breed, the others being only moderate. Her stock—she bred me three foals—was only moderate, as, indeed, might have been expected from what was, after all, a "chance" mare.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Hackneys at Elland.

The stud of pedigree Hackneys belonging to Mr. R. G. Ingham, of Hullen Edge, Elland, was offered for sale on Wednesday by Messrs. Ramsden, Scarborough, and Son. There was a large attendance and a good demand. The five first horses made an average of over 55½ gs., and five unbroken youngsters reached an average of over 28½ gs. The following were the best, but prices did not rule very high:—

	Gs.
May, s. Bessemer ..Mr. D. Cullingworth, Dewsbury	31
Terrington Adelaide, s. Goldfinder VI., ex Adeleve Mr. D. Cullingworth	53
Watton Bloom, s. Gentleman John, ex Bloomer Mr. D. Cullingworth	46
Bay Dignity, s. Bessemer, ex Dignity Mr. R. Ford, Driffield	73
Roan Dignity, s. Roan Danegilt, ex Dignity Mr. R. Ford	75
Brown mare, s. Petrous, ex Watton Bloom Mr. James Garnett, Elland	35
Terrington Signature, s. Goldfinder VI., ex Terrington Signa .....Mr. Whitwam, Huddersfield	45

Notes and Jottings.

Amongst the sheep exports noticed last week was a consignment of Wensleydales to Antwerp. It is not often that we have to chronicle the export of stud sheep to this country; therefore it is a matter of gratification to find that there is a demand for sheep of this or any other British breed in Belgium.

The Wensleydales are not much known in the South of England, but in the northern counties and South Scotland the breed is much appreciated. The cross between these rams and the ewes in the districts where they are used results in the production of some high-class mutton-producing sheep. The Wensleydales are an excellent breed of mutton sheep; they have a very large proportion of lean meat, with little or no waste fat. The fleece is also of considerable value, being in the best flocks wonderfully even and uniform. These merits are therefore most valuable in cross-breeding with any class of ewes, and those who are interested in the breed contend, with many good reasons, the support their contention, that all that is required to secure a larger share of the export demand is for the breed to get wider known and tested.

It is satisfactory to note that another consignment of stud sheep—Shropshire ram lambs—have been sent to South Africa. Up to the present time the South African demand for stud sheep has certainly not been up to the expectations entertained at the conclusion of the war. However, from information recently received, there are many indications which give hope for a better demand in the near future.

Another good consignment of the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep have been sold for export. The vendor in this case was Mr. J. D. Maxted, of Lower Garrington, Bettesbourne, near Dover. The selection was made by Mr. W. W. Chapman for Mr. R. Chatterton, who was buying for the Argentine. The number of sheep selected was ten yearling rams of choice breedings, six being by home bred rams and four by rams from the well-known flocks of Messrs. W. Millen and A. Amos.

Once again the Lincoln breed has secured a world-wide advertisement. The London daily papers, or many of them, had an announcement in on Tuesday last that the large sum of 650 gs. had been paid for another ram of this breed. The vendors of this ram were Messrs. Needham, whose grand old flock is one of very high repute indeed.

The prices that have been paid for the leading Lincoln rams this season are certainly in excess of any in former years. Amongst the prices known to have been paid for yearling rams are 1,000 gs., and five at 300 gs. each, from Messrs. R. and W. Wright, one at 450 gs. and another at 500 gs. from Mr. H. Dudding, one of Mr. W. B. Swallow at Lincoln Fair at 200 gs., and now one at 650 gs., besides several between 100 gs. and 200 gs. Surely this is a record no other British breed can equal. The ensuing volume of the Kent or Romney Marsh flock book will be one of great value to the breed, for it contains a record of export trade none of its predecessors can equal. An advance copy enables us to state that during the year ending September 8 last no less than 265 rams and ram lambs and 57 ewes were exported. The corresponding figures for the previous year were 99 rams and ram lambs and 9 ewes.

This record is one that goes far towards proving how much the export demand for these sheep has grown in recent years, but it is also one that might with advantage be added to every other flock book. A reference to the flock book of the Kent Society shows not only the names of all the breeders who have sold sheep for export and his country to which they have been sent, but the individual names and flock book numbers of every sheep, ram, or ewe exported. This information is most valuable to those who are contemplating buying sheep for export, for it enables them to find out in the most ready manner full information as to the pedigree of all the exported sheep, another full information as to where they were bred, etc. More than one export buyer has expressed his strong approval of this useful record, and there is no doubt with the growth of the export demand the value of this unique record will be more and more appreciated.

Amongst the most important sale fixtures for the ensuing week is the Annual Ashford Show and Sale of Registered Kent or Romney Marsh Rams which will take place on Friday next in the Cattle Market at Ashford. The entry comprises 364 yearlings and older rams, representing the picked consignments of nineteen different flocks. The utility of these combination sales cannot be more strikingly shewn than by this fact for any Colonial or export buyer who attends this sale, will be able with one journey and in one day, to see and compare the picked yearling rams of the year from this large number of flocks. The value of this to the Colonial and export buyer is very great, particularly to many who are here for only a short time, and are consequently unable to find time to visit any large number of flocks.

The recent number of the "Journal of the Board of Agriculture" contains much valuable information. We find from one of its many carefully compiled tables that during the twelve months ending August 31st, 1904, 292,565 live sheep were imported. This total, compared with the corresponding figures for the same period in the previous year, shews a decrease of 21.05 per cent. The declared value of these imports shews a decrease of 22.49 per cent, when compared with the corresponding total for 1904.

This reduced importation of live sheep is an important matter to the home flock master, mainly because it is his competition of these sheep that is most severely felt. The reason for this is that such a thing as fresh killed American or Canadian mutton is a commodity one never sees or hears of. Consequently, as all these imported sheep must be slaughtered here on arrival, there is only one conclusion possible, namely, that the whole of the mutton so imported is sold to the public for that which it is not, namely, home grown and fed mutton.

This is a point well deserving the notice of all who are interested in the home-production of mutton. Leaving out of consideration every other phase of the question, no reasonable man can justly object to some means being taken to prevent imported sheep from being sold other than as imported, and thus enable those whose means are limited to take full advantage of the cheaper food these imported sheep should supply, provided their flesh was sold for what it actually is.

Mutton, imported as such, whilst it has undoubtedly a great influence of the market value of mutton, does not so severely compete with the home grown article, because, coming as most of it does in either a frozen or chilled condition, it has, of necessity, to be sold as such. The quantity imported during the twelve months ending August 31st last, was 5,661,813 cwts. or just over 2 per cent. more than in the same period of the pre-

vious year, and the declared value of the same shews an almost similar increase, namely, 2.37 per cent.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Alford.

The annual sheep fair at Alford, promoted by the local Bull Fair Committee, took place on the 16th inst., when there was a good show of sheep and plenty of buyers at satisfactory prices. Prizes were offered for the two best Lincoln Longwool shearling rams, and for the best pen of not less than 20 lambs—any breed. The former awards were given to Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Sons, of Strubby, for two splendid animals by Strubby Woolpack III., 8074. In the latter class premier honours were placed with a very promising pen of half-bred lambs, the property of Messrs. J. Dales and Son, of Farlesthorpe. Mr. B. Simons sold Messrs. Farrow and Sons' prize winning rams to Mr. W. W. Wells, of Withern, and Mr. J. Hurdman, of Mareham-le-Fen, for 15½ guineas and 12 guineas respectively, whilst Mr. L. W. Stephenson's reserve ram went at 18 guineas, and another at 17 guineas, to Mr. Kirkham, of Louth (for Mr. Savage, of South America).

Mr. G. F. Barron's Border Leicesters.

The flock of Border Leicester sheep belonging to Mr. G. F. Barron, Thomastown, Auchterless, Aberdeenshire, was dispersed on the 15th inst. at the Kittybrewster Auction Mart, Aberdeen. Fair prices were obtained, and the demand on the whole was regarded as satisfactory. The flock was made up of 150 sheep, which included 23 shearling rams, 23 tup lambs, 24 gimmers, 39 ewes, and 24 ewe lambs. The shearling rams averaged £4 17s. 7d., the chief prices being £6 5s., £6, £5 15s., £5 10s., and £5. Tup lambs sold from 30s. to £5 2s. 6d., gimmers from 52s. 6d. to 62s. 6d., one-crop ewes from 50s. to 72s. 6d., two-crop ewes from 45s. to 57s. 6d., three-crop ewes from 47s. 6d. to 50s., aged ewes 47s. 6d., and ewe lambs from 32s. 6d. to 40s.

Caistor.

The annual September ram fair, at Caistor, was held at The Top House Market on the 16th inst., there being a good show of rams, also a fair show of ewes, lambs, and gimmers. Private sales showed lambs to fetch from 32s. to £2; ewes, 40s. to 55s.; and gimmers, 50s. to 60s. The ram sales were all productive of good prices, Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall (Louth) disposing of the Croxby, Bigby, and Walesby rams, and Messrs. Calthorpe and Briggs of those of Horkstow and North Kelsey. Mr. H. E. Davey's Croxby flock obtained top price, his best ram (by Otby Active A. 7516) realising 32 gs., paid by Mr. G. Marris, of Kirmington. Mr. Davy's average for 25 rams was 11½ gs.; Mr. H. Abraham's 12 Walesby rams averaged 10 gs., top price 14 gs.; Mr. E. Abraham's Otby flock of eight averaged 9½ gs.; and Mr. J. B. Nelson's Bigby rams (10) averaging 12 gs. each. Mr. W. B. Swallow's Horkstow flock of six shearling rams averaged 13⅔ gs., top price 15 gs., paid by Mr. G. Marris (Kirmington). Messrs. Atkinson and Sons' North Kelsey flock of eight rams averaged 8 gs., top price 11½ gs.

Mr. R. Lambe's Southdowns.

One of the finest flocks of Southdown sheep that belongs to Mr. R. Lambe was sold at East Blatchington Farm, near Seaford, on Wednesday, by Messrs. Drawbridge and Ansell, of Haywards Heath. It was a pure-bred hardy flock, comprising ewes, stock ewe lambs, rams, and ram lambs, and the animals were recommended as being a very healthy lot with size, good wool, and hardy constitutions. Lately Mr. Lambe has parted with a good deal of his land for the purpose of golf links, and under these circumstances, found that it would be practically impossible to keep a good flock. In all the lots exceeded 150, and were offered without reserve. There was a representative attendance of breeders, and bidding was brisk, some fairly good prices being realised. Full-mouth ewes fetched from 46s. to 48s. each, six-tooth ewes 48s. to 52s.; four-tooth ewes 54s. to 60s.; two-tooth ewes 54s. to 65s., broken-mouth ewes 26s. to 40s., stock ewe lambs 31s. to 34s., rams 42s. to 52s. 6d., and ram lambs 31s. 6d. to 63s.

Lewes.

Lewes annual sheep fair was held on the Downs on Thursday, when only 3,000 sheep were penned, this being the smallest number within the recollection of those who have known the fair for the last fifty years, and 2,000 below last year's total. A larger number has been seen at what is known as the second fair, which follows a week later. There was, however, no falling off in the quality, which, all round, is very good. The great majority of the sheep were, of course, of the Southdown breed, but there were also a few pens of the Welsh variety. Buyers were present in force, and the prices obtained were regarded as highly satisfactory all round. Prices for rams ranged from four to seven guineas each, ewes fetched from 32s. to 50s., and lambs from 25s. to 34s.

Newingreen.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs held a most successful sale of Kent and half-bred sheep and lambs at Newingreen, Kent, they disposing of upwards of 5,300. There was a good attendance and brisk bidding, and the prices were, in the opinion of many, as high as at the first sale. The quality in a good many cases was not quite so good as at the previous sale, but practically everything was cleared. The Kent lambs of medium quality generally made about 25s. 6d., but several better lots were sold at 30s. 6d., 31s., and 32s., and one pen of fifty Kent ewe lambs of Mr. A. Mowbray made 33s. 6d., the top price of the day. Kent wether lambs made up to 31s. 6d., and half-breds up to the same figure. Among the old sheep, Kent ewe tegs made from 45s. to 53s., and half-bred tegs up to 49s. 6d. Kent wether tegs realised up to 44s. 6d., while a capital run of one-lamb ewes made from 52s. to 54s. 6d. Three-lamb ewes made from 40s. to 46s. 6d., the latter figure being reached by a pen of Mr. J. E. Quested's ewes

Sale of Welsh Sheep.

One of the largest sales of Welsh sheep ever held took place at Brynffynon, near Rhyl, on the 15th inst., and was conducted by Messrs. Frank Lloyd and Sons, of Wrexham. The sale was held in connection with the dispersion of the Brynffynon flock, formed by Mr. W. Conwy Bell, and comprised 166 pedigree Welsh sheep, and was on the authority of the auctioneers the largest sale, with record prices, of Welsh sheep yet held in the country. Rams made up to 10½ gs., shearling rams 4¼ gs., ram lambs 8 gs., shearling ewes 3¾ gs., stock ewes 5 gs., and ewe lambs 4½ gs. each. Mr. Frank Lloyd also offered a number of Ryeland sheep, which sold up to £5 2s. 6d. per head, whilst a number of cross-bred Ryeland ram lambs were sold at prices ranging from £2 12s. 6d. each.

Wilton.

At Wilton Sheep Fair about 39,000 sheep were penned, and there was a big attendance of buyers. Prices realised were not up to the high standard of last year, being 1s. or 1s. 6d. below, but the general run was satisfactory to sellers. Owing to the shortage of sheep on the farms a keen demand for working lambs was generally anticipated, and these lambs sold readily at from 25s. to 32s. a head. Meaty lambs made up to 42s., fat wether lambs 44s. to 48s., and butchering lambs of exceptional weight and quality up to 65s. 6d., this price being obtained for fifty of the lambs which, shown by Mr. H. Hitchings, won the Earl of Pembroke's cup. The remainder of the pen of 100 made 64s. 6d., whilst other lots sold from 60s. 6d. downwards.

As usual, Messrs. Waters and Rawlence held a sale of Hampshire Down sheep, the catalogue comprising no less than 18,076 head and 280 ram lambs, and, with a large attendance of buyers from many distant counties, an excellent clearance of the 266 lots of store sheep and fat lambs was effected—three lots only being unsold—at prices generally allowed to be well in advance of Britford and other recent fairs. Regular draft ewes made from 43s. 6d. to 52s.; over-yeared ewes fit for breeding, 36s. 6d. to 44s.; grazing ewes, 27s. to 43s.; two-teeth ewes, 45s. to 51s. 6d.; mixed four-teeth and six-teeth ewes, 42s. to 48s. 6d.; best ewe lambs, 40s. to 45s.; smaller ditto, 34s. to 39s. 6d.; prime fat wether lambs, 46s. to 65s. 6d.; lighter weights and working wether lambs (many nearly fit for the butcher), 35s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.; best mixed lambs, 40s. 6d. to 48s.; smaller ditto and culls, 23s. 6d. to 37s. The trade for ram lambs was slow, and with a glutted market prices ruled low. Those sold for Mr. J. Flower made from 4 gs. to 7 gs.; Mr. A. F. T. Drake, 3 gs. to 8 gs.; Mr. H. J. Hulse, 3 gs. to 3½ gs.; Mr. J. H. Dibben, 4 gs. to 7½ gs.; Mr. C. Coles, 4 gs. to 10 gs.; and Mr. W. C. Young, 4 gs. to 5 gs.

Other Sheep Sales will be found on page 366.

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PIGS.

The Outbreak of Swine Erysipelas

The Norwich and District Butchers' Association recently wrote to the President of the Board of Agriculture with respect to the outbreak of swine erysipelas in the Cambridge fens, and asked what steps, if any, had been taken by the Board to prevent the spread of the disease, the members of the association being extremely anxious that it should be confined to the district in which the outbreak occurred. In reply, the following letter was received:—

"Board of Agriculture and Fisheries,
"4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.
"September 14, 1905.

"SIR, I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries to advert to your letter of the 5th inst., with reference to the outbreak of swine erysipelas in the Isle of Ely, and I am to acquaint you that, whilst the Board are causing a full inquiry to be made into the matter, they are satisfied, from the information already before them, that the reports which have appeared in the newspapers, to which you refer, present an exaggerated statement of the case, and that there are no grounds for believing that the disease will spread from that centre throughout the country.

"Swine erysipelas is a disease which has been recognised in England for a number of years. Outbreaks of a serious nature occasionally occur, but those are exceptional. On the other hand, isolated cases frequently appear, and result in the death of one or two swine before the disappearance of the disease.

"The disease has, unfortunately, recently prevailed to a considerable extent in the immediate neighbourhood of Chatteris, and although in the great majority of instances it has been of the nature usually met with in this country, in a few instances the outbreaks have been characterised by exceptional severity. There is every reason to hope, however, that in these cases the disease has been brought under control.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"A. W. ANSTRUTHER,
"Assistant Secretary.

"The Secretary, the Norwich and District Butchers' Association, 27, St. Andrew Street, Norwich."

Sale of Pigs at Southampton.

The great success of Mr. Alfred Brown's Berkshires and Large Whites at the Christmas shows undoubtedly attracted a number of breeders to the Hill Farm, Southampton, on Thursday last, when about 100 head of Berkshires, as well as Large and Middle Whites, were sold by auction by Messrs. Thornton and Co. The arrangements made for the visitors' comfort was quite up to date, and the four rows of lock-up pens in which the pigs were shown to great advantage, was well worth seeing.

There was a good company, and the sale (after a bountiful luncheon, at which Mr. Arthur Hiscock presided) was most satisfactory, several of the best pigs being purchased by Dr. Paul de Gruyter to go to Germany. High prices were also paid by Messrs. N. Bengafield, W. J. Chick, L. Cross, Arthur Hiscock, F. H. Jennings, and Mr. L. Wethers for the best lots. The sixty Berkshires averaged £7 8s. 7d., the Large and Middle Whites £5 8s. 1d., and the total for the ninety-four head sold, £629 9s. 6d. We give below a sale list of the highest priced lots with purchasers' names and prices:—

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

		Gs.
Sow, Velmore Princess 9218	Dr. Paul de Gruyter	14
Sow, Velmore Empress 9217	Mr. L. Cross	11
Sow, Stoneham Buscot Dainty 10564	Mr. J. N. Notley	12
Sow, Velmore Daisy	Mr. C. Morris	10½
Boar, Velmore Champion	Dr. Paul de Gruyter	28
Sow, Velmore Star	Mr. J. N. Notley	11
Boar, Velmore Czar	Mr. A. Hiscock	11
Sow, Velmore Empress Queen	Mr. W. J. Chick	17
Sow, Velmore Countess 10457	Dr. Paul de Gruyter	25
Sow, Velmore Duchess 10458	Mr. N. Benjafield	1..
Boar, Velmore Topper	Mr. F. H. Jennings	15½
Sow, Velmore Orchard Pride	Mr. J. N. Notley	10
Boar, Velmore Orchard Count	Mr. W. H. Bond	13
Sow, Velmore Model	Mr. E. Webb	15½

LARGE WHITE PIGS.

Wrexham Pride 14942	Mr. A. Hiscock	11½
Wimpson Duchess 13104	Mr. S. Webb	10
Wimpson Lizzie 1st 14854	Mr. L. Withers	10

MIDDLE WHITE PIG.

Islington Champion Queen 15064	Mr. L. Cross	14

SUMMARY.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
60 Berkshires, avgd.	7 8 7	445 14 6
34 White Pigs	5 8 1	183 15 0
Total		629 9 6

Sale of Middle Whites.

About eighty pigs from the Wharfedale herd of pure-bred Middle Whites, the property of Mr. W. C. Paget, were brought under the hammer at Harewood on Wednesday by Mr. R. Burton. There was a good attendance of buyers, and some most satisfactory prices were realised. The highest was 13½ gs. for a gilt, and prices generally ruled from 2½ gs. to 12 gs.

Cardiff Horse.

During the past few years the great horse show at Cardiff has been held in anything but favourable weather, so that to experience two wholly fine days as those of Wednesday and Thursday was, indeed, a welcome change to the promoters. They had got together a very good show in every respect, and they deserved the fine weather and very large company of spectators; in fact, the attendance was nearly 21,000 in the two days, and the financial result of this show should make good some of the poor rewards of the previous two or three years. Sophia Gardens once more were placed at the disposal of the executive, and, the turf being in excellent condition, the saddle and harness classes had the benefit. The going was especially good in the hunters' competitions and the jumping events. The programme which, as usual, was well spread over both days, was a capital one—full of interest—whilst the high standard of quality which has placed Cardiff in the very first rank of shows of the kind—was more than maintained. The judges were:—Hunters: Colonel Ricardo, Donnington Elms, Newbury; C. P. Hall, Woburn, Bedfordshire; Romer Williams, Newnham Hall, Daventry. Hacks, Hackneys, and harness horses: S. B. Carnley, Alford, Lincs.; D. S. Carr, Carluke, N.B.; Hy. Moore, Burn Butts, Cranswick, Hull. Cart horses: T. Chapman, Orchard, Portman, Taunton; T. Ewart, Dunsmore Home Farm, Rugby; H. R. Hart, Cannock, Staffordshire.

Hunters were the first to come under consideration on the first day, and the division opened with the young stock. Eight yearlings made up a fair class, but scarcely up to the like event at the recent Bath show, as demonstrated by the fact that Mr. J. L. Nickisson, of Swindon, who took first with his chestnut filly Success, only secured the reserve position at the Bath display. Mrs. Brockley, with her chestnut filly, Princess of Wales, was second, and in this entry the lady possesses a capital recruit for her well-known stable. The two-year-olds made up a very nice class indeed, and the Bath rivals again met, namely, Mr. J. A. Mullens, of Longcross, Surrey, with Paleface, a chestnut filly; Mr. Tatem's Penylan Ormerod, and the Moor Grove Stud Company's bay gelding Sportsman. The judges differed from the Bath selection, which, it will be remembered, placed Paleface at the head of the class and Mr. Tatem's entry second; but last week the latter had the pull, the Longcross stable's representative being placed third, Sportsman being second. The three-year-olds attracted a good deal of attention, and once again Mr. Mullens could not get his Bath verdict endorsed, Sheen, which won in the Abbey city, being now placed second, and Mr. J. H. Stokes's Dewische being selected for the leading position. Four-year-olds were a very good lot, both in numbers and quality. Mr. Stokes, of Market Harborough, however, held the field with his black-brown gelding Ebony, standing 16 hands, his old opponent, Mr. J. Drage, of Northampton, being second with Klondyke, a handsome chestnut, which took a like prize at the Bath fixture. Mr. John Drage's Klondyke repeated his Bath success by leading the light-weight four-year-olds and upwards, Mr. J. H. Stokes being second with Goldmint II. The middle-weights were well represented, and all looked equal to carrying anything between 13 and 15 stone. In this class Mr. John Drage was well to the fore with a bay gelding named Cricket Ball, Mr Stokes's Kildare coming a good second. Mr Stokes beat all comers with his 16 hands chestnut gelding Madrid in the class for heavy weights, thus endorsing the Bath judgment.

The hacks or riding horses commenced with Hackneys shown in saddle; most of them were, however, more suitable for harness than for riding purposes. In the class 14.2 and not above 15.2 Mr Arthur Few on provided the winner in Prince Edward, a chestnut with fine action which held the same position at Buxton. His immediate follower was Mr. W. B. Tubbs's Morning Glory, a mare of good action, which afterwards carried off the premier prize in the Hackney breed class. The next class was for Hackneys 13.2 and not above 14.2. Mr H. Frank's Tissington Kit Cat was first there, having better action than Mr. T. Morgan's Majestic. In ponies not above 13.2 Mr. George Griffith's well-known Lady Go Bang defeated Mr. Tatem's Penylan Eva, a very nice goer, showing a lot of style. The Hackneys shown in saddle, the property of residents in South Wales and Monmouthshire, were a good lot. The open class for single harness horses exceeding 15.2 brought out a very good lot, and was probably one of the best classes in the show. Mr. A. E. Evans was first with Princess, a mare of excellent hind and fore action, who went at a great pace. Miss Ella Ross came next with Rowton Blackthorne, a winner of many prizes, now beginning to get a little stale, and not going with the same fire as formerly.

Another grand class was that for single harness mares and geldings, 14.2, and not above 15.2. Nothing came forward to lower the colours of Mr. Hartley Batt's celebrated Heathfield Squire, who made a grand show. Close up was Mr. S. R. Tenant's Authority, a good-looking bay, which was a winner at Richmond. The next class was for cobs. Mr. C. Radcliffe, Cardiff, came to the front with Phœbe Walton, an exceedingly fine goer, who won at Bath. She has a somewhat better hind action than Mr. Frank Tissington's Kit Cat, who divided Phœbe Walton from the same owner's Marie Tempest. Mr. W. B. Tubbs was first in the class for brood mares with Morning Glory, who had previously taken a second prize in the saddle. Mr. James Howell came next with Campanula, who has an exceedingly good action, using her hocks as well as her knees. Mr. Walter Briggs was first in the class for hackney foals with St. Alban a chestnut by St. John, and Mr. Lysaght second with a filly by Garton Duke. In the class for yearling colts by registered hackneys, Mr. David Evans was first with Midland Relish, and Mr. W. Saint second with a black colt by Revolver. Mr. W. J. Tatem's Penylan Amt, sired by Majesty, just managed to score in the class for foals over Mr. James Howell's chestnut by Athil, whilst for two-year-old colts Mr. A. Fewson was to the front with a fine upstanding chestnut gelding by St. Thomas, Mr. James Howell taking second place with an exceedingly smart chestnut by Rosador. The local lightweight hunters, or rather the district embraced by South Wales and Monmouthshire, were fine testimony to the stamp of horse the sportsmen within the confines take unto themselves, whilst the heavyweights brought out a number of horses of stamina, and more than upheld the credit of the district.

The heavy horses were undoubtedly the best ever seen at Cardiff. A specially good class was that for dray or cart horses, in which Mr. John L. Brooks was first with Noble, an immense brown gelding standing 17.2 in height, which defeated Mr. Peter Coats's Clifford Victor, a shire of considerable merit. In the class for three-year-olds and upwards, above 15.2, Sir A. Henderson exhibited Argent, which won with something in hand from Mr. R. W. Hudson's Hendre Jeanette, a five-year-old by Prince Harold. Some good animals were also shown in the tenant farmer classes, Mr. Lewis's Gaer Pearl won in the class not above 15 hands. She is a compact little brown mare with plenty of power In the class for yearling cart colts Mr. Taunton's Red Lynch, a brown, by Lockinge Forest King, had an easy win from Mr. F. E. Muntz's Umberslade Combination. Sir A. Henderson headed the yearling cart fillies with Buscot Fantasy. Mr. F. Muntz being second with Umberslade Bounce, bred by Lord Llangattock. Mr. Peter Stubbs was again to the front in the class for two-year-old colts with Blagdon Banner, while in the fillies Mr. Thomas's Black Bell, sired by Hendre Baronet, defeated Mr. G. H. Williams's Miss Garfield, a fine two-year-old filly, who will probably be heard of again.

The jumping competitions probably are more keenly appreciated at Cardiff than at any show in Great Britain; the entry is always a splendid one, and the performance can always be relied on, and such proved the case last week.

The awards of the championship were watched with keen interest by the large company. The first to be decided upon was for hackneys, shown in saddle, exceeding 14 hands, and not under four years old. Just under a dozen were ridden out, their action being admired, and in a couple of instances something like a turn of speed was shown. There were many noted ring performers, and the first prize in the end went to the part of the country which claims to be the home of the hackneys Yorkshire the distinction falling to Mr. Arthur Fewson, of Hull, with Prince Edward, a dashing-looking chestnut, handsome, doubtless, in harness, but no saddle horse from the important point of view of comfort. Mr. W. Burnell Tubbs was second with Morning Glory, a chestnut mare; and Mr. John Kerr, M.P., reserve with Lady Dandy, a brown mare.

The heavyweight hunters were next dealt with, and it was a class which was a pleasure to look upon. The well known Market Harboro' stable was represented by the chestnut, Madrid, and the brown, Baronet, both geldings; and when matters were sifted the only possible rival was Mr. J. Drage's Carlow. The champion prize and second award went to Mr. Stokes's horses. Baronet especially did well. Second honours went to him, and he faced the fences in a most workman-like manner. Carlow was held in reserve.

The spectators also enjoyed to the full the decisions for the champion hackney harness class. The celebrated Heathfield Squire was not to be denied, and the judges were obliged to award him the coveted distinction, Mr. Arthur Evans, Wrexham, being second with his roan mare, Princess, and Mr. H. Le Marchant, London, in reserve with The Only Way.

The lightweight hunter champion was Mr. Stoke's beautiful bay, Whisky, Mr. John Drage's Klondyke being second, and Mr. J. H. Stokes's Gold Mint II. being held in reserve.

Westmorland.

The annual show of the Westmorland Agricultural Society at Kendal has gained for itself the reputation of being one of the best one-day shows, especially of horses, in the North, and that held on Thursday certainly went a long way in justifying this remark; in fact, with the exception of the centenary show of 1899, that held last week was the best on record, both as regards quality and quantity of exhibits, whilst the "gate" was a big one. How the entries compared with previous years will be seen from the following table:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
Cattle	154	142	161	109
Sheep	218	256	231	210
Pigs	6	9	12	16
Agricultural horses	113	92	143	115
Light horses	182	214	191	136

The Shorthorns were the feature of the show, as only natural, seeing the great reputation Westmorland has for the excellence of its Shorthorns. Westmorland upholds its reputation of providing many Royal Show and Yorkshire winners, and some of them or their progeny were at Kendal last week from such herds as those of Mr. Handley, of Greenhead; Mr. Atkinson, of Overthwaite; and Mr. Bateman, of Halton. Bulls have been the specialty of Mr. Handley's herd, and on Thursday he won again, both his well-known white Heather Bloom, which is not yet three years old, and his yearling Royal Favourite possessing all the characteristics of the strain, although in the opinion of some Heather Bloom's colour (white) is a drawback compared with the more popular roan, in other respects he comes up to the highest standard. On the other hand, Mr. Atkinson seeks to maintain the excellence of the female strain with which his father gained so many successes years ago, and the beautiful, straight-lined animal with which he took the first honour in the breeding stock class would be difficult to excel in any ring. Other notable exhibitors here were Mr. John Morton, Mr. T. Park, Mr. R. Parker, and Mr. J. Wood, each of whom gained well-deserved recognition. A gratifying feature of this department of the show was the excellent quality in the tenant farmers' classes.

The standard of horses, both light and heavy, is also high at this show, and the size of the classes and the quality of the stock showed that owners continue to devote serious attention to the subject. Among the hunters both the first and second prize for brood mares with foal at foot went to Mr. Greenwood, of Ingleton, but the Hunter Improvement Society's silver medal was awarded to the three-year-old brown gelding, General, belonging to Mr. William Brown, of Lancaster, while Mr. Dalston, of Ewbank, carried off the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal. It was satisfactory to find that in the heavy horse classes the Shires and Clydesdales were separate, and not grouped together as they sometimes are. As some judges have prejudices in favour of one breed, and some in favour of the other, it is generally felt that the two cannot be judged together satisfactorily. There were good specimens of each type, and their separation from one another was an aid in the discovery of their respective merits. As usual, the Hon. Victor Cavendish was well represented in the section for Shires, and it was to one of his exhibits from Holker that the judges gave the Shire Horse Society's medal. Mr. Hodgson, of Milnthorpe, also added to his honours at every show this season, and Lord Henry Bentinck and Mr. George Rigg, of Cartmel, were other successful exhibitors. It was remarkable that the best group of horses of any breed were Clydesdales, belonging to Mr. Mansell, of Penrith, a group of hunters shown by Mr. Brown, of Lancaster, coming next. A special silver medal offered by the Society for the best hunter or hackney went to a fine four-year old chestnut hackney shown by Mr. McKibbin, of Windermere.

All breeds of sheep were well represented, particularly those suitable for a mountainous district. The best of them were in the classes for rough fell and half breds. There were sheep in the whitefaced classes that produced more wool,

but they were not in any sense more worthy of attention.

The judges were:—Cattle—Mr. H. Dudding, Stallingborough, Lincolnshire; Mr. Jas. Blundell, Kirkham, Lancashire. Light Horses—Hunters—Mr. George Dove, Newtown St. Boswells, N.B.; Hackneys—Mr. Thos. Black, Dumfries. Heavy Horses—Shires—Mr. Peter Blundell, Kirkham; Clydesdales—Mr. W. R. Trotter, Stokefield-on-Trent. Sheep—Mr. Robert Wright, Lincoln; Mr. Alfred Mansell, Shrewsbury; Mr. Wm. Milner, Lancaster; Mr. Hugh Carruthers, Gilsland. Pigs—Mr. J. Hawell, Thirlmere.

Compton.

The twentieth annual show of horses sired by stallions belonging to the Compton Stud Company, was held in most favourable weather at Horsington Park on Tuesday, and attracted the usual large attendance of visitors. The entries showed a very satisfactory increase on those of last year, 218 animals being entered as compared with 187. The increase was largely in the foal class. The numbers were:—Brood mares, 55; foals, yearlings, etc., 86; hacks and hunters, 69; harness horses, 7. The standard of quality displayed in the majority of classes was decidedly in advance of that of last year, although a large number of good horses and well-known prize-winners have been sold out of the district. There was a slight falling off in the number of lightweight hunters, and this has been the general experience at exhibitions of horses this season. The animals shown, however, were nearly all good, and some exceptional quality was in several of the entries displayed, as was also the case in other classes. During the past year the progeny of the Compton sires have met with great success in the prize rings of local and other shows, and it is evident by the young stock the Stud is still doing a most useful work in the district and has remarkably improved the stamp of hunter bred within its area. The prize list is appended.

Prize List.

Brood Mares (Tenant Farmers).—Six free services value £15 for half-bred mares with foals at foot: Mr. D. Shingleton, Milborne Port; Mr. T. H. Miller, Oborne, Sherborne; Mr. C. Ricketts, Morcambe; Mr. T. H. Miller (3).

Brood Mares (open): 1, The Hon. Mrs. McLean, West Hall, Sherborne; 2, Mrs. A. R. Poole, King's Hill, Dursley; r, Mr. T. H. Miller; h.c., Mr. T. H. Miller; Mr. E. J. Legg, Keynsham; Messrs. Harding and Co., Minehead.

The Hunters' Improvement Society's gold medal or £5, with bronze medal for the best registered hunter brood mare in foal or with foal at foot: The Hon. Mrs. McLean; r., Mrs. A. R. Poole.

Foals (open).—Five prizes of 30s. each for the five best foals sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions: Mr. J. Day, Huxham; Shepton Mallet; Mr. T. H. Miller (2), Mr. T. Ayles, Kington Magna; Mrs. McLean; r., Mr. T. H. Miller.

Yearlings (open).—Colts or fillies sired by one of the thoroughbred stallions: 1, Mr. R. Hoddinott, Gillingham; 2, Mr. W. Bown, Yeovil; r., Mr. T. Tucker, Gillingham; h.c., Mr. J. Hinks, Fifehead Magdalen; and Mr. T. Tucker.

Two-year-olds (open): 1, Mr. E. Ranson, Cattistock Farm, Dorchester; 2, Mr. J. Day.

Three-year-olds (open): 1, Mr. E. Munckton, Aller, Langport; 2, Mr. W. Bown, Yeovil; r., Mr. J. Benett-Stanford, Tisbury; h.c., Mr. R. B. Taylor, Langport.

Ponies (open): 1, Mr. H. C. Derrett, Buckhorn Weston; 2, Mr. J. Benett-Stanford; r., Mr. J. Benett-Stanford.

Hunters' Improvement Society's Silver Medal for the best filly: Mr. T. Tucker; r., Mr. E. Munckton.

Medal for the best youngster in Classes 5, 6, and 7: Mr. R. Hoddinott; r., Mr. W. Bown.

Hacks: 1, Mr. G. Ford Tilley, Huntspill, Bridgwater; 2, Messrs. Flower and Mattick, Radstock; r., Mr. G. Ford Tilley; h.c., Mr. J. Parsons, Sherborne, and Mr. J. Eames, Curry Rivel.

Light-weight Hunters: 1, Mr. H. Mead, Drayton, Taunton; 2, Mr. R. M. Collins, Langport; r., Messrs. Flower and Mattick; h.c., Mr. G. Ford Tilley.

Heavy Weights: 1, Mr. W. H. Munckton Mudford, Yeovil; 2, Mr. W. Curtis, Stalbridge; r., Mr. T. H. Miller.

Four-year-old Light Weights: 1, Mr. L. H. Taylor, Chippenham; 2, Mrs. Ware, Sandford Orcas; r. and h.c., Messrs. Flower and Mattick.

Four-year-old Heavy Weights: 1, Mr. R. Hoddinott; 2, Mr. W. W. Osborne, Corsham; r., Mr. C. Clarke, Bruton; h.c., Mr. E. Field, Wincanton.

Hunters' Improvement Society's silver medal for hunters of any age: Mr. R. Hoddinott; r., the Hon. Mrs. McLean.

Harness Cobs: 1, Mr. C. M. Moody, Evercreech; 2, Mr. H. E. Derrett.

Harness Horses: 1, Messrs. Adams Bros., Sherborne; 2, Mr. A. C. Clarke, Shepton Mallet; r., Mr. H. Wardlaw, Sherborne.

The usual sale took place on Wednesday, Messrs. Tattersall being the auctioneers. Trade was fairly good, but prices did not rule particularly high, the following being the best:—Mr. W. W. Osborne's chesnut gelding, Sir Herbert, 80 gs.; Mr. A. C. Clarke's brown gelding Rescue, 70 gs.; Mr. R. Cuff's brown gelding Carbine, 70 gs.; Mr. J. Viles' dark brown gelding Nelson, 60 gs.; Mrs. Hoare's brown gelding Rainbow, 60 gs.; Mr. R. Hoddinott's chesnut gelding Aladdin, 67 gs.; Mr. T. H. Miller's chesnut mare Marga, 50 gs.; Mr. E. Feed's grey gelding Mariner, 45 gs.; Mr. A. E. Abbott's chesnut gelding Silver Tail, 45 gs.; Mr. G. F. Tiller's bay mare Elegance, 45 gs.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Easingwold.

The Easingwold Agricultural Society's Show, held on Wednesday, was the best ever known in the 40 years' history of the society; the entries were in excess of any previous years, the weather was all that could be desired, and the attendance far in excess of any previous show. The president for the year is Viscount Helmsley who, with Lady Helmsley and a large house party from Newburgh Priory, the residence of Sir George Wombwell, visited the exhibition during the day. The fixture has the advantage of falling practically at the end of the show season, and this circumstance may be in large measure responsible for the fact that the 224 entries in the horse classes comprised the pick of the animals shown at the county and larger shows. The quality was uniformly high in all sections. Cattle were also a strong lot both in point of quality and numbers, several pedigree herds of repute being represented. The competition in the sheep classes was limited to a few well-known breeders in the locality, the Leicester and Lincoln breeds being represented by some capital pens, whilst there was also a good entry of Wensleydale sheep.

Hay Horse.

Seeing that it clashed with the big event at Cardiff, it was feared that the entries at the Hay Horse Show on Thursday would be somewhat fewer than usual; but this was not the case, there being over 500, which number is above the average; the quality, too, was good, and the attendance of visitors on a larger scale, so that the Society placed yet another all-round success to their credit.

Kington Horse.

The annual exhibition of the Kington Horse Show Society, held at Kington on Tuesday, was a most successful one, the entries being 40 more than last year, the weather fine, and the attendance of visitors on a large scale. The show itself was a good one, agricultural horses being particularly strong. The champion prize in this section went to Messrs. Edwards for a two-year-old cart filly, Little Mary, and the Shire Horse Society's silver medal for the best Shire mare, filly, or filly foal was awarded to Holcombe Starlight, the property of Mr. Peter Stubs. Hunters and Hackneys also made a good display, whilst a popular item—the jumping trials—were very good, an dwere watched with the usual great interest by the visitors. It may be mentioned here that, at a meeting of the committee of thee society, held during the week, Mr. Bernard Philpin, who has acted as chairman of the committee for the last twenty-four years, was presented with a handsome silver salver bearing a suitable inscription and an illuminated album signed by the subscribers, an containing a complimentary address. Mr. Stewart Robinson, who made the presentation, said in reviewing the history of the show from its commencement two names stood out as intimately associated with that history. He referred to the names of Captain Bacon and Mr. Philpin. He believed the show was originated by the former, but the development of the show up to its present high standard had been under the administration of Mr. Philpin. Mr. Philpin made an appropriate acknowledgment of the gifts.

Stokesley.

The show of the Stokesley Agricultural Society, held on Thursday, was a most successful one, no matter from what point it is viewed. To begin with, there were 1,919 entries, or 155 more than in 1904, and only 85 short of the record; then the quality was on the whole the best ever seen there, whilst, finally, the attendance of visitors was the best on record. Thus the show was a success from beginning to end. As usual, most of the classes were open, but there were competitions limited to the Cleveland district, and the townships of Bilsdale-Kirkham, Bilsdale-Midcable, Bilsdale-Westside, Rievaulx, Bransdale, Farnsdale, and Rosedale. Shorthorns particularly excelled, surpassing some of the former displays at Stokesley. Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford, had a singular series of triumphs, carrying off five first prizes and a second premium. Sheep, more especially cross-breds, were very meritorious. In the heavy horse section the judges had some splendid material before them; the breeding stock was excellent, whilst hunters, taking the section throughout, made a very nice collection. The feature of the horse section was, however, the marked improvement in the quality of the Cleveland bays and coach horses.

Warwickshire Hunt.

The most noticeable feature of Warwickshire Hunt Horse Show is the great improvement shown each year in the quality of the exhibits, thus testifying to the good work done by this fixture. At that held on the 15th inst the quality was all round good, and the entries more satisfactory than in some previous years. The young stock was considered remarkably good, especially in the hunter section, and the competition in the agricultural classes was very sharp, the quality being uniformly high. Ten of the 34 classes were reserved for farmers occupying under 100 acres of land, and in these, too, the entries were of a useful type.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

Worcester Hop Fair.

After a year spent amidst the noisy bustle of the Borough, it is a real treat for the weary and probably disappointed trader to find an excuse to take a country journey in his recognition of the date (September 19) of this annual assembly of the Midland hop growers. And a pleasant journey it is, through the verdant meadow lands surrounding classical Oxford, past the graceful bell tower of Evesham, with all the lovely wealth of fruit and other products of that famous garden vale, until the view of the Malverns arising in massive bulk and picturesque outline from the fertile plain tells the traveller that he is nearing Worcester. Alighting at Shrub Hill, we are immediately conscious that we are breathing an atmosphere richly charged with recollections of historical interest and hoary antiquity. The narrow streets bordered by quaint half-timbered houses, and trodden by rosy-cheeked rural folk, remind us of the old-time story of the battle between King and Commons and the victory of the Puritans which consolidated English freedom. The noble Edgar Gate leading to the Cathedral Close brings up thoughts of still more ancient days, and we look up from the banks of the shining Severn flowing peacefully below to the glorious and perfect Gothic details of the great church surmounted by its exquisite tower, and muse, if we have time to spare, upon the varied scenes of which it is the silent yet eloquent witness.

But, as the practical aspect of life pursues us even amidst these restful surroundings, we must make our way down the High Street, and passing the Shire Hall, within the walls of which we find pockets of hops invading the space usually occupied only by Cromwellian armour and cannon, with other reminiscences of the great fight, and we are soon at the hop market, crowded to-day with sturdy growers busily engaged in discussing the prospects of the trade in view of the exceptionally bounteous crop they have gathered this year. Even here we have another reminder that we are but successors of a long line of men who have frequented this fair for centuries past. We cannot fix the exact date of its foundation, but the City Charters carry us back to the reign of Queen Mary, and as we have abundant evidence that in the days of Bluff King Henry VIII. the use of hops in brewing beer was recognised and sometimes condemned by various legislative enactments, we may fairly conclude that hops were included in the business of the fair, which the citizens were empowered to hold by their Charter in 1554. By an Act of Parliament passed in the reign of George II. a building previously erected by the City for the housing of the poor was authorised to be used for a hop market, with the proviso that the profits should be devoted to the relief of the poor. Thus the institution continues to our own day, the Hop Market Guardians having enlarged their warehouses and generally improved their property, until they now possess a handsome modern hotel, with a range of offices surrounding the Market Square; and both growers and merchants have the satisfaction of knowing that the funds provided by their transactions are carefully handled and wisely bestowed in the promotion of good charitable work.

Having indulged in this brief retrospection, we are glad to be able to speak of the fact that, judging by last Tuesday's experience, the interest in the hop fair has not abated. All available space in and about the Hop Market Hotel was crowded from early to late. Some anxiety to find purchasers was a feature of the day. The smaller growers were especially pressing in their desire to sell, consequently buyers were more or less indifferent, and took advantage of the circumstances to make very low bids. Some of the poorer samples did not realise over 30s., but the main business for good hops was done round about 40s. to 50s. Any sample that was attractive in colour was readily taken at the latter figure, and here and there a very choice lot secured 56s. It goes without saying that these figures cannot be remunerative to growers, however bountiful may be

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the yield of their yards, and I am not sorry to hear that many of them prefer to wait the results of the completion of the harvest, concerning which it is not improbable that important reductions will be effected by many acres being left to blow away.

I understand that samples of growths cured by the most modern processes—i.e., by hot-air instead of open fires—were very favourably considered by expert buyers. Although hops thus treated lose a little of the glossy face generally desired, the rubbing down of the cones proves that the essential constituents of oil, lupulin, etc., are present in greater proportion, and, therefore, that the flavour and the real brewing value are considerably enhanced. Experience appears also to be showing that there is actual economy in this method, not only in its prime cost of working, but in the increased weight secured by the retention of the volatile oils. I trust that these points may be kept in view by Midland growers, whose welfare has interested me for many years past. The fallacious ideas concerning the keeping qualities of Worcesters and Herefords are being removed from the minds of buyers, by recent experiments, and analyses have demonstrated that the richest English hops can be grown in the Midland districts. Growers have, therefore, only to hang on to the old City motto, "Semper fidelis," to secure and retain a leading position in the English hop industry, as long as that industry is permitted to endure.

The Borough.

My observations during many visits paid to factors' show rooms this week have not impressed me favourably concerning the amount of current business. The boards are covered with samples giving evidence of abundance of supply, buyers are here and there present discussing and criticising, but there is absence of real energy, which suggests enquiry as to its cause, eliciting the general response that the country trade is quiet, that brewers are not very ready to entertain offers, and that consequently the hops already taken over remain in merchants' hands. This is far from satisfactory from the growers' point of view, because it necessarily means continued depression of values and difficulty of realisation. There is, moreover, a further explanation. It appears that too large a proportion of the hops now on offer are either diseased or so badly discoloured as to be unattractive. In the true interests of all concerned these should not have been picked. Their sale at 25s. or 30s. can only bring serious loss to the producer, and their existence must tend to debase the general tone of the trade. It is very evident that sound, coloury, well-managed samples are comparatively scarce. Such qualities are no sooner exposed for sale than they are taken up by buyers, and, doubtless, if the market could, by any process, be cleared of all inferior lots, a healthier condition would speedily be established. Already there is a firmer feeling concerning these more select samples, although the prices at which they are selling is by no means commensurate with their real value calculated upon the cost of production. Good yearlings are also in fair demand, but at figures much below the expectations of holders. Therefore we cannot yet accept the present position of the trade as being otherwise than unsettled and uncertain, and we must wait for the actual results of the completion of the harvest before we can attempt to anticipate the future course of events.

From the Country.

I have many and various reports. I am glad to hear that some growers have determined to leave a considerable quantity of hops to be disposed of by nature. Their experience of the market, as far as it has gone, must convince them of the wisdom of such policy. In any case it is clear that more than sufficient hops will be available for the year's requirements, and I trust that planters of all grades will now carefully consider the situation, taking into account the abundant growths of America and the Continent, and decide to limit their output by any legitimate means, unless, in case they can guarantee that the whole of their crops are first class in quality and colour. It is only by such methods that I can see the possibility of any definite improvement in our trade. At present there is practically no foreign competition, as prices abroad are above our own. There is, therefore, room for substantial advancement at home, and wise action on our part will enable us to benefit by it.

Foreign Notes.

America.

Recent news from the U.S.A. does not throw any new light on the hop situation, and it will be far more satisfactory when we can obtain reliable figures, resulting from the completion of the harvest. In the meantime, it would appear, from details to hand concerning the picking experience in New York State, that it is hardly probable that early estimates will be reached. In Onconta, the yield thus far does not go beyond about 75 per cent. of last year. From Waterville I learn that growers do not expect to get more than 60 per cent., and from Cherry Valley district not more than 80 per cent. of last year. Reports from Coblerkill say that planters are everywhere disappointed, their hops not being up to expectation, either in size or weight. Prices paid to growers have ranged from 18 to 20 cents, and it seems to be decided that the latter figure will be accepted for good qualities as the opening currency, this price representing cost in London, about 94s. per cwt., plus merchants' profits.

Belgium.

The rapid progress of the harvest, under favourable weather, points to its speedy completion. The yield thus far surpasses all previous calculations. The first free hop market held at Assche, September 12, was numerously attended by growers, brewers, and merchants. The custom of presenting prizes for the best hops exposed for sale was continued, awards of merit being given to nearly all the lots, these being subsequently sold at 45 to 60 francs. The knowledge of the heavy crops in every district has calmed down the Brussels market, 1905 growths being now quoted as low as 35 to 40 francs (28s. to 32s.) per cwt.

France.

It is now estimated that the crop will exceed 70,000 cwt., which is nearly 50 per cent. more than that of last season. Values at Dijon (Burgundy) for first qualities are quoted at 50 to 60 francs (40s. to 48s.) per cwt.

Nuremberg.

Buyers have become more numerous at the market since the middle of September, and sales increased as the hops arrived and drying improved. These amounted to 2,400 bales, and business was quite brisk. Rain, however, fell during the next few days, and the day's sales fell to 700 sacks. At last Thursday's market buyers were again in full force, and sales amounted to 200 bales, in spite of wet weather. Export trade was brisk, as well as for inland trade. Arrivals from the country amounted to 1,800 bales, by rail 300. With regard to the quality, it is noteworthy that prime quality are in demand, and are going at good prices. First quality market and mountain hops realised 48s. to 55s., several lots 57s. and 60s.; medium qualities are sold at 38s. to 45s., so-called export hops at 30s. to 35s. There is a great demand for Spalt Siegelgut, especially the lighter kinds from the district are well-developed in the cone, and are fine aromatic hops, and are much liked. These fetched 60s. to 70s., and even 75s. The drying is, however, not quite up to mark. Most of the hops that arrive come from Hallertan, Wirtemberg, Baden and Alsace are, however, represented. Daily arrivals from 600 to 800 bales. First quality foreign hops are not easily got rid of at prices quoted hitherto. Sales in other qualities are slow, but prices remain firm. Special qualities realise more than quoted price. Fine Tettnangs fetched the unusual price of 98s. The tone of the market is quiet. Price quotations as follows:—Market hops, 30s. to 50s.; Mountain hops, 48s. to 60s.; Wirtemberg, 50s. to 85s.; Hallertan Siegel, 60s. to 80s.; Hallertan, without Siegel, 45s. to 72s.; Baden, 60s. to 82s.; Spalt district, 90s. to 95s.; Spalt, 70s. to 85s. A few marks extra for specially selected hops.

Mr. T. A. Scarlett, of 22 and 23, Market Street, Edinburgh, the well-known potato-raiser, will hold his annual potato inspection on Saturday next at Chancelot Gardens, where practically every variety of potato is grown. Here the potatoes will be lifted and tested on Saturday, and Mr. Scarlett expects to show new potato-lifters and dressers at work. Messrs. Councillor Wight, Jas. Hope, Harry Hope, M. G. Wallace, Thos. Elder, A. L. Drysdale, McHutcheon Dobbie, R. Paton, Jas. Gray, John Spier, Professors Hunter, Bruce, and Berry, and others, have intimated their intention to be present, and a profitable and pleasant gathering is anticipated.

THE
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ACCOUNT BOOK
will enable you to keep an accurate account of all outgoings and incomings. The method is easy, and your financial position is clearly indicated at all times.
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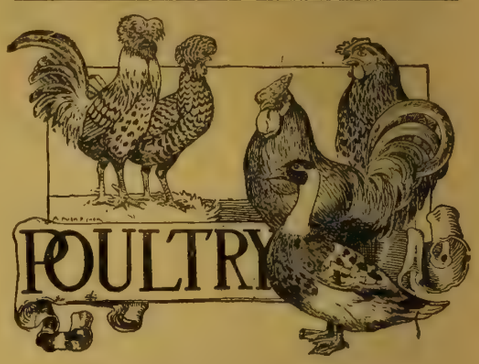

Utility Poultry Club's Laying Competition.

The Committee of the Utility Poultry Club state that owing to Miss Yates, the manager of this year's four months' competition, having been appointed poultry instructor to the Lady Warwick Agricultural College, the competition will be held at Studley Castle, instead of Royston.

The whole of Miss Yates's poultry plant will be removed to Studley, and in every respect, with the exception of the venue, the competition will be conducted in the same manner as if it had been held at Royston.

A Sale of Poultry.

An unreserved sale of about 600 head of pure-bred Sussex poultry, the property of Messrs. E. and H. Russell, of Broomham Farm, Chiddingly, and comprising the speckled, red, white, and light Sussex varieties, was held in Lewes Cattle Market on the 19th inst. All the birds were of well-known prize strains, and included all Messrs. Russell's prize-winning birds at the Royal, Tunbridge Wells, and Sussex County shows this year, and the International and other leading shows last year. There was a large attendance, but although bidding for the special lots was very brisk, many went at very low prices for pure-bred poultry.

A light Sussex hen which won first prize at the Royal Show this year and similar awards at the Tunbridge Wells and Sussex County shows, fetched 3 gs., while another hen which was first at the international show at Alexandra Palace last year and second at this year's Sussex County show, changed hands for £2 10s. In the speckled Sussex class a sum of 57s. 6d. was paid for the cock which took second prize at this year's Royal Show, and 55s. was paid for the cock which gained the first and champion prizes at this and last year's Sussex County shows.

Apart from these special lots, prices in the speckled Sussex class varied from 11s. for six hens to 3 gs. for five pullets and a cockerel; in the red Sussex class the highest figure was £4 10s. for four hens and a cockerel; prices in the light Sussex class ranged up to 3 gs. for three pullets, and in the white Sussex class the best price was 26s. for four hens and a rooster.

Carlisle Latter Fair was held on Tuesday, when, as usual, there were a number of bullocks and heifers on the Sands, but buyers were scarce, and trade slow at £6 to £11 10s. for heifers, and £6 5s. to £8 10s. for bullocks. Hetherington's Auction Company held a special sale of feeding sheep and lambs and Border Leicesters and Down rams at their Mart on the Sands. There were about 6,000 penned. Buyers attended in good numbers, and a good trade was experienced at a rise of 1s. to 2s. apiece. The following were the prizewinners:—Border Leicester Shearling Rams.

1, Mr. Wood, Bank (sold for £7 10s.). Pair of Border Leicester Shearling Rams.—1, Mr. Bell, New House (£5 10s. to £5 5s.); 2, Mr. Wood, Bank; 2, Mr. Kirkbride, Howgill (£5 10s. and £5). Pair of Lambs.—1, Mr. Wilson, High Head Farm (£4 17s. 6d. and £4 10s.); 2, Messrs. Faulder, Oakbank (£5 5s. and £4 17s. 6d.).

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW,
DECEMBER 4th to 8th, 1905, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON.
ENTRIES close as follows.—Implement Department, Oct. 2nd; post entries, Oct. 5th; Live Stock (cattle, sheep, pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, Nov. 1st; post entries, Nov. 6th. Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to— E. J. POWELL, Sec.,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

DAIRY SHOW, Agricultural Hall, London, N.
TUESDAY till FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th.
CATTLE, GOATS, POULTRY, PIGEONS.
ALL KINDS OF DAIRY PRODUCE, APPLIANCES, &c.
MILKING AND BUTTER TESTS, BUTTER-MAKING, &c.
BAND OF H.M. SCOTS GUARDS.
Tuesday, October 3rd, 2s. 6d., from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; 1s. from 6 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 1s., from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Cheap Excursions on principal lines.

NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW.
29th ANNUAL EXHIBITION FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, &c.,
AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH, NOVEMBER 16th, 17th & 18th, 1905.
LAST DAY OF ENTRY FOR STOCK AND STAND SPACE OCTOBER 21st.
Prize lists, entry forms, and all particulars of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER,
East Harling, Thetford.

AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
DAIRY AND FARM PRODUCE SHOW at KILMARNOCK, N.B.,
OCT. 19th and 20th. Entries close Oct. 6th.
JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

AUCTION SALES.

TO HAY CONTRACTORS, MERCHANTS, STOCK OWNERS AND OTHERS.

IDLEIGH COURT FARM, ASH, NEAR WROTHAM, KENT.

About 2¼ miles from both Fawkham and Meopham Stations, S. E. & C. Rly.

MESSRS. DANN & LUCAS have received instructions from F. R. Stoneham Esq., to SELL by AUCTION on WEDNESDAY 4th OCTOBER 1905, at 3 o'clock precisely, on the premises, in Lots, about 240 tons of EXCELLENT UPLAND HAY in ten stacks, containing some good samples of Meadow, Lucerne, Rye Grass, and Trifolium Hay of this and previous years' growth.

The Stacks are all situate close to good hard roads with a Two Miles of Longfield Railway Siding, S. E. & C. Rly., whence the Hay can be conveyed to the London Markets and elsewhere. The Hay has been grown in a high upland district and should recommend itself to Hay Merchants and Stock Owners who require Hay of sound quality.

May be viewed at any time previous to the sale. Mr. Lakehurst, at the Farm will show the Lots if desired

Catalogues may be obtained at the principal Inns in the neighbourhood, at the Farm, and of the Auctioneers, Dartford, Kent, and 23, Budge Row, Cannon Street, E.C.

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AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY next, OCTOBER 4.—Mr. J. Vickers' SHORTHORNS, at Churchfield, Tunstall, Kirkby Lonsdale.

THURSDAY next, OCTOBER 5.—Mr. T. E. Clarke's and Mr. Thomas Adamson's SHORTHORNS, at Ainsworth Lodge, Bolton, Lancashire.

FRIDAY next, OCTOBER 6.—Mr. N. Benjafield's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Motcombe, Shaftesbury.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.—About 80 JERSEYS from well known breeders' herds at Bletchley.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.—The Duchess of Devonshire's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Eastbourne.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Sir W. H. Wills', Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Mr. E. Harwood's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Woodhouse, Almondsbury, Bristol.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.—Mr. C. H. Jolliffe's SHORTHORNS, at Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. C. M. Doyne's SHORTHORNS, at Wells, Gorey, co. Wexford.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Major Cradock's SHORTHORNS, at Derryc, Roscrea, co. Tipperary.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.—About 120 Young SHORTHORN BULLS, and COWS and HEIFERS, at York.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

IMPORTANT UNRESERVED SALE of PEDIGREED CLYDESDALE HORSES, HACKNEY and HACKNEY PONY FOALS, STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, the property of the Seaham Stud Co. (late Londonderry Stud), at Seaham Harbour, co. Durham,

On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

SUMMARY.
9 Pedigreed Clydesdale Brood Mares.
6 Pedigreed Clydesdale Fillies, 1 to 3 years old.
5 Pedigreed Clydesdale Entire Colts, 1 and 2 years old.
25 Pedigreed Clydesdale Colt and Filly Foals.
1 Gelding.
5 Pedigreed Hackney Foals.
14 Pedigreed Hackney Pony Foals.
1 Driving Cob.
70 Store Cattle, Shorthorns, and Crosses.
48 Cross Wensleydale Gimmers.

For Catalogues, with pedigree and particulars, apply to R. BRYDON, Seaham Harbour; or the Auctioneers, Messrs. A. T. and E. A. CROW, Sunderland.

SEAHAM HARBOUR STUD LTD.

THE ANNUAL SALE of PEDIGREE CLYDESDALE MARES, FILLIES and FOALS, also HACKNEY PONIES, CATTLE and SHEEP, will be held at Seaham Harbour, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1905.

Catalogues in preparation. Apply, R. Brydon, Seaham Harbour.

AUCTION SALES.

STROOD ANNUAL STOCK SALE.

MESSRS. COBB will SELL by AUCTION in the FAIR MEADOW, FRINDSBURY, near ROCHESTER, within a few minutes walk of the Strood Stations on the S.E. and C. Rlys.,
On FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1905,
at 11 o'clock precisely,

68
PURE-BRED KENT RAMS and RAM TEGS
from the well-known Registered Flocks of Messrs. F. Baker and C. J. G. Hulkes;
7 PURE-BRED HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS and RAM LAMBS, and about

3,318
KENT, HAMPSHIRE, and HALF-BRED SHEEP and LAMBS, viz.:
439 Kent Ewe Tegs,
430 Kent Wether Tegs,
525 Kent 1, 2, and 3 Lamb Ewes,
465 Kent Turn-marked Ewes,
130 Half-bred Tegs,
1,021 Kent and Half-bred Lambs,
15 Two-year-old Wethers,
46 Kent Barrens,
128 Kent Maids,
119 Hampshire Down Lambs,

The property of Messrs. W. Stunt, C. Lake, C. J. G. Hulkes, G. F. Hohler, R. Goord, J. W. Dickins, J. Pye, Tuff and Miskin, T. Westbrook, Wakeley Bros., W. Miskin, G. H. Brooke, H. Pye, H. Pye, jun., H. M. Cobb, G. Castle, J. Edmonds, J. Clark, Formby & Co., Ltd., J. Mugeridge, R. Mugeridge, T. Lingham, G. Smith, C. H. Scriven, J. Bellamy, C. J. S. Whitburn, L. Fuller, A. Norman, W. H. Potter, D. Hankin, J. Robinson, Horne & Sons, H. Morjen and J. Loft.

Luncheon will be provided.

Arrangements will be made for a Supply of Trucks at Strood Station.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Bull Hotels, Rochester and Sittingbourne; Anvil and Gardener's Inns, Strood; Fountain Hotel, Canterbury; Star Hotel, Maidstone; Saracen's Head Hotel, Ashford; Ship Hotel, Faversham; and of Messrs. Cobb, Surveyors and Land Agents, 53, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C., and Higham, near Rochester.

EWELL HACKNEY STUD, EWELL, SURREY.

TUESDAY, OCT. 3rd, 1905.

MR. W. BAINBRIDGE will SELL by AUCTION as above His Class prize winning Hackneys, the property of W. Oppenheimer Esq., who owing to pressure of business, is unable to look after the horses personal attention in such a manner as they require and thus has decided to sell with one or two exceptions.
13 Brood Mares and Foals,
3 Three-year-old Fillies,
1 Two-year old Filly,
5 Harness Horses,
5 Yearlings and 12 Two
Also by permission will be in Class Hackney Stallion
R. P. Evans, Esq., Wood
On view Sept.
Luncheon at 1.
Catalogue of W. BAINBRIDGE, Walton House, Warrington.

AUCTION SALES.

(continued from front page).

THE HOME FARM, KNOWLTON COURT ESTATE,
DOVER, KENT.
2½ miles from Adisham Station on S. E. and Chatham Railway.
HIGHLY IMPORTANT SALE of the very valuable LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4th, 1905.

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON, in conjunction with MESSRS. HONEYBALL AND FINN, are favoured with instructions from Francis Elmer-Speed, Esq. (the Home Farm being let), to SELL by AUCTION on the premises, on the above date, the
LIVE AND DEAD FARMING STOCK, comprising THE PURE-BRED REGISTERED SOUTHDOWN FLOCK
(Register No. 206 in Flock Book) of about 570 HEAD in flock ages; about 70 Head of Cattle, including:—
The HERD OF 24 PEDIGREE ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE,
The small but choice HERD OF 7 PEDIGREE SUSSEX CATTLE,
14 BLUE-GREY STEERS AND HEIFERS, rising two years old,
7 PURE-BRED POLLED ANGUS STEERS AND HEIFERS,
4 PURE-BRED GALLOWAY HEIFERS,
12 WEST HIGHLAND HEIFERS with Calves by side and in-calf,
A Prime PURE-BRED SUSSEX STEER two years old, and a prime cross-bred STEER two years old, suitable for Showing.
10 STAUNCH AND ACTIVE CART HORSES, a 30-months Cart Colt,
120 YORKSHIRE AND BERKSHIRE PIGS.
A Capital Assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND TOOLS, &c.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

Luncheon provided on the premises at 12 30 at 2s. per head, returnable to purchasers of £2 and upwards.
Catalogues, with full pedigrees of Sheep and Cattle, on application to Messrs. STRIDE & SON, 63, East Street, Chichester, and Messrs. HONEYBALL & FINN, Queen Street, Deal, Kent.

EARTHAM ESTATE, CHICHESTER, SUSSEX,
Four miles from Barnham Junction Station, and six miles from Chichester Station (L. B. & S. C. Railway).

SALE OF THE FAMOUS EARTHAM SOUTHDOWN FLOCK.

DISPERSAL SALE OF THE WHOLE OF SIR JOHN MILBANKE'S PURE-BRED OLD-ESTABLISHED SOUTHDOWN HILL FLOCK (Registered No. 236 in Flock Book), consisting of about

1,000

HEAD OF EWES AND EWE LAMBS, in flock ages as follows:—
218 SHEARLING EWES,
202 FOUR-TEETH EWES,
210 SIX-TEETH EWES,
84 FULL-MOUTHED EWES,
220 EWE LAMBS,
11 RAMS AND RAM LAMBS,
which

MESSRS. STRIDE AND SON are favoured with instructions from Major Sir John Milbanke, Bart., V.C. (who has sold the estate), to SELL by AUCTION, at the HOME FARM, Eartham, On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th Next.

The Eartham Flock is one of the old standard Hill Flocks of the Southdown Breed, having for more than half a century past continuously received the greatest care and judgment in its breeding, selection, and drafting.

With true Southdown type and character, and the finest possible quality of both mutton and wool, these ewes possess exceptional size, strength, and constitution, and the lengthy growing mutton-making lambs from this flock have for many years been one of the features of the Southdown Lamb Sales in Chichester Market.

None of the sheep will be in any way made up for sale, neither the ewes or lambs have had cake or corn, and will be sold in their natural breeding condition, working the downs until the day of sale.

Luncheon by ticket only at 12.45 o'clock.
Sale to commence at 1.30.
The flock is open to inspection at any time by appointment with Mr. William Smart, Home Farm, Eartham.
Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Auction and Estate Agency Offices, 63, East Street, Chichester, Sussex.

SITUATION, AGENCIES, WANTED AND VACANT.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

WANTED, Working Foreman on a fruit and vegetable Farm. Must have had good experience in management of labour. Steadiness and sobriety required.—"B," "Mark Lane Express" Office, 150, Strand, London, W.C.

Mark Lane Express

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26 "	"	5/- "
52 "	"	4/- "

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☞ Small Advertisements of Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Situations, &c. (under classified headings and set in body type), are charged at the rate of three words a penny (only when accompanied by remittance).

Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

AUCTION SALES.

SUSSEX (between Littlehampton and Bognor), 10 miles from Worthing and 8 miles from Chichester.—An exceedingly valuable FREEHOLD PROPERTY, known as the "Yapton Estate," situate at Yapton, about 1 mile from Ford Junction and 1½ miles from Barnham Junction, both on the Portsmouth Line of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway, and 2 miles from the sea; it comprises the singularly productive and compact agricultural holding known as Wick's Farm, with superior residence and commodious buildings; 9 capital cottages; a very choice accommodation property known as Church Farm, well equipped and including market fruit garden; several enclosures of valuable Building and Accommodation Land; the whole producing a rental of about £750 per annum. Also the valuable and well-secured Investment consisting of commuted tithe rent charges upon lands situate in the parish of Yapton, amounting to £165 17s. 5d. per annum.

MESSRS. WALTON & LEE (in conjunction with Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON) will offer the ABOVE FOR SALE by AUCTION, at the "TERMINUS HOTEL," LITTLEHAMPTON, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1905, at TWO o'clock precisely, in the following Lots (Lots 1 to 4 first being offered as a whole) unless previously sold by private treaty.

Lot.	Description.	Area a.	r.	p.
1.	Wick's Farm and nine Cottages..	332	1	34
2, 3 & 4.	Building and Accommodation Land	29	1	18
5.	Church Farm	28	1	30
6.	Commuted Tithe Rent Charges	—		
	Total ..	390	1	2

Particulars of Messrs. HUNT, CURREY, NICHOLSON & CO., Solicitors, Lewes; Messrs. A. BURTENSHAW & SON, Land Agents and Valuers, Hailsham; or of the AUCTIONEERS, 10, Mount St., London, W.

TENDER.

CONTRACT FOR WHEAT.

THE GUARDIANS of the Poor of the Parish of St. Mary, Islington, invite TENDERS for the SUPPLY of WHEAT from the 12th OCTOBER till the 31st MARCH next, to be delivered in quantities of about 5 tons, as ordered, at the Workhouse, Cornwallis Road, in the Parish.
Sealed Tenders must be delivered at the undermentioned Offices on or before TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1905, addressed to the Guardians, and endorsed "Tender for Wheat." The Tenders will be opened at a Meeting of the Guardians on Thursday, October 12th, at half-past Three o'clock in the afternoon, at the undermentioned offices. The Guardians do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. Payment will be made monthly.
Printed Forms of Tender (with conditions of contract and estimated quantities) must be obtained from the Clerk personally, or a stamped addressed envelope may be sent, as no others will be received.

By order,
EDWIN DAVEY,
Clerk.

Guardians' Offices,
St. John's Road, Upper Holloway, N.
21st September, 1905.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

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CLUN FOREST AND KERRY HILL SHEEP.—Henry Jones, Sutton, Montgomery, established over thirty years, personally acquainted with all best flocks of these noted breeds, selects and supplies on commission, direct from breeder. Wethers, Ewes, and Store Lambs, in lots to suit purchasers Terms cash. References given and required.

H. & E. M'GRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS. — To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers. — JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE. — Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP — Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

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FARMING AND COLONIAL BRANCH. ESTATE MANAGEMENT AND FORESTRY BRANCH.—For Land Owners, Land Agents, Surveyors, Agriculturists, intending Colonists, etc. For Prospectus, with particulars of Entrance Exhibitions, Scholarships, Diplomas, etc., apply to the Principal. NEXT SESSION begins TUES., OCTOBER 10, 1905.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS,
AND
THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

COMPLETE COURSE of AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.
Lectures in College and at the Farm from October 16th, 1905, to March 17th, 1906.
Special provision for Practical Instruction. Fee £10.
Students are prepared for the N.D.A. Examination. There is also a Special Course for the B.Sc. Degree.
Prospectus from THE REGISTRAR, The University, Leeds.

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DOWNTON, SALISBURY.
For LAND AGENTS, AGRICULTURISTS and COLONISTS.
Prospectus and full information on application to Professor Wrightson, at above address. NEXT TERM commences October 2nd.

ROYAL (DICK) VETERINARY COLLEGE, EDINBURGH.
Trustees:
The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council of the City of Edinburgh.
EIGHTY-THIRD SESSION.
The INAUGURAL ADDRESS will be delivered on WEDNESDAY, 4th OCTOBER, at 2.30 o'clock, by Alex. Inglis MacCallum, Esq., M.R.C.V.S., J.P., Sir Wm. Turner, K.C.B., LL.D., &c., in the Chair.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

HOUSES, PORTABLE.—for 12 Fowls 15/-; 20 Fowls 20/-, 30 Fowls 25/-; 50 Fowls 35/-. Approval. LONGBOTTOM, Nafferton Works, Hull.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading

MY SPECIALITY.—Imperishable IRON SHEETS, as supplied for 25 years to largest Estates. Once fixed, these are everlasting. Full particulars and prices free. The old house for cheapest Iron Fencing, Gates Wire Netting, Tanks, Felt, Iron Tubes, and General Estate Requisites. Terms cash.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.—Improved Waterproof Oil Sheets, guaranteed, 1s. 5d. and 1s. 10d. per square yard; any size supplied; galvanised sheep netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 17 gauge, 6s. 3d. per 50 yard roll, other gauges proportionate prices; galvanised wire netting, all widths and meshes at lowest prices; galvanised corrugated sheets, finest quality, 5ft. 1s. 1d.; 6ft. 1s. 3½d.; 7ft. 1s. 6d.; 8ft. 1s. 9d.; 9ft. 2s. 1d.; 10ft. 2s. 5d.; galvanised rick covers, all sizes, at lowest prices; galvanised steel cisterns, 50 gals. 12s. 6d.; 100 gals. 19s. 6d.; 150 gals. 30s.; 240 gals. 46s. All cisterns carriage paid. All sizes stocked. Send for new catalogue

WATERPROOF COVERS, same materials and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 12s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

LAITA.—The best milk substitute for calves, and best results; popular prices, 12s. 6d. per cwt., Carriage paid.—Send 12s. 6d. for a sample bag to R. J. NELL & CO., Ltd., Spiced Food Mills, Louth, Lincs Agents wanted.

RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 159 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist, X. Dept., Reading.

BASIC SLAG.—Highest Percentages Phosphates guaranteed. We sell thousands of tons, consequently quote lowest possible prices. Hundreds of our customers testify to its marvellous efficacy. Write us now.—Cannock Agricultural Co., Ld. (Henry R. Hart, Managing Director), Cannock, Staffs.

BASIC SLAG, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phosphates; also 38 to 45 and 30 to 35 per cent. qualities. KAINIT, MOSS LITTER, &c.—CHAS. PICKEN, Merchant, Wolverhampton.

BASIC SLAG, 42-50, 38-45, 30-35, 26-30 per cent., phosphates. State quantities required and station, when prices, analyses, &c., will be sent by return of post.—CLEMENT SWAFFIELD, Derby.

WIRE NAILS mixed, 8s. cwt. 28 lbs. 2s. 3d., Screws (mixed), 28s. cwt., 28 lbs. 7s. 6d.; wire cut, wrought and malleable nails, &c.; wholesale prices.—MIDLAND NAIL WORKS, 25, Rea Street, Birmingham.

VESICO SUDORIFIC (*Flying Horse* non-itching blister), for Lame and Unsound Horses, Weak Joints, Strained Sinews, Diseased Bone, Puffy Swellings, and other defects. Sold in pots, 2s. 6d. or 5s., from GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol, or through Chemists.

SACKS! Best twilled 4 lb. 4 bush. Corn Sacks, 25, 1s. 1d.; 50, 1s.; 100, 11½; marked, carriage paid. Sample 1s. 6d.—TARPAULIN CO., Dudley.

STEAM WAGONS, all types and sizes, Oil Engines, fixed and portable, up to 25 b.h.p. Send for catalogue.—NAYLER & Co., Ltd., Engineers, Hereford.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.
Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2 l.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING. —50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.
Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 500 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard
Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 2d.; 6 ft., 1s. 6d.; 7 ft., 1s. 8d; 8 ft., 1s 11d.; 9 ft., 2s. 3d.; 10 ft., 2s. 7d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s cwt.
Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.
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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.
KENNEL CLUB'S DOG SHOW,
CRYSTAL PALACE,
OCTOBER 10th to 12th, 1905.
The Railway Company will make arrangements for Through Vans for the conveyance of Dogs to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday October 9th.
Consignments from the Branch Lines, &c., will be placed in these Vans at the various Junctions.
Conveyance rates can be obtained at the various Stations on the Line.
Arrangements will also be made for the return of the Traffic in Through Vans at the close of the Show, and Exhibitors are requested to order their Consignments "Per London and North Western Railway."
Exhibitors must write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.
The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer all enquiries. Information can be obtained of the Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Euston Station, London; or Mr. F. H. Dent, Broad Street Station, London, E.C.
FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.
General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.
September, 1905.

THE KENNEL CLUB'S JUBILEE SHOW,
CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM,
OCT. 10, 11 & 12, 1905,
THE
GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY will convey exhibits for the above Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and other towns, on and in connection with their system.
Through vans will be run wherever necessary for the conveyance of Exhibits.
Rates for conveyance of traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent.
Arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits at the close of the Show.
The Company's representative will attend each show prepared to give all information.
Exhibitors should mark their address labels "per Great Northern Railway."
OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

Readers of Advertisements in these pages will greatly oblige and assist us by mentioning the "Mark Lane Express" when writing to our Advertisers.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

WANTED TO RENT, Mixed Farm, 100 to 200 acres, 80 miles London, farmhouse and buildings. — DAVISSON, 1, Whitburn Road, Lewisham.

CROWN LANDS, SHIMPLING THORNE, SUFFOLK. To be Let, a good Corn and Barley Farm, lying in a ring fence, known as Shimpling Park Farm, comprising about 572 acres, of which 482 acres are arable and 87 acres grass. There is a Bailiff's House and 5 Cottages, and 2 sets of modern Farm Buildings. The Farm is situated about midway between the market towns of Sudbury and Bury St. Edmunds, being about 7 miles from either town, and is distant about 3 miles from the Cockfield Station on the Great Eastern Railway.—For further particulars, apply to Messrs. CLUTTON, 9, Whitehall Place, London, S.W., Crown Receivers.

CROWN LANDS, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, KENT.—To be Let, the valuable, compact Grazing and Corn Farm, known as "Neats Court Farm," containing about 790 acres, of which about 500 acres are pasture and marsh grazing land and 270 acres arable. The Farm is situated near to Queenborough Station on the South Eastern and London, Chatham and Dover Railway, and within easy reach of Sheerness and the market town of Sittingbourne. There is a good farmhouse with modern farm buildings and nine labourers' cottages. About 368 acres of marsh grazing land adjoining the Farm can be let with it if desired. The sporting will be included in the letting.—For further particulars, apply to Messrs. CLUTTON, Crown Receivers 9, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

GREAT Railroad and Industrial Enterprises are making the Southern States of America the most desirable and attractive location for farmers, stock-growers, gardeners, and fruit growers. The rapid increase in the number of industrial establishments gives to farmers located on the lines of the Southern Railway System the highest range of prices for farm products commanded in that country; at the same time it offers the best bargains in land values; publications sent free.—Write M. V. RICHARDS, Land Agent, Southern Railway, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

FARMS to be LET in Sussex and numerous other counties. Dairy, Flock and Poultry Farms. 2 to 900 acres. Send 2d. stamps for list, and state requirements to GLADDING & CO., Farm Specialists and Valuers, Hove, Sussex.

LLOYD'S AVENUE, Fenchurch Street and Trinity Square, Great Tower Street. To be LET, several excellent suites of offices on the ground, first, and second floors, suitable for shipping firms, or tea, wine, and colonial merchants.—Apply to S. WALKER & SON, 22, Moorgate Street, E.C.

WEST SUSSEX, near Haslemere.—To be let, from Michaelmas, excellent residental Farm of 380 acres (240 pasture), with or without sporting over 450 acres (170 woodland); excellent modern house, ample buildings, five cottages.—Apply, The Cowdray Estate Office, Midhurst.

SEEDS, PLANTS, &c.

EXCELSIOR WHEAT, 1st PRIZE, BIRMINGHAM, 1901. Grown and selected expressly for seed for the last 25 years. Has produced 64 BUSHELS GRAIN, 3 TONS STRAW per acre. Strongest storm resister grown. 40s. per quarter, 36 stones nett, sacks included, on rail; cash with order.—THOMAS CHETTLE, Manor Farm, Reading.

200,000 FIDLER'S ECLIPSE Cabbage Plants, 3s. 1,000. W. HORNE & SONS, Cliffe, nr. Rochester, Kent.

SAINSBURY'S NEW WINTER KING BARLEY. Two rowed. The earliest Barley in cultivation. Re-selected every year. Favourite with brewers for its high quality. Strong straw. Not liable to be laid. Stand any winter. Commenced cutting July 12th (very ripe); all housed by 22nd. A customer writes: "Your winter barley gave me every satisfaction; we cut in June and housed first week in July." Another, farming 600 acres, writes me: "The winter barley you supplied me with was the heaviest-looking crop I ever saw—was a sight for gods and men. I have ricked five big stacks, with over 20 waggon loads in each, off 28 acres." Price free on rail Ross. On account of slump in malting barley, will meet my customers by a reduction to 64s. per qr. Sacks 1s. Cash. —J. B. SAINSBURY, Whitecross, Ross, Herefordshire.

SEED WHEAT.—I again offer my superior stock of wheat, "Squarehead's Master," specially grown for seed, with which I have supplied noblemen and large farmers throughout the kingdom for years past, many renewing their orders yearly.—Sample and price from F. O. TAYLOR, Thuxton, Norfolk.

SEEDS, PLANTS, &c.

500,000 FRUITING TREES (under or all heavy), 12, 10s. 6d.; 7, 6s. 6d.; 3, 3s. 6d. Splendid Rose-trees, 1s. 3d. 6d., 6, 2s. Gooseberry and Currants, 2s. 6d. doz. Strawberry plants, 100, 3s.; 50, 2s. Rasp. canes, 25, 1s. 6d.; 50, 2s. 6d. Wallflowers, 100, 2s. 6d. 50, 1s. 6d. Carr. paid. Catalogues free.—EAST KENT FRUIT CO. (M.L.), Sittingbourne, Kent.

SEED POTATOES. Off bright silt, Lincolnshire grown. Also reliable stocks of Scotch grown. For prices apply, W. F. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

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For Breakfast & after Dinner.

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which has already passed through several editions, and is the acknowledged authority upon this important subject.
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21 Prizes
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The Great Somersetshire Remedy FOR
FOOT-ROT
In large Stoneware Bottles at 2/6 each.
Send a post-card for prospectus to the Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers,
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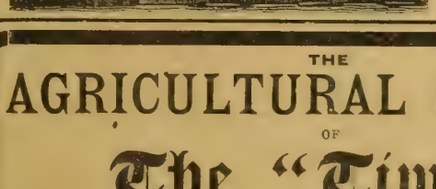
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But in out-of-the-way districts, amongst farmers who perhaps do not often see the Agricultural papers, there are some few feeders who still fatten bullocks and other cattle on Linseed Cake.

To all such we venture to suggest that the present high price of Linseed Cake affords an opportunity for putting the **"BIBBY" CAKE** to a competitive test.

Consider the saving! At the relative prices the cost of **"BIBBY"** is something like 30s. per ton less than the cost of any good brand of English Linseed Cake, so that on a four-ton truck of Cake a saving of £6 is effected.

But this is not all; we maintain that cattle can be fatted more expeditiously on **"BIBBY" CAKE,** which effects a saving of both time and other keep.

But let us waive the latter point, for the money saving alone is well worth the feeder's attention.

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We also supply our famous **DAIRY CAKE** in Cakettes, Whole Cake or Meal, and we believe better value for Dairy Cows is not to be obtained than we are now giving in our well-known **DAIRY CAKE, CAKETTES,** and **MEAL.**

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The new number of **BIBBY'S QUARTERLY,** edited by our Mr. JOSEPH BIBBY, is now out, and can be had from all book-stalls, 1s. each copy,

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Qualities	D	E	A	B	C
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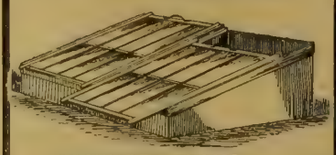

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One Light, 4 ft. by 6 ft. ...	1	16	9
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Hound Meal.

Each **16s.** per cwt. at any station in England for Cash.

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New Descriptive list of Dog, Poultry and Game Foods, with numerous testimonials, post free.

BEST AND CHEAPEST DRESSING FOR SEEDS.

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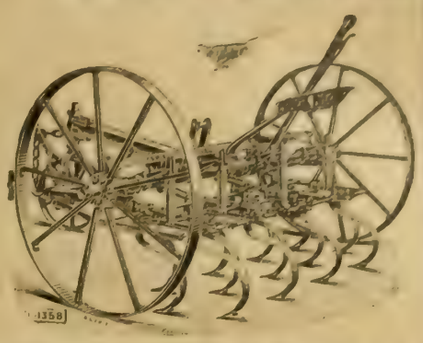

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CHEESE PRICES AND PROSPECTS.

Although the magnitudinous and rapidly-increasing demands of the towns for milk have undoubtedly lessened the number of cheese-making dairies, there are a sufficient number of them left to cause heavy outcomes to come under the public eye, such as the magnificent exhibition of the Cheddar makers at Frome last week, or the annual Kilmarnock one, or the more varied exhibition of Scotch and English Cheddars, Cheshires, Stiltons, Wensleydale, etc., which will invite inspection to-morrow and during the greater part of the present week in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. At Frome, no fewer than 387 exhibits of cheese appeared, all Cheddars, with the exception of 16 Caerphillies, rather strong proof that the British cheesemaker's occupation has not gone quite yet, however pressing the foreign import traffic may be at times in overwhelming markets and depreciating prices.

We may congratulate British cheesemakers, however, that there is no apparent danger of such a thing happening this autumn. Often in past years, at the present period, there has been quite a glut of Canadians in the market, offered at prices so low that the best of them go to the provision shops and the restaurants in preference to cheese of English make. But just now there is actual scarcity of Canadian cheese in the wholesale trade. Imports have fallen off for the simple reason that prices have of late appreciated on the other side of the Atlantic until they have become quite as high there as here. For instance, while quotations here for the primest Canadian do not exceed from 54s. to 56s. in value, cables have been received of late from the other side declaring enhanced rates up to 56s. 3d., and even to 57s. 6d. These prices are actually higher than a great deal of good home-made cheese command. At Frome last week the quoted rates of medium-class Cheddars were 53s. to 56s. per cwt., and for best only from 58s. to 63s. There were, it is true, some few sales at still higher figures, but they were those of prize-winners, who would not sell the lot which had won unless the entire make of the season were taken therewith. Under such conditions there were sales at 65s. up to 68s. The North British markets have been almost stagnant recently, owing to dealers having stocks to work, offers they trade much in new cheese. Quotations for Scotch Cheddars have been 54s. to 60s., and for Dunlops 52s. to 58s., but Glasgow prices last week gave the highest rate, 2s. above these figures for both. The quotations of Cheshire cheese have been 54s. to 60s. at Nantwich. The rates of Caerphilly at Newport have been 53s. to 57s., for Truckles 56s. to 60s., and for Derbys 62s. to 63s. Gloucester has ranged from 56s. to 58s., and Lancashire from 52s. to 60s.

There is also another thing cheesemakers may be congratulated on. The summer, as a whole, has been favourable for their industry, so that those possessed of the requisite skill have been able to turn out cheese of better quality than in the average of seasons. Those who attended Frome Show on Wednesday, and who were old frequenters, were heard to remark that they had seldom, if ever, seen so few really inferior lots of cheese exhibited. We have no doubt quality extends to a satisfactory, if not to a high, standard in other parts of the kingdom, and good prices may reasonably be expected to follow. Too often, when there has been a fine season for the maker to have a large quantity of really prime cheese to dispose of, the markets have been so depressed by the big imports that prices have drooped ruinously low, so that little or no profit has resulted from the excellent outcrop. Such is not likely to be the case this autumn, and, consequently, we earnestly hope that for once our friends, the cheesemakers, will have a thoroughly prosperous year.

Farm Labourers' Wages in Nelson's Time.

In connection with the Nelson centenary, a most readable series of articles dealing with the great Admiral's association with East Anglia have been appearing in the *East Anglian Daily Times*, and in one of the articles we notice some interesting references to the wages of farm labourers in Nelson's time. It appears that prior to his appointment to the Agamemnon in 1793, he made a somewhat lengthy stay at Burnham; and whilst here took up the cause of the agricultural labourer with his usual enthusiasm. Norfolk, in those times, the writer of the article states, was disturbed and unhappy. Wages were terribly low, and the labouring class were in such a state of poverty and destitution that they were beginning to turn a willing ear to the various agitators who toured the county, and a spirit of restlessness was abroad.

The state of affairs prompted Nelson to write to his friend Prince William (Duke of Clarence), and, in the course of his letter, which was dated December 10, 1792, he said:—

"That the poor labourers should have been seduced by promises and hopes of better times, your Royal Highness will not wonder at, when I assure you that they are really in want of everything to make life comfortable. Part of their wants, perhaps, were unavoidable, from the dearness of every article of life: but much has arose from the neglect of the country gentlemen, in not making their farmers raise their wages, in some small proportion, as the prices of necessaries increased.

"The enclosed paper will give your Royal Highness an idea of their situation. It is most favourable; but I have been careful that no country gentleman should have it in his power to say I had pointed out the wants of the poor greater than they really are. Their wages have been raised within these three weeks, pretty generally, one shilling a week. Had it been done some times past they would not have been discontented, for a want of loyalty is not amongst their faults; and many of their superiors, in many instances, might have imitated their conduct with advantage."

The enclosed paper was to the following effect:—

"An account of the earnings and expenses of a labourer in Norfolk, with a wife and three children, supposing that he is not to be one day kept from labour in the whole year:—

	£	s.	d.
One pair of man's shoes, 7s.; one pair of woman's, 4s. 5d.; one pair for each of the three children, 10s. 6d.; and £1 1s. for mending	2	3	0
Shirts, two		1	[illegible]
Breeches or jacket		[illegible]	
Woman's and children's clothes	1	[illegible]	
Soap, 12lbs		[illegible]	
Candles, 6lbs		[illegible]	
Coals, one chaldron and a half	1	[illegible]	
House rent	2	0	0
	[illegible]		

LABOUR AT THE ADVANCED PRICES

	£	s.	d.
From October 12 to March 31, at 9s. per week	[illegible]		
From March 31 to June 30, at 8s. per week	5	4	
From June 30 to August 25, mowing [illegible]			
Harvest	2	2	0
Woman's gleaning	1	1	0
Total earnings			
Clothes			
For food, five people			

"Not quite twopence a day for [illegible] to drink nothing but water, for beer our poor labourers never taste, unless they [illegible] which is too often the case, to go to the alehouse."

What a contrast to the rate of wages ruling to-day!

Seasonable Topics.

Farewell September! The golden month has been gathered to its fathers, and October, the time of the sere and yellow leaf, is ushered in. With reluctance we parted with September, as it seems to be the last link of summer, and with the advent of October we look for dark nights, chilly mornings, damp days, and falling leaves. But still October can be delightful, particularly when we get an Indian summer, which is the name we give to a balmy autumn, and during the last half of September we have had a taste of it. We get the name of Indian summer from our friends across the Atlantic, who apply this term to the short spell of delightful weather which usually precedes the stinging severity of a Canadian winter. We trust the Indian summer weather experienced of late will continue through October, for, as the country people say, a fine autumn helps the winter on so nicely, and it is good to be abroad on fine October days when the ruddy glow of ripeness steals over orchard and woodland, and by the hundred tints with which she paints the trees, Dame Nature seems to be engaged in a grand effort to make the dying days of autumn the most beautiful. The sun of an Indian summer is warm without being scorching, the air is clear and crisp and balmy, and owing to the mere fact that we are standing on the threshold of winter, we feel that we are enjoying a privilege, and are in duty bound to make the most of every dry sunny day that passes.

Indian Summers

* * *

This is an important season in the agricultural year, for it is a time of changes, and the advertisement columns of country papers are full of notices of farms to let, farms wanted, agricultural labourers in search of places, and masters on the look-out for men. According to the custom of the locality, farmers either enter into new takings at Michaelmas, or else it is the time when notices are given with that end in view next Lady Day. It is no uncommon thing about this time to see farm waggons lumbering along the roads laden with the worldly belongings of labourers and farm hands, who are about to follow their occupation in another quarter. We may observe, in passing, that we have recently noticed what a lot of advertisements there are in local papers for waggoners, mates, cowmen, shepherds, and ordinary farm hands, and this at a time when the unemployed question in towns is growing alarming, and skilled, able-bodied men are walking about idle and hungry. What does it mean? It is the old story of rural depopulation and the growing scarcity of skilled agricultural labour. What lesson does it teach? Simply that the farmer who has got a good waggoner, cowman, or shepherd, and is wise in his generation, will do well to keep him, because really good men are none too plentiful. Sentiment does not keep men on the same farm or in the same village year after year like it used to do, and a bit of encouragement or a shilling or two extra per week is money well spent if it means keeping a good man. Farm labourers are not the uneducated, servile specimens of humanity that they used to be, but they are indispensable to agriculture, and the more scarce good men become the more valuable their services must necessarily be.

Michaelmas.

* * *

Some years ago, when what is popularly known as the whiskey money was put into the hands of County Councils for the purpose of technical education, including instruction in agricultural subjects, the difficulty experienced by the county authorities was to know how to spend it. Of course this end was accomplished, but the work being experimental, a good deal of money was spent to no purpose, if not literally wasted, without agriculture being benefited very much. The experimental stage of the work is now over, systems of one kind or another are in vogue in most counties to provide for what is now known as higher education, and the county authorities, instead of being in difficulty as to how the money should be spent, are at a loss to know how to get the money to spend. As a result, agricultural education is suffering, and there is a danger of the work already done and good work, too, some of it being rendered practically valueless for the want of funds to carry it on. It would have been better never to have introduced technical education at all rather than start it and neglect it. Let us go on or go back through the lack of means. In the last issue of the MARK LANE EXPRESS it was stated that the proposals of the Education Committee of the Devon County Council were to spend £1,770 on agricultural education, and £9,220 on evening continuation schools, technical education, and science schools. This, mind you, is in a county where agriculture is the largest industry, and where the importance of having young people efficient in agricultural pursuits can hardly be over-estimated. Looking at the matter broadly, it would appear as if the higher education of to-day leans in the direction of providing a class of instruction to country youths that is qualified to drive them away from the land rather than keep them on it. This cutting down of funds for agricultural instruction appears to be getting a general thing amongst county education committees, and it is quite time that agriculturists as a body made the demand that a proper proportion of public funds should be devoted to education in the most important of home industries.

Agricultural Education.

* * *

It is about Michaelmas time that the fair season comes round, and efforts are made in market and country towns to keep up these institutions, which were such red letter events in the days of our grandfathers. But the glory of the old-fashioned fair has departed, we think, for ever. Circumstances, associated with the advance of the times, have joined hands to kill the country fair from a business point of view, and in a measure they have succeeded. Keener competition, railways, quick transit, auction sales, and established markets have all helped to make farmers more or less independent of annual fairs, where they used to sell what they had to dispose of and buy what they wanted. As events for pleasure, too, Michaelmas fairs have seen their palmy days. It is not likely that the fair will die an easy death, because, in the first place, country people are loth to see old customs drop out, and secondly, the carrying on of the fair is in the hands of the travelling showman, who never forgets the event, and turns up every year from nobody knows where, with his merry-go-rounds, swing boats, cocoanut shies, shooting galleries, and all the rest of the paraphernalia. Young England, who visits the music-hall, wears high collars, and smokes cheap cigarettes, turns up his nose at this kind of amusement, and prefers to take a cheap ticket to the seaside for the purpose of making his presence felt on the promenade, but the fair still has charms for the lad who drives the plough and the lass who scours the milk pail, and they flock into the town when the annual event is on, and they spend their money just as freely, and often as foolishly, as their grandfathers did before them. One would hardly expect anyone in the twentieth century to give sixpence for a purse with the belief that it contained a half-crown, yet we have seen this done frequently at Michaelmas fairs, and have observed the look of sheer, unassumed disappointment on the faces of the purchasers when they have opened the smart plush receptacle of real Brummagem workmanship and found it empty. The swindled ones get laughed at for making such fools of themselves, and next fairday somebody else does exactly the same thing.

Country Fairs.

* * *

As one travels along a country road at this time of the year that is reasonably free from the choking dust stirred up by the flying motor, one observes that the misty evening air is more or less smoke laden, and the not unpleasant aroma from stick fires fills the nostrils with a sensation that is by no means so stifling as the fumes from petrol. The smoke comes from the smouldering fires in field and garden on every side. There is a man burning up the couch that the harrow has dragged from a piece of foul land that has been fallowed through the summer. Wise man! for if burnt there will be an end to the obnoxious weed, and that is about the only sure way of getting rid of it. There is another man burning his hedge bushings, and the bright glare of light going heavenwards shines bright in the gathering gloom, and over there is a cottager busily engaged in reducing his potato tops to ashes by means of fire. Perhaps he is the wisest of all the burners, for the tops are affected with the potato disease, and though the chances are that he knows nothing about living spores and that sort of thing, the fact remains that it is better to burn diseased potato haulm than to leave it rotting on the ground, as is done in many cases. The policy of burning is good, for it not only gets rubbish and refuse out of the way, but the dead remains of what had life are valuable, and in the heap of ashes that remain when the fire has burnt down we have potash, which is valuable as a fertiliser. Would that we could get more of this commodity, for if you look in a cornfield where rubbish fires have been, the straw is taller and greener on these patches, and if it is potatoes or roots one may observe the same thing. The fertilising properties contained in the ashes make the difference, and in this alone there is sufficient reason for advocating the burning of refuse.

Burnt Refuse.

DAIRY.

The Adulteration of Dairy Produce

The report of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries of its work under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, the Merchandise Marks Acts, and other Acts was issued last week, and it affords some interesting reading. In view of the large amount of dairy produce landed in this country from abroad, vigilance in the detection of articles adulterated before importation is of great importance, and the report begins with a reference to it. In the course of 1904, 2,480 samples of such imported articles of food were taken at the ports of entry—2,111 of butter, 153 of cheese, 40 of fresh and sterilised milk, 92 of condensed milk, 77 of fresh and sterilised cream, six of evaporated cream, and one sample of margarine. None of the samples of butter or cheese was reported against, and in most of the other cases the standard was so slightly below that required that it was not considered desirable to take further action.

According to the reports furnished to the Local Government Board, the total number of samples of articles of food submitted for analysis under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts by local authorities in England and Wales in 1903 was 78,077, or 5,756 more than in 1902. The chief increase was in milk, of which 33,090 samples were taken, as compared with 29,452 in 1902. The number of milk samples reported against was 3,430, or 10.4 per cent.

The number of samples of butter tested was 13,766, or 379 more than in 1902. Adverse reports were made in 751 cases, or 5.5 per cent. of the number examined, as against 6.5 per cent. in 1902 and 10.3 per cent. in 1901. Analyses were also made of 992 margarine samples, of which 35, or 3.5 per cent. were found to be adulterated, this figure comparing favourably with that for 1902, when 7.7 per cent. of the margarine samples analysed were reported against. The analyses of cheese amounted to 1,805, adulteration being detected in 1.4 per cent. of the samples examined, as compared with 1.9 in 1902.

In a preliminary statement by the Local Government Board of the results of the examination of samples of milk, butter, and cheese submitted for analysis in England and Wales in 1904 under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, it is shown that the number of samples of milk examined was 36,413, of which 4,031 were found to be adulterated; of butter 15,124 samples were analysed, and 1,867 found adulterated; and of cheese 2,176 were examined, and 20 were found adulterated.

The report states plainly that during the past two or three years the sale of margarine as butter has been carried on in many of the manufacturing districts of Yorkshire and Lancashire in a manner which suggested the existence of an organised association of fraudulent traders. Certain persons who posed as Irish egg and butter merchants have opened shops in different localities under various aliases, and have sold margarine as butter. When the fraud has been discovered the parties have absconded, either before the summons could be served or before it was returnable. Between twenty-five and thirty of such shops were opened during 1904. Local authorities experienced great difficulty in dealing with these cases, but owing to the exertions of the officials of Lancashire, Manchester, Sheffield, and other districts, this association has now been exposed and broken up. It appears that it was managed by two brothers, who obtained the services of some thirty men to act as managers. These men were all sworn to secrecy by the brothers, who undertook to pay all fines and compensate those who were sent to prison. The principals have so far escaped, but three of the subordinates were convicted and sentenced each to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour at the last Manchester Quarter Sessions for obtaining money under false pretences.

Chester Cheese Fair.

Mr Challinor reports as follows:—Pitch about 50 tons, large attendance of buyers, tone good. Prices: Best, 58s. to 64s.; medium, 50s. to 55s.; lower grades down to 46s.

Agricultural Politics.

By a LOBBYIST.

It is time, in very truth, that we opposed a disciplined antagonism to the colonisation mania. I hope this last descriptive word will not be objected to; I only use it because I can recall none other that so adequately expresses the fevered anxiety of the many admirable men who are anxious to despatch the muscle and sinews of lusty manhood to the colonies. "The landless man for the manless land" — thus one of these philanthropists expresses the anxiety of the colonisation-mongers; and in order to realise it the denuded villages of England are to be rendered still more manless. Make no mistake about it. Mr. Jesse Collings is absolutely right when he points out that it is not wastreldom and loaferdom the colonies want. Nay, if wastreldom and loaferdom were brought to their shores, they would probably despatch them incontinently home, burdened only with colonial contempt and contumely. 'Tis the very men we want in our villages, and it is in order to bestow these upon the colonies that General Booth is appealing to the breeches-pocket of the nation, that Mr. Carlile, the head of the Church Army, appeals for £100,000 from the benevolent-minded and £20,000 from the State, and seeks to induce Boards of Guardians to become complaisant instruments in his purpose, and that colonial statecraft paints visions of a colonial life romantic and happy beyond any possible realisation. Our villages are to be still further depleted by the professional regenerators of mankind in order that British labourers may perform a work the absence of which from Britain will lay derelict British soil.

• • •

One of the hopes of a sane statecraft is that the men who have been drawn by the magnetic attraction of a bustling life from the villages to the towns may be recalled to the land. This, however, is the very class whom these philanthropists would bestow on the colonies. Mr. Carlile, who is possessed by the anxiety to send five thousand able-bodied men to the colonies in the coming season, openly declares that the class from which selections will be first made will be that "composed of men formerly employed on land and now in destitution in great cities." "When, indeed, they are despatched to Canada," confesses this vigorous gentleman, "every man will be guaranteed to be able to plough, to milk a cow, and to erect a rough shanty." As a fact, even if they do not possess this ability, as a result of an earlier training on the land, they will be specially equipped at the Church Army's farm at Hempsted. General Booth's purpose is the same. Only the physically-best and the well-trained are good enough for the colonies. And do not, I pray, imagine that these emigrants will, if the projected schemes be carried out, be confined only to the men who have been attracted from the villages to the towns, there to find their roseate hopes a bitter Will-o'-the-wisp and a grim phantasy. The land-hunger is still an influence with the rural labourer. The anxiety to cultivate his own must still be an operating force; and it is certain that the generous offer of the Colonies of land for the mere asking and unfettered by any serious conditions—offers, by the way, which experience has taught us, are not always destined to be crystallised and realised in fact—must appeal with irresistible romanticism to hundreds of too-sensitive and cautionless British rural workers. This, indeed, constitutes one of the gravest dangers of this crusade. Not only are the men attracted to the towns to be irrevocably divorced from British soil, but the men already associated with it are to be sorely tempted.

• • •

It may be urged that too much significance is being attached to the matter, and it may be pointed out that already efforts are being made to draft sections of the British unemployed on to British land. The reply to the latter contention is the best revelation of the significance of the business. The drafting of the unemployed into British rural areas has no organising enthusiasm behind it. Even so, however, it is only proposed to draft the human derelicts of town life—the eddying flotsam and jetsam of the street-corners. The colonisation enterprises have not only organised enthusiasm behind them, but their authors and leaders demand only the physically-best and the well-equipped. The broken-down, the dispirited, the laggards, and the untrained are, in the view of the new philanthropy, good enough for Old England.

• • •

You may ask what can be done to delay and frustrate this new movement? Well, certainly you cannot arrest philanthropy in its desire to find a new home for its more favoured and approved protégés. You cannot appeal to the Government to step in and hold the hand of well-meaning benevolence. You cannot demand that a Secretary of State should insist on General Booth and the Rev. Mr. Carlile drafting their thousands of physically-fit labourers on to British land. Where, indeed, could they be drafted? Unlike the Colonies, no Department of State is here willing to offer them—or, for the matter of that, could, under existing conditions, offer them—encouraging prospects of settlements. A great national scheme of afforestation and another great national scheme for the reclamation of waste land, are still only the objects of dithyrambic enthusiasm on the part of visionaries. Well, most assuredly the menace is a serious one, and the Government and the benevolent sentiment of the United Kingdom—from both of whom a great assistance is being sought—may well be asked to reflect as to whether a great harm may not unintentionally be done to the Mother Country. British villages want lusty manhood. The lusty manhood which has gone from the villages is to be given to other countries, and the very incidents of the bestowal will assuredly be followed by the still further deprivation of the villages. Why should we look over-seas for homes for the very manhood we require? I can hear the agitator saying that this is a necessity because there are no satisfactory homes existing in this country. For the moment let us forget the deeper economic and political issues involved in this matter. That a wise and generous statecraft will have to intervene is certain. For the moment, however, the first duty is, if possible, to prevent the carrying out of these schemes—to, at all events, reveal to the mind of politicians and emotional sentimentalists the grave havoc that may be done to the British countryside and ruraldom. The untrained and the laggards and the broken are really not the human instruments British land requires. Our villages should not be made dispensaries for the morally and physically infirm.

• • •

I am sadly afraid that Sir Walter Peace is preaching to an unsympathetic generation. Bounty advocacy is at a discount. It has no active, vigilant friend in politics, and in economics it has only critics. True, Sir Walter has associated an element of romanticism with his proposal of a sovereign for every acre in suggesting that the labourer should have a share of the concession over and above his wages; but this very romanticism would serve to deepen antagonism to it. In the first place, it would inevitably be asserted—the original criticism levelled at the Rating Act is an assurance of this—that the bounty was being utilised to lower the actual wages; and, in the next case, we should have a Bashan-like denunciation from the towns at rural labourers being selected for this special financial privilege by the State. The proposal would thus serve to revive the old antagonism of town and countryside. Besides, Sir Walter's picture of a net gain of five millions sterling to the State would, I fear me, have but little justification in fact. What Sir Walter really means is that by the nation conceding three millions and a half the wheat supply would be doubled, and we should thereby be without the necessity of purchasing seven million quarters from abroad. Would this, however, mean a gain of over five millions sterling by the State? "In order to pay the English farmer an extra eight and three-quarter millions, would," asks the *Westminster Gazette*, "the English consumer tax himself to the extent of three and a half millions? If he did, would he then gain four millions?

• • •

What, too, if in the encouraged competition from the virgin wheatfields of Canada which Mr. Chamberlain would invoke the British wheat was undersold in the markets of the United Kingdom? And, mind you—I know I am eternally iterating this—it is the belief of Canadian statecraft that the Dominion will soon yield enough food-stuffs to supply the whole of the necessities of Great Britain! Where, then, would be the saving? No, Sir Walter, your intention is excellent—there is not a farmer but who would hail with ecstasy a wheat bounty of a pound an acre; but I fear me it is sadly impracticable and delusive. Statecraft, believe me, will not give it a single serious or responsible benison.

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Another object lesson for the Board of Agriculture: The Canadian Dairy Commissioner—where, by the way, is our counterpart of this very useful and practical official?—has been here preparing the way for the capture of other of our markets. What Denmark can do, Canada can do. This is the contention of the wise-eyed men of the Dominion; and so they are prepared to enter into a contest with the Danes, and, for the matter of that, with other foreigners, for the usurpation of the British home trade in fruit, vegetables, butter, and eggs. And, meanwhile, what of the British growers of fruit, vegetables, butter, and eggs? What are the wise-eyed men of British statecraft doing to persuade those British growers to seek that trade for themselves? Over in the Dominion you do not hear the British Minister of Agriculture—I am bound to say Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes has not done this in any assertive manner—deprecating any appeal for the State's financial and practical assistance, and unctuously preaching the beauties of the principle of self-help and personal redemption. He despatches his most trusted emissaries for the purpose of discovering how best the resources of the State can be utilised in seeking a new and profitable outlet for Colonial enterprise. Whilst we here are dulcetly proclaiming at public meetings, under the ægis of a sympathetic peer or an occasional judge, the probable advantages of a system of co-operative distribution in connection with agriculture, there the State practically calls into existence the machinery of co-operation, and itself half provides the methods of distribution. My critics will retort on me with the exclamation, "Why denounce bounties?" I do not denounce bounties; I only question the wisdom of this particular scheme, and of propounding a policy at which statecraft looks with askant eye. Here is, however, a practical evidence of what practical men are actually doing. The moral of the object-lesson can be perceived by the most obtuse.

Another device of the Canadian Government for bringing before the British public the enormous resources of the Dominion of Canada, and for the purpose of attracting emigrants to the colony, is the issue of a series of picture postcards. They are beautifully coloured, giving representations of townships, farmsteads, wheat growing, cattle raising, threshing corn, flour mills, and various incidents connected with farm life, and they depict in a vivid manner the possibilities placed before the emigrant by the Canadian Government. A series will be forwarded to anyone on application to the Canadian Commissioner of Emigration, 11 and 12, Charing Cross, London, S.W.

Farm servants of all kinds from the home counties of Bucks, Berks, and Oxford assembled in large numbers at the Michaelmas Hiring Fair at High Wycombe on Monday. It is one of the few places where the old-time observance seems to lose none of its popularity. The supply of agricultural hands exceeded the demand, but many engagements were effected at rates of remuneration differing little from those prevailing a year ago.

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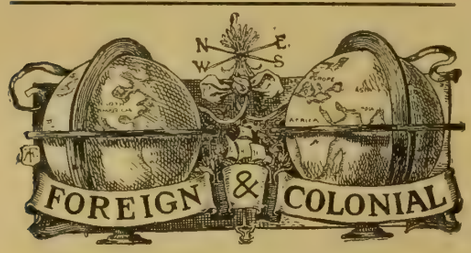


Canadian Dairy Produce.

Mr. J. A. Ruddick, a Dairy Commissioner representing the Canadian Government, addressed a meeting of Manchester provision dealers at the Produce Exchange on Wednesday, and in the course of an interesting speech described the progress made in recent years in the export dairy trade of Canada. Canadians recognise, he said, that their great market is this country, and their energies are being directed to increase the trade with Great Britain. They do not rely, however, on patriotism or Imperialism alone to bring about this result, and they are prepared and anxious to give the best possible quality of commodities. He enumerated some of the measures which have been passed by the Dominion Parliament to ensure the purity of dairy produce, and spoke of the efforts of the Government to encourage the trade by affording facilities for transportation and inducing the shipping companies to provide cold storage accommodation in their steamers. With the encouragement which the butter makers had received from the present season's operations he thought there would be a large increase in the output of butter in the near future. He hoped that Manchester would have its share of this increase. At the port of Manchester there were excellent facilities for the handling of Canadian produce, and he would like to see a larger quantity of Canadian butter and cheese brought up the Ship Canal.

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Ruddick, Mr. G. W. Little said that this year had seen a marked appreciation of Canadian butter in this country. As yet, only 4 per cent. of the trade here was represented by shipments from Canada, but the proportion would grow, for Canada was now producing a magnificent article.

Mr. R. Graham, in seconding the motion (which was carried), said that although Manchester merchants handle 80 or 100 tons of Canadian butter weekly, the imports to Manchester are practically nil. This season they were only one-eighteenth of the imports to Liverpool. The Canadian branch of the trade is the only one which Manchester merchants have a chance of developing directly, and they are being thwarted and prevented from doing so entirely through the lack of proper shipping facilities. The butter ought to come to Manchester direct. If there were a good service of steamers to the Ship Canal, with good refrigerators, the merchants could make good use of them.

Mr Graham added that the produce which has hitherto been brought to the Manchester docks has been handled most excellently. There are, he said, at the docks all the necessary facilities, and yet they cannot be properly used.

Foreign Crop Prospects.

France.—The Minister of Agriculture estimates the wheat yield at 119,387,159 hectolitres, or 42,556,569 qr., an increase over last year of 6,626,579 qr. The rye crop he estimates at 21,000,000 hectols., or 7,221,375 qr., against 6,189,750 qr. last year. This is an increase on other estimates recently put forward, but the Association of French Millers estimates an even greater yield of 129,561,265 hectols., or 45,750,000 qr.

Germany.—There have been no new developments of importance in connection with the grain crops, but considerable attention is being given to the potato harvest, which has of late benefited materially by favourable weather, unexpectedly high yields being reported over a wide area. The reports concerning quality are less favourable than as regards yield, but as yet are not general enough to admit of fair estimates being made on this point. It is admitted, however, that in low-lying, heavy lands considerable damage has been done by late rains. The threshing out of the grain crops has proceeded steadily, without changing judgments already formed of general results.

Austria-Hungary.—Threshings are, according to official reports, confirming expectations of deficient yield, due to the defective growth of the ears of grain. The potato crop is, as a rule, favourably reported upon. Late potatoes have been doing very well since the August rains, and a good yield is expected, and early potatoes, taken altogether, have given satisfactory results.

Roumania.—The Ministry of Agriculture, in a preliminary announcement, gives the area under wheat this year at about 4,800,000 acres, and the yield as likely to reach 12,500,000 qr. This is larger than any other wheat crop raised in Roumania, and exceeds last year's yield by some 6,000,000 qr., and is 3,500,000 qr. greater than in 1903. The yield of maize on the other hand, has decreased materially suffering much from weather too hot and too dry. No estimate of final yield is given, but it may not be more than 55 per cent. of an average crop. Continued drought still interferes seriously with farm work.

Russia.—The *Official Messenger* reports complete failure of both winter and spring corn crops in provinces of Voronezti, Vladimir, Tver, Samara, Saratoff, Simbirsk, Tamboff, Tula, Riazan, and in parts of the provinces of Orel and Kherson, with unsatisfactory rye harvest over a wide section. Imperial grants are being made to relieve distress in famine-afflicted districts.

Norway.—A report made by the Imperial German Consul at Christiania says that upon the whole the yield of grain in Norway has been above the average and of straw beyond the average, while the state of the potato crop, so far, is excellent.

United States.—Mr. Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture, who has just returned from a tour in the North-West, says that the accounts of enormous crops are not exaggerated.

Canada.—Reports have been of a favourable character this week, threshing results prove good as a rule, and wheat moving freely to market. The Dominion Government Grain Commissioner reports that there has never been in the history of Canada a crop of finer and more uniform quality, and that as much as 80 per cent. of it will grade No. 1 Northern.

India.—Cables report the monsoon, generally speaking, at an end, but full reports of the progress made since the break of the drought in the Punjab and elsewhere have yet to come to hand. It is perhaps significant that there is only a little more disposition on the part of holders to part with their grain than was shown during the dry spell.

Australia.—The general tenor of advices from Australia continue all that could be desired from the farmers' point of view, and should the grain crops not give a bumper yield, they will fall short of general expectations.—*Dornbusch* (September 29).

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Sept. 23, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,147	10,891	Wheat ...	1,612,400	1,953,600
Sheep.....	5,065	1,318	Flour.....	273,700	216,000
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	645,200	623,100
Horses ...	178	166	Oats	393,900	310,300
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Peas	38,300	58,740
Beef	85,571	139,112	Beans ...	97,320	102,160
Mutton...	39,124	54,050	Maize ...	970,200	1,339,800
Pork	13,622	8,954	Apples ...	71,594	56,415
Bacon ...	103,420	113,814	Apricots &Peaches	234	5
Beef,salt	1,644	1,082		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	16,998	19,405	Bananas	60,624	173,820
Pork,salt	5,901	4,216		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat,salt & Fresh	8,568	11,206	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	17,930	25,605	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	67,648	97,139	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	17,815	19,964	Grapes ..	13,884	32,508
Cheese ...	70,345	59,3.5	Lemons...	7,090	8,041
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.		—	Oranges	3,512	1,088
			Pears	31,019	27,063
			Plums ...	11,552	12,874
			Oth'r Fr't	10,078	23,294
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	1,761	3,246
Milk, Cream	28	100	Straw ..	1,594	1,786
			MossLitU'r	—	1,632
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	11,225	14,142	Hops	8,580	1,073
Milk pr'g'v'd, other kinds ...	54	61	Locust Beans	Bush.	12,360 Bush.
			Onions ...	142,129	181,928
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gl. Hund.	Gl.Hund.	Potatoes	64,157	24,927
Eggs	386,359	165,384	Tomatoes	18,579	19,173
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value £5,339	Value. £4,961	Veg'bles	£3,122	£1,416
				Cwt.	Cwt
			Dried ...	14,023	2,581
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Prsv'd by canning	8,187	3,816
Rabbits ...	30,481	16,018			
Lard	27,619	23,887			

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

In spite of wind and rain, the swallow's cheery twittering song is still heard in East Anglia as it flew along the hedges, keeping always on the side protected by the insect-haunted oak and bramble, knowing full well that there insects will congregate against the cold autumn wind or pass over between the showers in wide sweeps so close as nearly to touch the blue-grey patches of drenched turnips, for, although last Sunday was October, the country side is still thronged with insect life. But glance at the fields and we find throughout the Eastern Counties the plough of all the agricultural implements most busy, and the weather for the past week to the advantage of the farmer, did he but know it, hindering threshing operations. Ploughing for such crops as rye and vetches is very forward, and an immense amount of work in the nature of autumn cultivation during the last half of September has been carried out in East Anglia under favourable conditions either by steam or teams.

As one passes through the Eastern Counties one cannot but remark on the number of barley stacks that want "propping" since harvest, whereas a week or so ago they were perfectly upright, now they have "gone over" one way or the other and at the same time settling down to a quite unusual extent. This must not be thought to be due to heating, as is the case when barley and the sunny days of the barley harvest, or damp condition, but arises more from the brittleness of the straw, brought about by the lack of moisture during the maturation of the barley and the sunny days of the barley harvest. In many cases it is an index to lack of wheat also in the ears, and this will explain why at the moment we hear so many complaints of the quantity of the barley as proved by the threshing machine. However, each market day shows some slight improvement in quality, and a large buyer reports that he saw last Saturday some of the best barley that had ever been offered to him. This particular sample came from near Woodbridge, in Suffolk, and he states, further, that there is some fine barley in Norfolk, especially in the Burnhams and on the sea-coast towards Sandringham.

The apple crop is nearly a failure this year in Norfolk which must be considered a great misfortune, as a good crop of apples—for who has not heard of Norfolk cider?—is of considerable assistance to the winter's housekeeping. But the writer must draw attention to the neglect that he has noticed in recent years of the Norfolk orchards and to the number of worn-out old trees that exist. In other parts of England, as soon as a tree begins to fail, it is cut down, and a new tree is planted in its stead.

By the way, speaking of apples reminds me that at Billingborough, Lincolnshire, there is a Victoria plum tree in the postmaster's garden that has produced two distinct crops of fruit this year. The second lot have attained a size larger than walnuts, and are now almost ripe. Raspberries, in sheltered corners, are also ripening, and a second crop of peas has been gathered. This, however, will not compensate for the loss that is being sustained by diseased potatoes, which unfortunately is rampant in some districts of Lincolnshire.

A meeting of Harleston townspeople and leading agriculturists in South Norfolk was held on Wednesday last under the presidency of Captain John Percy Meade, J.P., of Earsham Hall, Bungay, to discuss the proposal for holding the next Norfolk agricultural show in Harleston. The meeting was the result of a decision come to at a preliminary meeting held a fortnight ago at the Waveney Valley show, and on this occasion there was a remarkably good attendance. After going into the financial side of the question, it was decided to forthwith appoint the secretary and necessary committee. Mr. C. Devereux, of The Rookery, Weybread, Harleston, the hon. secretary to the Waveney Valley Show, was then appointed as secretary to the local committee, amid applause, and Mr. G. Stebbings Barclay's Bank) was selected as treasurer. The General Purposes and Finance Committee were then elected as follows: Messrs. J. B. Dimmock, of Shotford Hall, Harleston; J. Broughton, of Harleston; W. R. Smith and S. Smith, of Harleston; T. Bond, of Pulham St. Mary the Virgin; and John Rutter, of The Beeches, Pulham St. Mary Magdalen. The committee were then instructed to raise the necessary funds to meet the views of the Norfolk Agricultural Society, and view the different sites for the show, and afterwards report to the general committee.

Many visitors to the next Norwich fat cattle show will miss a quaint familiar figure from that

city's streets, for the Norwich bellman is dead. Childerhouse was for thirty years one of the characters of the city by the manner he flourished his bell and preened himself in the public gaze in all the glory of his gaudy uniform while he delivered his calls to the public at the street corners. It was this quality of an artist's pride and joy in his work that made this little old man unique amongst bellmen, and his queer ways and oddities as a crier will be missed by farmers and others who visit Norwich for many a year to come.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The time for wheat-sowing is at hand—here and there some fields have already been planted, but except on the stronger soils it has been too dry. Some are ploughing clover leys, with the intention of drilling early in October, but the work is not done well. Perhaps the rain that is falling heavily and continuously at the time these lines are penned may alter the condition of things, and it is greatly needed for the root crops. The seed pastures that have been turned over require a good deal of consolidation, but there is ample time for heavy rain before Old Michaelmas—October 11—perhaps the best period of any for drilling wheat.

The rain was needed for the root crops, as, in spite of the sun we have had lately, they have made poor progress; they seemed to stop entirely in growth just about ten days ago, and unless a fillip is speedily given by rain, and subsequent warmth, we may look for a large area of mildewed swedes. As a rule, mildew is not very prevalent in the North, except when there has been a stoppage in growth, and there certainly was a prolonged stoppage in June and July. A recurrence is therefore the more prejudicial to the crop.

During the last few years much larger areas of land have been sown with winter oats and winter barley than was previously customary. In the South, these cereals are often sown to furnish sheep feed in the spring, but here these are sown for grain only. Winter barley sometimes gives a very large yield, but the quality is poor, and it is rare that a sample fit for malting purposes is obtained. In the South, some of the best land is sown with winter barley, but here light, poor soils are usually sown with this crop. But, in spite of its more extended cultivation, the crop cannot be said to have "taken on" in the North. The reverse is the case with winter oats, a crop which is now becoming very popular. This is largely due to the introduction of new and improved varieties; the old brown winter oat is now rarely to be met with, and the samples that are grown compare very favourably with spring-sown black oats. Good land is selected for the crop, which is put in at or before Michaelmas, and the straw is generally very bulky. Winter oats have greatly increased in popularity here, and each year sees larger breadths sown. The fact that the crop ripens a week earlier than in the case of spring oats also increases the favour with which it is regarded, as everything that tends to an earlier harvest is considered favourable to the farmer, and it avoids the press of work that ensues when all the cereal crops ripen at the same period.

The position of the owners of pigs attacked with the present form of erysipelas is a hard one, as, although many animals are slaughtered, no compensation is payable. Seventy-five cases have been reported—many of them as swine fever, but which to the chagrin of the owners of the affected animals, were found to be cases of erysipelas. The disease is certainly abating, and for this the prompt action of the Board of Agriculture must have all credit, but nothing seems to be known as to the cause of the outbreak, the official version not being accepted as correct.

The labourers' difficulty—not the labour problem this time—seems likely to become serious. Let the cause be what it may, the supply of agricultural labour is decidedly greater than it was some three years ago; but perhaps the slackness in some of the commercial industries of the North may in part account for the changed circumstances. The Workmen's Compensation Acts are said to have the effect of preventing men of advanced years from obtaining employment in commercial and industrial pursuits. The Acts have had no such effect on the employment of agricultural labour, and are not likely to have such an effect, but the action of the Trades Unions tends to promote such results, and is seems as though these labour organisations hoped to bring about the inauguration of a system of old age pensions through the consequent increase in the number of the unemployed approaching the age of sixty and of those who have passed that age. One thing seems certain, and that is that there will be an increase of pauperism during the winter. What effect the recent Act for the relief of the unemployed may have is not yet apparent. In some industrial centres proceedings are being taken to put the provisions of the Act in force, but in rural districts these provisions are rightly regarded with some jealousy.

One of the signs of the times may be seen in the new regulations concerning Registrars of Births and Deaths which will shortly be in force. Hitherto men not exceeding sixty years of age might be appointed to the office, but now the age limit is reduced to fifty, and men over fifty years of age cannot be appointed Registrars of Births and Deaths. What next? Are the "powers that be" smitten with Trade Union doctrines?

Farmers may well regard these developments with suspicion. The increased county rates, through the operation of the Education Act, 1902, is a very serious matter, and any increase in pauperism, and consequently an increase in the cost of the relief of the poor, will entail a further increase in the Poor Rate, and will press hardly on the occupiers of land, who pay far the greater portion of such rates in rural districts.

FARM.

The Difficulties of East Lothian Potato Growers.

For some years East Lothian farmers have had trouble with potato lifters, and the trouble has increased as expensive varieties of potatoes were introduced. The custom has been, says the *Glasgow Herald*, to allow the lifter to take home a "boiling" as a bonus, but the size of the "boiling" seemed to increase, and it was found that the potato lifters were disposing of their "boilings" to the retail trade, and it was alleged in some instances even to the wholesale trade.

Some farmers reported the matter to the police, with the result that they were boycotted, and could get no one to help during the potato harvest. Farmers then reported to the police privately. Workers were searched and found in possession, but when brought before the Court they said they were not guilty. They had been authorised to take the potatoes by the master or his manager, neither of whom would dare go into the witness-box and dispute the statement.

Matters came to a crisis recently, when some potato stealers were brought before Sheriff MacLeod at Haddington Sheriff Court. His Lordship admonished the women, and suggested that the potatoes which had been stolen, and which had been confiscated by the police, should be returned to them. The result was a meeting in the side-room of Haddington Corn Exchange, when a very large meeting of farmers resolved to bind themselves together to refuse bonuses of potatoes, and to represent the state of matters to the police authorities.

A Remarkable Freehold.

There is in the isolated little valley of Bransdale, Yorkshire, perhaps one of the most remarkable freeholds in England. The history of the manner in which the farm came into the possession of the present family takes the form of a legend told in the dale as being an actual fact, though no doubt the story is more or less fanciful. It is this. The owner of the estate years ago was an expert archer, and hearing that one of his tenants was also skilled at "the butts," he challenged him to a competition. What the farmer was to forfeit if he lost is not known, but the owner offered the farm where he lived if he won. The target was to be a goose tied to a pole, which in turn was fixed into a trough, which is still to be seen. The distance was a mile.

The squire shot first, and missed by a hair's-breadth. Then followed the sturdy dalesman, whose arrow struck and pierced the goose. Every year now at a court at Kirbymoorside a bow and arrow with goose feathers is handed in as proof of title and ownership. At Ormesby, near Middlesbrough, there is a field the freehold of which was secured by a greyhound course, the field being the stake and the owner losing.

At the Mid-Somerset Agricultural Society's Show at Shepton Mallet, on September 5, 1905, £100 was distributed in prizes by the Molassine Co., Ltd., for the best cheddar cheese of various weights made from milk from Molassine mealfed cows. There was healthy competition amongst the local farmers.

Spalding September Cattle Fair.—The September cattle fair, the principal one of the year held at Spalding, took place on Monday, and was well attended, whilst over 400 head of cattle were offered, the bulk being stores, and including some very fine animals. The best stores made £14 to £17, and younger cattle £10 to £12. Cows for milking purposes were in demand at up to £20 a head. There were 200 sheep penned. All were stores, and sold at satisfactory prices.

Midland Notes.

St. Luke's summer is not due yet, or one would be tempted to anticipate it and come and [illegible]. Dull, leaden skies, bleak wind, and [illegible] rain combine to make [illegible] a very outlook at the moment of writing, but we have enjoyed some lovely autumn days lately, with the air almost still, and the country flooded with the mild beams of the September sun, whose rays seem to add richness to the [illegible] and gold tints of the gradually dying leaves. The frequency with which one encounters [illegible] smoke of burning couch grass is [illegible] money to the amount of time which the season has already afforded for weeding. Couch [illegible] to be rather plentiful in many Midland [illegible], and one hears of farmers in Warwick, Northants, and Nottingham who have been glad of the favourable opportunity for hand-forking the roots, which are now tougher than in the spring, and therefore easier to extirpate.

Complaints of potato disease are becoming more numerous, and one is sorry to hear that, in addition to the ordinary blight, the so-called yellow warty disease has made an appearance may find the disorder more widespread than is come to us with seed potatoes from Germany, we may find the disorder more widespread than is yet suspected, for the fungus which destroys the tubers attacks no other part of the plant, and so remains undiscovered, until the crop is lifted. That, however, remains to be seen. What is certain, for the present, is that there are some very excellent crops in the important potato-growing districts of Stafford, Notts, and Warwick, and that if only prices are moderately good some growers will do well out of them. It is worth noting, by the way, that it is not always the newer strains which have best resisted the insidious blight, but the fields which were assisted with the spray at the proper season.

Evesham market gardeners are finishing the season as poorly as they began it. A *Birmingham Post* correspondent who has been investigating, records that lately the market price of beans "has actually been frequently less than the 3d. and 4d. per pot of 40 lb. which is paid for picking, and on some days a pot of beans of fair quality has been knocked down for a penny." There is potato disease, too, which has led to flooding of the markets and to prices averaging 1s. 8d. per pot of 80 lb.—that is, 4 lb. a penny.

Fairs are numerous in the Midlands just now, but there are few of any account. The three day Birmingham onion fair, which was held last week, brought many country visitors to the city, but has long ceased to be the important business fixture it once was, while the pleasure fair is but a shadow of its former self. There is still a good deal of business done at Walsall, and both cattle (mostly young stock) and horses sold pretty well there on Tuesday, albeit the latter were a poor-looking collection. Atherstone statute fair was also uneventful, save for the mad career of a runaway railway horse, whose dray dashed down the street amid much excitement, at something very different from its normal sober pace, and in its course demolished utterly two fancy stalls of crockery and cheap jewellery. Unhappily it injured also two young women standing at the stalls, who had to be surgically attended.

Can it be wondered at that butter is adulterated when adulteration is so profitable? In a case at Kettering on Wednesday taken at the instance of the Northampton County Council, Dr. Voelcker, the county analyst, said the sophisticated article contained 20 per cent. of margarine and cocoanut oil, and it was stated that the defendants—a London firm—did a trade in the stuff amounting to hundreds of tons a week. As twenty tons out of every hundred sold consist of margarine and oil, the gains can readily be reckoned. Fines even of £20 at a time are not enough to stop that sort of business. If only the legislature would take a hint from the excise and customs, and impose a penalty on every pound of the offending article in the possession of the makers, we might see a better state of things.

What is no doubt the last Midland harvest home of the season took place a few days ago at Severn Stoke near Worcester. To the rector, the Rev. Canon Coventry, is due the survival of this ancient and gracious custom, the leading features of which are now a special service in the venerable parish church, lavishly decorated for the occasion, and a luncheon to the principal parishioners, who are generously [illegible] and waited upon by members of the rector's household.

September 28, 1905.

Colonial Competition.

SIR,—The question reiterated ad nauseum by your writer "Lobbyist" gets upon my nerves. If he would spend half the space in showing what is wanted in the way of fiscal reform to help agriculture, he would be doing something to forward the cause with which he is evidently in sympathy. Immediately on reading Mr. Chamberlain's first speech on tariff reform, I wrote to him and pointed out any tariff scheme that would not benefit agriculture was doomed to fail; and further, that if agriculture would be benefited, then the law of distress should be abolished, and in case of bankruptcy, landlords should stand on an equality with all other creditors. There are many ways agriculture might be benefited. There is a proposal to put 2s. per quarter on foreign corn, if 1s. only was put on Colonial, that would give the Colonial a preference of 50 per cent., a very useful margin. Canada allows 33 1-3 on some of our goods, so if we allow them 50 per cent. it would be a generous comparison. Agriculture would be benefited by £1 per cwt. duty on foreign hops, a reduction being made in beer duty to meet any enhanced price of hops. Potatoes, fruits, and many other things would bear a moderate duty. Under the Sugar Convention the Government have power to allow a difference of 2s. 6d. per cwt. on home grown beet sugar, and this ought to be an encouragement to the cultivation of a very profitable crop, and development of a great manufacturing industry. If some part of the revenue thus derived were devoted to relieve farmers of those taxes that are for purposes of a national character, such as roads and education, it would be assisting them doubly.

Will your correspondent try and show what other ways agriculture can be assisted.—Yours truly, CLEMENT DALLEY.

Kidderminster, September 26, 1905.

Crops in Devonshire.

SIR.—Harvest was finished about the middle of September, and was a very protracted one, owing to frequent rains; wheat was a good crop, and well saved; oats were good, except late sown ones, and the latter were exposed to bad weather. Roots are good, both mangold and swedes; common turnips are a failure, owing to drought and attacks of "fly."

Hay was good, and owing to rains in August grass became very plentiful, and will be abundant all through the autumn; young clovers sown last spring are very promising. It is a fine season for cleaning the stubbles for next year's root crops, as the weather has been very dry since harvest.

Ploughing for wheat has commenced, but is again stopped, owing to the land getting hard.

Apples are not very plentiful, and are selling better than they have of late years.

Live stock is healthy on the whole, and is doing well, but there have been serious losses among lambs, owing to "hush"; this disease is very fatal in many cases. L. G.

September 28, 1905.

Crops in Huntingdon.

SIR, Prior to Monday last we were actually suffering from the drought due to the cold winds from the north and east; the roots had ceased to grow and ploughing was becoming difficult on the clover stubbles. A very heavy rain which lasted quite twenty-four hours fell on Monday and early Tuesday, has already altered the appearance of the Kohl-rabi and the mangold, which will not prove to be as weighty as we hoped would be the case.

A considerable amount of cultivating has been possible owing to the early harvest; the general work of the farm is unusually forward. The reports from the threshing machine owners are no better than anticipated; some farmers would appear to have over-estimated the yields of their corn crops. The corn markets do not appear to have recovered from the effects of the heavy supplies early in this month and late August. The difference in the value of feeding stuffs and wheat to fat the miller and barley suitable for the maltster is less than has been the case for many years. Farmers will soon think it to their advantage to grow quantity rather than to study the quality of their corn. S. S.

September 27.

Farmers and Farming in the North Riding.

SIR,—We have had a few frosts that in patches of the district have cut down potato haulms and other tender plants, whilst in other parts they have escaped. The weather, though at times cold, is very dry, and a lot of wheat is being sown, thanks more to the season than to the prospect of better values. Potatoes are being lifted, and are a fair crop, little touched by disease; they are not, however, a big crop, as some reports have stated. Wheat has thrashed out well, barley fairly well, and oats very badly, but prices all round are very bad.

Beef has sold better of late, and mutton very well indeed. It was expected that, owing to the failure of the turnip crop, lambs would be low, but, on the contrary, they are dear. All the autumn sales of sheep have gone off well this season. There is plenty of grass now on the land, and the prospects of autumn fodder have improved. The hay crop was light, but some good second-cut clover has been secured, and this will help matters.

A conference of farmers representing the North-East of England will be held at Darlington on October 20. It is expected to be fully representative and well attended, and that, amongst other things, a short Parliamentary programme to put before candidates at the coming election will be adopted. It is hoped to make the meeting an annual one, with a strong executive to meet between times to take such steps as may be necessary in the interests of agriculturists. Judging from expressions of opinion, the time is ripe in this district for a movement of this kind.

W. P.

September 28, 1905.

Fine Harvest Weather in North-West Lancs.

SIR,—In the north-western division of this county we have been having fine weather for the last two or three weeks, which has enabled the ingathering of the straw crops to prove much more satisfactory that it did in the early stages of the harvest, owing to the wet weather then experienced. In the case of wheat, an average crop is expected; barley is also fairly good. Oats are below average and short in the straw. Potatoes are fairly good, and the disease is not so much in evidence as was predicted, notwithstanding the heavy rains we had a month ago. The prices now obtained for potatoes are the lowest on record, from 25s. to 30s. a ton on rail.

Swedes and mangolds have been growing well, and there was a good promise for young clover and grass seeds, but the late dry weather has put a check upon them, and also the growth of grass.

All kinds of stock are thriving on the pastures, and sheep are selling fairly well. C. J. S.

September 28, 1905.

Farming Topics in Westmorland.

SIR,—Harvest is now fairly completed, and the ingathering has favoured the earliest and latest districts; the heavy-land farmers had rather a prolonged and tedious time, and a portion of their crops suffered some injury from the almost daily showers and occasional wet days, but, taken as a whole, the crops have been secured in more than average condition. But the bulk is seriously disappointing, and will be more than one-third below average. When this is added to the shortage in the hay crop—which is, in many cases, fully below half an average—it makes winter prospects gloomy indeed, and is seriously affecting both the demand for and the price of store cattle for wintering and feeding.

The summer grazing in some cases where cattle have been marketed has been entirely lost, and money in addition. The fine, refreshing showers which have fallen during the passing and past months have, however, effected a marvellous change in vegetation all round. Pastures, aftermaths, and all green crops have improved in a marvellous manner, especially turnips, but are still far short of the weight they usually are at this season, and will not much exceed half a crop in many cases.

The sheep-breeding farmers are fairly going with the cream this year, for with the exception of a shortage in hay (which is less in the valleys than in the open country, owing to frequent refreshing showers during June and July), and when we add the great improvement in the price of wool, and the extraordinary demand and high prices they are obtaining for their surplus stock of sheep, they must be having quite a record year.

The yield of corn, so far as the steam threshers have tested it, is disappointing, both in quantity and quality. What with shortage of crops all round, potatoes excepted, and the continued low price of beef and the high price now being paid for feeding and wintering sheep, the arable farmers do not occupy an enviable position.

But by far the most aggravating question is the great, sudden, and still rapidly increasing local taxation; especially the education rate, over which those in rural districts have lost all control, which the Act of 1902 has transferred from the industrious middle classes to the wealthy upper classes, who, so far, seem to have one and all directed their chief attention to the appointment of officials and increasing salaries. Why not transfer back to the middle classes, who, with much less power to raise funds, produced more satisfactory results with their limited means than our highly educated and wealthy substitutes?

T. B.

September 29, 1905.

South Nottinghamshire.

SIR, The harvest is completed, and is about an average one. Wheat is, in most cases, very good and yielding well. Barley is quite up to the average, but oats are the worst crop of all, no doubt the dry weather in May having stunted the growth. Beans are good; peas not quite up to average. Mangels in some places remarkably good, and in others rather thin, but, on the whole, I should say quite an average crop; the same also applies to swedes.

While turnips sowed late are quite a failure, no doubt owing to the intense heat of the July sun, I know of one field which was ploughed five times and sowed with the very best seed in a perfect seed bed, yet scarcely any turnips came except on the headlands. Harvest intervened, and it became too late to sow others, so that now mustard is coming up on what ought to have been a good bed of turnips. The land is perfectly clean and in good heart. Can anyone give the reason for this absolute failure? Cabbage appears to be a fair crop, as also potatoes.

Fat cattle are being sent to market in a half-finished condition, consequently trade is bad. Sheep are well sold, also pork. Milch cows get dearer as the season gets on, and anything fit to buy runs up to £20; whilst calves are also selling fairly well. Young steers and barren heifers are making all they are worth, no doubt owing to a good amount of straw and roots in the country.

Lambs are very dear, being probably 7s. each dearer than last year. I do not quite know if they are going to pay as well as last year, as I see by the returns there are 161,245 more lambs than last year; surely they will fill a gap somewhere.—Yours, etc. J. A.

September 29, 1905.

Weather and Crops in West Wilts.

SIR,—We are having splendid autumn weather for cleaning the stubbles and sowing early forage crops, such as rye, vetches, and winter oats; a large quantity of the latter are grown for corn in this district, and are yielding well, much better than the spring-sown.

The season so far has been favourable for sheep, and satisfactory prices are being obtained, mutton selling especially well. The swede crop is very much damaged by grub, and badly affected with mildew. Many flockowners will find keep run short before the winter is over.

The cattle trade is bad, excepting the very best quality beef and good milking beast. Milk-sellers have to meet declining prices, which were already low; the prospect is anything but good for this description of farm produce. J. P.

September 29, 1905.

Splendid Weather in Derbyshire.

SIR, We are having some splendid weather now, warm, sunny days and dry nights, which will make the grass last ever so much longer than if it were wet.

Pastures seem to have a fair amount of keep on them, especially on well farmed land. I find it a great help if a meadow can be shut up after harvest until now for the milking stock. I turned my cows into one at the beginning of the week, and they seem to enjoy it very much, and I can perceive a difference in the quantity of milk they give, and am hoping it will save the cabbage. Milk does not seem very plentiful now, and calving cows are selling fairly well.

Potatoes are not a satisfactory crop this year; where the old sorts have been grown there are complaints of disease, and where the new ones, the crop is very unsatisfactory, a large amount of small, and very few of marketable size; one hardly knows which sort to grow.

Mangolds are about the best crop of the year, but turnips are not so good. C. C. M.

September 28, 1905.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

The ingathering of the 1905 crop being practically concluded, the hop market appears to be settling down to business, growers and merchants being equally prepared to "face the music" sounded by the recognised circumstances. We are bound to accept the fact of a big yield, and we are also regretfully compelled to acknowledge that low prices are current and will probably prevail, as the consequence of the supplies being in excess of the requirements of consumers. I have hoped that the disadvantages attaching to this excess might have been modified by the process of selection in the gardens and the abandonment, to a substantial extent, of such growths as were manifestly inferior. But from what I can hear and see, this policy has been but partially adopted. Samples have been shown to me which are really valueless, and growths of perished brown hops are displayed whose colour and condition cause inquiry whether they can possibly be examples of this year's crop. The labour and the money expended in picking such stuff are positively wasted, as, if the hops are ever sold, they can only realise such prices as will not nearly cover the cost of picking. But there they are, acting most detrimentally upon the general market, and even hindering, by their mere presence, the improvement in value of better growths, which would naturally be otherwise brought about. I fear it must be admitted that the average quality of our 1905 crop is not so good as was hoped for and expected. Choice hops are thus far comparatively scarce, and growers who possess them may be congratulated, as they may be certain of buyers, who are already showing anxiety to secure such qualities. Consequently an active trade has resulted this week, with evident signs of firmness, and some slight advance in values of the better samples. I hear of many offers for such parcels being declined, and am prepared for further development in this direction, which would soon be more pronounced if the market were not so heavily weighted with inferior qualities. Thus far the low range of English values offers no inducement to importers of foreign produce, but we cannot lose sight of the fact that an important surplus exists, both on the Continent and in America, which only waits a favourable opportunity for shipment to our open ports. This is a season when we should be able to realise the advantage of an import duty. If we could by this means hold in check the threatened invasion of the foreigner our growers might hope for some remuneration, but, as we are at present situated, there seems to be hardly any prospect of profit to our native industry. I would that public opinion could be awakened to the seriousness of the position, as we could then call upon our legislators to take measures for the preservation of this important section of English agriculture, which, if left in this defenceless condition, is apparently approaching annihilation.

Foreign Notes.

Nuremberg.

Previous anticipations of the course of business in the new market have been satisfactorily fulfilled during the past month. No sooner did arrivals of the present crop commence than the needs of consumers were made manifest by their active inquiries, and in proportion to the larger range of selection provided by the increase of supplies, the demand has steadily expanded, and has recently developed into well-established activity. As is generally the case in the earlier period of the season, attention is especially given to the better qualities, and it being evident that, owing to unfavourable weather during the picking and other circumstances, the quantity of hops of choice colour is less than usual, such qualities are keenly sought for, and, consequently, their values have been maintained, with a tendency towards advancement. On the other hand, the lower and medium sorts are at present somewhat neglected, with the result that planters, being anxious to realise, are willing to accept lower prices. It therefore seems probable that the trade this season will be marked by important intervals between the lowest and the highest figures. Already there are seen in the quotations of 90s. for third quality market hops, and 85s. to 90s. for superior Spalts, and it is not unlikely that these differences will become more pronounced as the season progresses.

There seems to be little doubt that the total German crop will fully equal the highest previous estimates. The latest returns give 360,000 cwt. for Bavaria, 75,000 cwt. for Wurtemberg, 40,000 cwt. for Baden, 100,000 cwt. for Alsace-Lorraine, and 55,000 cwt. for other districts, making the total 550,000 cwt., against 445,000 last year. The produce of Austria-Hungary is reckoned at 580,000 cwt., being double that of 1904, so that the aggregate increase of these countries is not less than about 300,000 cwt.

Burgundy.

The recent hop fair held at Dijon was not largely attended, either by planters or buyers. Some lots were sold at 40 to 45 francs for medium, and 50 to 55 francs for best qualities.

Belgium.

The heavy crops and the scarcity of pickers have delayed the completion of the harvest. The quality of this season's crop is generally approved, and it is estimated that the yield will approach 100,000 cwt., being about 10 per cent. in excess of last year. Demand is fairly active, at prices ranging from 52 francs for Pops. to 40 francs for Alosts.

America.

It is now expected that the New York State crop will not realise early expectations, and will not exceed 50,000 bales. But this lowered figure cannot materially affect the estimates of the total U.S. crop, as the increased ocreage on the Pacific coast, and the abundant results reported therefrom, will doubtless more than compensate for any shortage in the Eastern district. Markets are quiet, but steady; recent values still being quoted.

Saie of Mr. W. Bateman's Shorthorns.

The herd of pure-bred prize dairy Shrorthorns, belonging to Mr. William Bateman of Beaumont Grange, Halton, Lancaster, has of late years been been very successful at the North Country shows, particularly in the dairy classes, and the many beautiful animals exhibited at Kendal, Melnthorpe, Lancaster, Carnforth, as well as at the County Show during the last few seasons have brought the herd into great repute in the district. A very large company gathered on Friday to witness the dispersion of about sixty head from it, including breeders from all parts. The animals were brought out in grand form, especially the cows, which were undoubtedly one of the best lots brought before the public for some time. Their beautiful even flesh, excellent udders, and nice character were admitted on all sides, and the good prices realised must have been a satisfactory recompense to Mr. Bateman for the care and judgment that has been exercised upon them. The first cow to reach three figures was the five-year-old Sunbeam, which rapidly ran up to 140 gs. to Lord Grantley, and this proved to be the best price of the day. Red Rose 3rd, a very handsome Red with a splendid udder, realised 105 gs. to Mr. Cawston; and her bull calf, by Duke of Tyne, was taken by Mr. T. Lloyd at 20 gs. Sybil, a roan four-year-old cow, excited good competition, and eventually fell to Mr. Whinnerah's bid of 125 gs., her white heifer calf going to Mr. W. Thompson at 13 gs. As will be seen by the following list, the prices were well maintained throughout. Messrs. Thornton and Co. were the auctioneers.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

		Gs.
Graceful roan, c. June 20, 1894; s. Bold Briton 60380	Mr. C. Richardson	28
Dolly Pearl, red and white, c. May 22, 1896; s. Pearl Royal 67534	Mr. C. Richardson	40
Lady Patsy, roan, c. Feb. 5, 1897; s. Pearl Prince 73184	Mr. Young	45
Daisy 2nd, roan, c. Feb. 11, 1897; s. Pearl Prince 73184	Mr. J. A. Williams	33
Lady Fair, roan, c. Dec. 15, 1897; s. Pearl Prince 73184	Rev. H. Roberts	38
Pearl Beetle, red and white, c. Jan. 2, 1898; s. Pearl Prince 73184	Mr. W. Fleming	25
Flora, roan, c. Oct. 17, 1898; s. Levens Guardsman 81445	Mr. W. Fleming	29
Bouncing Girl, roan, c. Feb. 20, 1899; s. Masterpiece 75039	Mr. Young	55
Primrose roan, c. Feb. 10, 1900; s. Dunottar 68554	Mr. Cawston	44
Jessie 11th, red and white, c. April 7, 1900; s. Dunottar 68554	Mr. T. E. Clark	39
Sunbeam, roan, c. Sept. 30, 1900; s. Dunottar 68554	Lord Grantley	140
Blossom 25th, red and little white, c. Oct. 15, 1900; s. Fashion 76665	Mr. F. Lander	42
Her red and little white C.C., c. Feb. 10, 1902; s. Commander 83159	Mr. F. Lander	15
Red Rose 3rd, red, c. Oct. 20, 1900; s. Dunottar 68554	Mr. Cawston	105
Her B.C., s. Duke of Tyne 74425	Mr. T. O. Lloyd	20
Lady Fair 2nd, red and white, c. Jan. 10, 1901; s. Dunottar 68554	Mr. W. R. Trotter	33
Clementine 2nd, roan, c. Feb. 5, 1901; s. Commander 83159	Mr. J. H. Straker	63
Moss Rose, roan, c. Feb. 25, 1901; s. Dunottar 68564	Mr. A. Melville	41
Graceful Lady, [illegible]	Mr. T. Bambridge	35
Sybil, roan, [illegible]	Messrs. E. and J. Whinnerah	125
Pet 2nd, [illegible]	Mr. A. Melville	34
Lady Dina, [illegible]	Mr. T. Wilkinson	38
Her C.C., [illegible]	[illegible]	12
Nancy, red and [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Blossom, roan, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clementine 3rd, roan, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Flora 2nd, roan, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Prospect Florence, roan, c. March 20, 1902; s. Duke of Tyne 74425	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beauty Pet, roan, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lilac, white, c. Dec. 28, 1902; [illegible]	Mr. G. Allison	21
Lady Clementine, roan, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dewdrop 2nd, roan, c. April 4, 1904; [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beaumont Jessie, roan, [illegible] Tyne 74425	[illegible]	[illegible]
Beaumont Queen, roan, [illegible] Tyne 74425	Mr. J. H. Straker	40
Rose Lady, red, [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lady Sybil, roan, c. July 9, 1904; [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Princess Jessie, roan, c. Dec. 2, 1904; [illegible] Tyne 74425	Mr. W. A. Jones	24
Jessie Queen, roan, c. Jan. 2, 1905; [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

BULLS.

Duke of Tyne 74425, roan, c. March 7, 1898; s. Cornelius 66864	Mr. J. L. Morgan	40
Pearl Duke, red and white, c. Dec. 17, 1903; s. Duke of Tyne 74425	Mr. H. W. Worsley-Taylor	40
Prince Fair, roan, c. Sept. 28, 1904; s. Duke of Tyne 74425	Mr. J. Chivers	29
Grange Victor, roan, c. Nov. 25, 1904; s. Duke of Tyne 74425	Mr. J. Handley	36
Pearl Chief, roan, c. Feb. 28, 1905; s. Duke of Tyne 74425	Mr. J. Handley	50
Gallant Boy, red, c. March 25, 1905; s. Duke of Tyne 74425	Mr. J. Lawson	20

SUMMARY.

	Average	Total
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
49 Cows	40 0 6	1,881 1 6
8 Bulls	31 14 5	253 11 6
57 Head	37 9 0	[illegible]

A Unique Business Offer.

In order to cope with the ever-increasing demand for Molassine Meal, which is already coming on for the current season, the Molassine Co., Ltd., of 36, Mark Lane, E.C., have taken additional offices at 28, Market Buildings, Mark Lane, directly opposite the entrance to the New Corn Exchange, as a sales office. Judging from the cordial invitation extended by the Company, these new offices should prove quite a club for corn merchants, farmers, and stock-breeders, for one and all are asked, when attending the Corn Exchange, to make free use of the office at 28, Market Buildings. To here letters or telegrams may be addressed "c/o The Molassine Co., Ltd."; free use can be made of the telephone or directories there; letters may be written or dictated to one of the typists; whilst all the agricultural journals may be perused there. Further, supposing a farmer or stock-breeder after attending the Exchange has some time to wait for his train and has nothing to do, well, he can call in at the Molassine Co.'s new office and spend the time there reading the agricultural papers, etc. Even if they have no special reason to call, the Molassine Co. will be glad to make the acquaintance of those mentioned. Such a generous offer as that described above is somewhat unique in English business life, and it will be interesting to see to what extent the farmers and stock-breeders will take advantage of it.

The Supply of Pure Milk.

The Wensleydale Pure Milk Society (Limited) formed a short time ago for the object of supplying pure milk to the large towns in the North, commenced operations at their Northallerton depot on Wednesday, when their first bottled milk was despatched to Newcastle. About a hundred gallons of milk are to be bottled per day and sent to Newcastle, where it is retailed by the Co-operative Society at 4d. per quart, while from two to three hundred gallons per day are to be sent direct to Newcastle from the farms under the company's supervision, the farmers entering into a [illegible] contract regulating the health, feeding, and milking of the cows, the sanitary condition and cleanliness of the shippens, etc. The farmers in Wensleydale are taking kindly to the scheme, and an ample market has already been secured for all the milk the company can deal with.

The annual Horse and Foal Fair was held at Spalding on Thursday, when there was a good show and a large attendance of agriculturists. For the best class of animals there was a brisk demand, and the best made £20 to £50 per head, but ordinary foals fetched about £15 each. Agricultural horses of a useful type sold readily and made good prices.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane. Wednesday.—A moderate attendance of buyers was present, and a general tone of firmness prevailed. English wheat was held for fully previous rates, and good dry samples are in request. White quoted 29s 6d to 31s; and red, 29s to 30s per qr. Imported wheat was again well held. No. 3 Northern Manitoba, 33s 3d ex quay; Australian, 35s to 35s 6d; Russian, 31s 3d to 34s 6d; Plate, 32s 9d ex store. Flour trade steady. No. 1 town households, 26s delivered in; Iron Duke, 21s ex store. Malting barley is still firmly held. Fine lots, 34s to 36s per qr. Grinding barley steady. Azoff, 19s ex quay. Imported oats very firmly held. 38lb. Russian, 15s to 15s 3d ex quay. Maize firm. American mixed, 24s, and sound La Plata, 23s 6d landed terms. Beans firm.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Wheat: English steady, quiet, at about late rates. Foreign sellers ask late prices, but demand very slow. South Russian quoted at 31s to 35s; Plata, 31s to 34s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, at 34s 6d; No. 3 Northern Manitoba, at 32s 6d; No. 2 Club Calcutta and choice white Karachi, at 32 to 32s 3d. Flour steady, quiet. Maize steadily held, unchanged prices, but quiet. Mixed American, landed, quoted at 24s; River Plate, ex ship, at 23s. Barley firm, quiet. Odessa, ex ship, quoted at 18s 6d, landed at 19s 3d. Oats: Small business passing at full rates. Common sorts quoted at 15s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—Wheat samples were fewer, and trade was firm at 27s to 30s; with a few shillings extra for sowing lots. Malting barley disappointing in colour and size of berry, and prices ranged between 26s and 30s, though more would have been given for choice samples. Oats firm at 16s to 20s. Feeding barley unchanged. Maize firm and the turn dearer at 25s to 27s. New beans unaltered. Mazagans at 28s to 29s, and ticks 31s to 33s

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans, new, 29s to 30s; beans, old, 32s to 33s; oats, 16s to 20s; peas, 27s to 30s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Large attendance, with average supplies of grain. Fine barleys made fully late rates; secondary oats dull; barley, 23s to 29s; oats, 18s to 20s; wheat, 28s to 29s per qr.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a large attendance and business was fairly brisk. Foreign wheats met with a fair demand at 3d per qr. over last week's prices. A good supply of English wheats which made from 28s to 30s 6d per qr. (496lb.). Plate maize was 6d dearer and flat ditto 3d. Grinding barley was 3d dearer at 19s 3d per qr. (400lb.) at Sharpness; English oats, 18s. per 312lb.; beans, 12s 6d per bag (196lb.) delivered in Birmingham.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in good supply at last week's full prices. Foreign 3d to 6d dearer. Maize unchanged. Barley 3d dearer. Oats 3d to 6d dearer. The demand for our continues active, and full prices are obtainable.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: Supply was again small, but there was practically no change in prices. Reds or whites 27s 6d to 28s 6d, revets 27s to 27s 6d per 504lb on the line. Barley: We had rather a good supply, but not much display of quality. Fair malting samples sold fairly well, but were quiet on the week, at 28s to 31s per qr. Fine sorts were also somewhat quieter, at 32s to 34s per qr; grinding sorts firm. Oats, beans peas, lentils, and most other feeding corns were firm, at last week's prices. Maize (round) was steady, at 25s to 25s 3d per qr. Oilcakes, bran, and other feeding stuffs were firm, with a fair demand.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Oats are dearer, with good inquiry; black spring oats scaling 42lb. are worth 18s, whites of the same weight 19s, and black winters up to 20s 6d. Wheat trade firm and active; best milling samples reach 31s. Malting barley steady from 26s to 30s, and occasionally 32s.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a smaller offering of wheat, trade firm. Seed parcels occasionally rather dearer. Wheat, red, 27s to 29s; white up to 30s per 504lb. Beans quiet, unchanged. Oats very firm. Barley in fair supply, but trade not very fierce, except for best.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Smaller supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at last week's prices. New, 18s to 18s 6d per 336lb.; old, 22s 6d to 23s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The market was very quiet. The supply of English grain is being maintained, full prices being obtained for anything good. There is much variation in the samples, which affects the price. Quotations:—New white wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; ditto red, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; new grinding barley, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; old beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 20lb.; old oats, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; new ditto, 2s 2d to 2s 4d per 46lb.; new Indian corn, 12s 9d to 13s 3d per 496lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Fair supply of wheat; firm trade at last week's prices. With a moderate show all descriptions of barley sold readily at prices favouring sellers. Beans and peas steady. Oats fully as dear.—JOSEPH WILES AND SONS, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—The attendance was a moderate one, and business generally ruled quiet. There was only a small supply of wheat, and last week's prices were maintained. Barley a quiet trade. Oats shown sparingly and prices maintained for useful samples. Quotations: Old wheat, 11s 6d to 12s; new wheat, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 496lb.; barley, 25s to 32s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s; new oats, 14s 6d to 16s per 304lb.; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s; new beans, 11s 6d to 12s; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 496lb.

Chichester. Wednesday.—New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 28s to 29s 6d, barley, 29s to 32s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 15s 6d to 20s; tic. 23s to 27s; peas, 32s to 36s, beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 25s; flour, 27s.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat firm, and unaltered in value. Spring corn unchanged. New white wheat, 28s to 30s, new red wheat, 27s to 29s, malting barley, 29s to 32s, old beans, 32s to 34s, new beans, 30s to 31s, old oats, 16s to 18s, new oats, 14s to 16s.

Devizes. Thursday.—There was a good supply of corn, trade was slow, and the prices show little alteration to that of last week. A few fair samples of malting barley, but the great bulk of the crop is of low value. Prices ruling were the quotations. Best old wheat, 30s to 32s 6d; secondary ditto, 27s to 29s; new wheat, 24s 6d to 26s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; new beans, 30s to 34s; old mixed oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 20s to 22s; new malting ditto, 20s to 22s; tares, 10s to 12s, new ditto, 8s to 9s; best extra fine, 10s to 11s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—An excellent supply of English wheat, for which there was a good enquiry. Both English and foreign were firm at full late rates. Plenty of barley on offer, and good grinding in condition, and prices went up to 28s, and for the finest quality 31s per qr. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Small attendance, and shorter supply of grain. Wheat not quite so firm, and holders desirous of selling have to make a slight concession, but scarcely to any variable extent, though the trade is certainly tending to lower values. Malting barley, too, was also making a trifle less; feeding barley, on the contrary, ruled very firm. Full prices asked for oats, which buyers were hardly disposed in every case to give. Feeding stuffs generally a firm trade.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s to 17s 6d; malting barley, 15s to 15s 6d; grinding ditto, 13s 6d to 15s 6d; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 15s 3d; oatmeal, extra per head, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 11s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Good attendance; trade much better. English wheat firm; foreign unchanged. English barley about the same as last week. A good deal on offer, and there was a steady demand, but the quality varied considerably; foreign rather easier. Maize 3d t o6d dearer. Oats 6d to 1s dearer. Flour unchanged. English wheat, 3s 4½d to 3s 6d; English barley, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet and unchanged since last week. Maize unaltered. Barley held for higher prices. Foreign oats firmer on the week, but Scotch oats cheaper. Beans unchanged. Pease unchanged. Oatmeal 1s. per sack down since Wednesday. Bran unchanged, but thirds the turn dearer.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow. Friday. — Market practically unchanged in all departments. Trade quiet for wheat and flour. Mixed American maize in retail demand at 13s 6d per 280lb.; Plate quoted at 14s, with little doing. Bran steady at 82s 6d per ton for medium. All feeding stuffs unaltered.

Grantham. Saturday.—Average attendance, and a brisk trade in some departments. Wheat was in small supply, and commanded last week's prices of 27s to 29s per qr. A fair show of barley, and the quality and price varied very much. For the best samples 34s was paid, and inferior sorts 24s per qr; oats, 17s to 19s; beans, 29s to 31s; blue peas, 38s to 48s per qr.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Small attendance. English wheats very firm at last week's prices. Very small trade in English barleys, samples being chiefly of a medium character. Oat occasionally 3d per qr in sellers' favour. Beans in good demand at last week's prices. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per 56lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb., new, 2s to 2s 6d; beans, old 4s to 4s 6d per 65½lb., new, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in bare average supply, but the trade was no better than last week, at 29s to 29s 6d per 504lbs. for good reds or whites, delivered at Ipswich. The barley trade was steady, although perhaps hardly so sharp as last week. Supply only moderate, with a fair demand for useful malting sorts, at 28s to 32s per quarter. The finer descriptions met buyers at 33s to 35s per quarter. Grinding sorts firm. Oats and beans in good demand, and firm at fully last week's prices. Maize unaltered. Other feeding corns generally firm all round. Oil cakes: Linseed firm, at £8 to £8 10s, and cotton at £5 5s per ton. Bran firm, at £4 15s to £5 per ton.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat fully maintained Tuesday's prices, choice lots reaching 29s. Foreign wheat rose in value, Americans being 3d dearer. Both malting and feeding barley firm. Peas and flour were the turn against buyers, but there was no change in beans, oats, or maize.

Leicester, Saturday.—Better attendance of buyers and dealers. Average supplies of home-grown wheats in good condition. Trade ruled brisker at firm rates. Red wheats, 29s to 30s; white wheats, 30s to 31s 6d per 36 stones; barley, 25s to 30s per 32 stones; oats, 18s to 20s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small show of English wheat, which met with a ready sale at last week's full prices. Oats and beans fully as dear as a week ago. Larger show of barley of variable quality, which sold at irregular prices, but as firm as last week.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There is a moderate attendance of millers at the market, but wheat is quiet at about unchanged prices. Manitobas and Indian sorts, however, are ½d dearer. Flour, a quiet trade, without quotable change in prices. Maize, mixed, in sympathy with the current month, is held at ½d advance, but only a moderate business is passing. Plate quiet, with a small trade at unchanged values. European grades unaltered. Barley, malting, quiet, unchanged. Feeding firm, with a fair trade at full prices. Beans firm at full prices. Peas in moderate demand at recent rates. Oats, English (new crop), in good demand for fine qualities, which are held at some advance. Foreign steady, occasionally held the turn higher. Oatmeal firm at late rates, but inactive. Oilcake quiet, unchanged for American, but English in fair demand at late rates, except linseed cakes, which are too dear.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat unchanged, and in fair demand. Foreign wheat the turn dearer on the week. Flour has a dearer tendency. Foreign barley as before. Indian corn somewhat dearer. English oats very scarce and quoted at 2s 5d to 2s 6½d. Bran and thirds unchanged.

Newcastle-onTyne, Saturday.—Wheat here to-day was firmly held for last week's prices; demand, however, was limited. Maize steady and favouring the seller. Beans and peas firm, and the latter made 6d per quarter over last week's prices. Fine old oats firm and tending dearer. New steady at last week's prices. Inferior qualities the buyers get their own way where business is transacted. Barley unchanged, malting qualities from 23s to 27s, according to quality and condition. — JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Newark. Wednesday.—A small show of wheat at last week's full prices. Barley sold quietly at previous values. Oats and beans unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, 25s to 30s; oats, 15s to 17s; beans, 28s to 34s per qr.

Norwich. Saturday.—There was a smaller supply of wheat on offer at our market to-day, at late rates. Barley was in better supply, but some of ordinary quality runs making 4s to 5s less. Fine weather has prevailed during the past week, but showery to-day. J ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham. Saturday. - Wheat, in smaller supply, held firmly, and in many cases 6d per quarter more was paid. A better trade in barley, and values well maintained. Oats and beans small show, and prices in sellers' favour. ROBERT HUBBLE.

Northampton. Saturday.—Good attendance. Better supply of wheat and barley, which found readier sale. Wheat 27s to 27 6d, malting barley, 29s to 33s, barley, 24s to 27s, new white oats, 16s to 17s; beans, 28s to 34s; peas, 27s to 32s fl.m., 33s 6d to 38s 6d.

Peterborough Saturday. — A decidedly smaller supply of wheat, and trade firm at last week's prices. Fine barley made fully as much money, secondary qualities the turn easier. Oats 3d to 6d dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Oxford, Saturday. — There was a good supply of English wheat on offer, but only a small business was done at about previous quotations. Barley was freely offered, and although buyers operated sparingly, prices showed little change.

Preston, Saturday.—The market for the week closed with a fair demand, spot wheat making about last week's prices to ½d and 1d per cental dearer. American corn more firmly held, and quoted at ½d to ½d per cental dearer. Flour and offa's unchanged. Peas, beans, and oats firm, with a quiet trade.—Quotations:—Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 6d to 13s; ditto red, 12s to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto new white, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; beans, per windle of 220lb.; 16s 6d to 17s; bran, 10s 6d to 11s.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very fair attendance on our market to-day. Wheat firm. Barley, 3d to 6d dearer. Maize and oats 3d dearer. ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with slightly improved trade, at following prices:—Wheat, 28s to 34s; barley, 28s to 35s, at latter price very fine quality; oats, 16s 6d to 24s; old beans very scarce, 36s to 40s; new beans, 32s to 34s; peas, 28s to 34s; hay, 60s to 70s per ton; straw, 45s to 50s; dried ale grains, 85s per ton; porter grains, 75s; malt dust, 85s; mangels, 17s per ton, free delivery; bran very firm at last week's prices.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply at unchanged prices, reds making 3s 6d to 3s 7d per bushel. Foreign met a poor demand at 3d advance. Maize and grinding barley unaltered. Oats 3d dearer. WAIT, JAMES, AND CO.

Retford, Saturday.—Only a small attendance and supply of grain limited. Wheat was dull. A few lots changed hands for seed at about 28s, the general run being 27s 6d to 28s 6d per qr. No fine samples of malting barley were offered. The best only reached 23s, inferior lots down to 25s, and grinding 23s 6d to 24s 6d per qr. Maize, oats, and beans as before.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance. Moderate trade. Grinding barley shows a downward tendency. Malting barley firm at full prices. Prices:—New wheat, 27s to 29s; foreign wheat, 32s to 35s; grinding barley, 22s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 28s 6d; new oats, 17s to 18s; round maize, 25s to 26s; flat maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s to 12s 9d; old white oats, 15s to 16s; new oats, 11 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s 6d to 14s; barley, 15s to 19s per 280lb.

Southampton, Saturday.—English wheat in fair supply, at a slight increase in price. Foreign unaltered. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 3d advance. Flour a steady trade at last week's quotations.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Stamford. Friday.—Average number of dealers. Wheats, 26s to 27s; new oats, 17s to 18s; barley, 27s to 29s; beans, new, 30s to 32s; old ditto, 32s to 34s per quarter.

Sunderland. Saturday.—Wheat, barley, and oats firm at late rates. Arrivals nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat, which made full prices of last week. Few samples of barley offered; very variable condition. Feeding stuffs were rather dearer, and in good demand.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance. Fair supply of wheat and moderate supply of barley. Wheat met a ready sale, but barley dragged. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red ditto, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old ditto, 21s to 23s; old white oats, 19s to 21s; new ditto, 17s to 18s; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Yeovil. Friday.—A good offer of new grain and fair amount of business passing, prices generally favouring sellers. English wheat of best quality made from 30s 6d to 32s per qr.; secondary, 28s to 29s; foreign wheat, 32s 6d to 35s 6d; malting barley, 30s to 35s; feeding barley, 20s 6d to 23s; foreign ditto, 19s to 19s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 37s 6d; oats, white, 15s 6d to 19s 6d; black, 17s 6d to 19s 6d; Irish black, 16s 3d to 17s 3d; maize, 23s to 25s; rye, 20s 6d to 22s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. More doing in flour and meals, fine flour making 24s 6d to 26s per sack; extra fine, 27s to 30s. Good inquiry for milling offals, which were selling at improved prices.

York. Saturday.—There was not so much wheat on offer as last week, and for dry samples 3d per qr. advance was generally obtained. Quotations:—Fine white, 28s to 29s; red and mixed, 27s to 28s 6d pef qr. of 36 stones. Fine samples of malting barley were in good demand at last week's prices; inferior neglected. Fine, 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; feeding, 23s to 25s per qr. of 32 stones. Oats very scarce and rather dearer. White Tartary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; black, 17s to 18s; white Garton, 18s to 19s per qr. of 24 stones; rye, 20s to 21s per qr. of 36 stones; old beans, 30s to 33s.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Our market rules firm, and the demand by our local maltsters and brewers has been more eager, the supplies of Danish Chevalier have been pretty heavy, and also of Bohemian a good deal has been imported; whilst to the South of Germany rather big quantities of Hungarian have been sold, which has caused a rise in Hungary, and offers are falling off a good deal especially of the finer sorts. FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Weather seasonable; fine sunny and rainy days alternating. We had a brisk trade during the greater part of the week, but towards the end a more quiet feeling gained ground. The imports from September 1 till September 26 amounted to 113,493 tons wheat, 21,565 tons rye, 11,926 tons barley, 61,124 tons maize, 16,780 tons bran. Fine new Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is selling at 30s 6d to 31s 6d per 504 lb. f.o.b.; 40:1 Ko River Plate is held at 30s 3d to 31s 9 30 35 South Russian Ulka at 30s per 430 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet, but firm. 9 15 20 South Russian is held at 25s 6d to 25s 9d., 1715 Ko Danubian at 25s 3d., American Western at 25s 9 1 per 480 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley continues in scanty supply, and, owing to the scarcity of fine home grown, German brewers are buying much Austrian and Hungarian, but stocks in these countries are already getting much reduced. Good Bohemian and Slovakian is selling at 32s 6d to 35s, fine at 35s 6d to 36s. East Prussian is offering at 30s to 31s; Saale at 33s to 34s; Danish is selling at 38s to 31s per 448 lb. A considerable amount of business was done in grinding barley, 60/61 Ko South Russian October 18s to 18s 3d, November and December 18s 3d to 18 3d to 18s 6d per 400 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Maize firm; mixed American: Afloat 24s 3d, January 24s 3d; River Plate September-October 24s per 400 lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris. Wednesday.—Offers at the Bourse de Commerce are still fairly brisk in flour, but buyers are somewhat backward. The tone of the market is weak, and prices have fallen from 35c to 35c. In wheat a fair amount

of business is passing, but prices have fallen from 15c. to 30c. due to realisations. At the weekly spot market business in home grown wheat is fairly steady, but good qualities are getting scarce, due to the rise in price of superior classes of flour. Old wheat has gone up from 25c. to 59c., but the prices of medium and common grades show a tendency to droop. For prime marks of flour 54s. per large sack are now being asked since last Monday. The upward tendency of the market would facilitate the placing of stocks if only holders would consent to make the necessary sacrifices. Inquiry for forward parcels is limited, but it can hardly be expected that the prices of flour will fall in view of the high prices ruling for wheat. Flour will probably remain dear throughout the whole campaign. Offers of rye continue restricted in some districts, but are better, however, where the harvest has been very good. Prices remain steady, but not much business is passing. In oats, the situation remains firm, due to the insufficiency of offers from the chief centres of production.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

There has been little change in cargo prices during the last fortnight of September. At the close of the month Argentine wheat cargoes were making 30s. 6d. per 480 lb. for Rosario, 31s. 3d. per 496 lb. for Bahia Blanca. The finest Russian wheat was held for 34s. 3d. per 492 lb., and Odessa Ghuka was offered at 31s. 6d. per 492 lb. prompt shipment. Transactions between September 26 and 30 included Victorian at 33s. 6d. per 480 lb., Roumanian at 30s. 6d. per 492 lb., White Kurrachee at 31s. 9d. per 492 lb., No. 1 Hard Manitoba at 32s 6d. per 480 lb., and No. 1 Northern Manitoba at 32s. per 480 lb.

Maize has not sold well for futures, but Argentine on passage has realised 23s. per 480 lb., and American 22s. 9d. Barley is 3d. cheaper from a week ago. Kustendje is at 19s. per 400 lb., Eupatorian at 19s. 3d. per 400 lb., and Theodosian at 19s. per 400 lb. Californian is quoted 26s. per 448 lb. for fine.

Other sales of cargoes include Petersburg oats at 15s. per 304 lb., Smyrna beans at 33s. per 480 lb., Calcutta linseed at 36s. 6d. per 410 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £5 6s. 3d. per ton.

The London Corn Trade Association c.i.f. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contract are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta, 32s. 3d.; Soft Red, 30s. 6d.; Bombay Soft White Delhi, 32s. 3d.; Kurrachee Soft White Delhi, 32s. 3d.; Kurrachee Choice White, 32s.; Soft White, 31s. 3d.; Soft Red, 30s. 9d.; all per 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were 1 wheat (La Plata), 1 maize (La Plata), 2 linseed (1 Rosario, 1 San Nicolas).—Total 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call were 1 wheat (Limerick), 1 maize (Rotterdam).—Total 2.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 284 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 6 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 48 linseed.—Total 372.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 232 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 35 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 5 maize, 5 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 34 linseed, and 1 canaryseed.—Total 335.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	9	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s.	0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s.	8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s.	10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.
IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, September 30, 1905:—

Wheat	2,039,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	238,900 ,,
Barley	793,000 ,,
Oats	241,700 ,,
Maize	1,027,600 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,033,200	1,632,200	2,137,784	1,523,900
Wheat-flour	160,600	570,300	415,577	419,700
Barley	870,000	688,000	825,377	907,600
Oats	284,100	329,500	410,617	510,600
Maize	1,438,400	1,565,100	339,807	889,600

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to September 30, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	66,690	28	9	94,282	26	2	23,805	16	10
1901	60,376	25	8	126,592	26	3	21,631	17	7
1902	73,193	25	10	49,270	25	11	35,232	17	5
1903	57,499	26	3	41,730	23	9	34,054	15	9
1904	66,534	29	10	119,553	25	5	44,796	15	8

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	4

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1901-5	30	7	24	6	16	10
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	1,477,000	1,600,000	1,605,000
Barley	,,	427,000	693,000	575,000
Oats	,,	531,000	568,000	385,000
Maize	,,	256,000	506,000	460,000
Flour	sacks	770,000	883,000	450,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

July 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	117,000	146,000	121,000
Barley	,,	87,000	115,000	53,000
Oats	,,	334,000	368,000	259,000
Maize	,,	30,000	76,000	82,000
Flour	sacks	387,000	403,000	245,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

		London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	30	0	(per sack)	27	0
,, 13	,,	29	0	,,	26	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.		Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Oct.	1	56,534½	29	10	119,553½	25	5	44,796½	15	8
,,	8	54,607½	30	2	153,280¾	25	6	43,575¾	15	9
,,	15	45,462½	30	5	185,031¼	25	4	34,509½	15	8
,,	22	45,960¼	30	4	213,190⅝	25	5	31,445½	15	11
,,	29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044¾	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov.	5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816½	25	0	35,145¼	16	0
,,	12	43,740¼	30	3	204,446¼	24	6	32,320⅛	15	11
,,	19	41,025¼	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅛	16	0
,,	26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec.	3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809¾	24	6	35,831⅛	16	2
,,	10	50,718¼	30	4	165,257¼	24	4	36,635¼	16	2
,,	17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563¼	24	4	35,960⅛	16	2
,,	24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997⅛	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,,	31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817¼	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.										
Jan.	7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,,	14	39,647¼	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,,	21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469¼	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,,	28	48,869¼	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662¼	16	7
Feb.	4	49,442¼	30	6	75,847⅜	25	0	41,486¼	16	7
,,	11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅜	16	8
,,	18	44,495¼	30	5	51,763½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,,	25	42,165⅞	30	10	39,509⅛	25	0	30,627¼	16	10
Mar.	4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477¼	25	2	30,957¼	16	10
,,	11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,448½	25	2	24,396⅜	16	10
,,	18	31,869	30	10	18,442¾	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,,	25	32,371¼	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April	1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,,	8	25,600	30	9	8,104¼	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,,	15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,,	22	29,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,,	29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May	6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,,	13	53,446½	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350⅜	16	6
,,	20	26,514	30	10	1,003¼	24	8	8,803½	18	5
,,	27	21,508⅜	30	11	761⅞	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June	3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	7
,,	10	16,685⅜	31	4	247⅜	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,,	17	12,849¼	31	7	1,171¼	26	0	3,992⅜	19	1
,,	24	11,571⅜	31	7	145¼	23	9	3,031⅜	18	1
July	1	9,579⅜	31	4	289⅜	23	2	3,483½	19	7
,,	8	7,884⅜	32	1	375⅜	22	11	2,532⅜	19	6
,,	15	4,884⅜	32	3	34½	23	10	1,962⅜	19	7
,,	22	6,558½	32	2	52⅜	23	7	2,434	18	11
,,	29	7,691¼	32	3	24½	19	9	3,065⅜	17	10
Aug.	5	5,062½	31	11	371⅞	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,,	12	8,184½	30	5	548½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,,	19	32,715⅜	28	5	1,768¼	23	4	13,656⅜	16	4
,,	26	88,626⅜	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	4
Sept.	2	92,630⅜	26	11	11,747	23	5	24,090½	15	9
,,	9	78,589	27	1	17,888½	23	4	20,622⅜	15	9
,,	16	83,185¼	26	11	36,986⅜	22	7	23,705	16	1
,,	23	95,743	26	8	70,475¼	23	10	30,715½	15	10
,,	30	104,984⅛	26	9	123,125¼	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Inland in the week ended September 23, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 15th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	qrs.	29s. 9d.
Barley	qrs.	24s. 2d.
Oats	qrs.	16s. 1d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the several Market Towns within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, September 26, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per Imperial Measure s.	d.
Wheat	3,945	1	5,496	5	4	27	10
Barley	3,893	2	5,[illegible]	13	10	29	6
Oats	6,202	0	5,2[illegible]	4	8	9	11

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
September 21 to 23, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	6,000	74,[illegible]	[illegible]
Barley	[illegible]	47,[illegible]	[illegible]
Malt	16,[illegible]	240	16,[illegible]
Oats	6,[illegible]	69,000	76,[illegible]
Beans	1,[illegible]	1,171	2,254
Peas	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	1,702
Maize	[illegible]	17,000	17,000
Tares	30	[illegible]	30
Linseed	[illegible]	12,000	12,000
Rapeseed	[illegible]	1,[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Cottonseed	[illegible]	3,[illegible]	3,[illegible]
Canaryseed	[illegible]	1,100	1,100
Lentils	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Buckwheat	[illegible]	4,[illegible]	4,[illegible]
Flour sacks	32,[illegible]	17,[illegible]	49,[illegible]
Oatmeal	[illegible]	11,[illegible]	11,[illegible]
Ricemeal	[illegible]	2,[illegible]	2,[illegible]
Rye flour	[illegible]	2,[illegible]	2,[illegible]

WOOL.

London. Wednesday.—The result of these sales is for Australian wool an all-round advance of about 5 per cent. on the closing rates of the June series. Merino wools showed the advance fully, in greasy descriptions as well as in scoured. Among crossbreds the coarser grades showed the rise most, they were 5 to 7½ per cent dearer; on the medium sorts the improvement was not pronounced and the finest qualities were only slightly higher. —Helmuth Schwartze and Co.

London. Saturday.—English per pkge. of 240 lbs. Fleeces. South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £14; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 10s to £13 10s. Colonial per lb.—Vic.: Fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d. N.S.W. Second average, 1s 9d to 1s 9½d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s. S. Aus.: Greasy average, 9d to 9½d. N.Z.: Scoured average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 1s 1d. Cape: Scoured super., 1s 3d to 1s 10½d; fleece ave., 9½d to 10d; greasy average, 7½d to 9d. Natal: Scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbred-Grs.—Vic.: Good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d. New Zealand: Fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; coarse, 11d to 1s.

MANURES.

Liverpool. Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firmer, and holders ask £10 7s 6d for ordinary, while refined commands more money. Basic slag and linseed cake are in increased inquiry, prices are reasonable, and there seems a likelihood of a brisk trade this autumn. For oil cakes there is a slightly improved demand, also for feeding treacle and cod liver oil at the following rates:—Fattening cake, prime, Liverpool make, in bags, £5 7s 6d; feeding or dairy cake, prime, Liverpool make, in bags, £6; nitrate of soda, best quality,, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 7s 6d to £10 15s; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; bone, prime, 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 5s to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £6 12s 6d to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), prime, in bags, £13 10s to £14 10s; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good to choice, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 2s 6d; ditto, ditto, English, decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto, ditto, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 17s 6d; do., do. (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £5 17s 6d; ditto, ditto, in bulk, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; maize meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s 9d to £6 1s 3d—per ton. Linseed, fine to coarse grinding, prime, in bulk, 1s 5d to 1s 6d per 240lb.; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 6s to £2 8s per quarter 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d to 4s 9d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in brls., 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt. D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed [illegible] per cent. sol., in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed [illegible] per cent. sol., in bags, nominal; ditto, ditto, guaranteed [illegible] per cent. sol., in bags, nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £4 12s to £4 13s 6d; ditto, ditto, prime quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2 6s 6d; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 2s to £2 3s—per ton [illegible]. Jones Langar and Co.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

London. Friday.—Quotations for [illegible]. Potatoes: Duke of York, 60s to 65s; Puritan, Beauty Hebron, and Up-to-dates, 55s to [illegible]; Imperators, 50s to 55s; Royal Kidneys, 50s to 55s; Reds, 45s to 50s per ton; cabbages, sold [illegible] 4s; [illegible] tails; beans, 1s 5d to 1s 9d per bushel; [illegible] 2s per bag; parsley and leeks, 1s to 1s 6d; turnips, 2s to 3s; carrots, 9d to 1s 3d per bag; [illegible] 7s to 10s per dozen bunches; [illegible] dozen lb; apples, 3s 6d to 7s per bushel; plums, 4s to 4s 6d; [illegible] sieve; blackberries, 1s 5d to [illegible]; nuts, 5d to 6d per lb; filberts, 2s to 3s per half sieve.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The peaceful conditions with which October begins in this season are strikingly in contrast with October last with its wars and rumours of wars, its wheat at thirty-one shillings, and a rising market. Throughout Europe, including our islands, an alteration in the outlook such as is shown in this comparison of October, 1905, and October, 1904, can hardly fail to be of importance to wheat growing, and we must be prepared for a falling off in autumn sowings in England, Scotland, France, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. Nor can we advise English farmers to sow wheat in the face of such disastrous price depression as already has succeeded to the fair but by no means high quotations of last cereal year. The wheat average is already down to 26s. 8d. in the shires, and to 27s. 10d. at Mark Lane.

The threshings of the home wheat crop for September were more than twice as large as last year, and deliveries were a great deal in excess of what we have been accustomed to for several years past. The price has ebbed 3s. 2d. on the year as a result. The imports of wheat last week were liberal, 456,000 qr., and it is certain that when we have the ascertained totals for September before us, those of the past month will exceed those of September in 1904, 1903, and 1902. This is the cardinal fact of importance, actual returns can wait till Saturday next. The large home deliveries have made these importations particularly infelicitous, but, of course, the importers had made their extracts much earlier in the season, and the grain "had to come." There is not a very large quantity due to arrive during October, and, with a moderate supply on passage, the next few weeks only need sharper weather and a touch of early winter to resume firmness. That the weather will rule October's markets is a trade probability.

The supplies of wheat on passage on October 1 are the subject of the following estimate:—

	Qrs.
American	85,000
Russian	345,000
Roumanian	60,000
Indian	255,000
Australasian	235,000
Argentine	330,000
Various	30,000
Total—October 1, 1905	1,340,000
October 1, 1904	2,355,000
October 1, 1903	1,565,000

The absence of California from the above list is very remarkable, but about 100,000 qr. of Californian, Walla, and Blue Stem wheat are under contract for October and November shipment from Pacific ports, and we shall, therefore, see the Californian column once more tenanted by figures very shortly. No large exports, however, are probable.

The imports of flour last week were 86,480 sacks against 109,490 sacks last year, and 141,100 sacks two years since. The quantity on passage was thus estimated:—

October 1, 1905	246,000 sacks.
October 1, 1904	162,000 sacks.
October 1, 1903	426,000 sacks.

The top price of London flour is 2s. per sack lower on the year, and is now at a level identical with that of two years ago. The price of the best North-Western American flour is 29s., against 35s. on October 1, 1904, and 27s. 3d. on October 1, 1903. The present year in this respect occupies a position intermediate between the remarkable dearness of 1904 and the decided cheapness of 1903.

The imports of maize last week were 313,000 qr., or 30 per cent above estimated requirements. That prices are not quotably lower at the leading markets is a sign of sustained retail demand, but naturally the buyer has rather the best of the situation. The new crop in America is being secured in excellent condition, and is probably the largest ever grown. Supplies on passage are as follows:

October 1, 1905	1,120,000 qrs.
October 1, 1904	1,320,000 qrs.
October 1, 1903	1,280,000 qrs.

The imports for the complete nine months of the year thus compare:

January 1–September 30, 1905	8,300,000 qrs.
January 1–September 25, 1904	7,400,000 qrs.
January 1–September 26, 1903	9,000,000 qrs.

The price at New York on Saturday was 19s. 3d. per qr., against 18s. 3d. at this time last year.

Supplies of English barley are increasing, but they are still below the average. The samples from North East England and South East Scotland give fair satisfaction; not so for the most part those for East Anglia and Essex. Quality in the West is very varied, we have seen some really fine lots from Somerset and Wilts. The Severn Valley and Welsh marches report, on the other hand, a general discoloration of the grain, and there is a great deal of badly sprouted corn. The French, German, and Italian barley crops are all lacking in quality, but Hungary, Bohemia, and Roumania are fortunate, and some malting quality is expected from Asia Minor. Prices range from 30s. to 34s. for the majority of British malting samples.

Foreign barley, for feeding purposes, is a trifle lower for the week. The imports last week were 175,000 qr., or 25 to 30 per cent. above requirements. The supply on passage is thus returned:—

	Qrs.
Russian	310,000
American	60,000
Asiatic	100,000
Various	30,000
Total	500,000

There were 700,000 qr. afloat at this time last year. The stocks in the Russian ports are said to be rather small, but the new crop is admittedly a large one.

Oats have recently been very well held, and 3d. rise is quoted at Bristol, Hull, Plymouth, and Birmingham. The London trade tends in the same direction, though up to the close of September trade on Saturday afternoon actual advance had not been quotable. The increased shipments from America are the chief threat to the buoyant market of to-day, how far America may increase her exports is a very moot point. The large purchases of Russian oats for Germany are a feature of this autumn's trade, and are likely to balance, at least to some extent, the effect of America having returned to the arena as a shipper. Imports into the United Kingdom last week were 115,000 qr., about an average summer supply, but not up to full autumn wants. The London share of the total imported has been rather larger than usual, which accounts for metropolitan prices being simply firm, while some other ports were quoting some advance.

Russia is a free shipper of rye, in addition to which both Roumania and America are shippers. Prices are in consequence decidedly low, 22s. is accepted for good English and Russian, 24s. for fine French. The price of beans tends to favour the seller. Some of the new English samples are of exceptional weight and quality; the same applies to samples of new English tares.

Peas are fairly firm, but India offers enough to prevent the market rising. Dari is rather dearer for fine samples, but Persian, at a guinea, meets the needs of many chandlers, etc., who have contracted to deliver "Dari" without further being tied. There is a steady sale for Carobs, which, under their very misleading market name of locust beans, are in danger of being ranked with pulse. They command five guineas per ton for good Cyprian, somewhat less being accepted for Portuguese.

Linseed has improved a little since the middle of September, but is lower on the month by a full shilling. Prices thus compare for large wholesale transactions:—

	Per Qr.
September 30, 1905	37s. 0d
September 30, 1904	35s. 0d.
September 30, 1903	35s. 6d.
September 30, 1902	48s. 0d.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.
October, 2.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	46 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	41 to 45
Ca'cutta	37 to 38
Argentine	36 to 37
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	38 to 39

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	5/6 to 5/6
Indian	4/6 to 4 9

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Dutch	52 to 54
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	41 to 42
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	33 to 37

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	39 to 40

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 418 lb.
White	41 to 48
Black	42 to 43

POTATOES.

Spitalfields. Saturday.—Arrivals were on a good scale, but met with slow support. Quotations: Puritans, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s; British Queen, 60s to 70s; Blackland, 55s to 60s; and Up to dates, 60s to 65s per ton.

Borough. Saturday.—A good quantity was on offer this morning, for which a steady demand prevailed. Quotations: Best Sills, 55s to 65s; Blacklands, 45s to 50s per ton.

Manchester. Saturday.—Potatoes: Cheshire, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per load (18 stones); Bedford, 3s 6d to 4s per cwt. Turnips, washed, 40s to 45s; carrots, washed, 40s to 45s per ton.

York. Saturday.—There was a moderate supply of potatoes, and the appearance of disease and the fact that picking has commenced led to somewhat improved prices. Seeds made 50s to 60s, and Warps, 35s to 45s per ton.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 2.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat samples continue to show good quality. Prices to-day were rather difficult to maintain, however; buyers were sometimes (not always) able to get corn at 6d. decline. Foreign tended in purchaser's favour also, but no quotable alterations occurred. The Russian sorts were decidedly weaker than American, while Indian descriptions might be written firm. Maize on spot was stiffly held for full prices; a certain weakness in futures does not affect current business. Barley was 3d. cheaper on the week for Russian kinds, and English descriptions also inclined to favour buyers. Oats were very well held, but the attempt to advance prices was for the most part resisted by buyers. Beans and tares were the turn dearer. Peas were steady. Rye was cheap. The market for oilseeds on spot was firm for poppyseed and rapeseed, steady for linseed, and rather cheaper for cottonseed.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	d.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	33	— 34
New White	,,	29	— 31
Old Red	,,	32	— 33
New ,,	,,	28	— 29
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 37
Brewing	,,	25	— 31
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	22	— 24
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	26	— 27
Brown	,,	26	— 30
Black	,,	29	— 12
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	65	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	29	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	52	— 56
(Spring)	,,	54	— 58
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	18	— 20
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496 lb.	s.	s.
M'itoba best White	36	— 37
,, ,, Red	35	— 36
,, 2nd ,,	33	— 34
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32	— 33
Australian	33/6	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 33
Calcutta	31/6	— 32
Kurrachee	30	— 31
Turkish	29/6	— 30
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	14	—14/6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16

MAIZE, per 480 lb.:	s.	s.
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	23	—23/3
Argentine	22/6	—23
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	34	— 35
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	—5/3
Portuguese	5/0	—5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	41	— 43
Canadian	39	— 41
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 26
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26
Persian	20	— 22
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET WAS A LITTLE WEAK FOR MAIZE AND OATS, AS WELL AS FOR WHEAT AND BARLEY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 2.

London makes were held for September's closing prices. Country flour was a good sale at 23s. for good roller whites. American made 29s. for the very best ex granary and 26s. c.f.i. for the like type November shipment. American First Bakers' made 21s. ex. granary, with 20s. 3d. c.f.i. accepted for November shipment. New Kansas patents were quoted 24s. 6d. c.f.i. November shipment. Hungarian flour favoured buyers, few sorts exceeded 30s. per sack. Some Canadian made 26s. 9d. French and Australian sorts were unchanged, and La Plata was firm through scarcity. Bran, pollard, and middlings were steady; barley meal advanced 2s. 6d. per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30
Town Whites	,,	27
,, Households	,,	24
No. 3	,,	21
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25
,, No. 2	,,	23
Paste Flour	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.
Best Patents (Old Crop Fl'r)	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25 — 27
Fine Roller made	,,	24 — 25
Ord'y Roller made	,,	23 — 24
Best Stone made	,,	22 — 23
Best Patents (New Crop Flour)	,,	24 — 25
Fine Roller whites	,,	23 — 24
rd'y Roller ,,	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

		s.
Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29 — 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28 — 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/9—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26 — 28
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6—21
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	27 — 28
Russian	,,	29 — 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 32
,, 1	,,	30 — 31
,, 2	,,	29 — 30
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

		s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	18 — 21
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26 — 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34 — 35
Groats	,,	34 — 35
Oat Flour	,,	35 — 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13 — 14
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21 — 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 22
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were indicative of a stronger feeling for wheat:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	7s. 0d.	Oct. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 8d.	Feb. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 9d.	Oct. delivery.
,,	4s. 4d.	Jan. ,,

American Red Winter wheat to-day made 6s. 9d. for December delivery. American maize made 4s. 4d. for January delivery, and there were some transactions for March delivery at 4s. 3d. This is the remotest maize future yet dealt in.

SEEDS

London. Monday.—Winter tares moving off freely; prices unchanged. Seed wheats in good demand, prices firm. There is a growing inquiry for spring sowing seeds, but prices are only developing.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

London. Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—There has been a good trade done to-day at current rates, one-third of the English crop has already passed into consumers' hands. English hops are the best value at any offering.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Trade continues quiet, and at the moment there is no new feature to report. Prices for most grades of home made appear favourable to buyers.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals.—Bran continues in good demand; prices advanced generally about 2s. 6d. per ton. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Higher prices are asked for shipment, but there is no change on spot. Grain.—Indian corn dull at 13s. 6d. per 280 lb. There has been a brisk demand for foreign oats at advancing prices. Scotch oats are of finer qualities, also rather dearer. Barley cheaper on spot, owing to arrivals. Pease dull. Beans quiet. Oilcake 2s. 6d. per ton up. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and common thirds the turn lower. Fine thirds scarce and dear.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Arrivals of wheat are large, principally from Russia. Trade is quiet, and prices are rather in buyers' favour. Flour unchanged in value. Maize a slow sale, and prices are rather lower. Barley in large supply from Russia, and prices are 1½d. to 3d. lower. Oats a slow sale at late rates.—COVENTRY.

There is no change in milling offals. Steady trade at last Monday's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London. Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade has been a little dull the past week, but wit hhardly any foreign arrivals the firm tone is well maintained. The oil market being again weaker there is no chance of London made decreasing in price. Cotton cake: Two large parcels of Egyptian made have arrived during the week, and with little or no demand tends to weaken values. Decorticated cotton cakes and meal: Stocks are small, and a good inquiry exists, which helps sellers to advance prices 1s 3d to 2s 6d. Linseed: Steady at last quotations.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7 7 6	
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay		
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7 8 9	to 7 13 9
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7 0 0	
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 15 0	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 13 9	
Egyptian ,, ,,	(in bags) ex quay	4 12 6	to 4 15 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 17 6	
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 5 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 1 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 1 6	to 2 5 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 2 0	
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.			
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London		
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,,			
Turkish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The firmest holders are those of oats; cargoes of wheat and linseed are steady. In the cases of barley, maize, and cottonseed cargoes, business has opened in buyers' favour.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Walla, 32s 3d per 5001b., October shipment; Blue Stem, 33s per 5001b., October shipment; Red Walla, 31s 9d per 5001b., October shipment; Roumanian, 31s 9d per 496lb., October shipment; Roumanian, 31s 3d per 492lb., October shipment; Australian, 33s 6d per 480lb., on passage; No. 2 Manitoba, 30s 3d per 480lb., October shipment; No. 3 Manitoba, 29s 9d per 480lb., October shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480lb., October shipment; American, 20s 6d per 480lb., January shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 19s per 400lb., October shipment.

OATS.—Odessa, 15s 3d per 304lb., October shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 33s 3d per 480lb., prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Bombay, 38s per 416lb., November shipment; Argentine, 26s 3d per 416lb., November shipment.

RAPESEED.—Roumanian, 35s 3d per 424lb., November shipment; Ferozepore, 35s 6d per 416lb., November shipment; Guzerat, 40s 6d per 416lb., November shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Bombay, 37s 9d per 377lb., November shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London. Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,260 bales, and from foreign ports 11,775. There was a steady trade for bacon last week, but at the same time the market closed rather quietly, with:—Irish, 60s to 62s up to 66s; Danish, 52s to 61s up to 64s; Canadian, 56s to 58s up to 60s. Butter: The butter market was steady, with finest selections in good demand: French, 90s to 114s; Danish, 122s to 124s; Russian, 94s to 100s; Irish, 100s to 118s; Canadian, 88s to 114s; Australian, 96s to 114s; American, 86s to 102s. Lard: The lard market was quiet:—Irish, 50s to 64s; Danish, 52s to 58s; American, 36s 6d to 38s 9d.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield. Saturday.—Supplies larger; quieter demand. Fowls, Yorkshire, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Essex, 2s 6d to 3s; Boston, 2s to 2s 6d; Surrey, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Sussex, 2s 6d to 3s; Welsh, 2s to 2s 3d; Irish, 1s 8d to 1s 10d; geese, 5s to 6s; Aylesbury ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; country, 2s to 2s 6d; quail, 1s to 1s 6d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 11d; feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 8d to 11d; tame, 1s 2d to 1s 6d each; Australian, 6s 5d to 8s 6d per dozen; venison (haunches), 12s to 18s each; fore quarters, 3d per lb.; young partridges, 2s 6d to 2s 10d; old, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; young grouse, 5s to 5s 6d; old, 3s per brace; English hares, 2s to 2s 6d; leverets, 1s 4d to 1s 9d; Scotch hares, 1s 6d; wild ducks, 1s to 1s 6d; teal, 6d to 8d; snipe, 4d to 6d; woodcock, 2s each.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 2, 1905. British.	Total. Oct. 1, 1904.	Monday,
Beasts	1,150	1,420	
Sheep and Lambs	6,600	6,780	
Calves	10	10	
Milch Cows	58	50	

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d to	3s 9d to	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d to	4s 9d to	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £21.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, 911; Eastern Counties, 39; Midland, Home, and Western Counties, 1,017 Devon, 30; Ireland, 64.

We note to-day a decrease of 270 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last, the greater part of the supply being drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland, these latter consisting of 44 Dublins (10 of which were black polled cattle) and 20 Waterfords. Trade was of a dull and dragging nature, nevertheless salesmen were able in most cases to maintain last week's currencies; on the other hand, English cattle showed a downward tendency to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb., this latter remark also applies to fat butchering cows and bulls, these also sharing in the general depression. A clearance in this part of the market is considered doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 1, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	— —
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Irish	4s 0d to 4s 5d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 4d ex 3s 6d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 270 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. For both wethers and ewes trade was of an extremely slow nature, salesmen having to concede to a fall of 2d. per 8 lb. to effect sales. There was a large supply of Irish, but these met with no corresponding increase in the demand, consequently a fall in value was inevitable; on the other hand Scotch descriptions were fairly steady at late currencies. Lambs met with very little demand, consequently are unquotable. There is very little prospect of a clearance being effected. The supply included 300 Scotch, 2,171 Irish, and 391 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 1, 1904
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
8 st Scotch	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 8d to 6s 0d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
5 st Down Lambs	—	5s 8d to 5s 10d

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on offer.

London (Central). Monday. — Fair supplies; quiet demand. Beef, Scotch, 4s to 4s 8d; English, 3s 4d to 3s 5d, American, 3s to 3s 6d. Mutton, Scotch wether, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d. Lambs: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s 6d. Veal: 3s to 4s 8d. Pork, 4s to 5s 10d per 8lbs.

St. Ives (Hunts). Monday.—Beasts 539, sheep 1,959, pigs 435, horses 22. Beef, 8d to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat and store cattle and sheep fair demand. Fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows fair show, and trade £15 to £22.

FOREIGN

Liverpool. Monday.—Supply of cattle was larger than Monday last; demand and prices if anything lower. Larger supply of sheep; demand slow. Finished sheep about maintained late quotations. Strong and rough sorts difficult to cash even at reduction of 2s per head. Beef 6½d to 4½d per lb; mutton, 8½d to 5½d. At market: 1,621 cattle and 7,822 sheep.

Deptford. Monday.—Beasts, 1,265. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 188 head, and consisted of 840 from the United States and 425 from Canada. Trade was of a generally firmer and steadier nature, rates ruling from 1d to 2d per 8lb higher for the former. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 1d, occasionally 4s 2d; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lb (offal given in); 804 Canadian ewes were offered for sale, and were quote dat from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. On Saturday 1,943 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and with a fair trade were quoted at from 3s 9d to 4s; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 8d per 8lb. (offal given in).

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London. Friday.—Butter: The weather generally is cold and unsettled, with cloudy skies and consequent freedom from frosts. There has been more inquiry for Canadian butter this week, owing to the rise in the c.i.f. quotations from Canada, which are now considerably above spot values. This advance in Canada is largely due to the demand for butter for storing purposes for their own winter consumption, stocks of which are reported to be light. Holders on this side of the Atlantic are firm at last week's quotations, whilst the c.i.f. prices have advanced 3s to 4s per cwt. "Choicest" [illegible] saltless are making 112s. per cwt., and salt 108s to 110s. "Finest" lots of saltless are bringing 106s to 108s, and salt, 102s to 104s. Shipments of Canadian butter from May 1 to September 17 this year are 88,579 boxes more than in 1904, and 204,692 more than in 1903. The demand for Australian butter is good, particularly for "Choicest" brands. Prices are unchanged on the week. To the surprise of the trade here the Copenhagen [illegible] tion remains unchanged at 105 kroner. Cheese: There has been a fair trade in Canadian this week at 56s to 57s per cwt., there being only a very small supply at 58s. Other quotations are about 2s. per cwt. above spot [illegible]. New Zealand factories are holding their output [illegible] at 55s. c.i.f. London, and it is reported there are buyers at these figures. Shipments of Canadian cheese from May 1 this year to September 17 are 3,752 [illegible] in 1904, and 383,691 boxes less than in 1903. W. WEDDEL AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on Monday there was an increase in the supply. Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality was of an exceedingly dull and dragging nature, partly due to the inclement weather. Rates for good Herefords and Devons were only barely maintained, and middling quality ruled decidedly easier. Fat butchering cows and bulls, notwithstanding there being only an average number on offer, met with such a limited demand that salesmen had to accept from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. to effect sales. The Irish arrivals consisted of 38 Dublins (ten of which were black polled cattle), 36 Waterfords, and 10 store cattle, these latter meeting with practically no inquiry; the former shared in the general depression, nevertheless, all sales were governed by last week's currencies. On Thursday there was no demand for fat cattle, and a slow sale, with a downward tendency in value, for fat butchering cows, bulls, and rough cattle. At Deptford, trade was of a slow nature, rates ruling 1d. per 8 lb. in favour of the buyer.

The total number offered at both markets was 5,476, as against 4,528 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,410 British (increase 150) and 4,066 Foreign (increase 798), consisting of 3,143 from the United States and 923 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): — 80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 6d., ex. 4s. 8d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d., ex. 4s. 8d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 80 to 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 5d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. At Islington the supply in the sheep market was slightly larger, trade ruled fairly steady for both wethers and ewes at late currencies; on the other hand, the Scotch and Irish, were of a slower nature, rates ruling 2d. per 8 lb. in favour of the buyer. On Thursday ewes maintained late values, but wethers were quoted 2d. lower. Lambs on Monday were in short supply, and difficult to vend. At Deptford a small consignment of ewes were offered for sale, and made good money. The total number penned at both markets was 8,458, as against 8,693 during the previous week, consisting of 7,890 British (decrease 370) and 568 Foreign (increase 105). Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in): — 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 8½ stone Canadian ewes, 4s. 4d.

Calves numbered fifteen, and, with a slow trade, were quoted at from 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.

Pigs (60): Trade very quiet, the best on offer made 4s. 6d. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

The past week has witnessed a slight improvement in prices on what they have been, this applying not only to the innumerable Michaelmas stock sales in progress all over the district, but also to the fairs, where in some cases lambs are bringing distinctly improved prices, though ewes on the whole are not meeting such a good trade. This is being strikingly exemplified at the great Poundbury sheep fair at Dorchester on Thursday, when in some cases prices showed a decline of from 2s. to 4s. a head.

As regards cattle, barreners, with a slow demand, are making about £20 to £27, this price being just now but rarely exceeded. With milch beasts there is a distinct improvement, not only in demand, but still more in price, the best heifers being now worth any price between £16 10s. and £21, which is quite £1 to £1 10s. in advance of what has been paid for good milchers for some time past.

There is no great change to note in the price of either fat cattle or sheep. The few really prime steers and heifer now to be met with (principally Devons) command a very good price at from £16 10s. (for small heifer) to £22 or £23 for fairly heavy steers (or from 11s. to 12s. per score, according to finish). Fat cows lack demand and low prices as a consequence rule; these we may quote at from £16 to £18 10s. each (or 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.).

Veal is finding a very fair sale, though at a trifle less money than has been obtained of late. Occasionally something very choice makes 8½d. and a trifle over, but the general run for ordinary stock is from 7½d. to 8d.; whilst poor quality animals only bring 6d. to 7d. The best class of fat mutton keeps very firm, with prices well maintained, these ranging from 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and occasionally more; secondary grades and young ewes, 7½d. to 8d.; and rough ewes and inferior sheep, 6d. to 6½d.

The pig trade is again showing signs of revival, especially for the neater weights of porkers, which sell from 9s. 6d. to 10s. per score (or from 40s. to 65s. each); baconers, 8s. 6d. to 9s., with a very fair sale; but coarse, heavy pigs and old fat sows are in no great demand at 7s. to 8s. per score, and for excessive weights even less than what we have quoted.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, but the great bulk were of secondary descriptions. A good demand was experienced for the best class at prices similar to the preceding week, but all others would be about £1 a head cheaper. Fat sheep have also been shown in full average numbers. For the best class trade was steady and prices without change, but secondary sheep and ewes made from 1s. to 2s. a head less money. Fat lambs in shorter numbers, and they maintained previous prices. A large show of calves, the best descriptions being dear. Pigs in average numbers, and they also commanded good prices. More store cattle on offer, and a slightly better demand has been experienced with a good clearance of the better descriptions, a few of the secondary class being left over. A large supply of store sheep, many of an inferior class. Trade has been fairly good, but a fall of 1s. a head had to be accepted for anything in moderate condition. Milch cows a fair show, and these met a slightly better demand at prices corresponding with those of the previous week. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle, per live cwt., 38s.; Current, 33s. to 35s. 6d.; Irish, 32s. to 34s. Mutton from 7½d. to 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED.

Trade in Ireland.

There was again a good attendance of local and country butchers at Thursday's Dublin Market, but exporters were a small company, owing to bad trade on the other side. Shippers were disposed to hold off for easier terms, and best qualities of cattle were lower by 10s.; and in other sorts there was a drop of from 15s. to 20s. per head on the week. Prime ox and heifer beef was worth from 50s. to 54s., and in a few cases up to 56s. per cwt.; good second-class beef from 46s. to 48s.; inferior from 42s. to 45s. per cwt. The live weight figures of the day were from 6d. to 1s. per cwt. under those of the previous Thursday, the best average top price being from 29s. to 30s., and for choice Aberdeen-Angus lots up to 31s. and 32s. per cwt. Cow beef sold slowly at from 22s. per cwt. (live weight). All classes of sheep were lower, home buyers hanging back from purchasing; while London and English Midland hoggets were also lower in price. Notwithstanding the easier rate, a large number of sheep were left over unsold. Prime wether mutton sold at from 6½d. to 7½d.; ewe, from 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb. upwards. Large, heavy hoggets sold at from 42s. to 54s. each, and light to medium ditto from 32s. to 40s. each. Only a small number of lambs sold at from 24s. to 40s. each, according to size and quality. Veal of good quality was in request, but coarse and inferior calves were not wanted. Choice veal was worth from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., and other sorts from 5d. per lb upwards. Milch cows were in good request for choice heavy springers, which sold at from £17 to £21 each; other descriptions irregular and slow at from £8 upwards. The store cattle trade continues very dull and cheap, excepting for such as are in forward condition. Several large auctions of stores were held in Dublin during the week, but sales were disappointing on the whole. There was a fair supply of pigs, and about the usual attendance of buyers. Trade opened quietly, but got brisker as the day advanced, and a good clearance was effected, but with no quotable advance in prices.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, including a small consignment of prime quality cattle. Trade, taken as a whole, was very disappointing, prices ruling in favour of buyers, though not sufficiently so to quote. There was absolutely no demand for fat beasts, consequently neither trade nor quotations can be recorded. Top prices: Fat cows 5s. 6d. fat bulls 5s. 10d to 5s 2d per 8lb. Decrease of 50 in number penned in sheep market compared with last Thursday. Trade for wethers slow, at reduction of 1d to 2d per 8 lb. Ewes, however, sold fairly well, late prices governing all transactions. Best pens made, per 8 lb. as follows: 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d.; 9 stone ditto, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 6d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s 2d. to 4s 4d. Calf trade not worth noting. Pig trade very quiet. Quotations per 8 lb. sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s. 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s. 10d. to 5s. 10d.; calves, 5s. 6d.; pigs, 2s. 8d. to 4s 6d.

London (Central), Friday.—Heavy supplies were received for which a slow demand again prevailed, but at late values. Quotations:—Scotch short sides, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; long sides, 4s to 4s 4d. English, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; American Dressed Lilled, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Liverpool sides, 4s 4d to 4s 4d. American refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 9d to 4s, forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; Rancher beef, from 1s 6d to 3s; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; River Plate hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 7d to 1s 8d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 6d to 3s; River Plate, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Dutch wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Lamb: Scotch, 4s 8d to 5s; New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; Dutch, 4s to 4s 6d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 4s 10d; Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—A quiet trade prevailed for beef, the best steers making up to 4s 8d, and inferior up to 4s per stone. Mutton in large supply, scored heavily, but was not quotably cheaper; best Down wethers made up to 5s 10d and Kents up to 5s 6d. Pork rose 2d on a brisk demand, best roasters making 4s 4d. Veal a little dearer.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' saleyard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 67 calves, 486 fat sheep and lambs, 269 pigs, and 138 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised: Fat Shorthorn steers made up to £19 5s; heifers, £18; and cows, £15. Polled cows up to £14; fat calves, 62s 6d to £5 5s; small, 20s to 50s; fat hogs, 69s to 97s; fat porkers, 48s to 60s 6d; small, 30s to 40s; store pigs, 11s 6d to 26s 6d; dairy cows, £11 5s to £21 5s; Down wether and young ewes, 52s to 58s; smaller, 46s to 48s; old ewes, 32s to 38s; eight-months-old Down lambs, 48s to 56s; smaller, 38s to 46s; cross-bred Scotch wethers and young ewes, 45s to 47s 6d; cross-bred lambs, 34s 6d to 37s; rams, 45s to 52s; three months-old sucking lambs, Downs, 28s to 35s; cross-breds, 26s 6d; Southdowns up to 32s. Fat beasts of prime quality and moderate weights sold readily and late rates well maintained for them; half fat and second class and inferior cattle a bad trade with lower prices. A good show of fat sheep and fat calves met with a ready inquiry, prices well kept up with a satisfactory clearance. There was a good competition for the very best young cows and heifers; for secondary sorts a slow trade must be reported. Store cattle continues a very quiet trade. Fat calves met a firm trade at a slight advance on last week's quotations. The pig trade, both for fat bacon pigs and porkers, was brisk, with a quick demand. Store pigs, with a short supply, sold readily. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6¾d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5½d per lb.; best fat sheep and big lambs, 8¼d to 9d; second ditto 7¾d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d; choice fat sucking lambs, 9d to 10d per lb.; fat calves, 6d to 8½d per lb.; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 11s per score; fat hogs up to 9s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Cattle numbered 217, 111 more than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small; quality of stock good; trade dull. Heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £8 to £11; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £13 15s; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 10s; cows, £16 10s to £23.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts and sheep; fair quantity of pigs. Trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb.; mutton, 6¼d to 8¼d per lb.; lamb, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 10d per score; porkets, 10s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; sows, 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in moderate supply, but demand limited, and values of secondary qualities declined slightly. There was less mutton than usual, and trade was slow, prices of all sorts going up ½d per lb. Pigs were again not numerous, and porkers went up to 10s 6d, whilst baconers advanced to 9s 3d.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	3
Under 10 sc. ...	...Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9	3
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	,, 2¾ in. ...	8	9
Under 12 sc.	,, 3 in. ...	8	3

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Fair trade at prices rather lower. One run of 200 good ewe tegs ranged from 46s to 50s 6d; wether tegs, 38s to 42s; South Down ewes, 24s to 35s; wether lambs, 23s to 33s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday. — To-day's supply on the Sands constituted the best show of the season, there being over 400 Irish cattle forward, including some exceptionally good heifers. Buyers were numerous, and trade showed an improvement. Wintering heifers, £8 10s to £11 10s; heifers for finishing off, £14 to £15 10s; bullocks, £8 10s to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—The market was well supplied with all descriptions of stock, and buyers attended in large numbers. The demand generally was not so good, except for dairy cattle, which sold well. Prices were about the same as last week. A very large show of sheep and lambs, and a fair amount of business was transacted at the advanced rates current recently. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £23; calves, £16 to £20; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 16s to 44s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Prime Devon steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown wether sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; prime West Country, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; porkers, 3s 8d to 4s. Stock at the market: Cattle, 638; sheep, 4,484; pigs, 687; calves, 159; horses, 22; total, 5,990. Tolls, £34 10s 5d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Trade was good, and there was a good supply, except in mutton, of which there was not much offering. Beef: Stall fed, 5s per stone of 8 lbs.; grass beef, 4s to 4s 6d; mutton, 5s 8d to 6s 4d; and pork, 9s per score.

Exeter, Friday.—Usual number of beasts; quality not up to the average. Steers and maiden heifers, 11s; cows, 10s; several unsold. Good quality sheep scarce, and trade dull. Ewes, 6d; some very small mutton, 9d to 10d. Bridgwater sheep made lower prices than of late. Calves, 7½d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, but a small entry for sheep for the time of the year, though plenty for all requirements. Trade was steady. Milch beasts were a trifle dearer. Others made late rates, milch beasts realising £15 to £22; bullocks, £11 to £16; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; stirks, £5 to £7; young stock, £4 to £6; ewes, 46s to 56s; and lambs, 38s to 43s; and rams, £7 to £9 each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—At to-day's cattle market there were good offers of stock, both at Messrs. Duke's and also at Messrs. Symonds's and Sampson's sales. Milch beasts were again in good request, at from £17 to £21 15s. for the best, and £11 to £16 10s for secondary grades. Barreners still a dragging trade at from about £20 to £25 per pair. Fat bullocks were in heavy supply, and included some very choice beasts, but as the supply was somewhat overdone prices ruled low. Fat steers made £17 10s to £21 10s; and heifers from £16 to £21 (or 10s 6d to 11s per score); smaller heifers, £14 to £15 10s; bulls,

£10 to £13. Not a heavy supply of mutton by any means, what there was on offer meeting a steady demand at 48s to 51s for wethers, and ewes, 38s 6d to 42s (or 7d to 8d per lb.)

Dublin, Thursday. Numbers in market: Beasts 3,651, decrease 283; sheep 8,569, decrease 570; calves 42, increase 2. A heavy dragging trade was experienced for all classes of stock. Finished cattle, which were few in number, with difficulty realised last week's rates; other sorts were considerably reduced in value and a clearance not effected. Choicest lots of sheep for home use barely making late rates; shipping qualities not so easily placed at prices favouring buyers. Lambs getting out of season. Cattle (live weight), best, 28s 6d to 30s 6d per cwt.; and for exceptional sorts, 32s per cwt; secondary and inferior, 25s to 28s per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 5½d to 7½d per lb. GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh. Wednesday. A fair trade for cattle and sheep, but milch cows quiet. Coloured Polled bullocks, £11 to £15 15s; black bullocks, £12 12s to £13 13s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 28s to 40s; Cheviot ewes, 22s to 32s; grey-faced sheep to 37s; Shorthorn cows to £25; secondary, £20 to £24.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Moderate supplies and a fair demand at barely late rates. Top Scotch cattle, 64s., extreme 66s to 67s; current Irish, 58s per cwt.; top heggs, 9d.; secondary, 8¾d to 8¾d; wedders, 7¾d to 8¼d; lambs, 7d to 9d per lb. Dead meat slow. Values easier for mutton, but stationary for beef. Best Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5¾d to 5¼d; Canadians, 5½d to 5¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday. Messrs. Bruton Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows: As usual, on the market following Barton Fair, there was a very short supply of both cows and calves and store cattle. Prices for the former were good, the highest being £23 10s.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Some good quality beef in the market, and supply altogether was fairly large. Trade had recovered, and in some cases best bullock and heifer made 7d per lb., but the ruling prices were from 6¼d to 6¾d per lb. Cow best about 5d per lb. There was a fair supply of calves, and trade being firm veal made 7½d per lb. We had heavy consignments of sheep, and trade was fairly brisk, wethers at 8d per lb., fat ewes 6d to 6½d., fat lambs about 8d per lb., and store lambs selling dearer. In the pig market there was also a larger supply and brisker trade in porks and bacons, porks up to 6d per lb., and baconers from 5d to 5¾d. Store pigs were scarce, and selling well at good figures. The store cattle trade was dull although the supply was not over large.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report smaller supplies of fat cattle, which were in good demand, stall-fed animals making up to 9s and grass cattle to 8s per stone. At the sale of store cattle about 400 were entered, which was beyond requirements; these included 100 Westmoreland and Cumberland Shorthorns of nice quality from twenty to fourteen months old. There was a fair attendance of buyers, all the best animals nearly maintaining last week's values; but there was a decided fall on all that were not first-class quality. A grand lot of about fifty roan Buckinghamshire Shorthorns, two years old, made £12 17s 6d to £11 15s; North Country steers, £11 to £7 5s; Polled steers, eighteen to sixteen months, £10 to £7; Irish calves, £5 17s 6d. At a special sale of dairy stock seventy cows and heifers were catalogued. Trade was slo wand prices ruled lower, the best cows, fresh calved, from £19 to £16; heifers with calves by side, £17 to £14. Short supply of fat sheep, which met a firm trade. Suffolks to 63s; half-bred shearlings to 57s. Lambs were in strong demand, and ewes sold freely. At the final sale of Suffolk and other rams about 100 were disposed of. Suffolks, 9½gs to 3gs; Lincolns, 7½gs to 4gs. A larger supply of swine, which were sharply competed for up to 7s per stone. Numbers at sale and market: 1,127 cattle, 2,012 sheep, 1,306 swine.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger consignments of home-bred bullocks. Trade brisker for choice qualities, but inferior descriptions were dragging at irregular rates. Choice milch cows, £19 to £23; good lots, £17 to £18; secondary, £14 to £16; short-horned bullocks, £12 to £14 10s; Irish bullocks, £11s 10s to £15; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12 10s; calves, 15s to 35s each. Sheep were in small supply, and sold readily at firm prices.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade hardly so good as of late, 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Few store beasts £6 to £17 each. Fat sheep average show, 9s to 9s 6d per stone; stores 38s to 44s each; store lambs, 30 to 40s; rams, £6 to £7; ewes, 45s to 55s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef, firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4d to 4¾d; thirds, 3½ to 3¾d; mutton, firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d: veal, firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d; bacon pigs, firsts, 5¾d, seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d; porket pigs, firsts, 7d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 6d to 6¼d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Fat beasts in good supply, and trade same as previous week, prices averaging from 7s to 7s 6d per 14lb.; 8s to 8s 6d paid for choicest animals; increased number of stores, and trade very dull, prices receding in some instances 5s to 10s per head; £6 to £17 per head was the average. Poor demand for sheep and lambs, at 45s to 62s per head for breeding ewes, and 28s to 38s for lambs; fat sheep made 9s 6d to 10s 6d per stone, 11s being paid for very best, values dropping quite 6d per stone compared with previous week, and there was increased supply. Fat pigs met with good trade, at 6s 9d to 7s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday. — Good show of milch beasts, with rather better trade. Best milch cows, £18 to £23; in-calf heifers, £14 to £19. An average show of store beasts, with a fair trade. Strong heifers and steers, £10 to £15; and younger beasts, £6 to £10. Calves, 25s to 50s. No sheep or pigs.

Preston, Wednesday. — The attendance of dealers was hardly so large as usual, and trade was dragging, prices showing a downward tendency. There was a good show of cattle. Sheep were slow to sell, and calves also did not go well. Cows and bulls made 43d to 5¼d: heifers and bullocks, 5¾d to 6¼d; calves, 7¼d; hoggs, 8d to 8¾d; lambs, 8d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; and tups, 5d to 5¼d.

Retford, Saturday.—The value of good milch beasts kept well up to the mark, making £16 12s to £20, but very few were shown and business was on a small scale. Two-year-old steers and heifers were quoted at £8 to £11 10s; yearlings £6 to £9, and calves 40 per head. Best quality cows and heifers with calves, £18 to £20 10s; secondary, £16 to £17 15s; in-calf cows and heifers, £17 to £18 15s; fresh barreners, £12 15s to £16 5s; stirks, £7 10s to £8 15s; steers, £10 to £11 5s; ewes, 37s 6d to 45s; wethers, 42s 6d to 50s; wether lambs, 36s 6d to 37s 6d; ewe lambs, 30s to 35s.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade fair. Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade better at 5s to 5s 4d per stone. Short supply of sheep, trade better. Best, 5s 4d to 6s; middlings, 5s to 5s 2d; ewes, 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Slow demand for store beasts. Good supply of pigs, trade improved.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 7¾d to 8¼d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6¾d to 7d per lb; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; bacon pigs, 9s 3d to 10s per score. Numbers offered as follows:—452 cattle, sheep and lambs 3,418, calves 79, pigs 510.

Thame, Tuesday. A large attendance, trade rolling brisk for all descriptions of stock, veal and bacon selling especially well. Store stock meeting a good demand. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 104 fat beasts, 260 fat and other sheep, 150 fat an dowening calves, and 106 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £17 5s to £21 2s 6d; fat heifers, £15 to £18 10s; fat wethers, 48s to 60s; fat ewes, 40s to 54s 6d, fat lambs, 7s to 8s 6d; fat calves, £5 to £5 2s; weaning cow calves, 26s to 68s; bull calves, 10s to 54s; porkers, 26s to 48s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £5 10; store pigs, 12s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday. Business fairly brisk; attendance good. Fat bullocks, 59s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £15 each; rearing calves, 25s to 35s; ewes, 35s to 44s; wethers, 7d to 7¼d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7¼d; pigs, 8s 6d to 40s each. Mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcase, 4¼ to 5¼d. Number in cattle market—371 bullocks, 75 calves, 561 sheep, 151 pigs, 26 horses, 37 live fowls and ducks.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Fair supply all round; slow trade. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Small show of beef and mutton, with trade fairly brisk, especially for mutton. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 7s per stone; Southdown wether and cross-bred shearlings, 7½d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Tuesday.—Fair supplies of Canadian and American cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 705 head being penned in the fairages, as compared with 888 on the corresponding day of last week. With the exception of 62, they were all from Montreal, and all were delivered in fair shape and condition. Bullocks were, as usual, plentiful, but trade, following upon the holiday, was very slow, and the demand even for top qualities was moderate, while rough and heavy beasts met with a very quiet inquiry, values all round being a shade easier than those ruling last week. Bulls were scarce, and made about late rates for prime animals. Bullocks of useful description were cashed from 55s to 56s per cwt. dead weight, while secondary, middling, and inferior qualities realised from 52s to 54s per cwt., and bulls made from 46s to 48s per cwt.

BUTTER

Thursday.—Birmingham 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Northtawton: 11d. Penistone: 1s 2d. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per 24oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Friday. Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 2d. to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Exeter: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Helmsley: 10d to 11d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 1s to 1s 1d. Lostwithiel: 1s. Macclesfield: 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 7d. to 1s 9d. per 24 ounce roll. Redruth: 1s 2d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. St. Austell: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 10d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2½d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

Thursday.—Birmingham: 8 and 9. Brigg: 12 and 13. Devizes: 10. Driffield: 12 and 13. Evesham: 11d to 11½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 10. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen. Northtawton: 12. Penistone: 9 and 10. Plymouth: 10. Ripon. 10. Scarborough: 10. Wellington (Salop): 10 to 11. Wetherby: 9 and 10.

Friday.—Altrincham: 8 and 9. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s–2d per dozen. Barnstaple: 10 to 12. Camelford: 11. Chester: 9. Crewe: 9. Congleton: 10. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per dozen. Derby: 9 and 10. Exeter: 10. Helmsley: 12 and 13. Knutsford: 9. Leyburn: 10 and 11. Lincoln: 12 and 13. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 9 and 10. Nantwich: 10. Northwich: 9 and 10. Otley: 9 and 10. Redruth: 1s 6d per dozen. Runcorn: 8 and 9. St. Austell: 12. Stamford: 7 to 9. Stockport: 8. Tavistock: 10. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 9 and 10. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 8 and 9. Doncaster: 10 and 11. Grantham: 12 and 13. Howden: 11 and 12. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 7 to 9. Malton: 12. Pontefract: 10. Retford: 1s 8d to 1s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 8 and 9. Shrewsbury: 11 and 12. Skipton: 9 and 10. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 9 and 10. Worcester: 9. York: 10.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. Moderate arrivals. Retailers are not disposed to lay in stock as prices are not at a level to induce them to do so. The quality is giving satisfaction, but what is desired is a cheap cheese. These are hard to get, holders being firm owing to the dearness of Canadians. Cheddars, 56s to 61s per cwt.; Dunlops, 52s to 58s.

Newport, Wednesday. —A good supply and business was brisk. Quotations: Caerphillies, 44s to 50s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 51s to 54s; truckles, 52s to 58s; Cheddars, 56s to 58s.

POTATOES.

Southwark Waterside, Saturday. — During the past week the arrivals have been limited, for which the demand has been steady, with prices higher for best samples. The following are this day's quotations:—Essex, Kent, and Surrey Up-to-dates, 50s to 65s; ditto Pioneers, 50s to 60s; ditto Brutish Queens, 50s to 55s; Lincoln Evergoods, 50s to 60s; ditto Up-to-dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 45s to 50s; ditto British Queens, 40s to 50s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Plenty of potatoes, but trade was slow owing to the scarcity of buyers. In the retail market potatoes are selling at 4d to 6d per stone.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. [illegible] with [illegible] 2s 3d [illegible] at 4s to 5s 4d [illegible] 5s 6d to 5s 9d [illegible] made 3s [illegible] 5s 1s 9d to 5s 1s 6d [illegible] 5s 1s 6d. Oilcake [illegible] Hull made at 2s 6d per ton decline, but foreign are unaltered. Cotton cake [illegible] demand. RUDDICK, MARTIN AND CO.

London, Thursday. [illegible] owing to a rather [illegible] were [illegible] some Oil [illegible] Sept-Oct 2s 6d, April 2s 3d [illegible] better demand. Oil [illegible] passage 2s 6d, September-October 2s. Dec. [illegible] and Jan.-Feb. 2s 3d. Rapeseed [illegible] quotations. Brown Cawnpore, Sept.-Oct., 35s 4½d; Brown Calcutta, Sept-Oct., 35s 3d. Cottonseed [illegible] been quiet, but closes with rather more [illegible] September, £5 12s 6d. Oct., £5 10s 9d. Feb.-Mar. £5 15s 9d. Nov.-Jan., £5 13s 9d. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm. London made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 12s 6d. THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO. LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed cakes [illegible] general complaint from all districts of absence of demand, probably caused by the continued open weather, and also for the reason of the [illegible] with limited foreign supplies and small home produce values are in no way affected, but, on the contrary, a slight advance is asked in some [illegible] main scarce, and command last week's full prices. American and East Indian seed [illegible] are unchanged. London made are in moderate request, and also unaltered. Cotton cakes: Egyptian are fairly plentiful, and with only a poor inquiry values rule quiet, while for November-April shipment there are sellers at rather less money. English meet a slow sale, and are slightly cheaper. Decorticated: London made is relatively cheap [illegible] cake meal and £5 5s for special digestive meal, with American "Open Hand" brand offering at £7 and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes dull; East India and Ravison unchanged. Maize germ meal; White American for winter despatch has changed hands with [illegible] English is, if anything, the turn dearer. Maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: Rangoon shippers have retired from the market, but some secondhand parcels may still be bought at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d ex ship terms. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is particularly good value at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are firmly held at £5 5s per ton for whole and £5 10s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is unaltered at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
in mats.....	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 5 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
,, for shipment.....	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
English	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	7 5 0	
,, ,, ,, Meal.....	7 5 0	
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	7 0 0	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 15 0	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 10 0	to 5 12 6
American, Dec. Jan. ..... (c.i.f.)	5 5 0	
Maize Gluten Meal..... June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive		
Broken Rangoon	4 14	3 to 4 17 6
Rice	4 15	0
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled.....	5 10 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday. Business fairly [illegible] healthy and bright samples of all kinds. Values of [illegible] Est and Mid-Kent hops up to 70s per cwt.; [illegible] difficult to sell.

Worcester, Saturday.—Our market was well supplied with samples, as, with a few exceptions, growers have finished picking. Choice lots are found to be relatively scarce, and may be called dearer. Medium samples [illegible] late rates, and more attention was paid to sound, well-cured samples which have lost their colour. These offer excellent value on account of their good brewing properties. Four thousand and eighty three [illegible] weighed this week.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply. [illegible] Quotations: Old hay, £5 17s 6d to £6 10s per load; new hay, £3 to £5 7s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 6d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 85s; best hay, 85s to 90s; other hay, 75s to 80s; [illegible] wheat straw, 35s to 70s; pressed [illegible] straw, 50s to 60s; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s.

Manchester, Friday. [illegible] 6d; straw, wheat, [illegible] stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday. — [illegible] were [illegible] leed, and a quiet demand [illegible] prices. Straw [illegible] 75s to 80s; [illegible] 75s; good [illegible] 70s to 75s per load. Clover and meadow [illegible] mixture and sainfoin, 70s to 75s per load; straw, 27s to 30s per load.

The Dairy Show.

So great is the interest taken in this year's Dairy Show that several hundreds of pounds' worth of admission tickets have been disposed of long before it opens to the public to-morrow (Tuesday) morning. This agreeable announcement Lord Northbourne and his colleagues on the Committee were enabled to make at a preliminary gathering held at the Agricultural Hall on Monday. Various causes have combined to bring about this happy result, which augurs well for the attendance at the thirtieth annual exhibition of the kind which has been held at Islington. The importance of a good and pure milk supply for the millions of the Metropolis, and, indeed, for the whole country, is a matter that has arrested public attention of late. This is one of the aims which the British Dairy Farmers' Association keep steadily in view, and the show does more than a little to promote so desirable an object. A walk round the Agricultural Hall gives evidence of this at every turn, for the improvements manifest in the vast assemblage of appliances and machinery all tend to greater cleanliness and efficiency in all departments of dairy farming and dairying. Then, with regard to the cattle themselves, the system of judging by results rather than by appearance, makes it imperative upon the judges to award some of the principal prizes to animals yielding the largest quantity of milk of the highest quality; consideration being, of course, given to the time that has elapsed since calving, according to a recognised scale of points. This system, of which many owners of cattle fought shy when it was introduced, has now become so popular that it is extended from cows to heifers, while the standard to be kept in mind has been adjusted in such a way as to render it unlikely that many of the prizes will be withheld—and only in the case of cows proved to be deficient in merit from the point of view of milk-production. Again, the bulls shown are all the produce of cows that have won prizes or certificates of merit in a milking trial or butter test.

The total prizes offered amount to upwards of £2,500 (two thousand five hundred pounds), of which the cattle are allocated £542, besides a number of valuable extra premiums, including two cups offered by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London, a £50 challenge cup provided by Mr. Titus Barham, another of the value of fifty guineas given by Mr. J. F. Spencer, £10 donation by the Shorthorn Society, the Blythwood Challenge Bowl offered by Sir James Blyth, and 18 gs. assigned for competition by tenant farmers only. In this connection, the society's definition of what is meant by "a bona fide tenant farmer" is interesting, viz.—"One whose principal occupation is farming, and whose income is mainly derived from the land which he rents." Thus, regular dealers in cattle and wealthy gentlemen occupying farms for pelasure rather than profit, are excluded from winning these particular prizes.

Although the show has been organised on a basis that has resulted in a record entry of 7,677 exhibits in no fewer than 504 classes. In some of the latter the competition is so keen that they have been sub-divided and the prizes trebled. The highest entry in any previous year was 7,332. Ten years ago the exhibition was considered a large one, with 6,060 entries. The limits of the available space seem now to have been reached.

Goat lovers will be pleased with the conspicuous position given to their favourites. Several are beautiful creatures that will assuredly come in for a large share of admiration. The breeds include Anglo-Nubian, Anglo-Chitral, Alpine, Toggenburg, Saanen, and a few crossbred ones, but the visitor will look in vain for the old-fashioned British goat.

In the produce department a great improvement is noticeable. This section, very much larger than it has ever been, is as far as practicable accommodated in the Minor Hall, where there is the most representative collection of British and Colonial butter that has ever been brought together, totalling 641 entries, or nearly 100 more than in any previous year. Part of this increase is due to the greater number of Colonial butter factories and creameries (notably in New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, and South Australia) that have contributed special consignments. In other classes, many lots of butter come from Irish creameries, in rolls, in boxes, and in pyramids. In order to test the keeping quality of the "cured" butter—nearly all from Ireland—it was required to be delivered a fortnight before the show. The same building contains an attractive collection of cream, honey, bacon, hams, milk-bread, and ornamenal butter.

The cheesemakers of England and Scotland have sent more freely than last year. All the principal varieties of cheese seem to be well represented, with the exception of Leicester, of which only a small quantity is consumed in London. Yet Stilton cheese, mostly from the same locality, fills the classes more than we remember seeing for many years, a circumstance probably due to the fact that one of the champion prizes offered by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London is to be given to that variety. Roots for cattle feeding include many remarkable examples of fine results achieved by agricultural skill.

A special feature of the show, and one that is bound to prove of extensive interest, consists in the trials of refrigerating machinery in competition for the Gold Medal. The exhibits in this class are in King Edward's Hall, and are to be seen in operation. Each machine will be required to cool 100 gallons of milk in the morning, and 100 gallons in the afternoon, from 80 to 45 degrees, at the rate of not less than 100 gallons per hour, the machine to work not less than six hours a day. The use of ice is excluded. The prices of the competing plant vary from £134 to £195. The machinery section of the show comprises a fair number of new or improved inventions, such as a sterilising machine, a homogenising machine for breaking up fat globules so that cream remains suspended in milk, a capillary heater and cooler combined, one or two "speedy" churns, and various appliances for which the makers claim special merit.

The galleries are in the main devoted to about 5,500 head of live poultry and pigeons, a display of "table poultry," in which the birds are sent killed, plucked, and trussed; and a large number of incubators, hatching chickens day by day, chicken rearers, poultry houses, pigeon aviaries, and other exhibits connected with the poultry-yard.

Other popular attractions include demonstrations of up-to-date methods of trussing, boning, and shaping table poultry for market; the band of the Scots Guards; and the butter-making contests by dairymaids, who are up from all parts of the country more numerously than ever. They will be busily engaged in large batches each morning, afternoon, and evening of the show—i.e., from Tuesday morning till Friday evening, there being as many as 206 entries, necessitating more than that number of churnings.

The classes for milkers are likewise the largest since they were instituted. It is especially interesting to note the keen competition amongst the women milkers, twenty-four of whom are coming from Scotland, Wales, and various English counties to try their skill at 7 o'clock in the morning of Friday next. Exactly the same number of men have entered in a separate milking contest at the same hour, while in the afternoon eighteen boys and girls intend to compete.

The list of exhibitors includes the names of the Duke of Devonshire, Duchess of Abercorn, Duchess of Newcastle, Earl Cadogan, Earl of Radnor, Lord Burnham, Lord Chesham, Lord Deerhurst, Lord Hindlip, Lord Portman, Lord Rothschild, Lord Wenlock, Lord Windsor, Lord de Ramsey, Countess of Craven, Countess de la Warr, Countess of Home, Lady Henry Bentinck, Lady Wantage, Lady Greenall, Lady de Rothschild, Lady Smyth, Lady Evelyn Cotterell, Baroness Burdett Coutts, Sir George J. Armytage, Sir Walter Corbet, Sir H. G. Hainey, Sir Charles Sceley, Sir Mark J. Stewart, Sir J. T. Hibbert, Col. Sir J. W. Ottley, Admiral Hon. T. S. Brand, Hon. A. Holland Hibbert, Hon. Mrs. Murray Smith, Hon. Sybil and Florence Amherst, Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P. (President of the Board of Argiculture), Hon. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., the Bishop of Ipswich, and about two thousand others. All these have sent of their best, and it will be worth while going to Islington to see the many sights.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DAIRY SHOW ENTRIES.

	1905	1904	1903	1902
Cattle	182	164	203	224
Milking and Butter Tests ...	217	167	186	214
Goats	51	46	39	49
Poultry	3,068	2 678	2,860	2,617
Pigeons	2,440	2,426	2,485	2,590
B itish Cheese	268	250	269	286
Bacon and Hams	49	46	79	59
Butter	641	556	555	571
Cream	52	44	59	57
Skim-Milk Bread, &c.	121	140	83	93
Honey, &c.	124	122	125	131
Egg and Butter Packages ...	—	20	17	—
New and Improved Inventions ...	22	43	24	20
Vehicles for Conveying Milk ...	—	25	27	19
Roots	170	184	144	190
Butter-Making Con'es's	206	172	150	1 2
Milkers' Contests	62	55	38	46
	7,673	7,138	7,332	7,239

Preston Cheese Fair.

There was an excellent display of Lancashire cheese at the September fair at Preston on Tuesday, the pitch consisting of 97 lots and 1,529 cheeses, an increase compared with the corresponding fair of last year of 43 lots and 595 cheeses. This large pitch was due to the unusually large prices realised at the August fair, but trade was dull and dragging, and prices showed a downward tendency, none but the finest cheese commanding the values of last fair. Cheese of medium quality ranged from 55s. to 57s. 6d., and best 59s. to 62s. 6d., while one or two exceptionally choice dairies realised 65s.

Dumfries Horse Fair was held last week in excellent weather, and the harvest being finished there was a larger show of horses than there has been for several years. The trade, however, was exceedingly quiet, there only being a demand for the best class of animals fit for city work. The dealers declared that the trade was the worst experienced for twenty years. The largest lots were in the hands of Mr. W. Johnstone, and Mr. R. Maxwell, Maryholm, who sold at prices ranging from £28 to £70.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

THE HOME FARM, BILLINGTON. Three miles from Leighton, three from Cheddington, and four from Dunstable Stations.

ANNUAL DISPERSAL SALE.

MESSRS. CUMBERLAND & HOPKINS have received instructions from Mr. Clement Keevil

TO SELL BY AUCTION,

On THURSDAY, the 12th of OCTOBER, 1905, at 11 o'clock, Several Weighty SHIRE FILLY FOALS (Prize Winners), MARES and FILLIES, also some HIGH-CLASS YOUNG HACKNEYS with grand action by the King's London 1st Prize Stallion, Field Marshall (9886); also by Prospector (65 6), and Generosity (5631); dams of Lord Derby (116); Confederate (158); and Danegelt (174) blood.

About 100 HEAD OF CATTLE, viz., Fat Herefords and Shorthorn Oxen, and some Down calving, forward In-calf and Barren Heifers.

200 Down, Suffolk, and Cross-bred SHEEP and LAMBS, and some Fat Sheep and Lambs; about 20 PIGS, viz., 9 In-pigs and 11 Down pigging Sows, Middle White Boar, and 60 Porkers; 120 HEAD of POULTRY, principally pure breed.

N.B.—A Foal purchased at this dispersal Sale by a local Lad at Tring, 1905, won yearling Champion at Dunstable Show, 1905.

Luncheon at 11 o'clock. Tickets, 2s. each, to be returned to purchasers of £2 and upwards.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, Leighton Buzzard, or of Mr. Clement Keevil, as above.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

SCOTTISH KENNEL CLUB'S 27TH SHOW OF SPORTING AND OTHER DOGS,

IN THE

WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 25TH, 26TH, AND 27TH, 1905.

The Great Northern Railway Company will convey exhibits for the above Show from Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Doncaster, Worksop, Retford, Newark, Burton, Derby, Ilkeston, Nottingham, Grantham, Grimsby, Gainsborough, Lincoln, Horncastle, Louth, Alford, Sleaford, Boston, Spalding, Yarmouth, Cromer, Norwich, Sutton Bridge, Wisbech, Peterborough, Huntingdon, Sandy, Cambridge, Hitchin, Dunstable, Luton, Hertford, St. Albans, and other towns on and in connection with their system.

Through vans will be run wherever necessary for the conveyance of exhibits.

Rates for the conveyance of traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent, and they will be found in no case to exceed the rates in force by any other route.

Special arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits at the close of the Show.

A representative will be in attendance to give all information as to train service, carriage facilities, &c.

To ensure prompt attention, exhibitors should be careful to mark the address labels "per Great Northern Railway."

OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

The Directors of this Company are prepared to receive TENDERS for the SUPPLY of:—

6,500 Quarters of Oats.
1,200 ,, ,, Beans.
3,000 ,, ,, Maize.
800 Tons of Hay—Upland Meadow.
700 ,, ,, Hay—Broad leaf Clover and Rye Grass.
150 ,, ,, Oat Straw.
450 ,, ,, Wheat Straw.
100 ,, ,, Packing Straw—Oat, Wheat or Barley.
200 ,, ,, Bran.

Forms of Tender (upon which alone Tenders will be received) may be obtained on application to the undersigned, by whom Tenders, marked outside "Tender for Provender," will be received on or before TUESDAY, the 10th OCTOBER.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

G. K. MILLS, Secretary.
Paddington Station, London,
28th September, 1905.

TRAVELLER (energetic, sober, honest) Wanted, 30 to 45, to solicit orders from farmers. Preference given to a farmer or farm bailiff. Farming knowledge essential. Constant employment and good payment to man who can work up business. Address, A. B., MARK LANE EXPRESS.

SEED WHEAT, Essex Conqueror, from King & Sons, 1904, stiff straw, heavy cropper, 38s. per qr. on rail, Thurlby, G.N. Sacks. Cash with order.—B. NICHOLSON, Burton, Market Deeping.

WOOL A. & J. MACNAUGHTON Manufactrs., PITLOCHRY, EXCHANGE or MANUFACTURE WOOL into TWEEDS, COSTUME TWEEDS, BLANKETS, RUGS, PLAIDS, &c., with the most Modern Machinery, at Reasonable Charges. We pay Carriage of Wool. Patterns Free. We have always a large Stock of our Famed Tweeds and other goods for Sale. Patterns on Application. LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer, and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

AGENTS Wanted by an old-established firm for the sale of their Linseed, Cotton Feeding Cakes, Manures and Seeds. For further particulars apply to JOSEPH ASHWORTH & SONS, Ltd., Oil Cake Mills, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge.

WANTED, a share in working Poultry Farm, with a view to partnership.—VARDON, Langton Vicarage, Tunbridge Wells.

Live Stock Record.

STOCK-KEEPING WITHOUT SYSTEM.

Impossible would it be to draw any satisfactory causes for the strange anomalies in the county agricultural statistics, the main particulars of the losses and gains of which we gave last week. Side by side we have large districts seemingly similarly circumstanced, and engaged in the like enterprises, yet how different are their returns, some of the counties having the greatest reputation for sheep-breeding decreasing their flocks, while others are increasing them very much. In respect to cattle, the surprises were not so great, but even in regard to these there are strange, unexpected anomalies, about which the only safe deduction to draw from the returns appears to be that the agriculturists belonging to the herds must be actuated by very different systems and principles of management.

The fact appears to be that an increased number of farmers do not regard systems or the best reputed principles of action very much, but rather proceed on a "hand-to-mouth policy." If the farmer before winter finds a shortage of winter food he sells the breeding stock he should have made every effort to keep on, or if he is not a breeder, refrains from buying, and in either case it may be difficult to replace other animals in spring, so as to bring up the number to the normal stockage before the statistics are taken. While a great many act thus, others act on system, and by wise, provident storages of hay, silage of straw fodder beforehand, manage to prevent their herds and flocks diminishing beyond a given standard in the worst seasons of food scarcity. If there is a shortage of roots they are eked out by being pulped, the pulp being intermixed with straw chaff, the ration being brought up to the required nutritive quality by the addition of oil cake, corn, or some other auxiliary feeding stuff.

This system has been more usually adopted in past times by provident flock-owners and cattle-breeders; but there are some other ways of preparing for emergencies, such as being studiously particular to avoid all waste of food, and to make as large storage of it as possible that the later may be reserves for the scarcity periods. This is done to a large extent so far as keeping old hay ricks goes; but how few make silage when grass or green crops are plentiful, or grow catch-crops for the special purpose of converting them to silage. The arable land is often allowed to remain fallow for months when it should be growing green crops to serve the object. The late Mr. C. S. Read was strong in his advocacy of the good policy of utilising such waste products as coarse grass under trees, the trimmings of banks, ditches, lakes, and walks in woods and plantations, all of which are available for silage, although of comparatively poor quality.

There are many who consider every bit of sweet straw wasted when employed for littering purposes, because it is so much more valuable as a food substance for stock, and if carefully preserved to serve that object, would be likely to prove invaluable at some future time. But the majority of farmers pay no heed to such things, and no doubt this is the chief cause why the numbers of their live stock vary so very much from one year to another.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

At the final meeting of the Executive Committee entrusted with the local arrangements for this year's show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, at Hull, the City Treasurer (Mr. Milner), who acted as treasurer for the fund, said the total receipts had amounted to £1,977, whereas the expenses were only £40, and £100 was paid in local prizes, so that there was the handsome balance of £1,837 to hand over to the Society.

Mr. R. M. Knowles, of Colstor Bassett Hall, Notts, has been awarded a diploma by the International Jury of Awards for the Universal Exposition of St. Louis, U.S.A., as the breeder of Colstor Eclipse 1st (4722), who has taken the first prize for the best Large White Yorkshire boar, 18 and under 24 months old, the champion prize for the best boar one year old and over, and a grand champion prize for the best pig of any age. This pig was sold in Canada at a very high figure on leaving the Colstor Bassett herd, and is out of the celebrated champion sow Colstor Lass (11216), and is a combination of the Colstor and Borrowfield blood.

In the course of a speech at a recent show luncheon, Mr. H. S. Leon, of Bletchley Park, made an interesting suggestion. He said that he had sold a bull for 220 guineas to go to Germany, where nineteen farmers had joined together for the purchase of the animal. He had also sold another bull for 175 guineas, and that had gone to Germany, where thirteen farmers had subscribed the money amongst them. Now he thought that as British farmers individually could not afford to pay £150 to £200 for a bull, and had to put up with one costing about £15, £25, or £30, they ought to carry the co-operation principle into this question. They could purchase a good bull, like the Germans did, and thereby enter another branch of agricultural industry.

I learn that Mr. W. R. Trotter, of North Acomb, Stocksfield, has had the misfortune to lose, through death, his celebrated Clydesdale stallion Crusader. The deceased animal was bred by Lords Arthur and Lionel Cecil, at their farm near Tonbridge, in Kent, and was foaled in 1889, so was in his 17th year; his sire was the Royal 1st prize horse Claymore, and his dam the wonderful mare Edith Plantagenet, also a Royal winner, and sold as a yearling at Mr. J. M. Martin's sale at Auchendennan in April, 1884, for 300 gs., to Lords Cecil. Crusader passed into the hands of Mr. Peter Crawford, and at his sale in 1895 he was sold to Mr. A. Grandage, of the Bramhope Stud, for 400 guineas. He was travelled in Yorkshire one season, and left a lot of splendid stock. From Mr. Grandage he passed into Mr. Trotter's hands at £500, and was travelled by him in Tyneside for seven years, and during five seasons of that period he had the £100 premium of the Tyneside Agricultural Society. It would be difficult to calculate the amount of money the produce of Crusader has realised on Tyneside. Nine foals by him were sold at one of Mr. Trotter's sales at an average of £36 8s. each, and geldings have been sold for very high prices. Mr. Sparkes, of Oldfield, Altringham, paid £145 for his celebrated Oldfield Duke, the winner at the Royal last year, and it is probable that never before or since has a Tyneside-bred gelding realised such a price.

The whole of Sir John Milbanke's pure-bred old-established Southdown Hill flock (Registered No. 236 in Flock Book), consisting of about 1,000 head of ewes and ewe lambs, in flock ages, will be sold by Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester, at Eartham estate, near Chichester, on Thursday next, owing to the estate having been sold. The Eartham flock is one of the old standard Hill flocks of the Southdown breed, having for more than half a century past continuously received the greatest care and judgment in its breeding, selection, and drafting. With true Southdown type and character, and the finest quality of both mutton and wool, these ewes possess exceptional size, strength, and constitution, and the lengthy growing mutton-making lambs from this flock have for many years been one of the features of the Southdown lamb sales in Chichester market.

On the day previous to the above sale the same auctioneers will dispose of another well-known Southdown flock, namely, that belonging to Mr. F. Elmer-Speed, at the Home Farm, Knowlton Court estate, Dover. The remainder of the farm stock will also be brought under the hammer. The catalogue includes the herd of twenty-four pedigree Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the small but choice herd of seven pedigree Sussex cattle, fourteen blue-grey steers and heifers, rising two years old, seven pur-bred polled Angus steers and heifers, four pure-bred Galloway heifers, ten active cart horses, 120 Yorkshire and Berkshire pigs, etc.

Within the next fortnight Mr. J. Thornton and Co. will conduct two important sales of Berkshire pigs, viz., on Friday next, the 6th inst., they will bring under the hammer close on one hundred of Mr. Nathaniel Bengafields' well-known pigs, at Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset, and on the following Thursday (October 12), will sell about eighty from the Duchess of Devonshire's herd, at Green Street, Eastbourne. As is well known, both herds are of the highest quality, and have supplied numerous prize-winners at our various shows, so that these sales afford an opportunity for obtaining some first-class stock, and breeders are not likely to let the chance slip by.

The Ayrshire Agricultural Association have issued the prize schedule for their annual dairy and farm produce show at Kilmarnock, which will take place on the 19th and 20th inst. The classification and prize-money are on the same liberal scale as formerly, but there are one or two important alterations in the cheese classification, which is the principal department of the show. The committee have this year restricted class 3, which is for two flat cheese, to dairies where flat-cheese are made exclusively throughout the season; and they have made class 7, known as the small dairy class, open to all dairies not exceeding twenty-five cows. Formerly that class was limited to Ayrshire. The committee have also provided a new class for one-half ton of flat cheese, competition restricted to dairies where flat cheese are made exclusively throughout the season. For some years there has been a growing feeling that flat cheese did not receive the attention which their merits entitled them to, and the committee in giving the additional class trust that it will get good support. Entries close on Friday next, October 6, with the Secretary, Mr. J. Howie, 58, Alloway Street, Ayr, N.B.

In consequence of the estate having been sold, the herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. C. H. Jolliffe, Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon, is to be sold by auction on Friday, October 20, at Goldicote, by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. The herd is a large and remarkably well-bred one, and the quality of the animals can be judged when it is mentioned that at the Birmingham Spring show and sale, five of Mr. Jolliffe's bulls were sold at an average of over £230 per head.

I learn that a specially selected Large White boar and two sows have recently been shipped to one of the principal bacon factories in Denmark, by Messrs. Sanders Spencer and

Son, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts, whose old-established herd has supplied large numbers of Large Yorkshires to the members of the various Danish co-operative bacon factories during the last twenty years.

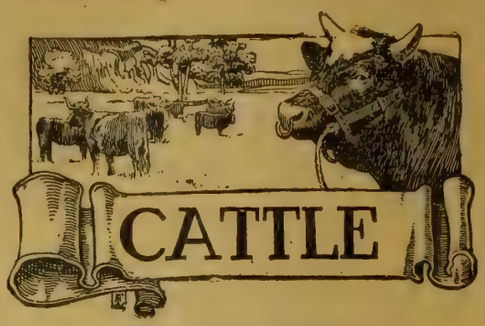
An interesting suggestion for encouraging the demand for Suffolk sheep in Canada has been made by the editor of the *Farmers' Advocate*, a Canadian agricultural journal. He suggests that the Suffolk Sheep Society purchase trios of the breed, each trio to consist of a ram and two ewes, and that such be donated to three or four of the agricultural al'eges in America, with a proviso that the blood is to be used in crossng and grading up the type of range sheep, generally of Merino extraction, at the experimental station of the Agricultural College, Madison, Wis., U.S.A., with which instituton it has been connected for two years. The Shropshires and Oxfords were being largely used for this purpose, and the resulting grades and crosses were shown at the experimental show, Chicago, and won a big share of the prizes for grade wethers, and were hardly distinguishable—that is, the second and third crosses, from the pure-breds.

"I think," he adds, "if the Suffolk Sheep Society could see their way to donate a few cheep in this manner that the effects would be far-reaching. In addition to the Wisconsin College, I would suggest the Agricultural College of North Dakota, at Fargo, North Dakota, U.S.A., of which Professor J. T. Sheppherd is director, and the Manitoba Agricultural College, of which Professor W. J. Black is principal. The Madison College would bring the Suffolk grades to the attention of the public at the Fat Stock Show, while the other two Colleges mentioned would be able to show the students, who are recruited largely from range districts in the West, where sheep are largely Merino grades, and whose owners are now looking for a good type of mutton sheep to grade them up for the market. Amongst other things in favour of the Suffolk is the bareness of wool on the face, this being the defect of the Shropshire in a country where alternate freezing and thawing of the snow causes ice to gather round the eyes." The matter has been under the consideration of the Council of the Society, but so far as I am aware no decision has been arrived at.

On Friday next, the 6th inst., Messrs. Cobb will sell in the Fair Meadow, Frindsbury, near Rochester, 68 pure-bred Kent rams and ram tegs, from the well-known registered flocks of Messrs. F. Baker and C. J. G. Hulkes, also 7 pure-bred Hampshire Down rams and ram lambs ,and about 3,318 Kent, Hampshire, and half-bred sheep and lambs from various flocks. The sale will commence at 11 o'clock.

Chesterfield September Fair, held on Monday, was well supplied with cattle and sheep, and trade generally was brisk at upward rates. Best milch cattle made up to £22, in-calf cows £14 to £20, in-calf heifers £12 to £18, fat cattle £16 to £20, and half-meated sorts £12 to £14 each. Nearly every pen of sheep was sold, Oxford rams making £4 to £6 6s., ewes 42s. to 54s., Lincoln ewes 44s. to 48s., Cheviots 28s. to 30s., lambs (best lots) 34s. to 36s., and inferior 24s. to 30s. per head. A few good Shire horses found a ready sale at £28 to £40.

Guernsey and Alien Landowners.—A White Paper issued last week shows that the King and the Privy Council have considered a Bill adopted by the Court of Chief Pleas in Guernsey by which it is sought to check the extensive acquisition of estate lands and houses in the island. The island is less than 40 square miles in extent, and it was stated that "the peculiar geographical position and limited area of the island make it imperative that special precautions should be taken with regard to the settlements in the island of foreigners who are not subjects of your Majesty." The King has accordingly approved the new law by which no alien or alien body can hold directly or indirectly land or buildings in the island for more than a year without first making declarations to the authorities as to family, profession and bona fides, and, in the case of a society, its title and objects. It will rest with the authorities as to whether continued possession or occupation of the property shall be permitted.



Notes and Jottings.

The fat stock markets continue on the whole dull, though very variable. It is rather singular that the Metropolitan (Islington) quotations should be exactly the same on Monday last as upon the corresponding Monday last year, namely, 4s. 8d. per 8 lb. sinking the offal. This quotation, however, refers only to choice Devons and Herefords, which at this particular season are invariably much more in demand, and at very much higher prices than the ordinary run of steers. In many of the provincial markets, too, just at this season a few extra fine animals often sell as well as at Christmas, or even in the spring months. At Michaelmas there are many annual pleasure fairs and other sorts of feasts going on when a few extra choice animals are required and make extra prices, contrasting strongly with the prices obtained for common animals, which are always too plentiful at this season.

At the Deptford Market the supplies of States and Canadian cattle appear to be upon a fairly liberal scale, and the prices cannot, or ought not, to be complained of, States cattle reaching to 4s. per 8 lb., and Canadians 3s. 10d. There are a great number of choice cattle amongst these, and the States-fed steers are great favourites with both butcher and consumer. The great improvement that has taken place in the breeding of the American and Canadian stock has much to do with the better quality there is no doubt, but so far as the butcher is concerned the thorough ripening that the cattle get upon the rations of cheap corn that can be bestowed upon them has also a great effect; this not only gives weight, but increases the offals very much in value, the quality of internal fat being much beyond the average.

The supplies at these markets are worthy of notice. At Islington on Monday, 25th inst., the supply consisted of 1,360 head of cattle, whilst at Deptford on the same day the number stood at 1,463, the foreign supply being 100 in excess of the British on the same day, and on the previous Saturday at Deptford 1,540 cattle were offered. The quantity of foreign meat, live and dead, that finds its way to our market now is altogether incredible, and though a great deal of it is of very high class, the best British-fed is much more relished by those who are connoisseurs, and these especially in country places invariably patronise the butcher who obtains his animals direct from the feeder, where they are quietly driven to the slaughterhouse, in many cases without the bruising and many other objectionable things that happen to stock that has been marketed two or three times.

Referring to the American cattle and their good corn finishing, an article in the *Breeders' Gazette* says "that a load of finished steers that went over the scales at the Chicago Market three weeks ago at 6 dollars 50 cents per cwt. did not pay the feeder more than 20 cents a bushel for his corn." The same article continues:—"It requires a feeding period long enough to overtax the staying powers of all but a few to make the beef that fetches these top prices," and "that the higher level corn market of this year will doubtless make the number of such cattle fewer than ever," and maintenance of present prices for the next three months is a reasonable prediction in that country. The majority of the best beef steers on the American markets appear to be graded up Herefords, Angus, and Shorthorns; in some instances purely-bred steers of those breeds.

The past fortnight has been a very busy one amongst Angus cattle, and the various sales appear to have made fair averages, though one would think scarcely good enough to satisfy the breeders who have, at great expense, time, and trouble, brought that breed to such a high state of perfection. A noticeable feature in the reports of most of these sales was the absence of foreign buyers. This has a great effect generally upon the averages. When two or more foreign buyers fix upon some outstanding individual, the result is usually a price running close up to four figures, and one such sale in a herd of forty or fifty animals means a rise in the average of £20 per head, or over, so that as good a general trade may be experienced at a lower average where there is an absence of any sensational price.

Some of the averages, however, are reported as being very disappointing. That of Mr. Clement Stephenson's must have been one of these. The many fine, indeed magnificent, animals that have been so universally admired in the past at our great Christmas shows that emanated from this herd, and were as near perfection as it is possible to breed cattle, would, one would have thought, been a sufficient inducement to cause a crowd of purchasers, and to be the means of obtaining long prices, and, when to this is added the many valuable strains of blood the herd contained, it does seem what may be called hard lines for their general owner when the highest price was 71 gs., and the average of forty head came up to but £26 14s. 5d.

Pedigree is now making a great difference to our foreign patrons, especially in the western hemisphere. The demand for long pedigreed stock, and the utter exclusion of short pedigrees, is one that all breeders at home and abroad will do well to ponder over very deeply. In England

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
October			
3	Hackney Horses	Mr. W. Oppenheimer ...	Ewell, Surrey.
3	Live and Dead Farm Stock	Mr. H. W. Forster ..	Lepe Farm, Exbury Estate, nr. Hythe.
3	South Devon Cattle ...	Members of the South Devon Herd Book Society	Totnes.
3	Shires	Various	Moreton-in-Marsh.
3, 4, 5 & 6	Horses	Various	North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
4	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. J. Vickers	Churchfield Tunstall, Kirkby Lonsdale.
4	Live and Dead Farming Stock	Mr. F. Elmer-Speed ...	Knowlton Court Estate, Dover.
4	Shropshire Sheep	Various	Shrewsbury Smithfield.
4	Wensleydale Long-Wool Sheep	Members of the Wensleydale Sheep Breeders' Association	Leyburn.
4	Shire Horses	Various	Peterborough Repository.
5	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. T. Adamson and Mr. T. E. Clarke	Ainsworth Lodge, Radcliffe, Bolton.
5	Horses, Cattle, Sheep ..	Seaham Harbour Stud, Ltd.	Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham.
5	Southdown Sheep... ..	Sir J. Milbanke	Eartham Estate, Chichester.
5	Sussex Cattle and Shire Horses	Hon. R. P. Nevill ..	Birling Lodge Farm, Birling, Kent.
5	Lincoln Red Shorthorn Cattle	Various	Louth.
5, 6, 7	Shire Horses	Various	Derby Repository.
6	Berkshire Pigs	Mr. N. Benjafield	Motcombe, Shaftesbury.
6	Kent and other Sheep ...	Various	Frindsbury, nr. Rochester.
6	Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep and General Farming Stock	Mr. F. Neame	Ickham Court, nr. Canterbury.

of late years many of the leading animals at our Christmas shows have been of very short pedigree, and it is a notable fact with respect to milk even non-pedigree stock are proving superior to long pedigreed ones. It is quite probable that a reaction will take place on the other side of the water in a few years, when short pedigreed stock will return to favour. The majority of these short pedigreed animals are quite as purely bred, but the fact of not being tied to blood has enabled breeders of these in the first instance to use the best bull obtainable.

So much have some pedigree cattle been in demand of late at some of our Northern sales of bulls in the spring of the year that higher prices have been paid for these than for the long registered animals. In referring to this matter in the manner here followed, it must not be taken for a moment to mean that we do not advocate pedigree. By all means register the stock; they are then fit to go on with, but short pedigrees give the opportunity of using at the bottom some of the very best bulls that have ever been seen, and which, in the case of herds restricted to a more lengthy lineage, would perforce have to be foregone.

Since my last notes were written, particulars of the sales of two important herds of Shorthorns have taken place; that of Lord Rothschild, at Tring Park, and that of Mr. Roland Wood, at Thrapston. The former herd has been raised and bred almost entirely for milk production, and during the few years it has been in existence it has claimed quite a fair share of success in the milking trials at our various shows. The attendance, however, and average prices at the sale, were quite a little on the disappointing side, forty cows averaging £28 16s. 8d., and ten bulls £38 6s. 6d. At Mr. Wood's sale, where the dual-purpose has been kept much in view, the average of the cows was £2 per head higher, and the total average about the same, but from the latter herd sixteen bulls have been sold this year at the highly remunerative average of £82 18s. 6d. These, of course, did not come into the reckoning of the present sale averages.

If there is one of the many sales that have recently taken place more interesting and satisfactory than another it must be that of the sale of a large portion of the famous herd of West Highland cattle from Lord Southesk's splendid fold at Kinnaird Castle. It was a grand sale of these beautifully picturesque cattle and high-class beef producers. The highest price for a cow was £210, a three-year-old heifer £199, and a two-year-old also £210. Yearling heifers also went up to 100 gs., and calves to £36 15s. Altogether 78 head were sold, with the excellent average of £48 12s. 2d.; five ten-year-old bulls also brought 10 gs. There is no more beautiful sight in a field or park than these splendid cattle, either in the summer, when standing under the shade of fine timber trees, or, what they also love, in a stream of running water, switching their tails about, or, perhaps finer still, on in winter morning when the hoar frost is glistening all over their shaggy coats. And they pay, too.

Another interesting sale, though with less satisfactory results, was that of the very old established herd of Sussex cattle at Ashurst, which had been bred under different owners for 130 years without a break. In spite of a large attendance, very low prices prevailed, 19 gs. being the highest price of the day. Such low prices must have been very disappointing, but we do not know what the condition of the animals was. To go back a hundred and thirty years takes us to the days when the Sussex was a very different animal to what it is at the present day. It is on record that a Sussex steer once upon a time trotted six miles in the hour upon Lewes racecourse, and in the very early days of the breed they were amongst the very best cattle for draught purposes, as they are to-day even.

Sale of Mr. Handley's Cattle and Sheep.

Mr. John Handley's well known herd of pedigree Shorthorn cattle and flock of Wensleydale sheep were dispersed by auction at Brigflatts, near Sedburgh, on Wednesday, in the presence of buyers from all parts of the North of England. The pedigree Shorthorn cattle made from 6½ gs. to 28½ gs., obtained twice, whilst of the ordinary Shorthorn cattle heifer calves, varying in age from six to eleven months, made from 7 gs. to 8¾ gs., bull calves 6½ gs. to 7 gs., yearling heifers 8¾ gs. to 13 gs., September calvers £18 to £22 15s., October calvers £15 15s., November calvers £9 10s., December ditto £12 12s. 6d. to £21, March ditto £13 7s. 6d. to £14 15s., April calvers £13 10s. to £16 10s. The Wensleydale sheep were in great demand. Ewes fetched £2 10s. to £6, shearlings 3 gs. to 10 gs., tup lambs 2½ gs. to 5¼ gs., and gimmer lambs £1 10s. to 4¾ gs. Of the shearling rams Brigflatts Boy, by Blue Beard, was sold for 15 gs., and Scholbergh Hero and Young Peterkin, both by Peterkin, for 7 gs. each.

Sale of Captain Spicer's Jerseys.

The whole of Captain Spicer's herd of pure bred Jersey cattle, with the exception of three or four of the older cows retained for the dairy, was submitted to auction on September 22 by Messrs. Thornton and Co., at Spye Park, Chippenham. The animals had been kept for the dairy and not for exhibition purposes, but they included some nice animals of good quality that realised satisfactory prices. There were also about a dozen head included in the sale belonging to Miss Wyndham, at Wans, Chippenham, which had been bred principally from the Spye Park herd. A pair of choice two-year-old heifers, both bred in Jersey, were bought by Mrs. Spencer at 37 gs. and 35 gs.; whilst the Duchess of Somerset, the Duchess of Hamilton, Sir J. Wernher, Sir H. Pelly, and Lady Smyth were among the purchasers. The chief sales are appended:

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Bismarck's Eta, whole colour, c. June 20, 1901; s. Bismarck's Boy 6786 ..... Captain Clarke	22
Convent Lass, whole colour, c. July 20, 1901; s. Convent King 6822 ..... Duchess of Hamilton	22
Grace, whole colour, c. Dec. 29, 1901; s. Bismarck's Boy 6786 ..... Sir H. Pelly	15
Cutnow, whole colour, c. March 7, 1902; s. Bismarck's Boy 6786 ..... Sir J. Wernher	27
Elwell, whole colour, c. March 26, 1902; s. Bismarck's Boy 6786 ..... Sir H. Pelly	6
Motor Car, whole colour, c. March 27, 1902; s. Bismarck's Boy 6786 ..... Mr. J. Tremayne	27
Elands, whole colour, c. Nov. 19, 1902; s. Bismarck's Boy 6786 ..... Mr. E. Croysdale	16
Pops (Miss Wyndham's), whole colour, c. May 21, 1903; s. Ajax's Son ..... Rev. J. Newman	22
Seagull, whole colour, c. June 24, 1903; s. Champion Fox 7451 ..... Miss Jackson	24
Chestnut 4th, whole colour, c. August 7, 1903; s. Helena's Fox 7858 ..... Mrs. Spencer	37
Dorothea 2nd, whole colour, c. Oct. 3, 1903; s. Helena's Fox 7858 ..... Mrs. Spencer	35
Black Rose, whole colour, c. March 21, 1904; s. Black Butter 7731 ..... Captain Gisborne	22
Golden Butter, whole colour, c. March 31, 1904; s. Black Butter 7731 ..... Lady Smyth	26
Garantie's Lass, whole colour, c. April 3, 1904; s. Toreador 8028 ..... Captain Gisborne	26
Champion Lass, whole colour, c. April 10, 1904; s. Champion Fox 7451 ..... Mr. J. Tremayne	22
Acorn, whole colour, c. June 28, 1904; s. Duke 8160 ..... Mr. J. Tremayne	17½

BULLS.

Lord Francis 8262 (Miss Wyndham's), whole colour, c. December 15, 1903; s. Aboukir's Boy 7406 ..... Mr. C. Gunter	16½
Ernest Fox, whole colour, c. Oct. 21, 1904; s. Champion Fox 7451 ..... Mrs. Peel	12

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
44 cows and heifers	16 19 3	726 12 0
3 bulls	12 19 0	38 17 0
47 head	16 5 8	765 0 0

The Late Mr. A. Smith's Lincoln Reds.

An important sale of Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn cattle took place at Surfleet, near Spalding, on Wednesday, for on that day the entire herd of the late Mr. Alfred Smith was dispersed by Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall, of Louth, in the presence of a large company. In all some eighty-three animals, including twenty-two calves, were disposed of, and the sale realised a total of 1,615 gs., an average, including the calves, of 20 gs. a head. The top price of the sale was 46 gs., given by Mr. Charles Garland, of Warwick, for Surfleet Dorothy, a prize-winning cow at the Lincolnshire and Peterborough shows. The same purchaser also gave 42 gs. for Surfleet Daisy, and he likewise purchased a number of others, including the pick of the animals coming under the hammer, at figures ranging at over 30 gs.

Others purchasers included Messrs. Fydell Rowley, W. J. Atkinson, George Freir, Fletcher and Andrews, T. Bett, and Marriott. For yearling heifers the top price was 57 gs., given by Mr. Topham, of Thorney. The highest price given for bulls was 39 gs., paid by Mr. C. Garland for Surfleet Baronet, a prize winner. The averages of the sale worked out as under: Cows, 24 gs.; calves, 12 gs.; yearlings, 19 gs.; and bulls, over 20 gs.

Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Aberdeen-Angus.

Seeing the widespread fame of Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Maisemore Park, Gloucester, as a breeder of Aberdeen Angus, and the numerous prizes he has won with his animals, it was naturally expected that good prices would be realised at his sale on Wednesday, but these were not forthcoming, and, on the whole, was extremely disappointing. With the quality of the animals no fault could be found, for there was indeed an unusual number of choice lots, and for the first time some Evergreens, the animals of which tribe many bids for annual sales have been offered for in the yards of Londonderry, really more championship blood runs than any other. May be that, coming on top of so many other Aberdeen Angus sales, buyers were not in the mood. Still, whatever the reason, prices were disappointing. The top figure was 75 guineas, though a few others made 60 to 70 guineas, went very cheaply at prices under a hundred guineas. Altogether thirty-two animals were sold for £838 8s., the eighteen cows averaging £26 6s.; five two-year-old heifers, £38 4s.; four one-year-old heifers, £23 7s.; three heifer calves, £15. The sale list was as follows:—

COWS AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Eta of Evergreen 22845, c. Jan. 27, 1902; s. Eclipse 9110 ..... Mr. Wills	18
Lothian Lass 24076, c. March 21, 1903; s. Ajax [illegible] ..... Mr. Wills	18½
Patella 25442, c. March 26, 1896; s. Earl of Rosa 8258 ..... Mr. Stephenson	16
Her Bull Calf, Pattern 2nd of Maisemore, c. Feb. 19, 1905; s. Wizard of Maisemore 21465 ..... Mr. Stephenson	14
Rubelle 25424, c. Jan. 5, 1902; s. Lord Lee 7389 ..... Mr. Stephenson	13
Her Bull Calf, Rubeau, c. Feb. 4, 1905; s. Wizard of Maisemore 21465 ..... Mr. Stephenson	13
Rosa 4th of Netherton 27775, c. Feb. 14, 1903; s. Eclipse 10522 ..... Mr. Stephenson	13
Pride 15th of Rappendavie 27613, c. Feb. 12, 1903; s. Norfolk 5th 7622 ..... Mr. Moorhead (Cheswick)	30
Pride of Aberdeen 14th 29826, c. Feb. 22, 1900; s. Equerry of Ballindalloch 3155 ..... Colonel Ferguson	17
Ritual 31582, c. Dec. 18, 1900; s. Eimeo 12450 ..... Mr. Moorhead	17
Her Heifer Calf, Ritual 2nd, c. Dec. 7, 1904; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Hall	13
Etra of Adding on 32929, c. Dec. 20, 1900; s. Kilgraston 15610 ..... Colonel Ferguson	5
Her Heifer Calf, Etrene, c. Jan. 17, 1905; s. Wizard of Maisemore 21465 ..... Colonel Ferguson	5
Ruby 23rd of Wynyard 32201, c. Jan. 15, 1901; s. Forum of Dalegh 15476 ..... Mr. C. Parkinson	19
Her Bull Calf, Rustic of Maisemore, c. Feb. 19, 1905; s. Aachen 20039 ..... Mr. Hall	13
Mabel 7th of Knapperna 34663, c. Feb. 23, 1901; s. Dreyfus 16472 ..... Mr. Brookes	42
Proud Maid of Maisemore 31580, c. April 16, 1901; s. Eimeo 12450 ..... Mr. Thomas	15
Evergreen 5th 33412 (twin with Evergreen 6th 33413), c. Dec. 19, 1901; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Swann	51
Rubela of Maisemore 33418, c. Dec. 20, 1901; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Wills	20
Ruby 25th of Wynyard 32205, c. Feb. 19, 1901; s. Forum of Dalegh 15476 ..... Mr. Crewdson	19
Proud Miss of Maisemore 33417, c. March 20, 1901; s. Eimeo 12450 ..... Mr. Bathurst	19
Eris 35294, c. May 25, 1902; s. Engineer of Preston 15403 ..... Mr. Moorhead	35
Ruby 31st of Wynyard 34088, c. Jan. 2, 1902; s. Theakston Boy 15503 ..... Mr. Crewdson	7

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Euphrena 35295, c. Jan. 2, 1903; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Stephenson	25
Evergreen 8th 65286, c. Jan. 3, 1903; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Swann	75
Proud Minx 35238, c. Feb. 12, 1903; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Hall	25
Cresset of Maisemore 35291, c. March 28, 1903; s. Eimeo 12450 ..... Mr. Hall	30
Princess Peg 35470, c. Jan. 3, 1903; s. Echader 16496 ..... Mr. Brookes	30

YEARLING HEIFERS.

Euphryne 37074, c. Dec. 20, 1903; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Brookes	19
Proud Maisie 37078, c. Jan. 22, 1904; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Alexander	32
Ellace 37072, c. Feb. 1, 1904; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Bathurst	16
Patricia of Maisemore 37076, c. March 17, 1904; s. Elate 16513 ..... Mr. Hall	22

HEIFER CALF.

Ermeline 2nd, c. March 13, 1905; s. Aachen 20039 ..... Mr. P. Berkeley	12

The Preston Bissett Aberdeen-Angus.

The Rev. C. Bolden's herd of pure-bred Aberdeen Angus cattle at Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire, is one of the oldest and among the best known in England, it having supplied many prominent winners at our agricultural shows; therefore a sale of some of the animals always attracts a goodly company of buyers. Such was the case at the fifth sale, held on Tuesday last, but in common with other sales of this breed prices were on the low scale; in fact, scarcely all the buyers secured good animals at little or anything above store prices. The highest price of the sale was made by Venetta 4th, a big level cow, descended from the Maybush tribe. She evoked bids from many quarters, but finally was secured by Mr. Moorhead, an Irish buyer, at 70 guineas. Two-year-old heifers sold at moderate prices, for though none was very high the average was good. In the case of the yearlings, however, several were sold at moderate figures. The prize bull, Protestant, by Elgamore, an Erica sire, failed to reach his reserve at the ring, but was afterwards purchased by Mr. R. C. Swan, Rockcliffe, Darlington, at 75 guineas. Two of Mr. Bolden's animals were not offered, but the others all found purchasers, and the average for

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the 37 head was £28 14s. 5d. Mr. J. H. Bridges, Langshott, Horley, Surrey, sent five yearling heifers from his well-known herd, but all were not sold, Laurel of Langshott, which was second at the Royal Show, failing to reach her reserve of 25 guineas. The four disposed of realised £94 10s., Sir R. Dashwood taking two at 28 gs. and 19 gs., Mr. Cridlan one, at 22 gs., and Mr. C. Stephenson the other at 21 gs. Appended is the sale list of Mr. Bolden's animals:—

COWS.

	Gs.
Monica of Preston 27942, c. Feb. 8, 1899; s. Proud Duke of Ballindalloch 12031 ....Mr. J. J. Cridlan	23
Pride of Preston 22nd 29655, c. Dec. 13, 1899; s. Mandarin of Preston 15705 ....Mr. Fenwick	44
Jennet 2nd of Preston 29647, c. Feb. 16, 1900; s. Mandarin of Preston ....Mr. J. B. Brooks	30
Venetia of Preston 31385, c. Dec. 15, 1900; s. Pioneer of Preston 17031 ....Mr. Moorhead	70
Latona of Preston 5th 31381, c. Jan. 17, 1901; s. Mandarin of Preston 15705 ....Mr. C. Stephenson	21
Flush of Preston 33205, c. Nov. 17, 1901; s. Pioneer of Preston 17031 ....Mr. A. Lepper	29
Erudition 33203, c. Dec. 7, 1901; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Sir R. Dashwood	42
Elva of Preston 33201, c. Dec. 12, 1901; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Sir R. Dashwood	41
Pannier of Preston 33208, c. Dec. 23, 1901; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. Moorhead	25
Fair Trade 33204, c. Dec. 28, 1901; s. Boniface of Preston 16329 ....Mr. Lepper	22
Jennet 3rd of Preston 33206, c. Jan. 20, 1902; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. Hirons	20
Mona of Preston 33207, c. April 27, 1902; s. Boniface of Preston 16329 ....Mr. C. Stephenson	23
Pride A 2nd of Preston 33209, c. April 15, 1902; s. Proud Duke of Ballindalloch 12031 ....Mr. H. Bland	35

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Education 35116, c. Dec. 15, 1902; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. J. J. Cridlan	31
Erica Pride of Preston 4th 35119, c. Dec. 20, 1902; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. J. H. Bridges	35
Elevation of Preston 35117, c. Jan. 2, 1903; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Sir R. Dashwood	40
Patience 2nd of Preston 35121, c. Jan. 12, 1903; s. Eric of Preston 17796 ....Mr. Lepper	20
Pride of Preston 30th 35124, c. March 17, 1903; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. W. Stewart	38
Vitula of Preston 35126, c. April 1, 1903; s. Boniface of Preston 16329 ....Mr. J. H. Bridges	42
Monitica of Preston 35120, c. April 10, 1903; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. J. B. Brooks	20

ONE-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.

Patience 3rd of Preston 36885, c. Dec. 24, 1903; s. Publican of Preston 21178 ....Mr. Hall	16
Pride of Preston 31st 36886, c. Dec. 26, 1903; s. Jerry Duke of Preston 20686 ....Mr. Lepper	15
Pride of Preston 32nd 36887, c. Dec. 27, 1903; s. Jerry Duke of Preston 20686 ....Mr. Hall	19
Pride of Preston 33rd 36888, c. Jan. 3, 1904; s. Jerry Duke of Preston 20686 ....Mr. Hall	19
Ellel, 36880, c. Jan. 29, 1904; s. Publican of Preston 21178 ....Mr. Hall	13
Monitress 2nd 36884, c. March 8, 1904; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. Lepper	15
Vacuna of Preston 36889, c. April 30, 1904; s. Publican of Preston 21178 ....Mr. J. H. Bridges	21
Memory 4th 36883, c. April 16, 1904; s. Pundit of Preston 17156 ....Mr. Hirons	10

BULLS.

Jerry Duke of Preston 20686, c. Jan. 27, 1902; s. Proud Duke of Ballindalloch 12031 ....Mr. Hirons	27
Proprietor of Preston 22553, c. Jan. 13, 1903; s. Boniface of Preston 16329 ....Mr. Ridgway	26
Protestant, 23779, c. April 30, 1904; s. Eglamore 11618 Mr. R. C. Swan	75
Ebriety 23073, c. May 9, 1904; s. Publican of Preston 21178 ....Mr. Crann	24

BULL CALVES.

Vigilant, c. Nov. 5, 1904; s. Proprietor of Preston 22553 ....Mr. Holton	17
Elga's Laird, c. Nov. 8, 1904; s. Proprietor of Preston 22553 ....Mr. Hall	15
Plautus, c. Nov. 9, 1904; s. Eglamore 11618 Mr. Hawes	10

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
13 cows	33 12 0	436 16 0
8 two-year-old heifers	33 9 5	267 15 0
8 yearling heifers	17 9 2	139 13 0
4 bulls	39 18 0	159 12 0
4 bull calves	14 14 0	58 16 0
37 head	28 14 5	1,062 12 0
4 Langshott yearling heifers	23 12 6	94 10 0

Sale of Aberdeen-Angus at Perth.

A sale of Aberdeen Angus cattle was held at Perth by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Ltd., on September 22, the catalogue consisting of over fifty animals from seven herds; these including the Airleywright herd, dispersed in consequence of Mr. William Hutcheon leaving the farm, the other consignees being Sir Donald Currie, Glenlyon; Mr. James Speid, of Forneth; Mr. R. Wylie Hill, of Balthayock; Mr. John M'Ainsh, Cougash; Mr. George Willsher, of Pitpointie; Mr. R. Grant, The Haugh, Cromsdale; and Mr James Corey, Larne. The Airleywright lot, which was the largest, consisted of eight cows, four heifers, three bulls, and nine calves. From Glenlyon there were eight yearling heifers; Mr Corey's lot was made up of ten heifer calves, and Mr Grant's of seven heifer calves and one bull calf. The Balthayock herd was represented by four cows and a two-year-old heifer; while Mr Speid had forwarded two cows and four two-year-old heifers; Mr. Willsher two cows and a bull, and Mr M'Ainsh two cows, a two-year-old heifer, a bull, and a bull calf.

As a whole, the animals were of very fair merit, and came in for a good deal of interest from the numerous breeders present, but trade was very poor, only a few animals selling at 20 gs. or over, the top price being but 40 gs., given by Mr. Robb, Belfast, for Fragaria of Glamis, a yearling heifer from the Droagh herd. The total realised for 67 head was £989 12s. 6d., being an average of only £14 15s. 5d. The highest herd average was reached by the Balthayock cows—£20 1s. 8d.—Mr. Speid following closely in the same section with £19 8s. 6d. The Airleywight cows brought an average of £17 15s. 9d., and those from Congash figured out at £17 6s. 6d. Pitpointie making £16 5s. 6d. The yearling heifers from Ireland made a very attractive appearance, and they were in good demand, the sum obtained for them representing an average of £18 9s. 7d. The Glenlyon and the Haughs of Cromdale heifer calves brought £11 13s. 8d. and £11 9s. 6d. respectively.

The Bardrill Aberdeen Angus.

The herd of pure-bred Aberdeen Angus cattle belonging to Mr. G. R. Sharp, Bardrill, was dispersed on the 21st ult. at the farm, near Blackford, Perthshire, by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., Limited. Although the herd has been in existence for a comparatively short period it was widely known, and had achieved considerable distinction at the Scottish, English, and Irish national shows, as well as at many local fixtures. A capital collection of animals was put into the sale ring, representing such families as the Queen Mothers, Heather Blossoms, Roses of Westerton, Rubies of Powrie, and the two branches of Ericas, and all were shown in particularly good form. The sale was attended by a representative gathering of breeders from all parts of the country and the demand was a little better than at some other recent sales of Black Polls. In all, forty head passed through the ring, and they realised £1,100 8s., or an average of £27 10s. 2d. In the cow section the best price obtained was 61 gs., which was paid by Mr. A. T. Reid, Auchterarder House, for the Trojan-Erica Extraction, bred by Mr. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle, and got by the champion Esmond of Ballindalloch. She is an eight-year-old. Mr. W. S. Ferguson was the runner-up. The next best figure reached was 37 gs., at which Mr. Hunter, Blakesley, Northampton, took out Ideal Pride, a three-year-old bred at Cullen House, and by Portsman of Aberlour. Among the yearlings, one of the prettiest was Eva of Culdees, a very smart Trojan-Erica, got by England's Eddie. She was fancied by several of those around the ring, but in the end the competition lay between Mr. W. S. Ferguson and Mr. M'Laren, Auchmaguie, and she ultimately went to the former at 71 gs; whilst 70 gs. was given by Mr. J. D. Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, for the stock-bull Just Rover II., which was looking quite as fresh as he was two years ago when he made the round of the principal shows with such success. A sale list is appended, while the averages were as follows:—Sixteen cows, £27 8s. 8d.; four two-year-old heifers, £28 7s.; six yearling heifers, £36 15s.; nine heifer calves, £15 5s. 8d.; two bull calves, £23 2s.; three bulls, £47 19s.

Cows.—Jemima 27th of Morlich, 10 years—Mr. Allan, Ballintoul, 26 gs.; Psyche of Innerpeffray, 10 years—Mr. Andrew Smith, Longriddry, 21 gs.; Rose of Culdees 10th, 9 years—Mr. Hunter, Blakesley, Northampton, 20 gs.; Pretty Bride of Wyrley, 8 years—Mr. J. Syme, Strathkinnes, 20 gs.; Extraction, 8 years—Mr. A. T. Reid of Auchterarder, 61 gs.; Larky Pride 6th, 8 years—Mr. J. Syme, 20 gs; Gipsy of Ballintomb 2nd, 5 years—Mr. Robb, Leaston, 25 gs.; Alford Jane 4th, 6 years—Mr. Hunter, Blakesley, 25 gs.; Fair Maid of France, 6 years, Mr. J. Syme 20 gs.; Gipsy of Ballintomb 2nd, 5 years—Mr. Robb, Lisnabrenny, Belfast, 28 gs.; Lady Bertie, 5 years—Mr. Robb, 25 gs.; Pride of Powrie 13th, 5 years—Mr. Sharp, Drumfad, 28 gs.; Coral of Wyrley, 5 years—Mr. Hunter, Blakesley, 21 gs.; Beauty's Promise, 4 years—Mr. Whyte, Inverquharity, 23 gs.; Ideal Pride, 3 years, Mr. Hunter, Blakesley, 37 gs.

Two year old Heifers.—Roving Lass of the Drum—Mr. J. Syme, 20 gs.; Pride of Beauty—Mr. Robb, Belfast, 24 gs.; Pride of Bardrill—Mr. Hunter, 35 gs.; Erica of Ardoch—Mr. Hunter, 29 gs.

Yearling Heifers.—Beauty of Bardrill—Mr. Whyte, Spott, 23 gs; Ruby Ring—Mr. W. S. Ferguson, 40 gs.; Lady Albion—Mr. Hunter, 18 gs; Jemima of Bardrill—Mr. Hunter, 38 gs.; Eva of Culdees—Mr. W. S. Ferguson, 71 gs.; Rover Queen—Mr. Robb, Belfast, 20 gs.

Heifer Calves.—Rose of Bardrill Mr. Sharp, Drumfad, 16 gs.; Ideal Pride 2nd—Lady Seafield, 20 gs.; Queen of Bardrill—Lady Seafield, 16 gs.; Pride of Bardrill 2nd—Mr. Stirling, of Kippendavie, 15 gs.; Hartzan—Mr. Smith, Leaston, 12 gs.; Princilla—Mr. W. S. Ferguson, 15 gs.; Gipsy of Bardrill—Mr. Menteith, Knowehead, 9 gs.; Beauty of Bardrill 2nd—Mr. Whyte, Hayston, 14 gs.; Queen of the Rovers—Mr. Crann, Morlich, 14 gs.

Bull Calves.—Ochil Rover Mr. Bruce, Tochineal, 22 gs; Mountain Rover of Bardrill Mr. Hum Bland, Kilquade, 22 gs.

Bulls.—Just Rover of Morlich 2nd Mr. J. D. Fletcher of Rosehaugh, 70 gs; Albion 2nd—Mr. M'Caull, Dumblane, 27 gs; Harvest King Strichen's Trustees, Aberdeenshire, 40 gs.

Sir Ashburnham-Clement's Sussex Cattle.

The entire herd of pure bred Sussex cattle belonging to Sir Architel Ashburnham Clement, Bart., was sold by auction by Messrs. T. Bannister and Co., of Haywand's Heath, at Pound Farm, Guestling, on the 23rd ult. The animals offered were descendants of the noted herd of the late Mr. Simes, of Poundsford Farm, Burwash, whose family had bred Sussex cattle for over 100 years. Sir Architel purchased the entire herd from Miss Brisco at the sale in 1895, and when it was resold in 1899 he again bought it for Broomham. Great care had been bestowed for many years in the selection of good registered bulls, but the produce was not entered in the Sussex Herd Book until 1903. The cattle had been kept under natural conditions at Pound Farm, exposed to all weather on high land, and were brought out in the best of condition. The attendance of buyers at the sale was on a large scale, but the prices realised were average ones, there being no reserve. The chief sales were as follows:—

Cows and Calves.—Polly 8776, c. 1895—Mr. Courthope, Wadhurst, 19 gs.; her bull calf, Broomham Fiscal Policy, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Oct. 5, 1904—Mr. H. S. Simmons, Battle, 12 gs.; Curly 8769, c. 1899—Mr. V. P. Miss, Uckfield, 25 gs.; her steer calf, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. March 1, 1905—Mr. H. A. Rigg, Cowfold, 12 gs.; Broomham Polyanthus 8777, s. Peacemaker 3rd 1869, c. Jan. 1, 1900—Mr. Courthope, Wadhurst, 21 gs.; Broomham Diana 8781, s. Peacemaker 3rd 1869, c. 1900—Mr. V. P. Miss, Uckfield, 27 gs.; her steer calf, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Feb. 6, 1905—Mr. McEwan, 11½ gs.; Broomham Molly 8778, s. Peacemaker 3rd 1869, c. Dec. 30, 1900—Mr. Courthope, 30 gs.; Broomham Tiresome 8768, s. Peacemaker 3rd 1869, c. May 3, 1901—Mr. A. A. Holmes, Northam, 21 gs.; her bull calf, Broomham Termagant, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Dec. 25, 1904—Mr. Pronger, Cowfold, 12 gs.; Broomham Florence 8764 s. Peacemaker 3rd 1869, c. Nov. 5, 1901—Mr. V. P. Miss, 20 gs.; her heifer calf, Broomham Flora, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. March 21, 1905—Mr McEwan, 13½ gs.; Broomham Paulina 8779, s. Peacemaker 3rd 1869, c. Dec. 6, 1901—Mr. V. P. Miss, 33 gs.; her heifer calf, Broomham Lena 9481, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Oct. 7, 1904—Mr. Courthope, 13 gs.; Broomham Amethyst 8753, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. March 16, 1902—Mr. Holmes, 20 gs.; her steer calf, s. Ashburnham Boxley 1864, c. Oct. 4, 1904—11 gs.; Broomham Dinah 8763, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Oct. 13, 1902—Mr. W. A. Haviland, Brightling, 22 gs.; Broomham Primrose 8767, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Oct. 21, 1902—Mr. Courthope, 22 gs.; Broomham Ringlet 9145, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. April 5, 1903—Mr. V. P. Miss, 20 gs.; Broomham Crystal 9141, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. April 20, 1903—Mr. W. A. Haviland, 20 gs; Broomham Cowslip 9144, s. Lord Guestling 1868, c. Sept. 22, 1903—Mr. W. A. Haviland, 19 gs.

Bull.—Limehurst Forster, s. Bewbush Lad 2nd 1786, c. March 30, 1903—Mr. Haviland, 17 gs.

Mr. T. E. Williams' Shorthorns and Shropshires.

Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. held an important sale of farming stock at Hartley Farm, Gloucestershire, on September 22, for Mr. T. E. Williams, of Salterley Grange, for whom they had let the farm. The sale included the registered flock of 398 Shropshire sheep and a herd of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle. There was a numerous attendance of buyers. The highest price realised in the flock of Shropshire ewes was 60s., given by Mr. James Peter, of Berkeley. Shropshire lambs made up to 36s. The herd of cattle included some of the favourite Waterloo tribe, for which there was a good competition. Mr. James Peter gave 25 gs. for Lady Waterloo 36th, a roan cow calved February 28, 1901; for Lady Waterloo 37th, a red cow calved April 3, 1902, Mr. William Hitch gave 27 gs.; and the same price was given by Mr. Edward Blackwell for Lady Waterloo 38th, a red cow calved May 5, 1903. Mr. Hitch also purchased Lady Waterloo 39th, a roan cow calved May 13, 1903, for 27 gs.

The late Mr. Farr's Herefords.

The fine herd of Hereford cattle and flock of Shropshire sheep bred by the late Mr Edward Farr, were brought under the hammer at The Court of Noke, Pembridge, near Leominster. The late Mr. Farr was a most successful exhibitor, more particularly after he removed from Pipton (Breconshire) to Court of Noke, which is in the heart of the native home of the Herefords. He won many prizes at the Breconshire, Leominster, and other agricultural shows, and at the Birmingham and Smithfield Club Fat Stock Shows, and secured first, second, and fourth prizes in the class of yearling bulls at the April show of the H.H.B.S. His preparation and exhibition of Britisher brought Mr. Farr very much to the front, as he took amongst other prizes with him the championships at Lord Tredegar's show, the Royal, and Herefordshire and Worcestershire, and afterwards sold him to Mr. George Leigh, for whom he won the championship at the great Chicago show in 1902, where he again defeated the celebrated Protector. Mr. Farr was also very successful as an exhibitor of Shropshire sheep. Messrs. H. F. Russell and Son conducted the sale, and they had no fewer than 141 Herefords and 241 Shropshires to dispose of, but they got through the work in remarkably good time. The sheep were first offered, and met a ready trade. The three-year-old ewes averaged 56s. apiece, the highest price being 58s.; the two-year-old ewes averaged 59s. 6d. each, highest 60s.; yearling ewes 81s., 77s., etc.; and ewe lambs from 33s. to 51s. The two-year-old stock ram Frugal Swain was secured by Mr. H. R. Evans, at 164 gs., and some other rams, older, sold at 54 gs., 10 gs., and 6 gs., whilst the ram lambs, sired by Higher Eaton, Frugal Swain, and Next Door, sold at prices

ranging from 72s. 6d. to 155s. Luncheon followed, and then the Herefords came before the large company. Bids came fairly brisk but prices were not so large as some expected would be the case. Top figures were 93 gs., 62 gs., and 50 gs., and but very few others fetched over 30 gs., as the following list of the chief lots will show. The 93 gs. was given by Mr. W. H. Evans, The Lynch, Eardisland, for the four-year-old stock bull Earl Marshal, a grand animal and impressive sire. He began at 25 gs., and was bid for very briskly up to the top figure. His purchaser, who is a son of Mr. Frank Evans, the well-known judge of cattle and horses, has probably inherited his father's rare judgment.

COWS AND CALVES.—Primula, Mr. Howells, 24 guineas; her bull calf, Mr. Parr, Leebotwood, 22; Comely, Mr. Morrison, 17½; her bull calf, Earl of Coventry, 23; Stately and heifer calf, Mr. Peter Coats, Clifford, 30½; Chatty, Mr. Pantall, Old Letton, 23; her bull calf, Mr. Gamble, Presteign, 50; Columbine, Mr. Morrison, 19; her bull calf, Mr. Tanner, Shrawardine, 15; Regalia, Mr. Morrison, 18; her bull calf, Mr. Goodwin, Little Brampton, 25; Patch, Mr. Townsend, Raglan, 19; her bull calf, Mr. Marfell, Usk, 28; Gemima, Mr. P. Blatherwick, Elsdon House, 26; Godiva, Mr. P. Blatherwick, 31; her bull calf, Mr. James Davies, Newchurch, 62; Bud, Mr. Morrison, 19½; her bull calf, Mr. Townsend, Raglan Castle, 23; Britannia, Mr. Morrison, 20; Carmine, Mr. Pantall, 22; her bull calf, Mr. Edwards, Clifford, 21; Carolina, Mr. Cleasby, Stretford, 30; her heifer calf, Mr. Ricketts, 12; Julia, Mr. H. Christy, 25; her heifer calf, Mr. H. Christy, 16; Judy, Mr. Hope, Weobley, 20; Deborah, Mr. Evans, White House, 21; Phyllis, Mr. Prosser, Trevithel, 22, her heifer calf, Mr. Williams, 12; Fairy, Messrs. Torrome and Co., 30; Genius, Mr. Hamer, Penybont, 24.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Pretty Polly, Mr. Hamer, 20 guineas; Minerva, Mr. Bounds, The Lowe, 20; Jaon, Liebeg's Extract Co., 25; Clara, Mr. H. Christy, 25.

BULL.—Earl Marshal 22105, Mr. W. H. Evans, The Lynch, 93 guineas.

THREE YEAR-OLD HEIFERS AND CALVES.—Gerty, Mr. T. Lewis, Llangibby, 29 guineas: her bull calf, Mr. Powell, The Heath, 20; Pekoe, Mr. T. Lewis, 22; her bull calf, Mr. Morris, Upperton, 18½; Spanker, Mr. Skitt, 27; her bull calf, Mr. Watkins, Duffryn, 21; Arathusa, General Curtis, 25.

TWO YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Olympia, Messrs. Torrome and Co. (for South America), 30 guineas; Dimity, Mr. Cleasby, 21; Cocoanut, Messrs. Torrome and Co., 24; Pimpernel, Messrs. Torrome and Co., 30; Amazon, Messrs. Torrome and Co., 30.

Big Prices for Sir Alexander Henderson's Shorthorns.

On Wednesday a large portion of Sir Alexander Henderson's far-famed herd of Shorthorns was offered for sale at Buscot Park, Faringdon, Berkshire, by Messrs. Thornton and Co. Through the great success of the herd in the showring, and the high prices realised by bulls sold from it, the Buscot Shorthorns have become celebrated, and it was a matter of no surprise that a great company gathered together to witness the sale. The most sanguine expectations, however, were far below the actual result, and, as will be seen by the list given below, splendid prices were realised throughout, but especially for the young stock and the bulls, most of which were by that great sire Wanderer's Prince. The keenest competition lay between Mr. Casares and Mr. Sandford, both buying for South America, the latter gentleman securing a very large proportion of the animals offered. The home breeders, however, competed well for many of the lots, and much regret was expressed that so many beautiful animals are destined to leave this country.

Two magnificent four-year-old cows were Sherborne Marchioness and Lady Oxford 2nd, and the former realised 170 gs., and the latter 210 gs., both being bought by Mr. Sandford; whilst Buscot Madge, a red three-year-old heifer, with her red cow calf, went to the same buyer at 220 gs., Marchioness Buscot, two years, at 195 gs., and Buscot Enchantress, a yearling, at 200 gs., the opposing bidder in the last instance being Mr. William Garne, of Aldsworth.

The bulls excited wonderful competition, Mr. Sandford being again to the fore taking half a dozen of the ten submitted, and paying, amongst other prices, 370 gs., 210 gs., 165 gs., and 105 gs. Mr. Torrome got a grand coloured bull in Buscot Boronet at 130 gs., and Mr. Casares another in Moss Trooper at 190 gs. Altogether the 56 animals realised £5,063 2s., the splendid average of £90 8s. 3d. per head. The following were the prices and buyers.

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Rose of Oxford 31st, roan, c. Jan. 1, 1892; s., Barrington Surmise 2nd 60343 ..... Mr. J. Gray	25
B.C., roan, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	40
Dowager 13th, red and little white, c. Sept. 11, 1893; s., Lord Osberton 62913 ..... Mr. G. Foster Harter	25
C.C., red, c. Jan. 17, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	48
Harry's Magic, red and little white, c. Jan. 4, 1896; s., Lord Harry 65819 ..... Mr. A. W. Hickling	51
Riby Rose, red, c. May 9, 1896; s., Prince Riby 61540 ..... Lord Rothschild	31
C.C., red roan, c. Feb. 4, 1905; by Wanderer's Pride 78105 ..... Mr. C. Scott Murray	15
Lady York Bates 21st, white, c. Aug. 28, 1896; s., Duke of Chatsworth 6th 65263 ..... Mr. H. Payne	31
Ladbarrow Phantom 5th, red, c. March 8, 1897; s., Wrestler 66532 ..... Mr. W. T. Garne	90
B.C., roan, c. Jan. 29, 1905, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. A. H. Tompson	28
Solo 41st, red and little white, c. April 15, 1897; s., Royalty 23rd 67845 ..... Mr. W. Fleming	26
Ringdale Favourite 2nd, roan, c. Feb. 11, 1898; s., Viator 71769 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	35
Princess Cinderella, roan, c. July 4, 1898; s., Crystal Prince 70221 ..... Lord Calthorpe	36
C.C., white, c. Feb. 8, 1905, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... H.M. the King	33
Holker Countess Burlington 2nd, roan, c. July 24, 1898; s., Holker Golden Butterfly 76623 ..... Mr. G. Foster Harter	27
C.C., red, c. Dec. 31, 1904, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. J. L. Stockburn	21
Lady York Bates 22nd, red, c. Aug. 29, 1898; s., Winter's Gift 69830 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	50
B.C., red, c May 12, 1905, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	50
C.C., red, c. May 9, 1905, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	40
Flora, red, c. March 10, 1900; s., Roan Wrestler 77660 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	29
Prima Donna, red and little white, c. Aug. 16, 1900; Vain Soldier 3799 ..... Mr. C. Deacon	20
Snowdrop, white, c. Dec. 20, 1900; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. A. H. Tompson	28
C.C., white, c. June 14, 1906, by Buscot Revenue 85488 ..... Mr. A. H. Tompson	12
Sherborne Marchioness, red, c. Dec. 24, 1900; s., Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	170
B.C., red, c May 12, 1905, by Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr C. H. Sandford	25
Lady Oxford 2nd, roan, c. April 25, 1901; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	210
C. C., red by Buscot Revenue 85488 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	42
Buscot Duchess Bates, roan, c. April 26, 1901; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	80
B.C., roan, c. Aug. 22, 1905, by Buscot Marquis 85485 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	10
Buscot Lily, red roan, c. July 27, 1901; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	75
Lady York Bates 23rd, red roan, c. Sept. 2, 1901; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	105
C.C., red roan, c. April 13, 1905, by Buscot Marquis 85485 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	75
Salperton Miss Norman, roan, c. Oct. 3, 1901; s., Magician 77161 ..... Mr. F. Rhodes	51
Buscot Favourite, white, c. Dec. 4, 1901; s. Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	35
Fair Rosamond, roan, c. Jan. 18, 1902; s., Red Rover 2nd 82032 ..... Mr. J. A. Peter	53
Buscot Madge, red, c. Feb. 4, 1902; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	170
C.C., red, c. March 1, 1905, by Buscot Marquis 85485 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	50
Buscot Empress, roan, c. March 12, 1902; s., Now or Never 67544 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	80
Salperton Rachel, red and white, c. April 16, 1902; s., Rosicrucian 82116 ..... Mr. W. Fleming	22
Buscot Ladybird, red, c. May 10, 1902; s., New Year's Gift 77325 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	80
B.C., c. Jan. 29, 1905, r.l.w., by Buscot Don 82999 ..... Mr. Robinson	38
Mabel, red roan, c. June 12, 1902; s., Fitz Roy 81062 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	52
B.C., red roan, c. Jan. 30, 1905, by Buscot Don 82999 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	45
Buscot Bracelet, red roan, c. Oct. 1, 1902; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. Scott Murray	54
Whist, roan, c. Dec. 3, 1902; s., Baron Pegglesworth 78331 ..... Mr. J. B. Stevens	23
Albinia, white c. Jan. 12, 1903; s., Salperton Wanderer 87270 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	32
Lady Buscot Magic, red, c. March 7, 1903; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	105
Lady York Bates 24th, red and little white, c. April 10, 1903; s., Now or Never 67544 ..... Mr. G. Foster Harter	23
Marchioness Buscot, red, c. June 1, 1903; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	195
Buscot White Rose, white, c. June 4, 1903; s., Now or Never 67544 ..... Mr. A. H. Tompson	28
Buscot Bangle, red, c. Aug. 6, 1903; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Lord Moreton	35
Buscot Pretty Maid, roan, c. Oct. 7, 1903; s., Baron Buscot 80407 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	90
Buscot Countess, roan, c. Oct. 20, 1903; s., Now or Never 67544 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	80
Buscot Cicely, red roan, c. Feb. 4, 1904; s., Baron Buscot 80407 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	80
Buscot Enchantress, red roan, c. Feb. 10, 1904; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	200
Rosewater, red, c. March 12, 1904; s., Wanderer's Chief 80210 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	53
Chantress of Buscot, roan, c. May 25, 1904; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	195
Buscot Fanny, red roan, c. June 2, 1904; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	50
Buscot Favourite 2nd, roan, c. July 30, 1904; s., Buscot Royalist 83004 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	22
Buscot Pretty Maid 2nd, roan, c. Sept. 2, 1904; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	60
Buscot Carnation, roan, c. Sept. 14, 1904; s., Buscot Royalist 83004 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	25

BULLS

Buscot Bachelor 85480, roan, c. Feb. 15, 1903; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	105
Buscot Marquis 85485, roan, c. June 1, 1903; s., Now or Never 67544 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	210
Buscot Baronet 85481, red, c. Oct. 17, 1903; s. Baron Buscot 80407 ..... Mr. Torrome	130
Buscot Adjutant 85479, rich roan, c. Dec. 25, 1903; s. Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	370
Buscot Rex 88083, red, c. March 12, 1904; s. Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	165
Buscot Moss Trooper 88079, rich roan, c. April 29, 1904; s. Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. E. N. Casares	190
Buscot Albatross 88072, white, c. May 16, 1904; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart.	56
Buscot Magnet 88075, roan, c. June 30, 1904; s. Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford	40

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Valiant, red and white roan, c. Jan. 23, 1906; s., Wanderer's Prince 78105 ..... Mr. C. H. Sandford £

SUMMARY.

	Average	Total
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
45 Cows and heifers	95 4 ...	4,289 14 0
10 Bulls	57 5 3	573 8 0
1		200 0 0
56 Head	90 8 3	5,063 2 0

The Canadian Cattle Question.

A Parliamentary paper was recently issued giving the reply of the Board of Agriculture, sent through the Colonial Secretary, to a petition from the Canadian Senate for the repeal of the Act of Parliament prohibiting the importation of live cattle into this country. The petition pointed out that Canadian herds are now, and have been for many years past, free from those particular diseases against which the embargo has been imposed.

The British Government's reply says experience has shown that the existing statutory requirement that all cattle imported into this country shall be slaughtered in wharves provided for the purpose at the port of landing is no obstacle to the development and maintenance of a large and valuable trade, and points out the great growth of such trade in the case of Argentina. The existing law does not cast a stigma or discredit upon Canadian cattle, for it holds good in the case of the United States and other foreign countries as well as in that of every British colony. The experience of Argentina in 1900 and the United States in 1902, has shown how suddenly and unexpectedly foot-and-mouth disease may make its appearance in a country irrespective of the maintenance of an efficient veterinary organisation.

The enormous losses which British agriculturists have suffered during the last thirty years, mainly by reason of the increased pressure of colonial and foreign competition, makes it more than ever necessary that every possible precaution should be taken against the introduction of disease consistent with the reasonable requirements of colonial producers, and in the interests of consumers at home. It is, therefore, in the general interest that no risk should be taken which can be avoided by the maintenance of a law which provides a considerable measure of security against the introduction of disease, and does so without any serious stoppage of trade or actions invidious to any particular colony or country.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 23, 1905:

			Week ended Sept. 23, 1905	Corresponding week in 1904	Corresponding week in 1903	Total for 38 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904	Corresponding period in 1903
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	45	109	263	145	2,870	4,808
								6,083
								6,930
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	15	25	25	630	1,082
								1,770
								992
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	7	6	3	3	67	1,083
								1,196
								1,130
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	35	63	64	37	1,080	2,071
								1,869
								1,236
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	45	22	25	915	1,172
								1,119
								865
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								140
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	36	24	12	14	1,021	1,137
								887
								816
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	15	9	11	719	729
								579
								510

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

At Market Rasen September Foal Fair, held on Monday there was an unusually large number of foals; trade, however, ruled extremely slow, and at the finish a good many remained unsold. The highest price marked was £19, while as low as £10 was accepted. For cart horses as high as £90 was asked, but no trade was done. A good business was done in Welsh drove animals, fillies realising £25 to £32, colts £20 to £32, and ponies £10 to £12 10s.

Horse Notes.

It seems a great pity that we do not make a better practical use of our thoroughbreds than we do. That we have got the material is shown every now and again in our various show-yards; and yet the cry is constantly heard that our thoroughbreds have deteriorated, and are of no use except for racing purposes. Time was when the best of our racehorses were available to tenant farmers for stud purposes, and I have in my possession an old bill of Hambletonian, in which it is stated that a few approved farmers' mares will be taken at 20s. each and 2s. 6d. the groom. It could scarcely be expected that such a state of things could prevail when locomotion became easier and when distance was shortened by railways. But even in the early railway days there was a better class of thoroughbred sire available for the tenant farmer's mares than is now the case, even with the Premium sires given in. The great increase in the value of the stakes run for has raised the price of thoroughbreds to such a height that the best are fast becoming unapproachable, and it is to this fact, rather than the thoroughbred itself, that deterioration is due.

But there are some of the fine old type of thoroughbred still to be found very often in the hands of a sporting farmer, and if we were to make the best possible use of them, I think we should soon have little cause for complaint. Many of my readers will doubtless remember Mr. Marcus Kendall's fine old mare Wild Mint, who a few years ago made such a clean sweep of the Hunter Brood Mare prizes in Yorkshire. She won at Malton, Ryedale, Easingwold, Stokesley, Darlington, and Northallerton several times, and at Doncaster once; and as a four-year-old she was third at the Yorkshire. A short-legged, powerful mare, she was not only a good hunter, but a good and prolific breeder.

Her pedigree is worth a moment's consideration. She was by Peppermint, who was by Camballo Mintdrop, by Lozenge; her dam, Minaret by Rataplan Manganese, by Birdcatcher, on the dam's side. A direct descendant of Mr. King's stoutest blood. Her dam was by False Alarm, a big, good-looking chestnut that the late Lord Middleton owned. He was by Trumpeter—Treacherous, by Pantaloon; her dam, Shiraz, by Camel—Medina, by Shebdeez. Her great granddam was by Pine Apple, by Economist, the sire of Harkaway; and her great great granddam was by Lanercost. The whole of Wild Mint's female ancestors mentioned were winners in the show-yard, and it should be noted that the Pine Apple mare came from Mr. Legard, of Easthorpe.

It was one of Wild Mint's peculiarities that her foals were all big and strong ones, and, without exception, they have done well, either in the hunting field, in the show-ring, or in both, and one of these has won races. This was the well-known Gold Mint, who won all over the country as a four-year-old for Mr. J. H. Stokes, and who won the Private Sweepstakes at Croxton Park and the Ladies' Purse at Melton for his present owner, Mr. Hanbury. Another of her foals was Gold Flake, a Royal winner, who was sold by Mr. Stokes for the King of Italy for 800 gs., and yet another won several prizes for Mr. Stokes before he was sold at his death for 666 gs. One of her foals is carrying the huntsman of the Cottesmore; Lord Rosebery has a breeding from another, and Mr. Hollins from another; whilst Mr. Marcus Kendall has a five-year-old daughter in Redmire, the winning brood mare at Easingwold and Stokesley, and two others.

I noticed another very good-looking and promising young thoroughbred at the Stokesley show. Mr. John Lotty's chestnut three-year-old filly by Red Eagle—dam by The Viking, the name of her pedigree I do not know. She is a big, good-looking mare, quite like making a brood mare. I merely mention this mare to show that Wild Mint and her near relatives are not the only thoroughbred mares that are going, but that there are others, and that, too, within a few miles of Red Hall, Ingo.

There would, I think, not be very much difficulty in establishing a stud or two on such lines as those of the late Sir George Cholmley and the late Sir Charles Strickland. That such studs would leave any margin of profit may reasonably be doubted at first, but I think that in time they would be made to pay their way well enough. At any rate, it is a pity not to use the material we have to the greatest advantage, and that we are certainly not doing at present. And I cannot help thinking that in the long run it would be more profitable to try to breed up our thoroughbreds to a higher standard than it will be to endeavour to evolve a hunter breed.

There is no more frequent cause of annoyance at shows than the objections on the ground of wrong height, and a disqualification on this score is always a grievance, and sometimes, I am afraid, a just grievance. One notorious case of disqualification in a harness class caused considerable comment at the time, and I have no doubt is still within the recollection of my readers. I have no intention to enter into the details of this famous case, but I would point out that the system which admits of a horse upwards of six years old being shown one year and disqualified the next in classes with the same height qualifications is one which is by no means satisfactory. Nor are the measurers to blame for the discrepancy. It is an acknowledged fact—at any rate it is one that is well known to any man who has had much experience in measuring horses—that a horse when greatly excited swells himself out, as it were, and measures more than he does when quiet at home. And it ought not to be necessary to insist upon the fact that it is impossible to ensure the same conditions for the measurement of a horse in succeeding years, as highly-bred horses in show condition are of so spirited a temperament that a trifle upsets them.

The suggestion that is made by the newly-formed harness horse and pony society is likely to find general acceptance amongst exhibitors of harness horses all over the country—at any rate it should do so, as it would most certainly save an immense amount of trouble. It is to the effect that every show horse and pony shall be measured at the beginning of every show season, and his height registered. The registered measurement would be the measurement for the year, and after six years old no further measurement would be required. It would, of course, be advantageous to the owner of the horse to have him measured at home, as it stands to reason that the horse's true measurement would be easiest got when he was amidst familiar surroundings. There would, however, be one thing against which careful provision should be made, and that is that the horse should not be measured in shoes somewhat similar to those in which he would be shown. A horse that is just on the border line would have a great advantage if measured in light shoes.

There does not seem much reason to complain about the demand for carriage horses if the prices made at Aldridge's on Wednesday are any criterion to go by. The twenty-one horses that have run the "Perseverance" coach on the London and Dorking road during the summer months realised the handsome sum of £1,785, or an average of £85. Four of them realised 100 gs. each, and several reached 90 gs. and upwards. It should be said that it is a long time since the horses out of any road coach have sold anything like so well.

It may not be generally known that the founder of Aldridge's, a Mr. Aldridge who flourished in the eighteenth century, was a well-known horseman and sportsman in his day. He was a keen patron of match trotting as it was then known, and he rode his own mare in a match against time—sixteen miles within the hour. The match took place on the London and Epsom road, eight miles out and in, and the distance was accomplished in 53 minutes 50 seconds. John Lawrence, the well-known author of the "History of the Horse," accompanied by Mr. Aldridge in his last match, which is worthy of being recalled to memory, inasmuch as Lawrence tells us that it was the first well-authenticated instance of sixteen miles being trotted within the hour. This is good road work even in the present day, but is very slow for match trotting. In 1780, however, the roads were very bad, for though Macadam was living, he had not then got started with the work which was to make his name famous for all time.

What is a lady's hack? That is a question which it would seem can be answered in many different ways. To judge from what I have seen shown in lady's hack classes during the last few months, I should feel inclined to describe a lady's hack—that is, a showyard lady's hack—as something that is not quite good enough to show in a hunter class. As a rule, the classes are very uneven and of very different types, and they are not very satisfactory classes to judge. I have seen more than once during the season a fourteen-stone hunter winning in a lady's hack class—one, too, that seemed inclined to catch hold of his bridle a bit too much. A lady's hack should, above all things, have good manners. If he has not, he is useless for an ordinary horsewoman, and, besides, however accomplished a horsewoman may be, she does not like to do rough riding. I have seen once or twice horses of the hackney type shown as ladies' hacks, and these are quite as much out of place as is the fourteen-stone hunter. It would be a good thing if secretaries of shows would, during the winter months, try to frame some conditions for lady's hack classes which would do away with these anomalies.

THE LOOKER-ON.

The Late Mr. Bryars' Shires.

Mr. Lloyd, of Frank Lloyd and Sons, of Wrexham and Crewe, offered for sale on Tuesday the Shire horse stud of the late Mr. J. H. Bryars, M.R.C.V.S., Intake Stud Farm, Sheffield. Mr. Bryars founded the stud about a dozen years ago, and, although small, it was recognised as one of the most select in the kingdom. Mr. Bryars, in addition to having a keen judge's eye, having spared neither trouble nor expense in getting together a stud of typical Shires. Although the bulk of the animals were sold the executors are retaining the well-known stallion Lockinge Albert, whose progeny have been so successful in show and sale rings. There was an excellent company at the ring-side, nearly every stud of note in the country being represented, including those of his Majesty the King, Earl Beauchamp, and Lord Calthorpe.

The yearling fillies were first offered. Intake Flower, a daughter of Dunsmore Willington Boy, went for 57 gs. to Mr. McNichol, of Welshpool; while Intake Nelly Blacklegs, a bay daughter of Brandwash, the cup winner at Derby County Show, was sold for 68 gs. to Mr. Whitehead, of Buxton. The two-year-olds came next, and for a lovely black, Wilby Magpie, Lord Calthorpe's representative paid 92 gs. St. Leger Beauty, a well-furnished daughter of Dunsmore Jameson, excited spirited competition, and was eventually knocked down at 170 gs. to Mr. Davison, of York. The next lot, Monk's Polly, a six-year-old grey mare, thrice a winner at the London Shire Horse Show, and last year reserve for the Female Championship, went to Earl Beauchamp's representative for 250 gs. For Knottingley Hazel Mr. Beswick, of Buxton, gave 76 gs.; while for her filly foal, by Childwick Harold, Mr. Grimes, of Palterton, paid 41 gs.

The best of the brood mares was Girton Hazard, a four-year-old brown half-sister to the London champion stallion Girton Charmer, and Lord Calthorpe's representative paid 220 gs. for her, while for her brown filly foal by Lockinge Albert, the Intake stud horse, Mr. Adam Scott, Epworth, paid 50 gs. Of the stallions, Childwick Harold was most admired, and at 430 gs. Mr. Nuttall, of Blackburn, purchased him. Intake King Albert, a two-year-old son of Lockinge Albert and Monk's Polly, was sold for 310 gs. to Mr. Harrison, of Breaston. Altogether, 21 animals were sold, and realised an average of considerably over £110.

Show and Sale at Cardiff.

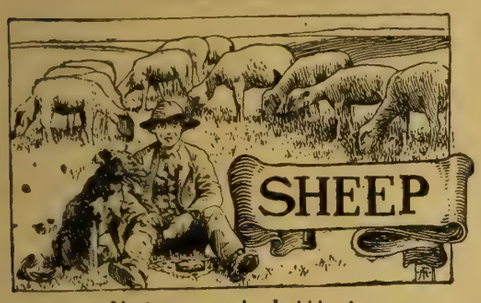
A special prize show and sale of various classes of horses was held at the Cardiff Corporation Horse Repository on September 22 and 23 by Mr. Philip E. Hill, and the event proved most successful, for the attendance was a capital one, and the business done very large, some of the best figures being as follows:—A chestnut gelding 85 gs., bay gelding 105 gs., dark chestnut gelding 108 gs., bay gelding 85 gs., grey gelding 56 gs., pair of roan cobs 115 gs., brown gelding 150 gs., a very fine hunter gelding 170 gs., and many prices from 30 gs. to 50 gs. Several good bids were made—380 gs. for Momento, a chestnut mare belonging to Mr. D. Evans (Llwyncadfor), which has won over 100 prizes, and won the first prize in Class 1; whilst Mr. Charles Radcliffe (Cardiff) was offered 1,050 gs. for Phœbe Walton and Marie Tempest, which have been winning all along the line lately.

Show and Sale of Clydesdales at Perth.

The twenty ninth annual show and sale of Clydesdale horses, held at Perth by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., took place on Tuesday, and was one of the most successful of the series. The numbers catalogued comprised in all a grand total of 458, the best on record, the number including 60 three-year-old colts and fillies, 189 two-year-old colts and fillies, 76 one-year-old colts and fillies, 76 colts and filly foals, 4 entire horses, and 22 work horses. There was a distinct improvement, on the whole, on the quality of the horses as compared with previous years, and this was

particularly noticeable in the one and two year old filly classes and in the foals. Many of the animals were well known prizewinners at local and other shows throughout the country during the past season, and were got by many of the famous sires which have been used in the various localities. The judges of the show were Messrs. A. H. Anderson, Kippendavie; Ferguson, Surradale, Elgin; Walker, nether Coullie, Udney; and Renwick, Meadowfield, Corstorphine. In every section of the show there was, as usual, exceedingly keen competition, and in some cases it was only after anxious deliberation that the selection was arrived at.

It was anticipated that a somewhat slow sale would be experienced, and so far as concerned the foals and three-year-old colts and fillies this held true, as the demand for these was somewhat stiff, unless for the best class. For two and one year old colts and fillies, however, a surprising sale was experienced, and prices were very little, if any, back from last year. All animals showing good breeding and promise met a brisk demand, and realised prices satisfactory to sellers. Geldings rising four years old made from £45 to £60; fillies of same age, £38 to £80; colts rising three years old, £25 to £68; three-year-old fillies, £34 to £56; two-year-old colts, £16 to £38 10s.; two-year-old fillies, £15 to £82; and foals, £12 to £37.



Notes and Jottings.

The demand for Lincoln sheep for the Argentine is a continuous one. Last week's reports show that more of the choicely bred sheep of this breed have left the country. These shipments include three choicely bred rams from Mr. Henry Dudding's flock at Riby, and several other lots of similar character.

The importation of Lincoln sheep into the Argentine during the current year has been a very large one indeed. The number imported from January 1 to July 31 last is given as 1,470 head, as against 588 during the same period last year. A notable increase, and one that it is sincerely hoped may not prove to be in excess of the demand.

The first sale of imported sheep held in the Argentine that has come to our notice is the one held by Messrs. Yariondo and Co. for Mr. James Sidey on August 30.

A dozen Oxford Down rams were offered, and those sold realised excellent prices; the best were as follows:—£33 5s., £30 15s., £28, £26 5s., and down to £15 15s.

Twenty-five Lincoln rams were also sold; these ranged in prices from £30 12s. 6d. to £17 10s. Four Shropshire rams were sold; here the range of prices was from £24 10s. to £15 15s. Another four Lincoln ram lambs disposed of made an average of £14 17s. 6d.

The prices quoted above are not high for any of the breeds, but the Oxford Downs certainly made the better ones. It must, however, be noted that so far as regards the Lincoln sheep, these were not the best, but quite ordinary rams, and hence this sale may be taken as indicating the probable value of the lower grade of Lincoln sheep.

Everyone connected with the sheep industry is fully aware of the large and increasing quantities of imported mutton shipped from the Argentine to this country; but few are aware how very largely the demand for Argentine live sheep has increased of late in Holland and Belgium. From some figures just to hand from the Argentine we find that during the past seven months no less than 34,789 head of Argentine sheep have been sent to Antwerp.

This large outlet for Argentine sheep is doubtless of some value to the breeder of English stud sheep, because it helps to make the industry more profitable in the Argentine. It is, however, a question whether or not the fresh development may not be the means of increasing the competition in our own markets. The journey from the Low Countries is a very short one indeed, and it is quite possible for Argentine sheep, slaughtered there, to be sent and sold in our London markets as fresh mutton. If this should be so it will be a serious source of competition.

The high prices reported at Lincoln sheep sales have made quite a sensation amongst breeders of other varieties of sheep, all of whom wish their breed would sell like the Lincolns. A sale of Border Leicesters recently reported shows there are breeders of these sheep who are prepared to pay for the best specimens of their breed, prices which are of high value. A yearling ewe in Mr. Scott's sale at Thornhome made £20, a four-tooth ewe made £17 10s., both of which we believe are the highest prices for ewes of these ages this season, and the averages realised for these two ages, i.e., £6 1s. 3d. and £7 19s. 2d., are almost if not quite the highest for this season also.

This sale brings out clearly how valuable the old-established stud flocks of this country are. Many who are owners of such fail to realise this, and the observation of the writer, coupled with a lengthy experience, fully confirms this.

How to bring this fact home to those who are fortunate owners of such flocks is a very difficult matter. The owners are, for the most part, somewhat old-fashioned in their ways, and very few take the trouble to make their flock and its merit fully known.

Only last week a business engagement took me to inspect a Southdown flock established before 1852, one of grand type and quality, and yet one to which no export buyer had ever been. Why? it may be asked. Simply because few but those of the immediate neighbourhood knew of its high merit and quality.

Many other similar cases could be quoted; but this is quite sufficient to show how needful it is, if the best demand is desired, to make the existence of the flock and its merit as widely known as possible.

Up to the present time we have not noticed many cases of lameness amongst the flocks that have been visited recently. The absence of this complaint is a matter of satisfaction, because nothing is more detrimental to the well-doing of any flock than for the sheep to become lame either from foot rot or any other cause.

Prevention is always better than cure. With this object in view, we urge that every precaution should be taken to keep the feet thoroughly sound. This can only be done by having the feet properly attended to. It is no use waiting until the sheep or lambs begin to drop lame, for when this happens the mischief has been done. Make it an invariable practice at least twice, if not oftener, each year to have every sheep in the flock turned, and its hoofs properly pared and shaped.

This is the best preventive of infection from foot rot, and from any other form of lameness. This work is also of value from other points of view, amongst which are the better it gives the sheep, the greater ease with which they can move about, etc. The work of paring the hoofs is not one generally appreciated by shepherds, and hence the necessity of the master insisting upon its being done and seeing it is.

If all the losses that the neglect of this simple but most important work has occasioned could be tabulated, its importance would be readily agreed to; but it is just because this cannot be done that the work is so often neglected.

A flock of stud yearling rams that was recently seen was found to have every one of its rams with something more or less seriously wrong with the feet or fetlock joint, all brought about by the neglect of having the feet properly pared. Here the loss was considerable, because some three or four otherwise good yearling rams were so deformed in the feet and over on the joint as to be almost useless and of that character that no leading flockmaster would care to [illegible] in his flock.

Do not neglect the stud ram during the period of service. At least once a week [illegible] should be led in a pen or exercised by them [illegible]. Shepherds will, probably, object to this as being a trouble and extra work; but the flockmaster who values his stud sheep knows that this must be done. In fact far more lambs and probably much more work would be got from every stud ram if each were taken from the [illegible] for at least three or four hours each day. A good plan, and one that has been tested and found [illegible] satisfactory, is to keep the stud rams shut up alone all day, and only allowed access to the ewes at night. This separation from the ewes gives them time to rest and recuperate, as well as to be properly fed.

Flockowners who have tested this plan can vouch for its efficacy, the cost in time and trouble and for extra food being fully repaid by the extra service secured.

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Sheep Fairs and Sales.

The Bardrill Border Leicesters.

The Bardrill flock of Border Leicester sheep, belonging to Mr. G. R. Sharp, was dispersed by auction at the farm, near Blackford, Perthshire, on the 21st ult., in the presence of a large company. For 16 Border Leicester shearling rams disposed of the prices ranged from £6 to £10, the highest priced ram going to Rev. T. G. Little, Yorkshire. The average for the lot was £7 8s. 3d. A stock ram of Barrelwell breeding was sold at £8; and the best of the gimmers went at £9 to Mr. W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, Perth.

Bridgwater.

The St. Matthew's fair at Bridgwater, held on Thursday, was well supplied with sheep, several thousand being on offer, and, on the whole, trade was brisk, at good prices. Mr. Horace Hurman had 1,600 in his auction. Bidding was keen, the whole being cleared under an hour. Dorset horn in-lamb ewes averaged 56s., Down ewes 47s. 6d., Cheviot lambs 19s., and Cheviot ewes 32s. Outside the auction prices were above the average. In the horse fair there was a very large supply of all classes, but trade was dragging.

Sir Merrik Burrell's Southdowns.

Owing to the estate having been let, the entire pure-bred flock of Southdown sheep, together with other farm stock, was sold by auction on Thursday at Park Farm, West Grinstead, by Messrs. H. Smith and Son, of Horsham. The flock was started in 1886 by the purchase of ewes from Mr. W. Stanford, Portslade, and the rams used for service have been bought from time to time of such well-known flockmasters as the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Sir James Duke, Bart., Colonel Hammond, Messrs. Ellis, Emery, Heasman, C. J. Lucas, J.P., Penfold, W. Toop, etc. The lambs were all of Colonel Hammond's rams, and eligible for entry in the Flock Book. There was a good trade, and the sheep realised in all £830 19s. 6d., the average being as follows:—86 two-tooth ewes, £2 12s. 8d.; 54 four-tooth ewes, £2 14s. 6d.; 45 six-tooth ewes, £2 9s.; 33 full-mouth ewes, £2 5s. 4d.; 20 draft ewes, £1 19s. 6d.; 60 wether lambs, £1 15s.; 60 ewe lambs, £1 11s.; 18 mixed lambs, £1 5s. 6d.; 2 shearling rams, £7 12s. 3d.

Carlisle

Messrs. Harrison held a special sale of breeding sheep and lambs at their Carlisle Mart on Saturday, 13,000 ewes and gimmers, half and three-quarter bred, cross Down, cross Cheviot, and black-faced lambs being forward. The sale attracted a large gathering of buyers, and bidding was brisk, a steady demand being experienced. Prices:—Lambs: half and three-quarter bred to 33s., Oxford crosses 33s. 3d., Leicester crosses to 29s. 6d., Cheviots to 21s. 9d., black-faced to 14s. 6d. Feeding sheep: Half-breds to 38s., crosses 37s. 3d., Cheviots to 37s. 6d.; ewes and gimmers, half-breds to 45s., black-faced to 21s. 3d.

The Late Mr. Dewhurst's Blue Faced Wensleydales.

On Tuesday Mr. J. Downham, of Morecambe, acting under instructions from the executors of the late Mr. J. B. Dewhurst, dispersed the flock of 151 blue-faced Wensleydale sheep [illegible] at Aireville, near Skipton. [illegible] large and representative company assembled, and a very spirited sale was the result. The stock ewes made up to £11 per head, the [illegible] being £4 7s. 3d; shearling gimmers made up to £4 10s., the average for 23 head being £3 8s. 9d.; and gimmer lambs up to £4 7s. 6d. each, the average for 32 being £2 5s.; ram lambs—for which there was an excellent demand—[illegible] to £12

(Mr. Earle), the average for 25 being £4 17s. 3d. each.

Dorchester.

About 12,000 sheep were penned at Dorchester Poundbury Sheep Fair held on Thursday, and buyers were well represented, but trade on the whole was quiet, though most of the sheep changed hands. Prices were, on the whole, disappointing, falling from 2s. to 4s. below last year's rates. The judges awarded the first prize for the best 100 horns to H. Southall, Burton, Bradstock (for which he made 55s. apiece), and the second to C. Hawkins, Waddon. In Class 2, for the best fifty, J. Bryant, Berwick, Bridport, secured first prize, and W. Tucker, St. Andrew's, second. Mr. J. H. Creed, Burstock, Crewkerne, and Mr. R. B. White, Herringstone, Dorchester, were the judges. Horn ewes, as a general run, made from 45s. to 55s.; couples, 58s. to 66s.; wethers, 32s. to 36s.; wether lambs, 30s. to 35s.; chilver lambs, 35s. to 44s. In Downs, ewes sold from 42s. to 49s. 6d.; wethers, 34s. to 44s.; chilver lambs, 28s. to 33s.; wether lambs, 27s. to 32s. 6d.; Southdown lambs, 26s. to 27s.

Driffield.

At Driffield on Wednesday there were offered for sale by various auctioneers between 500 and 600 breeding sheep, together with rams of the Lincoln and Leicester type, from the flocks of some of the best breeders on the Yorkshire wolds. The ewes of both breeds sold well, and made up to 64s., whilst for shearling rams there was also a good demand at fair prices, the best recorded being 14 gs.

Market Rasen.

The annual September ram and sheep fair at Market Rasen on Monday was hardly so well attended as in some previous years, whilst the number of rams offered showed a falling off compared with last year, but prices were a decided improvement. The top price was 12 gs., obtained for one of Mr. Davy's Croxby rams and one of Mr. H. Abraham's Walisby rams. An average of £8 4s. 9d. was obtained for 13 of the latter breeder's rams, whilst eight of Mr. Davy's averaged £9 15s. 6½d., the highest average of the day. Last year the top price was 10½ gs., and the highest average £7 13s. At the sheep fair there was a fairly good trade, full average prices being realised. About 2,000 sheep were penned. Lambs made 32s. to 40s., gimmers 39s. 6d. to 55s., ewes 36s. to 50s., and tups 47s. to 67s. 6d.

Newark.

This annual sheep fair at Newark was held on Wednesday, when about 2,500 were penned, and there was a good demand, especially for lambs. The highest price for lambs was made by the executors of the late Mr. Welby, of Allington, who sent 90, which fetched 37s. 6d. to 48s. 6d. each. Forty shillings was about the average throughout the fair. The best figure for gimmers was 67s., made by Mr. Bembridge, of Hawton. A flock of 100 sent by Mr. Abraham Hawton realised 50s. 6d. to 59s. each. Forty-eight black-faced gimmers from Mr. Horner, of Averham, made 58s. to 64s. The trade in rams was poor, the best price being 13 gs.

Partney.

At Partney Ram Fair was realised one of the best, if not the best price of the year for a ram, namely, 650 gs., this big sum being given by Mr. Kirkham, of Louth, for a grand shearling from the flock of Messrs. J. T. and A. W. Needham, of Huttoft Grange, who sold 31 splendid rams for an aggregate of £990 13s. 6d., or the fine average of £31 19s. 1½d. per head. Other good prices were also realised at the fair, 30 gs. being paid for a shearling from the Baumber flock, the lot sent up by Mr. W. Taylor Sharpe averaging £10 8s. 1d. Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Son, of Strubby, sent half a score, which averaged £10 13s. 1d.; and Mr. W. Stovin, of Dexthorpe, sold a score at an average of £12 18s. 10d. Of the South Thoresby rams, the property of Mr. L. W. Stephenson, 25 averaged £10 12s. 11d. Eight of Messrs. Dean and Sons' Dowsby Hall rams averaged £8 13s. 1½d., whilst Mr. F. Ward, of Quarrington, sold 12, averaging £8 3s. 7½d. Altogether there was a fair demand for Longwool rams. At the fair itself there was an average number of sheep penned, with an improvement all round in prices. Some of the best lambs reached 40s. per head, whilst breeding ewes made up to 61s. for two-shear sheep.

Robertsbridge.

At this popular southern sheep fair, held on Monday, about 2,500 ewes and lambs were sold by Messrs. F. S. Mills and Son. The attendance of buyers was excellent, and a fast and brisk trade was done. Prices proved highly satisfactory. The best lambs ranged from 27s. to 33s., ewes from 20s. to 24s., and ewe tegs went from 40s. to 46s. Draft ewes were disposed of at 35s. up to 44s. The top price for Down rams was £5, and ram lambs were sold from 40s. to 55s.

The Thornhome Border Leicester Flock.

Mr. Scott's entire flock of 108 Border Leicester sheep was sold at Lanark by Messrs. Lawrie and Symington. Mr. Scott's decision to sell his flock at this time was come to somewhat hastily, and consequently there was not time to prepare it specially for a sale, the stock only being shown in nice natural condition. Although the Thornhome flock was only formed in recent years, it attracted a large circle of buyers, both local and from a wide radius, and from start to finish a very active selling trade was met at highly satisfactory prices. The top price was realised for a shearling ewe, for which Mr. Carr, Sremster, gave £20. The following is a list of the highest and average prices:—

SUMMARY.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
24 Gimmers	20 0 0	6 1 3
13 One-crop ewes	17 10 0	7 19 2
4 Two-crop ewes	8 10 0	6 15 0
6 Three-crop ewes	7 10 0	6 0 10
4 Four-crop ewes	7 0 0	5 8 9
7 Aged ewes	4 10 0	3 17 1
23 Ewe lambs	13 10 0	3 19 4
1 Stud ram	14 0 0	—
26 Lamb rams	14 0 0	4 18 8

York.

The principal fair of the year for the sale of breeding sheep at York took place on Thursday, and it was estimated that fully 25,000 of all classes were penned. The weather was wet, but there was a numerous attendance of buyers, but trade on the whole was comparatively slow. That for North Country ewes was very sluggish, and whilst some of the best lots made 52s. each, the majority could be had from 44s. to 48s. North Country gimmers made 46s. to 52s., North Country lambs 26s. to 32s., and Cheviot ewes 26s. to 32s. The best twice-crossed shearlings met with a good inquiry at 45s. to 50s., Masham shearlings 38s. to 44s., and Masham ewes 38s. to 44s. There was good inquiry for twice-crossed lambs at 28s. to 34s., and one or two special lots made 38s., Masham lambs 22s. to 26s.

A few South Country ewes were on offer at 35s. to 44s. There was a good offer of rams, and a large number, comprising Oxford Downs, Lincolns, Wensleydales, and Leicesters were sold by auction. The quality was excellent, but, although there were plenty of buyers, prices were none too high. Oxford Down shearling rams ranged from 4½ gs. to 9½ gs. Some Oxford Down ram lambs averaged £4 1s., Lincoln long-wool shearling rams £5 9s. 3d. each, Leicester ram lambs 3 gs. each. The lot of nineteen improved Leicester shearling rams averaged 7 gs. each, the highest price paid being 16½ gs.

Cocoanut Oil and Margarine in "Butter."

At Kettering Police Court, on Wednesday, Messsr. Coopman and Young, provision merchants, of 48, St. John Street, Smithfield, London, were summoned by the Northamptonshire County Council for a breach of the Merchandise Marks Act by applying a false trade description to butter. Mr. Bye provision merchant, of Kettering, deposed to purchasing butter from the defendants, who guaranteed it as "St. John's butter, from the Fancy Creamery—Buckinghamshire quality—where the finest cows graze on the richest pasture."

Dr. Voelcker, county analyst, said the butter contained 20 per cent. of margarine, with cocoanut oil, mixed in such a clever way as to deceive the most careful analyst. To make certain, he mixed the ingredients himself and got the same extraordinary results. He was not at all surprised to hear that some analysts had passed the butter as pure. It was stated that the defendants did an enormous trade in the article, amounting to hundreds of tons per week.

Mr. Hope, for the defence, said as the defendants had been fined at Clerkenwell, the statute was answered.

The Bench convicted, and imposed a fine of £20 and 20 gs. costs.

The work of replanting the Black Country has been commenced by an association formed for the purpose, of which Sir Oliver Lodge, principal of the Birmingham University, is president. Fifty acres have been secured near Bradley, one of the blackest parts of the Black Country. Upon a portion of the land the Wolverhampton and neighbouring authorities are building a small pox hospital, and the remaining forty two acres are to be planted with young trees by the association, so that the best effect will be obtained. The association are negotiating for two other sites.

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POULTRY.

Dry Food v. Moist Food for Chickens.

This is a subject which has given rise to much discussion amongst poultry-keepers on account of the advocates of dry food stating on many occasions that chickens thus raised are healthier and finer than any which are brought up on a moist diet. We do not advocate the use of sloppy foods for fowls or for chickens, but we have always found that a judicious mixture of moist and dry food produces healthier chickens and larger-sized birds than an entirely dry diet, and there are a great many of the largest poultry-keepers could bear us out in this statement.

We are personally acquainted with the system of management in vogue on nearly every large farm in England, and only a small percentage adopt the dry feed for their young birds. We have seen very healthy birds which have been entirely reared on dry food, but we have never yet seen any flock of young stock of the same size and vigour as those which have been brought up on biscuit meal, ground oats, and middlings, mixed with milk or water, and a judicious blending of groats, canary seed, small wheat, dari, etc.

We can quite understand that in some cases, where the owner of the young birds has to go to his daily occupation, it is an advantage to him to be able to leave the food for the chickens for the day, and the young birds on this system grow into healthy birds, but do not ever get the size or produce as large table fowls as those reared on the other system, which takes more time and attention, but for which there is a good return in the development of finer birds, which has always meant better table fowls in the cockerels and larger eggs from the pullets, for the small, under-sized fowl does not lay as large eggs as the well-developed birds of good size. By comparing birds of the same breed and strain reared on the two systems, we have proved this to be the case.

The dry-food system is not accepted amongst those who rear for the table any more than amongst the poultry farmers and breeders of good-class birds—the principal headway having been made by those who just rear their own fowls for laying.

A good mixture for the first two months is made of:—Groats 2 parts, wheat 2 parts, green peas 1 part, dari 1 part, buckwheat 1 part, millet 2 parts, and rice 1 part (all crushed up together), and, after that, 2 parts of wheat, 1 part of clipped oats, 1 of maize, and 1 of dari can be successfully used when the dry-food system is found to be more convenient.

Chickens which have fine biscuit meal which has been scalded given to them alternately with split groats for the first few days, and canary seed and wheat which has been crushed after that time, will not be troubled with constipation. They will thrive and grow quickly, and should symptoms of this disorder be noticed they should have a feed of boiled rice given to them, which will quickly correct that.

At the age of four weeks it is advisable to give the birds the coarse biscuit meal. The finest chickens are produced by giving a good proportion of Sussex ground oats, combined with the best biscuit meal obtainable. Scotch oatmeal is excellent for feeding chickens on, but it is much more expensive

Some writers advocate alternate meals of soft food and hard corn throughout the day, but we find it better to give soft food for the morning meal and during the day, and corn for the last two feeds at night. The corn which is used with the most satisfactory results for chicken-rearing is wheat of the best quality, combined with dari, French buckwheat, and a small proportion of hemp seed. Always bear in mind that chickens do not need a quantity of food, but they do need the little they have to be of the best possible quality.

Kent and Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Show and Sale.

The notable success that has attended the annual show and sale of registered Kent rams at Ashford, Kent, has completely falsified the freely-expressed opinions of those who were opposed to its establishment nine years back. Each successive year gives proof of its growing popularity and importance. And the attendance at the present sale was one of the best since its inauguration. The export demand was good, and many superior sheep were purchased from this section of the trade. Several fresh purchasers of registered rams are included amongst the list of buyers. Previously to the sale, the award of the prizes offered by the President, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Lord Harris, and Mr. L. Hardy, M.P., took place, and the judges to whom this important duty was asigned, Messrs. F. and B. Collard, W. E. Long, and J. Finn-Kelly, found the task one of great difficulty, on account of the marked quality and merit of the competitors. The yearling class was also a notable one, as this is the first occasion upon which any rams other than those bred in Kent have ever been in competition. The number of entries in this class was thirty-six, representing no less than eighteen distinct flocks. Such a class as this, so representative of the leading flocks of the breed formed, was a thoroughly interesting one to those buyers and breeders from the colonies and abroad, as it afforded them an excellent opportunity to judge the type, merit, and character of the several flocks represented, as well as to compare one with the other. The winning ram here was one from Mr. J. E. Quested's flock, Quested's No. 41 of 1904, a wide, deep, and thoroughly good ram; its flock mate, Quested's No. 25 of 1904, was made r.n. in this class, a notable success for any breeder to secure in so large a class of yearling rams. Messrs. W. Millen and A. Amos had a very close struggle for the second and third places, the awards being finally given in the order named. A ram of superior merit, and one keenly competed for in the sale-ring, from Mr. C. File's flock, was made h.c., and two others, sent by Messrs. H. Rigden and J. B. Palmer, were commended.

In the class for two-shear or older rams Mr. J. E. Quested was equally successful, for he won Lord Harris's Challenge Cup with Quested's No. 11 of 1904, and the r.n. for the same honour with Quested's No. 90 of 1904. Mr. Charles File taking the second place with that well-bred and level ram Windsor 63rd, and securing an h.c. with Elham No. 90 of 1900; the other h.c. awarded went to Mr. S. Kingsnorth for Farmer's No. 63 of 1902, a fine stud ram bred by Mr. G. Farmer.

The sale this year will be a memorable one. At no previous sale in recent years has the competition been so keen, nor has the demand from abroad or in the Colonies been so large. Fully a third of the rams sold were purchased for export, buyers being present from Argentina, Patagonia, Uruguay, Falkland Islands, and Australasia. The actual number of rams entered was 362, of which nine were absent and six unsold, making a total of 347 rams sold, that realised the excellent aggregate of £4,130 13s. 6d., and secured the record average of £11 18s., as against £10 14s. 8d. for 310 at the corresponding sale last year. The yearling rams this year, 329, averaged £12 0s. 9d.; those sold last year, 290, averaged £10 13s. 7d. Upon that occasion only one average exceeded £15; this year four did so. It will, therefore, be readily recognised how very much better the demand was this season than in 1904. The following brief references to each of the consignments gives some few of the principal prices and purchasers; the average realised and the range of prices.

Mr. J. E. Quested heads both the list of individual prices and also that for the average of yearling rams. The top price of the sale, and also the highest price made for many years, was 56 gs. for the champion ram purchased by Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., for export to Uruguay. The r.n. ram in the yearling ram class also came from this flock, Mr. Arthur Finn paying 42 gs. for him, the same buyer taking another at 13 gs.; Messrs. Cooper and Nephews gave 21 gs., Mr. Farlow 16 gs., and the sixteen averaged £15 18s. 3d. The four old rams sold well, Lord Harris taking the ram that won his lordship's cup at 15½ gs., and Mr. Robinson, from Borstal, Rochester, that which won the r.n. in the same class for 10 gs., the four making an average of £9 11s. 7d. Mr. F. Neame's fifty were in great request, and each was keenly competed for. The top price here was 29 gs., at which price Messrs. Hobbs purchased two for export; the same firm also took several other excellent rams, paying, amongst other prices, 25, 24, 22½, 18½, 16½ gs., etc. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. gave 26 and 12 gs., Mr. Clements 23 and 16½ gs., Mr. Green 24 gs., Mr. F. Baker 21½ and 18 gs., Major Powell Cotton 20 gs., and many others from 14 gs., the average of the whole consignment being £15 13s. 6d.

Mr. C. File had only thirteen yearling rams left, for so large has his private demand been this season; these, however, fully maintained his flock's high reputation, notwithstanding many of the best rams had been sold. The top price in this consignment was 48 gs., made by that grand ram which was h.c. in its class, Messrs. Cooper and Nephews being the purchasers. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. took another at 21 gs., Messrs. C. Hobbs three at 20, 16½, and 9 gs., all for export, the average of the thirteen working out at £15 13s. 4d. The four old rams were also in request, making an average of £11 18s. 10d., Mr. G. Briley paying 18 gs. for the second prize ram, and Mr. Robinson 13 gs. for the h.c. and two shear rams

Mr. A. Amos, whose consignment numbered fifty, met with an excellent sale, for the prices, as a rule, were very level all through. The best price was 44 gs. to the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, whose representative, Mr. Miller, secured a grand lot of rams. These gentlemen purchased others of this consignment at 15 gs., 14 gs., 15 gs., and 13 gs. Mr. J. E. Quested secured the third-prize yearling ram at 40 gs., a very good ram indeed; Messrs. C. Hobbs and Co. were large buyers for export, paying, amongst other prices, 25 gs., 19 gs., 15 gs., 15½ gs., 12½ gs., etc. Sir J. Croft gave 20 gs., Mr. T. Powell 31 gs., Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., Cooper Nephews, the Hon. S. P. Tufton, and other leading breeders were also purchasers.

Mr. J. B. Palmer, a fresh consignor, only sent four. These were in great request, his average being £13 15s. 7d., and best prices 17½ gs. to Mr. J. File and 16 gs. to Mr. C. E. Hawkins (Essex).

Mr. W. Millen's consignment numbered thirty, and as these were those left after a considerable number had been selected for export, the average realised, £12 14s. 9d., for the whole lot must be considered an excellent one. The second-prize yearling ram was in great request. The export buyers wanted him, but the Exors. of W. Elvey were fortunate to secure this fine ram at 32 gs.; Mr. Ascherson gave 21½ gs. for another. The Liebig Extract of Meat Company, 18½ gs. and lower prices; Mr. W. W. Chapman, 14 gs., etc.

The first consignment of rams from Lord Harris's flock at Belmont was made this year. These well-bred sheep were in good request. Mr. G. C. Swindell took two at 13 gs. and 11 gs., Mr. Burch two at 12 gs. and 10½ gs., Mr. Marchant one at 11 gs., and Messrs. Poels, who were large purchasers at the sale, took the other at 8 gs., the lot making an average of £11 9s. 5d.

Mr. G. Farmer's consignment were sold late in the sale, which accounts for the somewhat lower average, for these were fine rams. Messrs. Thornton and Co. gave 30 gs. for one, the top price, the same firm taking another one at 22 gs.; two went to Mr. N. W. Chapman at 12 gs. for export, and the remainder ranged down to 6 gs., to Messrs. Poels, the average working out at £10 19s. 5d.

Mr. J. D. Blount's consignment was the first sent to this sale from his flock; the whole were in good request, and the ten gave an excellent average of £10 19s. 5d. The best prices were 18½ gs. to C. Hobbs and Co., for export, 11½ gs. to Mr. Green, and 11 gs. to Mr. T. File.

Mr. G. Briley sold twenty; here again the demand was a good one, and the range of prices even, *i.e.*, from 15 gs. to 7½ gs. The top-priced ram went to Sir E. Dering, who also took a second ram at 14 gs., and a third at 11 gs.

Captain S. Webb sent eight yearling rams; these ranged in price from 17 gs. to 4½ gs., Mr. W. Pearce paying the top price. Two two-shear rams from this flock made 11 gs. and 6 gs. to Messrs. H. King and Cross.

Mr. H. Rigden, who, like several other leading breeders, had a good few selected for export, had but forty-seven rams to offer. These sold at prices which gave an average of £9 13s.; one of the best averages made by this flock for several years. Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. gave the top price, 22 gs., made in two instances; the next best price was 18 gs. to Mr. W. Pearce, Lord Hothfield's agent, Mr. A. Brown, five at from 12 gs. to 11 gs.

Mr. S. Kingsnorth's five averaged 8 gs., with the top price of 13 gs. for the yearling rams; and the same vendor sent five two-shear and older rams that realized an average of £7 6s. 10d. Mr. F. de B. Collard's consignment of seventeen rams were in request; these ranged in price from 15 gs. to 7½ gs.

Mr. J. File's rams, that numbered twelve, were last in the sale, but these rams, representing a flock so well known, were in good demand, the whole lot making an average of £8 3s. 7d., Mr. W. W. Chapman taking five of them at from 11 gs., and Messrs. C. Hobbs five for export at from 9 gs.

Mr. W. E. Long's rams, eight in number, averaged £6 15s. 10d., the top price being 8½ gs.

Mr. E. Hambrook's well-bred rams that only needed better doing to have made them in keen request, sold at from 8½ gs. to 4 gs., and averaged £5 13s. 4d. for ten.

Mr. C. E. Hawkins, who sent ten up from Essex, only sold four, the only vendor who did not sell all offered at the auction, for an average of £4 11s. 10d.

Frome.

The feature of the show of the Frome Agricultural Society is always the cheese classes, and that held on Wednesday proved no exception to the rule, and visitors had the pleasure of inspecting one of the finest, and perhaps, largest displays of cheese seen in England this year, for the cheese fair is held on the same day. This year the entries were larger than ever, and the marquee holding the exhibits was 240 ft. long by 42 ft. wide. The pitch at the fair was quite up to the usual quantity, but the attendance of buyers was distinctly smaller than in previous years. The greater part of the cheese on offer was Cheddar; the present high prices, however, somewhat checked sales. Eventually, a clearance was practically made of the whole pitch. Prices ran as follows: Fine Cheddars, 58s. to 64s.; medium, 50s. to 56s.; Somersets, 48s. to 56s.; truckles, 52s. to 58s.,

The connecting link between the fair and the show is brought about by the society offering £20 in prizes for the best lot of cheese pitched in the market by a farmer, dairyman, or factory, the lot to be not less than ½ cwt. for each cow in the dairy, or for every cow from which milk was taken to produce the exhibit. There were eighteen entries in all, including more than a dozen of noted cheese-makers. The first prize fell to Mr. J. A. Fricker, of Burton, Mere, Wilts, whose achievements in the main hitherto have been in the successful showing of well-bred pigs. The prizes ranged in value for this competition from £12 to £1.

In the open class for four cheeses of not less than 60 lb. each, any system or make, there were forty-seven entries, and the first prize went to Mr. H. White, of Mappowder, Blandford. The success of this maker at previous big shows this season, including the Mid-Somerset at Shepton Mallet, and the East Somerset at Wincanton, goes far to show that he has adopted a system which meets the requirements of the experts, and this was further corroborated by the fact that this exhibitor's son, Mr. E. T. White, also of Mappowder, took the first prize in the makers' competition, and with the same lot later was selected for championship honours. Besides these, other prizes fell to these first-class makers.

As regards the other sections of the show, these were satisfactory as regards quality, but the numbers were not what they might have been. The horses were not quite so numerous or so good as at many previous exhibitions, but the cart mares and foals were all right, and there were several first quality hunters. The cattle made a creditable display, although it was noticed with regret that the Jerseys, which are always such a feature here, looked a little like falling away, whilst Shorthorns, if not numerous, were first class.

Altrincham.

The Altrincham Agricultural Society is nothing if not enterprising, and their "pushfullness," to use a familiar term, has brought its own reward, for their show is now reckoned the largest one-day agricultural exhibition held in this country, whilst to the Lancashire and Cheshire farmers it is one of the events of the year. The Society offered this year prizes to the aggregate value of £1,750, and it is satisfactory to record that the entries were on a scale befitting such a liberal prize schedule, and the total showed a considerable advance on 1904, as did also the quality. The number was 5,447, as against 5,236 last year, and 4,676 in 1903. The entries in the less important classes chiefly accounted for the increase, but heavy horses were more representative than last year, the figures being 125, as against 103, but the light horse classes disclosed a decrease of even, whilst cattle fell from 133 to 122. The want of quantity in cattle was, however, made up in quality, the exhibits generally showing the benefit that has been derived from the encouragement given to breeders in the district. Earl Egerton of Tatton, Colonel Cotton-Joddrell, C.B. (Nantwich), Mr. S. S. Raingill (Ringway), and Mr. J. R. Newton (Warburton) were amongst the principal exhibitors. The special prize given by the Earl Egerton of Tatton for the best dairy cow in milk, to be competed for by tenant farmers, was awarded to S. S. Raingill, and the silver cup given by Colonel Henry

Langford Brooke to the breeder of the best heifer under three years old, went to J. Platt, of Tabley. Mr. R. Clarke, of Warburton, secured the cup given by the Society for the best bull under three years old. This animal also secured the prize of £5 given by the Society for the best bull in the show. Mr. G. Harrison, of Darlington, won first prizes in the classes for cow in milk or in calf, and for a bull under two years old.

In the horse section, Mr. J. G. Groves, M.P., offered a silver cup for the best pair of draught mares or geldings, open to the district, and this was won by two well-known prize-winners, Oldfield Duke and Oldfield Prince, owned by Mr. A. C. Sparkes, of Altrincham. This pair have never been beaten, and the same can be said of Oldfield Duke when shown alone. The latter horse won first honours and cup at the Shire Horse Show this year, two first prizes and a fifty-guinea cup at the Wirral and Birkenhead Show, also the premier prize at Park Royal, and the first and cup at Worsley. In the open class for draught horse (mare or gelding), Earl Egerton of Tatton's Rocks Madam, a very fine animal, won the first prize, Mr. Davies' (Warburton) Midlands Captain, which won a first prize in the class for a draught gelding, taking second place. Mr. J. Gould, of Lynn, was a big exhibitor in the heavy horse classes, and some of his well-known exhibits appear in the prize list as usual.

There were some splendid classes of light horses. Most of the exhibitors came from the Cheshire side, although Lancashire was fairly well represented. The Hunters' Improvement Society's medal for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old was awarded to a horse owned by J. Prescott, of Kinderton, whilst the Hackney Horse Society's silver medal for the best hackney or pony mare registered or eligible for registration in the Hackney Stud Book, went to Heathfield Pansy, owned by Mr. A. L. Goodson, of Knutsford. Colonel Sir Lees Knowles, Bart, M.P., won his own prize —a silver cup—for the best gelding or filly not exceeding three years old. Some of his exhibits in other classes were also successful.

SHOWS IN BRIEF.

Ashbourne Shire Horse.

The entries at the show of the Ashbourne Shire Horse Society held on Thursday were not so numerous as last year, but the quality fully made amends for the deficiency, the open classes, in particular, being especially praiseworthy, including, as they did, animals from several well-known studs. The catalogue opened with an open class for mares foaled in or previous to 1901, with foal at foot, and here premier honours went to Mr. Hamar Towgood's well-known nine-year-old bay, Rolleston Fuchsia, which also was awarded the Edward Coke memorial prize, having been bred in the district. The three-year-old fillies were a good class, and was headed by Sir P. A. Muntz's Bonny Blue, a good symmetrical animal which had been placed first at Stafford, first at Burton-on-Trent, and second at the Shropshire and West Midland shows this year. The two-year-old fillies secured a big entry, of which Mr. T. Simpson Jay's Wimbledon Fuchsia was adjudged the best; whilst in the class for yearling fillies the Earl Egerton of Tatton's Tatton May Queen met the judge's eye for first honours, and thus she kept her record of not having been beaten in the show-yard. The Earl Egerton of Tatton also secured first for entire colts with Tatton Dray King. The colt foals constituted a big entry, and were generally considered a capital lot of youngsters. The first prize was given to an animal exhibited by Mr. H. R. Craig, of Billesden, Leicester. Besides being first in its class it also secured the valuable prize of the Ashby Foal Challenge Cup, valued at 30 gs., for the best foal on the ground. Mr. Farnsworth's Ratcliffe Conquering King was placed second, and also reserve for the foal challenge cup. The Earl Egerton of Tatton again proved successful in the class for filly foals. The much-coveted trophy, the Wainwright Challenge Cup, value 50 gs., was won by Mr. Hamar Towgood's Rolleston Fuchsia, after much consideration on the part of the judges Sir P. A. Muntz's Bonny Blue being given the reserve.

Gransden and District.

The Gransden and District Agricultural Society held their annual show at Great Gransden on Tuesday, and it was probably the best they have ever held, for the entries were good, both in quantity and quality, the weather was favourable, and the attendance of visitors most satisfactory; in fact, it was an all-round success. The show is a most comprehensive one, classes being provided for horses, cattle, sheep, allotment and garden produce, roots, corn, butter, cream, cheese, eggs, potatoes, driving, and labourers in husbandry. In each section prizes worth winning were offered, and some good competition was witnessed. Perhaps the feature of the show was the display of horses, particularly Shires and hunters, these including many noteworthy animals. The other sections, however, were all attractive, and, altogether, the show was a most interesting one.

Leighton Buzzard Foal.

The third annual show of the Leighton and Linslade Foal Show Society, held on Tuesday in Mrs. Swire's paddock, at the rear of Leighton House, was, as a whole, of a high order of merit, and the interest it aroused shows that each year the fixture makes substantial progress. There were 69 exhibitors this year, as against 63 in 1904, and the classes numbered 18 as against 16, whilst the animals shown were generally of excellent quality. In the competition for the championship cup for the best Shire foal in the show, the prize went to Mr. F. A. Johnson, of Soham, for a remarkably handsome filly foal. Mr. R. Keevil, of Billington, took first prize for a fine colt foal shown in the class for exhibits from a ten-mile radius; and the three silver medals offered by the Imperial Hunter Society, for best hunter colt foal, best hunter filly foal, and best hunter brood mare, were secured respectively by the Earl of Orkney with a chestnut foal of good symmetry and great promise, by Mr. Sayell, of Ledburn, and Mr. J. W. King, of Whitesfields, Aylesbury, with his well-known mare Postmistress.

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27th ANNUAL

EXHIBITION AND MARKET,

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON, N.,

OCTOBER 14 to 20, 1905.

Malting and Seed Barley Competition (ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 4th.)

MOST VALUABLE CASH AND OTHER PRIZES.

Hop Competition (ENTRIES CLOSE OCTOBER 7th.)

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The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

VOL. XCIII. No. 3863. [REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.] LONDON, MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1905. [With Two Supplements.] PRICE 3D.

SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DEC. 4th to 8th, 1905, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows :—Live Stock (cattle, sheep, pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, Nov. 1st ; post entries, Nov. 6th. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5th. Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOW.

(Open to all England without Subscription).

LORD TREDEGAR has fixed the 87th Annual Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 21st and 22nd.

The PRIZE LIST contains 60 regulated Classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and HORSES, the Prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

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The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all Particulars, may be had on application to—

G. P. MITCHELL INNES,
Tredegar Estate Office,
Newport, Mon.

N.B. -- Entries Close November 1st for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses ; for Poultry and Pigeons, October 28th.

NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW.
29th ANNUAL EXHIBITION FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, &c.,
AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH,
NOVEMBER 16th, 17th & 18th, 1905.
LAST DAY OF ENTRY FOR STOCK AND STAND SPACE OCTOBER 21st.
Prize lists, entry forms, and all particulars of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER,
East Harling, Thetford.

AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
DAIRY AND FARM PRODUCE SHOW at KILMARNOCK, N.B.,
OCT. 19th and 20th. Entries close Oct. 6th.
JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

CLAYCROSS AND DISTRICT,
At CLAYCROSS.
OCTOBER 24th, 1905.
Entries close October 21st.
A. MILNER, Secretary,
Stratton, near Alfreton.

GRAVESEND & ROCHESTER AGRICULTURAL
At ROCHESTER,
OCTOBER 25th, 1905.
ROBERT MISKIN, Secretary,
Frindsbury Road, Rochester.

NANTWICH DAIRY SHOW,
At NANTWICH,
NOVEMBER 1st and 2nd, 1905.
Entries close October 28th.
ROBERT CHALLINER, Secretary,
St. Werburgh's Street, Chester.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

CHIPPENHAM AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.
NOVEMBER 23rd and 24th.
Entries close November 10th.
E. BURBIDGE, Secretary.

AUCTION SALES.

TERRINGTON STUD FARM,
NEAR KING'S LYNN.

FIFTH ANNUAL SALE OF
BLACK ANGUS, GALLOWAY, AND
BLUE-GREY POLLED CATTLE.

SIR GILBERT GREENALL,
Bart., will hold his
FIFTH ANNUAL SALE
On WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 1905,
Of about **400**
PRIME POLLED BEASTS,
At the TERRINGTON STUD FARM, TERRINGTON ST. JOHN, at 1.30 prompt.

They mainly consist of big two and three-year-old Bullocks and Heifers amongst which are some splendid Blue-Greys. A number have been cake fed, the Stores are very thick and forward, will make heavy weights, and finish quickly.

Further particulars of W. BAINBRIDGE, Land Agent, Warrington ; or of the Stud Groom, at Terrington St. John.

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IMPORTANT SALE OF 40 RED POLLED CATTLE BY

WILLIAM CHRYSTAL, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th (One o'clock), at Burn Hall, one mile from Croxdale Station, N.E.R., and three miles from Durham.

Catalogues of Mr. WM. FLEMING, Estate Office, Tudhoe, co. Durham, or the Auctioneer, Houghton-le-Spring, R.S.O., co. Durham.

AUCTION SALES.

WILLIS'S ROOMS, KING-STREET, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE, S.W.

AN IMPORTANT AND INTERESTING COLLECTION OF GARDEN ORNAMENTS, ANTIQUE FURNITURE AND AN OLD ENGLISH PORTRAIT.

MESSRS. ROBINSON & FISHER are instructed to SELL, at their ROOMS as above, on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th, and following day, at ONE o'clock precisely each day, GARDEN ORNAMENTS, comprising fine marble fountains, seats, vases and figures, many interesting sundials, an elegant pair of park gates with side gate, also other smaller wrought-iron gates ; an important set of four terminal figures (The Seasons) ; a rare old Jacobean stone seat with back ; Charles II. lead vases ; a fine pair of marble thermes (Bacchus and Bacchante) : lead figures of Venus, Diana, and the Woodman ; a handsome jardiniere ; important stone figures of Sir Thomas Gresham, and Bacchus ; an interesting old weather vane ; a large fountain, from the late Lady Powell's garden at Kingston ; a fine lead tank, dated 1722, from Buckingham House, Strand ; a lead figure of The Slave supporting a sundial ; a garden seat from the old Blue-coat School ; a set of very fine old pastoral figures ; handsome pairs of old terra cotta vases and other items from an old garden in Kent ; to be followed by a few pieces of Furniture, including a room of old French oak panelling, richly carved ; a fine oak door ; a Jacobean chest of drawers ; an oak settle ; a pair of firedogs ; a carved wood overmantel with panel in sporting subject ; a pair of old marble medallions, and an interesting portrait of Welbore Agar Ellis, brother to the first Baron Clifden, by Sir Benjamin West. May be viewed two days prior, and catalogues had.

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JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows :—

WEDNESDAY next, OCTOBER 11. About 80 JERSEYS from well known breeders' herds at Bletchley.

THURSDAY next, OCTOBER 12.—The Duchess of Devonshire's BERKSHIRE PIGS, at Eastbourne.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17.—Sir W. H. Wills', Bart., SHORTHORNS, at Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18.—Mr. E. Harwood's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Woodhouse, Almondsbury, Bristol.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.—Mr. C. H. Jolliffe's SHORTHORNS, at Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. C. M. Doyne's SHORTHORNS, at Wells, Gorey, co. Wexford.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Major Cradock's SHORTHORNS, at Derryc, Roscrea, co. Tipperary.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.—About 140 SHORTHORN COWS, HEIFERS, and Young BULLS, at York.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W., who will execute commissions.

TENDERS.

ARMY CONTRACTS.

BREAD, FLOUR, LIVE CATTLE, AND DEAD MEAT.

SEALED TENDERS for Military Services, during six months from the 1st December, 1905, will be received until 12 o'clock noon on the following dates :—Meat and Live Cattle Tenders, on WEDNESDAY, 25th OCTOBER, 1905 ; Bread and Flour Tenders, on FRIDAY, 27th OCTOBER, 1905, by the General Officers Commanding the undermentioned Districts :—

Aldershot Army-Corps Command	Aldershot
Eastern Command 5th div.	Dover.
Ditto, ... 6th div.	Colchester.
Ditto, Thames and Medway Coast Defences	Chatham.
Ditto ... ... Woolwich District	Woolwich.
Irish Command 7th div.	Curragh.
Ditto ... ... 8th div.	Cork.
Ditto Belfast District	Belfast.
London District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.
Northern Command ...	York.
Scottish Command ...	Edinburgh.
Southern Command 4th div.	Moorton Barracks Tidworth Andover
Ditto Plymouth Coast Defences	Devonport.
Ditto Portsmouth Coast Defences	Portsmouth.
Welsh and Midland Command	Chester.
Guernsey and Alderney District	Guernsey.
Jersey District	Jersey.

Forms of Tender and Conditions of Contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of Ten and Four o'clock.

War Office, Pall Mall, S.W.
October, 1905.

Continued on Page 436.

TENDERS.

(continued from front page).

CONTRACT FOR WHEAT.

THE GUARDIANS of the Poor of the Parish of St. Mary, Islington, invite TENDERS for the SUPPLY of WHEAT from the 14th OCTOBER till the 31st MARCH next, to be delivered in quantities of about 5 tons, as ordered, at the Workhouse, Cornwallis Road, in the Parish.

Sealed Tenders must be delivered at the undermentioned Offices on or before TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 1905, addressed to the Guardians, and endorsed "Tender for Wheat." The Tenders will be opened at a Meeting of the Guardians on Thursday, October 12th, at half-past Three o'clock in the afternoon, at the undermentioned offices. The Guardians do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender. Payment will be made monthly.

Printed Forms of Tender (with conditions of contract and estimated quantities) must be obtained from the Clerk personally, or a stamped addressed envelope may be sent, as no others will be received.

By order,
EDWIN DAVEY,
Clerk.

Guardians' Offices,
St. John's Road, Upper Holloway, N.
21st September, 1905.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TRACTION ENGINES and WAGONS, Portable, Ploughing, and Fixed Engines Thrashing Machines, &c., second-hand, for Sale, cheap, or to be Let on Hire-purchase Full list free. Inquiries for all classes of Machinery solicited. Largest stock in England to be seen at our Works as below. We are also buyers of good modern Engines at all times, for cash Large stock of Beltings, Oils, and Engineers' Requisites of all descriptions. HENRY LEWIS & SONS, Thames Bank Iron Works, Reading.

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RATS! RATS!!—A Truro farmer writes:—"After using a 1s. 2d. Pot of HARRISON'S 'RELIABLE' RAT POISON, I picked up 150 dead rats." Equally good for Rats, Mice, or Moles. Dogs or Cats won't touch it. Price 6d., 1s., 2s. 3d., 3s. 8d. Postage 2d.—M. L. HARRISON, Chemist. X. Dept., Reading.

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Mark Lane Express

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PEDICURA for HORSES' FEET, cures thrush, seedy, brittle, shelly hoof, foul smell of feet. Prevents and helps cure sandcrack and corns. Good for greasy heels, itchy mane, tail, or legs. Produces a sound, healthy growth of hoof. Tins 2s. 6d. or 10s. 6d. through Chemists, or post free.—GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

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SITUATION, AGENCIES, WANTED AND VACANT.

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FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

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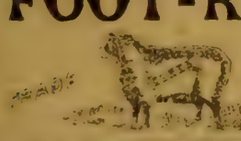

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400 Patterns, post free. Write for them.

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Each **16s.** per cwt. at any station in England for Cash.

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ANALYSIS
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Analysis by itself cannot be relied upon, for damaged and inferior material analyses the same as sound fresh stuff, although the feeding value is very much poorer. Also it is often difficult to detect damaged ingredients when spiced and mixed with other stuff.

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NOTE THIS.

Our first principle has always been to supply the best possible quality, and sell large quantities at a small margin of profit. In feeding stuffs the lowest priced article is certainly not the cheapest. SILCOCK'S brands are the highest standard of Compound Foods. Linseed Cake and Maize are at present priced above their feeding value, and by using Silcock's Cakes and Meals you will obtain really first-class articles and save money.

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For particulars apply to Local Agents, or to

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By Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural and Horticultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

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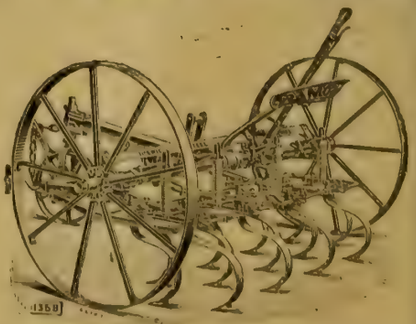

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THE

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In out-of-the-way districts, amongst farmers who perhaps do not often see the Agricultural papers, there are some few feeders who still fatten bullocks and other cattle on Linseed Cake.

To all such we venture to suggest that the present high price of Linseed Cake affords an opportunity for putting the **"BIBBY" CAKE** to a competitive test.

Consider the saving! At the relative prices the cost of **"BIBBY"** is something like 30s. per ton less than the cost of any good brand of English Linseed Cake, so that on a four-ton truck of Cake a saving of £6 is effected.

But this is not all; we maintain that cattle can be fatted more expeditiously on **"BIBBY" CAKE**, which effects a saving of both time and other keep.

But let us waive the latter point, for the money saving alone is well worth the feeder's attention.

We supply the whole Cakes, or in the form of Cakettes, as may be desired.

We also supply our famous **DAIRY CAKE** in Cakettes, Whole Cake or Meal, and we believe better value for Dairy Cows is not to be obtained than we are now giving in our well-known **DAIRY CAKE, CAKETTES**, and **MEAL.**

BIBBY'S QUARTERLY.

The new number of **BIBBY'S QUARTERLY**, edited by our Mr. JOSEPH BIBBY, is now out, and can be had during this month at all Smith's Bookstalls, price 1s.

There be those who say that BIBBY'S QUARTERLY is the best periodical which comes into the farmhouse, but there be also gainsayers who affirm that if it dealt more with live stock, and less with high ethics, it would be more acceptable to the average farmer; and we are rather of that opinion ourselves, but the Editor tells us that he edits BIBBY'S QUARTERLY to please himself, and we have to leave it at that; should, however, any reader of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY make a purchase at Smith's Bookstall, and is afterwards doubtful that he has not got his shilling's worth we undertake to make matters straight with him if he apprise us of his dissatisfaction within the present month.

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LARGE or SMALL DAIRIES.

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SEED WHEATS

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Seed Corn Catalogue now ready. The King's Seedsmen by Royal Warrant.

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Agricultural Journal
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OCTOBER 9, 1905.

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R.A.S.E. FINANCE.

It is a source of great disappointment to members and well-wishers of the Royal Agricultural Society that the report of the Special Committee appointed last July did not shed some light upon the exact financial position of our national society. The report submitted to the Council on Wednesday last, as far as it goes, is satisfactory; but surely it did not take the united wisdom of a specially-appointed body to draw up and suggest such rough-and-ready reforms as those outlined.

According to the terms appointing the Special Committee, they were empowered "to call for any information from officials, and to employ professional assistance, if they consider it necessary, from accountants, solicitors, and valuers, to thoroughly investigate the entire position of the society, and to make a report to the Council after the recess as to what reforms and economies they consider desirable to put the society on a sound desirable to put the society on a sound footing." Surely the terms of this referendum were wide enough to include within their scope every imaginable point that would occur to the average man. How comes it that the report of last Wednesday is minus a balance-sheet? Any firm of auditors would be quite prepared to draw up a plain and unvarnished statement as to what the Society's liabilities are, be they mortgages, balances due to bankers, or any other imaginable claim.

How much is Harewood House worth? Why were not a firm of valuers charged to go over the whole of the premises and give an estimate of its worth, together with its contents? Then, again, what is the position of Park Royal, Limited? The Royal Agricultural Society are the virtual owners of the company, and the position should have been inquired into. Why did not the Special Committee's report tell the members the exact amount for which the land had been mortgaged; to what persons and at what rate of interest?

Again, the members should have been told by the Committee the exact conditions upon which the land was held. It is generally understood that the land is the absolute property of Park Royal, Limited, and that the company can do exactly what they think desirable with the sole exception that the vendor is to have the first option of the land at an agreed on figure per acre if it comes into the market within a certain period. Is this so, or are there any other contingencies to be reckoned with? If there are, the sooner they are disclosed the better, and the whole thing put on a proper basis.

As we have already said, the report of the Special Committee is in itself satisfactory. Most of the recommendations are of a shadowy nature, and they have been wisely relegated to the Standing Committee to carry out and modify if necessary. We have often urged in these columns, and are quite in sympathy with, the curtailment of administrative expenses; but how comes it that no allusion is made to the Show at all? Do the Committee, or the Council for that matter, think that the whole Show system is going on in the old sweet way, and that the present state of muddle can be solved by partial remedies?

In conclusion, we would earnestly impress upon the Council the absolute necessity of taking the members into their confidence, and telling them in £ s. d. where the Royal Agricultural Society stands. It is useless to go upon such partial balance-sheets as have been submitted to members in the past. Professional assistance should be sought, and the whole position disclosed and made clear.

PARK ROYAL, BLACKPOOL, or DERBY?

The invitation conveyed to the Royal Show, at the last Council meeting, from Blackpool and Derby brings forward very prominently the question of the holding of the Show next year. We presume that it will be admitted by all men, or a least the majority, that the Show must not be dropped by the Society,

but as to whether it is to be continued at Park Royal or should once again revert to the migratory system results in a sharp difference of opinion.

We must admit that we are inclined to believe that a show at Park Royal could eventually be made a success. The lines, however, on which it is to be run must be modified; in fact, the whole administration of the Show requires to reiterate an old watchword, "Retrenchment and reform." To drive home this point, it is only necessary to mention the fact that the present financial position is not due to Park Royal alone. The shows for years past have not been self-supporting. Park Royal has only accentuated the rottenness of the system, it has not been the cause of the moribund state of the Society.

We are open to conviction as to what should become of next year's show. We can understand that it might be necessary to hold the show at Derby or Blackpool while Park Royal was being remodelled and rearranged, and the whole state of affairs put upon a sounder basis, but this is the point upon which the members should be consulted, and even if it is decided to visit either the Midlands or Lancashire, that as little money as possible should be spent in fixing up the showyard. The Society has no funds at present to spend in a lavish manner, and the fittings for a four days show might partake of a more temporary character than has been the case in the past.

Seasonable Topics.

Record-making Rams.

The sheep world has been more than a little excited of late over the high prices obtained for pedigree rams, some of which are of a record character. Ashford, in Kent, has a wide reputation as a place where good sheep are bought and sold, and matters have been particularly flourishing down there this season, prices generally being good and animals plentiful. At a show and sale, held on September 29, a champion teg from Mr. J. E. Quested's flock was knocked down, after some brisk bidding, to Mr. Miller for South America at 56 guineas. Thus the auctioneers, Messrs. G. W. Finn and Sons, had the honour of establishing a record for Ashford, the previous highest price being 54 guineas, which was realised by Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs four or five years ago for a teg belonging to Mr. A. Amos. There can be no doubt about one thing: money does not stand in the way of the foreign buyer when he sees a ram that takes his fancy, and the growth of foreign trade holds out hopeful possibilities for British breeders.

Moles and Potatoes.

When witnessing some potato-digging operations in a field the other day our attention was drawn to a number of tubers which were badly eaten, and bore traces of the teeth of some animal. At first the diggers were at a loss to know what had caused the trouble, and rats were blamed, but eventually the burrows were found, and there remained no doubt about the fact that moles were the authors of the mischief. Beyond burrowing about, heaving up the soil, marring the appearance of fields, and making himself a nuisance in this way, the mole is not usually credited with doing much damage by devouring crops. In fact, we have had no experience before of moles eating potatoes, and it would be interesting to know whether any of our readers have suffered through their depredations. Of course we know the remedy—which is, catch the moles—but, considering what is paid on many estates to professional hands for this work, the farmer might reasonably expect his potatoes to be safe from them. Considering the disease there is this year we can do without losses in other ways.

Farm Competitions.

It is the custom of certain farmers' clubs and agricultural associations to offer prizes for the best cleaned and kept farms within their districts, and we cannot help thinking that these competitions must be productive of good. There are, of course, many farmers who would look upon such competitions as being something much too far ahead of the times, but the spirit of competition, properly displayed, is always good. When a man enters his farm for a prize you may depend that he is not ashamed of it, because when things are not quite up to the mark there is a natural desire to keep them from general inspection. We take it then that when a man enters his farm in a public competition he is proud of it. Just so, and if he wins a prize he is prouder still; but if he does not, he is the gainer, because the very fact of him competing prompts him to put forth stronger efforts than he perhaps would otherwise, and the farm is all the better for it. It is not always an easy thing to judge between one farm and another as to which is the best kept, because conditions vary so much, and the adjudicators often have a difficult task before them. They generally prove equal to it, however, and the eye of an expert can quickly tell whether a holding is in the hands of a lover of neatness and cleanliness who puts his precepts into practice. We like the idea of farm competitions and should be pleased to see it extended, because, apart from the honour of winning a prize, the mere fact that a man is competing is a means of stimulating his efforts, by the results of which he himself is the gainer.

The Dairy Show.

It seems peculiar that the Royal Show in London should attract so few people, and yet on the occasions of the Dairy and Fat Stock Shows all roads seem to lead to Islington, and interested persons from town and country flock to the Agricultural Hall as if the whole thing were something fresh and novel. While these notes are being written London is being invaded by agriculturists; and cheesemen, buttermen, milkmen, and poultrymen, to say nothing of the cattlemen, are jostling each other in order to see all that there is to be seen at the great show. We say men, but the expression needs qualifying, for the Dairy Show attracts ladies, as perhaps no other agricultural gathering of the kind can possibly do. This is not surprising because the produce department at Islington is a feature, and though we are told that cheese and butter-making are becoming lost arts amongst farmers' wives and daughters, the large entries at the Dairy Show and the interest taken in them prove that things are not so bad as all that. It is pleasant, indeed, in these days of show deficiencies, when many societies experience difficulty in carrying on, to think that the British Dairy Farmers' Association has a substantial banking account, and can run an annual show which increases in size and popularity. Visitors to the Dairy Show not only see accomplished work, but the way it is done, and not the least interesting part of the exhibition were the practical demonstrations in poultry trussing, butter-making, milking, etc., which took place. In another part of the paper a detailed report of the famous show is to be found.

Women as Milkers.

In the old days it was a common sight to see the daughters of even well-to-do farmers tripping across the yard to take their part in the morning and evening milking, and to be expert in this particular task was looked upon as an accomplishment. This was in the days of our grandmothers, but a change took place at a later period, and for some particular reason, which is not easily explained, farmers' daughters began to look upon milking as being *infra dig.* Perhaps education has had something to do with this, for one can hardly expect a young lady fresh from a boarding school training taking kindly to milking, even though her mother would not be averse to taking her place under a cow. Strangely enough, it is not only farmers' daughters who have got out of milking, but maidservants as well, and many of them would turn up their noses at a place where they would be expected to take part in this task. How things have changed, to be sure, when we make a comparison between now and the time when the first question asked by a farmer's wife when engaging a maidservant was, "Can you milk"? Now it is rather a question of not only can you, but will you milk? Be it far from us to advocate that women should be farm drudges, and we have seen females performing tasks for which men are more suited; but milking is not drudgery, and the supple fingers of females are well adapted for extracting the milk from the teats of the cows. Those who saw the different milking competitions at the Dairy Show last week will agree with us in this, and it was gratifying to know that the entry in the classes for milkers was the largest since they were instituted. It is true the milkmaid is a familiar figure to us all, but it is as a creature of fancy rather than reality. Artists have pictured her on canvas, sculptors have carved her in marble, song writers have described her in verse, and novelists in prose; no wonder she is familiar. But in real life the milkmaid is by no means so common, and in many cases when necessity compels her to perform the task she secretly hopes that none of her best friends will come along till it is over.

Expert Farm Labour.

We cannot help thinking that Lord Northbourne hit the right nail on the head at the meeting prior to the opening of the Dairy Show when he referred to the mistaken notion that all that need be done to reduce the number of unemployed is to turn them on the land. Both the plough and the pail, added Lord Northbourne, require skilled hands to make them pay. Just so. We have pointed out over and over again that if one goes in for agriculture, either as a farmer or merely as a labourer, knowledge is essential, and without it there can be no success. We have known cases in which men have started farming with plenty of money, abundance of energy, and a fair amount of ability, but without the practical knowledge. In some cases they have succeeded, mainly through getting good servants, but in others they have failed absolutely, and who can wonder at it? As with masters, so with men. Rural districts are being depopulated, labour is wanted on the land, but it must be skilled labour, not anything in the form of human shape. There are thousands of men walking the streets to-day who one would gladly see on the land if they were any use there, but for his cows a farmer wants an experienced stock man, for his sheep a qualified shepherd, for his horses a trained waggoner, for his fields an expert ploughman, and so on, and no man can perform the various tasks on the farm properly unless he has learnt how to do so in the school of practice. It is absurd to talk about putting men on the land who have no experience of agricultural crafts, and the pity of it is that amongst the thousands who have emigrated of late years there are many whom we can least afford to lose. There is room for them in Canada, but it is a loss to British agriculture when the best men go.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Sept. 30, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,691	10,503	Wheat ...	2,933,200	2,029,100
Sheep.....	10,424	1,275	Flour	160,600	233,900
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	870,000	793,000
Horses ...	261	97	Oats	284,400	241,700
			Peas	47,085	53,530
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	42,080	16,580
Beef	85,844	90 757	Maize ...	1,438,400	1,027,600
Mutton...	53,581	69,822	Apples ...	118,837	85,128
Pork	12 402	9,030	Apricots		
Bacon ...	98,168	102,405	&Peaches	11	8
Beef, salt	3,820	1,725		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	18,404	15,914	Bananas	108,587	121,898
Pork, salt	5,598	4,159		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	8,531	9,529	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	14,100	14,972	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	69,578	63,073	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	19,071	21,659	Grapes ..	38,505	40 536
Cheese ...	46,752	41,780	Lemons...	12,329	4,417
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Oranges	10,854	3,940
			Pears.....	28,140	20,162
			Plums ...	9,041	8,167
			Oth'r Fr't	16,671	14,457
drums.	—	—		Tons	Tons.
Milk,			Hay	2,554	2,820
Cream	51	150	Straw ...	1,433	1,172
			MossLitt'r	—	1,224
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	16,259	17,202	Hops	13,905	2,078
Milk pr's'v'd, other			Locust Beans	—	—
kinds ...	77	95	Onions ...	Bush. 204,384	Bush. 106,842
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.	Potatoes	36,486	30 995
Eggs	415,227	396,262	Tomatoes	17,163	11 634
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £5,796	Value. £6,888	Veg'bles	£3,586	£2,499
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	6,342	5,654
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	33,263	29,224	by canning ..	5,662	3,418
Lard	24 094	35,031			

The annual Statute Fair at Burton-on-Trent took place on Wednesday, and, although it was largely attended by country people, there was a considerable falling off in the number of shows, whose owners complained of trade depression throughout the country. Little hiring was done of female servants, but a fair amount of business was transacted with the males, whose ranks were augmented by a number of the unemployed, both men and boys, anxious to find occupation if only by getting "back to the land." This had the effect of lowering wages and adult labour went at from £14 to £22.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Mr. Jesse Collings is indubitably right in his new crusade — in the fine joust he is having with the well-meaning personages labouring under the colonisation-mania. The fevered character of the imaginations of the excellent philanthropists can be assumed from the defence of Mr. Bramwell-Booth of the Salvation Army purpose. To him, it would require no less than £500 to settle a single family in England, a fact absolutely discounted by every experience of small holdings' settlements. How successful those small holdings may be Mr. Rider Haggard has given us unlimited evidence. The records of Wiltshire and Worcestershire overwhelmingly illustrate the practicability of a national scheme. Of course, the spectacle of sturdy manhood unable to find in this land of ours, with its vast uncultivated acreage, opportunity for working out its destiny and realising its possibility, is a piteous one; but if one half (I thank Mr. Collings for this idea) of the enthusiastic generosity associated with this colonisation-business were devoted to the establishment of the people on British soil the vision would be deprived of a good deal of its pathos and drama. In a sense, of course, this benevolent friendship for the workless poor—the poor who deserve a stable habitation and a gratifying prospect—is an admirable sentiment. It must compel esteem. But the danger of divorcing brawn and a sturdy spirit from the pathetic army of the unemployed, leaving it an unalloyed body of wastreldom and wanton laziness, and, at the same time, exporting a human material that the labour-parched countryside needs, constitutes a grave menace to the home-land. Why not, Messrs. Booth and Wilson Carlile, land-settlements at home? Why not seek to utilise this brawn and sturdy spirit in the native atmosphere? The utilisation of this wasted but desirable material in this way might have another influence. It might even shake the loafers out of their inertia.

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"The King is our only friend!" This sentiment is attributed to a well-known farmer wearied to death of the neglect of agriculture by statesmen and our Parliamentary institutions. That his Majesty is a friend to agriculture, and that to him the farmer is something more than a mere entity is certain. His Majesty, however, cannot take the place of Parliament, and it is assuredly well not to assume that he can. Not even he could, by a wave of his wand, summon into existence economic conditions under which the farmer would be able to evolve an immediate prosperity. What is certain, however, is that the King is revealing a keen and practical sympathy with certain phases of the rural movement. For instance, he has been deeply impressed with the success of the scheme of small holdings, which owes its inception to the practical and sagacious mind of his friend, Earl Carrington, and he believes, according to my information, that the wide extension of the principle of that scheme would be an act of wisdom. It would be interesting to know whether his Majesty would have this extension the result of a deliberate act of State intervention. Beyond this, too, the King has exhibited a keen interest in what I have already described as Garden City philanthropy. This fact I commend to Mr. Jesse Collings; it permits at least of the deduction that the throne would appreciate a judicious scheme of home settlements. I was assured a few days since that in his sympathetic anxiety his Majesty had despatched a special emissary in the person of a member of his family to Letchworth to report upon that colony. As a fact, the emissary was not a member of his family, but a trained observer in whose judgment the King has confidence. The incident provides a pleasant evidence of the royal purpose and anxiety. It is an admirable portent—it should be an excellent encouragement to Mr. Jesse Collings in the new purpose I would have him pursue; and, after all, if it does not compensate for Legislative sterility and indifference, it may tend to quicken statecraft and awake it to an intelligent sympathy.

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We may have every reason for gratification at the pertinacity of Professor Long in denouncing the sterility of Parliament and the indifference of Mr. Balfour to agricultural needs; but we have also reason to ask if we have any assurance that the Liberals would reveal any more intelligent spirit? Sir Edward Strachey was quite right in emphasising, at the meeting of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, the fact that for the fourth session the Government had failed to pass the Butter Bill, and thus to prevent the fraudulent sale of waterlogged butter, but has Sir Edward received any assurance from his Liberal associates of their resolution to pass such a Bill? Is there, in fact, any certainty, with the clangorous clamour now raging in the Liberal ranks for a place of preference in the party programme, and with the majority of the farmers still in favour of pursuing the dulcet, modest, hesitating tone in all approaches to Parliament, that even in its fourth session the Liberal Government would accomplish more? Which suggestion, despite all the protests of politicians of the type of Mr. A. H. Lee, M.P., leads to the definite conclusion that if more is to be got out of Parliament there must be a defined Agricultural Group with a defined programme and a delegated duty. The one result of Mr. Lee's much-lauded "independence"—an independence which means dependence on partisan convenience and the instructions of the Chief Tory or Chief Liberal Whip—has meant the continued fraudulent sale of waterlogged butter. It has, of course, meant more than this; but this alone provides a sufficiently piquant illustration of the result of a too-ready complaisance to the official party design.

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Can Mr. Lee or his friends point to any compensation for this butter-folly and evil? Of course, he cannot, unless he would utilise the Rating Bill for this purpose—a measure, by the way, whose effects the professional defenders of the railway companies now tell us must be redressed by the continuance of the present railway rates. No; there is only one possible escape from the prolongation of the Parliamentary indifference and sloth. Establish an insistent Agricultural Group, and you would have the esteem of the Olympian gods of the Front Benches.

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Of course, I freely confess that the courtesy of Mr. Clement Dalley demands a reply from me. If this did not alone suffice, the fact that he had written a letter to Mr. Chamberlain, to which apparently he received no reply, would provide a sufficient necessity. Now, does Mr. Dalley really think that Canada would accept his scheme of preferential trading? If I understand him aright, the tax of 2s. per quarter which he would impose on the foreign competitor in our markets would be reduced to 1s. in the case of the Canadian. It is evident that Mr. Dalley comprehends nothing of the Canadian temper. If Mr. Chamberlain were to propound this scheme to Sir Wilfrid Laurier—who has, even this week, again shown that Canada's commercial patriotism means every possible market for the Canadians—he would evoke a perfect tornado of indignation and reprehension. Do not forget that with the new economy is associated a possibility of reciprocity. If another nation should be disposed to reduce her tariff against Great Britain, we should be willing to respond to the policy. What, then, if, under these conditions, Canada enjoyed no more favoured position than, say, Russia, or even the United States? I do not, of course, contend that this would inevitably be the case; we have, however, to look at the possibility. There would be such an embittered resentment of this sequel that filial affection would have a great strain placed upon it. Even if a shilling a quarter were placed on Canadian wheat and a corresponding tax on Canadian vegetables and fruit (a tax which also in the latter case might mean a profit as compared with the tax imposed on foreign produce), [illegible] Mr. Dalley [illegible] second [illegible] Canadian competition [illegible] cent. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] cheap [illegible]?

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Is there not something in [illegible] suggestion made at the Church Congress that if the labourers were given [illegible] homes they would never [illegible]? The policy may not have prevented the depletion of the villages of Northumberland and Lincolnshire, but I am persuaded that [illegible] the tide of migration to the towns would have had a greater volume but for its influence.

DAIRY.

Suggested Standard for Cheese.

The Chester Corporation have decided to support a petition to the Board of Agriculture for an order fixing a standard for cheese. The question arose on the receipt from the Town Council of Bournemouth of a copy of a report by their public analyst (Mr. Cripps) drawing attention to the widely-varying composition of cheese sold in that borough. The report shows that Mr. Cripps analysed five samples of cheese, four being Dutch varieties, and found them almost devoid of milk fat, and at the same time there was no corresponding increase in the proportion of proteids. Hence the nutriment value was very much reduced. The samples had been prepared from separated milk and contained an excess of about 10 per cent of water.

Mr Cripps points out that there is no legal definition of cheese, and he says it is a common practice to sell as cheese an article prepared from skimmed or separated milk. Therefore there is great doubt as to the result of any prosecution of these vendors. He suggests the desirability of asking the Board of Agriculture to issue an authoritative definition of cheese, making compulsory the adoption of some special name to designate separated milk cheese and skimmed milk cheese. His suggestion is that the minimum standard of milk fat in cheese should be 22 per cent., that all containing below 5 per cent. of milk fat should be separated milk cheese, and that cheese containing from 5 per cent. to 20 per cent should be termed skimmed milk cheese.

Agricultural Correspondents.

The appointment of country correspondents to the Board of Agriculture does not appear to have been a great success. The Board are good enough to say in their annual report that the innovation has been of considerable value, inasmuch as it had enabled them to acquire information on many matters of importance to agriculturists and in some instances to take action for the redress of their grievances.

It is added, however: "Perhaps the machinery thus created for the benefit of the agricultural class has not so far been fully taken advantage of by those for whom it was chiefly intended, but it is expected that as time goes on this important body of correspondents will become more and more a vital force in the agricultural progress of the country."

The King is patron of the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association, whose annual ploughing match and exhibition took place at Chippenham, near Slough, on Wednesday. His Majesty gave five guineas for the best ploughman on the field, and a silver cup, value 20 guineas, for the best farmer cultivating the best growth of root crops generally. The cup was won by Mr. J. Twinch (Chippenham), who also secured a prize offered by the president (Earl Howe) for cabbages for agricultural feeding purposes. The Master of the Bucks and Berks Staghounds (Sir Robert [illegible]) presented £10 10s. as the second prize to the King's cup, and Mr. T. W. Purser (Colnbrook) was the winner. The Marquess of Downshire gave £5 for the finest clover hay, and this was awarded Messrs. Headington Brothers ([illegible]ham), who also secured £5 given by [illegible] ing, of Richings Park, Slough, for the best [illegible] acres of swedes in one piece.

Mr. John Sanders, [illegible] horse breeder, of Fleet Marston, near Aylesbury, was thrown from his horse and killed on Tuesday. Mr. Sanders had visited Aylesbury, and started for home on horseback. A short time afterwards he was found lying by the side of the road, about a mile from his home, in an unconscious condition. A doctor was sent for, but Mr Sanders died before medical assistance arrived.

Developing Forest Lands.

Reform Club, S.W., October 4.

SIR,—Returned from the country to-day, I have just received from Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., the enclosed interesting letter, bearing upon the communication you did me the honour to publish in your last week's issue. It would be presumptuous in me to dilate upon what "you yourselves do better know"—the high services the right hon. member has rendered *à plusieurs reprises* to a quickening and awakening of an interest in agricultural reform in this country, and notably with a view to give a helping hand in that direction towards the promotion of any practical movement having for its object the training in agriculture and welfare in connection therewith of the sons of the humbler class of the population, as well as those of the higher grades. "Learning by doing"—if I remember aright—was the maxim he once inculcated; and it really covers all the ground.—Yours obediently,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.

Reform Club, S.W., September 4.

The letter from Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., says: "I enclose you copy of my letter to the *Times*, which has been referred to in the Press generally and parts of it quoted, thus showing the interest taken in the subject. To my mind—as I stated—the scheme is an 'appalling one.' The public seems, however, to take it quietly. They seem always ready to follow suggestions which are supported by sensation and parade; though they are lukewarm with regard to proposals, based on really economic and reasonable lines. There was a reply to my letter written by Mr. Bramwell Booth, which appeared in the *Times* of the 30th ult. It, however, goes round the question, but does not reply to my objections. I have just sent a rejoinder, which may possibly appear in the *Times*. It deals with Mr. Booth's statements. I have read with pleasure your article in the MARK LANE EXPRESS AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL, which deals with an important part of the great agricultural question and opens up in a legitimate way means of employment for suitable men. I agree with what you say about the agricultural schools in France (Fermes-Ecoles—now transferred into "Ecoles Pratiques d'Agriculture"), which I know well, as well as those in Germany (Ackerbauschulen) which are equally advanced. We in England have no conception of what is being done in this direction on the Continent. All our institutions of this kind—agricultural shows, etc., are 'top-heavy'! The only way is to keep pegging away! I am inclined to think that there is some little being done after all, as regards the awakening process! Unless we do give attention to agriculture and country affairs, and that pretty soon, I fear there is an evil day in store for England, in which wealth—which seems the god of the nation—will not avail us."

Hunting a New Industry.

SIR,—When asked to be a delegate to the Chamber of Commerce meeting at Liege, I accepted with pleasure as being likely to afford an opportunity of visiting a beet sugar refinery, of which there is not one to be found in the United Kingdom. The urgent need of a new industry in Kidderminster, and a desire to see if it could be adapted to any available building in our town, induced me to persevere under difficult circumstances in obtaining permission to visit the largest beet sugar refinery in the world.

The directors kindly allowed every facility for going over the works.

The works are situated admirably for their purpose. A broad navigable river giving cheap water carriage, and the railway alongside.

On the opposite side of the river, within a quarter of a mile of the factory, and connected therewith by an overhead wire tramway, high cliffs of limestone of unusual purity, the value of which will be understood when for every 100 tons of beetroots 4 tons of lime is required in the process of refining. Unfortunately, I was unable to see the plant at work, as the beetroots were not ripe, but engineers were busy getting all in order for commencing in a fortnight.

The machinery is of great size, consisting of washing, slicing, saturation plant, electric pumps, evaporating apparatus, vacuum pans, centrifugal and other apparatus in great number and variety the power provided from thirteen large boilers. The plant when at work turned out 400 tons of sugar per day. The slack consumed being equal to from 10 to 12 tons for every 100 tons of beetroots, and the limestone burned on the premises consuming 5 tons of coke for every 100 tons of beetroots.

The building is practically a shell of four walls with a very high roof, the ground being principally occupied by rows of electric pumps, the vacuum pans on concrete galleries, running round the walls.

It will be clear to everyone that a factory requiring 5 per cent. coke, 4 per cent. lime, 12 per cent. slack, 21 per cent. of the weight of the raw beetroots to be treated, if it is to have any chance of success, must be connected with a railway siding, and, if possible, with a canal, to insure cheap transit of these heavy but necessary materials, so that I am reluctantly compelled to admit there is no premises suitable for the purpose—but building sites are available in our town.

A large number of our great manufacturing businesses have developed from very small beginnings, but to have any chance of success, sugar refining requires to commence on sufficiently large a scale to allow the use of the most up-to-date machinery and methods.

To establish a new industry of this magnitude requires, in addition to capital, great industry, good organisation, tact, judgment, and perseverance.

Consider that anyone who introduces a new industry into any town or country, giving employment at fair wages, is a greater benefactor to the inhabitants of that town and country than one who builds a block of almshouses, a hospital, or distributes large sums in charities. The most important thing for most persons is regular employment at a living wage.

At present there is £18,000,000 worth of sugar imported, three-quarters of which might easily be grown in this country. Here is a chance for some young men to embark in an industry, all the raw materials for which can be produced at home, and customers are in every home in the kingdom, there being no necessity to send abroad for the raw materials or to find purchasers of the finished article.

Hundreds of experiments carried out during the last eight years have proved conclusively that beet can be produced in the United Kingdom of greater weight per acre and equal in sugar-producing capacity to any grown on the continent. The average weight of roots 16½ tons per acre, with 16¾ per cent. of sugar, with a contract price of 18s. to 20s. per ton of roots delivered to the factory. There are thousands of farmers ready to devote some acreage to their cultivation, finding labour and wages for the workers, improving the condition of the land, and a welcome addition to the meagre profits wrung from their present crops, and the circulation of the money stimulating and encouraging our home trade in every direction. The manufacture of beet sugar in the United Kingdom is certain to commence in the near future, and if Kidderminster is really in earnest in desiring a new industry, it will be necessary to wake up and do something to further that end.

October 4, 1905. CLEMENT DALLEY.

Prospects in Oxfordshire.

SIR,—Harvest may be said now to be practically finished, the late corn being gathered under more favourable climatic influences than the early grain. Threshing operations are now in real earnest. Winter oats appear satisfactory samples. Winter vetches in good condition, but poor yield, suffering from blight. Some samples of barley appear, but too early to form an adequate opinion of what the bulk in general might be when it appears on the markets.

Sheep selling well, especially at the Michaelmas farm sales. Stock doing fairly well on the pastures, which are now full of good herbage, and will be wanted to carry well on to the end of year, as the outlook on the whole is bad for roots of all descriptions, plenty of farmers having planted turnips two or three times, and now have nothing to show for labour and expense of same.

October 4, 1905. T. B.

Yields and Prices in West Somerset

SIR,—From time to time during the year I have seen reports of agriculture, but at no time have we been able to report more fully than now. We have had hay and corn harvest, and roots show themselves, as also grass. Sufficient to say, about 80 per cent. all round, and now the threshing machine is hard at work, and, as far as I can gather, this expectation is realised with corn; but the difficulty to find is the prices of products to meet expenses and give a fair balance.

October 4, 1905. A. B.

Crops in Devon.

SIR,—Corn a good yield, but some considerably damaged by the recent rains. Plenty of straw. Roots a very good crop, except potatoes, which are diseased, in some districts very bad, and are being offered at from 3d. to 5d. a score. Apples a fair average crop, and making good prices.

October 4, 1905. S. H.

Late Harvest in Hants.

SIR,—Owing to the exceptionally heavy rainfall (5.75 inches) during August, the harvest in the extreme north of the county was very late in being finished, and in many cases the crops were very much damaged. Wheat is coming out of soil in only fair condition, but good in yield. Barley not good in either quality or quantity, and oats in several places are very poor.

Potatoes are yielding well, but more or less diseased, especially the earlier varieties. Mangolds are heavy, but short acreage; and early turnips and late swedes are good. Hay ricks are numerous, and consequently this crop will this year hardly pay for growing and making.

Store cattle are cheaper, but really good dairy cows are scarce and dear. Sheep, both store and fat, still maintain a good price; and both bacon and pork are scarce. T. H.

October 5, 1905.

Crops in Durham.

SIR,—September rains delayed the harvest, but greatly improved roots and pastures. Wheat, as in other districts, is the crop of the season, a full average, and good quality. Barley is considered fair, but oats are disappointing, short in the straw, and much below an average.

Turnips, though they have improved to some extent, and here and there a field of nice turnips may be seen, are estimated at about only half a crop; and the same may be said of hay, more particularly old land, which is seriously deficient. Potatoes are well spoken of, and as yet but little disease is reported.

Farm work is well advanced, and wheat sowing has commenced under favourable conditions.

October 6, 1905. F. R.

Munster.

SIR,—The weather during the harvest was very wet, the consequence is a lot of spoiled corn, especially oats. However, for the past fortnight we have dry weather with an easterly breeze, which has helped to set matters right. A good deal of threshing has taken place. Wheat has given good results, but prices are low. Oats have given very poor returns, and barley is middling with a lot of inferior samples.

Cattle are doing well; so are sheep. The prices for both leave much to be desired, as it is only tip-top quality ensures a fair price, and the country is filling up with those cheap meat stores which must help to further reduce prices. Even French straw, in bales, is selling in the local markets at 50s. per ton.

All the hay crop is now secured and the bulk looks light; but the quality is the best, and unless a very severe winter sets in there ought to be a sufficient quantity on hands.

A good deal of autumn ploughing is done, and an excellent time it is for getting the stubbles clean.

Very soon the wheat sowing will commence here, and on account of the poor returns of the oats it is expected that a larger area of the former will be sown. Turnips and mangolds did well and look like turning out an average crop. These will help the supplies for winter feeding considerably, and help to produce forward stores for the early English market. P. F.

October 5, 1905.

The Northern Farmers' Convention.

The North-Eastern Counties' Agricultural Federation—which is the outcome of a preliminary conference of farmers of Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire, held at the beginning of September—is issuing broadcast to farmers the agenda paper of the Farmers' Convention to be held next week at Darlington. Accompanying the official programme of business is a detailed statement of the objects of the new movement. Since the September conference increasing interest has been shown all over the country in the departure made on the initiative of the Darlington Farmers' Protection Association, and there is reason to believe other federated centres will be formed after the Convention.

The subjects for discussion at the Convention include the continuation of the Agricultural Rating Act until the whole question of rating is dealt with, the absolute prohibition of preferential railway rates for foreign produce, better regulations for motor-car traffic, secondary education to be voluntary and not charged upon public funds, a Bill to prevent the adulteration of butter by fats, milk, water, or other substances, and the adulteration of milk by boracic acid or other substances; also the adulteration of margarine by colouring matters, and a Pure Beer Bill.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Special Committee's Report—Suggested Reforms.

The Monthly Council Meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (President) in the chair, when the following members were present:

Trustees.

The Earl of Coventry, the Earl of Derby, K.G., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Lord Moreton, Earl Spencer, K.G., Sir John H. Thorold, Bart.

Vice-Presidents.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. J. M. Dugdale, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., the Hon. C. T. Parker, Mr. Charles Whitehead.

Other Members of Council.

Mr. George Adams, Mr. Charles A. W. Adeane, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. J. P. Cross, Lieut.-Colonel Curtis-Hayward, Mr. John T. C. Eadie, Mr. W. Frankish, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. R. Nevile Grenville, Mr. J. Harris, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. J. H. Hine, Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. J. Howard Howard, Mr. Walter F. Ingram, Sir Charles V. Knightley, Bart., Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. T. H. Miller, Mr. T. S. Minton, the Earl of Northbrook, the Earl of Onslow, G.C.M.G., Mr. Ralph C. Palmer, Mr. Claude M. S. Pilkington, Mr. George G. Rea, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. E. W. Shackle, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. H. H. Smith, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. Herbert Tallent, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. A. P. Turner, Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, and Mr. C. W. Wilson.

Minutes of Last Meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on August 1, 1905, were taken as read, and approved.

Report of the Special Committee.

The first business before the Council was the consideration of the following report, dated September 21, which was presented by the Special Committee appointed at the last meeting on August 1 "to thoroughly investigate the entire position of the Society, and to make a report to the Council after the recess as to what reforms and economies they consider desirable to put the Society on a sound footing."

The adoption of this report, which was discussed in private, was moved by Mr. Stratton, and seconded by Mr. W. Harrison.

In accordance with the resolution of the Council of August 1, 1905, your Committee met on September 20 and 21, and beg to report on the reforms and economies they consider desirable to place the Society on a sound footing.

2. The Committee desire to express their recognition of the services of the staff in the past; but in view of the financial position of the Society they are unable to recommend a continuance of so large an expenditure as is at present incurred under this head, and regret that they see no other course open to them but to request the Council to ask for the resignation of the whole staff as at present engaged at Hanover Square and Park Royal.

3. They consider that a sum not exceeding £1,500 per annum is all that the Society is at present justified in expending on the salaries of the Secretary and administrative staff.

4. They recommend that a Secretary (to devote his whole time to the work of the Society) should be appointed at a salary of £600 per annum, and an assistant at £300 per annum.

5. HAREWOOD HOUSE.—They recommend that if a satisfactory price can be obtained for Harewood House it shall be sold at as early a date as possible, and, failing this, that such part of the house not absolutely required for the purposes of the Society shall be let.

6. JOURNAL.—They recommend that the cost of the Journal, including distribution, shall not exceed £600 per annum.

7. SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS.—They recommend that the Board of Agriculture be approached with a view to obtain a grant in aid of the scientific operations of the Society, which must otherwise be curtailed, unless such assistance can be obtained.

8. THE SOCIETY'S SHOW.—They recommend that no show be held at Park Royal in 1906, but that it take place in the provinces if a suitable site can be obtained and financial arrangements made; also that a sum of not less than £2,000 from the governors' and members' subscriptions be credited to the expenses of the annual show.

9. They think it would be most advantageous that a conference be held annually between the Council and officers of the Royal Agricultural Society and the secretaries of county, breed, and other leading agricultural societies to consider questions of general and mutual interest.

10. PARK ROYAL.—They recommend that immediate steps be taken for the disposal of the Society's interest in the Park Royal Estate.

11. SUBSCRIPTIONS.—The Committee desire to draw attention to and emphasize the desirability of encouraging members to give financial support to the Society beyond the minimum subscription.

THOMAS L. AVELING. T. S. MINTON.
RICHARDSON CARR. FREDK. REYNARD.
R. P. COOPER. JOHN ROWELL.
R. FORREST. R. STRATTON.
JOHN GILMOUR, Bt. G. TAYLOR.
GILBERT GREENALL. JOHN THORNTON.
W. HARRISON. C. W. WILSON.
CHRIS. MIDDLETON.

The Earl of Jersey and Mr. E. W. Stanyforth were unavoidably absent.

13, Hanover Square, London, W., September 21, 1905.

With the exception of paragraph 10, which was remitted to the Special Committee for further consideration, the Report was adopted, paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and 11 being referred to the Finance Committee, 5 to the House Committee, 6 to the Journal Committee, 7 to the Chemical, Botanical, and Education Committees, and 8 to the Special Committee to deal with.

House.

SIR NIGEL KINGSCOTE reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows: Sir Nigel Kingscote, the President, the Earl of Northbrook, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Mr. Crutchley, Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Thornton.

Journal.

SIR JOHN THOROLD reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for the year 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows: Sir John Thorold, Bart., the Earl of Derby, K.G., the Earl of Jersey, G.C.B., Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Mr. W. Frankish, Mr. R. Neville Grenville, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. R. C. Palmer, and Mr. C. Whitehead.

The Committee had discussed the cost of production of the Journal, and the possibility of reducing expenditure by abandoning some of the features of the present Annual Volume; but they deferred for the present any final recommendation on the subject of the next Volume.

Chemical and Woburn.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows:—Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Earl Cawdor, the Hon. C. T. Parker, Sir C. V. Knightley, Bart., Mr. R. M. Greaves, Mr. R. Neville Grenville, Mr. John Howard Howard, Mr. W. F. Ingram, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. C. M. S. Pilkington, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. H. P. Ryland, Mr. W. Scoby, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, and Mr. A. P. Turner.

Botanical and Zoological.

MR. WHEELER reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing years they be constituted as follows:—Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, the Earl of Onslow, Sir John Thorold, Bart., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Mr. W. Frankish, Mr. R. Neville Grenville, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. Ernest Shackle, Mr. H. Tallent, and Mr. C. Whitehead.

Veterinary.

The EARL OF NORTHBROOK reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows:—The Earl of Northbrook, the Earl of Derby, K.G., Lord Moreton, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., the Hon. Cecil T. Parker, Sir G. Greenall, Bart., Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart., Col. Sir Nigel Kingscote, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Mr. Percy Crutchley, Lieut.-Col. Curtis-Hayward, Mr. Joseph Harris, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. T. H. Miller, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, and Mr. C. W. Wilson, with Prof. Sir George Brown, Mr. A. C. Cope, Prof. McFadyean, the Master of the Farriers' Company, the President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and Mr. H. Swithinbank as professional members.

Stock Prizes.

MR. BOWEN-JONES reported the election of Mr. R. M. Greaves as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows:—Mr. R. M. Greaves, the Earl of Coventry, the Earl of Northbrook, Lord Middleton, Sir G. Greenall, Bart., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. E. Mathews, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. H. P. Ryland, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. A. P. Turner, Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler, Mr. C. W. Wilson, and the Stewards of Implements.

The Committee reported that in consequence of failure to comply with the society's regulations as to [illegible] the following alterations in the awards of prizes to cattle exhibited at the last Show at Park Royal had been made:—

CLASS [illegible]

No. [illegible] First prize [illegible] for Pure Bred Shorthorn Bull [illegible] and eight commended.)

CLASS [illegible]

No. [illegible] First prize [illegible] for Cow [illegible] commended.)

CLASS [illegible]

No. [illegible] Second prize [illegible] for Wether Crossbred [illegible]

No. [illegible] Third prize [illegible] for Cheviot or Border [illegible] commended.)

Implement.

MR. FRANKISH reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows:—Mr. W. Frankish, the Hon. C. T. Parker, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart., Mr. George Adams, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. J. P. Cross, Mr. Percy Crutchley, Lieutenant-Colonel Curtis-Hayward, Mr. R. Forrest, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Mr. R. Neville Grenville, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. John Howard Howard, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. H. P. Ryland, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, Mr. H. Tallent, and the Stewards of Implements. Various questions arising out of the entries for the last Show had been discussed and settled.

Showyard Works.

MR. CRUTCHLEY reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows: Mr. Percy Crutchley, the Hon. Cecil Parker, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Mr. R. Forrest, Mr. W. Frankish, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. G. G. Rea, Mr. H. P. Ryland, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, and Mr. George Taylor.

Various details relating to the valuation and sale of timber, the refreshment contract, and work done for the exhibitors were discussed and settled. A report was received from the St. John Ambulance Association on the cases dealt with by the Ambulance Department at the late Show.

Selection.

SIR JOHN THOROLD reported that the elected members of the Committee, as constituted on August 1, 1905, had met, and appointed him as their Chairman for 1905-6. They recommended that, in accordance with the Standing Orders, the Committee of Selection be constituted for the ensuing year of the President, the Chairman of each of the Standing Committees, and the following six other members of the Council: The Earl of Onslow, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. J. P. Cross, Mr. W. Harrison, and Mr. Stratton.

The question of the vacancies at present unfilled of ordinary members of the Council for the electoral districts of Cornwall, Dorset, Essex, and South Wales was considered. The Committee were advised that, in view of the terms of Bye-law 90, it had devolved upon the Council to fill up these vacancies, but before taking steps in this direction, the Committee were of opinion that the electors of the divisions concerned should be given another opportunity of expressing their wishes in the matter. They proposed, therefore, that a circular (a draft of which they had approved) should be issued, acquainting each voter in these divisions with the fact that a vacancy existed in the representation of the county, and giving notice that nominations of candidates to fill such vacancies might be made up to Saturday, October 28. In the event of more than one candidate being nominated for one vacancy, the Committee thought it desirable, with the view of ascertaining the wishes of the majority of electors in a division as to the candidate whom they desired to be appointed as their representative on the Council, to follow the procedure relative to the issue of voting papers, etc, etc., adopted in the contested elections which took place in other divisions in July last.

Education.

COL. CURTIS-HAYWARD reported the election of Lord Moreton as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows:—Lord Moreton, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. R. G. Garden, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis, Lieutenant-Colonel Curtis-Hayward, Mr J. Marshall Dugdale, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Mr. J. H. Hine, Mr. E. Mathews, Mr. R. C. Palmer, Mr. H. H. Smith, and Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler.

Dairy and Produce.

MR. DUGDALE reported his election as Chairman of the Committee for 1905-6. The Committee recommended that for the ensuing year they be constituted as follows:—Mr. J. Marshall Dugdale, the Earl of Derby, K.G., the Hon. Cecil Parker, Sir J. H. Thorold, Bart., Mr. Richard-

son Carr, Mr. Percy Crutchley, Lieutenant-Colonel Curtis-Hayward, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Mr. R. Neville Grenville, Mr. Joseph Harris, Mr. J. H. Hine, Mr Ernest Mathews, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. John Thornton, and Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler.

The Steward of Dairying, Mr. Ernest Mathews, had kindly offered to write reports on the experiments in the Dairy and on the Milk Yield and Butter Test Trials which took place in the showyard at the late Show, and the Committee recommended the grateful acceptance of Mr. Mathews' offer, and had referred the matter to the Journal Committee with regard to the publication of the report.

Derby or Blackpool for the 1906 Show.

Letters were read from the Mayors of Blackpool and Derby carrying invitations to the Society to hold its Show in these towns. Mr. Wheeler mentioned that the site available at Blackpool had already been inspected when a former invitation had been tendered in 1901. As to the Derby invitation, it was decided to request Mr. Carr, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Crutchley (or, failing him, Mr. Wheeler) to visit Derby and report to the Council on November 1, with reference to the site and other facilities available. Other business having been transacted, the Council adjourned at 2.30 p.m. until Wednesday, November 1, at 11 a.m.

Press Opinions on the Committee's Report.

The Times.

The whole show question demands far more thoroughgoing treatment than it has yet received. The Royal Society, having broken away from its old system of provincial shows, cannot now revert to it with entire facility. Other societies which appear to be managed with greater success have to a considerable extent occupied the ground from which the Royal retired. The difficulty of finding a site in proximity to a large town seems to be increasing, and except in the vicinity of a large town a show has little chance of financial success. In other words, a show must attract immense numbers of people who are not agriculturists if the gate-money is to cover the expenses. Experience shows that it does not pay to hold a show in a purely agricultural district, or in the vicinity of London, where the people have a great variety of other amusements and distractions. That is a fact which suggests reflections concerning the real utility of agricultural shows, and prompts the question whether in the changing circumstances of the day the Royal Society ought not to think more of the other branches of its work.

Daily Telegraph.

Nor, we fear, will the troubles of the Society be over, so far as the show is concerned, even if Park Royal is sold and the old system is revived. Failure is difficult to shake off, and, above all, the great county shows—the off-shoots, as it were, of the Royal Show—are now so important and flourishing that their honours are almost as eagerly sought after as the honours of the Royal. This was one of the main arguments for a permanent show ground; will it not just as effectually prevent the Royal from regaining its old pre-eminence in the shires? However that may be, once the Royal Show quits Park Royal we doubt if it will ever return to a spot where it has never thriven, and the sale of that luckless site—towards which the frayed edges of London are rapidly extending—seems to hold out the best hope of setting the Royal Agricultural Society on its feet again.

Morning Post.

The other recommendations of the Special Committee which have been adopted by the Council seem to us to be open to the objection that they do not really face the main issue, which is how the work which the Royal Agricultural Society was established to carry on may be in future provided for in the fullest and most efficient manner possible. The economies recommended by the Committee can only be justified if they can be carried out without any sacrifice of efficiency, and if they can be so carried out it is difficult to imagine any more crushing condemnation of the past management of the Society.

Daily News.

No doubt the Society is taking the only possible course in this ruthless application of the pruning knife, but the question arises whether it would not do better to go a step further and ask the Board of Agriculture to relieve it entirely of the scientific work which, after all, properly belongs to a public department.

Birmingham Daily Post.

For the moment, however, the great thing is the fact that the Royal Agricultural Society have decided to once more "take to the roads," and appeal directly to the populations most concerned in the agricultural industry.

Yorkshire Herald

There remains one other point, not immediately connected with the well-being of the Society, but to be of considerable importance. The Society's sphere of usefulness is not and should not be bounded by its promotion of an annual show, interesting though that function may be, and great as may be its effect on agriculture and agriculturists. Its pursuit of science as applied to farming shows that this is recognised by those who have its fortunes in hand, and further recognition will be afforded by the crystallising of the remaining suggestion of the Special Committee.

Eastern Daily Press.

It is all to the good that the Society has, if somewhat late in the day, realised the folly of abandoning the provincial shows in favour of a permanent home in London, and one hopes that with the other measures adopted we may yet see the old organisation placed on a sound financial footing, and witness a return of its old prosperity.

Derby and the Royal Show.

The Council of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society met yesterday to discuss the possibility of the Royal Show being held at Derby next year. A resolution was passed heartily endorsing the action of the mayor in inviting the Royal Agricultural Society to visit the town, and undertaking to render every assistance calculated to achieve the desired object. A committee was also appointed to wait upon representatives of the Midland Railway Company, the owners of the proposed site at Osmaston, and to prepare a statement to be submitted to a deputation from the Royal Agricultural Society which is to inspect the ground and to attend to other preliminaries. At least 60 acres of land are stipulated for, and 100 acres are said to be available.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

October! and well the farmers know it this year in the Eastern Counties, for their work has progressed so easily and freely for months past that they are casting about to know what to do with their farm hands. Ditching, draining, and hedge-trimming are now in full swing, in order to keep the regular men employed; and many a bushel of blackberries that another year would be so eagerly sought for now lie by the roadside cut down by the hedgeman, because this fruit is so plenteous that it would not pay to gather them for market, and this the poor man's harvest! Again we are reminded of the season, and the farmers cannot but look round with pleasure at the work accomplished towards the profits of the coming season, by the ruddy splendour of the Viginia creepers and their dainty cousins that hug so picturesquely the walls of the old homestead, and the glaring warning of the approach of winter that has been given by the envious gales that have tattered autumn's gilded robes in park and upland.

Our hedges and divisions of our agricultural lands is one of the great beauties of our island that is so repeatedly noticed by foreigners with admiration, for their neatness gives to the country its cultivated and garden-like appearance that marks it out amongst other countries as a scene of fertility and beauty. In fact, to the weary traveller who has crossed Asia, Africa, Australia, or America it presents a landscape of a richly-wooded and well-watered tract on which the eye rests with satisfaction.

From the punctuality of its arrival in East Anglia the wild pink-footed goose might almost be the "Michaelmas goose" of popular tradition, though it is seldom this wary new-comer can be brought to table. Still its advent proclaims the fact that "a year's rent is due." In this respect the writer has never seen the cottager more prepared to meet his landlord, and in the Eastern Counties money is freely forthcoming to meet the year's obligations. This alone is an index of the fact that agriculture is on the mend, and better times for our farmers are close at hand.

Among neglected crops, the sunflower is one of the most interesting. Few people who grow it for ornament have any idea of its usefulness. Birds of nearly all kinds thrive on the seed, and there is no more fattening food for poultry. Cattle like them, too, in their natural state or crushed and made into cakes; while the very stalks may be ground up and mixed advantageously with other fodder. So one cannot be astonished to learn that a Norfolk man objects to allow a gardner at Crediton, Devon, to proclaim that because he has a 12 ft. 6 in. sunflower with a breadth of 18 in., he has produced the finest sunflower this year. The Norfolk farmer, who hails from Buxton Lammas, states that he feels rather proud that Norfolk need not go so far as Devon for the championship for the best sunflower, for he has one now standing in his garden at Dudwick Gate, Buxton, 13 ft. 6 in. in height, and there are others 12 and 13 ft., and several flowers from 12 to 18 inches from petal to petal.

Midland Notes.

"Those that are weatherwise," says an old saw, "are seldom otherwise." It is easy assuredly to be too confident of one's weather wisdom, which is a very fallible thing, for "When God wills it rains with any wind"; but some of the ancient and traditional rhymes and proverbial warnings have enough truth to make them worth remembering. That which insists that there "are always nineteen fine days in October" is, no doubt, near the mark, taking the years one with another. If we are to have our due quota of fine days this year the last part of the month must be better than the first, for we have had much wind and rain just lately, and farm work has ceased to progress at the rapid pace of a few weeks ago. But St. Luke seems disposed to assert himself again, and to-day the plough and corn drill are at work once more under blue skies flecked with fleecy clouds, which might be appropriate to April.

Ploughing is already so well forward that a little check now can be of no great moment, and as has been noted already in this column it is long since the land has had so thorough a clearance from couch and all sorts of weeds as it has had this autumn. Meanwhile the pastures have been stimulated by the rain and the mild sunlight. They look now remarkably verdant for the time of year, and the many dairy farmers of Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, and some parts of Warwickshire, who have milk contracts to fulfil, are finding it easier and cheaper to keep up the due milk flow than it is sometimes at this season. The increasingly cold nights remind us, by the way, of the old question of housing stock. Remembering the experience of the Harper-Adams College experimenters, who find cattle left unhoused to thrive better than those taken in at night, stock owners may decide not to hurry over making their winter arrangements. But farm horses ought certainly to be in the stables now at night, and considering the heavy work which lies before them, there is no season when they can turn a liberal diet to better account.

Now that the potatoes are being lifted there is some curiosity among growers as to the results given by the much vaunted new varieties. The commonest verdict seems to be that they have resisted disease well, but that they have yielded poorly. A Derbyshire grower in conversation confessed to having very few new ones of marketable size. A correspondent in the Peterborough district, however, has done well with Northern Stars, Evergoods, and Royal Kidneys; and the two latter are also well spoken of in Notts. One hears of plots of Northern Stars in other places—Warwickshire, for instance, and Leicestershire—which are quite indifferent. So far as can be gathered, Sharpe's Express seems to be quite among the best of the new earlies. What is certain is that some of the old sorts have had their day. Up-to-Dates and British Queens, for instance, seem to have failed even where the season has been wholly favourable. Well, they have done good service for many years, and everywhere the old order must change, yielding place to new.

There are rumours in the air of another hop-growers' combine, this time with its headquarters in the Midland district. Considering the bulk of the crop, and the disappointing results of last season's syndicate, which had so much easier a task before it, the outlook can hardly be thought very hopeful. The one chance of success lies in the undeniable scarcity of first-rate hops among this season's crop. If growers can be induced to work together the effort to "corner" what there is of top grade samples may be worth while.

Some of the County Councils which have yet to learn what useful rural education is might do well to take a hint from Staffordshire. There are now thirty gardening classes in the county, including one at Brewood Grammar School, and sixty-four more in connection with the elementary schools. It is to its old Technical Instruction Committee that Staffordshire owes its ability to carry on the work, since for the past eleven years there have been classes in horticulture available for teachers, and so the usual difficulty in finding competent instructors has been avoided. What all this means to the rural life of the county is not easily to be estimated.

October 6, 1905.

Huddersfield Cattle Fair. Owing to heavy rain there was a smaller number of animals than usual at Huddersfield cattle fair, held on Wednesday, and a poor attendance of buyers. The number of horned cattle was 345, and of horses 272. Best milch cows realised £14 to £19, secondary sorts £10 to £12, stirks £7 to £8. Agricultural horses, 55 gs. to 60 gs.; secondary qualities, 35 gs. to 40 gs.; inferior cart horses and hacknevs, £10 to £20; unbroken Irish colts, £20 to £30.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

While spending a week-end in the hop county, I have not been able to find any hops. Throughout the parts of Mid Kent and East Sussex that I have visited nothing remains but the débris of the crop, which, until recently, covered the ground with exceptional luxuriance. The growers I have met with unanimously testify to the surprising weight of yield, and, if the experience of some of them may be accepted as approximately illustrative of the whole, there seems to be little room for doubt that the season's record will surpass any that have preceded it. Enquiries concerning the quantity left unpicked hardly confirm statements that have been circulated. It is not difficult to understand the reluctance with which a decision to abandon any part of a plantation is arrived at. To turn their backs upon the results of a year's thoughtful and anxious labour must be trying to planters, and I sympathise with one who told me that, after settling to leave a large piece, he changed his mind and filled his bins with hops which, when put upon the market, proved to be practically worthless, as the price realised did not cover the cost of the final operation. One of my Worcester friends, who has harvested a crop which is magnificent both in quantity and quality, visited me this week and expressed his confidence that the value of good hops would soon advance to £5, because "over 10,000 acres had been left unpicked in Kent". I was compelled to tell him that his informants had seriously exaggerated the position, and that although I could not give him exact figures I was of opinion that 1,000 acres would be nearer the mark. It is folly to shut one's eyes to facts, even when they are distasteful, and, while I regret that we are burdened with too many hops, many of which had more wisely been cast aside, we must face the situation as we find it and submit to its consequences.

The Borough.

has been very busy during the past few days. Merchants are looking after the coloury samples, and, finding that they are becoming scarce, and that the bulk of the crop is below the required standard, are willing to pay higher prices for selected lots. An advance of 5s. to 10s. per cwt. for the better sorts may be quoted, but lower grades have not profited thereby, and are either stationary or slightly weaker.

A circular to brewers, issued this week by one of our leading merchant houses, says: "A good supply of most kinds is on sale and a large business is doing in all healthy descriptions, the choice, fine-coloured samples being in strong demand. Currency has opened below any previous records, and considerably under foreign quotations." They recommend their customers to take advantage of the favourable opportunity, and to put "into cold store supplies sufficient to protect themselves against another scare, such as the trade passed through last season. Foreign quotations being comparatively high, all the good, healthy hops of the new English growth will be in early demand at present, or even higher rates. It is essentially an English year for consumers, and we look to an early clearance of all bright, healthy samples at present values. Considerable imports of Pacifics may be expected later on, but it is doubtful if prices for this class will come to the present low level of English hops."

Mr. H. Le May, in his address to the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club on Friday last, was not able to give much present encouragement to growers. He seemed to be doubtful about the future, and although he did not consider that the outlook was hopeless he admitted that the industry was experiencing the effects of a very serious blow. The growing season had been easy and inexpensive, but it could not result in profit. The most remunerative season was generally the most troublesome, and a bountiful crop resulted in a bad time for planters as far as the selling price was concerned. His remedy for the present unsatisfactory position was the imposition of an import duty, or the adoption of a system of reciprocity with respect to hops, the abolition of tied beer houses, and the establishment of free trade in beer. Several of the planters warmly supported Mr. Le May's views, and urged immediate and definite action in the direction indicated. I trust this feeling may be developed, and that a practical issue may result.

In the Hop Yards.

While the hop is well known as one of the ingredients of a much appreciated beverage, its growth and preparation are entirely ignored by many who appreciate its flavour. Recently a somewhat pleasant party connected with the brewing trade decided that they would visit Worcestershire and see the hops as they are grown and prepared for the market. [illegible] somewhat like John Gilpin, they had pleasure in their mind they were also on business bent. They had the idea that possibly there might be things in connection with the actual drying and preparation of hops that a man, though an expert, had he not studied the process, might be deceived in. Worcestershire, yes, it has a peculiar charm, the Severn running through it from end to end, its New Red Sandstone giving the warmth which causes its fruit and vegetable crops to grow as though the breath of the Gulf Stream had given them the aid that it gives to Kent. Worcester, the ever-faithful city, where the statue of Charles before the Town Hall has for three centuries held the Cathdral in its hand, and Queen Anne has smiled on Charles II, who looks as if High Street was not such a congenial place as Nell Gwynne's quarters in Whitehall. The old cathedral, also the Commandery, St. John's Gate, and the Chapter House would have taken the party many hours to explore; but the Hop Market offered a field of interest more to the mind of the party. It was a matter of surprise to them to find how on that market absolutely little was known as to the state of the crop; rumours of every sort were flying round. It was impossible, even with the closest study, to ascertain whether the prospects of a great crop were justified or not

The party had no definite programme, and were rather disappointed to find themselves drifting into hopyards which did not realise their ideas of the advancement in cultivation and curing of hops of which they had read. A hopyard with poles in no way carries out the idea which they expected, and it was with astonishment that the party found that in many cases the hopyards were carried on as they had been a hundred years ago. The growers seemed to think that it was not worth spending money or adopting new ideas, but in Powick, Martley, in the valley of the Teme, indeed, each place visited, the mention was made of a place called Northingtown, where, almost with a sneer, it was said that all kinds of new-fangled ideas were carried out, and everything was done on a plan different to that which the speaker and his father had found good enough. To see the abode of these heretics in hop growing became the idea of every one of the party, and they therefore were very glad to be able to arrange to visit Northingtown, the farm belonging to Messrs. Jones Brothers, who, they learned, were the inventors and patentees in 1901 of the process for drying hops by driving pure hot air through them. At Northingtown they found no longer a farm, but a great business concern worked with the precision of a factory, organised and regulated on the lines of an industrial concern.

Acres upon acres of hopyards, with poles and wires for carrying the hops, were able to be washed during their early growth by a complete system of pipes laid underground, into which the necessary wash was pumped, whereas in dry weather the same pipes were utilised for pumping water for irrigation purposes. The powerful engines and boilers which did this work later on performed another function. The hops, as they are gathered, are laid on vast floors and pure hot air is driven through them by a great wheel. The hops, once dried, travel on moving floors into the packing room, there again machinery is used in bagging, weighing, and finally placing the hops in the warehouses where they remain until sold. But not alone is machinery used in the work of preparing the hops for market. From an out altruistic point of view the cultivation of hops has a large claim on public consideration at Northingtown; to-day over two thousand people from the Black Country are finding a holiday which they could not have were it not for this industry. They are lodged in comfortable tents with every arrangement made for fires for their cooking and for giving them the enjoyment of vegetables and other things grown in the country to which, alas! the poor of the towns have so little access. The children wander free in great orchards, and one sees happy faces as they pick up pears and apples, treasures hardly known to them. Electric light is used in their quarters, and, as far as possible, consistent with business principles, all is done for their safety, comfort, and enjoyment. Indeed, to do this is a wise policy for the grower, as if his yards are popular ones he can always find good careful hands.

A feature to be noticed at Northingtown is the large number of pigs. They are the factor on which the hop crop rests, the question of providing the purest and most natural of manures without the introduction of the chemical compounds so much in use to-day is very important. At Northingtown two principles seem to be paramount: the one to grow hops with natural heat, the other to dry them without direct contact with coal or coke, and to by means of the pure air system an article is placed in the hands of the brewer which is beyond doubt without impurity. The party learnt that hop growing to be successful must be carried out on business principles and as a commercial undertaking. The same must of a great hop farm and a manufactory are one and the same, requiring organisation, intelligence, and capital to secure a successful result.

Foreign Notes.

Burgundy.

A further report of the proceedings at the Dijon hop fair states that planters, being dissatisfied with the offers for their produce, generally refused to sell. The prices named are certainly inadequate to cover the cost of production, although the yield is large. Great variations in quality are found in this district, as elsewhere, and it is very difficult to decide upon average values. Present quotations range from 45 to 55 francs (average 40s. English) for choicest samples.

BARLEY AND MALT.

Barley Show at Dorchester.

The eighth annual show of malting barley and other grain was held in the Corn Exchange, Dorchester, on Saturday last, under the auspices of the Dorset United Farmers' Clubs. There was a record entry, and the quality of the various exhibits was progressive as to growing and harvesting, but a very considerable number of them was spoiled by bad threshing. The judges for barley were Mr. Frank Flinn, chairman of the County Brewers' Association, and Mr. A. R. Baily, Frome, whilst the wheat awards were made by Mr. H. Scutt, who had the finest lot of wheat samples ever brought together set before him. The oats were hardly up to usual merit.

In the class for malting barley, drawn from a bulk sample of 50 quarters, the first prize went to Mr. W. Bedford, Bere Regis, for Chevalier barley, that won on its merits, despite the fact of its being heavily handicapped by indifferent threshing. An interesting history attaches itself to this seed, as it originated from one peck of the Champion barley at the Brewers' Exhibition six years ago. This peck, when first sown, produced crop of six and a half sacks. This in turn was utilised, and produced a return of over a hundred sacks. This barley subsequently won the championship; a fresh exhibitor, Mr. F. J. Johnson, was second, and Mr. R. Hayne third. In Class 2, for barley drawn from a bulk sample of 30 quarters, Mr. Bedford was again successful, Colonel Brymer, M.P., being second, and Mr. G. Bissell third. In Class 3, from bulk sample of 20 quarters, Mr. C. Trawbridge was first, Mr. W. J. Spicer second, and Mr. J. G. Tory third.

The white wheats constituted a grand class, Mr. J. Cossins being first with a lovely sample of Ambrose's Standup, Mr. W. R. Little being second, and Mr. F. Taylor third. But the most superb class of all was for red wheats, Mr. T. B. Sprake's winning sample scaling 68¼ lb. per bushel. Mr. E. W. Drew was second with another very weighty sample, Mr. J. Lockyer being third.

It was a decidedly weak show of oats, the quality being far from fine. There were not quite so many flints as usual, but there was an admixture of other grains. Mr. J. J. Wyatt was first with a very compact oat that were as straight as though they had been clipped, and lying so close they made a heavy weight per bushel. Messrs. Cossins and Trowbridge's oats were not up to the usual merit, oats evidently not being the crop of the season. In the barley section trade was fairly brisk at from 28s. to 33s. per qr.

Barley and Hop Exhibition in Germany.

The twelfth annual German Barley and Hop Exhibition, organised by the German Agricultural Society and the German Hop Growers' Exhibition will be held in Berlin from the 7th to the 15th of this month. According to the notices already received, there will be 150 hop exhibits, 160 barley exhibits, and 100 competitors for the special prize given for the best new variety of barley. The money prizes will exceed £500, including £100 given by the Prussian Board of Agriculture, which has also instituted an award of a silver medal for the winning competitor in both classes, barley and hops. The Brewery-Machinery Exhibition, which is held at the same time and place, has also received a large number of applications for space.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane. Wednesday.—There was only a limited attendance, and quiet buying in the various departments occasioned very little difference in prices compared with last Monday's close. Though new English wheat meets a fairly ready sale the tendency is scarcely as good as a week ago, and so far millers seem hardly to realise the excellence of quality. Good reds delivered up to London are worth 29s 6d per quarter 504lb. On the south side reds usually range at 28s to 28s 6d, and whites 28s 6d to 29s 6d. Imported descriptions unchanged. Purchases continue to favour holders, while so much of the arrivals still go to Continental destinations. Trade requirements seem more or less satisfied concerning flour movements in general, and the force of competition is still felt, with regard to American and country makes, and not until genuine spring patents appear more freely during the next few weeks can anything otherwise be considered. Of bakers' grades, Iron Duke fails to meet with buyers over 20s 9d ex store, but 21s is still asked. Town households No. 1 quality 25s 9d per sack delivered in. Country flour steady. Good roller whites 23s to 23s 6d. Best patents, old run up to 27s, and new 24s to 25s. Grinding barley rather lower since Monday, apart from forward maintenance. Good types of new English malting between 30s and 33s meet with favour. Russian oats dull of sale, and rather less inclining in holders' favour. Quotations, however, tended much the same. English oats maintained, and in moderate supply. Maize quiet, and against sellers. Imported beans and peas continue well held.

Mark Lane. Friday. — Conditions once more moved harmoniously in holders' favour, but, with so much still resting on harvest markets from abroad, pressing needs just now are not felt, and price changes have been quite unimportant since the last meeting held. Attendance moderate. English wheat, as it steadily comes up, can be bought at a rather cheaper range than a week ago, but there is no actual giving way any more at Mark Lane than in local districts. Delivered up to London good reds were again held for 29s 6d. On South side, milling reds usually range at 28s to 28s 6d, and East Anglia gives runs at 28s per quarter. Imported descriptions continue steady but dull, while measured against competition of native grain, supplies are anything but large, as so much still finds its way to Continental destinations, Germany in particular. The market for flour was in no pleasanter state since Wednesday last, though maintained in a measure. Buyers of American still await something more definite as regards spring patents, and meanwhile rely mainly on new crop Kansas.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—Wheat trade dull, at 27s to 30s, with some difficulty in finding purchasers. Demand for malting barley was very slow, and prices wer not maintained, nothing being quoted above 28s. Peas were firm, and few were to be had at 30s. New Mazagan beans made 28s to 29s, and new ticks 31s to 33s. Maize unchanged at 25s to 27, and oats unchanged at 16s to 20s. Tares were a little dearer, making up to 6s 9d a bushel.

Banbury. Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 27s to 28s per qr; barley, 24s to 30s; beans, new, 29s to 30s; old, 32s to 33s; oats, 16s to 20s; peas, 27s to 30s.

Berwick. Saturday.—Fair attendance, with large supplies of barley on offer, which met a trade similar to last week. Wheat and oats small show. Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 23s to 28s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 20s 6d.

Birmingham. Thursday.—There was a slight falling off in the attendance, and trade generally was quiet. Russian wheats have declined 3d on the week, other foreign sorts being unchanged, the demand being slow. English wheats are rather easier to buy, values being from 28s to 30s per quarter (496lb.). English oats and beans were firm at late rates. Grinding barley was 3d easier at 19s per 400lb., at Sharpness. Both Plate and flat maize were 3d lower.

Brighton. Thursday. Very quiet demand for wheat, and prices unaltered. Very slow trade and small attendance. Barley 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 31s to 33s; oats, 6d dearer.

Bristol. Thursday. — Trading has been rather slow since our last. English wheat was fairly plentiful on market to-day, finding a ready sale at 3d. to 6d. advance. Foreign unaltered. Flat maize, 3d lower. Round maize 3d to 6d lower. Barley unchanged. Oats 3d dearer. Flour very steady, a good demand having been experienced during the past week.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday. — Wheat supplies seem to be getting smaller, but with millers holding fair stocks, it appears difficult to establish an advance. Prices were unchanged; reds or whites, at 27s 6d to 28s 6d; revets, at 27s 6d to 28s per quarter. Barley: We had a fair average supply, and with a few buyers operating with some freedom, a good quantity of business was done; ordinary to medium malting runs steady at 27s to 30s per quarter; fine bright samples sold readily at 31s to 37s per quarter. Feeding corns, oil cakes, and other feeding stuffs all firm at fully last week's prices.

Cambridge. Saturday. Supplies are not too abundant, as farmers are now getting busy with their autumn sowings. There was a smaller supply. Wheat made the full prices of last Saturday. Red 27s to 29s, and white up to 30s per 504lb. Barley was unchanged. Beans quiet, but quite as dear. Oats firm.

Canterbury. Saturday.—A good inquiry for oats, and prices are 6d per quarter higher, 40lb. spring corn making 18s and black winters are up to 20s 6d; wheat a firm trade, 29s to 31s; barley, rather dragging, with choice qualities held for an advance.

Carlisle. Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market; good demand at full prices; 18s to 18s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester. Saturday.—Trade not very active. English grain commanded last week's full prices, and oats were rather dearer for prime samples. Indian corn also the turn dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, white, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; red ditto, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 75lb; barley, grinding, 3s to 4s 1d per 64lb; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 496lb; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; ditto old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb; Indian corn 14s 9d to 15s 3d per 480lb.

Chichester. Wednesday. — Small attendance, but fairly good trade at the prices below. New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d; barley, 26s to 28s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 15s 6d to 16s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 32s to 34s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 26s; flour 25s.

Colchester. Saturday.—Moderate supply of wheat here to-day, but trade at fully late rates. Barley fair show; malting parcels sold readily at about current prices. Beans, peas, and oats firm; supply very small for this time of year.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON.

Coventry. Friday.—A very fair attendance, and good supply of wheat on offer. Prices of last week maintained for samples of good quality. Barley quiet trade. Prime samples of oats scarce and enquired for. Quotations:—Wheat, old, 10s 6d to 12s per 196lb; new, 10s 6d to 11s 3d per 196lb; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb; oats, old, 23s to 25s per 336lb; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 336lb; beans, old, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb; new, 11s 6d to 12s per 196lb; peas, 11s 6d to 11s per 196lb.

Derby. Friday. Wheat firm, but quiet and unaltered in value. Spring corn unchanged. Wheat, new white, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, old, 33s to 34s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes. Thursday.—There was a larger supply of corn. There was a fair demand for all descriptions, and prices show no quotable alteration from last week. The following were the quotations:—Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s to 14s; new wheat, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary ditto, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 20s to 23s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, and late prices firmly held at 10s to 11s per load. Foreign also firm. Oats scarce and firm. Nice dry samples of malting barley in good demand, and late prices maintained. Beans advanced 3d to 6d per quarter. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Owing to the grain exhibition to-day there was a larger attendance than usual, but trade was generally inactive, and late rates were only with difficulty maintained, either for English or foreign. Samples of malting barley came very plentifully to hand, but there is very little, if any, change to note in the values; and the same may be written of grinding descriptions. No great demand for feeding stuffs of any kind, and prices generally may be quoted as the same.

Dublin, Friday. — Wheat, 15s to 17s 6d; malting barley, 15s to 15s 6d; grinding ditto, 15s 6d to 14s 6d; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow. English wheat somewhat firmer. Grinding barley a shade easier, being largely offered. Plenty of new English barley on the market; although 3s 9d was in some instances fetched; prices ruled from 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Flour 3d cheaper. Maize firm. Oats 3d to 6d dearer. English wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat firmer, but little doing, and flour quiet and unchanged. Maize quiet, and 3d to 4½d per boll cheaper, owing to fresh arrivals. Barley firmer, and 3d per boll dearer since Wednesday. Foreign oats practically unaltered, but Scotch a shade easier. Beans in good demand, but unaltered. Pease unchanged. Bran and thirds a fair trade passing at unaltered prices. Oatmeal 6d per sack cheaper on the week, but demand limited. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Grantham. Saturday.—Large attendance, and business generally was brisk. Wheat, 27s to 29s; barley, common, 23s; ditto best, to 33s; beans, 30s to 32s; blue peas, 38s to 46s; oats, 16s to 19s per quarter.

Glasgow. Friday.—Wheat and flour slow, and prices here and there in buyers' favour. Mixed American maize steady at 13s 7½d per 280lb., with occasionally more money asked. Plate quiet at 13s 9d. Home and foreign oats slow and rather easier. Barley steady. Beans quiet.

Gloucester. Saturday. — English wheat in moderate supply at late rates. Reds make 3s 6d to 3s 7d, and whites, 3s 7d to 3s 8d. Foreign in quiet demand, but prices are firm, and any change is in sellers' favour. Grinding barley and maize 3d cheaper. Oats held for 3d advance.—WAIT, JAMES AND Co.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Slow trade at fully last week's prices for English wheats. There was very little doing in barleys, and values were nominal. Oats firm. Beans continue steady. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per 56lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s; new, 2s to 2s 6d per 40lb.; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d; new, 3s 6d to 5s 9d per 65½ lb.; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½ lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat was in moderate supply and just firm, with no quotable change on last week's prices. Reds, 28s to 29s; whites, 28s to 29s 6d per quarter. Barley in good average supply, and with a healthy demand for malting sorts, but especially for fine, bright skinned barleys. Ordinary descriptions steady at 27s to 29s, finer sorts very firm at 30s to 35s per quarter. Altogether, although some buyers were holding off, a good steady business was done. Feeding corns are all firm. Oats at 17s 6d to 19s, beans at 33s to 34s, round maize at 23s 9d, flat at 24s 3d, and lentils at 25s to 25s 6d per quarter. Linseed cakes remained firm at £8 to £8 10s, and bran at £4 15s per ton.

Leeds. Friday. — Both English and foreign wheats firmly held at Tuesday's full prices. Americans and Indians favouring sellers. Flour held for late advance, with a hardening tendency. No change in beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, or other feeding stuffs.

Leeds. Tuesday.—There has been less animation in the trade since Thursday, buyers generally being well supplied and perhaps hoping for a reaction. The Continent continues to be a large buyer, and, shipments to the United Kingdom being below our requirements, the quantity of wheat on passage continues to shrink, America, so far, failing to send more liberal supplies. Prices on the week are unchanged for foreign, but English wheat is the turn dearer. Malting barley in larger demand. Prices steady. Feeding stuffs slow at late rates. DENNS AND Co.

Leicester. Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, and large supplies of home-grown wheats in excellent condition. Trade ruled steady at very firm rates. Red wheats, 28s to 30s; white wheats, 29s to 31s per 36 stones; malting barley, 23s to 28s 6d per 32 stones; oats, 19s to 20s per 26 stones; beans, 30s to 33s per 38 stones.

Lincoln. Friday.—A good attendance, but a small show of English wheat, which sold at the full price of last week 28s per quarter on rail, 29s delivered. Malting barley in fair supply at unaltered rates, ranging from 24s to 33s per quarter, according to quality. Oats in fair supply, and unchanged.

Liverpool. Friday.—Wheat: There has been a larger attendance at the market and wheat is in better demand, a fair trade being put through at about unchanged prices. American winters and the lower grades of Plate, however, are ½d lower. Flour: A small consumptive trade in foreign at about unchanged prices. English brands very quiet at 6d per sack lower than last market day. Maize: Mixed is steady, with a moderate trade passing at ¼d over Tuesday. Plate, owing to fresh arrivals, is ¼d lower, but meets a fair inquiry at the decline. European sorts are steady, without change. Barley: Malting steady, with a moderate trade at unchanged values. Feeding firm at full prices. Beans: Foreign firm and getting scarcer; a fair business is doing in English, which are more plentiful. Peas steadily held at last Tuesday's prices, with a moderate demand. Oats firmly held with a better demand at fully late rates to some advance for both English and foreign sorts. Oatmeal inactive, but steadily held at late rates. Oilcake quiet for foreign, but steady for English cakes, which have a fair sale at last prices.—SEGAR AND TENNANT-CHEFF.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and foreign wheat was unchanged. Flour quiet. Indian corn somewhat easier. English oats scarce, and holders firm at an advance of about 1d per bushel. Beans quietly steady. Peas also quiet. Bran and thirds have a dearer tendency.

Newark. Wednesday. A small show, which made 6s per quarter more money. Barley moved quietly at last week's price. Oats and beans unchanged in value. Quotations: Wheat, 27s to 28s; barley, 23s to 30s; oats, 16s to 18s; beans, 29s to 34s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday. Wheat at our to-day's market was firmly held at last week's prices, without, however any big demand. Maize quiet, and prices unchanged from last Saturday. Oats steady, and in sellers' favour. Beans firm at fully late rates. Peas unchanged. Barley sold at irregular prices, ranging from 22s to 28s, according to quality and condition.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND Co.

Northampton. Saturday. — Better attendance and more inquiry for barley. Prices firm. New wheat, 27s to 28s, malting barley, 25s to 32s; barley, 26s to 30s; new white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; new black oats, 16s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply at our market to-day owing to wet weather preventing threshing, with a firm trade. Barley was also in small supply for the same reason, at late rates. Wet and rough weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 28s to 29s per quarter, weight 63lb. per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending October 2, 1905:—Wheat, 2,695, 27s; barley, 13,879, 24s 1d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham. Saturday. Wheat in less supply, and an advance of 6d per quarter was established. Barley only a moderate show, and values well supported. Oats but few offering, and 6d dearer. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Peterborough, Saturday. There has been a small supply of wheat; trade was firm, and it could scarcely be bought as well as last week. Barley was a quiet trade, without quotable change in price. Oats fully as dear.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very fair attendance on our market to-day. Wheat unchanged. Barley an dmaize quiet at last week's prices. Oats 3d to 6d dearer. ORLANDO DAVIS AND Co.

Reading. Saturday. There was but a small attendance, and trade was very dull. A little wheat changed hands at last week's prices; barley realised 25s 6d to 35s per quarter; oats, 16s to 24s; beans, 32s to 38s; bran scarce and dear; straight run realising 90s and broad bran from 97s 6d to £5 per ton; tares, 6s to 7s 6d per bushel.

Retford. Saturday. There was not a very large supply of wheat. Average attendance. Although prices were decidedly firmer, with a strong upward tendency, there was no change in the quotations of wheat at 27s 6d to 28s; seed lots up to 29s per quarter. The malting barley on offer was of an inferior character, and lower by 1s, only the best keeping up to the mark; best sorts, 28s to 29s; inferior, 24s to 27s; grinding, 23s 6d; maize, 26s; black oats, 16s to 17s; white, 17s 6d to 18s; English beans, 30s; rye, 20s per quarter.

Ripon. Thursday. Barley is the chief feature, of which there is a good supply, which is making late rates. A good attendance, but little business passing. New wheat, 27s to 29s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 26s to 28s 6d; new oats, 17s to 18s; maize, round, 25s to 26s; flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Shrewsbury. Saturday.—Quotations:—Wheat, 12s to 12s 9d per 225lb; old white oats, 15s to 16s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb; barley, 15s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford, Friday.—There was a very firm tone in the market, which was largely attended. Wheats, 26s to 27s; barley, 27s to 29s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 18s; new beans, 30s to 32s; old ditto, 31s to 34s; peas, 35s to 45s per quarter.

Sunderland. Saturday.—Wheat firm, and rather dearer. Barley also in sellers' favour. Oats steady. Arrivals nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells. Friday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red ditto, 27s 6d to 28s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 25s. Hay a very dull trade.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat a fair supply, and a shade dearer on the week. Foreign unaltered. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 3d advance. Flour a good, steady demand at fully late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND Co., LTD.

Warwick, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, and best samples make fully last week's prices; inferior and damp lots unsaleable. Several samples of autumn barley on offer, best samples making up to 30s. Very little change in other grain. Feeding stuffs rather easier.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering owing to the mustard seed markets being now on. Wheat firm at late rates; reds, 28s to 28s 6d. Oats dearer to buy. Barley, 24s to 27s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday. — There was a good attendance, and a brisker trade was recorded. Quotations: New wheat, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 216lb.; flat corn, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per 480lb.; English beans, old, 15s; new, 13s 6d; new oats, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; old oats, 14s to 15s per 196lb.

Worksop. Wednesday. — Fair attendance, and moderate show of grain. Barley more in demand. White wheat, 27s to 29s; red ditto, 26s 6d to 27s; malting barley, 28s to 30s 6d; secondary qualities, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 23s to 25s; new white oats, 17s to 18s; old ditto, 21s to 23s; old black oats, 19s to 21s; new ditto, 17s to 18s; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Yeovil. Friday.—Good offer of grain. Wheat sold at from 5s to 6d per quarter more money. Barley quiet and unchanged. Maize down 5s. Oats firmly held, and a few sales at 6d advance. Best quality English wheat made from 31s to 33s per quarter; secondary, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; foreign wheat, 32s 6d to 35s; malting barley, 31s to 35s; feeding 20s to 22s 6d; foreign, 19s 3d to 19s 6d; oats, white, 16s to 19s 6d; black, 17s to 20s; maize, 25s 3d to 26s 9d; beans, 32s 6d to 37s 6d; rye, 20s 6d to 22s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour selling more freely on the basis of 24s 6d per sack for fines. Milling offals in good request at the full rates of last week.

York. Saturday. There was a good attendance, and a firmer tone about the market. Wheat was in moderate supply. Fine white made 29s to 30s; red and mixed, 28s to 29s per quarter of 36 stones. Barley was very variable in quality, and in good supply, but met with a slow trade, at 23s to 29s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats scarce and firm, from 17s to 18s 6d per quarter of 24 stones. Beans, peas, and maize firm at late rates.

FOREIGN

Paris. Wednesday. — Offers are still somewhat restricted in the provincial markets, and the same firmness predominates. Millers, in order to resist this tendency as much as possible, are only buying from hand to mouth so as just to cover their immediate requirements. At the Bourse de Commerce business is still quiet to a large extent, and buyers are extremely reserved. There is consequently very little doing, and prices, which opened at yesterday's level, finally fell off from 5c to 10c for wheat and from 5c to 15c for flour. Rye: Nothing doing. Oats quiet, at practically late prices. At the weekly spot market considerable difficulty is still being experienced in obtaining supplies of good dry home-grown wheat, for which good prices are being paid so as to mix them with moist qualities. It will be difficult to form any large stock, unless the winter should be cold. Business continues difficult, and prices show a marked difference in several places. The sale of consumption marks of flour is also difficult, as bakers have now sufficient stocks for the next fortnight, and will not make further purchases till prices have improved in the term market. Rye was very firm, and prices remained steady; buyers endeavoured to bring about a fall in prices, but the movement was unsuccessful, due to the opposition of sellers. Offers of oats still continue restricted, but farmers are showing a little more desire to sell; unfortunately the weather continues unfavourable for threshing. Offers of barley are less pressing; the sc districts which have good barley are keeping up their prices.—DORNBUSCH.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been in steady request. Transactions include Rosario at 30s. 3d. per 480 lb., Bahia Blanca at 31s. 6d. per 504 lb., White Walla at 32s. per 500 lb., Red Walla at 31. 9d. per 500 lb., No. 1 Blue Stem at 33s. per 500 lb., Roumania at 31s. 9d. per 492 lb., Australian at 33s. 9d. per 480 lb., and No. 2 Manitoba at 30s. 9d. per 480 lb. There are free offers to buy the latter at 30s. 6d., but holders stand out for the threepence difference.

Maize cargoes for arrival this side of Christmas are 3d. dearer; 23s. 3d. paid for Argentine and 22s. 9d. for American, both nearly due and per 480 lb. Other cargo sales have included Odessa barley at 18s. per 400 lb., White Clipped American oats at 15s. 9d. per 320 lb., Argentine linseed at 35s. 3d. per 416 lb, Ferozepore rapeseed at 36s. 3d. per 416 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £5 10s. per ton.

The London Corn Trade Association c.i.f. quotations, for the settlement of rejections and difference in weight on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contract, are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta, 32s. 3d.; Soft Red, 30s. 6d.; Bombay Soft White Delhi, 32s. 3d.; Kurrachee Soft White Delhi, 32s. 3d.; Kurrachee—Choice White, 32s.; Soft White, 31s. 3d.; Soft Red, 30s. 9d.; all per 492 lb. These prices will govern cargo arrivals til a new list is issued.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 4 wheat (3 Melbourne, 1 Port Wakefield); 1 linseed (1 Rosario). Total 5.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call were 2 wheat (1 Antwerp and 1 Bremen), 3 linseed (1 Bremen, 1 Harburg, 1 Rotterdam). Total 5.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 288 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 6 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 49 linseed. Total 377.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 239 wheat 1 wheat and maize, 35 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 5 maize, 5 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 35 linseed, and 1 Canaryseed. Total 343.

CORN STATISTICS.

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 7, 1905:—

Wheat	918,200 cwts.
Wheat-flour	307,100 ,,
Barley	551,000 ,,
Oats	166,100 ,,
Maize	1,027,900 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,724,500	2,183,000	1,592,450	1,348,700
Wheat-flour	265,200	372,700	310,933	591,900
Barley	764,300	920,300	825,303	966,800
Oats	367,0 0	211,300	497,081	328,200
Maize	1,226,500	891,100	481,481	837,800

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to October 7, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1900	70,214	28 1	134,277	26 2	15,850	17 1
1901	63,656	25 9	172,175	26 5	16,815	17 6
1902	72,617	25 5	93,857	26 2	34,042	17 2
1903	56,624	25 10	58,717	23 8	31,189	15 6
1904	54,657	30 2	153,279	25 6	43,575	15 9

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 4

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5 ...	... 30 7	24 6	16 10
1903-4 ...	... 27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3 ...	... 26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2 ...	... 28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1 ...	... 27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900 ...	... 26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9 ...	... 26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8 ...	... 30 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7 ...	... 28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.		Barley. s. d.		Oats. s. d.	
1890 ...	31 9	per qr.	... 28 8	per qr.	... 18 7	per qr.
1891 ...	37 1	,,	... 28 2	,,	... 20 0	,,
1892 ...	30 4	,,	... 26 2	,,	... 19 11	,,
1893 ...	26 4	,,	... 25 6	,,	... 18 9	,,
1894 ...	22 10	,,	... 24 6	,,	... 17 1	,,
1895 ...	23 1	,,	... 21 11	,,	... 14 6	,,
1896 ...	26 2	,,	... 22 11	,,	... 14 9	,,
1897 ...	30 2	,,	... 23 6	,,	... 16 11	,,
1898 ...	34 0	,,	... 27 2	,,	... 18 5	,,
1899 ...	25 8	,,	... 25 7	,,	... 17 0	,,
1900 ...	26 11	,,	... 25 9	,,	... 17 9	,,
1901 ...	26 9	,,	... 25 3	,,	... 18 5	,,
1902 ...	28 0	,,	... 25 8	,,	... 20 2	,,
1903 ...	26 9	,,	... 22 11	,,	... 17 2	,,
1904 ...	28 4	,,	... 22 4	,,	... 16 4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,, ...	448,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,, ...	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,, ...	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks ...	654,000	680,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,, ...	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,, ...	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,, ...	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks ...	254,000	264,000	164,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan. ...	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb. ...	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1
April...	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May ...	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 [illegible]	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June...	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6
July ...	30 0	29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0
August	29 3	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6
Sept....	31 0	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 [illegible]	26 3	25 9	31 0
Oct.....		31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6
Nov. ...		32 0	28 0	28 9	27 [illegible]	26 4	24 3	30 3
Dec. ...		31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.		30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s. d	1904. s. d	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s.
Jan. ...	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb. ...	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 [illegible]	30 0
April...	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 [illegible]	22 0	31 3
May ...	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7
June ...	25 6	24 3	24 [illegible]	23 0	23 0	23 [illegible]	23 1½	25 [illegible]
July ...	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 [illegible]	24 0	21 9	27 [illegible]
Sept....	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct. ...		27 0	24 9	22 [illegible]	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov. ...		26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	22 [illegible]	25 0
Dec. ...		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 [illegible]	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10			
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

	s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	31 0
,, 11 ,,	30 0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.	Town Households. s. d.
September 1 (per sack)	30 0	(per sack) 27 0
,, 13 ,,	29 0	,, 26 0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s. d.	Barley. Qrs.	s. d.	Oats. Qrs.	s. d.
Oct. 8	54,677	30 2	163,420	25 6	43,577	15 9
,, 15	45,062	30 5	185,031	25 4	34,903	15 2
,, 22	45,909	30 4	213,190	25 5	31,445	15 11
,, 29	47,947	30 6	221,944	24 11	29,704	15 10
Nov. 5	43,313	30 6	205,816	25 0	35,145	16 0
,, 12	43,740	30 3	204,446	24 6	32,324	15 11
,, 19	41,025	30 2	178,520	24 5	31,200	16 0
,, 26	41,350	30 5	177,900	24 4	34,774	16 1
Dec. 3	45,942	30 4	166,800	24 6	35,831	16 2
,, 10	50,154	30 4	166,200	24 4	30,600	16 2
,, 17	44,715	30 4	150,600	24 4	30,900	16 2
,, 24	33,336	30 3	99,297	24 7	28,910	16 1
,, 31	21,168	30 4	60,517	24 8	18,000	16 2
1905.						
Jan. 7	23,757	30 4	45,191	24 4	18,200	16 3
,, 14	39,617	30 4	78,931	24 6	31,700	16 3
,, 21	45,646	30 5	99,469	25 0	32,600	16 7
,, 28	48,809	30 6	89,196	25 1	41,400	16 7
Feb. 4	49,442	30 6	75,347	25 0	41,450	16 7
,, 11	50,685	30 7	67,923	25 2	38,000	16 8
,, 18	44,495	30 5	61,765	25 2	36,417	16 9
,, 25	42,165	30 10	39,500	25 0	39,824	16 10
Mar. 4	36,188	30 8	40,477	25 2	39,957	16 10
,, 11	38,118	30 9	23,448	25 2	24,896	16 10
,, 18	31,869	30 10	18,442	24 11	20,278	16 10
,, 25	32,371	30 9	17,428	25 2	18,910	17 0
April 1	26,933	30 9	11,235	25 1	17,703	16 11
,, 8	25,000	30 9	8,104	25 6	15,000	17 0
,, 15	27,721	30 8	4,691	24 3	14,159	17 0
,, 22	24,981	30 8	2,875	24 4	14,671	17 5
,, 29	24,276	30 9	3,185	24 1	7,597	17 0
May 6	22,183	30 8	3,014	25 3	11,577	18 6
,, 13	53,446	27 1	4,172	19 10	16,740	16 5
,, 20	26,514	30 10	1,003	24 8	8,994	18 8
,, 27	21,508	30 11	761	24 4	9,017	18 1
June 3	20,934	31 3	724	23 6	5,942	19 8
,, 10	16,685	31 4	247	24 0	6,115	18 11
,, 17	12,819	31 7	1,171	26 0	3,392	19 1
,, 24	11,571	31 7	145	23 9	3,031	18 17
July 1	9,579	31 4	289	23 2	3,453	19 6
,, 8	7,874	32 1	375	22 11	2,582	19 7
,, 15	4,884	32 3	31	23 10	1,902	19 1
,, 22	6,558	32 2	52	23 7	2,434	18 10
,, 29	7,695	32 3	241	19 9	3,065	17 14
Aug. 5	5,062	31 11	371	22 0	4,344	18 1
,, 12	8,184	30 5	642	22 5	8,974	16 11
,, 19	32,715	28 5	1,765	23 4	13,656	16 1
,, 26	88,606	27 1	6,461	23 6	20,885	15 1
Sept. 2	92,630	26 11	14,747	23 5	24,000	15 4
,, 9	78,580	27 1	17,855	23 4	20,622	15 19
,, 16	83,187	26 11	26,986	22 7	24,700	16 6
,, 23	95,743	26 8	79,175	23 10	30,715	15 11
,, 30	104,984	26 9	123,125	24 3	42,067	16 0
Oct. 1	89,579	26 9	147,570	24 9	31,19	16 3

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended October 7, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	89,577 qrs.	29s. 9d.
Barley	147,570 qrs.	24s. 9d.
Oats	31,190 qrs.	16s. 3d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 3, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £ s. d.
Wheat	1,900	4	2,701 5 4	1 7 8
Barley	4,433	6	5,736 6 6	1 5 11
Oats	3,815	4	3,205 13 1	0 17 4

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

September 27 to October 4, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	4,486	86,297	90,783
Barley	2,826	61,000	83,826
Malt	22,727	...	22,727
Oats	5,460	59,000	64,460
Beans	1,780	173	1,953
Peas	568	2,731	3,299
Maize	...	18,867	18,867
Tares	73	170	243
Buckwheat	...	2,571	2,571
Linseed	...	14,000	14,000
Cottonseed	...	4,700	4,700
Canaryseed	...	2,000	2,000
Dari	...	2,500	2,500
Dholl	...	135	135
Flour sacks	32,081	17,930	50,011
Ryemeal	...	800	800
Riceflour	...	2,000	2,000
Maizemeal	...	700	700

BUTTER

(Price 's per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. North Tawton: 11d. Penistone: 1s 2d. Penzance: 11½d to 1s 1d. Plymouth: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s to 1s 1d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 3d. Crewkerne: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Cumberland: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 3d. Helmsley: 10d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s 3d. Ramsbottom: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stamford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Tiverton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Wantwich: 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 11½d to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s to 1s 1d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Malton: 11d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather of September was favourable to the completion of harvest in the North and to the commencement of autumn ploughing in the South. The comparatively low temperature prevented a good deal of sprouting with the corn, which the heavy rains of later August had found cut but not carried. But the cool air did not prevent very grave discolouration, especially in a large quantity of barley. The weather record for the first nine months of the year thus runs:—

1905	Rain inches.	Sun hours	Warmth Degrees	Month Character
January ...	1·08	45	36·0	Dry
Feb uary ...	0·70	61	42·5	Dry
March	3·70	108	48·0	Showery
April	1·80	90	47·5	Chilly
May	0·81	215	52·0	Dry
June	1·50	174	59·0	Wet
July	1·17	240	65·0	Hot
August	3·00	150	59·0	Cool
September .	1·30	100	54·0	Cool

The threshings of wheat and barley continue to show a good bulk, yielded wheat averages a good weight, and also shows fine quality. Barley is rather over average weight, but usually rather coarse quality.

Austria, Hungary, Roumania, and Bulgaria are now securing their maize crops, which, without exceeding an average, are a considerable improvement on the very poor yield of last year. Russia reports a very busy sowing season, and the crops have been such a mainstay of the Empire during the war that it is not surprising that great efforts should be made to keep up and even extend the area. Labour, however, is scarce, owing to the vast forces detained in Asia despite the peace. Stocks of corn awaiting shipment at the chief ports are: 1,179,000 qr. of wheat, 481,000 qr. of rye, 345,000 qr. of barley, and 1,211,000 qr. of oats, against 1,089,000 qr. of wheat 296,000 qr. of rye, 555,000 qr. of barley, and 344,000 qr. of oats at this time last year. The great increase in the quantity of oats awaiting export will not fail to be noted by intending buyers in this country.

The American journalist in speaking of the maize crop just secured, may find it difficult to avoid the accusation of drawing the long bow, for from all the information which reaches us from commercial and agricultural sources, the yield is really extraordinary. There are no estimates, even the most conservative, which put it at less than three hundred million quarters, and the usual reports give the total at 330,000,000 qr. The effect of this vast production on trade in 1906 cannot fail to be great, but the crop, being one that is not useable for food until fully two months after the cob has been detached from the stalk, the influence will not be real until 1906 is with us. Maize for prompt delivery is firm at full prices, and for November delivery there is almost equal firmness.

The wheat crop in the Canadian Dominion is threshing out beyond expectation, not only in Manitoba, from which September reports came for the most part, but in Canada proper to the east, and in Saskatchewan, Assiniboina, and Alberta to the west and north-west of Canada's principal wheat district. The export samples of wheat for the Dominion is put at fully six million quarters.

The stocks of wheat in the chief ports of the United Kingdom on October 1 are now published, and, as compared with a year ago, show an increase in Liverpool, Manchester, Hull, Gloucester, Bristol, Dublin, and Londonderry. On the other hand, there are diminished holdings in London, Edinburgh, Belfast, and Limerick. The grand total is a little larger on the twelvemonth.

Holdings of flour are increased in Dublin and Limerick, but reduced in London, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Belfast. Holdings of barley show a general reduction, those of oats a general increase. Maize shows increased holdings in London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Bristol, but a reduction in the stocks at Hull, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.

The sales of English wheat at the statute markets since the beginning of the new cereal year have been very heavy, and, in fact, have been nearly double those of the like period in 1904.

	Per Qr.
This season, 456,000 quarters, at	28s. 11d.
Last season, 241,000 quarters, at	29s. 10d.

The sales of English barley have been rather smaller than usual, but they are now increasing.

	Per Qr.
This season, 264,000 quarters, at	25s. 8d.
Last season, 290,000 quarters, at	28s. 3d.

The sales of English oats have been as follows:—

	Per Qr.
This season, 142,000 quarters, at	15s. 11d.
Last season, 136,000 quarters, at	18s. 11d.

The most discouraging feature about these figures is the fall of 1s. 7d. in barley despite smaller supplies, and the failure of oats to improve in price despite the very material reduction in the market supply.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 476,000 quarters; a large supply.
Flour, 100,000 sacks; a moderate supply.
Barley, 222,000 quarters; a very heavy arrival.
Oats, 90,000 quarters; a small supply.
Maize, 240,000 quarters; exceedingly good arrivals.

The imports of linseed and cottonseed were liberal, of beans and peas small.

Supplies on passage show a great decline in the case of wheat, and are now decidedly below the mean.

	Quarters.
Californian	30,000
American	90,000
Russian	385,000
Indian	241,000
Argentine	215,000
Australasian	200,000
Various	60,000
Total	1,221,000

The expectations of flour are 240,000 sacks, or less than half an average.

Of maize the expectations are as follows:—

	Quarters.
Round corn	30,000
Flat corn	250,000
Yellow corn	800,000
Total	1,080,000

This is larger than usual.

Of barley the expectations are 590,000 qr., and of oats are 425,000 qr. In each of these cases the mainstay of the trade is Russia.

The supplies of rice on passage have fallen to 26,000 tons.

Of oilseeds they are linseed 197,000 qr., rapeseed 9,000 qr., and cottonseed 19,000 tons.

London supplies of grain for the first nine months of 1905 have been as follows:—

	Wheat. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.
Jan.	255,000	96,000	224,000	179,000
Feb.	284,000	138,000	311,000	182,000
March	345,000	34,000	251,000	137,000
April	401,000	90,000	272,000	139,000
May	299,000	105,000	363,000	90,000
June	285,000	28,000	328,000	100,000
July	414,000	21,000	494,000	124,000
Aug.	240,000	56,000	369,000	118,000
Sept.	282,000	175,000	364,000	190,000

The September totals were good, but not overwhelming. The scarcity of barley from the end of May until about a month ago was remarkable, but September has, it will be seen, rectified this.

The supply of flour includes large country consignments, but the small supplies from America have resulted in the totals being by no means excessive. They are: January, 215,000 sacks; February, 338,000 sacks; March, 273,000 sacks; April, 342,000 sacks; May, 283,000 sacks; June, 202,000 sacks; July, 215,000 sacks; August, 223,000 sacks; and September, 227,000 sacks. London imports of linseed January 1 to October 7 were 451,000 qr., against 677,000 last season.

London stocks of minor staples not given in our usual "Corn Statistics" are as follows:—

	1 Oct., 1905.		1 Oct., 1904.
Beans (qrs.)	7,010	....	13,667
Peas (qrs.)	15,130	....	21,856
Malt (qrs.)	2,321	....	3,386
Tares (qrs.)	586	....	2,388
Linseed (qrs.)	4,416	....	7,764
Rapeseed (qrs.)	1,179	....	731
Rye (qrs.)	100	....	329

Average weekly sales in London for the quarter from midsummer to Michaelmas Day are estimated to have been 73,122 qr. of wheat, 17,666 qr. of barley, 83,815 qr. of oats, 28,588 qr. of maize, 525 qr. of beans, 1,934 qr. of peas, 19,357 qr. of malt, 9,000 qr. of linseed, and 31,367 sacks of flour.

The visible supply of wheat in America is thus cabled:—

	Quarters.
7 Oct., 1905	3,612,000
8 Oct., 1904	3,653,000
9 Oct., 1903	4,130,000

The firmness with which American farmers are holding their excellent new crop is a feature of the present campaign.

Shipments from America last week were very moderate, but are none the less in excess of the extremely low figures of a year ago. Actual exports were 105,000 qr. of wheat, 174,000 sacks of flour, 44,000 qr. of barley, 79,000 qr. of oats, and 103,000 qr. of maize. Argentina sent off 65,000 qr. of wheat, 210,000 qr. of maize, and 10,000 qr. of linseed.

From the Old World shipments were: From Russia, wheat 625,000 qr., barley 420,000 qr., oats 441,000 qr., and maize 9,500 qr.; from Roumania, wheat 375,000 qr., and barley 85,000 qr.; from India, wheat 48,000 qr., and linseed 18,000 qr.; and from Australia, wheat 5,000 qr.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 9.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat to-day was a little more confidently held from the 2nd inst, and the prices made ranged from 28s. to 30s. for the great majority of samples. Foreign was 1s. cheaper for Manitoba, and 6d. lower for some Russian kinds; while all Indian, Australian, and Argentine samples had a slight tendency to appreciate in value. Barley was a rather active trade, and new English malting touched 37s. for the best, which included offers of Yorkshire, Suffolk, and North Norfolk grain. The bulk of Norfolk and Fenland offers came at 30s. to 33s., and there was too large a proportion of samples for which 27s. to 29s. was the price. Foreign was a fair offer of Persian at 18s. and 18s. 6d., and of Russian at 19s. or thereabouts. Oats were steady for English and firm for foreign. The price of maize was fully as high on spot as on the 2nd inst. 24s. was paid for the most part. Beans were held for 6d. advance. Peas, rye, and buckwheat were steady. A quiet market in rice was reported.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, Old White	(per 504 lb.	33	— 34
New White	,,	29	— 31
Old Red	,,	32	— 33
New ,,	,,	28	— 29
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	33	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 29
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	22	— 24
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 37
Brown	,,	26	— 30
Black	,,	29	— 32
Crystallized	,,	32	— 34
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	40	— 42
Tick	,,	38	— 40
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	65	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	29	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 26
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Manitoba No. 1 ...	35	— 36
,, ,, 2 ...	34	— 35
,, ,, 3 ...	33	— 34
American Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32/6	— 33
Australian	33/6	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	32/6	— 33
Ghirka	31/6	— 32
Taganrog	30/6	— 31
Bombay	32/6	— 33
Calcutta	31/9	— 32
Kurrachee	30/9	— 31
Turkish	30	— 30/3
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448 lb.) ...	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.) ...	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)...	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)...	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.) ...	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)...	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.) ...	15	— 16
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	52	— 56
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.) ...	14/9	— 15
Argentine (304 lb.)	15	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.).....	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	23	— 24
Argentine	22/6	— 23
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	33	— 35
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	41	— 43
Canadian	39	— 41
Konigsberg	42	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun.....	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese.....	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian.....	24	— 26
Persian	20	— 22
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)...	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A DISTINCT DECLINE IN MANITOBA AND A LESS MARKED FALL IN U.S.A. AND RUSSIAN WHEAT. OTHER ARTICLES, INCLUDING ENGLISH WHEAT, CLOSED FIRMLY.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

London and country makes of flour commanded an excellent consumptive demand, especially the country flour from Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and Norfolk. Prices were not altered, sellers being content to book large orders and clear large stocks at the currencies that October had already established. American flour, under the pressure of this good trade in British, fell fully 6d. per sack, but failed to attract any large increase of inquiry at the fall. Whole meal declined 1s. per sack on the fortnight. There was a declining tendency last Monday, but not enough to justify our writing prices definitely lower, as we do to-day. Hungarian and Australian sorts of flour were firm, but there were few buyers of French. Argentine was so scarce that the quotations were hardly a test of value.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 9.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30
Town Whites	,,	27
,, Households	,,	24
No. 2	,,	21
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24
,, No. 2	,,	22
Paste Flour	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 26
Fine Roller whites	,, ,,	23	— 24
Ord'y Roller	,, ,, ,,	21	— 22
Best Stone made	,, ,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	— 29
,, Second Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/9	—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6	—21
Californian	,,	26	— 27
Canadian	,,	26	— 27
Russian	,,	28	— 29
Hungarian, 0	,,	31	— 32
,, 1	,,	30	— 31
,, 2	,,	29	— 30
,, 3	,,	28	— 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24	— 25
,, Renaux	,,	23	— 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	— 22
Australian	,,	23	— 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26	— 27

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	26	— 27
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	34	— 35
Groats	,,	34	— 35
Oat Flour	,,	35	— 36
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	13	— 14
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	21	— 22
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9	— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 22
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	No sales	Oct. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 8d.	Mar. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 10d.	Oct. delivery.
,,	4s. 10d.	Nov. ,,
,,	4s. 9d.	Dec. ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	Jan. ,,
,,	4s 3d.	Mar. ,,

The feature of to-day's trade in wheat futures was the offer of American for May shipment at 6s. 8d., with acceptances at 6s. 7d. per cental. Maize was offered for March, April, and May delivery at a level 4s. 3d. per cental. There were some buyers for all three months.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Good supplies of cheese, especially of Cheddars; business rather disappointing; prices obtained practically those ruling a week ago. Cheddars, 56s to 61s; Dunlops, 52s to 58s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply, and business was fair. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 45s to 50s per cwt; fancy dairies, 50s to 53s; Truckles, 54s to 58s; Derbys, 62s to 64s; and Cheddars, 56s to 58s.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Notwithstanding American quotations, trade continues quiet, and for spot flour prices remain unchanged. Offals.—There is a fairly good demand for bran; no further change to report in prices. GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Arrivals of flour are increasing, but the demand is poor. Spot prices unchanged. Shipment prices quite 1s. per 280 lb. above spot values. Grain.—Indian corn firm at 15s. 7½d. per 280 lb. Plate maize now plentiful. The demand for foreign oats is quieter. Fine Scotch oats are 3d. per boll up. American barley is arriving freely, but is being delivered mostly against contracts. Beans and pease are slightly in buyers' favour. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and Common Thirds dull. Fine Thirds continue to be asked for. MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour has met a quiet demand to-day at the full prices of this day week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Arrivals of wheat are liberal. There is a quiet trade, and prices are unchanged. Flour sells slowly at late prices. Maize and grinding barley are 3d. per qr. dearer. Oats unchanged in value.—COVENTRY AND CO.

Milling Offals.—There is a better demand all round, but prices, although firm, remain unchanged from last week.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: There is a slight improvement noticeable in the consumptive demand, but buyers are unwilling to operate beyond their immediate requirements, the general impression being that prices will ease down as the winter advances. Russians sell steadily at £7 6s 3d to £7 7s 6d in mats, and £7 8s 9d to £7 10s in bags. American offer at £7 5s ex steamer just arrived. East India seed pures make £7 10s. London-made are in moderate request at £7 15s to £7 17s 6d per ton. Cotton cakes: A fair quantity of Egyptian is still available in warehouse, which, however, meets a poor inquiry, and values are quiet at £4 11s 3d to £4 12s 6d, with sellers in November-April position at 2s 6d per ton less money. English find a slow sale at £4 12s 6d to £4 13s 9d, and Bombays at £4. Decorticated London-made are in good request, being attractively offered at £6 17s 6d for cake, £7 for meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand may be bought at £7 and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes: Dull; East India £4 15s, Ravison £4 10s. Maize germ meal: White American for winter shipment is still obtainable at £5 5s to £5 6s 3d c.i.f. terms, and English makes at £5 8s 9d to £6 10s per ton. Maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: The market is almost bare of stocks, while for arrival sellers demand £4 17s 6d to £4 18s 9d ex ship. Broken Rangoon rice is relatively good value at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans again tend dearer, to-day's quotation being £5 5s for whole and £5 12s 6d per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is unchanged at £10 15s per ton ex quay.—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are held more confidently, and maize is no worse from Saturday's close. A quiet trade in cargoes of oats and barley is reported. Not much is doing in cargoes of linseed or of pulse.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Australian, 33s 6d per 480lb., on passage; Rosario, 30s 6d per 480lb., on passage; Walla Walla, 32s 3d per 500lb., prompt shipment; No. 1 Manitoba, 31s 6d per 480lb., prompt shipment; White Kurrachee, 32s per 492lb., October shipment; fine Russian Azima, 34s per 492lb., October shipment; Odessa Ghirka, 31s 6d per 492lb., October shipment; Hard Taganrog, 30s 6d per 492lb., October shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 3d per 480lb., November shipment; American, 21s per 480lb., shipment before Christmas; American, 20s 6d per 480lb., January shipment; Russian, 23s 6d per 480lb., November shipment.

BARLEY.—Theodosia, 18s per 400lb., November shipment; Kustendje, 19s per 400lb., on passage; Californian, 26s 6d per 448lb., November shipment; Oregon, 26s 6d per 448lb., November shipment.

OATS.—Petersburg, 15s per 304lb., on passage; American, 15s 3d per 320lb., November shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 37s per 410lb., arrived; Bombay, 38s 3d per 416lb., November shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 10s per 2,240lb., November shipment.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY. October, 9.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Russian	42	to 43
Morocco	46	to 48
American	40	to 41
Dutch	41	to 45
Calcutta	37	to 38
Argentine	36	to 37
Turkish	41	to 43
Persian	38	to 39

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/6	to 5/8
Indian	4/9	to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Dutch	52	to 54
Cawnpore Yellow	37	to 38
,, Brown	35	to 36
Calcutta ,,	35	to 36
Gujerat	41	to 42
Ferozepore	35	to 36
Roumanian	33	to 37

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	
Indian	39	to 40s

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 418 lb.	
White	41	to 48
Black	42	to 45

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 9, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 10, 1904.
Beasts	1,949	1,949	1,399
Sheep and Lambs	6,059	6,059	6,679
Calves	10	10	—
Milch Cows	50	50	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal).

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d to	3s 6d to	4s 0d
Sheep	4s 2d to	4s 4d to	4s 8d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 41; Devon, 25; Ireland, 67.

We note to-day a decrease of 110 head compared with Monday last, due to a smaller consignment from the Midland Counties. Trade for both prime and second quality fat cattle was of a very dull nature; nevertheless, late currencies ruled all transactions. The Irish supply consisted of 39 Dublins (9 of which were black polled cattle), 18 Waterfords, and 10 heifers from Cork; trade was slower, rates ruling in favour of the buyer. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited inquiry by country buyers, consequently salesmen had to submit to a decline of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. to effect sales.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 10, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 0d to 4s 4d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 2d to 3s 6d	3s 6d ex 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 600 in the number penned in the sheep market compared with Monday last. Trade for all grades of wethers and ewes early in the morning was of a brisk nature at a rise in value of 2d. per 8 lb., but as the day advanced became slower at a decline on late rates. Scotch sheep sold well at 2d. per 8 lb. more money, whilst Irish, notwithstanding their being in shorter numbers, were very much in excess of the inquiry, and consequently fell 2d. per 8 lb. in value. The supply included 400 Scotch, 1,826 Irish, and 345 from Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 10, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Half-bred ditto	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs on the market.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 675. To-day's supply of beasts compared with the corresponding day last week showed a decrease of 590 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade taken as a whole was of a decidedly firmer nature, both in regard to tone and value. Best States beasts to dress about 680 lb., 4s 1d; seconds, 3s 10d. No sheep on the market for sale to-day. On Saturday the supply of beasts consisted of 1,340 from the United States and 574 from Canada, trade for which was of a fairly firm and steady nature. The best of the former were quoted at 3s 10d to 4s 1d, and the latter from 3s 7d to 3s 10d. Sheep numbered 443 from Canada, and met a slow trade at 4s per 8lb. (sinking the offal.)

Liverpool, Monday.—Smaller supply of cattle in market to-day. Notwithstanding this, demand was slow, and prices were in buyers' favour. Large decrease in supply of sheep. This had beneficial effect on trade, and clearance was readily effected at advance of from 1s to 2s in price. Beef, 6¼d to 4¼d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market: 1,183 cattle and 5,305 sheep.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—The autumn sowing demand is drawing to a close. Winter tares are now moving off slowly. Seeds wheats still in fair demand; prices firm. There is more inclination to entertain the new clover seeds, but as there is little actual business prices are unsettled.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The demand for the bright hops is exceedingly good, and they are being taken as fast as they arrive for cold storage purposes. Brown hops are also being taken at the low prices ruling and for copper purposes. The imports of hops for the month ending September 30, 1905, were 4,606 cwt.; for the corresponding month last year, 28,117 cwt. The exports of hops for the month ending September 30, 1905, were 1,224 cwt.; for the corresponding month last year, 747 cwt.

EGGS.

(Number is 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d per dozen. Birmingham: 7 to 9. Brigg: 10 and 11. Devizes: 10 to 12. Driffield: 13 and 14. Evesham: 12. Kidderminster: 8. Penzance: 1s 1d to 1s 3d per dozen. North Tawton: 9. Penistone: 9 and 10. Plymouth: 9 and 10. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 10. Wellington (Salop): 10 and 11. Wetherby: 8 to 10.

Friday.—Altrincham: 7 and 8. Ashburton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen. Barnstaple: 10 to 12. Camelford: 10. Chester: 8 and 9. Crewe: 8 and 9. Congleton: 8. Dartmouth: 1s 6d per dozen. Derby: 9. Helmsley: 9 to 11. Knutsford: 9. Leyburn: 9 and 10. Lincoln: 10 and 11. Lostwithiel: 14. Macclesfield: 8. Nantwich: 10. Northwich: 9. Otley: 9 and 10. Redruth: 1s 2d per dozen. Runcorn: 7 and 8. St. Austell: 10. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 7 and 8. Tavistock: 8 and 9. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 7 and 8. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 8. Doncaster: 8 and 9. Grantham: 10 to 12 and 13. Howden: 10 and 11. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 7 to 10. Malton: 11. Pontefract: 9 and 10. Retford: 2s 4d to 2s 6d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 7 and 8. Shrewsbury: 10 to 12. Skipton: 8 and 9. Stokesley: 10 and 11. Whitby: 8. Worcester: 9. York: 10.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality trade, practically confined to Monday, opened on that day very slowly, last week's quotations only being obtained for Irish cattle, the supply comprising 44 Dublins (10 of which were prime Black Polled cattle) and 20 Waterfords. Both prime and second quality English beasts met with a dull and dragging trade, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb. in most cases. For fat butchering cows and bulls on both market days trade was of a depressing nature, the former on Monday meeting with a fall of 2d. per 8 lb. on late currencies; rough cattle were also slow of sale on both market days.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, the arrivals were somewhat larger this week; the supplies were drawn as usual from the United States and Canada. Trade on Monday was a firm and steady one, but it became slower as the week advanced, with a decline in value. The total number of beasts on offer at both markets was 4,739, as against 5,476 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,180 British (decrease 230) and 3,559 foreign (decrease 1,507, these latter comprising 2,560 from the United States and 999 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): 80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 80 to 95 stone Irish, 4s. to 4s. 5d.; 90 stone States, 4s., ex. 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d., ex. 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on both market days was of a slow nature, on Monday salesmen having to accept 2d. per 8 lb. less money to effect sales; even at this reduction a clearance was not effected. Irish descriptions also met with a downward tendency in value, whilst on the other hand Scotch sheep were fairly steady, late currencies being maintained. A few lambs were offered for sale, but met with little or no demand, rates remaining unquotable in consequence. At Deptford a small consignment of Canadian ewes were offered for sale; prices, however, were 4d. lower than on the previous week. The total number on offer at both markets was 8,447, as against 8,458 during the previous week, consisting of 7,200 British (decrease 600) and 1,247 Canadians (increase 679. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; Canadian ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.

Calf trade nominal, numbering 20 head.

Pigs numbered 50; the best small breeds were quoted from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; these all cleared.

Trade in the West.

The improvement in the milch beast trade to which we referred in our last issue has been, with a steadily-increasing demand, fully maintained for all the more useful descriptions, even if the plainer grades fail to find quite as much favour with buyers. So far, it is mostly the best milchers that are in request, and these are selling readily from £17 up to £22, which has to be paid for really good heifers; plainer kinds, with a much quieter sale, make from about £16 10s. down to as low as £11 or £12 for aged cows. Barreners, on the contrary, continue very much neglected; and some ascribe this to its being somewhat early as yet to begin purchasing this class of stock; though buyers who will be wanting graziers a month hence can hardly do wrong in buying somewhat earlier than usual, seeing the favourable conditions now offering, as it requires something exceptionally good now to realise from £24 to £25 per pair—animals, too, that are in a very fair way on to beef.

Sales of sheep, as we have more than once predicted, are proving rather disappointing. It is not the want of buyers that is having such an adverse effect on the trade, for these are plentiful enough; but it is more the question of price, as unless they can make their purchases at a medium figure these wanting sheep show but little inclination to buy.

Some of the fat stock now coming out, especially the Devons, is of excellent quality, but the supplies are too plentiful to admit of anything like high prices ruling very long. Anything prime readily brings 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per stone, and occasionally 5s. is reached, but this must be for something very special; secondary grades, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; a few decent cross breds are selling at 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. Calves, which are again much wanted, are none too plentiful, and the best are consequently making a good price—5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. for best, and 5s. for seconds (or from £4 10s. to £6 10s. per head for really well-finished lots); rougher grades sell at 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. In mutton there is a good steady trade passing, especially in wethers, which are bringing 6s. to 6s. 2d. for the best weights, and for other grades 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d. Down ewes are not selling so well, except for anything young and choice, which in some cases sell up to 4s. 10d., though a more average figure is from 4s. to 4s. 6d. Young mutton is in request by the bettermost class of purveyors, to whom quality is of greater importance than price; and in these cases 10d. to 11d. per lb. is paid for the primest weights. Pigs are again showing a slightly hardening tendency, the best weights in porkers being up again to 10s. and 10s. 6d. per score, and baconers from 9s. to 9s. 6d. and over.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer has been rather smaller. The best class still continue to be shown in moderate numbers, and these met a good trade at satisfactory prices. Secondary cattle are very difficult to dispose of at low prices. Fat cows have also been shown in smaller numbers, and they met a satisfactory trade. Fat sheep were shown in fewer numbers. For those adapted for shop purposes previous prices were realised, but secondary sheep and ewes are more difficult to sell. Fat lambs scarce, and those of good quality met a good trade. Fat calves and pigs were dear. There was a smaller supply of store sheep, and generally of a secondary description. Trade was dull, except for those of the better class, and a portion of the inferior sheep were left unsold. There was a fair supply of store cattle. The best class met a fairly good trade, but secondary kinds met a quiet demand, and disappointing prices had to be taken. A large show of milch cows met a slow trade. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 39s. 2d.; Current, 35s. to 36s. 6d.; Irish, 30s. to 35s.; Mutton, 7½d. to 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED.

Trade in Ireland.

Ballinasloe Fair, which was held during the past week, was the chief centre of attraction to those interested in the Irish cattle and sheep trade, as the transactions there are supposed to give the tone to the other markets for the end of the season. In the matter of sheep, Ballinasloe Fair shows a great falling off from former days, only about 15,000 being sold, and 3,000 left unsold. The best price for a big lot of wethers was, as usual, got by Mr. Smith, of Masonbrook, who topped the fair with 63s. each. The fair, on the whole, was a bad one, but the drop in price for cattle was not as much as was expected. Kerries, which always form a feature of great interest at Ballinasloe, were fully 10s. per head under last year. In Thursday's Dublin Market several well-known buyers were conspicuous by their absence, probably owing to Ballinasloe Fair. There was a large supply of cattle—3,849, or 218 over previous market—but only 7,553 sheep, a decrease of over 1,000. Buying for cattle was very discouraging, and 30s. (live-weight) was about the working price. For coarse cattle the buying was very slow and uneven, and for cow beef the market was cheap and sales hard to make. A large quantity of beasts—good, middling, and bad—were left over unsold. The dead-weight quotations for beef were:—Choice ox and heifer from 52s. to 56s. per cwt.; good medium beef, 46s. to 47s.; and inferior, 42s. to 45s. per cwt. Although supplies showed such a decrease, the mutton market was better as regarded trade, which was brisk for anything good. Some lots of sheep purchased in Ballinasloe Fair, and sent up, made from 1s. to 2s. per head more money. Nice wether mutton made 6¾d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6½d., and inferior from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Veal sold at about the same rates. Some fine, well-fed calves sold as high as £6 to £9 each, or from 7d. to 8½d. per lb. Coarse calves irregular, at from 5d. per lb. upwards. Milch cows in poor request, with only choice heavy milchers bringing satisfactory prices. No improvement in the store cattle trade generally, but at a large sale of over 1,000 head held on Thursday by one of the Dublin salesmasters, good prices were realised. The best figure given was for a lot of nice two-and-a-half-year-old bullocks, which sold at £14 15s., while some choice heifers of the same age made up to £16 each, which represented 33s. per cwt. (live weight). Most of the consignments were purchased for Yorkshire and Scotland. In the pig market there were few buyers in evidence at the opening of business, but later on they turned up, and buying became brisk, at a better tone than on the previous Thursday. Choice light-weight pigs sold at from 52s. 6d. up to 55s. per cwt.; inferior from 36s. to 44s. per cwt.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, and a few fat beasts. Trade for the former was very slow, nevertheless last Monday's quotations governed all transactions, but prime quality beasts were practically unsaleable, consequently quotations unquotable. Top prices: fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8 lb. Decrease of 450 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and half-breds. No Scotch or Irish sheep being offered. Trade very quiet, with downward tendency in value, but not sufficient to quote. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows:—8 st. Downs, 5s 10d; 9 st. ditto, 5s 8d; 10 st. ditto, 5s 6d; 10 st. half breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 st. Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade nominal. Pig trade slow, but steady, at advance of 2d to 4d per 8 lb. best small breeds quoted 4s 10d per 8 lb. Quotations per 8 lb., sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; calves, 5s 6d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 10d. Total supply: Beasts, 30; sheep, 550; calves, 10; pigs, 50; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday. Good supplies and slow trade at the following quotations:—English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; ditto shorts, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 3s to 3s 6d; refrigerated hindquarters, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; ditto seconds, 2s 6d to 3s 2d; ditto forequarters, 2s to 2s 4d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; ditto tegs, 4s 4d to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 4d to 5s; English veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 6d; Dutch pork, 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4½d to 4d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 7½d, and others 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Veal: Firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¼d to 6¾d; thirds, 5¼d to 5¾d per lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday. Beef trade was dull, but best steers made up to 4s 8d; most animals shown were, however, only half fat, and these ranged from 4s to 4s 4d. Mutton trade scarcely so good as last week; best made up to 5s 10d. Veal a little cheaper, up to 5s 6d. Pork still dear, best making 4s 4d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday. At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a large attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 54 fat beasts, 93 calves, 304 fat sheep and lambs, 253 pigs, and 232 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime quality Shorthorn steers, £19 15s; heifers up to £21; cows, £19; Devons from £18 to £21 15s; two-year-old Polled steers from £16 10s to £20; fat calves, 70s to £6 2s 6d; small, 20s to 50s; fat hogs, 65s to 92s; porkers, 45s to 60s; small, 28s to 42s; store pigs, 8s to 26s; dairy cows, £9 15s to £21 10s; prime Down wethers and ewes made up to 52s 6d; old ewes, 34s to 40s; cross-bred Scotch wethers, 47s; nine-months old lambs up to 55s 6d; small, 35s to 40s; a few three-months old sucking lambs made from 28s to 32s; rams, 42s to 52s. The supply of fat beasts included a good number of prime quality Devons Shorthorns and black Polled beasts, for which there was a good demand at late rates; half fat and inferior cattle a bad sale and prices lower. There was an average show of fat sheep and fat lambs, nearly all good quality Downs, and, with a brisk demand, a satisfactory clearance was made, more money being given for good fat ewes; for wethers and lambs previous prices were well maintained. There was a large supply of dairy cattle on offer, which met a good demand, most of the lots being cleared at an advance on last week's prices. Store cattle of good class received more attention, but the trade cannot be quoted appreciably higher. Fat calves of good quality met a brisk trade at late rates. Both fat hogs and porkers met a quick demand and were cleared at last week's quotations; store pigs continue a good trade. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6½d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6½d; cows, bulls, and inferior ditto, 5d to 5½d per lb.; best fat sheep and big lambs, 8¼d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6d to 6½d per lb.; fat calves, 6d to 8½d per lb.; fat hogs up to 10s per score; porkers, 9s 6d to 11s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Over 200 cattle were penned. Heifers, £7 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £8 15s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £15 10s; three-year-olds, £13 10s to £16 10s; polled bullocks, £8 10s to £12 10s; horned bullocks, £12 to £15.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep and pigs. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Prices: Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb.; mutton 6½d to 8¾d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 10d per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; porkets, 11s. to 11s 8d per score; cows, 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Market was quiet all round, and values showed a tendency to decline. Beef was in good supply, but demand limited, and trade was dull at late rates, the highest price being 58s per cwt. Mutton was more plentiful, but inquiries scarce, and quotations showed a fall of ½d per lb. on best wethers. Pigs not numerous, and prices unchanged.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2¼ in. and under ...	9	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¼ in.	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in.	8	6
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	0

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday. Good demand for best breeding stock; rams, 9 to 15 guineas; ewe tegs of average quality, 48s to 52s; and best up to 62s. Wether tegs in poor demand. Best, 42s to 44s. Lambs up to 30s per quarter.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish stock on the sands continues large, and business was fairly brisk. Small wintering heifers, £8 to £10 10s; and stall-feeding cattle, £14 10s to £15 10s; bullocks, £8 10s to £11 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Large supplies of stock, and a fair demand at the opening; later buyers proved rather indifferent, and were not inclined to purchase except at lower prices, consequently there was a bad finish, with quotations decidedly weaker. A very large show of sheep; trade was quieter. Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £17; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10; sheep, 16s to 35s each.

Colchester, Saturday.—Grass beef, 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone; mutton, 5s 8d to 6s 4d; pork, 8s 6d to 9s per score. Mutton was rather dear, and there was a slow trade in pork. Little mutton was offering, but there was a good supply of pork and beef.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle, and fair attendance of buyers. Trade improving, and bullocks a shade dearer. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £4 to £6 each. Smaller supply of sheep than last week, and trade rather slow. Ewes, 45s to 55s; lambs, 32s to 40s each.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Messrs. Ensor and Son had a very full market to-day, the only exception being mutton, which came, as usual, sparingly to hand. Milch beasts in active request for the best up to about £21, ranging down to £16 10s; whilst the plainer grades sold more quickly at from £13 to £15 15s. Barreners still in large supply, which had a somewhat depressing effect on prices, £22 10s to £24 10s per pair being the top rate for the best; where sold singly a little more money was made. A few store bulls made £8 10s to £10 10s each. In beef prices were fairly good, heifers making £15 15s to £17 10s each (or 10s 6d to 11s per score); fat cows, £14 to £15 10s; fat bulls, £14 10s. Mutton showed but little quotable change in value for late quotations.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,849, increase 218; sheep, 7,553, decrease 1,027; calves, 49, increase 7. Another dull market for all descriptions of cattle choice qualities with difficulty bringing late rates; middling and inferior sorts lower, and a number left unsold at close of market. The large decrease in sheep caused a brisker trade and a better clearance at practically last week's prices. Cattle, live weight (best), 28s to 30s per cwt.; middling and inferior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There was a fair trade, and prices maintained for cattle and sheep. Polled bullocks, £13 13s to £15 15s; stirks, £9 9s to £10 10s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 30s to 38s; Cheviot ewes, 20s to £29s; blackfaced ewes, 20s to 25s; best Shorthorn cows, £26; Ayrshires, £15 to £21; and crosses, £18 per head.

Exeter. Friday. 340 beasts, but only the best quality in demand at late prices; 11s per score for steers and maiden heifers; cows, 9s 6d to 10s; 1,234 sheep, but only big lambs and hogs in demand, and these sold readily at 8d; ewes, 6½d; small choice, 9d to 10d; 105 calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Supplies moderate and demand fair. Prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 63s to 64s per cwt; top hogs, 9d; secondary, 8¼d to 8¾d; top wethers, 8d to 8¼d; secondary, 7d to 7½d; best lambs, 9d per lb. Dead meat slow, with values unaltered. Best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d; best Canadians, 5d; best cows, 4½d; hoggs, 7¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Monday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co., report their sales as follows:—Cattle: A short supply with improved trade. Sheep and lambs: A fair supply with trade hardly so good. Pigs and calves: A short supply with very good trade.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows: Cows and calves, a very large supply (115), with trade hardly so good, except for the best quality, which sold readily. Store cattle a moderate supply, nearly all changing hands.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The dulness which has characterised the beef trade for some time past appeared to be rather accentuated. There was a good supply for the time of year. Bullock and heifer sold at 6d to 6½d, a few prime animals reaching perhaps another farthing. Fat cows were at a low price. The sheep trade was not quite so brisk; they were certainly not so dear, and there was not an over-supply. Choice quality wethers made 8d, and fat ewes 5d to 6d per lb. Several nice bunches of store lambs met readily with customers. Fat calves went a trifle easier, at about 7d to 7½d per lb for nice quality. Well-bred store calves in demand. We had a fair supply of nice quality porks and bacons; small porks, 5½d to 6d per lb; baconers, 5d to 6d per lb. Fair trade for good strong store pigs. Store cattle trade continued quiet.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons' report an average supply of fat cattle; well-finished yarded animals met a brisk trade, but grass cattle were slow with prices in favour of buyers. At the special sale of store cattle about 350 were penned, including 150 choice North-country Shorthorns; trade was dull, and for all but a few of the best lots prices ruled lower; Shorthorn steers, 2½ years old, forward in condition, made from £13 7s 6d to £11 10s; North-country steers, from 18 to 14 months old, £10 10s to £7; Shorthorn steers, 18 months, £8 2s 6d to £7 10s; Polled ditto, £8 10s to £7 15s; Irish calves, £5 2s 6d. Several cows were offered, but the demand was slack, and values showed no improvement. Fat sheep were penned in moderate numbers, and prices ruled rather lower; half-bred hoggets to 54s 6d; shearlings to 55s 6d; store lambs were in fair request, small Suffolks and half-breds going at from 32s 6d to 38s 6d. Fat swine continue to come sparingly to market; trade was firm at from 7s to 6s 3d per stone; well-bred stores dear at from 32s to 22s. At the second Michaelmas sale of horses at the Drill Hall, 110 were catalogued. There was a large attendance of local and distant buyers, and all the best animals sold well; cart horses to 36 gs.; colts to 35½ gs.; hacknevs to 27 gs. Numbers at sales and market: 884 cattle, 1,424 sheep, 1,696 swine, 134 horses.

Leicester, Saturday.—Larger consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers were moderately represented, and trade ruled sluggish at easier rates. Choice milch cows, £20 to £22 10s; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £14; Irish cattle, £12; Welsh bullocks, £10 to £14 10s; young stock, £6 to £9; calves, 10s to 30s each. Sheep sold slowly at rather irregular rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show of beasts, which sold well at last week's prices. The sheep pens were well filled, and good prices were realised. Young ewes, 40s to 50s; drape ewes, 25s to 35s; lambs, 28s to 40s; gimmers, 50s to 60s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, 7s to 7s 9d per stone; larger show of stores of better quality, £5 to £20 each. Average show of fat sheep made late rates, 9s to 9s 6d per stone; stores, 38s to 45s; lambs, 28s to 40s; breeding ewes, 45s to 55s; and rams, £5 to £7 each.

Norwich, Saturday. Supply of fat beasts quite equal to demand, trade ruling on same lines as last week, 7s to 7s 6d per stone, 8s being paid for best qualities; majority store beasts offered were Irish, trade being dull, and values unchanged. Good demand for store sheep and lambs, which made 45s to 62s, and 28s to 38s per head respectively. Fewer fat sheep offered, trade again firm at 9s 6d to 10s 6d per stone; few lots of lambs sold for 10s per stone. More fat pigs offered, and demand maintained at 6s 9d to 7s per stone.

Preston, Wednesday. There was a capital show of cattle and sheep, but only a moderate attendance of buyers, and trade all round was dragging. Beef prices were again in buyers' favour. Cows and bulls made 4¾d to 5d, heifers and bullocks from 5¾d, calves 5d to 7¾d, hoggs 8¾d to 9¾d, lambs, 8¾d to 9¾d, ewes 6d to 6¾d, tups 5d to 5¾d. Numbers at market: 225 cattle, 2,189 sheep, and 146 calves.

Retford, Saturday.—The prices of store stock showed a slight decline, but the show was limited, and the business transacted was small.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, trade no better. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade fair; best, 5s 10d to 6s; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 4d per stone. A few store beasts on offer, but slow demand.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 7d to 9d per lb.; lamb, 9d to 10d per lb.; veal, 7d to 7¾d per lb; porked pigs, 2s 6d to 10s per score; bacon pigs, 8s 10d to 9s 6d per score. Numbers offered as follows: 685 cattle, sheep and lambs 2,825, calves 78, pigs 512.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a large entry of all descriptions of stock, and a capital attendance of buyers. The beef trade was decidedly slow, only choice animals meeting with support. The sheep pens were well filled, and continue to sell satisfactorily. Veal slow. Bacon and pork maintain previous prices. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 127 fat beasts, 254 fat sheep, 151 fat and weaning calves, and 124 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £20, fat heifers £15 to £18, fat wethers 42s to 57s, fat ewes 38s to 57s, fat lambs 28s to 38s 6d, fat calves, £3 to £4 10s, weaning cow calves, 28s to 68s, bull calves 10s to 50s, bacon hogs £4 to £5 17s 6d, porkers 28s to 45s, store pigs 12s to 20s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fair, attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £11 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 40s; ewes, 40s to 50s each; wethers, 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 10s to 45s each; beef, 6d to 8d; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured 6d to 7½d; cured 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5½. Number in cattle market; Bullocks, 470; calves, 77; sheep, 562; pigs, 304; horses, 5.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. Trade slow all round; supply fair. Prices:—Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 8¼d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6d to 7½ per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of stock, Trade fairly good, especially for sheep. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-bred shearlings, 8d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 8¾d to 9¾d per lb.

York, Thursday.—A smaller supply of sheep, only about 16,000 being penned, and a slightly better trade for lambs, which fetched a shade more money. Twice-crossed lambs made up to 35s, half-breds 26s. Masham ewes to 46s, North Country ewes 50s to 55s, and long-wool sheep 56s to 57s. There was a fairly good trade for rams. Ram lambs made £3 10s to £4, a few secondary lots fetching about 50s. Leicester and Lincoln rams made £3 15s to £5. There were only about 1,500 beasts shown, which included a few English store cattle, for which there was no demand, and prices were not quoted. There were no cows on offer. A good show of Irish store cattle. Best three-year-old heifers made up to £16 10s, and two-year-olds £13. There was a fair demand for two-year-old bullocks, which made up to £11 10s, stirks ranging up to £9 5s.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of Canadian and American cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, no fewer than 1,155 head being penned in the lairages. There was a large attendance of town and country buyers, but business was very quiet at the opening, and continued on slow lines till the close, sellers having to concede from 1s to 2s per cwt on last week's rates to effect sales. Bullocks were generally of useful quality, and for animals of really choice merit a steady demand at the reduced quotations was experienced, prices ranging to 54s, but secondary, middling, and inferior sorts were not in great request, and were cabled as low as 50s per cwt dead weight. There were not many bulls on offer, and prime beasts sold at about late rates, viz., 47s to 48s per cwt.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—There was a fairly good supply and demand. Prices: Geese, 6s to 7s; country ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 6d; black game, 1s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d; quails, 9d to 1s 3d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; Scotch hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 8d to 11d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 5s to 6s; young grouse, 6s to 6s 6d; old, 3s 6d; young partridges, 2s 6d to 3s; old, 1s 8d per brace.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—There was a steady demand for a full supply of fruit and vegetables. Quotations: Apples, 3s to 12s per bushel; blackberries, 1s 6d to 2s per peck; pears, 3s 6d to 7s per half-sieve; ditto, 8s to 12s 6d per crate; grapes, 6d to 3s; peaches, 3s 6d to 12s; green figs, 6d to 1s 6d per dozen; cobnuts, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; filberts, 4s to 5s per 12lb.; damsons, 2s 6d to 4s per half-sieve; melons, 9d to 1s 9d; tomatoes, 1s 6d to 3s 6d; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d to 2s 3d per half sieve; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12lb; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; mint, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; leeks, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; radishes, 6d to 9d per dozen bunches; cos lettuce, 9d to 1s 6d per score; onions (English), 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt.; celery, 8s to 12s per dozen rolls; cabbages, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; cauliflowers, 3s 6d to 5s 6d per tally; horseradish, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; cucumbers, 1s 6d to 3s 6d; endive, 9d to 1s 3d per dozen; beetroots, 1s 6d to 2s; scarlet runners, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per bushel; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bag; potatoes, 45s to 70s per ton.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday.—Butter: Unsettled weather has been pretty general over the United kingdom this week, with the temperature considerably below the normal. There is no improvement in the demand for Canadian butter this week over last, although arrivals are very much lighter. Values remain virtually unchanged. For choicest lots of unsalted on the spot there is a good demand at last week's figures, but for quality below choicest the demand is slow. Owing to the rise in c.i.f. quotations which took place last week there is not much business passing. In Australian butter, choicest brands still meet a good demand, whilst for other qualities holders are not quite so firm as they were last week. Choicest salted butter is making 110s to 112s, and choicest unsalted 114s to 116s. Arrivals during the week have been small. The market in Denmark is quiet, and the Copenhagen official quotation is unchanged. Cheese: There has been a good general demand for Canadian cheese at an advance of 1s per cwt on last week's prices, although the speculative element just now is quite dormant.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed: Linseed early in the week advanced about 1s per qr, but has again turned quiet, and practically the whole of the advance has been lost. River Plate, spot offers at 24s 9d is lighter, afloat 25s, September-October nominally 25s 3d, and October-November 25s 6d. Cottonseed: The market for Egyptian has been quiet with a declining tendency all the week, and sales made of old crop on spot down to £5 9s. New September done at £5 1s 6d to £5 2s 9d, and a fair quantity October changed hands at £5 1s 9d to £5 2s 9d, also November-January at £5 1s 6d to £5 1s and to day £5 2s 9d accepted for latter months. Bombay has been neglected owing to sellers' values being much above the market. Oils: Exports for the week ending September 26, 1905: Linseed oil: 7 America, 2 Denmark, 1 Egypt, 5 Germany, 5 Norway; total 20 tons. Cottonseed oil: 2 Belgium, 2 Egypt, 11 Germany, 29 Holland, 6 Italy, 1 Norway, 5 Sweden; total 14 tons. The market is quiet. Linseed oil: 14s 1½d spot, 14s 6d Oct.-Dec 14s 10½d Jan.-April. Cottonseed oil: 14s 6d spot 14s 9d Nov.-April. Crude oil: 13s 6d spot, 13s 7½d Nov.-April. Ravison naked: First quality, 19s 9d, spot. Oilseed cakes: Linseed cakes firm, unchanged, with rather more demand. Oilcakes 5s dearer. Cotton cakes: Best unchanged. Bombay 2s 6d per ton dearer. Demand slightly better.

London, Thursday. Linseed: The market has been very dull, with scarcely any desire for business; at the close, however, there is rather more inquiry. Calcutta, London, spot, 36s 9d, and afloat 36s 9d, September October, 36s 6d, April June 35s 6d. Rapeseed firm, but continues inactive owing to the high prices asked. Brown Cawnpore, Oct.-Nov., V36s 9d.; Ferozepore, Oct.-Nov., 36s 6d. Cottonseed: A considerable business has taken place at a decline of 2s 6d per ton. London, October, £5 11s 3 wanted, November-January £5 11s 3d. Hull, spot and passage have been sold at £5 6s 3d to £5 5s. Bayoumu quoted £5 8s 9d, October to January £5 8s 9d. Linseed oil has fluctuated somewhat during the week, but closes steady at about last week's prices. We quote spot and month in pipes £16 10s, barrels £16 15s, November-December £16 17s 6d, January-April £17. Hull naked spot £14 10s, October-December £15, January-April £15 10s. Oil cakes:—Linseed cakes firm. London-made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 13s 9d.—PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday. Small supply, trade quiet. Hay, £3 7s 6d to £3 15s per ton; clover, £3 15s to £4 per ton; straw, 2s 6d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Hay, new, 75s to 80s; best, 80s to 90s; other kinds, 75s to 85s; best old, 80s to 90s; straw, wheat, 61s to 70s; pressed, 50s to 55s; oat, 50s to 60s; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—A fair supply was available, but the demand proved of a rather quiet nature, at late rates. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 65s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 36s per load.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large trade in all descriptions of healthy hops, and for choice Goldings values have advanced 5s per cwt. on the week. Prices, however, are very low, most of the business in really sound hops being done between 50s and 60s per cwt., while those that are off colour or slightly diseased have to go at about the cost of picking and drying.

Worcester, Saturday.—There was a falling off in the attendance at market to-day, as many growers have cleared out their growths, and others have taken off their hops from offer at the present prices. Values ruled about the same as last week, choice and fine hops being most sought for. The rush of the trade is over, but hops are going very steadily into the hands of consumers; 4,039 pockets have been weighed over this week.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Falling off in demand for Kent wool, and recent prices only maintained for best lots. Kent fleeces quoted 1s 0¼d; lamb wool, 8d; half-breds, 1s 0¾d; Down, 1s 1d to 1s 1½d; and locks, 4d to 5d per lb.

Glasgow and Leith.—The firmness that has characterised Scotch wools since the new clip came on the market has continued during the past month. Although no auction sales have taken place there has been a large turnover in all classes by private bargain. Half-bred and cross-bred wools have realised a slight advance over the previous month's rates, and Cheviots have been largely dealt in, and are decidedly dearer. In blackfaced a good deal has changed hands for both home and foreign consumption. Stocks of all kinds continue to diminish steadily, and holders adhere very firmly to their quotations.—J. AND W. GREIG.

London, Saturday.—English—per pkge. of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £14; do. wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 10s to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., secondary average, 1s 8¼d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9¾d; N.Z. scoured average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape scoured super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8¼d Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8¼d to 9¼d; cross-breds—Grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3½d New Zealand, fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; ditto medium, 1s 0¼d to 1s 1d; ditto coarse, 11d to 1s 0½d

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were delivered and met a fair demand. Best silts, 55s to 65s; blacklands, 52s per ton.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been limited, for which there has been a good inquiry at improved prices. The following are this day's quotations:—Essex, Kent, and Surrey Up-to-Dates, 60s to 65s; ditto Pioneer, 60s to 65s; ditto British Queens, 55s to 60s; Lincoln Evergoods, 55s to 60s; ditto Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 50s to 55s; ditto British Queens, 45s to 55s—per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—A rather heavier supply was available and trade made very slow progress; Puritans, 60s; Royal Kidneys, 55s to 60s; Beauty of Hebrons, 60s; British Queens, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 55s; Up-to-dates, 60s to 70s; and Scotch, 60s to 70s per ton.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Bridport.

At Bridport Fair on Wednesday the supply of sheep was not so large as usual, only about 2,000 penned. The sales were not particularly fast, lambs as a rule meeting a readier demand than ewes. Still, a good clearance was effected. Horn ewes sold from about 37s. to 43s.; horn couples, 56s. to 58s.; horn lambs, 26s. to 32s.; Down wether lambs, 30s. to 35s. 6d.; Down chilver lambs, 35s. to 37s.; Down ewes, 37s. 6d. to 40s.; mixed lambs, 28s. to 33s. 6d.; crossbred lambs, 24s. to 27s. 6d.

Wensleydale Blue-Faced Sheep.

The annual show and sale of Wensleydale rams, the property of the members of the Incorporated Wensleydale Blue-faced Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock-Book Society, was held at the Hellifield Auction Mart on Tuesday, when the show was larger than in any preceding year, and some splendid stock was forward. In the class for aged rams the first prize was awarded to an animal owned by Mr. Thomas Woof, of Borrett, Sedbergh, which was bought by Mr. J. C. Clapham, of Bentham, for £8. The second prize-winner in the same class belonged to Mr. J. Hoggarth, Manor House, Slyne, Lancaster, and was secured by Mr. Whittaker, Garstang, Lancashire, for £8 10s. Mr. H. Dawson-Green, of Whittington, Kirkby Lonsdale, was the owner of the third prize-winner, and £5 5s. was the price at which Mr. Walker, Moor Row, became the purchaser; others sold down to £3.

Shearling rams elicited some keen competition and spirited bidding. The executors of the late T. Willis, Carperby, were the owners of the first prize-winner, a splendid animal which fully deserved the distinction. In addition to winning the prize in its class this animal carried off the championship bowl offered by the Society for the best animal in the show. Bidding commenced at 20 gs., and was carried to 31 gs. before the purchaser was declared to be Mr. Fothergill, of Ravenstonedale. Lord Henry Bentinck, Underley, Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, was the owner of the second prize-taker, which was no stranger to the prize ring, having been successful at the Royal, Lancashire, and other shows. It was bought in by Mr. Chapman, Silton, Northallerton, for 22 gs.

The class for ram lambs, open to members who keep more than ten ewes, was a very large one, and here the first prize-winner belonged to Mr. William Milner, Slyne, Lancaster, and was sold to Mr. Horsman, Richmond, for £10 15s. The second and fourth prizes belonged to the executors of the late T. Willis, Carperby, and were bought in by Messrs. H. D. Green and Kirkby, Richmond, for £12 10s. and £10 respectively. A lamb owned by Mr. W. Rhodes, Lundholme, Westhouse, and sired by the winner of the championship, fetched £14; but for another of Mr. Rhodes's rams in the same class Lord Henry Bentinck paid £16, after spirited competition.

Ram lambs, the property of breeders with not more than ten ewes, were not a big class. The first prize-winner was from the stock of Mr. Stainton, Killington, Kirkby Lonsdale, and was sold to Mr. S. Shutt, Hellifield, for £10, others selling from £6 12s. 6d. Consignments of three ram lambs attracted a large entry, and here Lord Henry Bentinck was the successful exhibitor, his batch being sold for an average price of £9 6s. 8d. each. In the ram lamb selling class, Lord Henry Bentinck once more came to the front, this time winning both first and second prizes, and the animals were sold for £6 15s. and £7 7s. 6d.

Major Milbanke's Southdowns.

Major Sir John Milbanke, Bart., V.C., having left Eartham and sold his estate, the whole of the well-known pure-bred Southdown flock of 938 ewes in ages, stock ewe lambs, and rams were disposed of by auction on Thursday, Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester, being the auctioneers. As may be supposed, the disposal of such an excellent and widely-known flock brought together many prominent sheep breeders from all parts of the country, for the Eartham flock has made a great reputation, and this was shown by the very high prices realised at the sale. Eighty shillings was the top price for ewes, and this must be almost a record for Southdowns. Eleven rams came under the hammer, and one very fine shearling ram bred by Colonel W. W. Hammond was knocked down at 16½ gs. for the Duke of Richmond. Another ram, combining the Hobgen and Eartham strains, was sold to the Hon. W. Portman, of Kingston, Somerset, for 13 gs. The 217 shearling ewes realised £735 3s., 198 four-tooths £680 12s., 210 six-tooths £693 15s., 85 full-mouthed ewes £232 15s., and 217 ewe lambs £455 13s. 6d., the grand total for 927 being £2,797 18s. 6d.

British Possessions
beyond the Seas
AND THEIR
London Representatives.
NOVA SCOTIA.

Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets. Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, MR. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

The Birling Manor Herd of Sussex Cattle.

The sale of a portion of the Hon. Ralph Nevill's well known and prize winning herd of pedigree Sussex cattle, including the well-known champion bull, Lord Comp, together with a number of Shire horses, drew a large company of breeders to Birling Lodge Farm, near Maidstone, on Thursday, and the sale was a successful one. The prices were good, and for several lots the competition was exceedingly keen. The fifty-three Sussex bulls and cows made a total of 1,003½ gs., and the twelve Shires £371. Lord Comp, the well-known prize-winner, which Mr. Nevill said he regarded as an old friend, was the only lot upon which a reserve price was placed, and it was sold for 50 gs. to Lord Northbourne. Another fine bull, Birling Grand Duke, was knocked down to Mr. Budd, of Wadhurst, for 42 gs. Amongst the cows, Birling Chickweed, a splendid two-year-old heifer, fetched the highest figure, 33 gs. The Shire horses were in excellent condition, and made from 20 to 46 gs.

Sale of Berkshire Pigs at Motcombe.

The village of Motcombe is well known to breeders of pigs throughout the world, the names of Wistock and Bengafield being noted for the good stock bred both at Short's Green and the Manor Farm. At the sale of Friday last of a large number of Berkshire's from Mr. Bengafield's herd there were many breeders present, and there was some good stock to be offered. Many of the lots, however, were only farrowed since June this year, consequently the average price was low, but the older pigs sold well. The Hon. Claud Portman secured the typical three-year-old boar, Commander-in-Chief, winner of many prizes, at 20 gs., and also one of the best gelts by Rensea at 10 gs. Lord Wolverton's agent took several choice lots to Quorne Minster at fair prices; and Mr. J. N. Notley obtained five or six to go into Hampshire.

The good lot of boars offered sold well, Captain Behrens giving 10 gs. for a youngster for his Yorkshire estate, and Sir John Hollams 10½ gs. for another.

Among other purchasers may be noted Lord Portman, Mr. W. J. Chick, Mr. J. Jefferson (who gave 15½ gs. for a beautiful young gilt), Mr. James McMonies, and Mr. R. B. Vincent. The eighty-three head sold (including many three-month-old pigs), averaged £4 17s. 6d., and was considered a most satisfactory sale. The auctioneers were Messrs. John Thornton and Co.

Royal Veterinary College: Motors and Horses.

The winter session of the Royal Veterinary College was inaugurated on Monday, the introductory lecture being given by Mr. W. Hunting, F.R.C.V.S., who took for his subject the question of motor cars v. horses. He said there were pessimists who told them that the ever-increasing importation of dead-meat would cause diminution in our home live stock; that the advent of electric and other motors would drive the horse off our streets and fields; that the onward progress of legislation and preventive medicine would so decrease the prevalence of disease that there would soon be little to treat; that the multiplicity of veterinary schools would so inflate the numbers of the profession that a time would shortly arrive when they would be the most overcrowded of callings. He believed none of these things. The influx of dead-meat, by cheapening food, might probably affect to some extent, the growth of our herds, but the demand for milk and butter, which was now far ahead of supply, must lead to increase of our dairy stock.

As to the motors which were to displace the horse, he admitted that electric tramways were a serious competitor. Probably 20,000 horses had already been displaced in Great Britain by electricity, and more were sure to follow. The motor-car had also displaced a few horses, but in many cases the owners had returned to the animal. The only motor-car which at present permanently competed with the horse was the one used for fast work, and the carriage of a few people. The motor-omnibus and the motor-lorry had yet to develop considerably before they would displace horses. Their first six months' work, whilst the machinery was new and everything sound and taut, had deceived people into believing that it was their permanent condition. Owners would have a rude awakening and be glad to resume horse-haulage.

Probably in time engineering skill would surmount all difficulties, and the inanimate motor would be a practicable and economic article—but that time was not yet. Even when the motor took its place as a reliable carrier there would still be men and women who would prefer to ride or drive the horse. There woul dbe racing at Epsom and Newmarket, and hunting with the Quorn and the Pytchley. The stag and the fox would at least have to go before the horse was discarded. South Africa had shown that the horse was still a military necessity, and they might rest assured that the Army would require veterinary surgeons for a long time to come.

There was still another bogey, and it was usually put in the form of a question: What are we going to do in the face of the ever-increasing sale of quack medicines and the mendacious advertisements by which they attracted purchasers? They could do nothing except hope for the enlightenment of stock-owners, and perhaps lend a helping hand to spread knowledge. We suffered from quacks owing to the errors of our forefathers. For centuries it was the custom for medical and veterinary practitioners to assume a mystery in connection with drugs, and an omniscience in relation to disease that had misled the human patient and the owners of domestic patients. The public had acquired a notion that each disease had a specific cure, and that something in a bottle was necessary and would probably be efficient. What might be in the bottle or pill was to them quite immaterial so long as some printed assurance was given with it. This simple faith in advertised preparations would probably exist as long as men had little scientific education, and were taught blindly to trust in authority.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

SEED WHEAT, Blue Cone, Specially Selected for Seed, clean and true, at 34s. per quarter. H. S., Esq., writes: "The Blue Cone I had from you last year, turned out a remarkably fine crop quite the best about here. I have not threshed it yet, but it will run very nearly, if not quite, 8 qrs. per acre. I had to cut the crop by hand as it was far too heavy for the binder, and even a self-delivering machine I tried, could not part it. Send 4 qrs. at once to Kineton."
B. ASHWIN, Littleton Pastures, Evesham.

FARM STEWARD seeks re-engagement. Has had charge of 5,000 acres in hand on Estate in Hampshire, and is leaving through farms being now let.—Apply Sir WILLIAM PORTAL, Bart., Laverstoke House, Whitchurch, Hants.

SEED WHEAT.—Garton's New Iron, off limestone, beautiful sample, 30s. per qr. (196 lbs.). Nailsworth Station.—RAMSAY, Superintendent Farm, Nailsworth, Glos.

LEICESTER ANNUAL FOAL SHOW AND SALE.

IMPORTANT SALE OF SHIRE FOALS AND HORSES.
WEDNESDAY NEXT, OCTOBER 11th, 1905.

MESSRS. HINCKS & LAURENCE will SELL by AUCTION, in the Paddock adjoining the Cattle Market,
61 SHIRE FOALS.
22 ONE, TWO, and THREE-YEAR-OLD COLTS and FILLIES, and BROOD MARES.
This year's Sale includes prize-winners at local and other shows and many animals of great promise.
All animals must be on the Sale Ground by 9.30 o'clock prompt. Judging 10.15.
SALE at 12.30 o'clock PROMPT.
Descriptive catalogues on application to the AUCTIONEERS, 25, Halford St. Leicester, and Stenford.

THE KENNEL CLUB'S JUBILEE SHOW, CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, OCT. 10, 11 & 12, 1905,
THE
GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY will convey exhibits for the above Show from Inverness, Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Oban, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and other towns, on and in connection with their system.
Through vans will be run wherever necessary for the conveyance of Exhibits.
Rates for conveyance of traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent.
Arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits at the close of the Show.
The Company's representative will attend each show prepared to give all information.
Exhibitors should mark their address labels "per Great Northern Railway."
OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.
MANCHESTER SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW OF POULTRY, PIGEONS, RABBITS, CAVIES AND APPLIANCES, BELLE VUE GARDENS, MANCHESTER.
OCTOBER 17th, 18th, and 19th, 1905.
The Great Northern Railway Company will convey exhibits for the above show from all towns on, and in connection with, their system.
Through vans will be run to Manchester wherever necessary, and the rates for conveyance, which will in no case exceed those in force by any other route, can be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master and Agent.
Special arrangements will be made for the return traffic at the close of the show, and the return labels should be marked "PER GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY."
A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the show prepared to give every information to exhibitors and others.
OLIVER BURY, General Manager.

Live Stock Record.

HOGGETS ON TURNIPS.

At what time of the winter, or at what age, wether lambs become hoggets has never been determined, but in many parts of the kingdom farmers commence terming them so when they put them on turnips for their winter feeding. Naturally, sheep are put on turnips much earlier on some farms than on others, and this autumn grass is so abundant that in many cases winter folding on the arable will be delayed longer than usual. But in other cases highly-fed lambs grazing for mutton will have been feeding on rape all through September, and white turnips will have to be their main dietary in succesion to rape. As the latter are more watery and less nutritious than the former, the lambs should have a little more cake, corn, or whatever feeding stuff is being given. About a week before the transition period it will be well, also to give a folding of the turnips at one part of the day, and one of rape the other, that the change may not be too sudden.

Farmers who keep what are termed "dry flocks" often purchase their wether lambs in September, and they are placed on turnips at about the present period, or a little later; but their system of feeding differ, as, if it is intended to make them lay on flesh so as to be disposed of fat in the spring, auxiliary feeding stuff of some kind or other will be given. The best approved method is to gradually increase the allowance, commencing with about a quarter of a pound of cake, meal, or corn per head per day, and then, after a few weeks, giving half a pound, and about February three-quarters, until at the close nearly or quite one pound is given. This is probably the more economical course to be pursued, as well as that of consuming the common turnips first ere proceeding to feed off the swedes. Hay has to be given to all kinds of sheep as the cold weather comes, and throughout winter; or if none can be spared, straw chaff fermented with root-pulp, or made tasteful by intermixture of corn, makes a good substitute.

A great many, however, still follow the old system of buying in sheep merely to consume their turnips, that the land on which they are grown may be in a fit state to be cropped to barley in spring. Hay is usually placed in the folds, that the sheep may eat what they like of it; but they are given no other auxiliary food, and, according to the state of trade, have often to be sold in spring for less money than was given for them. However much the system answered the object in the old days, when live stock was kept merely to manure the land for corn, it is entirely ill-adapted to existing times and circumstances.

There is also rather a large class of turnip growers who, instead of buying sheep, prefer to let the feed to the dealers or to neighbouring large flock-owners. In some seasons they are able to let their common turnips at from £3 to 4 per acre, if they supply hay as well; and for swedes from £5 to £6 per acre is sometimes given. There have often been seasons of abundance, however, when they have been unable to sell at any price, and have been known to implore the dealers to send flocks to consume their crops gratis. In so doing they act injudiciously, no doubt, as if the turnips were ploughed into the ground far more manure would be given for future crops than the droppings of the sheep consuming them on the land would leave. But a much more remunerative method than either may be taken under such circumstances, that of pulping the roots, and putting the pulp together with the green tops in alternate layers with straw chaff into a pit or store-house.

Turnips are not so very abundant this season, but the young ones grew so rapidly last month that it is to be hoped most farmers will find what they have, with due economy, to prove sufficient for their purposes. Although good wether lambs have commanded rather high prices at recent markets and fairs, they are likely to yield good returns in being fed for mutton on roots during the coming winter.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Sept. 30, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	38	45 17 329		2,908	4,863 6,140 6,259
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	6 15 31		643	1,038 1,385 1,393
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	4	6 4 2		676	1,089 1,200 1,132
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...		...	 11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...		...	 12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	46	49 68 41		1,626	2,129 1,937 1,576
	Outbreaks.	No.	26	24 31 19		940	1,196 1,150 884
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...		...	 190
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...		...	 1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	37	29 6 15		1,056	1,106 887 830
	Outbreaks.	No.	27	20 6 10		745	742 585 570
Period.	Week ended Sept. 30, 1905			Corresponding week in ... 1904 1903 1902	Total for 39 weeks in 1905		Corresponding period in 1904 1903 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

An interesting incident marked the Dairy Show week—namely, the presentation of an illuminated address to Dr. J. J. L. van Rijn, Friesland's Agricultural Commissioner to Great Britain and Ireland, by those members of the Agricultural Press whom he conducted on a tour throughout Holland in May last. The address took the form of a handsomely bound book, which not only conveyed the good wishes of the party, but was also beautifully and tastefully illuminated with the English and Dutch flags and scenes depicting rural Holland. It conveyed in suitable language the thanks of the party for the rare opportunity they had had in viewing Dutch agriculture, and was signed, on behalf of the whole party, whose names were attached, by Dr. Fream (chairman) of the *Times* and Mr. A. W. Stanton (hon. sec.) of the MARK LANE EXPRESS. The presentation was made by Dr. Fream, who, with a few well-chosen words, assured the recipient of the esteem in which he was held, and their appreciation of the excellent programme he arranged for the tour. Amid applause the address was handed to Dr. van Rijn, who suitably thanked the donors for their good wishes.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Council of the Doncaster Agricultural Society have fixed Wednesday and Thursday, July 4 and 5, 1906, as the date of the Society's next exhibition.

That the Suffolk horse is still very popular in Australia is proved by the report in a recent issue of the *Sydney Morning Herald* of the eleventh annual sale by auction of pure Suffolk Punch stallions, bred by Messrs. A. A. and R. H. Dangar, of Baroona and Neotsfield, held at Fennelly's Bazaar. There was a good attendance of buyers, not only from various parts of the State, but also from Queensland and Victoria. There were twelve lots, and the total amount realised was 2,275 guineas, an average of nearly £200 each. The highest price obtained was 320 guineas, which was paid for Courage, described as possessing all the typical points of the breed, a dark chestnut bred at Baroona, foaled in September 1902, sire Sudbourne Spark (imported), by Heywood's Lowestoft. The next highest price, 255 guineas, was given for the imported Bentley Carbineer, bred by Mr. Courtauld, Cuthedge, Halstead, foaled in 1891, sire, Courtauld's His Grace, by Eclipse, whilst others made from 230 guineas downwards. A few such prices as these would be appreciated by breeders in the Old Country.

Ten Shearling Hampshire Down ewes and ten ewe lambs have this week been shipped to South America from the Buscot Park flock.

The great reputation held by the Walton herd of pedigree pigs, owned by Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., of Walton Hall, Warrington, has been exemplified during the past few days, specially selected drafts having been made from it for exportation abroad. On the 23rd ult. a grand trio of Middle Whites, a boar and two sows, were shipped to New York from Tilbury Dock per the steamship "Minnehaha." On the 30th ult. a very fine Large White boar and an in-pig sow were shipped from Parkeston Quay to Esbjerg, Denmark, and on Tuesday last a boar and two in-pig sows of the large breed were dispatched via Grimsby to Hamburg. These pigs were personally selected by their new owners, who have recently visited Walton, the high order of merit exhibited in the animals fully sustaining the prestige of the herd.

Mr. George Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, the well-known exhibitor and breeder of Leicesters, has just sold to go to New Zealand the two Leicester shearling rams which were placed second and third respectively in their class at the last Royal Agricultural Show The sheep are for Mr. Greenwood, of Canterbury, and were shipped in the "Rimutaka" from London.

On Wednesday next, the 11th inst., Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. will conduct a sale of pure-bred Jersey cattle at Bletchley, Bucks. About eighty animals are catalogued, and they are from the herds of various well-known breeders, whilst several prize-winners are included. The breeders contributing to the sale are Earl Cadogan, Culford Hall, Bury St. Edmunds; Capt. Campbell, Weasenham House, Swaffham, Norfolk; Mr. J. Carson, Crystalbrook, Theydon Bois, Essex; Mr. W. C. Cooper, Whittlebury, Towcester; Lieut.-Co. Coote, Highgate House, Creaton, Northamptonshire; Mrs. Dauncey, Horwood House, Winslow, Bucks; Capt. Gisborne, Allestree, Derby; the Bishop of Ipswich, Burgh House, Yarmouth; Mr. J. A. Knight, Welford House, Welford, Rugby; the Rev. E. Y. Orlebar, The Rectory House, Steeple-Morden, Royston, Herts; Messrs. C. and M. Palmer, Stewkley Grange, Leighton Buzzard, Bucks; Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring; Mr. G.

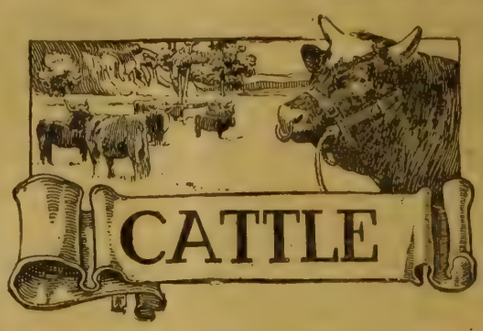
Murray Smith, Gumley Hall, Market Harborough; and Mr. R. B. Ward, Westwood Park, Droitwich.

The Danish Government appears to be determined to take every possible means to preserve the high character which the bacon produced in their prosperous little country has obtained. During the last month one of their Konsulents has been in this country inspecting the principal herds of Large White pigs. The fact that at least half of the Danish bacon is of Holywell Manor blood it was only natural that this herd should be the first one visited. The whole of the stock boars and breeding sows were carefully looked over, their qualities and their performances in the show and breeding pens, recorded with their pedigrees, the latter were compared with those of the many pigs which have during the last twenty years been imported into Denmark from Holywell. After a fortnight's absence reviewing other herds Mr. Morkeberg returned to Holywell accompanied by Mr. Peter Nielson, who possesses perhaps the finest herd of Large Whites in Denmark, and Mr. H. Hansen, a keen judge of a bacon pig.

Two days were spent in the selection of to pigs of former exportations. In this some difficulty was experienced owing to the unusual circumstance that although the herd is the largest extant, yet, unlike all others, it has for many years been self-supporting i.e., the sows are all of those tribes which have been kept in the herd for over a quarter of a century, and the boars used have been mainly Royal and other prize-winners bred in the herd. Only pigs so bred have been exhibited for nearly thirty years. Mr. Morkeberg remarked that their system of continuously breeding from the very best specimens bred in the herd, and noted for their excellence for exhibition and practical purposes, rendered the pigs far more valuable both for crossing purposes and for breeding pure-bred stock, but it also increased the difficulty in the selection of boars and gelts for use in the pure-bred herds in Denmark, which were almost entirely of Holywell foundation. This difficulty would not arise in other English herds visited, as the pigs generally were of such mixed breeding, although, of course, all pure-breds and entered in the herd books. This combination or mixture of blood rendered the pigs less prepotent, and rendered it uncertain if the produce would develop the desired points and qualities desired in the bacon curers' pigs.

Another point which Mr. Morkeberg remarked upon was what he termed the wonderful breeding properties of all the sows in the herd. In the private herd book many striking records were in evidence; amongst these was that of Holywell Kathleen, with her seventy-seven pigs farrowed in five litters within two years and a month; Holywell Accident, who produced eighty-six pigs at six farrowings within two and three-quarter years; Holywell Czarina II., who brought forth ninety-six pigs within three years and three months; Holywell Gigasoline did even better, as she farrowed the enormous number of 101 pigs within three and a half years; whilst a younger sow, Holywell Crump Ear, has been successfully exhibited, and had ere she was three years and one month old brought forth four litters respectively of fourteen, seventeen, fifteen, and sixteen pigs. One boar and two sows were shipped from Parkeston Quay on the 23rd ult., and on the 30th ult. three boars and four sows. These were all from the Holywell Manor herd. The second lot were accompanied by four boars, half of Holywell Manor blood, from the Warren herd, and an aged boar and a gelt from the Walton herd.

Peterborough Bridge Fair, an annual event, took place on Tuesday, when there were about 2,000 cattle for sale. While fat beasts were making £23 outside, the best price for store beasts was £19 in the fair. There were fewer Herefords than usual, and these averaged £13 10s., milking cows £14 to £16, in-calf heifers £20, and useful Shorthorn steers £12 to £14. For the first time probably in the history of the fair, there were no Lincoln Longwool rams. Cotswold appeared for the first time, and besides these and Hampshire and Oxford Downs Messrs. Scott and Angel had about 180, and reported a fair trade at £5 to £8. Hampshire Down lambs averaged £4 to £5. Of horses there were about 1,000. Useful cart mares could be had from £40 to £50. The best Irish horses, likely to make hunters, averaged £49 to £50.



Notes and Jottings.

The time of year is now coming on when cattle are apt to be eating things that do them great mischief. The pastures are wet and the grass cold in the early morning, and at night they often look after and eat leaves that are falling as nature's corrective to the scoury grass. The majority of these leaves are not injurious, beyond sometimes causing stoppage in the bowels if eaten of too freely; but should any yew be accessible to them, such as boughs being broken off by the autumnal gales, the result is often very disastrous, a whole herd sometimes succumbing to this poisonous shrub. Another evergreen that is also very injurious, though not such a deadly poison, is the rhododendron.

Last winter a friend of the writer had a herd of bullocks lying out in a field adjoining a plantation where a considerable quantity of rhododendrons were growing, and, owing to a gap in the fence, the cattle strayed into the plantation and ate so ravenously of the shrubs that nothing but great attention saved their lives, and they were several months before they began to thrive again. The time of the year seems to give them a propensity for wandering, and it is therefore good policy to look round any fences and strengthen the weak places where there is any possibility of the stock getting into any dangerous quarters of this kind. It is one of those cases in which prevention is strictly better than cure.

The live versus dead meat question is constantly recurring, conjointly also with the question of the importation of Canadian stores. As a proof that in spite of all restrictions upon the importation of live cattle for slaughter, it has been pointed out that there is a steady progressive increase in our importation of dead meat, showing that neither consumers nor consigners are suffering, so far as an outlet for their produce is concerned for the one party, and so far as the food supply is concerned for the other party. At the foreign market at Deptford during the months of July and August no less than 36,578 oxen were received for slaughter, whilst the supplies of dead meat at the Metropolitan Market were considerably in excess of the same period last year.

The reiteration of the paragraph that the Shorthorn continues to be the breed par excellence so far as demand is concerned the world over may be a little sickening to the eyes of breeders of other varieties, but the extraordinary sale of the Buscot Park herd the other day is certainly worth making one paragraph of. It was altogether a remarkable sale in more respects than one, and must teach all English breeders a lesson that they ought not to forget, and to inspire them with hope for the future, and encourage them not to relax one iota of interest and energy or capital in maintaining their herds at full pressure so far as numbers are concerned for breeding, and to maintain the quality.

At this sale in all 56 head of cattle were sold at the splendid average of £90 8s. 3d. per head, and figures rising up to 370 gs. per head were realised. This in itself is very satisfactory and reassuring to breeders, but when we have to add that one purchaser, Mr. Sandford, from South America, took more than £3,000 worth, numbering about 30 animals, breeders must see how vast the demand is for foreign countries, and how almost certain this demand is to continue and increase as time goes on. Each succeeding year proves that though other countries, such as America (North and South) and our colonies at the Antipodes, can breed good cattle, yea, it may be said high-class, yet they cannot maintain the English standard without continued recourse to blood from here.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Sold by all corn merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C. —[ADVT.]

In addition to the countries named, the vast extent of land in South Africa that has recently come into our hands is already requiring stock from us in small quantities, and when it becomes better cultivated, and the virtues of the English-bred cattle become fully known, and the stock acclimatised, there is a certainty that similar demands to that experienced at Buscot Park on behalf of South America will be repeated on African account; whilst as Russia becomes quieter and the blessings of peace, so essential to agricultural prosperity, are shed abroad in that country the demand there will be enormous; and in both the last-mentioned countries other breeds are pretty certain to share the good fortunes of the red-white-and-roan.

Several other sales of cattle that took place after our last notes were penned were not as successful as might have been anticipated, especially those of some of the very noted English herds of Aberdeen Angus. The famous Maisemore Park herd that has furnished so many excellent cattle of the breed not reaching quite £26 per head. Two or three herds of Lincoln Red Shorthorns also averaged rather badly, as did some Hereford, Sussex, and Jersey sales. Events of one kind or another have been too thickly sprung upon breeders lately, dates clashing, and some, in such cases, must go to the wall. There are still a number of important sales to be held before winter closes the scenes for a time.

The principal event in show circles last week was the holding of the annual show of the British Dairy Farmers' Association at the Agricultural Hall, the cattle classes at which are to be devoted, it may be said, entirely to the production of milk and butter; for, though prizes are given for the best animals, with a view to retaining the breed character of the various breeds shown, as well as to check the coarseness and want of symmetry that follows almost invariably when breeding for milk and butter only is followed, yet the judges, by inspection, very frequently appear to act as though they were to try to select the animal by inspection that would come out best in the tests. This ought not to be.

The cattle generally at this show could not be called at all superior to those of other years, several breeds showing very distinct decline. The quality, too, of their produce cannot in some cases be at all highly spoken of, as in the Jersey butter tests, which were completed when these notes were written, half the animals competing required 20 lb. of milk and over to produce 1 lb. of butter. This is not satisfactory, especially upon the very high feeding and careful manipulation of the milk as practised at these shows. The total quantity of butter yielded from these cows, too, was not at all creditable under the circumstances. Only some half-dozen or so giving over 2 lb. per day.

In the cross-bred classes, which were also open to other breeds for which no special classes were provided, some very fine cows of the South Devon breed were catalogued, and took their places, doing remarkably well. In this class, also, the famous old cross-bred cow Doctor, that did so well at last year's show, was standing. She is now about twenty-four years old, and though last year she appeared quite past doing anything more, yet she has since then produced another calf, is milking very heavily, and looks much fresher than a year ago, having apparently taken a fresh lease of her life. The exact cross of this cow is not known, but appearances rather favour Ayrshire and Jersey, or some such a mixture.

So the final blow at Park Royal appears at last to have been struck. It is to be hoped the committee thoroughly discussed all matters affecting such a drastic change. It seems scarcely credible that so much money can have been spent upon good permanent roads and other arrangements to be scattered to the winds with so little discussion and upon the opinions of so few. It is to be hoped the measure will not have the effect of taking the society out of the frying pan and putting it into the fire. So far, however, as the subjects of these notes are concerned (cattle), there is no doubt that the day of this change will be a bad day. Cattle, it was generally admitted last show, were about the best display ever seen at the Royal, and trade in them was certainly the best ever experienced.

What more, on the part of breeders of cattle, could be desired? Then the position was so accessible from all the main lines of rail; indeed, this had much to do with the excellent display. When the migratory shows were in force it was very seldom that all the various breeds were shown. In the north, several of the southern breeds were practically absent; and, by the same rule, when in the south the northern breeds were scarcely visible; but at Park Royal every breed could be seen. However, the motion has been suggested and received so far; whether the general

public and the provinces, where it is intended in the future to hold the shows, will be agreeable remains yet to be seen, and whether, if all are agreeable, the thing will prosper, is quite a speculation.

Sale of Messrs. Adamson and Clarke's Shorthorns.

A successful joint sale of Shorthorns, the property of Mr. T. Adamson and Mr. T. E. Clarke, of Harwood Lodge, Bolton, was conducted by Messrs. Thornton and Co. on Thursday at Ainsworth Lodge, Ratcliffe, Lancashire. The sale consisted of the entire herd from Harwood Lodge and a large portion of that belonging to Mr. Adamson, while Mr. W. Heaton and Mr. J. H. Maden each contributed a good bull. The weather, though cold and windy, was more favourable than that experienced at Mr. Vickers' the previous day, and a large local company had gathered round the ring by the time the sale commenced, an auction of this description being an unusual event in the thickly populated manufacturing district round Bolton. No great prices were obtained, but a number of the animals made from 40 to 50 gs., and an average of over £28 per head was considerably more than had been anticipated.

Mr. Clarke's Hettie, a very massive yellow red cow, bred by Mr. Ashworth, was taken by Mr. A. Darby to Shropshire at 31 gs., and a capital red two-year-old heifer with a red cow calf at foot went to Mr. Lowcock, of Nottinghamshire, at 62½ gs. Mr. R. R Rothwell, of Preston, became the owner of a pair of nice animals in Mr. Clarke's Rosie 5th at 37 gs. and Mr. Adamson's Marigold 45th at 47 gs. Mr. R. Vernon got a nice heifer from the Ainsworth Lodge herd at 38 gs., and Mr. A. Melville a red cow of a rare dairy type cheap enough at 37 gs. Mr. Clarke's Stanley Empress, a well-developed roan yearling with several local prizes to her credit, remains in the district, being purchased at 45 gs. by Mr. W. Heaton, who also took several other good lots. Mr. Adamson's fine stock bull, Wales Waterloo 4th, bred by Lord Lathom, was a bargain to Mr. W. Britten at 26 gs., and there being no foreign competition, Messrs. Bateman and Melville were enabled to secure very good bulls at 37 gs. and 41 gs., which in both cases should prove a profitable investment.

The best prices and buyers were as follows:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Honeydew (Mr. Clarke's), red roan, c. May 12, 1894; s. Lord of the Manor 62912 ..... Mr. W. Heaton	20
Hettie (Mr. Clarke's), red and little white, c. Oct. 3, 1898; s. St. Clair 2nd 66268 ..... Mr. A. Darby	31
Florentine 3rd (Mr. Clarke's), roan, c. May 27, 1899; s. Cairo 72151 ..... Mr. S. Davis	29
Ainsworth Queen (Mr. Adamson's), red, c. Aug. 29, 1899; s. Prince Arvon 73258 ..... Mr. A. Melville	37
Jenny Ingram 3rd (Mr. Adamson's), red and little white, c. Sept. 3, 1899; s. Ingram's Crown 70648 Mr. J. Francis	35
Sweet Bride 2nd (Mr. Clarke's), red, c. Nov. 9, 1900; s. Lord Victor 74938 ..... Mr. L. Broadbent	28
Daisy 5th (Mr. Adamson's), red and little white, c. Jan. 5, 1901; s. Sirdar 75649 ..... Mr. W. Heaton	25
Ainsworth Baroness (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. March 10, 1901; s. Sirdar 75649 ..... Mr. W. Heaton	25
Rachel 2nd (Mr. Clarke's), roan, c. Dec. 1, 1901; s. Tommy Atkins 82456 ..... Hon. Colonel Lawson	24
Faithful Alice 8th (Mr. Clarke's), roan, c. May 7, 1902; s. Adamson's Arvon 75886 .. Mr. W. Bateman	31
Lotherton Darling (Mr. Clarke's), red and little white, c. July 29, 1902; s. Buckhanger 74143 Hon Colonel Lawson	21
Ainsworth Maid (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. Aug. 25, 1902; s. Dunottar's Style 76580 .... Mr. W. J. Thom	20
Hettie 2nd (Mr. Clarke's), red, c. Jan. 5, 1903; s. Forest King 78902 ..... Mr. R. Lowcock	45
Ainsworth Duchess 2nd (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. March 10, 1903; s. Baron Bolton 80402 Mr. R. Vernon	38
Rosie 5th (Mr. Clarke's), roan, c. July 21, 1903; s. Magnet 81590 ..... Mr. R. R. Rothwell	37
Rosedale's Beauty 4th (Mr. Adamson's), rich roan, c. Aug. 29, 1903; s. Magnet 81590 .... Mr. A. Arthurs	42
Rosebud 14th (Mr. Adamson's), red and little white, c. Nov. 5, 1903; s. Highland Monarch 74702 Mr. J. Francis	24
Faithful Alice 9th (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. April 30, 1904; s. Highland Monarch 74702 .. Mr. W. J. Thom	20
Stanley Empress (Mr. Clarke's), roan, c. June 22, 1904; s. Royal Recorder 84646 ..... Mr. W. Heaton	45
Marigold 45th (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. June 30, 1904; s. Ainsworth Silver Prince 82689 Mr. R. R. Rothwell	47
Rachel Halton (Mr. Clarke's), roan, c. July 5, 1904; s. Forest King 78902 ..... Mr. W. Heaton	20
Ainsworth Queen 2nd (Mr. Adamson's), red roan, c. July 24, 1904; s. Ainsworth Silver Prince 82689 Mr. W. J. Thom	23
Daisy 6th (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. March 2, 1905; s. Ainsworth Silver Prince 82689 .. Mr. R. Lowcock	22

BULLS.

Macbeth 86507 (Mr. J. H. Maden's), red, c. in May, 1901; s. Shylock 77857 ..... Mr. W. Bateman	37
Wales Waterloo 4th (Mr. Adamson's), rich roan, c. May 12, 1902; s. Pilgrim 75225 .... Mr. W. Bateman	26
Ainsworth Magnet (Mr. Adamson's), roan, c. Sept. 27, 1903; s. Magnet 81590 ..... Mr. G. Robinson	21
Will Honeycomb (Mr. W. Heaton's), roan, c. March 4, 1904; s. Hoole Golden Star 83736 Mr. A. Melville	41

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
35 cows and heifers	28 10 0	997 10 0
6 bulls	26 15 6	166 13 0
41 head	28 5 0	1,158 3 0

Sale of Mr. John Vickers' Shorthorns.

The entire herd of Shorthorns bred by Mr. John Vickers, of Churchfield, Tunstall, Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmorland, was sold on Wednesday in consequence of Mr. Vickers retiring from business and giving up the farm. Owing to the bad weather there was not a very large company, but a number of breeders from Northumberland, Lancashire, Hertfordshire, Nottinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, and Shropshire put in an appearance and bid well for the animals, which were large-framed and of good Shorthorn character. The most attractive of the lots was Primrose, a roan six-year-old cow with a grand udder, which made 60 gs. to Mr. Timberlake, and her yearling bull, which, after good competition with Mr. Oswell, was bought by Mr. G. Maynard at 88 gs. The fine stock bull, Beau Estelle, was sold cheaply to Mr. Nesham at 40 gs., as his stock are of much promise. Mr. F. Straker, of Morpeth, secured several lots, among them being a choice young cow, Fantasia, at 35 gs.; while Mr. Melville took a handsome pair of roans at 38 gs. and 41 gs.

The following were the best prices with buyers' names:—

COWS AND HEIFERS

	Gs.
Duchess 4th, roan, c Oct. 24, 1890; s. Royal Ingram 50374 ..... Mr. T. Hunter	17
Her B.C., red and little white; s. Beau Estelle 85320 Mr. T. Handyside	19
Model Beauty, red, c. Aug. 1, 1896; s. Sittyton Lad 69615 ..... Mr. H. Mellish	24
Maude, roan, c. Feb. 28, 1898; s. Postmaster 69254 Mr. J. W. Fothergill	27
Chance, roan, c. April 3, 1899; s. St. Andrew 71541 Mr. W. R. Trotter	21
Gentle Annie, red and little white, c. July 19, 1899; s. Bard 69912 ..... Mr. F. Straker	30
Primrose, roan, c. Nov. 24, 1899; s. Bard 69912 Mr. R. Timberlake	60
Her C.C., red, c. July 29, 1905; s. Beau Estelle 85320 Mr. J. B. Silcock	19½
Kirkby Beauty, red, c. Jan. 2, 1900; s. Bard 69912 Mr. G. Willan	21
Concordia 4th, roan, c. March 30, 1900; s. Bard 69912 Mr. G. Allison	31
Clara (Mr. J. Dargue's), roan, c. May 4, 1900; s. Keverstone Kit 70700 ..... Mr. R. Cock	24
Gala Day, roan, c. June 26, 1900; s. Bard 69912 Mr. A. Melville	38
Ruby Duchess 3rd, red, c. July 10, 1900; s. Bard 69912 Mr. C. F. Ducksbury	41
Blanche (Mr. J. Dargue's), roan, c. Aug. 23, 1900; s. Cairo 72151 ..... Mr. J. Winterbottom	29
Fantasia, red and little white, c. Oct. 24, 1900; s. Bard 69912 ..... Mr. F. Straker	38
Scotch Flower 3rd (Mr. W. Taylor's), white, c. Nov. 3, 1900; s. Gold Finder 76802 ..... Mr. F. Punchard	30
Clarantine, red, c. March 19, 1901; s. Adolphus 75994 Mr. S. Wilson	22
Concordia 5th, red and white, c. May 13, 1901; s. Bard 69912 ..... Mr. S. Wilson	20
Furrow Maid, roan, c. July 17, 1901; s. Harmonist 76838 ..... Mr. G. Allison	20
Florence Douglas (Mr. W. Taylor's), roan, c. March 5, 1902; s. Admiral Douglas 78211 .. Mr. A. Melville	41
Tunstall Maid, red, c. April 2, 1902; s. Adolphus 75994 Mr. F. Hornby	20
Princess Ruby 2nd, red and white, c. April 7, 1902; s. Adolphus 75995 ..... Mr. W. Bateman	20
Real Beauty 2nd, roan, c. May 17, 1903; s. Gainford King 81103 ..... Mr. R. Vernon	40
Verity, red and white, c. Aug. 6, 1903; s. Gainford King 81103 ..... Mr. S. Wilson	21
Munrose, roan, c April 10, 1904; s. Politician 81869 Mr. W. Bateman	27
Regalia, red and little white, c. May 20, 1904; s. Count Douglas 83192 ..... Mr. I. Bargh	28
Lacretelle, red and little white, c. Dec. 6, 1904; s. Beau Estelle 85320 ..... Mr. G. Handyside	31

BULLS.

Beau Estelle 85320, red, c. March 23, 1902; s. Collynie Conqueror 78609 ..... Mr. G. Nesham	40
Umpire 90372, roan, c. March 3, 1904; s. Choirmaster 30701 ..... Mr. W. Bentham	20
Beacon Light 87930, red, c. May 23, 1904; s. Bletchley Florian 85371 ..... Mr. J. Handley	21
Referee 89799, roan, c. July 24, 1904; s. Beau Estelle 85320 ..... Mr. G. Maynard	88
Glencoe, red, c. Oct. 24, 1904; s. Beau Estelle 85320 Major Godman	18½
Western Hero, roan, c. Dec. 9, 1904; s. Beau Estelle 85320 ..... Mr. J. Coux	20
Ormiston, red, c. Feb. 1, 1905; s. Beau Estelle 85320 Mr. E. Barton	38

SUMMARY

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
40 cows and heifers	26 0 5 ...	1,040 11 0
12 bulls	25 18 10 ...	311 6 6
52 head	26 0 0	1,351 17 6

Sale of South Devons at Totnes.

The first of the autumn sales under the auspices of the South Devon Herd Book Society, took place on Tuesday. It has been customary to hold one sale a year, and last April the record was broken by the prices obtained for the best animals, many of which were secured for exportation to South Africa. Last week's sale must, therefore, be regarded as in the nature of an experiment—a merging of the sales which would otherwise have taken place at Totnes Fair in October and in the markets of the locality. Perhaps the fact that there were to be two sales this year had the effect of improving the prices in April last, as breeders did not then overcrowd the sale ring as on some former occasions. On Tuesday there were entered half a dozen cows and heifers, and upwards of sixty bulls. On the whole, their quality and condition did not compare favourably with those offered earlier in the year, most of the bullocks having probably been running rough during the summer. The two-year-olds were not very numerous, and only a couple of them changed hands. The older yearlings were a fairly even lot, and some of them were of exceptionally good quality. The younger animals were somewhat uneven, and breeders would have studied their interests had they kept some of the animals at home until the spring. Prices showed a drop, and though at times the biddings were brisk, there was nothing like the competition experienced in April, top prices being 43 gs., as compared with 58½ gs. at the April sale. The highest figure on Tuesday was 43 gs. The chief sales were as follows:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.—Mr. W. M. Roberts's (St. Germans) Peggy 5th (3774), sold to Mr. J. P. Page (Cornworthy) for 18½ gs; bull calf, Mr. Scott James (Chagford), 5½ gs; Mr. J. Luscombe, jun.'s (Ugborough) Primrose (4177), 20½ gs, Mr. Hunt (Totnes); bull calf, Mr. B. Luscombe (Aveton Gifford), 4½ gs.

BULLS CALVED 1903.—W. H. Pain's (Kingsbridge) High House Champion (1898), Smith (Rame), 12 gs; J. Wakeham's (Revelstoke) Mark Time (1930), A. Rogers (Holbeton), 14½ gs.

BULLS CALVED 1904.—J. Bartlett and Son's (Dartmouth) Stars and Stripes (2246), J. Wills (Liskeard), 15 gs; J. A. Stidston's (Bishopsteignton) Candidate (2078), A. Hall (Marldon), 18½ gs; J. A. Stidston's Renown, J. S. Hallett (Sherford), 26½ gs; E. B. Luscombe's (Woodleigh) Woodleigh Duke (2270), J. Vintle (Kingsbridge), 43 gs; W. M. Roberts's (St. Germans) Chief (2084), Buckpitt (Abbotskerswell) 15 guineas; W. M. Roberts's General (2136), Luscombe (Stoke Gabriel), 22½ gs; J. S. Ford's (Yealmpton) Forest King (2133), Hine (Pentille); J. S. Ford's The Monarch (2250), A. Rowe (Dawlish), 25½ gs; W. Bradgude's (Coryton) Daisy's Duke (2108), H. Harvey (Hennock), 15 gs; J. Hoare's (Staverton) Varmer Giles (2251), Pearce (Gwinear), 16 gs; Mrs. F. G. Luscombe and Son (Crownhill), Warleigh Masher (2265), Dolbear (Newton Abbot), 15 gs; F. G. Luscombe and Son, Right Sort (2220), Hoskin (Newton Abbot), 15 gs; Toms and Son (St. Keyne), Cousin Jack (2100), Squires (Holbeton), 17 gs; B. Luscombe's (Aveton Gifford) Manager (2173), Whiteley (Paignton), 35½ gs; B. Luscombe's Hector (2150), B. Trant (Menheniot), 20 gs; J. Sparrow Wroth's (Aveton Gifford) Duke of Fife (2159), Creber (Landkey), 29½ gs; D. Camp's (Modbury) Sunbeam's Councillor (2249), Curtis (Altarnun), 21½ gs; A. E. Stidston's Goldsmith (2140), E. H. Hoskin (Liskeard, 28 gs; Benjamin Butland's (Plympton) Farm Boy (2128), Brock (Kenn), 25 gs; H. Bradridge's (Ashburton) Lo Ben, W. J. Crossing (Plympton), 30½ gs.

BULLS CALVED 1905.—W. Bradridge's (Coryton) Merry Boy (eligible for entry), Beer (Buckfastleigh) 10½ gs; T. W. Luscombe's (Totnes) Stancombe Lad (eligible for entry), Sanders (Liskeard), 20½ gs; J. Wakeham's (Brent) Leyman (eligible for entry), Ellis (Yealmpton), 22½ gs; H. Bradridge's (Ashburton) Masterpiece (eligible for entry), T. Winnow (Paignton), 23½ gs; Benjamin Butland's Leigham Laddie (eligible for entry), Coryton (Pentillie), 26 gs.

BULLS CALVED BEFORE 1903.—Mr. N. C. Crump's (Torquay) Tidwell Prince (eligible for entry), Gloyn (Plymouth), 15½ gs; B. Luscombe's (Avean Gifford) Usher (769), Voysey (Battery), 27½ gs.

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
October 10	Romney Marsh Rams ...	Mr. A. Finn	Ashford Market, Kent.
10, 11, 12, 13 and 14	Horses	Various	Crewe Horse Repository.
10	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. W. Duthie and Mr. J. Marr	Tillycairn, Old Meldrum, N.B.
11	Jersey Cattle	Various	Bletchley, Bucks.
11	Shire Horses, Geldings, and Town Mares	Members of the Worcestershire Horse Society	The Cattle Market, Worcester.
11	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. J. Wilson, Mr. A. M. Gordon, and Mr. Summers	Pirriesmill, Huntley.
12	Berkshire Pigs	Duchess of Devonshire ...	Eastbourne.
12	Ponies	Rev. D. B. Montefiore ...	Islip, nr. Oxford.
12	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. M'William and Mr. Watson	Stoneytown, Keith.
13	Hereford Cattle	Messrs. A. A. and G. W. Firkins	Paunton Court, Bishop's Frome.
13	Shorthorn Cattle	Various	Agricultural Hall, Aberdeen.

Sale of Lincoln Red Shorthorns at Louth.

The third annual amalgamated sale of registered Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn cattle at Louth was held on Thursday, and attracted a large number of buyers, and ninety-two animals were entered. The sale is organised by a committee of local breeders, and the auctioneers were Messrs. Dickinson and Riggall. A number of prizes were awarded as follows:

Cow in calf, exceeding three years old: 1, T. Wells, South Somercotes, Louth; 2, E. H. Cartwright, Redbington Grange, Louth. Heifer in calf, between two and three years old: 1, R. Chatterton, Stenigot, Lincoln; 2, J. W. Farrow and Sons, Strubby Manor, Alford. Female, between 9 months and 2 years old: 1, R. Chatterton; 2, T. B. Freshney, North Somercotes. Heifer calf, not exceeding 9 months old: 1 and 2, J. Borrill, Manby Hall, Louth. Bull, not exceeding 15 months old: 1, E. H. Cartwright; 2, R. Chatterton.

The prize winner in the last class was sold for 41 gs.; whilst the principal prices given for cows and heifers ranged from 19 to 33½ gs., and young bulls were sold at from 18 to 23 gs.

Sale of the Stonebrook Herefords.

Mr. T. Fenn, the well-known breeder of Shropshire sheep and Hereford cattle, is retiring from farming, and following the successful dispersal of his famous flock, Messrs. Edwards and Russell and Son last Thursday disposed of the Herefords. The herd was founded in 1861 with cows from the herds of Mr. John Hewer, Mr. Roberts, of Ivingtonbury, and Mr. Yeld, of Twyford, also from the Adforton, Stocktonbury, Leen, and Chadnor Court herds. For many years Mr. Fenn and Mr. W. Tudge used sires conjointly, one of them being the celebrated Lord Wilton, for which they gave 1,000 gs. Mr. Fenn's most notable successes included winning the champion prize for the best herd of any breed at the Paris International Show in 1889, and of breeding the steer which, exhibited by the Hon. H. M. Cochrane, at Chicago, won the championship for the best carcase of any breed. Despite unfavourable weather there was a large company present at the sale, which was a satisfactory one, though some bargains were obtained. Three animals fetched a three-figure price each—namely, Loving Cup, a magnificent heifer, sold to Mr. Rowlands for 170 gs.; the stock bull, Roderick, bought by Mr. Cole at 120 gs.; and another stock, Royal Rupert, sold for 100 gs. to Mr. Knight, Downton Castle. The twenty-six heifers and calves averaged £44 18s. 10d.; three two-year-old heifers, £26 12s.; fourteen yearling heifers, £38 3s. 6d.; and the ten bulls, £48 1s. 2d.; whilst the seventy-eight lots averaged £30 4s. 9d. A list of the chief lots and purchasers is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Philippa, Mr. Woodgate, Liverpool, 36 gs; her bull calf, Montrose, Mr. Cole (the incoming tenant), 25 gs; San Toy, Mr. J. B. Hill, Orleton, 20 gs; her heifer calf Perdita, Mr. Cole, 13 gs; Fairy, Mr. Cole, 40 gs; her bull calf, The Baronet, Mr. Nock, Shifnal, 22 gs; Wisteria, Mr. Cole, 26 gs; her heifer calf, Sweetbriar, Mr. Cole, 16 gs; Lovelock 2nd, Mr. Cole, 24 gs; her bull calf, Silver Star, Mr. Harries, Llwynsdarn, Pontardulais, 10 gs; Lady Abbess, Mr. Cole, 20 gs; her bull calf, Florian, Mr. J. Howells, Leinthall, 7½ gs; Budding Maid, Mr. Beer, 18½ gs; Teme Lady, Mr. Cole, 26 gs; her heifer calf, Adeline, Mr. H. Dent, 10 gs; Turtle Dove, Mr. Cole, 20 gs; Bashful Maid, Mr. Cole, 30 gs; Downton Select, Mr. H. Dent, 36 gs; her bull calf, Border Chief, Mr. A. Tanner, 33 gs; Real Ruby, Mr. Price, Upper House, Ivington, 42 gs; her heifer calf, Firefly, Mr. Cole, 15 gs; Downton Fineta, Mr. E. E. Morris, The Field, Hampton Bishop, 24 gs; her heifer calf, Lady Bountiful, Mr. John Tudge, Duxmoor, 24 gs; Lovelock, Mr. T. Griffiths, Dilwyn, 40 gs; her heifer calf, Flower Girl, the Earl of Coventry, 27 gs; Morning Star, Mr. Rowlands, Evesbatch Court, Bromyard, 66 gs; her heifer calf, Heartsease, Mr. Rowlands, 40 gs; Monitress, Mr. Woodgate, 24 gs; her heifer calf, Bracelet, Mr. Cole, 24 gs; Bartonia's heifer calf, Bridesmaid, Mr. E. E. Morris, 18 gs; Loretta, Mr. Rowlands, 60 gs; her heifer calf, Fairy Queen, Mr. Rowlands, 50 gs; Lady Clare, Mr. Woodgate, 26 gs; Gipsy Queen, Mr. Cole, 21 gs; her heifer calf, Clarinda, Mr. Cole, 16 gs; Priceless, Mr. T. Williams, Castell Du, Pontardulais, 32 gs; Pine Apple, Mr. Grasett, 28 gs; her bull calf, Twin Prince, Mr. W. T. Cooke, 12 gs; First Fruit, Mr. Cole, 33 gs; Downton Irene, Mr. Cole, 27 gs; Heather Bloom, Mr. Cole, 31 gs; Gladsome, Mr. Cole, 24 gs; Countess Sarah, Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Uruguay, 45 gs; Downton Ladylike, Mr. F. Bibby, Hardwick Grange, Salop, 55 gs; Loving Cup, Mr. Rowlands, 170 gs; Day Dream, Mr. Cole, 33 gs; Czarina, Mr. Cole, 20 gs; Downton Elena, Mr. Cole, 27 gs; Rose Grove, Mr. Cooke, 30 gs; Milkmaid, Mr. Cole, 22 gs; The Songstress, the Earl of Coventry, 21 gs; Parma Violet, Mr. Cole, 30 gs.

STOCK BULLS.

Royal Rupert 20976, Mr. A. R. Boughton-Knight, Downton Castle, 100 gs; First Choice, Mr. Woodgate, 60 gs; Downton Bonanza, Mr. J. Morris, Gwern-y-goe Farm, Glan Newport, 51 gs; Beauchief, Mr. Morrison, Thresholds, Lechlutwood, 21 gs; Gentleman Joe, Mr. Cole, 55 gs; Roderick, Mr. Cole, 120 gs; Young Duke, Mr. Newton Jackson, Blackbrooke, Pentrilas, 20 gs.

At Ballinasloe, County Galway, on Tuesday a small sheep fair was held, but quite sufficient for the demand, which was slow throughout. Prices were considerably under recent fairs, more especially for ewes, a good many of which remained unsold. Over twelve and under twenty-four months old, first class, £2 4s. to £2 6s.; second class, £2 to £2 2s.; third class, £1 8s. 6d. to £1 10s.; two-year-olds and upwards, first class, £2 7s. 6d. to £2 18s.; second class, £1 18s. to £2 7s.; third class, £1 10s. to £1 12s. 6d.

Horse Notes.

Many a horse is made or marred at this period of the year. The thoroughbred—as seems to be generally admitted by those who are lookers on, rather than breeders for sale—is too much pampered and too highly fed on stimulating food in order to get him forward for sale as a yearling; and there is no doubt that many a premature break down may be primarily attributed to injudicious forcing in the autumn of the first year of a horse's life. Similarly, good-looking foals that are intended for show purposes as yearlings are frequently very injudiciously fed, and the consequence is weak fetlocks and many other minor infirmities, which make, in the aggregate, a pretty formidable indictment.

It is always as well with weaning foals to keep them as much in a state of nature as possible, by which I mean that they should not be kept in hot boxes, as I have frequently known. Exercise and good food are essential, and the best plan is to turn the weaned foals on to a good pasture and feed them with the best of oats. Wm. Day, in his book, "The Horse: How to Breed and Rear Him," says that a feed and a half of oats per foal, given three times a day, is sufficient for a foal up to January. Oats, however, are not the only hand food that should be given to foals. A little sweet hay in the morning before they are let out—foals should, I think, always be kept in a warm shed at night—and a mash two or three times a week is comforting in cold weather.

The great difficulty in training foals for exhibition as yearlings is that the men who look after them are never—or, at least, very seldom—satisfied "to leave well alone." If they take an interest in their charges, and it is only fair to say that they generally do take a very great interest in them, they are so eager to get them forward that they over-feed them. They want to see the nice bright coat which is to them one of the beauties of the horse, and they quite forget that there is a time when that bright coat will come of itself if the young horse is carefully and judiciously fed and groomed. So they sometimes fly to adventitious aids in the shape of drugs and highly stimulating foods, which should be carefully avoided in all cases where horses are healthy.

If some foals are overfed, it is equally true that many more are underfed. I know of no more pitiable sight than that of two or three foals standing shivering in a wet October or November afternoon, with their sides clapped together, waiting to be let in to a close, stuffy box and indifferent food. The foals should always have access to shelter; if they have, and if they are well fed, it is astonishing how they will stand out in rough, wild weather and seem to enjoy it. Care must always be taken when foals are running together that one does not become the "master" and eat food that should go to the others. It is better when it can be managed that foals should have separate places at night, as by that means alone can it be assured that each foal gets his due share of the food apportioned to him. It is, however, not always possible to do this, and when it is not possible, the greatest care should be taken that no foal should be allowed to become a weakling, or, as they call him in Yorkshire, "an underlout." If there is any danger of this he should be separated at once.

The hard and fast ration of oats I do not care for myself. It is all very well for the thoroughbred foal who has been fed on stimulating food almost from the moment of his birth to have his corn ration limited to the amount mentioned by Mr. Day in his book. But it is, I think, quite otherwise with the foal of the working mare during the few weeks immediately succeeding weaning. It is very probable that during the last few weeks he has been with his dam, the milk she has given him has not been of very good quality. The heavy work of harvest will have told its tale on that, and the consequence is that unless a foal is liberally, and very liberally, treated during the first few weeks he spends away from his dam he will be sure to "slip." It may be urged that if his dam's milk has been losing in quality he cannot miss it very much. But one effect of the loss of quality in the milk will be that the foal has got a little weakened, though may not be perceptible at first. When, however, he is weaned and the cold nights and mornings come, and the wild storms of autumn sweep across the fields, he is sure to lose condition rapidly unless he is well cared for. The most critical period of a horse's life is from September to March after he is foaled.

Many subsequent troubles are caused by injudicious feeding. I remember having a very useful Clydesdale foal which, as is very unusual with Clydesdales, had indifferent feet. Unfortunately for him and for me he was a rare topped one, with good legs and fine bone and action. So, being young and foolish, and withal ambitious, I showed him and won a few prizes with him. In the autumn, after he was weaned, I said to my man, "We will do him well." We did. We did him better than well; for my man, a sufficiently obstinate individual, gave him steamed potatoes unknown to me. "Steamed potatoes improve their skins," said he to his fellows. They improved this horse's skin, but they completely ruined his feet. He got fever in the feet eventually and was useless. He left two good mares behind him, and a really good horse was wasted by injudicious treatment.

John Lawrence advises that foals should be treated on somewhat similar lines to what I have suggested, and he points out that a run on uplands, where that is possible, is highly beneficial. He, however, suggests hulled oats instead of whole ones, alleging that many breeders consider the oat husks injurious to the teeth of young foals. In these days, however, crushed oats are given to all horse stock that are not doing fast work. Lawrence says he has weaned foals well upon fine pollard, oats, straw, and carrots. Pollard I do not like at all, it is too heating. Carrots, however, where easily obtainable, should always be given; but swede turnips will be found a good substitute where this is not the case.

It is a curious fact in connection with English horse-breeding that in every age there have been found men, not wanting in knowledge and experience, who have deplored the way in which some breed or all breeds were deteriorating. Writing prior to 1809 Lawrence speaks of the many virtues of the old Suffolk Punch, which he tells us was then extinct. He describes them as "Middle-sized, from 14 hands 3 inches to 16 hands high, with rough coarse head, not seldom abruptly fastened to the neck, and that short; the shoulders low and round, and the breast full, the waist often long, and the barrel round with a good carcase. Buttocks high and full, aspiring, as it were, above the forehand, whence greater energy in draught was supposed to be derived. Legs somewhat long and round in conformity with the barrel. Feet not of the soundest, subject to thrushes, and the legs to grease."

Considerably more than fifty years after Lawrence wrote a relative had a horse which answered exactly the description he gives of the old Suffolk Punch, down to the greasy leg. He was not more than 15 hands 3 inches, and a better worker never went on to the land. In only one respect did he differ from Lawrence's description, and that was that he was by no means a long-legged horse, and I am inclined to think that Lawrence was not strictly accurate in describing the old Suffolk Punch as "long-legged." Careful a writer as he was, I am also rather sceptical as to the accuracy of the statement that the New Suffolk Punch, as he calls him, was the result of a cross from Yorkshire stallions—that is, from Yorkshire Coaching horses or saddle horses, which I suppose are synonymous with Hackneys. I do not think that any Suffolk breeder will admit for a moment that there is such an adulteration of his pet breed, but I have no history of the Suffolk horse at hand so cannot enter into details about his origin here. I have never seen a Suffolk horse of any other colour but chestnut, and I am quite certain that had the Cleveland Bay or Yorkshire Coaching horse been so much used in crossing the Suffolk mares as to produce the flat and coaching shoulder of which Lawrence speaks, but which I have never seen when paying visits to Suffolk studs, the colour would have been materially affected, for it is breeding true to colour is one of the signs of the prepotency of the Yorkshire breeds which were bay for generations.

During the last few days a very important book has been published—"On the Origin and Value of the Thoroughbred Horse," by Professor Ridgeway. I have not yet had an opportunity of looking into it, and it is possible that I shall not have for at least ten days, so that notice of the Professor's conclusions will have to be postponed for a fortnight. Next week I shall have something more to say about the Suffolk Punch.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Seaham Harbour Stud Sale.

The annual unreserved sale of pedigree Clydesdale horses, hackneys, and hackney ponies, store cattle, and sheep, the property of the Seaham Harbour Stud, Limited (formerly the Londonderry Stud), was held on Thursday in a field near the Stud Farm, Dawdon Dene, Seaham Harbour. The stock submitted comprised eleven filly foals, fourteen colt foals, three yearling fillies, one two-year-old filly, two three-year-old fillies, three yearling colts, one two-year-old colt, nine brood mares, and one gelding a total of forty six Clydesdales together with nineteen hackney and hackney pony colts and filly foals, and one pony mare. There were also offered sixty store cattle, all in fine thriving condition; also forty-eight sheep, all of a cross seldom met with, and highly recommended for breeding purposes.

In the Clydesdales offered, all the famous strains of blood were represented. They had not been much exhibited, showing being almost exclusively confined to national and county shows, but considerable success had been won by them whenever they had been sent to the showyard. Mr. Robert Brydon, the managing director of the Stud Company, spared neither time nor expense in procuring the very best mares obtainable when the stud was formed, and as these have been mated with high class stallions, the general character and standard of the Stud has been steadily improved and maintained.

An informal luncheon was served in a marquee, and a start was afterwards made with the cattle, which were sold in lots of from two to five. The highest price was £17, paid by Mr. Rickett, of Haswell, for two Angus and Hereford cross steers, and the lowest (£10 10s.) given by Mr. Gibson, of Kelloe Hall, for five heifers by a Shorthorn bull out of pedigree Angus cows. The total for the sixty was £825 7s. 6d., an average of £13 15s.

The top price for sheep was 50s each, given by Mr. Walby, of West Rainton, for ten gimmers, a cross between Cheviot ewes and Border Leicester ram. Mr. Pickersgill, of Bedale, gave 48s. for other ten, a cross between Wensleydale mule ewes and Border Leicester ram. The total for forty-eight animals was £114 7s.

The Clydesdale horses began with eleven filly foals. The best price was 70 gs., given by Mr. Bain, of Mauchline, Ayrshire, for an animal which won the first prize at the Northumberland Show. The total for this section was £394 16s., and the average a little over £35 17s. In the colt foals the highest price was 50 gs., paid by Mr. Marshall, of Stranraer, for an animal with a very good pedigree. The total for fourteen was £358 11s. 6d., and the average £25 12. Three yearling fillies brought a total of £98 3s. 6d., an average of £32 14s. 6d. Mr. Furness, of Dunfermline, bought one for 43½ gs.; Mr. Aitkenhead, of Polmont, bought a two-year-old filly for 50 gs.; and Mr. Brown, of Dunfermline, a three-year-old at the same figure. There were nine brood mares, and some good prices were obtained. The highest was £75, given by Mr. Shepherd, of Kelso, who also bought another for 51 gs. Mr. Cox, of Morpeth, secured one for 67 gs., and Colonel Pilkington one for 50 gs. The total for the nine was £405 6s., and the average £45. The grand total for the sale was £2,692. A list of the principal horse sales is appended:—

CLYDESDALES.

FILLY FOALS.

	Gs
Bay, f. April 22, 1905; s. Airies Prince 10667 — Mr. Ebdon	22
Brown, f. April 19, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr. Dunn	48½
Black, f. April 22, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr Petch	42
Brown, f. May 26, 1905; s. Hiawatha 10067 — Mr. Marcus Bain	70
Brown, f. May 12, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Colonel Pilkington	31
Bay, f. April 18, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 ..Mr. King	30
Brown, f. April 11, 1905; s. Airies Prince 10667 — Mr. W. Taylor	40
Bay, f. May 9, 1905; s. Airies Prince 10667 — Mr. Robinson	32
Bay, f. May 28, 1905; s. Cratherne 11669 — Messrs. the Cramlington Coal Co.	20

COLT FOALS.

Bay, f. April 11, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr. A. Smith	26
Black, f. May 1, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr. Hammerton	32
Bay, f. May 21, 1905; f. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr. Marshall	50
Bay, f. May 16, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr. Marshall	27
Brown, f. May 14, 1905; s. Silver Cup 11184 — Mr. J. Tully	38
Dark Brown, f. April 27, 1905; s. Baron Stewart 10982 — Mr. Graham	21½
Bay, f. May 29, 1905; s. Airies Prince 10667 — Mr. Deuchar	22
Brown, f. April 17, 1905; s. Baron Stewart 10982 — Mr. Graham	20½
Bay, f. June 17, 1905; s. Baron of Bucklyvie 11263 — Mr. Charlton	23

YEARLING FILLIES.

Bay, f. May 21, 1904; s. Boreland Pride 10318 — Mr. Furness	43½
Brown, f. April 22, 1904; s. Goshawk 11735 — Mr. Snowdon	30
Brown, f. 1904; s. Prince Sturdy 10112....Mr. Hicks	20

TWO YEAR OLD FILLY.

Polly Chattan, bay, f. May, 1903; s. Clan Chattan 10527 .....Mr. Aitkenhead	50

THREE YEAR OLD FILLIES.

Brown, f. June, 1902; s. Lord Northesk 11102 — Mr. Brown	50
Prudence, bay, f. May, 1902; s. Big Swell 10696 — Messrs. the Cramlington Coal Co.	40

YEARLING COLTS.

Millfield, bay, f. May, 1904; s. Historian 10775 — Mr. Carr	30
Spennythorne, bay, f. April 15, 1904; s. Montrose 11852 .....Messrs. the Cramlington Coal Co.	21

TWO-YEAR-OLD COLT.

Newport 12685, brown, f. May 10, 1903; s. Baron Stewart 10982 .....Mr. W. Park	26½

BROOD MARES.

Duster, brown, f. 1898; s. Knight of Oswal 10074 — Mr. Proctor	67
Jenny Wren 14811, bay, f. 1897; s. Holyrood 9546 — Mr. Shepherd	75
Butterscotch 14800, brown, f. 1894; s. Castlereagh 10324 .....Mr. Hunting	41
Orange Lily 15256, brown, f. 1895; s. Castlereagh 10324 .....Mr. D. Rae	34
Nannie II. of Balwherrie 12979, brown, f. 1893; s. Mains of Airies 10379 .....Mr. W. Dodds	21
Blanche 15345, brown, f. 1900; s. Sir Thomas 9681 — Mr. Shepherd	51
Justice 14802, bay, f. 1896; s. Holyrood 9546 — Colonel Pilkington	50
Rowena; s. Charming Day .....Mr. J. Brydon	21
Lady Stewart 15780, bay, f. 1898; s. Lord Stewart 10084 .....Mr. B. Turnbull	26

GELDING.

Prince, bay, 4 years, 17 hands .....Mr. W. Park	69

HACKNEY AND HACKNEY PONY COLT AND FILLY FOALS.

Hackney Filly Foal, chestnut, f. April 16, 1905; s. Freemason 8164 .....Mr. Johnson	21
Hackney Filly Foal, chestnut, f. May 19, 1905; s. Freemason 8164 .....Mr. J. Tully	13
Pony Filly Foal, black, f. April 19, 1905; s. Little Wonder II. 1610 .....Mr. Lumsden	7
Pony Colt Foal, brown, f. April 28, 1905; s. Little Wonder II. 1610 .....Mr. Rand	6
Pony Colt Foal, dark chestnut, f. May 19, 1905; s. Monte Cristo 7933 .....Mr. J. Brydon	9½
Pony Colt Foal, bay, f. April 23, 1905; s. Seaham Rooseveldt 8639 .....Mr. Wilson	7½
Pony Colt Foal, bay, f. May 6, 1905; s. Little Wonder II. 1610 .....Mr. Elliott	8½
Pony Filly Foal, dark brown, f. May 8, 1905; s. Tom Gordon 8681 .....Mr. C. Walby	8½

SUMMARY.

HORSES AND PONIES.

	£	s.	d.
11 filly foals	394	16	0
14 colt foals	358	11	6
3 yearling fillies	98	3	6
1 two-year-old filly	52	10	0
2 three-year-old fillies	94	10	0
3 yearling colts	72	19	6
1 two-year-old colt	27	16	6
9 brood mares	405	6	0
1 gelding	72	9	0
19 hackney and hackney pony colts and filly foals	155	18	6
1 pony mare	19	19	0
	1,752	19	6
Cattle	825	7	6
Sheep	114	7	0
Grand total	2,692	14	0

Sale of Shetland Ponies.

A sale of Shetland ponies from various studs was held at Earlshall, Leuchars, N.B., on the 30th ult. by Messrs. Crow, Sunderland, and, the weather being favourable, there was a large attendance of buyers, whilst trade was good, prices ranging up to 90 gs. This figure was paid by Mr. Crawford, V.S., Leeds, for the Ladies Hope's Royal champion Haldor. Mr. R. W. R. Mackenzie had some choice animals forward, and he realised the next best price of the sale, 42 gs., this being given by Miss Broughton, Exeter, for the mare Prairie Belle, whilst the same lady gave 41 gs. for the mare Dorrie. The following were the results of the sale:—

Mr. Mackenzie, 14 head, £361 14s 6d, average, £25 16s 9d; The Ladies Hope, 1, £94 10s; Mr. Miller, 10 head, £141 15s, average, £14 3s 6d; Miss Nicol, 3 head, £24 13s 6d, average, £8 4s 6d; Executors of Mr. Fawcett, 18 head, £244 2s 6d, average, £15 11s 3d; Miss Irvine Fortescue, 4 head, £29 8s, average, £7 7s; Messrs. Anderson, 10 head, £49 17s 6d, average, £4 19s 9d; Mr. Fletcher, 9 head, £106 1s, average, £11 15s 8d; Captain Forbes, 3 head, £29 8s, average, £9 16s, Mr. Mungall, 4 head, £33 1s 6d, average, £8 5s 4d; Mr. Gourlay, 7 head, £84 10s 6d, average, £12 1s 6d; Mr. Duncan, 7 head, £65 12s 6d, average, £9 7s 6d; Mr. Sime, 5 head, £54 1s 6d, average, £10 16s 3d; Mr. Mathewson, 5 head, £41 9s 6d, average, £8 5s 11d; Mr. Marshall, 1, £10 10s; Mr. Banks, 4 head, £27 6s, average, £6 16s 6d. For 106 head sold the sum realised was £1,408 1s, giving an average of £13 5s 8d.

Sale at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons, York, held their first October horse sale on Thursday, at the Repository, York, and they had a catalogue of seventy horses. There was a good attendance, and some fair prices were realised. Cicero, ch gelding, the property of Mr. H. March, realised 120 guineas, and others made up to £95. The following were the principal prices realised:—

Black gelding (6 years), 15.3 hh; 34 gs; bay gelding, 15.3 hh, 34 gs; grey mare (5 years), about 15.3 hh, 30 gs; Bess, bay mare (5 years), 15.3 hh, 38 gs; Sunshine, bay horse (9 years), 16 hh, 36 gs; bay gelding (rising 5 years), 16 hh, 37 gs; chestnut mare (7 years), 15.1 hh, 35 gs; Shiela, bay mare (rising 5 years), 16 hh, 35 gs; black-brown gelding (6 years), 16.1 hh, 60 gs; Actress, bay mare (7 years), 15.1 hh, 37 gs; Safeguard, grey gelding (rising 7 years), 15.3½ hh, 77gs; chestnut mare (5 years), 16 hh, 57 gs; chestnut mare (6 years), 15.3½ hh, 45 gs; Rattler, brown gelding (7 years), 16 hh, 32 gs; Engineer, brown gelding (aged), 16.1 hh, 30 gs; Cicero, ch. gelding (6 years), 16 hh, 120 gs; Punch, bay gelding (aged), 16 hh, 35 gs; bay mare (6 years), 16 hh, 60 gs.

Sale of Ewell Stud Hackneys.

On Tuesday Mr. Bainbridge brought under the hammer at Ewell, Surrey, some of Mr. W. Oppenheimer's famous hackneys, and though prices were, with two or three exceptions, not so good as could have been expected by the seller, the sale must be regarded as satisfactory when the season of the year and other drawbacks are taken into account. Twenty six of the Ewell hackneys were disposed of for an aggregate of 1,740 gs., which works out at an average per head of £70 5s. The pick of the sale was the brood mare Knowle Belinda, a five year old by His Majesty out of Garton Birthday, and for her there was keen competition between Sir Griffith Boynton and the representative of Miss Schintz. The latter, however, stayed the longest, and secured one of the finest hackney mares living for 600 gs. This was the top price of the sale, and no others came near it, for the next best for one of Mr. Oppenheim's lot—was £135, given by Mr. Benon for the harness horse Ewell Matchless. The other prices will be seen from the sale list appended. Some animals from Mr. R. C. Evans's stud were included in the catalogue, and these sold well, although Woodhatch Rameses, by Lord Ramsdale, dam B.B. Iris, was withdrawn at 140 gs. Mr. John Jones, of Colwyn Bay, secured the bay five and six year old own sisters by Leighton East Riding at 160 gs., whilst Mr. Blackman gave 60 gs. for the three-year-old bay gelding by Polonius out of Spring. The following is the sale list:

Property of Mr. W. Oppenheimer.

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

	Gs.
Speedwell, c., 15 h. 3in. 10 yrs.; s. Chocolate Junior — Mr. W. W. Bourne	49
Her Bay Colt Foal; s. Ewell Cranbrook 8464 — Mr. Jas. Wallis	20
Lady Cranbrook, b., 15 h. 2½ in., 15 years; s. All Fours 1241 .....Mr. Benson	55
Coris, c., 15 h. 2½ in., 10 years; s. His Majesty — Mr. J. Wallis	50
Her Bay Colt; s. Ewell Cranbrook .....Mr. Jas. Wallis	30
Hornfoot, c., 15 h. 1½ in., 9 years; s. Clifton II. 4689 — Mr. Oliver Kent	45
Her Chestnut Colt Foal; s. St. Thomas 7261 — Mr. Hamilton	36
Ala Girl, ch., 15 h. 3 in., 5 years; s. Conquest II. 5560 — Mr. Moore	52
Her Chestnut Colt Foal; s. His Majesty..Mr. Moore	43
Knowle Belinda, c., 16 h. 2 in., 5 years; s. His Majesty 2513 .....Miss Schintz	600

THREE-YEAR OLD FILLIES.

Ewell Topsy, Garton Duke of Connaught 3009 — Sir Griffith Boynton	34
Coryops's, ch.; s. Royal Danegelt 5785 — Sir G. Boynton	65
Coryopsis, ch.; s. Royal Danegelt 5785	
Ewell Marion, ch.; Garton Duke of Connaught — Sir G. Boynton	66

YEARLINGS.

Bay Filly; s. Sir Anace 5402 .....Mr. John Jones	25
Ala Force, c. colt; s His Majesty ....Mr. Oliver Kent	44
Bay Colt; s. Diplomatist 7043 .....Mr. Spurgeon	40

TWO-YEAR-OLD GELDINGS.

Brown Gelding; s. Lord Overton II. 6817 ..Mrs. Hunt	45
Cranbrook Pride; s. Chocolate Junior ..Mr. O. Kent	29
Bay Gelding; s. Chocolate Junior ..Mr. R. Anderson	31

HARNESS HORSES.

Rose Dor, c. 15 hands, 4 years; s. Rosador — Mr. W. W. Bourne	41
Bay Mare, 15 hands, 4 years; s. Caxton — Captain A. McLean	34
Athenian, br. g., 15 h. 1 in., 4 years; s. Lord Rainsdale .....Mr. P. Banks	80
Ewell Matchless, b. g., 15 h. 1½ in., 4 years; s. Lord Overston II. .....Mr. A. Benson	135
Ewell Swell, b. g., 15 h. 3 in., 3 years; s. Rosador — Mr. P. Banks	72

Property of Mr. R. P. Evans.

Chestnut foal, 4 years; s. Rosador .....Mr. Skelton	39
Bay Mare, 15 h. 3 in., 6 years; s. Leighton East Riding 1475; and her five-year-old sister — Mr. John Jones	160
Brown yearling colt; s. Garton Duke of Connaught — Mrs. Hunt	35
Bay Gelding, 3 years; s. Polonius .....Mr. Blackman	60

Shire Sale at Peterborough.

The autumn sale of pedigree Shire stallions, mares, fillies, and foals by Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck at their Peterborough repository, took place on Wednesday, when nearly 200 animals were catalogued, some very useful horses being entered, amongst others, by the Earl of Dysart, Lord Calthorp, and Sir Walter Gilbey. In connection with the sale Messrs. Sexton offered prizes amounting to £30 for mares and foals. In the colt foal class first prize went to Mr. E. B. Proctor, of Gosberton. Mr. W. Richardson supplied the winner in fillies. Mares were headed by Sir Walter Gilbey's old prize winner, Saxon Kitty, Mr. E. Gee's Elder Wallflower, another prize winner, being second. Saxon Kitty, a brood nine-year-old bay, was afterwards secured at auction by H.M. the King at 150 gs., the highest price of the sale. The other chief prices were as follows:—

Mr. R. Lenz's (Sheffords Bargeon, b. mare, foaled 1899, 54 guineas; Stondon Firststyle, filly, foaled 1903, 35; Stondon Heartsease, filly, foaled 1904, 49; Redlynch Cœur-de-Lion, stallion, foaled 1903, 43; Stondon Carnation, mare, foaled 1902, 62. Mr. A. T. Umfreville's (Hemel Hempstead) Constance of Hempstead, mare, foaled 1902, 30 guineas; Bonnie Brown, mare, foaled

1898, 37. Lord Calthorpe's Red Princess, mare, foaled 1896, 61 guineas; Elvetham Princess, filly, foaled 1903, 32; Elvetham Radiance, filly, foaled 1904, 43. Mr. J. Topham's (Thorney Park) Desford Daniel, mare, foaled 1900, 34 guineas; Thorney Beauty, mare, foaled 1900, 35; Desford Stylish, mare, foaled 1897, 32 Mr. F. W. Griffin's (Borough Fen) Hampton Violet, mare, foaled 1893, 35 guineas; Bluebell, filly, foaled 1904, 32. Mr. W. Richardson's (Doddington) Barrow Betty, mare, foaled 1896, 44 guineas; bay filly foal, s. Barrow Watnall Duke, 40; Normoor Liberty, mare, foaled 1900, 45; Lockinge Muscat, mare, foaled 1901, 54. Earl of Dysart (Grantham) Buckminster Daisy, mare, foaled 1901, 33 guineas. Mr. F. W. Horrell's (Thorney) Desford Alberta, mare, foaled 1894, 36 guineas; Mignonette, filly, foaled 1904, 45. Mr. C. W. Burt's (Spalding) Star Queen, mare, foaled 1901, 40 guineas. Exors. of Mr. A. Ransom's (Hitchin) bay filly foal, s. Hitchin Royal Duke, 38 guineas. Mr. J. Aldham's Ware Rosebud, filly, foaled 1903, 36 guineas; bay filly, foaled 1904, 36. Sir Walter Gilbey's Saxon Susan, filly, foaled 1903, 38 guineas; Saxon Blackbird, stallion, foaled 1902, 82; Saxon Hindlip, stallion, foaled 1898, 56; Saxon Eleanor, mare, foaled 1901, 41; Rokeby Lady Love, mare, foaled 1899, 40; Saxon Kitty, mare, foaled 1896, 150; Belladonna, mare, foaled 1893, 40. Mr. W. Oxney's (Newark) Tom of Bollam, colt, foaled 1904, 40 guineas. Mr. F. Palethorpe's (Market Deeping) Queenie, mare, foaled 1902, 68 guineas. Mr. E. Gee's (Thorney) Elder Bounce, mare, foaled 1902, 84 guineas. Mr. T. Gee's Ivy Blossom, mare, foaled 1900, 38 guineas; Wrydelands Pink, mare, foaled 1902, 35. Mr. J. W. Sanders's (Lutterworth) bay mare, foaled 1900, 53 guineas. Mr. C. E. Andrew's (Bourne) Bourne Snip, mare, foaled 1895, 34 guineas. Mr. E. P. Proctor's (Gosberton) brown colt foal, s. Barrow Boss, 47 guineas.

Notes and Jottings.

A remark that one often hears at Smithfield Club Shows made by foreign visitors in reference to sheep is, "You are as near as possible perfection in respect to your sheep so far as regards their mutton, but in respect to the fleece a vast improvement can yet be made with advantage."

This remark has been strikingly brought to the mind of the writer during the past month or two, during which he has spent a considerable amount of time in visiting flocks accompanied by breeders from abroad, mostly from South America.

It has been easy enough to find sheep, so far as conformation, type, and symmetry were concerned, suitable for their requirements, but the difficulty to find sheep with uniformity of fleece was a very great one.

The owners of flocks that are held in high repute were astonished at the care and trouble taken by the purchasers in examining the fleeces. It is therefore evident, from the actual experience of the writer, that there is room for considerable improvement in most of our breeds of sheep.

Wool prices have risen, and wool itself is no longer a drug in the market. Consequently it must be to the advantage of the flock-owner to purchase fleeces of the highest value. Such fleeces must be even and uniform.

The export buyer also requires sheep that produce such fleeces, and hence it is very apparent that one of the most important matters to be considered by a very large proportion of our flock-owners is the necessity of improvement in the evenness of their fleeces.

It is more than likely that many will say, "We have always been able to sell our wool, and also our sheep, with the fleeces that have usually grown." This is a fact which no one disputes. Experience, however, and practical knowledge prove conclusively that a better price would certainly be obtained for even and uniform fleeces than for those otherwise, and it is also certain, from the information that has been obtained from buyers of nearly every breed of sheep, that they would be able when selecting for export to pay higher prices than they do were the fleeces more even and more uniform. How should one set about making this desirable improvement is a question that naturally arises. The improvement certainly cannot be all accomplished at once. It must be gradual, and it will take in some cases a considerable time, in others not so long. The course of procedure, however, is the same i.e., strict and careful examination of all the fleeces of stud sheep, male and female, and the rigorous drafting out from all breeding flocks of all sheep whose fleeces do not come up to the required standard.

To commence, take out from 5 to 10 per cent. of the most even fleeces in the ewe flock, and be careful to mate them with a sire whose breeding and pedigree indicates at any rate a tendency to the production of an even fleece.

If this process were continued for a few years the improvement would be a marked one, and would assuredly be most profitable.

Unfortunately, many of the live stock breeders of this country are so wedded to old notions and old ideas that they will scarcely give a thought to fresh ones, or agree to adopt, or even test, the suggestions made by keen observers of other methods.

One object we have in view is to render to the flock-masters every information we can procure that may be of interest or of service to them. It is with this desire that the above-mentioned remarks have been made.

No one recognises more clearly than the writer the very close attention that many of our flock-masters pay to most minute details in connection with the management of their flock, but there are some who are not so careful. These notes, therefore, it is hoped, may cause them to take just a little more care in their selection of breeding sheep, and in the management of their flock in other important, although perhaps minor points in their estimation.

Last week mention was made of that disease so prevalent in some seasons, i.e., foot-rot, and the information received from many sources during the past week rather tends to emphasise the necessity of greater care being exercised by all who purchase sheep.

The trend of the information that has been received since our last notes were penned shows that there is more of this disease about than is generally supposed.

It is, however, very satisfactory to find that the efforts of the Board of Agriculture made during last autumn and spring in calling the attention of flock-masters to the method of prevention and curing these sheep by means of the foot-bath have borne fruit. The evidence of this is that we have found on many farms that we have visited foot-rot troughs, made upon a pattern similar to that which the Board of Agriculture supplied to certain flock-masters throughout the country, and that the dressing used in most cases was of the same character as that recommended by the Board of Agriculture.

Whether or not the Board received detailed reports from those to whom the foot-rot baths were sent we have not been informed, but whenever this information has been secured and summarised it must, we consider, be of considerable value to all those who are interested in the sheep industry; and when it comes to be published we trust that the conclusions arrived at will be of value, for there is no disease known among sheepmen that is more difficult to eradicate and control than is this particular disease.

The last mail from the Argentine brings us over some very interesting information in respect to the importations of sheep into that country during the month of August. Of the Lincoln breed four hundred and forty-four head were received, three hundred and twelve of these were Lincoln rams, and one hundred and thirty-two Lincoln ewes.

The second place, so far as numbers imported are concerned, is occupied by the Kent and Romney sheep. Of this breed there were forty head imported during that month, the largest number that we have any record of as being imported during that period.

Of the Shropshire breed thirty-seven rams and three ewes were imported.

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The Hampshire Down importation numbered twenty-seven ram lambs, and there were also imported during that month five Oxford Down yearling rams.

These large imports into the Argentine of British stud sheep are fully confirmed by the numerous sales and purchases that have been recorded in our columns from time to time.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Wensleydale Long Wool.

The annual show and sale of Wensleydale long-wool sheep, held under the auspices of the Wensleydale Long-Wool Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society, took place on Tuesday, and despite the inclement weather there was a large attendance, and the event was a successful one. The display was a remarkably fine one, and the competition extremely keen. The judges' awards were:—

Aged Ram: 1, E. Horseman, Richmond, sold to Mr. R. Bainbridge for £12; 2, B. J. Hodgson, Hallwith, sold to Mr. R. Wood, Ellington, for £6. Five Shearling Rams: 1 and Alderman D'Arcy Wyvill's cup: E. Horseman, the best price, £12 15s., being given by Mr. B. King; 2, E. K. Cleasby, Carlton Miniott, £15, paid by Mr. J. B. Stubbs. Shearling Ram: 1, E. K. Cleasby, sold to Colonel I'Anson, Howe Park, £7; 2 and 3, E. Horseman. Ram Lamb: 1, J. W. Greensit, Holme-on-Swale, sold to Mr. Stubbs, Baldersby, £12; 2, E. Horseman, sold to Mr. Bainbridge for £8; 3, E. K. Cleasby, sold to Mr. Sherwin, Caythorpe, £8 7s. 6d. Pen of 5 Shearling Ewes: E. Horseman. Three Ewe Lambs: 1, F. E. O. Dobson, Dromonby House, Stokesley; 2, E. Horseman.

Subsequently 150 lots were offered for sale by Mr. W. Graves, the majority of which changed hands at remunerative prices, amongst them three rams at £7 5s., £6 2s. 6d., and £7 2s. 6d.; while a ram lamb was sold for £8 5s., another at £5 10s., and others at £4 17s. 6d., and £3 10s.

The Late Mr. W. Staples' Suffolks.

One of the oldest established flocks of Suffolk sheep was brought under the hammer in the dispersal of the late Mr. Whiting Staples's farm stock at Moulton Hall, on Monday, Messrs. Biddell and Blencowe conducing the sale. Of seventy-five shearling ewes, one score went up to 60s., another fetched 65s. 6d., one 65s., and the other fifteen realised 64s. per head. Of sixty-six two-shear ewes, one lot made up to 69s. 6d., and others from 66s. 6d. to 60s. 6d. per head. Amongst 105 full-mouthed ewes, one score went up to 64s., another 57s.; others from 55s. 6d. to 50s. 6d., and some 50s. per head. Of 120 picked ewe lambs, the best forty fetched 47s. per head, and others from 42s. to 37s. per head. One lot of thirty-one mixed (seventeen ewes and fourteen wethers), sold at 30s. 6d. per head. ve ram lambs included one which fetched £3 10s., another £3 7s. 6d., one £3 5s., another £3, and one £2 17s. 6d.; whilst a shearling ram fetched £5 5s., and another £3.

Ripon.

Ripon October sheep fair was held on Thursday, when there was a good show of sheep of all classes, but only a slow trade. Twice-crossed lambs made 25s. to 30s., half-bred ewes, 34s. to 35s.; half-bred shearlings, 42s. to 45s.; sheep for breeding purposes, 46s.; half-bred lambs, 20s. to 24s. Small show of rams. Wensleydale, etc., averaging £3 to £5 per head.

Strood.

Messrs Cobb's annual ram and sheep sale at Strood, Kent, took place on Friday last, when the entry was smaller than usual, but about three thousand four hundred were penned, being consigned by the principal flock-owners of the neighbourhood.

The demand for feeding sheep was hardly so keen as it has been earlier in the season, but a clearance was effected. The demand for breeding ewes of the best class was a good one, and prices were satisfactory, and so far as this section of the sale was concerned, it was fully an average one. The demand for the registered Kent or Romney Marsh sheep was a notable one. Forty from Mr. F. Baker's well-known flock were first offered, and the competition for them was keen at satisfactory prices, the best being £18, £13, £12 10s., £11 10s., £11, and £10 10s. The average was £10 12s. 9d., as against £9 4s. 11d. for fifteen last year. Mr. C. J. G. Hulkes sent twenty yearling rams, which sold up to £13 10s., the average for twenty being £7 4s. 6d.

A stud ram bred by Mr. F. Neame was sold for £8 10s., and Messrs. Tuff and Miskin sold seven two and three-year-old rams, which made from £11, and averaged £6 18s. The Hampshire Down ram lambs from Mr. Hohler's flock made £5 15s., £5 5s., and £4 10s. (twice).

THE DAIRY SHOW.

Once more the annual show of the British Dairy Farmers' Association has brought together its collection of various breeds and crosses devoted to milk and butter production, as apart from beef. To compare the present show with some of the earlier exhibitions of the Society, there is certainly a vast difference in many of the cattle shown, and there is no doubt that some of the breeds compare very indifferently with their representatives of the past. How the results of the milk weighing and butter produced would compare cannot be known without considerable back reference. The Shorthorns, that worthily take precedence of all other breeds, it cannot be said have improved much as regards appearance during the twenty years the shows have been going on. In the beginning of the series there were many high-class cattle of this breed shown, high-class both as respects their abilities to produce meat and the appearance of their udders for milk-giving. To-day the tendency, it must be admitted, is rather to depreciate the beef-making propensities, and with more plainness of symmetry than was formerly the case. It may, however, be mentioned that there have been many cows exhibited at local shows in the north that would compare very favourably with the bulk of the representatives of this breed at the Agricultural Hall, and there is no question that the Lincoln Red portion of the Shorthorn were much better comparatively than the red, white, and roans, though the highest honours were accorded to the latter class in several cases. The Lincoln Red heifers were especially good

The next most important dairy breed at Islington were that of the Jerseys, home-bred and from their native island. The show of these were again fairly good, but many breeders do not class them as at all superior, if equal, to many former displays. Faults in the majority of them were far too prominently visible —with one good animal you saw an udder with teats far too small to be at all satisfactory either for those who have to milk them or for the animal or for the owner, for such failings or weaknesses invariably end in either drying up of the milk, often in the loss of one or more quarters at an early age, besides taking considerably more time to draw the milk from them. With another cow we found a large udder that is unfortunately nearly as large after milking as before; this, too, is a fault that is not without bad results at times. Then as regards the cows themselves, several of the leading animals were very bulky and coarse about their heads and throats, showing a lack of fine breeding; others were high at tail and low in the back, which did not give a pleasing outline. Notwithstanding these complaints, there were several cows that look like giving very good results at the pail, that show quite sufficient quality, and with good shape both in their bodies and udders.

Guernseys were not a large show, and several of them were rather badly done by as regards condition. The breed generally does not do itself justice in the milk and butter tests at our shows. And it is probably on this account that fewer of this breed are shown. The prize winners, both in the cow and heifer class were very rich in coulouring, and had the appearance of doing well at home, whatever the weighing machine and separators at the Agricultural Hall may have to say to them.

Red Polls were certainly in the ascendant as regards their quality and milking appearance, when compared with, perhaps it may be said, any previous show, and in numbers they were well represented, considering the few herds there are of the breed, from which exhibits are generally made.

Ayrshires are a breed that is very difficult to understand, and one of the breeds that, so far as the Dairy Show is concerned, have deteriorated to an incredible extent. At the earlier Shows of the Society this breed contributed some, indeed many, magnificent specimens, both in breeding and udders, as well as with the reckoning of the pail and the churn. This year only two animals were exhibited, and though very useful ones apparently, were not of the surpassing excellence that characterised their predecessors at these shows by a long way.

Kerries were a good show, several very typical animals of the breed being shown, and they gave a very fair record at the pail and the churn, all things considered. Their quality was generally good and their milk appearance, too. Dexters, the sister breed were conspicuous by an entire blank. Why this should be is also difficult to understand, as during the summer shows the display of milk in the Dexter classes was quite astonishing.

The other breed section brought to view a number of quite extraordinary animals. The large South Devon Cattle had three or four very able representatives. Grand cows both for size and milk appearance; how they are as consumers is not told. Alongside these grand cows were three or four very much of Shorthorn blood that were also quite of the very best standard.

Shorthorns.

Probably for the first time, the pedigree class of cows of this breed gave results fully equal to the herd pedigree as regards the milking trials. The same pedigree has for some time past been quite at the front in these records. This year, however, the registered stock have come out very creditably all round. By inspection Lord Rothschild's Broadhooks 3rd, by Invaluable, was placed first, and was also second in the milking competition, her yield of that product being 60.9 lb., on Wednesday, and 59.4 on Thursday. This cow carries a fair amount of flesh, and is in good shape and quality. Mr. George Taylor's Melody, by Horsted Duke 6th, was placed second by inspection, and came first in the milking trials, and also won the Spencer Challenge Cup; her yield of milk was 58.5 on Wednesday and 53.7 on Thursday. In non-pedigree cows Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Ruth, a very fine style of cow was first by inspection; in milk, however, she was beaten by Mr. Sheppy's Model Lily, by an unknown sire, who gave 56.9 lb. of milk on Wednesday and 59.7 lb. on Thursday, from which she also made sufficient butter to win first prize in that test and, her yield of this laatr product being 2 lb. 13 oz., giving a butter ratio of 20.22. These good results in point of quality gave her the greatest number of points, securing to her the Barham Challenge Cup. This cow was very fresh, having calved as recently as September 12; her quality is very good as well as symmetry, showing good breeding as well—quite what a good Shorthorn should be. Mr. John Evens's Burton Cross 2nd, a Lincoln Red, was awarded second by inspection, and also second in the milking trials, her yield being 56.3 on Wednesday and 58.1 on Thursday; she is a remarkably fine cow of her breed, and a capital user all round. In Shorthorn heifers Mr. George Taylor's Strawberry Leaf, who did rather badly by inspection, was first for milk with a record of 33.9 the first day and 34.4 the second. For inspection judging, this class could not be looked upon as at all a really first-class one, but Shorthorn heifers not eligible for the herd-book were a very good lot, as Mr. John Evens had entered three Lincoln Reds, two of which were extraordinarily good heifers; one of these was h.c. by inspection and first in the milking trials, giving the capital yield of 31.3 the first day and 30.3 on the second day, after being in milk since July 10. The remaining two heifers were first and second in the class by inspection. Shorthorn bulls were not by any means a big or extra good show; three only were competing, of which Mr. H. J. S. Tory's Damory Matchmaker, a short-legged roan of the Gloucestershire Hobbs blood, was first. Lord Rothschild also exhibited the good old stock bull from Tring Magna Charta, who was second—quite a dairy stamp of bull.

Jerseys.

As already mentioned, these did not give cause for universal satisfaction so far as inspection was concerned, and the butter test must be somewhat similarly spoken of, half the eighteen cows tested for butter requiring a ratio of over 20 lb milk to make a pound of butter, and several very small yields were recorded. Dr. Watney's famous cow Red Maple won the gold medal with a butter yield of 2 lb. 5¾ oz., having been in milk since April 21. Admiral Brand's Rosina came second with 2 lb. 7¼ oz. of butter, losing a few points, however, in other respects, and the Bishop of Ipswich's Oxford Dewdrop was third with 2 lb. 2¼ oz. Red Maple also carried off the first milking prize to Pangbourne, giving 43.3 the first day, and 44.9 the second. Admiral Brand's Rosina was second, as she was in the butter test, with 40.1 and 41 lb. of milk in the two days. By inspection, Lord Rothschild, Mr. J. H. Smith Barry, and Lady de Rothschild won the prizes with very nice cows that have been winning at many of the summer shows, and were still looking very fit. Earl Cadogan and the Bishop of Ipswich were well representated in the English-bred heifers class, the former winning the Blythwood Bowl for best English-bred animal in milk. Island-bred heifers were not heifers placed first and second. Mrs. S. de Vincq had a couple of highly bred and good-bagged heifers placed first and second: Mrs. S. de Vicq had also three or four very good heifers which gave little interest to the class.

Guernseys.

Mr. E. A. Hambro had the best of these, both in the cow and heifer classes, by inspection Mr. Ozanne winning the first milking prize with the rich and milky old cow Lady Roberts, who gave 37.3 and 34.7 lb. of milk for the two days respectively. Mr. Hambro's heifers were pretty easily first for inspection and for butter. Mr. Ozanne's Lady Roberts was also first with a yield of 1.12¼ lb.

Red Polls.

These came out pretty well in the milking trials, and also for butter. By inspection Sir Walter Corbett was second, following Lord Rothschild, and in the milking trials Sir Walter Corbett was first with Desired of Johnston, who gave 50 and 46.2 of milk on the Wednesday and Thursday. Mr. Martin Sutton's second prize in the milk competition, Plessy, also turned out extremely well, giving over 52 lb. each day. Mr. Baxendale's Red Polled heifer also yielded 1.14¾ lb. butter, which was very satisfactory.

Other Breeds.

Ayrshires did not appear to obtain any milking prizes, and in Kerries the Countess De la Warr was first with Buckhurst Peaceful, her yield being 38.7 and 39.6 lb. for the two days. In butter Lady Greenall's Walton Joyous, after being in milk 149 days, yielded 1 lb. 1¼ oz. In the cross-bred class Mr. Nisbet's Polly gave a very good account of herself in milk with 51.7 and 57.2 lb., and took second prize, being beaten for the first place by that extraordinary old cow of Captain Smith Neill's, Doctor, who at twenty-four years old gave no less than 52.1 and 49.6 of milk on the two days, her butter yield for one day being 2 lb. 4½ oz., a ratio of 22.82, and after being in milk since May 20. These conclude the chief winners of each section.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Cheese—Cheddar.

What a gathering there is brought together under the clock as each year the Dairy Show comes round to witness the good old battle of the English and Scotch Cheddars fought out with the greatest good will on the friendly ground of rivalry. Year by year there is a see-saw business, one is up the other down, seldom an even balance being maintained with such. Much, of course, depends on the judge which side possesses the stongest has, of course, the best chance, but this year the two finest Cheddar cheese judges possible were pitted against each other. One was the noted Professor Drummond from Scotland, the other Mr. C. H. White, Frome, and, under such circumstances, the judging was bound to be of the best. It was very certain by dinner-time that the English judge was ill at ease. He was making a gallant fight on poor material. Whereas the Scotchman had something specially prepared for the occasion.

The West of England cheesemakers have experienced a good year, and with prices up there has not been the desire to hold for the London market. With numerous shows the makes have diminished by five cwt. and half-ton lots until many makers had only the August draft from which to make their selections. This at once placed them at a great disadvantage, and their judge had to acknowledge the excellence of the Scotch makers in all but one class, and that was where he hung out for the Frome champion. Here he would not yield an inch to his adversary, and at a rather late hour the umpire, Mr. Masters, was called in and upheld the Somerset cheese's dignity from being lowered at coming up to London.

Taking the class for four Cheddars, there were seventy entries, and scarcely a really weak cheese was found amongst them. On the other hand, the highest excellence was in a narrow compass at the top. The first prize went to Mr. Henry White, Mappowder, Blandford, Dorset, with a very clean, rather open-textured cheese, sweet as a nut, and likely to improve week by week until the year is out. It showed quality everywhere. Mr. Robert Stevenson sent a very fine cheese down from Scotland to meet it. The texture was firmer, but it had not quite that bright appearance that Southern epicures require. It was a very kindly cheese, showing more mellowness than is usually characteristic of the Scotch exhibits in general. Mr. Stevenson was closely rubbed by Mr. Alexander Cross, Knockdon Farm, Ayrshire. Then the barren honours came in to console the West Countrymen. Mr. T. C. Candy, of Dorset fame, was given fifth and reserve with his slow ripening cheese that needed age; and his former pupil, Mr. F. W. J. Crocket, from the same county, got a commended card for the same principle of making a bit firm with quality. Mr. H. Travers, who was well in the prize-list at Frome, could not get higher than highly commended, Messrs. James and Thomas Wither sharing this honour with him with cheese made in the North Country. Mr. Walter Keel,

Somerset, whose name is generally intimately associated with old Cheddars, was now highly commended with four that were scarcely five weeks old. The commended cards all went to Somerset. At one time the Cheddar truckle class was considered to be a monopoly for the Somerset and Wilts makers, but now the canny makers from the North have so well mastered the mystery of their make that they came down this year with such force as to upset the equanimity of that well-known maker, Mrs. Candy, Shepton Mallet. Instead of leading the class with her cheese rich and silky, she found herself led by Mr. Robert Stevenson's exhibit, that was a trifle hard, more of the export than the immediate consumption type. Mr. Alexander Cross was third with another sound cheese, and mainly because of their firmness the reserve and highly commended card also went North, with Mr. William Hunter, an unique experience for Scotland in this class, but there was the satisfaction that the cheese won on their merits. But it was rather a question whether this would have been so had not Mr. Walter Keels', Somerset, exhibit showed such evident traces of being forced; being naturally rich, this had loosened their texture very much.

Other Makes.

The Stilton class showed up better than for many years past as regards moulding, though in several instances the flavours were not what they should be. It was a very fine Stilton indeed sent by Mr. William Miller, Plungar, Notts. It was clean in the white, was nicely moulded, and had a rich, most agreeable flavour, though he was run very close by Mr. Henry Morris's exhibit, one of whose cheeses was not quite even with the others; but a class of 25 entries was very representative of a local make that should be more widely distributed. The Wensleydales made a small class, not of the highest average of merit. Mr. A. Harker sent a very pleasant cheese from Carperby that was very rich, and yet not too soft to stand travel.

If there was general merit anywhere it was in the Cheshire class. The soft buttery short curd of good flavour is in increasing request. Mr. Frank Heath, Tarporley, sent one of very clean flavour, and likely to make an ideal old Cheshire. A very close runner was Mr. Samuel Lea, Oswestry, but some critics thought there was a trifle brackish taste to one of his cheeses, but in other respects they were nearly on a par with the first, and then came a very even run of merit right down to the commended, there being three very highly commended, practically half of the class being noticed.

The Double Gloster has in recent years become to be considered as one of the decadent makes, whose appearance in the prize schedule is steadily working onwards to oblivion. But by a singular coincidence, and nearly by unanimous general consent, the Double Glosters furnished one of the best cheese in the show, this being sent up by Messrs. C. Harris and Son, Slimbridge, Glos.; it ironed as though it was a rich old Cheddar as to quality, and was of a particularly fine flavour. The second prize lot was considerably lacking in this respect. The reserve went to more of a Cheshire character. The Single Gloster class was small in numbers, and decidedly deficient in quality. Messrs. Harris was again to the fore, but it could have been all the better for the use of a little sour whey. The second prize went to cheese that were very irregular in appearance.

Leicesters, year by year, are just able to keep themselves in the schedule, though it is very significant this year that none of the exhibitors were from the county that gave this make a name, and it was therefore an encouragement to find the first prize going to the Warwickshire County Council Dairy School, Nuneaton. Caerphillies were disappointing after all the headway that this make has been supposed to make, and the specimens as shown were a considerable departure from the original colliers' cheese. After getting away from the sourish, porous curd and tough skins of the real Welsh make they became miniature Cheddars, and now the desire is to make them an enlarged semi-cream cheese, and were pleased to note that the judge did afford much encouragement to this comparative recent introduction of creaming. The first and second prizes went to a rather close curd, but which was alike rich and clean in flavour, and in all probability Mr. Geo. Hawking would have been higher up with his more open, nice curd, but had an indifferent outside appearance, being badly cracked. The reserve exhibit had a rather harsh flavour. In this class was one exhibit that had been kept too long, as it had become quite hard in the skin. A class that does not make much headway at the Dairy Show, especially as regards quality, is that for cream cheese. There is seemingly no exact rule by which the period of ripeness can be properly estimated, thus we have a class of about equal proportion over and under ripes. The first prize lots were very even, and just fit for consumption.

The Gervais class is looked upon as the thin edge of the Continental wedge of soft makes, but it does not drive very fast apart from one or two real cheese, the others were practically curd paste. It would be hard which to describe as the greatest failure, the unripened or the ripened soft cheese classes. Both of this can only be written by courtesy as indifferent. It would appear that better results might be obtained in the improvement of recognised makes than by venturing on the introduction of makes the general public knows nothing at all about.

The cheese fair for Cheddars and Stiltons is always a popular feature of the Dairy Show, and it was here, in the Cheddar section, that the Scotchmen brought down their weight and scored, as they only left fifth for Mr. T. C. Candy and reserve for Mr. H. Travers. This class contained a very considerable quantity of young, unmatured cheese. The Stilton fair class was a very small one, but it here gave Mr. Henry Morris to be placed first and second with some excellent specimens.

Butter.

Year by year the butter competitions attain more and more importance, but, being divided up into sections, the visitor has not been properly impressed as to their importance this year, however; and endeavour was made to bring all the butters together in St. Mary's Hall, and it was well that such was done, though it was rather to be regretted that the show of fancy butter was dispossessed of its former position in the Central Hall, where it most decidedly showed to advantage. The butter section this year was greatly strengthened by the Colonial exhibits, which were of such uniformity as could not fail to impress the English exhibitors where classes were singularly deficient in this essential requirement of the modern butter market. The Irish exhibits also showed that the instruction so freely offered in that country is being appreciated. The fresh butter classes were remarkable for the success that attended the four Devonshire lady exhibitors. It was also noticeable that very little was done by the judges, either as to cutting the butters or tasting them; some were only just touched on the corner, and this may account for the fact that one of the chief honours was bestowed on decidedly sour butter, and which should render a tasting stall for the butter quite as much as in the cheese section. The class for butter made from Channel Island cattle and their crosses, without salt, meant a rather extended trio of firsts, the first going to Miss M. K. Harris, Dorset, with a butter better in the flavour than the grain. Mr. Arthur Franklin, Chesham, Bucks, had butter that cut as solid as wax, but the flavour was not there. Mr. Frank Ward was also to the fore with a very fine Devonshire butter beautifully worked.

The winners of the other prizes included some of the best names in the butter world. The class for butter made from the same breeds of cattle with the addition of salt brought out a much better class, especially as regards flavour. Mrs. Mildon was twice first with fine flavoured butter, slightly loose as regards texture. Mrs. Ward's was again very rich and beautifully made. Mr. Roland Wood sent up an extremely nice butter for the secondary set of honours; Mr. Franklin being also amongst them, as was also Mrs Irving, Carlisle. It was noticeable that there was a very considerable number of dark-coloured butters in this class, and some of it showed signs of being overworked. The class for butter made from Shorthorn cattle without salt produced a number of very sweet butters, a number of which were pale. The general texture was good, though some of the rolls cut hollow. The prizes in this class were not so widely distributed, two of the firsts going to Devon with Mrs. Mildon and Mrs. Bere; Mrs. Alfred Loder, Harpenden, taking the other with a nice, bright, clear butter. The connection between firsts and seconds were very close, but afterwards the award list was more widely spread out. As with the Channel Island class, the addition of salt brought forth a very great improvement, the flavour being more sharply defined. Mr. Underwood continued to maintain his superiority; Mrs. George Adlam, Somerset, getting into the higher grade in the good company of Mrs. Ward. The class for butter made from scalded cream gave Devon a chance to utilise the cream, which it did, Mrs. Frank Ward taking the lead, with Mrs. Bere and Mrs. Mildon second and third. These were three of the best butters in the show. This class contained the rather unique feature of a sanitorium making an exhibit, and which secured a highly commended mention. The essentially Irish class for boxes of rolls, packages to be taken into consideration, found two English exhibitors in front, these being Mr. Robert Sandford, of Devon, and Mr. Prideaux, Dorset. It was a good class, more of a general even quality rather than an excess of merit. In the class for mild cured butter Devon won again with its rich sweet butter, then the Irish co-operative societies held their own, but here there were exhibits that were decidedly off flavour. As there was in the next class for cured butter, here the first prize was secured for the Isle of Wight by Sir Charles Seely, Bart. Here again, apart from the prize winners, were a number of exhibits that were evidently more intended for market than for show. There was a big entry in the other cured class. The most noticeable feature in connection with these Irish classes was the general improvement as regards packing.

The fancy butter classes were not large, and there was not much departure from the old time-honoured registered designs. Surely the time has arrived when something alike novel and effective might be introduced without the inevitable pointed butter pat joined to a rose leaf; bearded wheat looks very nice, because the awn is on the top of a small grain that shows somewhat loosely in the ear, whereas that same awn stuck into a moulded bit of butter is not so effective. There were only two exhibits with extraneous foliage, that well-known winner, Miss Trenchard, of Devon, whose prize cards exceed a hundred, being the winner. There was a rather larger entry in the class without extraneous decoration, and here nearly childlike efforts were visible. Miss Trenchard won with some exquisite dahlias.

The class for Colonial butters most certainly furnished an eye-opener to the English farmers by reason of the evenness of the grade, though made by rival factories, the prize-winning exhibit of the Grasmere Butter Factory Company being very fine—the butter was well made and of delicious flavour. The average English exhibitor has not hitherto had the chance to become intimate with the quality of these makes of our cousins beyond the seas. But where was Canada? Surely, progressive as she is, should have been represented. The cream classes, as usual, showed this, welcome addition to any tea table in the most absurd utensils both for carriage and use imaginable. An ornamental dish may be all right at home, but for transit by parcel post or rail, frailties are not required.

Cream.

The clotted cream contained some splendid exhibits that cut nearly as solid as butter, and yet withal were cream. To look at these reminded one of the blackberry bush and the junket. Devonshire was an easy winner here. The class for cream other than clotted was not so good, some of the exhibits being thin and some even bitter, and there is evidently considerable doubt in the minds of the exhibitors as to whether the cream should be compressed or pourable. Some of the creams were very weak indeed.

Bacon and Hams.

There was a fairly large show of bacon and hams, but most of the prizes were awarded to well-known curers in various parts of the country. The awards do not call for special mention, a full list being printed on another page.

Judges.

MILKING TRIALS: Wm. Ashcroft, 13, The Waldrons, Croydon; Samuel R. Whitley, Little Westlands, Lingfield, Surrey; and F. J. Lloyd, Muscovy House, 6, Trinity Square, E.C.

BUTTER TESTS: Charles Marshall, Broomhaugh, Riding-Mill-on-Tyne; and Joseph Carson, Crystalbrook, Theydon Bois, Essex (representing the English Jersey Cattle Society).

CATTLE.—Shorthorns: C. E. Wodehouse, Woolmers Park, Hertford. Jerseys: John A. Perree, 8, Church Street, Jersey. Guernseys: J. C. Forster, Clatford Mills, Andover. Kerries and Dexters: H. D. Betteridge, Drayton, Woodstock Road, Summertown, Oxford. Ayrshires, Red Polls, and Crossed or Mixed Breeds: Garrett Taylor, Trowse House, Norwich.

GOATS: W. K. Taunton, 86, Hatton Garden, London, E.C.

CHEESE.—Cheddar: C. H. White (Messrs. White Bros.), Frome; and Professor R. J. Drummond, Dairy School, Kilmarnock. Cheshire and Leicester: H. J. Fish, Whitchurch, Salop. Stilton and Wensleydale: J. M. Oubridge, 18, Pudding Chase, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Gloucester and Caerphilly: W. G. Oakey (Messrs. Spear Bros. and Clark, Ltd.); Bristol. Soft Cheese: Miss Martha Brown, Lancashire County Council Farm, Hutton, near Preston.

COLLECTIONS OF DAIRY PRODUCE: Professor James Long, Chdworth Manor, Newdigate, Surrey.

BACON AND HAMS: J. M. Oubridge, 18, Pudding Chase, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BUTTER: H. Griffiths, 65, Eardley Crescent, Earl's Court, S.W.; A. T. Loram, The Creamery, Rosamondford, Aylesbeare, near Exeter; Henry Masters, 11, South Hill, Park Gardens, Hampstead, N.W.; and George A. Scott Messrs. Burton, Son, and Sanders, Ltd.), College Street, Ipswich.

ORNAMENTAL BUTTER AND CREAM: Miss Martha Brown, Lancashire County Council Farm, Hutton, near Preston.

PRIZE LIST.

COWS AND HEIFERS IN MILK

Class 1.-Shorthorn cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Lord Rothschild (Broadhooks 3rd); 2, G. Taylor (Melody); 3, Lord Rothschild (Snowdrop 29th); r., William Nisbet, Bendysh Hall, Radwinter, Essex (Maggie Millicent); h.c., Lord Rothschild (Primrose); c., A. B. and W. G. Little, Paxcroft Farm, Trowbridge (Cira's Daisy).

Class 2.-Shorthorn cows, not eligible for Class 1: 1, F. J. Stanhope (Ruth); 2, John Evens, Burton, near Lincoln (Burton Cross II.); 3, J. F. Spencer, Hornsey Lane Farm, Highgate (Morning Maid); r., John Evens (Burton Fleet II.); h.c., J. F. Spencer (Sweet Marie); Robert W. Hobbs, Kelmscott, Lechlade (Snowdrop 20th); John Littleton (Rose); F. J. Stanhope (Rose); c., Robert W. Hobbs (Rose 26th).

Class 3.-Shorthorn heifer, not exceeding three years,

entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Robert W. Hobbs (Lovely 37th); 2, J. P. Cross, Catthorpe Towers, Rugby (Catthorpe Princess 2nd); r., J. P. Cross (Catthorpe Star 3rd); h.c., Lord Rothschild (Opal); c., C. R. W. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge (Lady Evelyn Bates); George Taylor (Strawberry Leaf).

Class 4.—Shorthorn heifer, not exceeding three years, not eligible for Class 3: 1 and 2, John Evens (Burton Rose V. and Violet II.); h.c., John Evens (Burton Dolly III.); F. J. Stanhope (Rhoda).

The "Blythwood" Challenge Bowl, for the best Jersey cow or heifer, in milk, in any of the Jersey classes, bred in Great Britain or Ireland; to be awarded by inspection; Earl Cadogan (Garantir 15th); r., Bishop of Ipswich (Lady Teasel).

Class 5.—Jersey cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Lord Rothschild (Syren 3rd); 2, J. H. Smith-Barry, Stowell Park, Pewsey, Wilts (Nellie Beresford); 3, Lady de Rothschild (Whitewood V.); r. and v.h.c., Bishop of Ipswich (Lady Teasel); h.c., T. Butt Miller (Hamley's Dawish); Mrs. Watson-Kennedy (Majorca); Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Reindeer's Bessie).

Class 6.—Jersey heifer, not exceeding three years, bred in Great Britain or Ireland: 1, Earl Cadogan, K.G. (Garantir 15th); 2, Bishop of Ipswich (Pearl Maiden); 3, Lady de Rothschild (Pearl II.); r. and v.h.c., C. A. Smith-Ryland (Havering Gloriesa 4th); h.c., Joseph Brutton (Our Lassie); Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand (Lottie).

Class 7.—Jersey heifer, not exceeding three years, bred in the Channel Islands, entered in or eligible for the Jersey or English Jersey Herd Book: 1 and 2, William Alexander (Farceuse 4th and Emma May 2nd); 3 and r., Mrs. S. de Vicq (Feronia and Eupidee's Lady); h.c., Captain L. G. Gisborne (Pearl 5th); Philip Le Brocq (Villeau Basbelle II.).

Class 8.—Guernsey cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, E. A. Hambro (Queen of the Roses); 2 and r., H. M. Ozanne (Lady Rosedale and Lady Roberts); v.h.c., E. A. Hambro (Daisy Des Jaonnets); h.c., H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (Rosey 4th).

Class 9.—Guernsey heifer, not exceeding three years, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1 and 2, E. A. Hambro (Hayes Olive and Hayes Golden Cherry); r., E. A. Hambro (Hayes Express); v.h.c., H. M. Ozanne (Second of May); h.c., H. Fitzwalter Plumptre (Antona 12th); c., Frank Hargreaves (Merton Vespasia 2nd).

Class 10.—Red Polled cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Lord Rothschild (Janet); 2, Sir Walter Corbet, Bart. (Shamrock); 3, Kenneth M. Clark (Sudbourne Comely Belle); r. and h.c., Sir Walter Corbet, Bart. (Desiree of Johnston); h.c., Lord Rothschild (Clarissa and Atalanta); Martin J. Sutton (Plessy); c., Kenneth M. Clark (Sudbourne Lute); Francis H. Baxendale, J.P. (Rapid).

Class 11.—Red Polled heifer, not exceeding three years, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1 and 2, Kenneth M. Clark (Rendlesham Flit and Sudbourne Brisk); r. and h.c., Lord Rothschild (Troston Davy 5th); h.c., Kenneth M. Clark (Sudbourne Lady).

Class 12.—Ayrshire cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, William Nisbet (White Fraser of Dalfibble); r., William Nisbet (Dalfibble Daisy Bell).

Class 13.—Kerry cows, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Geo. Llewellen Palmer (Molly Dhubh); 2, Duchess of Newcastle (Hardwick Flora); 3, Countess De La Warr, (Buckhurst Gem); r. and v.h.c., T. Waite (La Mancha Queen); h.c., Countess De La Warr (Buckhurst Peaceful); Lady Greenall (Walton Joyous).

Class 14.—Dexter cows: No award.

Class 15.—Cows not eligible to compete in the preceding classes: Equal firsts, T. Cundy (Primrose) and W. Nisbet (Polly); equal seconds, W. P. Vosper (Sally 2nd) and F. J. Stanhope (Polly); equal reserves, T. Cundy (Sweet Briar) and D. Kelly (Yellow Girl); h.c., W. P. Vosper (Tulip 2nd) and W. Nisbet (Beauty); c., J. Littleton (Norah) and J. Sheppey (Blue Bell).

Class 16.—Heifers, not exceeding three years, not eligible to compete in previous classes: 1, John Evens (Darkie); r., William Nisbet (Nancy).

BULLS.

Class 17.—Shorthorn bull, twelve months old or over, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Henry J. S. Tory, Damory Court, Blandford (Damory Matchmaker); 2, Lord Rothschild (Magna Charta); r., A. B. and W. G. Little (Red Rover 3rd).

Class 18.—Jersey bull, above one year and not exceeding three years, entered in or eligible for the Herd Book: 1, Captain L. G. Gisborne (Theresa's King); 2, Bishop of Ipswich (Violet's Lad); 3, L. Currie (Twylish King); r., Admiral the Hon. T. S. Brand (Yeoman); h.c., W. J. Alexander, Hertford (King Henry).

Class 19.—Bull of any other pure breed, twelve months old or over: 1 and silver medal, Frank Hargreaves, Merton Grange, Gamlingay, Cambs. (Merton Dairyman); r., E. A. Hambro (Hayes Royal).

GOATS.

Class 21.—Goats of any variety that have won three or more first prizes in classes other than kids or goatlings, on or before September 3, 1905: 1, B. Ravenscroft (Woodruffe); r., Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Sparaxie).

Class 22.—Pure Toggenburg or other Swiss or Alpine breeds, not eligible for class 21, over two years on October 1, 1905: 1, Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Faith); 2, Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Melba); 3, A. E. Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Kimberley); r., Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Capella); h.c., Herbert E. Hughes (Cream Queen).

Class 23.—Horned she goats, not eligible for classes 21 or 22, over two years on October 1, 1905: 1, Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Heliotrope); 2, Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Daphne); 3, B. Ravenscroft (Sedgemere Sunbeam); r., Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Gypsophila); h.c., B. Ravenscroft (Sedgemere Louise).

Class 24.—Hornless she-goats, not eligible for classes 21 or 22, over two years on October 1, 1905: 1, Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Montbretia); 2, Herbert E. Hughes (She); 3, B. Ravenscroft (Diamond Queen II.); r., Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Asperula); h.c., B. Ravenscroft (Rosella).

Class 25.—Goatlings, any variety, over twelve months and not over two years on October 1, 1905: 1, Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Sunset); 2, Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Sunrise); 3, B. Ravenscroft (Bricket Tatters); r., Baroness Burdett-Coutts (Trifolium); h.c., B. Ravenscroft (Bricket Satinetta).

Class 26.—Female kids, any variety, not exceeding twelve months of age on October 1, 1905: 1, B. Ravenscroft (Bricket McQueen); 2, B. Ravenscroft (Bricket Pretty Polly); 3, Herbert E. Hughes (Broxbourne Venus); r., B. Ravenscroft (Bricket Janet); v.h.c., Sam Woodiwiss (Sedgemere Bellissima); h.c., Herbert E. Hughes (Broxbourne Verve).

CHEESE.

Class 27.—Cheddar, four cheeses: 1, Henry White, Sharnwood Dairy, Mappowder, Blandford; 2, Robt. Stevenson, Boghead, Galston, Ayrshire; 3, Alex. Cross, Knockdon Farm, Maybole, Ayrshire; 4, Robt. Stevenson, Boghead, Galston, Ayrshire; 5, T. C. Cundy, Woolcombe Farm, Cattistock, Dorset; r. and v.h.c, T. C. Cundy; h.c., H. Travers, Sutton Ditchleat; James Wither, Laggan-more, Portpatrick; Thomas Wither, Awkirk, Lochans,

MILKING TESTS.

Class of Animal.	Actual Weight of Fat in lbs.		Actual Weight of Solids, not Fat, in lbs.		Points.	Awards.
	Morn.	Even.	Morn.	Even.		
Class I.—Shorthorn Cows—						
Mr. Taylor's Melody	·89	1·21	2·6	2·16	121·8	1st Prize, Spencer Cup, Tenant Farmers' 1st Prize, shared with Broadhooks 3rd, the Extra Shorthorn Prize & Res. for Lord Mayor's Cup.
Lord Rothchild's Broadhooks III	·94	1·0	2·9	2·7	121·3	2nd Prize, shared with Melody the Extra Shorthorn Prize and reserve for Spencer Cup.
Lord Rothchild's Snowdrop XXIX	·87	·93	2·6	2·5	111·9	3rd Prize.
Class II. Shorthorn Cows not eligible for Class I—						
Mr. J. Sheppy's Model Lily	1·17	1·52	2·65	2·55	142·9	1st Prize Barham Challenge Cup and Lord Mayor's Champion Cup.
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Cross II	1·03	1·25	2·6	2·5	123·1	2nd Prize & 2nd Prize for Tenant Farmers.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Hearty	·96	·92	2·3	2·1	116·4	3rd Prize.
Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Ruth	1·2	1·15	2·3	2·2	114·0	HR. H.C. & 3rd Prize for Tenant Farmers.
Mr. J. Taylor's Sapphire	·97	1·2	2·4	2·4	112·7	Highly Commended.
Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Rose	1·05	1·15	2·25	2·2	112·2	Highly commended.
Class III.—Shorthorn Heifers—						
Mr. G. Taylor's Strawberry Leaf	·53	·71	1·5	1·6	84·3	1st Prize.
Mr. C. R. W. Adeane's Lady Evelyn Bates	·60	·48	1·60	1·55	70·5	2nd Prize.
Class IV.—Shorthorn Heifers not eligible for Class III—						
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Dolly III	·54	·57	1·55	1·3	68·9	1st Prize.
Class V.—Jersey Cows—						
Dr. H. Watney's Red Maple	1·17	1·19	2·0	2·0	119·8	1st Prize.
The Hon. T. S. Brand's Rosina	1·3	1·05	2·0	1·85	112·0	2nd Prize.
Dr. H. Watney's Guenon's Lady Teasel	·97	1·17	1·85	1·90	108·7	3rd Prize.
Bishop of Ipswich's Oxford Dewdrop	1·1	1·0	1·85	1·7	108·3	Res. & Highly Commended.
Class VIII.—Guernsey Cows—						
Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts	·82	·96	1·8	1·4	96·9	1st Prize.
Class X.—Red Polled Cows—						
Sir Walter Corbet's Desiree of Johnston	1·07	1·15	2·3	2·0	103·7	1st Prize.
Mr. Martin J. Sutton's Pleny	·74	·81	2·6	2·2	93·2	2nd Prize.
Mr. F. H. Baxendale's Rapid	·7	1·14	1·4	1·7	92·5	3rd Prize.
Class XI.—Red Polled Heifers—						
Lord Rothschild's Troston Davy V	·6	·61	1·5	1·55	73·0	1st Prize.
Mr. Kenneth M. Clark's Rendlesham Flit	·48	·36	1·25	1·2	58·2	2nd Prize.
,, ,, Sudbourne Lady	·51	·54	1·2	1·15	57·1	Reserve.
Class XII.—Ayrshire Cows—No award.						
Class XIII.—Kerry Cows—						
Countess De La Warr's Buckhurst Peaceful	·8	·86	1·85	1·75	86·7	1st Prize.
Mr. G. L. Palmer's Molly Dhush	·80	·72	1·8	1·65	82·3	2nd Prize.
Countess De La Warr's Buckhurst Gem	·62	·77	1·5	1·55	76·0	3rd Prize.
Class XV.—Cows not eligible to compete in Preceding Classes—						
Captain Smith Neill's Doctor	1·05	1·2	2·3	2·2	123·4	1st Prize, Lord Mayor's Challenge Cup & Reserve Barham Cup.
Mr. W. Nisbet's Polly	1·35	·81	2·9	2·4	121·8	2nd Prize, Reserve Lord Mayor's Champion Cup.
Mr. T. Cundy's Sweet Briar	1·13	1·2	2·5	2·45	121·1	3rd Prize.
Mr. W. P. Vosper's Sally II	1·0	·95	2·0	1·95	113·1	Reserve.
Class XVI.—Heifers not exceeding three years not eligible for other Classes—						
Mr. W. Nisbet's Nancy	·44	·45	1·6	1·65	62·8	1st Prize.
Classes XX-XXVI.—Goats—						
Mr. Sam Woodwiss' Sedgemere Faith	·143	·145	·31	·31	11·74	1st Prize, and Baroness Burdett Coutts' Champion Cup.
Mr. B. Ravenscroft's Sedgemere Louise	·126	·116	·182	·178	13·98	2nd Prize.
,, ,, Diamond Queen II	·098	·115	·104	·168	13·57	3rd Prize, Reserve Baroness Burdett Coutts' Champion Cup.
,, ,, Sedgemere Sunbeam	·083	·065	·163	·145	11·74	Reserve.

BUTTER TESTS.

Shorthorns.

Exhibitor and Name of Animal.	Milk Yield in 24 hours.	Butter Yield.	Ratio: viz., lbs. Milk to lbs. Butter.	Points for Butter.	Points for Lactation.	Total Points.	Awards.
	lbs. oz.	lbs. oz.					
Mr. George Taylor's Melody	58 7	2 0¼	28·76	32·50	6·50	39·00	Very Highly Commended.
Lord Rothschild's Broadhooks 3rd	60 13	2 1	29·48	33·00	·00	33·00	Highly Commended.
Mr. James Sheppy's Model Lily	56 14	2 13	20·22	45·00	·00	45·00	£5 and Silver Medal.
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Fleet II.	63 14	2 3½	27·63	35·25	·00	35·25	Highly Commended.
Mr. J. Evens' Burton Cross II.	56 5	2 0¾	27·51	32·75	·00	32·75	Highly Commended.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Hearty	45 11	1 13	25·20	29·00	12·00	41·00	£2 and Silver Medal.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Miriel	46 8	2 2¼	21·56	34·50	·00	34·56	Highly Commended.
Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Ruth	47 12	2 5⅜	20·23	37·75	·00	37·75	Very Highly Commended.
Mr. F. J. Stanhope's Rose	49 12	2 5⅜	21·08	37·75	·00	37·75	Very Highly Commended.

Jerseys.

Mr. J. H. Smith Barry's Nellie Beresford	35 10	2 0¼	17·53	32·50	8·50	41·00	Certificate of Merit.
Dr. Watney's Red Maple	43 5	2 5¼	18·35	37·75	12·00	49·75	First Prize.
Dr. Watney's Guenon's Lady Teasel	41 5	1 11¼	23·81	27·75	9·20	36·95	Certificate of Merit.
Dr. Watney's Guenon's Fancy	33 10	2 2	15·82	34·00	9·70	43 70	,, ,,
Messrs. C. & M. Palmer's Virtue	22 10	1 6¼	16·28	22·25	12·00	34·25	,, ,,
Lord Rothschild's Syren III.	35 2	1 10¼	21·00	26·75	12·00	38·75	,, ,,
Mr. F. Bateman's Repost	21 7	1 2¼	21·13	18·50	12·00	30·50	,, ,,
Bishop of Ipswich's Lady Teasel	33 5	1 7	25·26	23·00	12·00	35·00	,, ,,
Bishop of Ipswich's Oxford Dewdrop	37 12	2 2¼	17·63	31·25	12·00	46·25	Third Prize.
The Hon. T. S. Brand's Rosina	40 2	2 7¼	16·35	29 25	9·20	48·45	Second Prize.
Earl Cadogan's Reindeer's Bessie	35 7	2 5¼	15·01	37·75	—	37·75	Certificate of Merit.
Bishop of Ipswich's Pearl Maiden	29 0	1 10¼	17·67	26·25	9·30	35·55	,, ,,
Mr. F. Bateman's Massey	22 13	1 3¼	18·48	19·75	10·70	30·45	,, ,,

Any other Breed.

Mr. H. M. Ozanne's Lady Roberts (Guernsey)	37 5	1 12¼	21·13	28·25	12·00	40·25	£3.
Sir Walter Corbet's Desiree of Johnston (Red Poll)	49 15	2 3¼	22·50	35 50	·00	35·50	Highly Commended.
Mr. F. H. Baxendale's Rapid (Red Poll)	33 15	1 14¾	17·62	30·75	7·30	38·05	£3.
Lady Greenall's Walton Joyous (Kerry)	25 5	1 1¼	23·47	17·35	10·90	28 05	£3.
Capt. Smith Neill's Doctor (Crossbred)	52 1	2 4¼	22·82	30·50	9·60	46·10	£3.
Capt. Smith Neill's Maud (Crossbred)	40 4	2 0½	19·81	32·50	6·50	39·00	Highly Commended.
Mr. Thomas Cundy's Sweet Briar (South Devon)	52 13	2 5	22·83	37·00	·00	37·00	Highly Commended.
Mr. W. P. Vosper's Sally 2nd (South Devon)	43 15	2 1½	20·99	33·50	12·00	45·50	Very Highly Commended.
Mr. W. P. Vosger's Tulip 2nd (South Devon)	43 9	1 8¾	28·06	24·75	11·50	36·25	Highly Commended.
Mr. Dunbar Kelly's Yellow Girl (Crossbred)	40 7	1 12	23·10	28·00	11·10	39·10	Highly Commended.

N.B.; Walter W. Keel, Stanton Drew, Somerset; c., George Lester, Durnfield Farm, Ash, Martock; F. W. J. Crocker, Redford Farm, Batcombe, Cattistock; J. W. Banwell, East Harptree, Bristol; Ralph Cox, North Cadbury, Somerset.

Class 28.—Cheddar Truckles, eight cheeses: 1, Robert Stevenson; 2, Mrs. C. Candy; 3, Alex Cross; r. and h.c., William Hunter; h.c., Walter W. Keel; c., J. W. Banwell.

Class 29.—Stilton, eight cheeses: 1, William Miller; 2, Henry Morris, Manor Farm, Saxelbye, Melton Mowbray; 3, Henry Morris, Manor Farm, Saxelbye, Melton Mowbray; r. and h.c., Thos. Skinner, Hill Farm, Long Clawson, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire; h.c., W. N. Nuttall.

Class 30.—Wensleydale (Stilton-shaped flat), eight cheeses: 1, A. Harker, Carperby, Aysgarth, Yorks; 2, John Stubbs, Swinithwaite, Leyburn, R.S.O.; r. and h.c., Mrs. M. Willis, The Manor House, Carperby, Aysgarth Station, R. S. O.

Class 31.—Cheshire, four cheeses: 1, Frank Heath, Ferney Lees, Tarporley, Cheshire; 2, Samuel Lea, Kinsale, Oswestry; 3, W. H. Hobson, Gousley Hall, Blakenhall, Nantwich, Cheshire; r., James Hobson, Old Hall, Coole Pilate, Nantwich; v.h.c., James Hobson; John Platt, Wem, Salop; W. H. Hobson, Gousley Hall, Blakenhall, Nantwich, Cheshire; h.c., Richard Mullock, Guy Lane Farm, Waverton, Chester; c., Charles E. Parton, Haughton Hall Farm, Tarporley.

Class 32.—Double Gloster, four cheeses, from 26lb. to 30lb. each, total weight not to exceed 120lb.: 1, C. Harris and Son, Slimbridge, Stonehouse, Glos.; 2, Geo. Hawking, Hill House, Cambridge, Stonehouse, Glos.; r., Thos. Kent.

Class 33.—Single Gloster, four cheeses, from 13lb. to 15lb. each, total weight not to exceed 60lb.: 1, C. Harris and Son; 2, Chas. W. Prout; r., Chas. W. Prout.

Class 34.—Leicester, four cheeses: 1, Warwickshire County Council Dairy School; r., John Gould, Croxden Dairy Association; v.h.c., Warwickshire County Council Dairy School.

Class 35.—Caerphilly, four cheeses, not exceeding 8lb. each: 1, W. C. Spencer; 2, W. C. Spencer: 3, Geo. Hawking; r. and h.c., Edward Dibble; h.c., Cheddar Valley Dairy Co. Ltd.; c. Wilts United Dairies Ltd.; W. J. Wilkins.

Class 36.—Cream cheese, made from pure cream only, no milk or curd to be added, six cheeses: 1, Eggington Dairy Co., Ltd.; 2, Mrs. E. Dickson Park; 3, The Glynde Creameries, Ltd., Glynde, near Lewes, Sussex; 4, Percy C. Woodhead; r. and v.h.c., Mrs. M. Reading; h.c., H. R. White; Wm. Spalton.

Class 37.—Gervais, six cheeses: 1, John Benson, Buxton Dairy, Dale Road, Buxton; r., Wilts United Dairies, Ltd., Devizes, Wilts.

Class 38.—Unripened soft cheese, other than cream cheese or Gervais, four cheeses: 1, Dr. H. Corner; 2, Charles Prideaux.

Class 39.—Ripened soft cheese, other than cream cheese or Gervais, four cheeses: 1, Miss E. G. Cook; 2, Charles Prideaux.

Class 40.—Cheddar, twenty cheeses: 1, Alex. Cross; 2, Robert Stevenson, Boghead, Galston, Ayrshire; 3, Robt. Stevenson; 4, James McAdam; 5, T. C. Candy; r. and v.h.c., H. Travers; h.c., T. C. Candy; Frank Portch; A Osborne; c., David A. Hood; James Wither.

Class 41.—Stilton, thirty-six cheeses: 1, Henry Morris; 2, Henry Morris; 3, W. N. Nuttall; r. and h.c., The Belvoir Vale Dairies.

COLLECTION OF DAIRY PRODUCE.

Class 42.—Collection of British and Colonial dairy produce: 1, Aplin and Barrett and the Western Counties Creameries, Ltd., Yeovil.

BACON AND HAMS.

BACON.

Class 43.—Cumberland and York (four sides): 1, Joseph Smith.

Class 44.—Smoked (four whole sides): 1, Hillier's Bacon Curing Co., Ltd.

Class 45.—Pale Dried (other than Cumberland and York). (Four whole sides): 1, Hillier's Bacon Curing Co., Ltd.

HAMS.

Class 46.—Cumberland and York (pale dried or smoked). (Four hams): 1, Joseph Smith; r. and h.c., Joseph Smith.

Class 47.—Smoked (other than Cumberland and York). (Four hams): 1 and 2, Palethorpes, Ltd.; 3, Joseph Smith.

Class 48.—Pale Dried (other than Cumberland and York), under 14 lbs. (Four hams): 1, Joseph Smith; 2, Palethorpes, Ltd.; r. and h.c., Palethorpes, Ltd.

Class 49.—Pale Dried (other than Cumberland and York), over 14 lbs. (Four hams): 1, Palethorpes, Ltd.; 2, Joseph Smith; r. and h.c., Joseph Smith.

Class 50.—Selling Class for Hams, any variety (two hams): 1 and 2, Joseph Smith; 3, Walter Mitchell and Sons; r. and h.c., Palethorpes, Ltd.

BUTTER.

Class 51.—Butter (perfectly free from salt, the produce of Channel Islands cattle and their crosses). 2 lbs. in 1 lb. lumps: 1, Miss M. K. Harris, Arthur E. Franklin, and Mrs. Frank Ward; 2, Mrs. L. R. Mildon, Roland Underwood, and Charles Hayes; 3, Mrs. A. A. Bere, Miss Ethel Everest, and Mrs. J. H. Phillips; v.h.c., S. F. Berry and Wm. C. Cooper; h.c., Mrs. L. R. Mildon and S. F. Berry; c., Lady de Rothschild, Hon. A. Holland-Hibbert, and Miss S. Page.

Class 52.—Butter (slightly salted, the produce of Channel Islands cattle and their crosses). 2 lbs. in 1 lb. lumps: 1, Mrs. L. R. Mildon (twice), and Mrs. Frank Ward; 2, Mrs. Irving, Roland Underwood, and Arthur E. Franklin; 3, Mrs. T. Miles, Miss Shiffner, and Mrs. J. H. Phillips; r. and v.h.c., Mrs. A. A. Bere; v.h.c., Chas. E. Keyser and Mrs. Mary Custance; h.c., Miss Mary Dalrymple and Mrs Smiles; c., Lord Rothschild.

Class 53.—Butter, perfectly free from salt, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses (except Channel Islands and their crosses). 2 lbs. in 1 lb. lumps: 1, Mrs. L. R. Mildon, Mrs. A. A. Bere, and Mrs. Alfred Loder; 2, Mrs. George Adlam, Lord Portman, and Mrs. Emily Lewis; 3, Miss Mary Dalrymple, Mrs. Irving, and Miss C. Lewis; v.h.c., Charles Hayes and Roland Underwood; h.c., Mrs. Emily Lewis and Mrs. Thomas Hainc.

Class 54.—Butter, slightly salted, the produce of Shorthorn and other cattle and their crosses (except Channel Islands and their crosses). 2 lbs. in 1 lb. lumps: 1, Roland Underwood, Mrs. George Adlam, and Mrs. Frank Ward; 2, Mrs. Emily Lewis, Mrs. J. H. Phillips, and Mrs. G. Weaver; 3, Colonel Sir J. W. Ottley, Mrs. Irving, and Miss S. Page; v.h.c., Miss Mary Dalrymple, Charles Hayes, Miss M. K. Harris, Miss C. Lewis, Lord Portman, Miss Daisy V. Kingwell and Mrs. F. Lewis; h.c. Alfred Berry.

Class 55.—Butter (free from salt or slightly salted, at the discretion of the exhibitor, to be made from scalded cream only). 2 lbs. in 1 lb. lumps: 1, Mrs. Frank Ward; 2, Mrs. A. A. Bere; 3, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; v.h.c., Arthur Fewings, H Barker Hahlo, and Mrs. Smith-Neill; h.c., The Cotswold Sanatorium and Lord Rothschild.

Class 56.—Fresh Butter, in 24 lb. boxes of 12 rolls. Packages (non returnable) to be taken into consideration. The rolls not to be separately wrapped: 1, Robert Sandford and Son; 2, Charles Prideaux; 3, Killyman Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 4, The Irish Co-operative Agency Society's Rathduff Dairy; 5, Solohead Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society.

Class 57.—Mild Cured Butter, in boxes of 24 rolls of 1 lb. each, slightly salted. Packages (non-returnable) to be taken into consideration. Wrapping allowed: 1, Robert Sandford and Son; 2, Killyman Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 3, Killeshandra Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 4, Cough Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; 5, Ballintrillick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society.

Class 58.—Cured Butter, not less than 28 lbs., slightly salted. Packages (non-returnable) to be taken into consideration: 1, Sir Chas. Seely, Bart.; 2, Kinlough Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society; 3, Glenwilliam Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; 4, Cough Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; 5, Charles Prideaux.

Class 59.—Cured butter, 56lb.: 1, The Irish Co-operative Agency Society's Rathduff Dairy; 2, Finn Valley Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd.; 3, Springfield Co-operative Dairy Society, Ltd.; 4, Achonry Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society, Ltd.; 5, Ballintrillick Co-operative Agricultural and Dairy Society.

Class 60.—Fancy or ornamental design in butter, with foliage or other extraneous decoration: 1, Miss H. M. Trenchard; 2, W. Shaw.

Class 61.—Fancy or ornamental design in butter, without extraneous decoration, adapted for table use: 1, Miss H. M. Trenchard; 2, Mrs. Mary Constance; r. and v.h.c., Miss E. Follett.

COLONIAL BUTTER.

Class 62.—Salt butter, one box containing not less than 56lb.: 1, Grasmere Butter Factory Co.; 2, The Alsonville Co-operative Refrigerating Co., Ltd.; 3, Bega Co-operative Dairy Co., Ltd.; h.c., Macarthur Butter Factory Co.; Molong District Dairying Co.; Woodstock Central Dairy Co., Ltd.; Heyfield Butter Factory; c., Tamleugh Butter Factory Co.; Milawa Dairy Co.; Pyramid Hill Butter Factory Co.; Echuca Butter Factory Co.

Class 63. Fresh butter, one box containing not less than 56lb.; 1, Macarthur Butter Factory Co.; 2, J. McKay and Co.; 3, Echuca Butter Factory Co.; h.c., Eurea Butter Ice Co.; Colac Dairy Co.; Raymond Terrace Co-operative Dairy Co., Ltd.; Barrengarry Dairy Co., Ltd.; c., Glenormiston Butter Factory Co.; Mudgee Dairy Co., Ltd.

CREAM.

Class 64.—Clotted cream, in vessels ready for sale; not less than 2lb. nor more than 3lb. in one or more vessels: 1, Mrs. L. R. Mildon; 2, Mrs. J. H. Phillips; r. and v.h.c., Mrs. W J. Gill; h.c., Cathedral Dairy Co.; c., Mrs. Frank Ward; Charles Prideaux

Class 65.—Cream, other than clotted, in vessels ready for sale; not less than 2lb. nor more than 3lb. in one or more vessels: 1, Little Chester and Burnaston Dairies; 2, John Benson; h.c., Eggington Dairy Co., Ltd.; The Glynde Creameries, Ltd.; Alfred Berry; c., George Brown; C. and G. Prideaux; Richard Stapley.

ROOTS.

Class 81.—Six specimens of long mangolds, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, Lady Wantage; 2, Wilberforce Bryant; 3, Charles Tough; r., Portsmouth Asylum; c., John L. Brookes, Walthamstow Urban District Council, John Perry.

Class 82.—Six specimens of globe mangolds, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, James Smith; 2, Leonard J. Smith; 3, Portsmouth Asylum; r., Lady Wantage; c., Alfred Brown, Exors. of the late Samuel Nightingale, Esq., Henry Jennings, Walthamstow Urban District Council, Wm. Watts, Percy E. Mead, Wilberforce Bryant, Mrs. McIntosh, E. Message, James Weir, senr., J. Perry.

Class 83.—Six specimens of tankard or intermediate mangolds, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, Lady Wantage; 2, Leonard J. Smith; 3, Percy E. Mead; r., P. Le Feuvre; v.h.c., T. Chettle; c., J. B. Le Feuvre, George Tansley, Charles Tough, T. Chettle, Wilberforce Bryant, Lady Wantage, Frank Hargreaves, Percy E. Mead, Thomas Brame, Mrs. McIntosh, Ward and Jones, The Joint Committee of the Stowmarket Urban and East Stow Rural District Councils, H. J. Bolton, John Perry.

Class 84.—Six specimens of swede, any variety, drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, Alfred Brown; 2, R. Newman; 3, C. F. Sibley; r., Joseph Bridgwater; v.h.c., Messrs. Lawson, T. W. Turnbull; h.c., John W. Newsam; c., Messrs. Lawson, Alexander Guild, John Eccles, Mrs. McIntosh, H. J. Bolton, A. Eccles, W. Hedges, F. Dwight.

Class 85.—Collection of roots, etc., for cattle-feeding in winter; to consist of six specimens of as many as possible of the following:—Mangolds, swedes, turnips, white carrots, red carrots, potatoes, beetroot, kale, kohl-rabi, parsnips, and cabbages: 1, Mrs. McIntosh; 2, Mrs. McIntosh.

Annual Meeting of Members.

The annual meeting of the members of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at the Hall on Wednesday, when Lord Northbourne, the President, who occupied the chair, moved the adoption of a report which, he said, showed the position of the society to be one on which members could justly congratulate themselves, while the number of entries for the present show and the record of attendance were very satisfactory. He believed that before he put the motion for the adoption of the report Sir Edward Strachey would like to move an addition to it.

Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., said he desired to draw attention to a matter the importance of which needed no demonstration to those whom he addressed that afternoon—he referred to the fact that notwithstanding all the efforts which had been made, the Sale of Butter Bill was not yet on the Statute Book. He wished to add to the report a paragraph expressing the regret of the British Dairy Farmers' Association that this was the case, and that for the fourth time their reasonable expectations in this respect had been disappointed, arousing a feeling not merely of regret, but of indignation among all who were interested in the question. (Cheers.) This lack of achievement on the part of the Government occurred in spite of the declaration of the President of the Board of Agriculture at Norwich this year that the industry was seriously handicapped by the process of water-logging butter. "A few years ago," Mr. Fellowes said in his speech, "there were only two firms practising it, but now there were more than one hundred, and the amount of added water ranged from 20 to as much as 50 per cent. That was an absolute fraud on the farmer and on the public. It was a serious matter for the colonial farmers, who justly prided themselves on sending out one of the driest butters, containing no more than 10 per cent. of water. Yet when it arrived here it was so manipulated that there was a large percentage of water in it when it was sold." Yet the Government would not give the necessary facilities to pass a Bill to stop a practice thus declared to be a fraud on the farmer and on the public? There might soon be a change of Government, and being most anxious that their views as to the pressing need for the Bill should be registered, he moved to add to the report: "It is to be deeply regretted that for the fourth year the Government failed to pass the Sale of Butter Bill, thereby neglecting to prevent the trade in waterlogged butter, the sale of which has been declared by the President of the Board of Agriculture to be an absolute fraud on the farmer and on the public." (Cheers.)

Professor Long, who seconded, said he agreed with Sir Edward Strachey's observations. The dairy farmers had been played with by some members of the Government long enough. The Government, or at least some members of it, cared as little about the success of the English dairy farmer as he (the Speaker) did about the success of Socialism in this or in any other country. Referring to the good work of the late Mr. Hanbury during the time he was President of the Board of Agriculture, Professor Long said they had never before or since received such support as they did from the late President. They all recognised what a great man Mr. Balfour was; but it was very regrettable that he should not care a snap of a finger for agriculture. It was the policy of the Government which desired to hold office to cater for the trading classes, while they overlooked the just claims of those classes which were the backbone of the country, namely, those who were engaged in agricultural pursuits. He had ascertained that there were one hundred establishments in England where blended butter was being produced; this had led to the public being sold blended butter, to the exclusion of the honest article. The time had arrived when they must do as the Labour party were doing—get their grievances brought to the notice of the public. They were warranted, he contended, in rebelling against their own party at the iniquitous way they were being treated.

The report having been adopted, the Marquis of Winchester was elected president for the ensuing year, and the following were elected vice-presidents:—The Marquis of Bristol, the Earl of Crewe, the Earl of Derby, the Earl of Warwick, Lord Tredegar, Lord Wenlock, Sir James Blyth, Sir Edward Strachey, M.P., Sir George Barham, Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., Mr. G. F. Roumieu, and Lord Northbourne.

The President said circulars had been issued by the Board of Agriculture during the last four years, stating where it was clearly shown milk which came direct from the cow was not up to the standard, then no conviction should take place.

The President, replying to a questioner, said there was no desire to abandon the standard. The Council were now in communication with the Board of Agriculture with a view to getting greater facilities for the sale of milk just as it came from the cow.

Another member said they did not want their milk watered down any further. Instead of asking the Government to lower the standard they should rather ask them to raise it. (Laughter.) It seemed the desire of a previous speaker to get the standard lowered; he hoped that view would not be put before the Board of Agriculture.

The first speaker said he did not want to lower the standard: nor did he wish to appeal for security for those who desired to carry on their business by fraud. Some milk was unavoidably below the standard, and farmers in consequence encountered, unawares, great perils by being liable to penalties and punishment for offences of which they were absolutely innocent. The standard fixed at the present time was not always attainable. That Association would always strive to maintain a high standard, but they could not help it when nature failed them.

The President said it was an erroneous idea that the Council wished to lower the standard of milk.

A vote of thanks closed the proceedings.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS. The best Farm Account Books are "WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK," with Preface by Clare Sewell Read; 72nd edition; 6s.; larger size, 7s. 6d. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOKS, 3s. 6d.; JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., post free. List of Game and Dairy Account Books, post free, of Jarrold and Sons, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

The

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Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DEC. 4th to 8th, 1905, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows :—Live Stock (cattle, sheep, pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, Nov. 1st : post entries, Nov. 6th The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5th. Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The FIFTY-SEVENTH GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Fat CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, CORN, ROOTS, and IMPLEMENTS will be held in Bingley Hall on November 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th.

ENTRIES CLOSE: Implements, Friday, October 20th; Stock, Poultry, &c., Wednesday, November 1st.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from

W. H. LYTHALL,
Secretary.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOW. (Open to all England without Subscription).

LORD TREDEGAR has fixed the 87th Annual Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 21st and 22nd.

The PRIZE LIST contains 60 regulated Classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, and HORSES, the Prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

Judges for Poultry, J. P. W. MARX, Esq., and GEORGE ROSSER, Esq.; for Pigeons, H. ALSOP, Esq.

The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all Particulars, may be had on application to—

G. P. MITCHELL INNES,
Tredegar Estate Office,
Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries Close November 1st for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses; for Poultry and Pigeons, October 28th.

NORWICH FAT CATTLE SHOW.

29th ANNUAL EXHIBITION FAT CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, &c.,
AGRICULTURAL HALL, NORWICH,
NOVEMBER 16th, 17th & 18th, 1905.
LAST DAY OF ENTRY FOR STOCK AND STAND SPACE OCTOBER 21st.
Prize lists, entry forms, and all particulars of the Secretary, CALEB BARKER,
East Harling, Thetford.

AYRSHIRE AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION.

DAIRY AND FARM PRODUCE SHOW at KILMARNOCK, N.B.,
OCT. 19th and 20th. Entries close Oct. 6th.
JOHN HOWIE, Secretary.
58, Alloway Street, Ayr.

TONBRIDGE FAT STOCK SHOW.

At TONBRIDGE,
NOVEMBER 27th and 28th, 1905.
Entries close: Cattle, &c., November 1st; Poultry, November 11th
T. C. MAYLAM, Secretary,
Medway Wharf, Tonbridge.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL FAT STOCK SHOW,

At EDINBURGH,
NOVEMBER 29th, and 30th, 1905.
Entries close October 28th.
J. WYLIE, Secretary,
Royal Bank, Leith.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AT BINGHALL HALL,
NOVEMBER 25th, 27th, 28th 29th and 30th, 1905.
Entries close: Implements October 20th; Stock November 1st.
W. H. LYTHALL, Secretary,
Bingley Hall Birmingham.

EDENBRIDGE FAT STOCK AND ROOT SHOW.
At EDENBRIDGE.
DECEMBER 6th, 1905.
A. DOUBELL, Secretary,
Whistler's Farm, Edenbridge, Kent.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

WEDNESDAY next, OCTOBER 18.—Mr. E. Harwood's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Woodhouse, Almondsbury, Bristol.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.—Mr. C. H. Jolliffe's SHORTHORNS, at Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24.—Mr. C. M. Doyne's SHORTHORNS, at Wells, Gorey, co. Wexford.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25.—Major Cradock's SHORTHORNS, at Derryc, Roscrea, co. Tipperary.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31.—About 130 SHORTHORN COWS, HEIFERS, and Young BULLS, at York.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2.—The entire herds of SHORTHORNS belonging to Mr. M. Lewtas and Mr. T. P. Halsall (of Ormskirk), at Stalmine Grange, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

Catalogues may be had of JOHN THORNTON AND CO., 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, W who will execute commissions.

AUCTION SALES.

KENT.
NEWINGREEN ANNUAL SHEEP SALE.
Close to Westenhanger Station, S.E. & C. Rly., where a good supply of trucks will be on hand.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1905, at the "ROYAL OAK HOTEL," NEWINGREEN, about

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1,344 One, two and three Lamb Ewes.
1,800 Kent Ewe and Wether and Half-bred Tegs
812 Ewe and Wether, Kent and Half-bred Lambs.
44 Ram and Ram Tegs.
Luncheon Provided.
Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock.
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KENT.
NEWINGREEN ANNUAL BULLOCK SALE.
A good supply of trucks will be on hand.

MESSRS. W. & B. HOBBS will SELL by AUCTION, on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 1905, at the "ROYAL OAK HOTEL," NEWINGREEN, about

375

EXCELLENT HOME-BRED BEASTS, comprising
136 Yearlings.
37 Eighteen-month's-old Steers & Heifers.
154 Two and Three-year-old Fatting Beasts.
5 Barren Cows and Heifers.
26 Cows and Heifers in and with Calves.
2 Bulls.
15 Calves.
Luncheon Provided.

Sale to commence punctually at 10 o'clock.
Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

AUCTION SALES.

TERRINGTON STUD FARM,
NEAR KING'S LYNN.

FIFTH ANNUAL SALE OF BLACK ANGUS, GALLOWAY, AND BLUE-GREY POLLED CATTLE.

SIR GILBERT GREENALL, Bart., will hold his
FIFTH ANNUAL SALE
On WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 1905,
Of about 400
PRIME POLLED BEASTS,
At the TERRINGTON STUD FARM, TERRINGTON ST. JOHN, at 1.30 prompt.

They mainly consist of big two and three-year-old Bullocks and Heifers, amongst which are some splendid Blue-Greys. A number have been cake fed, the Stores are very thick and forward, will make heavy weights, and finish quickly.

Further particulars of W. BAINBRIDGE, Land Agent, Warrington; or of the Stud Groom, at Terrington St. John.

LEGAL NOTICE.

Re WILLIAM RUDDOCK THRIFT, deceased.

Pursuant to the Statute 22nd and 23rd Victoria, cap. 35, intituled "An Act to further amend the law of property and to relieve trustees."

NOTICE is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of William Ruddock Thrift, late of Little Hadham, in the county of Hertford, and Boreham, in the county of Essex, Miller, deceased (who died on the 4th day of March, 1905, and whose will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice, on the 2nd day of May, 1905, by Harry Thomas Hamlet Haylock, of Chelmsford, in the county of Essex, licensed victualler, and William Jackson Hart, of Much Hadham, in the county of Hertford, gentleman, the executors therein named), are hereby required to send the particulars in writing of their claims or demands to us, the undersigned, on or before the 18th day of November, 1905, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased, or any part thereof, to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 9th day of October, 1905.
RICHARDSON, FOXWELL, and HART,
Solicitors for the Executors,
Much Hadham, Herts.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS, AND THE MANOR FARM, GARFORTH.

COMPLETE COURSE of AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.
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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

SCOTTISH KENNEL CLUB'S 27TH SHOW OF SPORTING AND OTHER DOGS, IN THE WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 25TH, 26TH, AND 27TH, 1905.

The Great Northern Railway Company will convey exhibits for the above Show from Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Doncaster, Worksop, Retford, Newark, Burton, Derby, Ilkeston, Nottingham, Grantham, Grimsby, Gainsborough, Lincoln, Horncastle, Louth, Alford, Sleaford, Boston, Spalding, Yarmouth, Cromer, Norwich, Sutton Bridge, Wisbech, Peterborough, Huntingdon, Sandy, Cambridge, Hitchin, Dunstable, Luton, Hertford, St. Albans, and other towns on and in connection with their system.

Through vans will be run wherever necessary for the conveyance of exhibits.

Rates for the conveyance of traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent, and they will be found in no case to exceed the rates in force by any other route.

Special arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits at the close of the Show.

A representative will be in attendance to give all information as to train service, cartage facilities, &c.

To ensure prompt attention, exhibitors should be careful to mark the address labels "Per Great Northern Railway."

OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GREAT NATIONAL POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW, at the CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, NOVEMBER 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1905.

Intending Exhibitors at this Show are informed that the Great Northern Railway Company make every arrangement for the careful and expeditious transit of exhibits to and from the Crystal Palace.

For the convenience of exhibitors, through vans will be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, November 6th.

Consignments from branch lines and intermediate stations at which these trains do not stop will be placed in the through vans at the various junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Crystal Palace.

Rates for the conveyance of exhibits, which will in no case exceed those charged by any other route, can be obtained at the various stations on the line.

Return Traffic.—Arrangements will be made for the return of the traffic at the close of the Show in through vans. Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities should consign and direct their exhibits "per Great Northern Railway," and be careful to insert the route on the return, as well as the outward, portion of the address label.

A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the Show, prepared to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate removal at the close of the Show. The removal order should be sent to the Chief Passenger Agent, King's Cross Station, at the commencement of the Show.

Any information as to arrangements for the forward or return journey, &c., may be had on application to the Chief Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross, London.

OLIVER BURY, General Manager.
London, October, 1905.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

THE SCOTTISH KENNEL CLUB'S SHOW, EDINBURGH.
OCTOBER 25th to 27th, 1905.

In connection with the Scottish Kennel Club's Show, to be held at Edinburgh on October 25th, 26th and 27th, the Midland Railway Company will run a 3rd Class Saloon to Edinburgh by the 12.30 p.m. train from Manchester (Victoria) on October 24th, for the convenience of exhibitors from the Lancashire District.

Reprinting. Ready shortly.

RATIONAL PIG-KEEPING,

PRICE ONE SHILLING.
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What do you do with your wool? Do you make the most of it? One thing is quite certain. You cannot do better than send it to my Mills and have it made into woollen cloth, blankets, or other goods. I have 400 patterns to select from, and pay carriage on wool sent to me for manufacture. Write for booklet, which tells you all you want to know, and receive patterns, so that you may say what you want made and the patterns you prefer.

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Manufactured by
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Testimonial.

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Having used Cupiss' Constitution Balls for over 20 years, I have always found them exceedingly useful for purifying the blood and keeping in excellent condition.

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Prepared upwards of 50 years by the late

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which has already passed through several editions, and is the acknowledged authority upon this important subject,
Agriculturists, Chemical Manure Manufacturers and Merchants, Gardeners, and others interested in similar pursuits, and those recognising the increasing need for proper cultivation of the land, should read

"ARTIFICIAL MANURES,"

which tells how to make, buy, value, and use these fertilisers.

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Healthy, Thriving, Profitable
CALVES.

USE
SILCOCK'S
SOLUBLE
CALF MEAL
The most reliable and economical on the market.

BUT

DO NOT MAKE THE MISTAKE
of discontinuing its use too soon. The trouble and expense will be well repaid by giving it until the Calves are 9 or even 12 months old.
Price 12/6 per cwt., carriage paid.
Send a trial order,
R. SILCOCK & SONS,
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"PEDIGREE"
SEED WHEATS
ARE THE BEST.
Seed Corn Catalogue now ready. The King's Seedsmen by Royal Warrant.
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STRAWSON'S
CELEBRATED
FOOT-ROT OINTMENT.
Effectual—Speedy—Permanent.
Used by the chief Ram Breeders and Flockmasters in the Kingdom.
IT RECOMMENDS ITSELF. TRY IT.
May be had through any Chemist; or will be sent post free at the rate of 1s. per tin, 20s. per case of two dozen tins (not less than a case at the latter rate), by the Sole Proprietor, G. STRAWSON, Chemist, Bishop's Castle.

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The Best and Most Wholesome Diet for all Stock.
Delivered, Carriage Paid, to all Stations.
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PORRIDGE MEAL,
Rears Calves splendidly and cheaply.
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Inventor and Sole Manufacturer of
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The Cakes are branded "VESTA" PURE.

Buyers of the "VESTA" FEED CAKES can have the Cottons shipped at same time, thus saving any delay.

ANALYSIS.

UNDECORTICATED COTTON SEED CAKE		MECHANICALLY CLEANED COTTON SEED.	
Moisture	11·30	Moisture	10·20
Oil	5·67	Oil	21·63
*Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	26·50	*Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	23·50
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar	32·55	Starch, Mucilage, Sugar	25·11
Indigestible Woody Fibre	19·28	Woody Fibre	15·36
Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·70	Mineral Matters (Ash)	4·20
	100·00		100·00
*Containing Nitrogen	4·24	*Containing Nitrogen	3.76
Sand	·10		

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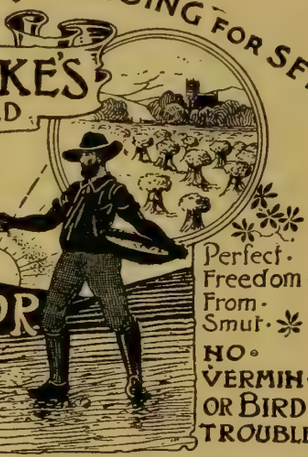
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FINEST OIL-ENGINE OIL, 1/5 gall Finest Heavy Machinery and Traction Engine Oil, 1/5 gall. Best Refined Charcoal-filtered Cylinder Oil, 1/8 gall. Carbolic Disinfecting Powder (15%), 6/6 cwt. Rat Poison, sufficient to kill 500 rats, 7/6 bott. Best Quick-drying Black Varnish for Wood and Ironwork, 1/- gall. All carriage paid for cash. RALPH RIGBY & CO., Pratt's Bridge Chemical Works, Walsall.

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THE
"BIBBY" CAKE
V.
LINSEED CAKE.

In out-of-the-way districts, amongst farmers who perhaps do not often see the Agricultural papers, there are some few feeders who still fatten bullocks and other cattle on Linseed Cake.

To all such we venture to suggest that the present high price of Linseed Cake affords an opportunity for putting the "BIBBY" CAKE to a competitive test.

Consider the saving! At the relative prices the cost of "BIBBY" is something like 30s. per ton less than the cost of any good brand of English Linseed Cake, so that on a four-ton truck of Cake a saving of £6 is effected.

But this is not all; we maintain that cattle can be fatted more expeditiously on "BIBBY" CAKE, which effects a saving of both time and other keep.

But let us waive the latter point, for the money saving alone is well worth the feeder's attention.

We supply the whole Cakes, or in the form of Cakettes, as may be desired.

We also supply our famous DAIRY CAKE in Cakettes, Whole Cake or Meal, and we believe better value for Dairy Cows is not to be obtained than we are now giving in out well-known DAIRY CAKE, CAKETTES, and MEAL.

Bibby's Quarterly.

The new number of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY, edited by our Mr. JOSEPH BIBBY, is now out, and can be had during this month at all Smith's Bookstalls, price 1/-.

There be those who say that BIBBY'S QUARTERLY is the best periodical which comes into the farmhouse, but there be also gainsayers who affirm that if it dealt more with live stock, and less with high ethics, it would be more acceptable to the average farmer; and we are rather of that opinion ourselves, but the Editor tells us that he edits BIBBY'S QUARTERLY to please himself, and we have to leave it at that; should, however, any reader of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY make a purchase at Smith's Bookstall, and is afterwards doubtful that he has got his shilling's worth, we undertake to make matters straight with him if he apprise us of his dissatisfaction within the present month.

J. Bibby & Sons
EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
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By Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural and Horticultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

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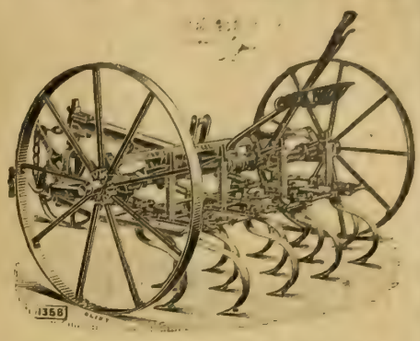

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

OCTOBER 16, 1905.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1 Essex Street Strand, London, W.C.

Subscription rates (including postage).—In the United Kingdom: one year, 15s.; six months 7s. 6d.; three months, 3s. 9d. The Colonies and Abroad: one year, 17s. 6d.; six months, 8s. 9d Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to the Publisher.

Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER "Mark Lane Express" 1 Essex Street. Strand, London, W.C.

MALTING BARLEY.

In old-time records the present month was invariably associated with the utilisation of malt and hops for brewing purposes. The farmer tapped his strongest October-brewed at Christmas-tide, and there was usually a special compartment adjoining the farm-house kitchen for furnace, mash-tub, vats, etc. Home-brewing has long since gone out of fashion, like many other things, but October is still esteemed the best period for professional brewers to commence operations for the season, simply because the mild temperature of the month is best adapted to favour fermentation and successful manufacture.

Naturally farmers get their choicest malting barley crops thrashed, screened, and winnowed in time to be marketed and utilised for October brewings, and modern times have brought a corollary in the malting-barley show, which has extended itself from the Brewers' Exhibition to the different market towns throughout the country. Here the primest hordium-grain from well-managed farms is usually bought and sold. In the MARK LANE EXPRESS of last week appeared a report of the eighth annual barley show of the Dorset Farmers' Clubs, which took place at Dorchester on the 7th inst., and it will also be seen by that same issue that the Germans have imitated our example in this particular, and that a show of barley and hops was held in Berlin last week.

The chief utility of these expositions is of course the same as that of live-stock and other agricultural and horticultural exhibitions—that of imparting knowledge of how the best of the best is to be produced, and by promoting generally the effort to excel in the arts of cultivation without close application of which they cannot be obtained. Thus thirty or forty years ago the need of being scrupulously particular about the sort of barley to sow was by no means generally known or cared for. But after the Brewers' Exhibition had thoroughly demonstrated that the prizes were never obtained by ordinary barley, but invariably by one or other of the pedigree or highly selected kinds experts had improved the quality of, popular opinion underwent a great change. Now only the non-readers, ignorant or heedless of the farming community, would seed their lands with any grain except the varieties which had established for themselves by prize-winning a well-deserved reputation.

There is another useful purpose a barley exhibition is calculated to serve. At the Dorchester show the choicest sample had been very much damaged by bad thrashing, and the same feature has occasionally met the eye at the Brewers' Exhibition. This is usually caused by the drum of the thrashing-machine having been set too close, the result being that of breaking the grain. Brewers have complained much of this recently, and the Board of Agriculture has distributed a leaflet on the subject, pointing out that it would be worth while to take the trouble and labour of thrashing the straw twice rather than render a good sample unsaleable for malting purposes. The barley show offers to view an object-lesson as to this. After good cultivation to obtain high-quality grain, it is absolutely needful to take pains to thrash, dress, and screen them properly to make samples of utmost value to brewers.

The twenty-seventh annual Brewers' Exhibition which opened in the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Saturday last, and which will be held through the present week until Friday night, is not less valuable than its predecessors in demonstrating the utility and profit of growing the best of the best; of showing that early-sown crops usually yield better malting samples than late ones; that high manuring and drastic soil fertility defeat rather than promote the production of good malting barley; and that some previous systems of cropping are more favourable thereto than others. These are the main lessons, together with the utility of skilled management in harvesting, thrashing, and screening, which the present exhibition is calculated to inculcate.

THE DAIRY.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

The October cheese fair is the principal one of the year at Lancaster, and there was an exceptionally large attendance of buyers and dealers at that held on Tuesday. The pitch comprised 78 dairies, 1,518 cheese, as compared with 88 dairies, 1,695 cheese, at the corresponding fair a year ago. The quality almost throughout was excellent, and a brisk trade resulted, a clearance being effected in little over half an hour. Prices ranged from 55s. to 65s. per cwt., but as much as 68s. 6d. was realised by one choice dairy.

Nantwich Cheese Fair.

Mr. Challinor reports as follows:—Pitch about 40 tons; good attendance of buyers. The tone from the opening to finish was good; best lots made from 60s. to 65s.; medium 54s. to 58s.; lower grades down to 50s.

Leicester Cheese Fair.

The half-yearly cheese fair at Leicester took place on Thursday, and was one of the poorest that can be remembered, both as regards the quantity and the quality of the pitch. This was due to the fact that the custom adopted in recent years by factors of buying up the best dairies is extending, and does not imply that Leicestershire cheese is in any way deteriorating. The best price for Leicesters was 85s. per 120 lb., this being realised by only one dairy. The other prices were not fairly quotable. Stiltons were shown in greater bulk, but the quality was indifferent. The best price obtained was 10d., other qualities varying from 7½d. to 9d. per lb.

Bath and West Cheese School.

The third draft (nearly 38 cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the month of June at the Cheese School carried on at Glendale Farm, Wedmore, by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Brothers, of Evercreech, at 64s. per cwt. of 112 lb. The 4,924 gallons of milk made 4,734 lb. of green cheese, which when sold weighed 4,440 lb., showing a shrinkage of about 6¼ per cent. The following particulars with regard to its manufacture will probably be of interest to cheese-makers:—Temperature at which milk was renneted, 84 deg. Temperature of first and second scalds, 88 deg. and 93 deg. Acidity of milk when renneted, .18. Acidity of whey at close of second scald, .14. Acidity of whey,, when cheese was vatted, .80. Average time when cheese was put in the press, 3.20 p.m. The school, which has been well attended by students, will close for instruction in Cheddar cheesemaking on October 31, but will remain open for the teaching of Caerphilly cheesemaking till the end of November.

A Dairy Expert on a Pure Milk Supply.

At the provincial sessional meeting of the Royal Sanitary Institute, held in York Guildhall on the 7th inst., a practical paper on the problem of pure milk supplies was read by Mr. C. W. Sorensen, formerly chief dairy expert to the New Zealand

Government, who treated the problem "from within," with a desire to point out some of the obstacles which stood in the way of general progress to the ideal of a pure milk supply. He assumed that general agreement had been reached that the ideals of a pure milk supply were, to put it negatively, milk uncooked, free from disease-germs and dirt, and undrugged with chemical preservatives. These conditions involved clean, healthy cows, grass fed in summer and properly fed in winter; sanitary buildings; a pure water supply; clean milking; prompt and thorough cooling; and distribution in sealed bottles or cans.

Pasteurisation was not the ideal. The medical evidence against sterilisation had grown rapidly of late, and appeared irrefutable and overwhelming. Pasteurisation was resorted to in many cases as a necessary evil under existing circumstances, and as nothing more. The first essential to pure milk, healthy cows, led one to consider whether in this connection the tuberculin test was a sine qua non. Medical opinion doubtless leaned towards the application of this test. But he confessed to a decided reluctance to fall down and worship the tuberculin test. He submitted that frequent (i.e., fortnightly, or, at any rate, monthly) clinical examination of the cows by a competent veterinary surgeon provided sufficient safeguard to consumers on the point of the cows' health.

Pure milk could, he believed, be more easily secured where the whole work of production and distribution was under one management than otherwise. In the case of very large towns it would be difficult, even in these days of motor-vehicles, to supply the whole of the milk required from farms in the immediate neighbourhood. For all but the very large towns, however, the easiest and quickest way to secure reform would be for progressive farmers within easy access of the towns to take up the production and distribution of pure milk, beginning on a small scale and extending operations as the demand grew.

Discussing the question of whether better milk must cost more, Mr. Sorensen said that better milk for the same or even less money than is paid now might be secured by adopting economies in the system of distribution.

East of Scotland College of Agriculture.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the East of Scotland College of Agriculture, held at Edinburgh on Wednesday, Dr. J. J. Dobbie, chairman of the Central Studies Committee, reported that 58 students had received benefit from the central classes last session, as against 60 in the previous year. There was a large increase, it was necessary to note, in the number of students attending the evening classes, there being 170, as against 43.

Mr. J. Budge, reporting for the County Work Committee, said the Committee had closed the year with a deficit. The Government had been approached, but had refused to give any extra grant. During last year there were 12,917 students in attendance. In the systematic classes there were 645 students—341 in dairying, 272 in forestry, and 32 in farming. He thought the experiments carried out had been beneficial. It was agreed to increase the salary of Mr. Bruce, lecturer on agriculture, by £50 per annum. It was agreed to make application to the Committee of Council on Education in Scotland for a grant to the College from the funds the Committee had to set aside for distribution.

The annual general meeting of the members of the College was then held, when the annual report of the governors was submitted and approved, the chairman remarking that it was very satisfactory.

Wisbech Mustard Market.—The first mustard seed market for the sale of this season's seed grown in Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk took place at Wisbech on the 7th inst. There was a good attendance of growers, but only a moderate show of seed. The average price of brown seed bought by the manufacturing firms was 10s. per bushel, but a few parcels sold to London seed merchants made 10s. 6d. These prices are about 1s. per bushel better than last year. White seed of good quality realised 8s. 6d.

Building Bye-Laws. A return dealing with building bye-laws in rural districts recently issued shows that in 246 rural districts in England and Wales (out of a total of 668) there are no bye-laws for the regulation of new buildings, and that throughout 169 districts and in parts of 114 there are bye-laws based on the urban model. Further, that throughout 106 districts and in parts of 32 there are bye-laws in force based on the rural model, and that in some districts the bye-laws which are in force were mostly made before the first issue of the model in 1877. In certain instances series of diverse character are in force in different parts of the same district.

Seasonable Topics.

It seems to be taken for granted that there will be no show at Park Royal next year, and the respective claims of Derby and Blackpool as the place of the event are being freely discussed. One thing is obvious—namely, that if the show is to go into the provinces again, it is eminently desirable to make a start in a place where it is likely to show a profit. The Royal Agricultural Society has developed an unfortunate capacity for losing money, and, of course, this kind of thing cannot go on indefinitely. At which place would the show be likely to get the most support? The question is open, but the writer's first acquaintanceship with an agricultural show was made many years ago in Osmaston Park, Derby, and the occasion was a visit of the Royal. The weather was perfect, thousands of people flocked into the Midland railway town, and the show was a financial success. Of course, that was in the days when agricultural shows were in the habit of paying better than they do now, but still Derby is a go-ahead town and well in touch with both agricultural, mining, and manufacturing industries. Blackpool, on the other hand, has just claims to be considered, as its people are unsurpassed for enthusiasm and activity. Only those who have observed the changes that have taken place in the Brighton of Lancashire during the past twenty years can realise what Blackpool is capable of doing, and it would not be the fault of the town authorities if a Royal Show held there was not a success.

Blackpool or Derby for the Royal Show.

A well-known figure at country markets, fairs, and sales is the cattle drover, whose business it is to drive the animals that are bought and sold to their various destinations. Now that so much cattle is transferred from place to place by rail, the drover is perhaps not such an indispensable person as he used to be, but it would still be difficult to get on without him. Apparently some men take to droving on account of some impediment which prevents them earning a living in other ways, as it is quite a common thing to see a drover with one leg a bit shorter than its neighbour or one arm missing. Judging from the attire of the general run of drovers, the business is not particularly lucrative, but it is by no means easy, for the drover works hard, lives hard, sleeps but little, and is exposed to all sorts of weather when on his journeys. As a rule he is an honest fellow, even if his language is a little at fault, and he knows every inch of the country through which he travels. Forty miles a day is a distance that many of us would not like to have to tramp, but this is not an exceptional journey for a cattle drover, and at the end of it he may have to be satisfied with a shake-down in a hayloft. Still the life must have some fascination for these men, as we are acquainted with drovers who have been on the roads almost as long as we remember, and they are still to be met with at any local market or sale ready to stand off with a herd of cattle, distance being no object.

Cattle Drovers.

Last year there was a tremendous crop of apples, and the great difficulty experienced by cider-makers was to find casks enough to put the liquor in. This year there are not so many apples, but, on the other hand, there is not such a dearth of cider as there was before grinding commenced in 1904. It is the western counties that comprise cider-land, and almost every farm homestead has an orchard of some sort in which the fruit is grown for the annual grind up, and in many buildings there is an old stone mill that has served for generations to extract the juice from the fruit. For his orchard trees the farmer is indebted to some member of a departed generation, for most of them are old, gnarled specimens; and, as comparatively little planting is being done, one is disposed to wonder where the fruit will come from to feed the mills when the old veteran trees succumb, as they must eventually do. Red-cheeked, but deceptive to those who are tempted by appearances, are some of the best cider apples, and when they get ripe a farm waggon is drawn into the orchard, and the fruits as they fall are picked up and placed therein, ready for the grinding. At many farmhouses in the western counties cider-making is carried out in a somewhat crude and primitive way, and one needs to be educated to drink some of the liquor that is turned out. Of late, however, science has been brought to bear upon the industry of cider making, and at the Fruit and Cider Institute near to Bristol experiments are carried out and information is given on the most economical and profitable systems of cider-making. It is hoped that this institution will be the means of arousing increased interest in the industry, which is not what it ought to be, considering the facilities of the western counties for growing suitable fruit.

In Cider Land.

In the way of scenery, the county of Gloucester presents many phases, and as one climbs from the flat and fertile vale of the Severn up to the heights of the well-known Cotswold country, scenes seem to change at almost every turn of the road. Behind you is a broad expanse of green pasture country, studded with orchards and bisected by the winding Severn, above you is a vast range of undulating landscape, where grey stone farmhouses are dotted about on the hillsides, and churches, surrounded by clusters of cottages, look for all the world as if they had grown there. Here is a mixture of pasture and arable land, and the big fields are divided by loose stone walls that seem to follow lines of their own, judging by the winding turns they take. The Cotswold country is a land of big farms, some of them reaching nearly a thousand acres, for which a rent of 10s. an acre is not considered low. The glory of agriculture on the Cotswolds seems to belong rather to the past than the present, when the wool from Cotswold sheep fetched half-a-crown a pound, and the corn grown on the hillsides was sold at an equally remunerative price. The hill people are proud of their Cotswolds, which abound in folklore and romance, and one cannot help thinking what a pity it is that such a vast expanse of not unfertile land should be so sparsely populated, while in town centres human beings are as thick on the ground as bees in a hive. The district does not develop, but, on the other hand, it seems to decline, and has steadily declined since wool went down and corn-growing ceased to pay. Of Cotswold farmers, one may say that they are a strong, sturdy race, who understand the peculiarities of their native hills better than anyone could teach them, and are contented to make livings because fortunes are not easily made by farmers in the Cotswold country. We are convinced, however, that it is a district with possibilities, and it seems odd to us to talk about over-sea colonies for our surplus population when there are miles and miles of land in this country, in some places more fertile than that of the Cotswold Hills.

Life on the Cotswold Hills.

A glance at the reports of hiring fairs held this Michaelmas in different parts of the country leads one to conclude that this system of engaging male and female servants is quickly dying out. More often the advertisement columns of the local papers are the means of bringing masters and servants in touch with each other, and there can be no doubt that the modern registry office has done something towards killing the hiring fair. An old lady of some sixty years' experience as a farmer's wife recently informed us that maid servants are not nearly so reliable as they were in the palmy days of the hiring fair, and she attributes it to the increase of registry offices. It is perhaps fortunate for farmers' wives that changes in agricultural methods have done away with the need of so much female labour, which in these days is none too plentiful, so far as service is concerned; but in the old days maids certainly realised their own responsibility more, because they had not got the registry office to fall back on. It is quite obvious that if these institutions are to thrive, as most of them appear to do, servants must be continually changing places and mistresses must be always seeking for servants. Every time a registry office supplies a mistress with a servant the latter has to pay a fee, and the more frequent the changes the more numerous the fees. When servants were engaged not only by farmers', but other housewives, at the annual hiring fair, one year's service could, at any rate, be relied on, and the only expense to the employer was the passing of the time-honoured shilling which sealed the engagement.

Hiring Fairs.

Protecting Wheat from Smut, etc.—A wheat protector that has been used with most beneficial results in all parts of the kingdom from as far back as 1827 is Clarke's Carbolised Wheat Protector, which is not only a preventive of smut in wheat, but, being strongly carbolised, it is extensively used for barley and oats, for birds and other farm pests will not touch the dressed seed. Numerous testimonials are to hand, from the perusal of which it is quite certain the "Protector" is effective; and it is also cheap, for 9d. buys a packet sufficient to dress 8 bushels of seed corn.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Whether the colonisation-mania of the religious philanthropists has been killed is a debatable matter. General Booth has abandoned his Australian purpose; but Mr. Wilson Carlile, of the Church Army, is as full of virile confidence as ever, and is still persuaded that he will have the aid of the State in sending his five thousand lusty-limbed, healthy-hearted men across the seas. Debatable or not, however, as to its own fate, there is no doubt that the colonisation-mania has impelled a keen attention to the tragedy of this continuous impoverishment of the country-side of muscle and sinew. At present, of course, we have not passed beyond the region in which generous philanthropists dwell; but these philanthropists should be the precursors of the politician. Mr. Rider Haggard's mission was the sequel to the anxiety of philanthropy to do something for the men compelled to lead a life of unhappy idleness; and the present suggestion that philanthropy should establish colonies at home may be followed by a similar disciplined effort on behalf of the State. Why should not, indeed, the State associate itself with an effort to colonise England as much as it should with an effort to colonise the colonies? If the State is willing to associate itself with an effort to train men for farm-life in the colonies—and Mr. Wilson Carlile assures us that he is convinced that it is—why should not the State associate itself with an effort to train men for farm-life in English villages? The fact that within the last fifty years the number of men employed on the land has diminished by a million and a quarter constitutes as grave a duty for the State as does the wisdom of cultivating the fertile soil of the colonies.

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Of course, already the politicians of the vivid type are demanding, as a second sequel to this newly-born sympathy with the denuded villages, that we should at once launch out upon a bold, emphatic, far-reaching, and even revolutionary scheme of agrarian reform. "The land goes out of cultivation," shout they, "for the simple reason that the land system is opposed to cultivation; the land is made over to game-preserving and the pursuit of pleasure." This is an excellent oratorical tag; but it is not quite true. It sounds well in the columns of the Radical *Daily News*—its ringing emphasis tickles the ear; but I am afraid it does not much help us and that we don't get any forrarder. Revolutions, even far-reaching reforms, are a matter of slow growth. The vehement temper which in the end upsets systems is the child of long, laborious culture. Infinitely better would it be to induce the State to come to the aid of philanthropists like Mr. Fels and Mr. Cadbury—the former of whom has deliberately undertaken the establishment of a certain number of English families on English soil—in cultivating the millions of acres of waste land. It may be wise to, in the end, assail the mediæval fabric of our land system; but that mediæval fabric has inalienably associated with it a tense sympathy, deep sentiments, and stern, inherited prejudices—in itself an assurance that it cannot be modernised by the wave of a magician's wand. There is a sufficient area to proceed upon without making any State action the result of a Titanic, of possibly an impossible, legislative ambition.

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To these Radicals I would say, "Don't let your sympathy for the villages and for the labour-parched land be only an offshoot of a desire to humiliate the squire, or to humble that land-buying gold-bug whom you have recently admitted is a worse enemy to the land than the old race of landlords." Let the State do for England what apparently it was willing to do for the colonies. It is convinced that afforestation is a wise policy; it has uncultivated land; it has physical tissue going to waste in the towns. Cultivate the fallow-land, under healthy conditions, and from them might proceed a stream of desirable labour to the villages. Above all let us eschew feather-headism. This is not the hour for resolutions; 'tis the hour rather for sanity.

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Mr. Fels has certainly every justification in his appeal to the Government. If the Government is ready to advance the sum of £300,000 for the purpose of emigrating 1,500 families and establishing them on the land in the colonies—and this is a fair deduction from recent events—the Government should be prepared to provide a similar sum in order to deal with those families under advantageous conditions in this country. Nay, the latter purpose has an advantage in that it would permit of an immediate and sympathetic vigilance being exercised over this purpose by the executive. Of course, the reply is that the colonies are willing to provide the land; and that thus the £300,000 could not possibly achieve as much at home as would be accomplished overseas. This contention, however, is deprived of all force if British philanthropy—and it is to British philanthropy that Mr. Fels directly appeals—performs the generous part which Canada is anxious to perform. "I should," says Mr. Fels, with excellent clearness, "settle the families on small holdings, and the Government money would be used for the erection of the houses and the necessary buildings and for the provision of other immediate necessaries." Of course, with this project he would establish farm-labour colonies. It would not be a mere adventure in pauperising charity. As a fact, Mr. Fels would let his holdings on a basis of a return of four or five per cent. In whom the title should be vested is for the moment no immediate matter; but that it should be vested in somebody is necessary in order that the cultivator might be saved from the too-insinuating attentions of an English edition of the gombeen-man.

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Here, then, is a practical scheme—if the Government will advance the £300,000, philanthropy will probably establish 1,500 families on 1,500 small holdings. True, it would be an experiment, and an experiment for which an assured success could not be promised; but the lives of these families would be just as experimntal in the colonies and have associated with them the same possibility of failure. At all events, here is a chance of cultivating the waste land, of pursuing a system of afforestation under disciplined conditions, of carrying a promise and a hope to deserving human derelicts, of retaining in the motherland the physical material she so much needs, of rebuking the emigration-mania which would drain us of our best muscle and brawn, and of establishing what might prove training-colonies for a future race of rural labourers. Now, the next word is with the Government. Will Ministers provide the initial £300,000? This is, after all, not even a tithe of what an abortive military adventure in Somaliland would cost.

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Yes, the world moves—as Sir William Grantham must himself be now convinced. We have an authoritative declaration from a politician of the front rank that the building by-laws of rural areas ought to be simplified. "We ought," said Mr. Asquith in an address to his constituents, "to get rid of foolish restrictions in by-laws which impede the building of small houses in rural districts." I hope that, because Mr. Asquith is the first man of statesman-rank to give utterance to this sentiment, it will not be assumed this purpose will have a partisan character. That assuredly it will not possess. Men of all faiths and creeds are united in the conviction that one of the first duties of a new Parliament—frankly, I assume that it is hopeless to expect much of this Parliament, even if its life be prolonged, in view of the seriousness of its preoccupations and the inevitability of the redistribution proposals occupying a tense attention—will be to make cheap, sanitary cottages a possibility. I see that Sir William Grantham in his impetuous enthusiasm apparently thinks that a labourer would be willing to pay as much as five shillings a week for his cottage. This is a strange misconception for so sagacious and observant a man. If the exactions of the building laws render it impossible to remuneratively let a decent cottage at a less rent than this, we have in them one of the most fecund parents of the tide of emigration to the towns. Every experiment and every experience has shown that it is possible to remuneratively let a decent cottage at a less rent, and the building laws must be so simplified with this object in view. But in order that better housing may be secured in the villages we must have more than an alteration in the building laws. We must give local authorities building powers and borrowing powers; and we must vest in the ratepayers themselves power to compel any laggard authority to act.

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The letter which Earl Carrington despatched to the *Times* on this subject came to my attention only after I had written the above paragraph. It is significant, however, of the ability to erect cottages at a sum for which it would be possible to secure a remunerative rent. If Lord Carrington can erect sanitary and desirable cottages for £156—cottages which satisfy the requirements of the existing by-laws—then other landowners can do the same. All the same, the agitation in favour of the simplification of the building laws must not be relaxed or relinquished. Lord Carrington was fortunate in having to deal with a sympathetic authority. The matter, however, should be placed beyond the caprice of our modernised Bumbles and of a too-exacting officiousness. Of course, some regulation is necessary. Else the position would lead to a parsimonious spirit or building cottages of an undesirable character. It should, however, be possible to prevent this, and at the same time to remove the present causes of irritation and discouragement.

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The Barkston Ash by-election was potent of much. Perhaps, the most luminous incident in connection with it was the indisposition of the Conservative candidate, once an avowed Chamberlainite, to lisp the Chamberlain evangel, and his comprehension that the encouragement of an overwhelming preferentialised competition from Canada might mean as grim a disaster for the British farmers as an overwhelming competition from the United States or the Continent. To me, however, a portent of more value was the declaration of the Liberal candidate that he would consent to the continuance of the policy expressed in the Agricultural Rating Act until the whole question of local taxation is dealt with. It may be that this declaration was in the nature of a bribe to the rural vote. Let it be so. Do not forget, however, that a large body of the Barkston Ash electors are ratepayers of Leeds, and that Leeds was one of the centres which was held to be most unfairly penalised by the Act. Leeds, in fact, was during the active agitation against the principle of the Act, held up as a striking example of the unjust burdens imposed on the towns. What does this mean? That the Liberals are willing to dare the disapproval of the towns in order to conciliate the rural electors? This is the first-fruit of the fact that the rural electors revealed with unusual firmness that they meant to have the original Rating Act continued. If a similar spirit were exhibited in connection with other anxieties, they might possibly be also yielded. There was a little clamour associated with the defence of the Rating Act; and, behold, the assailants of it have not only abandoned their attack, but have accepted the measure.

The South-Eastern Agricultural College, Wye, Kent, commenced the 1905-6 session on Tuesday, October 3, with 100 students entered for the session. The inaugural address on botany and agriculture was delivered by Professor H. Marshall Ward, Sc.D., F.R.S.

NORTHERN NOTES.

Michaelmas is one of the most important periods of the farming year; in districts, farming tenancies run from Michaelmas, and it is at this time that outgoers quit and incomers enter. In some places the year of tenancy begins and ends at New Michaelmas—September 29—in other places Old Michaelmas is customary—October 11. Here, in the north, Lady-day tenancies are more common, and here, too, is the same dual character noticeable; in some localities New Lady-day (March 24) is the customary date, in other places Old Lady-day (April 6) is universal. And where agreements provide that half a year's notice shall be sufficient to determine a Lady-day tenancy, that notice must be given at Michaelmas.

So far, little has been heard of prospective changes of tenancy. Usually neither the giver nor the receiver of the notice make the matter public as soon as the notice is actually given, but the fact soon leaks out. It often happens that by this date there is common knowledge of many forthcoming changes, but this year surprisingly little is known of any such things. No doubt there have been a good many notices given, but it is probable that the number is less than usual. The commercial classes often express wonder that if a tenant farmer finds that his farm is too highly rented he does not give notice to leave it, and actually leave it, if the landlord declines to reduce his rent. But the townsman does not know how much of the farmer's capital is locked up in the land, if the farmer has been doing his land well, and how difficult—aye, how impossible it is—for him to give up the farm and take with him all the capital he has laid out.

It is often remarked that a landlord parts with a tenant with much less reluctance than that tenant parts with his farm. But there are several reasons why a tenant parts hardly with a farm. He has, perhaps, been born upon it, and there his parents lived and died, or he may have spent his best years upon it, brought his wife home to it on marriage, and his children have been born there and brought up there until they have gone to homes of their own. He knows every foot of the land, and has studied its idiosyncrasies, and can gauge its capacity as no stranger can, and he honestly loves the place. And, when advanced in years, he finds it necessary to remove from his farm and seek a new one, he has often to move to a distance and leave behind him all his friends and to break the associations he has formed. Few men can do this without feeling the change deeply, although many do it without giving any outward sign of what they do feel. As a rule, the tenant's regret is that he is leaving the farm, not that he is breaking off relations with his landlord.

Many landlords know little or nothing of their tenants, and do not even know them when they meet. They commit their farms completely to the care of an agent, and they have but little personal interest in their tenants or concern in their affairs. Of course, this is not true of all landlords, for there are some who take the deepest interest in the welfare of their tenants and of all that concerns them; and, unfortunately, it often happens that such men are not blessed with too much spare capital, and so cannot improve their estates as they would like to do. Some of the largest landowners are the best landlords, and some can be instanced who never give a tenant notice to quit—not even if for years he fails to pay the whole of his rent. But they often fail to distinguish between the farm and the farmer, and they pay greater attention to the representations of the heedless, unskilful cultivator, who gets into difficulties and whose farm is an evident testimony to his negligence, than they do to the representations of the man who farms well but finds that he cannot pay the rent originally agreed upon. The landlord and his agent look at the two farms, and they say of the one that the farm is a first-class farm and that if the present tenant will not pay the rent another man can easily be found who will, and they consider the other farm of less value, and they lower the tenant's rent. In one sense the landlord acts wisely, because there is no difficulty in letting at a good rent a farm that is in high condition, but a farm in bad order is not so readily disposed of.

But what about the future? The man who will give a high rent for a farm in first-class condition is often one who will commence to "run" the place as soon as he enters, and in a few years there will be nothing to choose between it and the farm the landlord thought a poor one.

The writer is a tenant farmer, and is no advocate for land courts, nor for fixed rents, nor for peasant proprietorship, nor for any similar nostrums, but he does say that the curse of the present system of estate management in England is the incapacity of the landlord and of the agent to *distinguish between the farm and the farmer*, the incapacity to discern whether the farm is making the farmer or whether the farmer is making the farm.

Michaelmas is also the time when many large stock fairs and markets are held in various parts of the country. Half a century ago these country fairs were much more common than at present, and large quantities of stock were brought to such places and changed hands there. The development of the railway system has changed all this, and old country fairs are falling into desuetude. All parties, vendors, and purchasers alike seek places where the railway facilities are abundant, and so it is found that only those stock fairs survive that are fairly conveniently situated. Where old-established fairs were held in places which have since become railway and industrial centres, those fairs have developed to a surprising extent. The last of what are known as the great Michaelmas fairs at York was held on the 12th inst., and at the middle fair (on September 27) not less than 25,000 sheep and lambs were exhibited. At these "fairs" a very large proportion of the sheep shown consists of breeding gimmers and ewes from Northumberland and from Scotland—principally, of course, from over the Border. Border Leicesters, Cheviots, and all the crosses between those breeds, are shown in large numbers. Only a few years ago 70,000 sheep and lambs were penned at the middle (there are three) of these great Michaelmas fairs, and one north country dealer—since gone over to the majority—showed 4,000 ewes and gimmers and 800 store cattle, and sold nearly the whole. But Jonas Wallbank—a name no doubt familiar to many readers of the MARK LANE EXPRESS—considered his supply of stock on this particular day nothing out of the common, and it is believed that he once showed just about 10,000 sheep at one of these York Michaelmas fairs. To walk round the York Market, and along the cattle pens under the Castle walls—usually devoted to Irish cattle, but at these fairs always occupied by breeding sheep from the north—is well worth a journey from a long distance. These Border Leicester and Cheviot crosses are not now in such great demand as they were a few years ago, when many thousands of breeding animals were purchased for the South and Midlands from the dealers at these York fairs.

The old-established fair held at Malton on October 11 and 12 always concludes the northern ram sales. Here are shown Leicester, Lincoln, Wensleydale, Hampshire, Oxford, and Shropshire rams and ram lambs; the Leicesters and Lincolns, of course, predominating over the shorter-woolled breeds. This year the various Down breeds of rams have been in smaller demand—in fact, the demand for them was very limited—the higher prices obtained for wool during the past summer having caused farmers to turn their attention more closely to the long-woolled races of sheep. On the whole, the demand for both Lincolns and Leicesters has been fairly maintained, and the breeders represented cleared out their exhibits at the Malton Fair, and the ram sales of the season came to an end.

M. Y.

October 13, 1905.

The President of the Board of Agriculture (the Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P.) has promised to attend the annual competitive festival of the Monmouthshire Dairy School on December 8.

At a meeting of local farmers held at Ulverston on Thursday, it was unanimously agreed to form a Farmers' Association, open to landowners, tenant farmers, and others interested in farming resident in Lonsdale north of the Sands, and Cumberland south of the River Esk.

Mr. Elmer Speed's Farm Stock. — Messrs. Stride and Son, of Chichester, in conjunction with Messrs. Honeyball and Finn, of Deal, conducted the sale of the live and dead farm stock belonging to Mr. Elmer Speed, Home Farm, Knowlton Court, near Dover, on Wednesday, October 4. The sale commenced at 11 o'clock with the dead stock. The best implements made good prices, but old and out-of-date machinery is very difficult to dispose of. A portion of the Southdown flock was included in the sale, it comprising the whole of the shearling ewes, but only a portion of the other ages, the remainder being retained for other land still in hand. The shearling ewes made up to 66s. per head, Mr. Bird, of Eartham, Sussex, taking a nice quality pen at this price; four-teeth ewes made up to 61s., six-teeth to 60s., full-mouth to 54s.; the ewe lambs made from 48s. to 40s., wether lambs 38s., two-teeth wethers 48s.; shearling rams 15 gs. and 13 gs. (twice). Angus cows were also sold, making up to 24 gs., Sussex cows to 26 gs.; an Angus bull 26 gs., and Highland heifers, with calves at foot, £15. Messrs. Honeyball and Finn conducted the sale of the horses and pigs, for which satisfactory prices were obtained.

Midland Notes.

At this period of change in the stately procession of the seasons, is there any county more beautiful than "leafy Warwickshire?" If so, we do not know it. The variety, as well as the abundance of the foliage, is never more striking than at this time when autumn, "spent with fulfilment," is passing quietly into winter. There are all shades and tints now visible, from vermilion, through claret, on to golden browns, and palest sulphur yellows. It is a pleasant season also for the former this year, for the land is working capitally, and since we have had a full share of dry days and sunny hours the mangels are maturing nicely. Everywhere mangels seem to have done better than other roots, and the complaints of finger and toe among common turnips and symptoms of mildew among early swedes, which come from a Nottingham correspondent, are echoed in other quarters too. The few lots of kohl rabis which one sees also bear marks of the dry summer.

The dearness of sheep, which have paid well for grazing this year, is a subject of general remark. At Kidderminster fat wethers have been making up to 58s. 6d., and lambs 47s., and the Market Harborough quotation for mutton is 7d. to 8½d. per lb. One hears of good store lambs making 40s. and more, and there is every indication that both wool and mutton will keep up in price for some time to come—the result, no doubt, of a genuine scarcity of sheep in the country. In comparison, the trade in cattle is markedly poor, and, considering that stores were bought by no means cheaply early in the year, Midland graziers may fairly consider they have had a depressing season.

In this season of ploughing and thatching contests, one is again unpleasantly reminded of the fewness of young men with any skill in farm work. There were thirty teams on the ground at the North Cotswold ploughing competitions, and there were plenty of entries for the Staffordshire contests, open to labourers in the Walsall, Lichfield, and Tamworth districts; but in both cases young competitors were scarce. In the latter, a class for ploughmen under twenty drew but five, and one for lads under sixteen only two entries. One hears now and again of young "back-to-the-landers," tired of the towns, presenting themselves at the hiring fairs. There were some, for instance, at Burton the other day, but they are of little use compared with the skilful and sturdy lads brought up to farm work and the care of animals, whose growing scarcity threatens even greater labour difficulties in the future than the agriculturist has already to put up with.

The Black Country hop-pickers have returned to find themselves in the educational authorities' black books, for the schools have been losing grants by the children's country holidays. To-day there are wholesale summonings. A "first batch" of nearly 100 cases was heard the other day at one court alone, and the profits of the ironworkers' and miners' annual outing are being rapidly dissipated in fines. It is not to be wondered at that the Staffordshire County Council is being asked to fix the school holidays for the future later in the year.

According to the Board of Agriculture, Worcestershire has produced nearly 52,000 cwt. of hops this year, and Hereford nearly 89,000 cwt. As this is crediting the two counties with something over 13½ cwt. and something under 13 cwt. per acre respectively, it is no doubt very near the truth. But how much of this great yield will be marketed? The hops left to blow away amount to a large quantity this year—in some districts the estimate is one-third of the growth—and, considering the present ruinously low prices, we may expect to see not a little grubbing by disappointed growers. Good year or bad, there are more blanks than prizes in the great agricultural gamble.

Under the supervision of Mr. A. Wilcox, the venerable Lord Leigh's fine park was made the scene this season of a small experiment in the manuring of grass land. To a measured acre was applied 3 cwt. superphosphate, 3 cwt. kainit, and 1 cwt. nitrate, at a total cost of 30s. It is announced now that there was a gain of some 13 cwt. in the yield, which (reckoning the hay at 70s. per ton) means a profit of about 18s. But better results would have been obtained if the manures had been differently applied. To supply the whole dressing at once in March is not the most profitable or economic method conceivable.

October 13, 1905.

A Remarkable Crop of Mangolds

Last week we had the opportunity of inspecting a remarkable crop of mangolds, portions of which it is expected will yield at the rate of from 90 to 100 tons per acre. The crop has been grown on Mrs. McIntosh's home farm at Havering Park, Essex, the soil of which is firm London clay. The farm, we may mention in passing, is a pleasant drive of about four miles from the old Essex market town of Romford, which, however, in the hands of the ubiquitous and speculative builder is fast losing its old-fashioned appearance and becoming the latest adjunct to the ever-extending metropolis.

It is difficult to believe that Havering Park, with its four-mile drive to the nearest railway station, is twelve miles as the crow flies from the Bank. The peacefulness of the countryside is greatly in evidence, and we were told that the only means by which the vicinity of London could be detected was by the smell of smoke when the wind was in a certain direction, while in the winter time the white country fogs tended to assume that black and acrid character associated with a "London particular." Not that we could detect, however, any trace of injury to vegetation in consequence.

Now, to return to the crop of mangolds which was responsible for a very pleasant afternoon spent in the company of Mr. Beckett, the manager for Mrs. McIntosh, who met us at Romford station. The farm, we gathered, ran to about 1,100 acres, all of which consists of the tenacious London clay. Part of it in the past consisted of the old Royal Forest of Hainault, and, strange as it may seem to the county of Essex, some of the land has not yet been under the plough, and has been grass land from times immemorial, or, as the legal documents put it, "since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary." On this what we might practically call virgin soil, some enormous crops of mangolds have been grown, but it is not this which excited our admiration last week, but rather the system which, under the able management of Mr. Beckett, is able to extract from the soil what may be called enormous crops.

We reproduce on this page a couple of illustrations which will give some idea of the yield per acre, and in our estimate given above we have with us the opinion of a man whose word is a very weighty one amongst growers.

Perhaps it may have occurred to the reader that this enormous yield is due to the liberal application of artificial manure. Such, however, is not the case, neither nitrate of soda nor superphosphate being given in the smallest quantity, the only dressing being one of gas lime, and it would seem from Mr. Beckett's experience the heavier the dressing the better the result. It appears that the remarkable effect of gas lime upon the London clay was only discovered by accident, owing to the fact that one of the farm hands misunderstood his instructions and spread the gas lime on land intended for roots at the rate of from 8 to 10 tons per acre. The damage was, of course, done, and it was fully expected that the crop would be a small one, if any; but, strange to say, the yield was exceptionally large.

This result, obtained by accident, rather opened the eyes of Mr. Beckett, and the next year a certain portion was set aside and dressed with the same amount of gas lime, and again the result was satisfactory. This year a small portion was dressed at the rate of from 12 to 15 tons per acre, and the result seems to be proportionately more successful.

It is quite possible, of course, that a limit will be reached in a year or two beyond which it will be inadvisable to go, and that when once the land has had a certain quantity of gas lime applied to it, smaller dressings annually will serve the purpose; but this is a point which further experience will elucidate.

The roots were of large size, and peculiarly clean and free from insect attacks, due, of course, to the action of the gas lime; but what was most noticeable was the way in which the root fibres fed upon the lumps of gas lime which were to be found. And it is to this fact that the large yields are due. No doubt something is due to good seed, but generally the large crop is due to the gas lime, for the seed supplied by Messrs. Carter and Co., and Messrs. J. K. King and Sons, of Coggleshall, appears to give about the same results.

It is an extraordinary thing that the gas lime has produced such wonderful results on the London clay, and neighbouring farmers have been much surprised at the large crops obtained from land so treated. There must of course, be some chemical as well as mechanical effect; the latter, it is true, is very evident, and where wheat had already been sown the tilth was exceptionally fine, and the seed-bed more favourable than it would be under ordinary circumstances. As regards the chemical effect, we are not in a position to make any suggestions, but surely it would be worth while for some of our agricultural chemists to inquire into the matter.

A Remarkable Crop of Mangolds: This particular portion yields at the rate of Ninety Tons per Acre.

Some Fine Roots: The Foot Rule will give some Idea of their Size.

A Scotch Potato Inspection.

By the special invitation of Mr. T. A. Scarlett, the well-known potato-seed grower, Edinburgh, a large number of the most prominent potato growers, potato merchants, and market gardeners in the country met on the 30th ult. at the Chancelot seed-testing grounds to witness the results of his seed tests for the season. Mr. Scarlett has for years been one of the most extensive potato-seed growers in the kingdom, as he annually grows over 400 acres of specially selected varieties for seed uses. He has also made a specialty of growing in greater or less quantity all the most up-to-date new varieties, and on his seed-testing grounds at Chancelot he had this year no fewer than 60 different varieties growing side by side, all the standard varieties, together with all the best of the newer varieties, being there grown under precisely similar conditions in order to demonstrate their relative cropping and disease-resisting qualities. By way of making his cropping tests as educative as possible he has also each different variety shown growing from whole seed, from cut seed, and from "seconds," so as to show in the clearest way the most profitable system of seeding this important crop. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that Mr. Scarlett's annual "field day" draws an immense gathering of potato growers from all parts of the country, and the large company that made the inspection this year saw much to interest and instruct them.

Measured lengths of each drill of each variety had been dug, and the produce all set out in different boxes to show the variety. As the digging of the measured lengths had only been done just before inspection commenced the weights were not available at the time, but as the boxes were all of uniform size the party were able to form a very accurate estimate of the relative yield of each variety. Attention was first directed to the early varieties. All the best-known early varieties—Epicures, May Queens, Dalmeny Earlies, Sir John Llewelyn, etc.—were on trial, but it was easily seen that among them all the Mid-Lothian Early was a very easy first, alike as

regards yield of crop and attractiveness of appearance. Some of the visitors on surveying the produce of this variety as set out in the boxes hinted a wish to see another length dug under their eyes, and, on this being done, they found that the weight was to the full as great as had been represented.

In regard to the maincrop varieties there was no little discussion among the company as to whether a considerable number of varieties did not differ from each other only in name, and there was a general agreement that the multiplicity of varieties was not only a nuisance but was very confusing to growers. Mr. Scarlett called special attention to what he regarded as the standard varieties, namely, the Dalmeny Hero, the Factor, Pink Blossom, Duchess of Cornwall, Warrior, Table Talk, Langworthy, and Peacemaker. These could be all safely relied on.

The Northern Star, which was in great demand in the spring of last year, made a fair show, but the Eldorado variety, which in the spring of last year was selling at £160 per lb. made a very poor appearance. Mr. Scarlett, however, explained that the Eldorados growing there, like so many others on the market, had been grown from roots that had been propagated from shoots, which was by far the quickest way to raise any variety that was in great demand, but at the same time it was, as he had now learned, the surest way to ruin any variety.

The Money-makers, which were introduced last year, made a grand appearance in point of yield. But the climax of interest in the day's proceedings was reached when Mr. Scarlett called upon the company to inspect a new variety called the Heather Blossom, which had been originally raised by Mr. Chapman, Belfast. The Heather Blossom showed a quite phenomenal yield of beautifully-formed tubers, and the company unanimously agreed that it was the most prolific and most promising of all the varieties they had seen that day.

The inspection concluded with a demonstration of the working capacities of two recently brought out appliances for digging potato crops. One of these—the "Shores" plough, which is fitted with "shakers" at the rear—did very good work, which was highly commended by all the practical men on the ground. The other was the Hoosey, which lifts the drill bodily and sends it up a kind of elevator, in which all the soil is shaken out and the tubers are deposited in a row behind. This machine, however, is rather complicated, and it was continually choking. It was tried last year, but not with any great success, on the farm of Barney Hill, Dunbar. Several of the East Lothian growers present, however, declared that an inventor in that county was about to place on the market a machine which would lift the whole drill and its contents on to an elevator riddle, from which the potatoes would be deposited on a receptacle placed on the rear part of the machine.

Seed Potatoes in Strathmore.

The other day (writes a Dundee correspondent) we visited Strathmore, where potatoes are grown on an extensive scale, and were much struck by the splendid appearance of the crops in this district. Around Coupar-Angus was this especially evident, where Messrs. C. E. Anderson and Son, Limited, are the principal seed growers, and cultivate most of the newer varieties, together with several acres of the older sorts, both for seed and table purposes. An interesting field was that in the vicinity of the town, where the firm are growing some of the newer kinds. Sir John Llewellyn, which we saw being lifted, took up a beautiful crop. The others were free from blight, and of a nice uniform shape and colour. Here, also, were Ninetyfold, Epicures, Evergood, The Factor, Eureka, Diamond, Eldorado, etc., all of which were in the pink of condition. A field of British Queens produced a crop of particularly fine tubers. At another farm, several acres of 20th Century showed by the fine exuberant growth and tubers at the roots to be a potato which will yet be largely grown. It is of excellent quality.

The other part of this field was Northern Stars, which were of outstanding merit. It is no exaggeration to say that, as an all-round potato, in numbers, size, shape, and quality, the "Star" at the present time has no equal here. From samples which we tested we found this potato to be a splendid cooker, and entirely free from disease.

Other varieties which were seen were Sutton's Regents, Ninetyfold, Royal Kidneys, Monarch, Dalmeny Hero, Warrior, etc.

A field respectively of Recorder and King Edward VII. showed good crops, the tubers being of fine size, and, when tested, of excellent quality. We also saw several other fields of Northern Stars, and found these equal in every respect to the first lot visited. The Messrs. Anderson inform us that they will be lifting their crops from now onwards, and heartily invite anyone interested to pay them a visit, and, more especially, to see the crops of "Stars" being lifted.

By Lupulin.

The 1905 Crop.

Whatever may be the disadvantages of a too bounteous yield of hops, and it must be admitted that they are not few, there may be some glory to be associated with the present year's crop, as, according to the official figures, it has established a record in the history of our industry. It is true that in 1886 a heavier total weight (776,144 cwt.) was harvested, but the area on which that great quantity was grown stood at 70,127 acres, giving an average of only a little over 11 cwt. per acre. Again in 1855 we had 743,047 cwt. from 57,567 acres, the average per acre being nearly 13 cwt. But this year from only 48,967 acres our production is 695,943 cwt., our average running up to the unprecedented figure of 14.21 cwt. In order to fully estimate the importance of this figure, some reference to the returns of the past 10 years is desirable. From 1896 to 1905 inclusive our English growers have produced 4,579,908 cwt. of hops, giving an average of 457,990 cwt. per annum. Although the period named includes the heavy cropping years of 1899 and 1901, it will be seen that our total yield this year is nearly 50 per cent. above the average. The production per acre is even still more remarkable. Taking the averages of the 10 years referred to, we find that the actual average of the whole is 9.12 cwt., whereas this figure is now exceeded by 5.09, the excess representing nearly 55 per cent. We are, therefore, justified in claiming that by our improved methods of cultivation and treatment, aided by the climatic conditions of the season, we have attained to a point that has never been previously reached in English plantations. If we could properly calculate the proportion of the crop that has been allowed, for several reasons, to be left unpicked, we should doubtless be faced by still more startling results, and we may therefore conclude that it is probable that the present year will be prominent for a long time to come as our record season.

An examination of the details of the present returns shows that the county of Kent has rather more than doubled her output on the whole, the increase being smallest in the East, and largest in the Weald, the latter showing an increase from last year of over 96,000 cwt., and giving the highest average of any English district—viz., 15.91 cwt. per acre. The Hereford figures are very remarkable, as they give no less an expansion both in total and average of over six times. Worcester hardly comes up to her neighbour, but provides evidence of very pronounced increase, the average having advanced from 3.13 to 13.65 cwts. Surrey has increased her total by over four times, and her average is in about same proportion. Sussex, on the other hand, does not make so pronounced a mark, the average of this county having been raised from 6.20 to 14.86 cwt., and the total from 27,726 to 69,059 cwt.; but Hampshire, from the small area of 1,978 acres, shows an average of 15.27 cwt., and a total raised from 9,137 to 30,207 cwt.

The grand total of the crop (695,943 cwt.) is 413,613 cwt. in excess of last year, and will sufficiently meet the requirements of British brewers during the current year. Our growers may congratulate themselves that there is not much room for foreign intrusion. Unfortunately, foreign crops are also very large, and can only be kept out of our market by the low prices of our produce. The cost of exclusion will therefore be considerable, and I much regret that I cannot see any opening for profit accruing to the English section of the industry this season. An excessive crop can only benefit one class. While the grower laments the brewer rejoices, and, unfortunately, the general public is in no sense benefited. We can only hope that by the more lavish use of hops in this year of cheapness the burden of the big crop will be lessened, and a better experience will await growers in the seasons yet in front of them.

Produce of Hops.

Preliminary Statement showing the Estimated Total Production of Hops in the years 1905 and 1904, with the Acreage and Estimated Average yield per Statute Acre in each County of England in which Hops were grown.

Counties, &c.	Estimated Total Produce		Acreage Returned on 5th June		Estimated Average Yield per Acre.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Acres	Acres	Cwts.	Cwts.
Kent — East	135,948	74,878	10,487	10,272	13·05	7·29
Kent — Mid	152,044	82,795	10,464	10,283	14·53	8·05
Kent — Weald	155,481	58,134	9,774	9,286	15·91	6·37
Kent — Total, Kent	443,473	216,807	30,655	29,841	14·47	7·27
Hants	30,207	9,137	1,978	1,900	15·27	4·81
Hereford	88,802	14,101	6,851	6,767	12·96	2·08
Salop	1,624	280	135	140	12·04	2·00
Surrey	10,241	2,515	843	877	12·16	2·87
Sussex	69,059	27,726	4,647	4,474	14·86	6·20
Worcester	51,961	11,736	3,807	3,752	13·65	3·13
Other Counties*	576	28	51	48	11·18	0·58
Total	695,943	282,330	48,967	47,799	14·21	5·91

* Gloucester and Suffolk.

Home Notes.

Imports and Exports.

The first month of our new year demonstrates that the opening for foreign hops is as yet very limited. Our imports during September only gave us 264 cwt. from U.S.A. and 4,342 cwt. from other countries. The total 4,606 cwt. contrasts remarkably with last year's returns, as in September 1904 we received 28,117 cwt. Our exports for last month were 1,224 cwt., so that the balance against us is reduced to the insignificant figure of 3,382 cwt.

The Borough.

The total of the business done since the opening of the season has been exceptionally large. Bright, healthy qualities are almost entirely cleared, and the values of such have consequently advanced. We are now waiting the arrival of some of the more important growths, and there are indications in the slackening off of business during the past few days, that buyers may possibly adopt a waiting policy in order to test the ideas of the planters as to future values. It is unhappily too evident that a very large proportion of our hops is lacking in colour and condition, and I hear of sales of some lots at prices that are absurdly low, when we are aware that even these are not wholly deficient in the constituents required by brewers. It is difficult to attempt to forecast the ultimate issue of this season's business, but I am compelled to admit that, at present, I cannot look forward hopefully, and earnestly trust that further developments may bring light into a situation which is now almost entirely in the shade.

Major Thomas Neve, J.P.

With extreme regret I briefly refer to the passing away of this true gentleman, who died suddenly from heart failure a few days ago during a visit to Italy. The sorrow of his numerous friends is most sincere, as he was respected and beloved by all who knew him, and universal sympathy is extended to his family, and especially to his aged father, Mr. George Neve, who remains as the doyen of all English hop-planters.

Foreign Notes.

Burgundy.

The conclusion of the harvest more than confirms previous estimates of the quantity, with an excellent average of quality, the majority of the growths being very attractive as to colour. I have seen samples of very pretty hops from this district. The offers of 50 to 60 francs now current are by no means satisfactory to planters, who declare that such prices do not cover the cost of production.

Borough, Monday.—The tone of the Belgian hop market has improved during the last few days. More active demand has developed, and values have advanced by about 5s. per cwt.

British Possessions
beyond the Seas
AND THEIR
London Representatives.
NOVA SCOTIA.
Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, MR. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Difficulty with Oil Engine.

SIR,—I bought a petrol engine (3 b.h.p.) from Glover's, of Warwick, a month or two ago, and I am glad to find they got a silver medal for it at the Dairy Show.

Will you kindly explain to me through the MARK LANE EXPRESS the action of the magneto ignition, which I have on it.

Also, how to tell the b.h.p., by putting a brake on the flywheel—that is, the formula?

The engine runs 340 revolutions per minute, and the diameter of flywheel is 2 ft. 3 in.—Very truly yours, NORTH LINDSEY.

October 12, 1905.

Smithfield Judges of our Cross-Bred Sheep.

SIR,—If it is correct that the selection of judges made by the council of the Smithfield Club for the cross-bred sheep classes are both breeders of pure "Oxfords" or the "Oxford cross," I consider it to be most unfair to those who intend to exhibit other cross-breds—in fact, from past experience, it is almost useless for them to send.

If it is the desire of the council to increase the number of exhibits, this could be done by appointing a Hampshire breeder (90 per cent. of the exhibits in these classes are bred from Hampshire ewes) and a butcher, or two cross-breeders, one of large and the other small breeds.

October 10, 1905. EXHIBITOR.

Crop Disease—Affected Swedes and Potatoes.

SIR,—We send you a portion of the bulb of a swede taken from a field of ten acres in Norfolk; the whole crop is similarly affected, and so also are two different kinds of swedes grown upon a farm a few miles distant. The seedmen who supplied the seed have examined their trials of the same stock, and find their plants perfectly healthy. The affected crops had been badly mildewed. We also send a diseased potato, which is similarly affected, it is supposed. Will you kindly advise on the matter? W. B.

[*** The potato is affected by wet rot, and all tubers so affected are valueless and should be burned, as otherwise the disease will be communicated to sound tubers. The land should be limed, and no potatoes should be grown upon it for a few years. None of the potato sets should be used for seed. The swede sent is not affected by a similar organism, indeed, it is very doubtful whether the peculiar appearance of the portion of the swede sent is really due to disease. It may possibly prove that the swedes will be sound and usable for stock in the ordinary way, although, possibly, the keeping properties of the bulbs may be somewhat impaired. The swede was submitted to one of the leading experts in this country, and he is unable at present to say whether there is any real disease or not. If any change is noted in the swedes, perhaps you will send another specimen for examination, and, in any event, it would be well to send one to the Editor sometime in December, provided that no change is previously apparent.—M. Y.]

Rural Depopulation and the Church Army.

SIR,—I should be grateful if you would suffer me to offer you a few words of explanation in reference to the notes under the heading "Agricultural Politics" in your issue of the 2nd inst.

I cannot but think that the author of these notes has somewhat misunderstood the object and scope of the Church Army's proposals as to emigration. Nothing is further from our desire or intention than to deplete the country districts further, and it is a part of our plans to do something towards repopulating rural neighbourhoods by a system of planting carefully chosen families upon small holdings of their own. It seems almost needless to point out what difficulties stand between us and the realisation of these plans. Land within reasonable reach of a fair market, an absolute necessity in the case of small holdings, is difficult to be obtained, save at a prohibitive price; housing constitutes a serious difficulty; questions of rent, tithe, rates, and taxes must be faced; and possibly there may be prejudices to be overcome on the part of neighbourhoods chosen for colonisation. None of these are, we believe insurmountable, but they cannot be surmounted in a moment and without considerable expenditure.

Meanwhile we stand face to face with the need of immediate action to meet the problem of unemployment, and men, women, and children are starving, or approaching starvation, by thousands. Emigration to Canada affords immediate relief at a moderate expense, and, in default of a better remedy, the absolute need of prompt action at a cost which shall be within our resources compels us to take what is perhaps a less perfect way, but a practicable and speedy one.

You will have noticed that our proposals are limited to 5,000 men. Surely the country can afford to watch the transfer of this number, out of her many millions, from one part of the King's dominions to another—not to a foreign land—without raising the cry of "draining the life-blood from the country," and so on.

If, Sir, any of your readers can show us a way as immediately practicable as that which we propose, and not more costly, we are quite willing, indeed eager, to be taught.—I am, etc.,

W. CARLILE,
Hon. Chief Secretary.

The Church Army Headquarters,
55, Bryanston Street, Marble Arch,
London, W.,
October 12, 1905.

A Fine Autumn in Gloucestershire.

SIR,—The autumn this year is one of exceptional weather, enabling the stubbles to be thoroughly cleaned. The work generally is in a forward condition. Very little seeding is done, the land being too dry. Mangolds are showing signs of being ready for drawing—in fact, this work has been commenced. Grass is plentiful, and, with continued mild weather, will go far towards saving the hayricks.

Cattle are generally healthy and in good condition. Shortage of water is a general outcry, ponds and ditches have been dry for some weeks past, and the water-cart is in evidence.

Where corn has been threshed the yield seems to be satisfactory and the condition good, the fall in price being the disappointing element, and why this has happened it is not easy to understand, as the imports are no larger than at this date last year, and the quality of home-grown wheats is certainly better. Notwithstanding the drop in wheat, offals are not correspondingly easy to buy, and the quality yearly becomes inferior and of less feeding value.

Barleys are coming to hand better than anticipated, and a fair amount of business in this cereal is doing just now. Fruit is very scarce, and many casks will have to remain unfilled this season. B. R.

October 12, 1905.

Bucks (Central).

SIR,—As threshing proceeds, I hear that the yield of wheat is disappointing, but of good quality. The barley turns out a good yield, but the sample is not generally so good as was expected. Oats are a poor crop generally, but some few good prices. Winter beans turn out well; roots have amazingly improved since the rains, and will turn out a fair crop.

Mangolds will now be got up, as the weather is so good to cart them off. Early-sown rye and vetches are up, winter beans are planted, but the land intended for wheat is too dry, although a little is being put in.

Cattle are doing well in the fields, especially if they have some cake, but the price of beef is ruinous, and the trade for store cattle has to be found, and if Canadian stores were to come in, the breeder would be ruined, and much poor grass land would have to be given up. The risk of disease may not be great at the present time, but we know not when it might be introduced — the frontier between Canada and the States is so open for such a length that it is practically sure to send States cattle as well as Canadian. J. T.

October 12, 1905.

A Good Season in Mid-Essex.

SIR,—The weather has been very good for cleaning the land and burning weeds, and a little wheat is sown, but some are waiting for a rain before sowing. Winter beans and winter oats are mostly sown, and have gone in well.

Young clovers are looking well, also trifolium, but turnips for sheep feed are almost a failure, some having sown two or three times and still having no plant, making the prospect for sheep feed short. Ewes have been and still are rather dear, also store lambs, store beast a fair price, and store pigs and jointers very dear, large hogs not being quite so dear.

Beef a good trade, mutton dear. There are several pieces of red clover seed got very well, but they do not look like a heavy yield, and several pieces are grown from Russian and other foreign seeds, which this year have proved to be nothing so good as our own English stocks.

Nearly everyone round here had finished harvest just before the wet weather set in, so that the corn is in good condition, the barleys being very dry, and some steely, on account of ripening too fast, and where the corn, both wheat and barley, have been threshed, the yield has been in most cases disappointing, as well as the size being small, and all round the harvest, coming on too fast, has very much reduced the average in quantity and quality. The price of both wheat and barley is very low.

There are a great number of Michaelmas sales this year, the big sales making fairly good prices, but the little sales bad. The cry of "back to the land" is sarcastically amusing when you read in the same paragraph that "nothing must be done to make the produce we farmers grow dearer," and still Essex will have to pay its tithe tax for growing corn of nearly £200,000 this year. An article by Alfred Blomfield in the magazine "The World's Work and Play" for August is well worth reading by everyone interested in the rating and charges on land.

October 11, 1905. C. I. B.

Outlook in Warwick.

SIR,—A beautiful autumn for farm work. Roots have done well lately, but many turnip crops are only poor. Wheat is now being rapidly planted, but the acreage under this crop will not be nearly so large as last season.

Sheep have been the most profitable of live stock, and the prices recently made have been a great boon to breeders who had them to sell. Beef and milk are both of them making wretched prices for the producers. W. H. S.

October 12, 1905.

Corn Sowing in South Hunts.

SIR,—Many of the up-to-date farmers in this district are putting into practice the advice of one of the most successful of our heavy land farmers to plant as much wheat as possible during the week prior to and the week subsequent to Michaelmas.

The land works well, the seed finding a splendid bed, which, on clay lands, is more necessary than on the lighter lands, which need a considerable amount of solidifying. It appears to be probable that well-nigh as large an area of land will be drilled to wheat this as last season. For this there are several reasons, the comparatively small amount of work entailed now that all kinds of farm operations are well forward, the fair out-turn of the 1905 crop, a higher price being realised for wheat than the average of the last ten years, the wretched returns from the oat crop of the recent harvest, and the terribly slow demand at a low price for the barley which we would like to turn into money, but cannot with any pleasure and, may-hap, profit.

Winter beans are also likely to be planted more generally, since this was one of the cereals with which farmers were satisfied; it is true that the price of beans is very low—30s. per qr. of 38 stones—compared with cake, but the return from a forty bushels' crop is as good as that from any crop grown in the district, whilst a crop of other corn is ensured the year following a crop of beans.

The yields of both wheat and barley are also up to an average. Oats are decidedly bad; the season proved unfavourable from beginning to end for this cereal which delights in warmth and moisture.

The hay crop was generally deficient. Still the price has not moved up to the extent anticipated or as much as its shortage in bulk and its high quality would warrant. Should we have a severe or even an ordinarily cold winter, the probability is that the price will improve. Few farmers will get a sufficient return from the grass land mown to recoup them for expenses, rent, etc., although the labour required to make good hay was not as much as is frequently expended in the securing of inferior or damaged hay in wet seasons.

Store cattle are a wretched trade, many are now being sold at little, if any, more than they cost in last April; the eddishes have been very short and thin, furnishing not more than a third as much feed as they do some seasons, when we have had an early haytime and a warm and moist September. Roots have grown considerably during the last fortnight, and may now prove to be an average crop. They are not yet ready to be taken up.

SANDERS SPENCER.

October 13, 1905.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance was on a mid weekly average, but trading was unimportant in all branches. English wheats maintain a steady tone at 28s to 31s for red, and 28s 6d to 32s for white. Foreign grades were firmly held but in poor request; No. 2 Club Calcutta quoted at 32s; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, at 34s; Australian, at 33s to 33s 6d; New Zealand (long berried), at 29s 6d to 30s; and short berried, at 29s to 29s 6d. Maize has a firm market, with quotations on a higher level, but buyers are scarce; mixed American ex ship is quoted at 24s, landed at 24s 6d. La Plata ex ship at 23s 6d, and ex quay at 24s. Flour quiet and unchanged. Barley continues firm; Odessa-Nicolaieff Kherson offered at 18s 4½d ex ship and 18s 9d ex quay. Oats quietly steady; common Russians offered at 15s 6d to 15s 9d; for white clipped 16s 9d is wanted, and 16s for mixed American landed.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was small, and business was far from brisk. Meanwhile a firm tone prevails. English wheats are steadily held for last prices. Foreign grades are firm at 34s for No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship and 32s for No. 2 club Calcutta; for Australian 33s 3d to 33s 6d is wanted. Maize firm, with an upward tendency; mixed American ex ship is held for 24s and La Plata landed for 24s 3d. Flour steady but quiet. Barley firm; Odessa-Nicolaieff ex quay is obtainable at 18s 10½d. Oats rule firm, with 15s 9d asked for common Russian and 16s for mixed American landed.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat trade very dull, though without reduction in prices. Best heavy samples made up to 30s, and others 27s to 29s. Barley, still in poor malting condition, and in little demand, sold at 26s to 28s. Oats unchanged on the week, at 16s to 20s. Grey peas, 29s to 30s; tick beans, 31s to 33s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 29s. Foreign barley, 21s to 22s. Maize, 25s to 27s per qr. Tares cheaper, 5s 9d to 6s 6d per bushel.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 29s to 30s 6d; oats, 17s to 20s; peas, 28s to 31s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday.—Good attendance, with smaller supplies of grain. Fine barley unchanged; secondary quality dull. Oats and wheat scarce. Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 23s to 28s 6d; oats, 17s 6d to 20s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a large attendance, but sellers reported a slow trade. Foreign wheats were 3d to 6d per quarter dearer on the week. Quotations: River Plate 32s to 33s, Russians 32s 3d to 34s, Indians 30s 9d to 32s per quarter (496 lb.), all at Sharpness. There was a good supply of English wheat, which made from 10s 6d to 11s per bag (186 lb). Both Plate and flat maize were 3d dearer and grinding barley 6d. English oats (white) remained at 18s per 312 lb., and beans made from 12s 3d to 12s 6d per bag (196 lb.) delivered in Birmingham.

Brighton, Thursday.—Quiet trade and prices as last week. Small attendance. New white wheat, 28s to 30s; new red ditto, 26s to 30s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 22s; oats, English, 16s to 18s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was a large attendance on our market to-day, and a considerable amount of business passing. English wheat, in plentiful supply, found a ready sale at 3d to 6d advance on last week's prices foreign wheat, 3d to 6d dearer; maize and oats also 3d to 6d dearer; barley, 3d higher; flour very firm at late rates.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds Wednesday.—Wheat: Supply was shorter, and with a steady demand, prices were the turn etter at 28s to 29s per qr. Barley was in good average supply, and a considerable business was done, some buyers operating very freely. Prices for all sorts were firm on the week; medium at 26s 6d to 31s; fine malting descriptions, 32s to 35s 6d per qr. Feeding corns, oil cakes, and milling stuffs all firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been quiet, with smaller supplies, farmers being busy autumn sowing. There was a small attendance, and not a large supply. Wheat was very firm, clean lots making rather more money for seed purposes. Red wheat, 27s to 29s, and white up to 30s per 504lbs. Barley firm in value, with a good demand for good lots. Barley, ordinary, 24s to 27s; fine, up to 32s. Oats 6d dearer. Beans unchanged.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Maltsters have been operating during the past week, and best Thanet barleys are making up to 34s; average samples, 26s to 30s. Wheat rather dearer; best reds up to 31s, and white to 32s. Spring oats, 17s to 19s per quarter. Grey peas, 29s to 31s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; quick sale; full prices, 18s to 18s 9l per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The attendance was good, supplies on an average, and last week's prices ruling for English grain. Indian corn has advanced 6d per sack. Business generally showed an improvement. Quotations: New white wheat, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; ditto red, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; new grinding barley, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; old beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; old oats, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; new ditto, 2s 2d to 2s 5d per 46lb.; new Indian corn, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A good attendance and very fair trade. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; grinding ditto, 24s 6d to 25s; oats, English, 15s 6d to 20s; rye, 21s to 23s; peas 28s to 30s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 25s; flour, 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat was in small supply to-day, and sold at prices favourable to sellers. Barley was freely offered and all descriptions sold readily at the full prices of last week. Beans and peas scarce, and fully as dear. Oats must be quoted fully 6d to 1s per quarter dearer.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday. — A moderate attendance, quiet trade and prices practically remained unchanged, as follows: Wheat, old, 11s 6d to 12s per 186lb.; new, 26s 6d to 11s 3d per 186lb; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb; oats, old, 25s to 26s per 352lb; new, 18s 6d to 20s per 352lb; beans, old, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; new, 11s 6d to 12s per 196lb; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday. Wheat quiet and firm at extreme rates. Spring corn unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, new white, 28s to 29s; red, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 26s to 30s; beans, old, 33s to 34s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 24s to 24s; new, 17s to 18s.

Devizes, Thursday.—Quotations: Best old wheat, 10s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s to 14s; new wheat, 13s 6d to 15s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; new, 23s to 24s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 23s to 25s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 17s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Rather small supply of English wheat for the time of the year, but a very firm trade, and prices up to 11s per load. Foreign wheat was also firm, with an upward tendency, 6d per qr. advance on the week being registered. Barley made 28s 3d per qr., and sold freely, common sorts being neglected. Beans and oats were slightly dearer, and maize was 6d to 9d per qr. dearer. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The fine weather of the past week led to excessively heavy offers at the market to-day, especially of barley, with which the market was glutted. Farmers asked outside values for wheat, and foreign was equally firmly held; but transactions were not very excessive on these terms. There was so much barley to select from for malting purposes, that maltsters proved very indifferent buyers even where offered at tempting values; grinding, on the other hand, was very firmly held, and outside values were made. Oats realised fully late rates. Feeding stuffs, in the absence of any great demand, ruled inactive.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 16s to 17s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 13s to 14s; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday. — Trade somewhat dull. English wheat fully as dear as last week; foreign firm. English barley unchanged; grinding barley, 3d dearer; maize, 6d; and oats, 6d to 9d dearer. Flour rather firmer. Wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; English barley, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; superfine flour 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat firmer, but demand still limited. Flour easier, owing to large stocks on hand. Maize 1½d per boll and corn 4½d per boll dearer on the week. Barley a shade easier on spot, owing to arrivals. Oats (home and foreign) practically unchanged. Beans unchanged, with fair trade. Pease unaltered. Bran and thirds quiet in tone, but values not quotably changed. Oatmeal 6d per sack dearer on the week.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat firm, but in quiet demand. Flour steady, with a moderate business passing. Mixed American maize 3d dearer at 14s 3d; Plate also firm at 13s 10½d to 14s per 280lb. All feeding stuffs quiet and unaltered.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply, with prices 1d per bushel dearer on the fortnight, reds making 3s 7d to 3s 8d, and whites 3s 9d to 3s 10d. Foreign in moderate demand at 6d advance. Feeders strong, with maize and grinding barley 6d and oats 3d dearer.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—There was a large attendance of farmers and dealers, and, in some departments, a brisk trade was done. Wheat was in small supply, and sold at 28s to 29s per qr. Barley was extensively offered, and for the best quality for malting there was a good demand, prices ranging from 28s to 34s; common barley, 23s to 26s per qr. Oats were in short supply, and realised 17s to 19s; beans, 30s to 32s; blue peas, 38s to 48s per qr.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Rather better attendance, and a considerable volume of English grain on offer. English wheats were tardily bought at last week's figures. Barleys moved off quietly, without quotable change in value. Oats remained very firm. Beans also steady, at last week's prices. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per 56lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb.; new, 2s to 2s 6d per 40lb.; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½lb.; new, 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 65½lb.; vetches 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in shorter supply, and very firm at last week's prices; good reds or whites, 28s 6d to 29s 6d per qr. Barley in fair average supply. The buying was more general, as several maltsters were operating who had not done much before, but the main support of the trade comes from one or two firms only, who are moving good quantities off the market weekly. Fair medium malting runs were steady at 27s to 31s per qr.; finer descriptions were not quite so brisk as last week, at 32s to 34s per qr. Oats in small supply, and firm, at 18s to 19s 6d per qr. Beans very firm at 32s to 32s 6d per 38 stones; old at 34s. All other feeding corns in steady demand, and firm on the week, as also oil cakes and milling stuffs.

Leeds, Friday.—English and foreign wheats firmly held, at Tuesday's prices, with an upward tendency for finest descriptions. Foreign malting barley was without change, but feeding barley was the turn dearer. There was no change in beans, peas, oats, maize, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with full supplies of home-grown wheats, which met a better sale at firm rates. Red wheats, 28s to 29s; white wheats, 29s to 30s per 36 stones; malting barley scarce, and steady at 24s to 28s per 32 stones; beans, 30s to 33s per 36 stones; oats, 18s to 20s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Small show of English wheat, with a good demand, holders realising an advance of 6d per quarter. Large supply of barley, prices showing a decline of 1s. per quarter on the week. Oats and beans in small supply, and making late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—There has been a fair attendance at the market and wheat is in moderate request, prices being generally ½d. over last Tuesday. Flour in better demand for both foreign and home-made brands. No official change is made in limits, but in some instances some advance is demanded for the latter. Maize.—Mixed is firm, with a modrate trade passing at ¾d advance from last market day. Plate is firm, with a fair trade at ½d. advance. European sorts steady, but quiet and unchanged. Barley.—Malting is steady, with a quiet trade passing. Feeding steady, but American sorts are ½d. lower. Beans steady, but most sorts are 3d. lower than last Tuesday; there is a moderate inquiry. Peas very steady at an occasional advance on limited offerings; demand moderate. Oats firm, with a moderate demand at late rates to some advance for foreign. English sparingly offered and firmly held at last Tuesday's prices. Oat mealfirm but inactive. Oilcake in better demand all round at fully last market day's prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Attendance at market to-day fairly good. The trade in wheat was of a firm tone, and a slight increase in cost of it from last Thursday. The barley business was also with a tendency to improved value, and a like remark might be applied to oats. Beans and peas participate in the inclination to a rise, and other grain quite up to previous quotations.

Manchester, Thursday.—In wheat both English and foreign show no change on the week, and are steady. Flour is unchanged. Indian corn, mixed American is 2d, and Plate 1d per cental dearer. In foreign barley American is rather easier. English oats dearer. Beans and peas unchanged. Feeding stuffs firm.

Newark, Wednesday. A small show of wheat, which made an advance of 6d per qr.. Barley steady at full prices. Oats and beans firm. Quotations:—Wheat, 27s to 29s; barley, 23s to 3 s; oats, 16s to 18s; beans, 29s to 33s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A fair demand for wheat at fully last week's prices prevailed at our to-day's market. Maize firm and slightly dearer. Oats steady demand at fully late rates for all classes. Barley a rfal demand at last week's quotation. Beans and peas were little inquired after. Prices, however, remain unchanged.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Moderate attendance, but smaller supply on offer. Prices firm; new wheat, 27s to 28s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; barley, 26s to 30s; new white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; new black oats, 16s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 23s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was no alteration in the wheat trade at our market to-day, prices being about the same as last week. Barley was in fair supply, with a fair trade, and all useful parcels met a ready sale. Continued wet weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 28s to 28s per quarter, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending October 2, 1905: Wheat, 2,431—27s. 1½d.; barley, 17,436—24s 4d.—J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was less wheat offering to-day, and an advance of 6d per quarter was established. Barley in larger supply, and, with an increased demand, values well maintained. Oats scarce and 6d dearer. Beans firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, and trade showed some improvement at about the recent currencies. Heavy supplies of English wheats came to hand, and a fairly brisk demand was experienced at late rates. Barley was freely offered, but holders adhered to former values.

Peterborough, Saturday.—A small supply of wheat, which met a good demand at 6d more money. Barley slow at last week's prices. Oats firm at the recent advance. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on our market to-day. Prices were higher all round. Wheat, 3d to 6d; oats and barley, 3d; maize 1½d dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—The market closed with a firm undertone for wheat at an advance of 1d to 2d per cental. English wheat is in rather better demand for seed. Flat maize advanced fully 2d per cental, round corn being rather dearer in sympathy. Flour firm and in better demand. Quotations:—Wheat, white new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 6d to 13s; ditto red, 12s to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto new white, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; ditto yellow, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; beans, per windle of 220lb., 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—Improved attendance; trade about up to average. Wheat firm, at 30s to 33s; barley, 25s to 35s; oats, 16s 6d to 24s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 37s; bran, 92s 6d to 100s; mangels, 17s to 20s free delivery; tares, 5s 9d to 7s; hay, 45s to 70s; straw, 37s to 50s.

Retford, Saturday.—Wheat firm, and sold without any difficulty at the full rates of the previous week, especially the best samples, which made 28s 6d to 29s, and suitable lots for seed up to 30s per qr. Really first-class malting barley was scarce, and worth 30s, but the general run here was 26s to 28s, and grinding 23s 6d to 24s 6d per qr. Small parcels for immediate consumption of maize realised 26s; English beans, 30s; black and white oats, 16s to 18s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—A good attendance of buyers, but little business being done. Malting barley, of which there is a good supply, is the chief feature, but prices show a downward tendency. New wheat 27s to 29s, foreign wheat 32s to 35s, grinding barley 22s to 23s, malting barley 24s to 28s, new oats 17s to 18s, round maize 25s to 26s, flat maize 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Stamford, Friday.—Good attendance, and fairly good trade. Wheat firm, best making up to 28s 6d. Oats, 17s to 18s; beans, 30s to 32s. A fall in barley prices on the week, prices varying according to quality. A few extra fine samples fetched 34s for malting purposes; grining barley, 22s to 23s 6d. Short supply of peas.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb.; oats, old white, 15s to 16s; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb.; barley, 14s to 20s per 280lb

Sunderland, Saturday. — Grain in better supply. Wheat in sellers' favour. Barley and oats steady. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 1,100 quarters; oats, 101 quarters; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; new red ditto, 28s to 28s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat; best samples make an advance of 3d per bag. Fair supply of barley; prices variable, best samples in demand. Very few oats and beans on offer; prices very firm. Feeding stuffs rather dearer.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat a good supply; very quiet trade at last week's prices. Foreign firm, unaltered. Barley and oats unchanged. Maize 6d advance on the week. Flour a steady demand at late rates. —FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering. Wheat advanced 6d to 1s per quarter; prices 29s to 29s 6d. Oats dearer, 17s 6d to 18s 6d. Barley, 24s to 27s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A good attendance, and a fair amount of business transacted. Quotations:—New wheat, 11s to 12s per 216lb.; flat corn, 24s to 24s 9d per 480lb.; English beans, old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d; new, 12s 3d to 12s 6d; oats, new, 10s 6d to 11s; old, 14s to 15s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance. Moderate show of wheat. Best samples for seed purposes sold at last week's full prices, others at ordinary rates. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary 25s 6d to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Wheat and barley sold at from 3d to 6d advance. Oats firm and held for more money. Maize up to 3d per quarter. English wheat of good quality sold at from 31s to 32s per quarter; secondary, 28s 6d to 30s; foreign wheat, 32s 9d to 35s 3d; malting barley, 30s to 35s; feeding, 20s 6d to 22s 6d; foreign, 19s 6d to 19s 9d; oats, white, 16s 3d to 19s 6d; black, 17s to 20s; Irish black, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; maize, 23s 6d to 25s; beans, 32s 6d to 37s 6d; rye, 20s 6d to 22s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. A free market in flour at values favouring sellers, fine making about 25s, and extra fine, 27s 6d. Bran and feeding stuffs firmly held, and in some cases making more money.

York, Saturday.—A limited supply of wheat, which sold at last week's rates, 28s 6d to 30s per qr. of 36 stones. A slow trade for barley at late rates, 25s 6d to 28s 6d per qr. of 32 stones; new oats scarce and firm, at 18s to 19s, and old sorts, 20s to 21s 6d per qr. of 24 stones. Peas, beans, and maize unaltered.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday. We have had rainy and boisterous weather; some nights were frosty. There is a brisk demand for all descriptions of grain, based on actual immediate requirements, and a considerable amount of busi-

ness was done at prices the turn in sellers' favour. Offers are scarce. The imports from October 1 till October 11 amounted to 24,900 tons wheat, 8,552 tons rye, 14,048 tons barley, 1,203 tons maize, and 10,300 tons bran. Fine Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is very scarce, and is selling at 31s 6d to 32s per 504lb f.o.b. American hard winter No. 2 is held at 31s 3d; 79-80 ko. Danubian, at 29s 9d; 80 ko. River Plate, at 31s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye in good demand at rising prices, and few sellers. 9 15-20 South Russian is held at 26s to 26s 3d, 72 73 ko. Danubian at 26s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. The demand for malting barley is increasing, and prices, particularly of Austrian and Hungarian, are the turn higher, as stocks in these countries are fast decreasing. Good Bohemian and Hungarian is selling at 32s 6d to 35s, fine Slovakian is held dat 36s to 38s. East Russian at 28s 6d to 32s 6d, Danish at 28s to 30s per 448lb. Grinding barley meets with a brisk demand, 60-61 ko. South Russian selling at 18s. December shipment at 18s 6d, American feeding at 18s per 400lb c.i.f. Hamburg. For American white clipped oats 16s 3d per 320lb is wanted. Russian are selling at 16s 6d to 17s 9d per 320lb; there is a brisk demand. Maize also inquired after; mixed American afloat 24s 9d, December 21s 6d, River Plate afloat 23s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Hamburg, Saturday.—Trade rules firm, and prices for best quality must be quoted higher. Our local brewers and maltsters have bought pretty freely, but principally Danish and Bohemian Chevalier, whilst from Hungary large quantities have been sent to the South of Germany and the Rhine, as the export of English barley to the Continent reported some time ago. This seems to be false, as so far not a single lot has arrived, nor are there any parcels in sight.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Paris, Wednesday.—Stocks at the provincial markets continue small, and the tendency is firm in all directions, with even a slight advance in prices, in some directions; a change, however, will probably supervene as soon as farmers have recommenced their threshings. Things have again been very quiet at the Bourse de Commerce; the day opened steady with a fairly good demand from "shorts," but closed heavy and dull at practically late prices. At the weekly free market an improvement has at last occurred in home-grown wheat, as the cold weather is causing a larger consumption of bread. Offers, though restricted, are in excess of requirements, but there is still a difficulty in getting perfectly dry wheat. Foreign wheat is firm, with tendency in favour of sellers. The trade in offals is quiet, and the fall which set in eight days ago has become accentuated. Business in rye still continues unimportant. Oats continue firm, and there has been a rise within the past eight days, offers continuing small. Maize is very firm; as the cold weather approaches the consumption will probably become larger, due to the high prices asked for oats.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been a quiet trade. American red winter has been in fair demand at 33s. 6d. per 480 lb. for December shipment, 33s. for January shipment, and 32s. 9d. for March shipment. No. 1 Manitoba has similarly sold at 32s. 6d. for November shipment, 32s. for January. Bahia Blanca has made 31s. 9d. per 504 lb., Blue Stem 33s. 3d. per 500 lb., both for prompt shipment. Walla Walla has made 32s. 6d., and Red Walla 31s. 6d., both per 500 lb. Fine Russian winter wheat is offered at 33s. per 492 lb.

Barley cargoes have firmly maintained the values of the 9th, but sales have scarcely been brisk. Theodosia, a favourite port, asks 19s. 4½d. per 400 lb., or 3d. more than the Azoff ports. The supply of Californian seems smaller than anticipated; 25s. 6d. per 448 lb. is about the price for cargoes.

Oats are rather dearer on the week, 15s. 9d. per 320 lb. has been paid for American mixed, and 16s. per 304 lb. for free white clipped. Russia asks 14s. 9d. to 15s. 3d. for 304 lb. cargoes, 16s. to 18s. for 320 lb. sorts, which seem more numerous than usual this autumn.

Maize cargoes are firm. For American, 24s. per 480 lb. has been paid on passage, and 21s. for January shipment.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Brisbane), 2 maize (Rosario).—Total 4.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 5 wheat (1 Antwerp 1 Cardiff, 1 Leith, 1 Limerick, 1 Londonderry), 2 maize (1 Antwerp, 1 Leith).—Total 7.

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 290 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 8 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 49 linseed.—Total 381.

Last year, during the same time, the arrivals were 248 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 35 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 6 maize, 5 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 35 linseed, and 1 canaryseed.—Total 353.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

	£	s.	d.
For 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVE AGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to October 7, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	68,795¼	28	4	159,007¾	26	5	24,681½	16	11
1901	68,772¾	25	10	203,591¼	26	8	15,506½	17	8
1902	66,117¾	25	1	113,598¼	26	1	20,572¾	17	0
1903	48,270¾	25	8	87,201½	23	9	30,014¾	15	5
1904	45,462¼	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,509½	15	8

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 14, 1905:—

Wheat	1,808,600 cwts.
Wheat-flour	803,000 ,,
Barley	1,050,400 ,,
Oats	293,600 ,,
Maize	1,136,000 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,002,100	1,554,000	2,246,197	1,368,500
Wheat-flour	202,600	677,110	464,076	404,300
Barley	744,800	773,600	1,075,435	1,138,300
Oats	398,000	191,100	485,503	493,900
Maize	832,800	1,146,300	644,503	974,100

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	0	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,,	478,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615.000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	680,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1904.									
Oct. 15	45,462¼	30	5	185,031½	25	4	34,509½	15	8
,, 22	45,960¼	30	4	213,190⅝	25	5	31,445⅝	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,014⅜	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅜	25	0	35,145¼	16	0
,, 12	43,740⅜	30	3	204,446⅜	24	6	32,320¼	15	11
,, 19	41,025¼	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅞	24	6	35,831⅛	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257¼	24	4	36,635¼	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,897⅛	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817¼	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	8	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,617½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869¼	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662¼	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,436½	16	7
,, 11	50,858⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅜	16	8
,, 18	44,495⅜	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,647¼	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	3	30,957¼	16	10
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,418⅜	25	2	24,396½	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,412⅜	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30	9	17,428⅜	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,660	30	9	8,104¼	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,875¼	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185¼	24	4	7,597	17	0
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014⅜	25	3	11,578½	18	6
,, 13	53,446⅜	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,370⅜	16	5
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	8
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761¼	24	4	9,017⅜	18	1
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	0	5,912⅜	19	8
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	217½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819¼	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,592⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31	7	145½	23	3	3,031⅜	18	17
July 1	9,579½	31	4	289½	23	3	3,48·½	19	6
,, 8	7,8·4½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,532½	19	7
,, 15	4,884¼	32	3	34⅛	23	10	1,962½	19	1
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	52⅛	23	7	2,434	18	10
,, 29	7,691¼	32	3	24½	19	9	3,065⅜	17	14
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	571¼	22	0	4,344⅜	18	1
,, 12	8,184¼	30	5	643½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,768⅛	23	1	13,656½	16	1
,, 26	88,6 6¼	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	1
Sept. 2	92,639⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090¼	15	4
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888½	23	4	20,622⅜	15	19
,, 16	83,185½	26	11	86,088⅜	23	7	23,70·	16	6
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475¼	23	10	20,715½	15	11
,, 30	104,981⅜	26	9	123,125¼	24	3	42,067⅜	16	3
Oct. 7	89,579⅜	26	9	147,570⅜	24	9	21,190½	16	3
,, 16	85,449⅜	26	11	192,014	24	10	28,354⅜	16	6

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended October 14, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	85,44·¾ qrs.	28s. 11d.
Barley	192,014 qrs.	24s. 10d.
Oats	28,3··½ qrs.	16s. 6d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 10, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,411	4	4,·09	15	9	1	8	2
Barley	4,782	6	6,040	19	9	1	5	3
Oats	4,372	2	3,934	11	10	0	18	0

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 4 to 11, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	3,634	82,460	86,094
Barley	4,200	16,050	20,250
Malt	14,670	...	14,670
Oats	1,992	63,739	73,611
Beans	889	1,453	2,342
Peas	700	6,097	6,797
Maize	...	13,764	13,764
Tares	45	695	740
Lentils	...	1,000	1,000
Buckwheat	...	2,900	2,900
Linseed	...	13,300	13,300
Poppyseed	...	25	25
Rapeseed	...	2,000	2,000
Millet	...	100	100
Flour sack	33,805	25,188	58,993
Ryeflour	...	800	800
Riceflour	...	3,000	3,000
Oatmeal	...	1,000	1,000

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Northtawton: 11d. Penistone: 1s 1d. Penzance: 11½d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s. Dartmouth: 1s 4d. Derby: 1s 3d. Helmsley: 10d to 11d. Knutsford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Lincoln: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s 3d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 2d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 1s to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s to 1s 2d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d. Skipton: 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 2d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Birmingham: 7 and 8. Brigg: 9 and 10. Devizes: 10. Driffield: 11 and 12. Evesham: 1s to 1s 4d per dozen. Kidderminster: 8. Penzance: 1s 2d to 1s 6d per dozen. Northtawton: 9. Penistone: 9. Plymouth: 9. Ripon: 7 and 8. Scarborough: 10. Wellington (Salop): 8 and 9. Wetherby: 7 and 8.

Friday.—Altrincham: 6 and 7. Ashburton: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per dozen. Barnstaple: 10. Camelford: 10. Chester: 8. Crewe: 7 and 8. Congleton: 7 and 8. Dartmouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d per dozen. Derby: 8. Helmsley: 10. Knutsford: 7 and 8. Leyburn: 9. Lincoln: 8 and 9. Lostwithiel: 12. Macclefield: 7 and 8. Nantwich: 8 and 9. Northwich: 8. Otley: 8 and 9. Redruth: 1s 3d per dozen. Runcorn: 7 and 8. St. Austell: 10. Stockport: 6 and 7. Tavistock: 7 and 8. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 10. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Doncaster: 8 and 9. Grantham: 9 and 10. Howden: 10 and 11. Ipswich: 10 and 12. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Malton: 8 to 10. Pontefract: 9 and 10. Retford: 2s 5d to 2s 6d per score. Shrewsbury: 8 and 9. Skipton: 9 and 10. Stokesley: 8 and 9. Whitby: 8. Worcester: 8. York: 9.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — As grocers and provision dealers now well stocked with cheese, the demand has become quieter. The arrivals this week were moderate. Cheddars varied from 50s to 61s per cwt., and Dunlops from 52s to 58s.

HOPS.

Worcester, Saturday.—Hop picking being finished, the crop turns out satisfactorily in quantity, but with a much smaller proportion of really choice samples than expected, and fewer low samples are offered than usual. The bulk of the crop consists of very good medium hops, and these offer the best value. Our market is not quite so active, as the first rush is over. Choicest lots are most wanted; there is also an inquiry for good copper hops at low prices. Some growers, being dissatisfied with current prices, prefer to wait while business here was as late rates. 2,087 pockets have been weighed this week, making the total 16,788 pockets to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Large trade in best hops. Really choice colour samples being scarce, prices again advanced for first-class quality: East and Mid-Kents quoted up to 80s, and medium lots 50s to 60s per cwt.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

There is steady progress being made with ploughing and some with sowing. The inquiry for the new wheat at the local markets is unabated, and with farmers accepting such low prices as prevail, millers do well to buy freely. Seed wheat is in increased request, and 33s. to 35s. per 504 lb. is paid. Farmers would, we believe, be glad of better facilities for buying small seed parcels of fine foreign wheat, such as is grown in the best winter wheat districts of Southern Russia, the Central United States and Argentina. The R.A.S.E., if forced to restrict its energies in certain other directions, might well extend them in that of keeping their members to good seed corn. The growers of pedigree wheat are worthy of their hire, but farmers cannot pay their prices except in a small minority of cases, and it is the bulk of the wheat acreage and not the special farms that we have to consider under the heading of the corn trade as a whole. Might not a fund be formed to meet the seller and the farmer half-way to bridge the difference between them? We see, to speak frankly, little practical use in counselling farmers to pay sixty, seventy, or eighty shillings per quarter for seed wheat, because we know that in less than one per cent. of the cases will such advice be taken. But we note with pleasure that such good strains as "Pilgrim's Prolific" and "Scholey's Squarehead" are obtainable for 36s. per qr. and "Essex Conqueror" for 38s. Farmers would do well to see if they cannot "stretch" to, say, the latter figure for their wheat. It is at most 6s. above what they are prepared to pay; little more than an extra shilling an acre. Opinion seems to be divided as to the probable area which will be sown with wheat, but for ourselves we expect to see a decline. We hear, however, of some increase in the sowings of winter barley, and also of the ordinary autumn rye.

It has recently been colder in France than here, and the demand for feeding stuffs has perceptibly freshened. Wheat is amongst the markets in very poor condition, the greater part of France secured the crop through a succession of thunderstorms, and the corn includes a disastrous proportion of damp and ear-sprouted grain. French millers, therefore, are already revising their earlier estimates, according to which they would only require 700,000 qr. of imported corn. If any material proportion of the French wheat crop is fed to poultry, the French purchasers of foreign wheat may become a sensible item in the trade equation of the present cereal year.

The Hungarian mills are very busy, and a large purchase of wheat from Servia has been made, further large purchases and grindings are expected, and the mills are likely to run full time till December 31, when the new protective tariff between Servia and Hungary comes into force, and the Servian wheat—hard, small, red corn, rich in gluten—is rendered too dear for the Hungarian miller. We anticipate that in the first three months of 1906 the Hungarian mills will have a big export surplus of their fine flour, always much appreciated by British confectioners and West-End bakers.

The American wheat crop of 1905 is the subject of a very "conservative" estimate in *Beerbohm's List* for October 13, wherein appear figures which may be thus summarised:—

Total wheat crop, 650,000,000 bushels.
Total wheat area, 47,336,000 acres.
Yield per acre, 14½ bushels (nearly).
American figures:—

Spring wheat	87.3
Winter wheat	82.7

The American figures are percentages of an ideal yield under uniformly favourable conditions.

Prices are little changed in Great Britain from a week ago; in Ireland the large supply of potatoes has told on the demand for wheat and maize. Wheat in Great Britain is lower for Manitoba, Russian, and U.S.A. sorts, of which supplies are increasing, but is firmer for Argentine, Australian, and India, of which a reduced supply is on passage. It is difficult to work therefore on any given wheat market as "dearer" or "cheaper" and market circulars, so writing of markets must mostly be taken to refer to the type of wheat chiefly dealt in by the firm issuing the circular. Maize at Mark Lane is very firm on spot, and oats are a little dearer for the most part. A good retail trade is being done in barley, but prices are low. The market for linseed is better on the week, but linseed cake has been a rather poor trade. The market for seed oils is stronger on the week.

The American visible supply of wheat on 14th inst. was cabled at the following figures:—

	Quarters.
1905	4,443,000
1904	4,223,000
1903	4,399,000

The visible supply of maize is very small, the new crop being in the process of drying, and the old being nearly used up Figures are as follows:—

	Quarters.
1905	590,000
1904	532,000
1903	980,000

The price of maize at New York is 20s. 9d. per qr., against 19s. 6d. a year ago, and 18s. in 1903. The small reserves appear to have been cornered. Total American maize shipments January 1 to October 14 are cabled at 9,500,000 qr.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since the beginning of the cereal year have been a good deal larger than usual, and the price has been a good deal lower than usual. Pressure of the new corn on sale has had its customary and bad result. Actual recorded sales and prices have been as follows:—

	Per Qr.
This season, 545,000 quarters, at	26s. 10d.
Last season, 296,000 quarters, at	29s. 11d.

The sales of barley have been rather less than last year, but the finer qualities are apparently being held back, and thus far the average price made has been less than in 1904.

	Per Qr.
This season, 411,000 quarters, at	23s. 11d.
Last season, 444,000 quarters, at	25s. 0d.

The sales of oats have been decidedly less than in the previous campaign.

	Per Qr.
This season, 173,000 quarters, at	16s. 0d.
Last season, 232,000 quarters, at	15s. 11d.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 215,000 quarters; less than usual.
Flour, 124,000 sacks; a moderate supply.
Barley, 155,000 quarters; a liberal arrival.
Oats, 59,000 quarters; a very short supply.
Maize, 240,000 quarters; over an average arrival.

There were good arrivals of foreign oilseeds.

The supply of wheat on passage has further diminished during the past week, and on the 14th inst. was smaller than it had been for many months.

	Quarters.
Californian	30,000
American	125,000
Russian	400,000
Indian	171,000
Australasian	160,000
Argentine	180,000
Various	30,000
Total	1,096,000
A week ago	1,221,000

The quantity of flour on passage is 252,000 sacks, which is a good deal less than usual.

Of barley expectations are 590,000 qr., of oats 440,000 qr., of maize 905,000 qr., of linseed 169,000 qr., and of rice 24,000 tons.

The shipments from America last week were fair, but in no respect heavy. Totals were:—Wheat 122,000 qr., barley 23,000 qr., oats 140,000 qr., maize 128,000 qr., and flour 126,000 sacks. Argentine shipped 60,000 qr. of wheat, 101,000 qr. of maize, and 37,000 qr. of linseed. Russia shipped with what for a couple of years past has been her usual freedom. She sent off 590,000 qr. of wheat, 386,000 qr. of barley, 326,000 qr. of oats, and 4,000 qr. of maize. Roumania exported 328,000 qr. of wheat and 59,000 qr. of barley. Indian shipments were limited to 12,000 qr. of wheat, those of New Zealand to 4,000 qr. of wheat. Non-shippers included Australia, Chile, Scandinavia, and Persia, but Egypt sent off a moderate quantity of cottonseed and beans.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.
October, 13.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	43 to 44
Morocco	46 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	41 to 45
Calcutta	38 to 40
Argentine	37 to 39
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	38 to 39

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	5/8 to 5/10
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Ye'low	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	41 to 42
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	34 to 36

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	39 to 40s

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb.
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield. Saturday.—Good supplies. Fairly good demand. Prices:—Geese, 5s to 6s; ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 3d to 1s 8d; black game, 1s 5d; wild ducks, 1s 3d; snipe, 6d to 10d; quails, 9d to 1s 3d; hen hens, 1s 4d to 1s 9d each; pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; young grouse, 5s to 6s; old, 3s 6d; young partridges, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; old, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per brace.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY,
October 16.

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was an excellent sale for English wheat and fully Friday's prices were made. Foreign wheat was 6d. dearer for Indian, Australian, and for fine La Plata. Other sorts were, for the most part, firm, but Manitoba, being in increased supply on passage and for November shipment, was a little cheaper. Maize was 3d. dearer from Friday for all sorts. Barley was a ding-dong, much-bargaining trade in English new crop 448 lb. samples. A top price of about 37s. was quotable, with 33s. not very often in practice exceeded. Common feeding barley was 3d. dearer on the week. Oats advanced 3d. for Russian sorts, American and English tending in the same direction. Beans were genuinely scarce, and their dearness was the legitimate consequence. Peas were firm and steady. Lentils, at 10s. per cental for fine split pulse, were in improved demand, and, with colder weather, deserve attention.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	29	— 33
Red	,,	28	— 30
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	33	— 37
Brewing	,,	27	— 29
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	22	— 24
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 30
Crystallized	,,	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	41	— 43
Tick	,,	34	— 36
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	65	— 66
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	29	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	27	— 29
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.:		
Manitoba No. 1	35	— 35/6
,, ,, 2	34	— 34/6
,, ,, 3	33	— 33.6
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32/6	— 33
Australian	33/6	— 34
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	32/6	— 33
Ghirka	31/6	— 32
Taganrog	30/6	— 31
Bombay	32/6	— 33
Calcutta	32	— 32/3
Kurrachee	31	— 31/3
Turkish	30	— 30/3
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	15/9	— 16
Torrified (336 lb.)	18	— 20
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16/6	— 19
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	16	— 16/6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15/9	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
American (320 lb)	16	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	23,9	— 24
Argentine	23	— 23/6
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	32	— 33
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	41	— 43
Canadian	39	— 41
Konigsberg	42	— 44
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 15
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 26
Persian	20	— 22
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THERE WAS A GOOD ATTENDANCE, AND TRADE WAS FIRM, BUT, FOR FOREIGN STAPLES, HARDLY BRISK.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 16.

A fall of threepence in the Flour Millers' Association prices was welcomed by the average baker, who needs credit and delivery terms. Prices for cash have been low ever since mid-September, no change was called for or made to-day. America called offers to ship fine North-Western Spring Patents on or before November 30 at 26s. cost, freight, and insurance; a price which led to increased business. Spot value is too high for most bakers, but the above quotations mean supply before Christmas. A firm market was reportable for Australian and Hungarian flour. Bran middlings, Pollard white meal, and rice meal were unaltered as a rule, but maize meal and corn meal advanced 2s. 6d. per ton.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30
Town Whites	,,	27
,, Households	,,	24
No. 2	,,	21
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24
,, No. 2	,,	22
Paste Flour	,,	21

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24 — 26
Fine Roller whites	,,	23 — 24
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made ,,	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28—28/6
,, Second Patents	,,	27—27/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/9—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26—26/6
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6—21
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	26 — 27
Russian	,,	28 — 29
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 32
,, 1	,,	30 — 31
,, 2	,,	29 — 30
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	19 — 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour	,,	34 — 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 21
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 10d.	Nov. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 8d.	Mar. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	5s. 0d.	Oct. delivery.
,,	5s. 0d.	Nov. ,,
,,	4s. 11d.	Dec. ,,
,,	4s. 8d.	Jan. ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	Mar. ,,

American red winter wheat futures to-day are being dealt in at 6s. 10d. per cental, or 32s. 9d. per 480 lb. There is not much difference as to dates, the above price being for any required month, December to March inclusive. Maize futures are firm and unchanged.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were received, and experienced a generally steady demand. Best Silts, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday. Heavier supplies this morning, and a slow demand prevailed. Puritan, 60s to 65s; Royal Kidney, 60s to 65s; Beauty of Hebron, 60s; British Queen, 60s to 70s; Blackland, 55s to 60s; Up to Date, 60s to 75s; Scottish, British Queen, 60s; Up-to Date, 60s to 65s per ton.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—There is no change in price. Grain.—Indian corn, in small supply, brings 4½d. to 6d. per boll advance. Plate maize is also in sellers' favour at 13s. 10½d. per 280 lb. The higher prices asked for oats checks the demand. Barley, being pressed for sale, is 1½d. to 3d. cheaper. Indian grains are very plentiful and sell on spot at low prices only. Oatmeal 6d. per sack dearer. Mill stuffs quiet, but unchanced in price.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—There is no new feature to report. The advanced quotations from America are not, so far, affecting quotations of home millers and leading merchants.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals. The demand for bran continues steady, and prices generally are firmer.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet but firm, and prices show no change since this day week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling Offals.—A steady trade with no alteration in prices. Millers still keep clear.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

We have liberal supplies of wheat, principally Russian. Prices of last week are maintained. Flour firm. Maize 3d. and 6d. dearer. Barley steady. Oats 3d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Demand is rather quiet, with no change to report in prices. Cotton cake: A dull trade, and values the same as last week. Linseed: The demand is very good, and prices are advancing.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7 10 0	
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 5 0	
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7 8 9	to 7 17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6 17 6	
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6 12 6	
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 15 0	
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4 17 6	
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 5 0	
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 0 0	
La Plata do. per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 0 0	to 2 4 6
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 1 0	
Larmiea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.			
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London		
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,, ,,			
kish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are firmer from Saturday. Maize is 3d. dearer, and both barley and oats tend in the same direction. Cottonseed cargoes have advanced 1s. 3d. per ton.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Rosario, 30s 9d. per 480lb., prompt shipment; Red Walla, 31s 6d per 500lb., prompt shipment; Blue Stem, 33s 3d per 500lb., prompt shipment; Roumanian 31s per 492lb., prompt shipment; No. 1 Manitoba, 32s 9d per 480lb., prompt shipment; No. 2 Manitoba, 31s 6d per 480lb., prompt shipment; White Kurrachee, 6s 5d per 100lb., on passage; White Calcutta, 32s per 492lb., October shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s 3d per 480lb., October shipment; American, 23s 6d per 480lb., October shipment; American, 21s 9d per 480lb., November shipment; American, 20s 9d per 480lb., January shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 12s 6d per 400lb., on passage.

OATS.—Black Irish, 16s per 304lb., prompt shipment; No. 2 White Clipped American, 16s 3d per 304lb., November shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 37s 6d per 410lb., arrived; Argentine, 37s per 416lb., November shipment.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 37s per 416lb., November shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 13s 9d per 2,240lb., October shipment; Egyptian, £5 11s 3d per 2,240lb., November shipment; Bombay, £4 14s 9d per 2,240lb., December shipment.

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday. — Depression continues, and recent prices can only be made for finest quality. Kent fleeces, 12½d; lamb wool, 8d; halfbreds, 12½d; Downs, up to 13½d; locks, 4d to 5d.

London, Saturday.—English—per pkge of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £14; half-bred wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 5s; South Downs ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 10s to £13 10s; Colonial—per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., secondary average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured average, 1s 2½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3½; New Zealand, fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d; ditto medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; ditto coarse, 11d to 1s.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—The demand for seed wheat still continues; prices higher. New spring tares open high, but no business. More inquiry for blue peas. The new clover seeds are coming on the market, but no disposition shown to appropriate them. Prices asked are high.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 16, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Oct. 15, 1904.
Beasts	1,939	1,939	1,569
Sheep and Lambs	7,350	7,350	6,810
Calves	10	10	5
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 54; Devon, 25; Ireland, 28.

We note to-day a decrease of 10 in the number of beasts offered for sale to-day compared with Monday last, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland. Trade for all classes of cattle was extremely slow, sellers finding difficulty in maintaining late currencies. The Irish arrivals consisted only of 4 Dublins and 24 Waterfords for which there was little enquiry, no decline in value can, however, be noted. Fat butchering cows and bulls shared in the general depression, there being too many middling quality cattle on offer. A clearance is not expected in this part of the market.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.		Monday, Oct. 15, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	...	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	...	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	...	4s 0d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d	...	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 2d	...	4s 0d to 4s 3d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	...	3s 4d ex 3s 6d

There was an increase of 1,300 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was of an extremely slow nature, a decline of 2d. per 8 lb., having to be accepted for the former, and from 4d. to 6d. for the latter. Both Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the generally bad trade experienced, the latter being in very full supply. A further decline is expected to be made before the close of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.		Monday, Oct. 15, 1904.
8 st Scotch	5s 8d to 5s 10d	...	5s 8d to 5s 10d
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	...	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	...	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 2d to 5s 4d	...	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	...	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	...	4s 4d to 4s 6d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	...	4s 2d to 4s 4d

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday. — Supplies moderate; firm trade. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American, 3s to 3s 6d. Mutton: Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; Dutch, 4s to 4s 2d. Veal, 3s to 4s 6d; pork, 3s 8d to 4s 6d per 8lbs.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 766; sheep, 953; pigs, 379. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat and store cattle fair demand; fat sheep good demand; stores fair; fat and store pigs good demand; milch cows fair show, and trade prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 927. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 252 head, and consisted of 790 from the United States and 137 from Canada. Trade was of a decidedly firmer nature. Best States beasts on offer were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canadians, 2s 6d to 3s 8d; seconds, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lbs. (sinking the offal). Ewes numbered 456, and were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lbs. On Saturday 2,178 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and were quoted at from 3s 11d ex 4s.; seconds, 3s 8d. Besides the above 340 more were withheld.

Liverpool, Monday.—Larger supply of stock, demand slow for cattle, and prices, excepting good qualities, lower. Sheep trade slow for all classes, handy weights least affected in price; about 2s lower was accepted to effect sales for strong sorts and clearance was not made even with this concession. Beef, 6d to 4d; mutton, 8½d to 6d per lb. At market, 1,390 cattle and 6,470 sheep.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—The nitrate of soda market is very strong in all positions at a further advance of 5s per ton, and spot values are £10 15s to £11 5s for ordinary to refined, according to quantity. Kainit and basic slag are in fair request for autumn deliveries at unchanged values. The trade in feeding stuffs is slow, and values of oil cakes remain without change. Feeding treacle, however, is attracting more attention, and prime American meets a demand from consumers at 4s 1½d to 4s 4½d per cwt. Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 7s 6d; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 1s 3d to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10d; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; linseed meal (pure rolled linseed), prime, in bags, £13 10s to £14 10s; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good to prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 2s 6d; ditto English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 2s 6d to £7 7s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 17s 6d; ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bulk, £5 15s to £5 17s 6d; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £5 18s 9d to £6 1s 3d per ton; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 240lb; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 6s to £2 8s per quarter (416lb); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d to 4s 9d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 1½d to 4s 4½d per cwt. D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags; ditto, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 39 sol., in bags—nominal; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s 6d to £1 13s 6d; ditto, prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2 0s 6d; finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., £2 2s to £2 3s—per ton, at depots inland.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The number of beasts offered for sale on the chief market day of the week, namely, Monday, at Islington, was slightly smaller, the majority of the supply being drawn from the Midland counties, Scotland not even being represented. There was a small consignment from Ireland consisting of 39 Dublins, 18 Waterfords, and 10 heifers from Cork. Trade for all grades of cattle was of an extremely slow nature, this being attributed to the over-stocked state of the Dead Meat Market; salesmen, however, notwithstanding this, both asked and obtained late currencies. On Thursday there was no demand for fat beasts. On both market days there was a scarcity of country buyers, consequently fat butchering cows and bulls met with a decline of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. in value.

At the Foreign Market, Deptford, throughout the week trade was of a slow nature, the tendency as the week advanced being a downward one. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,470, as against 4,739 during the previous week, consisting of 1,070 British (decrease 110) and 4,420 foreign (increase 861). The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): 80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s. ex 4s. 1d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday opened for wethers briskly at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value; ewes also sold well at an advance, Scotch cleared early at higher rates, whilst, on the other hand, Irish were in excess of the demand, salesmen having to accept 2d. less money to effect sales; the finish of the market was a somewhat disappointing one, trade becoming slower at less money. At Deptford no sheep were offered for sale. Thursday's trade for English sheep was of a slow nature at a decline of 2d. per 8 lb., ewes falling still further. The total number penned was 6,450, as against 8,447 during the previous week, consisting entirely of British sheep. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.

Calves numbered 20; trade was nominal, best small breeds being quoted at from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. per 8 lb.

Pigs numbered 50, and were quoted at from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; heavy weights, 4s.; trade slow but all cleared.

Trade in the West.

With much colder weather settling in upon us, there has been a marked absence of speculation as regards store things in general, but as to barreners more particularly, but very few just at present showing any disposition to buy anything except of a really useful stamp, and for these a fairly good price is being paid, though not by several pounds ahead what will be the case a month or six weeks hence, when graziers will be getting in their supplies of beasts for the winter. From £20 to £25 per pair is about the general run just now for the best, and it will require an exceptionally good beast to exceed this figure. Plainer descriptions, of which there is no end offering, are still much neglected at prices against the seller. Milch beasts, on the other hand, are still going very strong, the best quite holding their own, but are not appreciably higher. Plain heifers and cows are making less money, but the decline, so far, is nothing serious, as milk is still wanted. Owners of town milk walks, however, prefer paying a good price for really serviceable animals to having a larger number of indifferent ones whose milking qualities are not to be relied upon. From £17 to £22 is about the range now for anything at all fitted to be drafted into the dairy. The sheep sales are fast drawing to a close, and, except in the case of flocks disposed of through tenants changing, there is nothing very special being offered at any of the fairs now taking place, the supplies consisting largely of animals being weeded out mostly for some defect or other, though occasionally a few good, reliable ewes as well as lambs are to be met with, and for these a fairly good (in fact, slightly better) price is being made, quite up to what they have been selling of late, it being only the indifferent lots that hang on hand. Should the season not prove severe as regards the weather, and roots come up to the promise they now give, the flock-master's prospect is by no means gloomy; but this will depend greatly on the weather, as on many farms there is by no means a superabundance of hay, as in some seasons.

In fat stock the beast trade is characterised by considerable dulness in the face of moderate deliveries of choice bullocks, except for the lighter weights of Devons, which are making 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d. per stone; but other qualities—anything at all secondary—are a dragging trade at 3s. 4d. to 4s. Mutton keeps firm for all the neater weights at from 5s. 6d. to 6s. for picked quality wethers; mutton lambs selling from 5s. 8d. to 6s. 4d. for the best, and from 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. for seconds; ewes are a poor trade at 4s. to 4s. 6d. The calf trade has recovered all its old buoyancy, this being rendered all the more so by the existing scarcity of really prime vealers, which are once more touching 9d. per lb., ranging down to 8d. for those of not quite such good finish. Porkers are meeting a very quick demand up to 10s. 6d. per score; baconers, 9s. to 8s.; and coarse heavy pigs from 7s. to 8s., with a restricted demand.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week was very similar to that of last week. There is still a marked absence of well-finished home bullocks. The best class met a good demand at satisfactory prices, but secondary cattle are difficult to sell, and the prices exceedingly disappointing. Fat sheep were shown in fair numbers, and the quality greatly improved. Trade was steady, and last week's prices easily maintained. Ewes also just the turn dearer. There was a good show of both calves and pigs, and they maintained previous prices. A fair supply of store sheep, many of a very poor description. Anything in condition met a good market at full prices, but a portion of the inferior sheep were left unsold. A very large supply of store cattle, the best show of the season. There was a fair inquiry, and all the better-class cattle got sold out at as nearly as possible previous prices, but a considerable number of the rougher descriptions were left over. There was a large show of milch cows, and they met a very dull trade. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s. 6d.; current from 35s. to 36s. 6d.; Irish, 29s. to 34s.; Mutton, 7d. to 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED.

Trade in Ireland.

There was an all-round decrease in the supplies of both cattle and sheep, and a better attendance of buyers at last Thursday's Dublin Market, but though there was a decided improvement in the tone of trade, yet it could not be said that rates were quotably higher. Cattle, as a rule, were of a very ordinary class, and those of superior finish scarce, with the result that there was an active demand for the best bullocks, but heifers did not move off as readily. For other classes of cattle, while business was perhaps less depressed, yet it was far from satisfactory. Fat cows and the rougher descriptions of beef remain at low and uncertain prices. Dead-weight prices were: Prime ox and heifer beef from 50s. to 52s. 6d., and for extra-finished lots up to 54s. and 56s. per cwt.; good second class beef 46s. to 48s., and inferior from 44s. to 45s. per cwt. There were 3,413 beasts offered for sale, a decrease on the week of 436 head.

In the sheep department, in spite of trade as a rule being better in the English markets for mutton, the same improvement was not manifest in Dublin, though it must be said trade was of a healthier and firmer stamp, especially for home trade qualities. Shipping hoggets were also in good demand, but prices were not in accordance with the rise in the principal cross-Channel markets. The inquiry for lambs was unusually brisk for so late in the season, the younger lambs in good condition being particularly sought for. Prime wether mutton made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; prime ewe, 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb. upwards. Large, heavy hoggets from 44s. to 56s. each; small to medium ditto from 32s. to 42s. Lambs fetched from 24s. for small, up to 40s. for large fat. There was a good demand for choice veal, but no quotable change in price, which was from 7½d. to 8½d. for choice, and from 5d. to 6d. per lb. for inferior calves. Taking into consideration the present unsatisfactory state of the beef market, it must be said that store cattle are now selling at fairly dear rates, but this has been the case for several years past—a matter which many people find hard to understand. The various auction sales taking place in and around Dublin are satisfactorily patronised, and sellers seem well satisfied with results. Milch cows were well represented in Thursday's Dublin Market, so far as quantity went, but quality was deficient. For really choice fresh-calved cows and springers sold at from £18 to £22, and other descriptions of cows from £8 upwards. There was a good supply of pigs, and a fair attendance of buyers. Trade was active, and all pigs on offer met with an early clearance. Values were on the up grade for choice pigs, but there was no quotable change in the rougher sorts. Prime light-weight hogs were worth from 53s. to 55s. per cwt.; coarse and inferior from 36s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls and a few prime quality cattle; latter, however, met no inquiry, consequently neither trade nor quotations can be recorded. For fat cows and bulls trade also ruled dull, with downward tendency in value. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Decrease of 150 in number penned in sheep market, compared with last Thursday's supply, consisting entirely of Downs and half-breds, no Scotch or Irish being shown. Trade for both wethers and ewes was very sluggish, at decline in most cases of fully 2d per 8lb. in value. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows: 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s to 4s 2d. Calf trade not worth noting. Pig trade slow, but small breeds quoted 4s 8d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb., sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; calves, 5s 6d; pigs, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Total supply: Beasts, 30; sheep, 400; calves, 10; pigs, 50; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Good supplies, trade very bad, and prices will probably finish lower. English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 10d to 4s; shorts, 4s to 4s 6d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; ditto seconds, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; ditto forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d; inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s to 5s; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; foreign sheep, 3s 6d to 4s 4d; English lamb, 4s 8d to 5s; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 3s 8d to 4s 6d; Dutch ditto, 3s 8d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef and mutton both sold slowly at late rates, beef going up to 4s 6d and Down mutton to 5s 10d per stone. Kent wethers made up to 6s 4d. Veal fell 2d, selling at 5s to 5s 4d. Pork also fell 2d, and roasters did not exceed 4s 2d. Kent rams sold well.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 26 fat beasts, 51 calves, 384 fat sheep and lambs, 292 pigs, and 110 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Shorthorns made up to £21; choice young ditto heifers up to £16 15s; and a consignment of 8 good two-year old Devons up to £21; Galloway heifers, the pair, £25 10s; fat calves, 65s to £6; small, 15s to 50s. Fat hogs, 60s to 73s; small porkers, 26s to 38s; larger, 45s to 56s; store pigs 10s to 22s. Dairy cows, £9 5s to £22. Best Down wethers and young ewes, 50s to 56s 6d; smaller ditto, 44s to 48s; old ewes, 34s to 40s; nine-months-old Down wethers and ewes, 48s to 53s 6d; small, 38s to 46s; small Southdown lambs, 26s 6d to 31s; Down rams, 52s to 60s; ditto ram lambs, 46s to 52s; three-months-old sucking lambs, 30s to 35s. Prime quality fat beasts met a good inquiry, and were cleared at fully late rates. Rough and half-fed beasts a slow trade, and prices low. Down sheep of moderate weights and of choice quality were cleared at late rates. Heavy coarse sheep were a dull trade, and prices lower to make sales. Dairy cattle of good class found a ready sale. Store cattle were more in demand, and for strong heifers a better sale. Fat calves sold readily at late rates. Fat hogs and porkers met a brisk demand at late quotations. Store pigs are scarce and dear. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6½d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d to 5½d per lb. Best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d. Fat calves, 6d to 8½d per lb. Fat porkers, 9s 6d to 11s per score. Hogs up to 10s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—363 beasts—155 more than the previous week—including some fine stock. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade slow. Calves, £5 to £6; stirks, £8 to £11 10s; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14 10s; three-year-olds, £13 to £15 10s; black Polled bullocks, £12 10s to £15.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Prices: Beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; porkets, 11s to 11s 3d per score; sows, 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—A firm tone, prices being rather in sellers' favour. There was a moderate supply of cattle, and though trade was comparatively quiet, current values were well maintained. Sheep were not in such large numbers as recently, and with a fair demand most qualities advanced ½d per lb. Pigs, as usual, were not numerous, and baconers declined 3d per score.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply on the Sands consisted of about 400 Irish heifers. The demand was not very brisk, and prices remained similar to last week, viz., £7 10s to £10 for small wintering heifers, and £12 10s to £14 10s for beasts for stall feeding.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under ...	8 9
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	8 9
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	8 3
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	7 9

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Ram tegs from 6 to 8 guineas per head. Ewe tegs 46s to 66s for registered animals. Useful working lambs, 25s to 29s; stronger animals, 30s and upwards. Old sheep, 24s to 44s per head.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were smaller, and buyers less numerous. A good class of stock was shown, but sellers were disappointed at the slow trade. Nothing like a clearance was made, though prices were lower. Sheep showed a great reduction in numbers, and here trade was much the same as with cattle. Quotations: Milch cows, £16 to £21; calves, £16 to £18; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £5 to £9; and bullocks, £11 to £15.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Messrs. Stride and Son held their special sale of about 3,500 sheep and lambs and 300 head of fat, store, and dairy cattle. Sheep met a somewhat slower trade than at the last sale, and although the prices were not quotably lower a clearance

was effected. Fat cattle experienced a slow trade at about late rates, except for the best quality, which were in rather better demand. Dairy stock sold readily at fully late prices. Store cattle met the best trade of the season, and, with the exception of one or two small lots, all were sold. Quotations: Devon steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; prime West Country, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; porkers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Stock at the market: Cattle, 810; sheep, 6,239; pigs, 787; calves, 252; horses, 95; total stock, 8,163. Tolls, £47 7s. 9d.

Colchester. Saturday.—Grass beef 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton 5s 8d to 6s; and pork 8s 6d to 9s per score. Trade was good in pork and mutton.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Better supply of cattle than last week, but no improvement in trade or prices. Milch beasts, £15 to £22; bullocks, £11 to £15; heifers and drapes, £10 to £14; stirks, £7 to £10; young stores, £4 to £6. Good supply of sheep, but less than usual; trade dull; ewes, 38s to 46s; lambs, 32s to 40s each.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Heavy supplies came to hand at to-day's market, both at Messrs. Duke and Sons's as well as at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sales. Milch sold up to their outside values, the best making £16 10s to £20, and others £10 to £15 10s. Barreners still quiet trade, except for good fresh bullocks, which made up to £29 per pair in each case, though a more average figure was £20 to £26; seconds a very dragging trade from £16 to £19 10s. Fat beasts, for really prime heifers, made a trifle more money, or from £16 to £21 (10s 6d to 11s 3d per score); fat cows, £11 to £14 (or 9s to 10s); bulls, £9 to £14 (or 8s to 8s 6d); store bulls, £8 to £13. Very little doing in mutton, which is making late rates, though trade is by no means fast at 7½d to 8d for best wethers, and mutton 6½d to 7d.

Dublin. Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,413; decrease, 436. Sheep, 7,056; decrease, 497. Calves, 39; decrease, 10. A better demand, and rather firmer prices for choicely finished cattle; other sorts, of which the greater number on offer were composed, sold more freely, but quotations show no improvement. Some choice Angus bullocks, fed by Mr. Hone, St. Doulough's Park, were acquired by a Belfast buyer, at about top quotation. Sheep of all classes easier sold, and a better clearance effected at last week's prices. Cattle, live weight (best), 28s to 30s per cwt.; exceptional for Angus crosses, 31s per cwt.; middling and interior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb. Ganly, Sons and Co.

Edinburgh. Wednesday.—Polled bullocks, £11 to £16; horned, £11 10s to £12 15s; stirks, £8 10s to £12 10s. Cows met a quiet trade; shorthorns, £25 5s. Sheep sold fairly well; Cheviots Dinmonts, to 33s; half-bred lambs, to 34s; Cheviot ewes, to 24s 6d.

Exeter. Friday.—330 beasts; very dull trade. Only best quality steers and maiden heifers fetched 11s per score; cows, 9s 6d to 10s per score. 1,358 sheep; indifferent trade, with a tendency for lower prices; choice hoggs and big lambs, 8d; ewes, 6d; very small choice lambs, 9d to 9½d. 104 calves, 7½d.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 60s; top Irish 58s per cwt.; top hoggs, 9½d; secondary, 8½d to 9d; top wedders, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7d to 7½d; lambs, 6d to 9d per lb. Deal meat quiet; Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5½d; Canadians, 5½d per lb.

Gloucester. Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows:—106 cows and calves, with quiet trade. A large supply of store cattle, best qualities making fair prices.

Hereford. Wednesday. — The trade in beef was hardly ever known to be so bad, the very best maiden heifer and bullock beef making only 6d per lb; cow beef made from 4½d to 5d per lb. The supply was considerably larger than the demand. Calves were a fair supply, with trade brisk, veal making 7d. Good mutton was a small supply; best wethers made 8d and 8½d, and ewes 6d. There was a good call for store ewes. Fat lambs went well at 8½d. Porks made up to 6d, and bacons realised 9s a score; supply and demand were good and well balanced. The store cattle was exceedingly dull, and considering the nearness to the October fair phenomenally so.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—Messrs Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle and a sharp trade for all stall-fed animals, up to 9s 3d per stone. A large entry of grazing cattle, including several choice lots of Cumberland and Westmorland Shorthorns in nice condition. Trade was slow, but there was a slight improvement in the demand as compared with last week. Two-year-olds, £13 2s 6d to £11 17s 6d; eighteen months, £10 to £8 7s 6d; sixteen to twelve months, £8 10s to £5 15s. Several cows and heifers were on offer. The demand was slack, and prices ruled low, except for a few of the best animals. Fat sheep were scarce, and better prices were obtained, the best hoggets making from 57s 6d to 56s. Grazing sheep in fair demand, especially for those forward in condition. Fat swine sold freely, values being well maintained. Stores dear, from 32s to 24s; smaller, 21s to 12s. Numbers at sales and market: 787 cattle, 1,228 sheep, and 1,065 swine.

Leicester. Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred stock. Choice qualities sold freely, but secondary descriptions were neglected. Choice milch cows, £20; good lots, £16 to £18; inferior, £14 to £15; bullocks, £10 to £15; young stock, £5 to £8; calves, 15s to 25s. Sheep were in moderate supply, and sold freely at very high rates.

Lincoln. Friday.—There was a good show of horned stock, and a fair demand, prices ranging from £10 to £12. The sheep pens were moderately filled, and trade was fair. Drape ewes, 32s to 38s; lambs, 28s to 42s; gimmers, 50s to 60s each.

Lynn. Tuesday.—Larger show of store cattle, slow trade at £6 to £18 each. Fat beasts average supply, making 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Sheep a rather smaller show, and trade firm, stores making 40s to 50s each, and fat sheep 9s to 9s 6d per stone. Store lambs, 30s to 40s each.

Manchester. Friday.—Beef: Firsts, 5d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d; mutton, Cheviots, Scotch, 7½d; others, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d; veal, firsts, 6½d; seconds, 5½d to 6d; thirds, 4½d to 5d; bacon pigs, firsts, 5½d; seconds, 4½d to 5d; thirds, 3½d to 4d; porket pigs, firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 6½d to 6¾d.

Norwich. Saturday.—Fair supply of fat beasts, trade ruling at same prices as previous week, 7s to 7s 6d per 14lb being paid, although in some instances 8s was given for choice beef; values for store cattle, which met with a dragging trade, were unchanged, at £6 to £18 per head. Trade quiet for store sheep and lambs, which were in average supply. Breeding ewes were quoted at 45s to 60s, and Lambs 28s to 36s per head. Fat sheep met with a firm demand at 9s 6d to 10s 6d per stone. Less fat pigs offered, prices ranging from 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone.

Nottingham. Saturday.—A larger supply of stock than of late, with a slower trade. Some fine in-calf cows were shown, and fetched from £19 to £24; in-calf heifers £14 to £17, two-and-a-half-year-old steers up to £13 10s, and yearling steers and heifers about £6. Calves of the first quality made up to 63s each.

Preston. Wednesday.—There was only a moderate display of cattle, and as buyers were also scarce, a dragging trade passed. The show of sheep and calves was most satisfactory, but they also were in poor demand. Cows and bulls made 4½d to 6d; heifers and bullocks, 6d to 6d; hoggs, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 7d; tups, 5½d to 6d; and calves, 6d to 7d. At market: 210 cattle, 2,170 sheep, and 160 calves.

Retford. Saturday.—Milch cows of excellent quality changed hands at remunerative prices, being worth £16 to £20, but the show was small and business limited; two-year-old heifers and steers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, about 40s per head.

Romford. Wednesday. Average supply of fat beasts, trade unchanged; best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves in average supply at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep scarce, trade dear; best, 6s to 6s 2d; middlings, 5s to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. No store beasts offered. Pig trade rather better; small supply.

Shrewsbury. Tuesday.—Good supply, and also a good attendance of buyers. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6½d per lb.; mutton, 7½d to 9d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 8d per lb.; porket pigs, 9s 9d to 10s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score. Cows and calves up to £22. Numbers offered as follows:—747 cattle, sheep and lambs 1,979, calves 93, pigs 449, and horses 23.

Thame. Tuesday. — There was a capital attendance, several fresh buyers being present. Best beef was in good demand, and realised fully 2d per stone more money than last week. Secondary quality was a dragging trade. Sheep continue to sell well, a clearance being effected. An improved trade for veal. Pork dear. Bacon hogs at late rates. Several large buyers being absent, weaning calves (except the very best) were difficult to dispose of. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 84 fat beasts, 167 fat sheep, 145 weaning and fat calves, 85 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 to £18; fat heifers, £15 to £19 15s; fat wethers, 55s to 67s; fat ewes, 40s to 48s 6d; fat lambs, 32s to 44s 6d; fat calves, £3 5s to £4 10s; weaning bull calves, 10s to 46s; cow calves, 20s to 70s; bacon hogs, £3 15s to £6; porkers, 26s to 45s.

Truro. Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk, attendance very good. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 243; calves, 61; sheep, 650; pigs, 256. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; barreners, 40s to 45s per cwt; store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 16s to 35s; ewes, 40s to 42s; wethers, 7½d per lb; ewes, 5½d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 10s to 53s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork, carcasses, 4½d to 5½d.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—Beast trade slow; supply fair. Sheep fair demand. Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 8½d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Very small supply of fat stock, with trade brisk for sheep and mutton, but slow for beef. Best beef, 6s 9d to 7s; secondary, 6s to 6s 9d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-breds, 8½d to 9d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9½d per lb.

Yeovil. Friday.—Milking animals continue in good demand. Heifers and calves sold at from £15 to £19 10s; cows with calves from £12 10s to £18 15s; in-calvers from £11 15s to £14 10s; barreners, £9 5s to £11 5s; store steers, £9 to £10 5s; wether sheep, from 47s 6d to 52s 6d; ewes, 44s to 50s; store lambs, to 35s.

York. Thursday.—A large offer of both English and Irish stores, about 3,600 being penned. Prices ruled very low, and generally trade was bad. The chief inquiry was for three-year-olds, full of flesh and quality. A few good three-year-olds made up to £15 10s, and two-year-olds £10 to £11 10s. Most of the English stores were West Country stirks, which moved slowly, cattle being cheaper than they were a year ago. Prices varied from £7 to £10. A better trade for calving and milch cows, which made about 10s more money in the case of good young animals. One or two fetched up to £22 10s., the general run of prices being from £16 10s to £18 10s. About 21,500 sheep were penned, and there was an improved tone for all classes of sheep. Best North country ewes made 50s., secondary sorts 45s to 48s, a few broken-mouthed ewes making up to 38s, and North country lambs, 26s to 32s. Best twice-crossed shearlings were shown very sparingly, and made 46s to 50s; Masham shearlings, 40s to 46s; twice-crossed lambs, 30s to 34s; one or two exceptional lots making 38s; Masham ewes, 38s to 44s; Masham lambs, 21s to 26s; Cheviot ewes, 27s to 32s; and a few Lincolns, Leicesters, and Down sheep made from 35s to 45s. There was a good show of rams, but only a poor trade. Suffolks and Hampshire rams made £3 to £5 each; North country varied from 56s to £8.

FOREIGN

Yorkhill. Monday.—Small supplies of American and Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales, only 455 head being penned in the lairages as compared with 1,100 on the corresponding day of last week, and a fair trade was experienced for beasts of useful weights and sizes the 2s. per cwt. dead weight dropped at last week's sales being recovered, but the anticipation of the short supplies caused prices to advance above 56s per cwt., which has been current for top values for some time, was not realised, although a few animals made a shade higher than the quotations. Secondary, middling, and inferior qualities were a little firmer, and prices showed a tendency to improve. Bullocks of good sorts sold up to 56s per cwt. dead weight, and rough and heavy qualities from 52s to 54s per cwt.; dairy and inferior kinds changing hands at from 52s to 54s per cwt. Bulls were easy at from 42s to 46s per cwt.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London. Friday.—Butter: The demand for Canadian butter has this week shown some improvement. Stocks in London are decreasing, and values here are virtually unchanged. Unsalted Canadian of choicest quality goes rapidly into consumption, but inferior or damaged parcels are difficult to dispose of except at a good reduction in prices. The demand for Australian has not been quite so good as last week, but as the Victoria's butter will not arrive in time for the market next week, prices are firm at 110s to 114s. The Copenhagen official quotation remains unchanged. Cheese: Demand is easier than last week; the advance in prices has probably caused the temporary dulness, but prices remain unchanged. Choicest white brings 56s to 57s per cwt., and coloured 57s to 58s, with an occasional shilling more. Cable offers from Canada indicate a weaker position; exporters are offering more freely, and c.i.f. values are 1s lower on the week.—W. Weddel and Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London. Thursday. Linseed: The market is firm in the absence of sellers, but the demand is limited. Oil-cake: London Spot, 7/8 7d, and afloat 7/8 9d, September-October 7/8, April-June 7/8. Hull: Rather better inquiry. La Plata spot 7/8 6d, passage 7/8, October-November 7/8 6d, December-January 7/8, and January-February 7/8 6d. Rapeseed continues firm, but without much activity. Brown Cawnpore, October-November 36s 9d, Brown Calcutta 37s, April-June 38s 3d. Feverseed on 37s. Cottonseed has met with a moderate demand. London Prompt new £5 15s, old £5 10s, prompt new £5 14s 9d, October £5 15s 6d, November-January £5 11s 3d, buyers. Linseed oil: There have been fluctuations during the week, but quotations are not much altered since our last report. Spot and month in pipes 31/6 12s 6d, barrels £19 10s 6d, November-December £17, January-April 32/6 10s. Rape oil very steady; brown oil naked in all positions £21; refined £23 5s in casks; Ravison oil £19 15s, naked nearest value on the spot, and also for forward positions. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm; London-made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d; cotton cakes quiet; London made £4 17s 6d. The Produce Brokers Company, Ltd.

Hull. Tuesday.—Linseed: Linseed has ruled firm. A few hundred tons, spot and afloat Plate, changed hands at 34s 9d to 35s 3d, but business in forward positions is practically impossible, Plate shippers bidding for prices considerably above values here. Cottonseed: There has been rather more steadiness in the market since our last, and better prices paying for Egyptian, which made £5 7s 6d old crop on spot, and business done at £5 10s October, and November-January, whereas buyers to-day, Bombay has sold to a moderate extent at £4 14s 6d October-November shipment. Oilseed cakes: Linseed cakes in slightly better demand; prices somewhat firmer. Cotton cakes are rather dearer, with slowly improving demand.—Keighley Maxsted and Co.

Mark Lane. Monday. Linseed cakes: Supplies of foreign continue extremely limited but amply sufficient to meet the demand which is of the smallest possible character, considering the time of year; at the same time, values are well maintained in consequence of there being no pressure from shippers or home manufacturers to force sales. Russian sell slowly at last week's quotations. American offer at 2s 6d per ton more money. East India seed prices unchanged. London-made are in poor request, but without alteration. Cotton cakes: With some quantity of Egyptian available, both in warehouse and afloat, the market is with difficulty held up, although quotations are unaltered. English find only a moderate inquiry, but remain unchanged. Decorticated London-made, being relatively good value, go freely into consumption at £5 17s 6d for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand sell at £7, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes: East India 2s 6d per ton dearer; Ravison none. Maize germ meal: Some white American in forward positions has changed hands at £5 5s c.i.f., and the market leaves off a shade firmer; English is only sparingly offered at £5 11s 3d to £5 12s 6d; maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: Stocks of Rangoon are quite exhausted, while for shipment sellers ask £4 16s 3d ex ship's terms; broken Rangoon rice in bags is attractively offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans remain scarce and dear at £5 5s per ton for whole, and £5 10s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is unchanged at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
Linseed Cakes.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
in mats	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 7 6	
Cottonseed Cakes.		
Egyptian	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
,, for shipment		
English	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
Bombay	4 2 6	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal	6 17 6	
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	7 0 0	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
Rape Cake.		
Calcutta	4 17 6	
Ravison		
Maize.		
English germ meal	5 11 3	to 5 12 6
American, Dec./Jan. ..... (c.i.f.)	5 5 0	
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 15 0	
Rice Meal.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice	4 16 3	
Broken Rangoon	4 15 0	
Manures.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
Locust Beans.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 10 0	

—Pinnock Bros., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

Molassine Feeding Meal, packed in bags of 1 cwt' each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester. Friday.—Hay, 4d to 4¾d; clover, 5½d to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3d to 3½d; ditto oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—Consignments were on a good scale, but business proceeded quietly, at recent range of prices. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 63s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 35s per load.

POTATOES.

Southwark (Waterside). Saturday. During the past week the arrivals have been moderate, for which the demand has been steady, with prices well maintained. The following are this day's quotations: Essex, Kent, and Surrey Up-to-dates, 55s to 70s; Essex, Kent, and Surrey Pioneers, 60 to 65s; Essex, Kent, and Surrey B. Queens, 55s to 60s; Lincoln Evergoods, 55s to 60s; Lincoln Up-to-dates, 55s to 70; Blackland Up-to-dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland B. Queens, 50s to 55s.

York. Saturday. An average supply and a fair demand for potatoes free from disease, which sold at 6s per tub of 10 stones.

Judges for Royal Dublin Winter Show.

The following have agreed to officiate as judges at the above show—viz.:—

Special prizes.—James McWilliam, Garbity, Orton, Westmoreland. In fed cattle and groups—Robert Turner, Cairnton of Boyndie, Portsay, N.B. Kerry and Dexter and other small cattle—Thomas Milne, Straffan House, Straffan. Outfed bullocks John Rooth, 53, Victoria Street, Douglas, I.O.M. Outfed cows and heifers—Joseph O'Connor, Mylerstown, Naas. Sheep—F. C. Paine, Crockfaras, Newmarket, Cambs. Swine—P. Clune, Albert Agricultural College, Glasnevin. Butter, cream, and cheese—John Drysdale, Anngibbon, Port of Monteith Station, N.B. Honey—E. B. Drought, Department of Agriculture, Dublin. Maltino Barley J. Salmon Gough, The Limes, Bury St. Edmunds; J. D. Sanders, North Sandsfield, Gainsborough. Grain—J. G. Jameson, Bow Street Distillery, Dublin. Roots—Thomas O'Malley, Woodlands, Raheny; John Robertson, Coollattin Park, Shillelagh.

Applications for entry forms, etc., should be addressed to the agricultural superintendent, Leinster House, Dublin.

Worcestershire Shire Horse Society.

The annual show and sale organised by the above Society was held in Worcester Cattle Market on Wednesday, when nearly two hundred animals were shown, and the high standard of quality was excellent testimony to the work the Society is doing. The class for mares and geldings for town work numbered 70, and the competition was very strong. Mr. T. L. Walker's Quick Step, of Batesford, secured first prize and the champion prize of the show, but was run very close by Mr. Fowler's bay gelding, an umpire having to be called in to decide the merits of the respective animals. At the subsequent sale they fetched 75 gs. and 70 gs. respectively.

There were some very promising animals among the two and three-year-old geldings, and well-known breeders were represented in the shire mare, filly, and foal classes. Mr. C. Howson was winner of the first prize in the two-year-old gelding and filly class, and in the yearling class premier honours went to Mr. C. Heynes, who occupied a similar position in the three-year-old class, where there was exceptionally strong competition. Mr. T. R. Bomford was first in the colt class, and Mr. A. Green was the winner in the filly class. Mr. W. S. Carless secured premier honours with a nice foal by Desford Combination, and Mr. J. Farrar, of Broughton Hackett, was the owner of the successful filly. Lord Coventry gave a prize for foals by his horses, and it went to Mr. G. W. Morris, Clifton Court, and for the best brood mare or filly the first prize went to Mr. Charles Howson. A good many of the animals changed owners at satisfactory prices.

PIGS.

The Duchess of Devonshire's Berkshires.

The Compton herd of Berkshires, the property of Her Grace the Duchess of Devonshire, although started only a couple of years ago, has made a name already in the showyards, 72 prizes or awards being won in 1903, over one hundred in 1904, and again this season it has been most successful. At the sale of a portion of the herd on Thursday there was a small but business-like company, although many of the pigs for sale had only been farrowed late this summer. There was, however, a grand lot of young boars and gilts, many of whom had been prize-winners, especially those by the old boar Cecil Augustus being greatly admired. One of the litters of six, consisting of three boars and three gilts by this boar, and out of Polegate Daydream, the dam of many winners, made £14 2s. each. These were only born in January this year. The sixty head sold, which included many little pigs, averaged £5 15s. 8d. Messrs. Thornton and Co. were the auctioneers. We append a list of the chief lots:—

	Gs.
Sow, Polegate Destiny 10380, f. March 6, 1904; s. Cecil Augustus 7756 ..... Mr. H. S. Woodcock	9
Sow Polegate Dulcemera 10900, f. May 26, 1904; s. Polegate Dragoon 9811 ..... Mr. Toogood Parsons	7½
Sow, Polegate Dorset Lass 10901, f. July 12, 1904; s. Hall Mark G. 7900 ..... Mr. E. A. Crowley	5½
Sow, Polegate Donna Rosa 10905, f. Dec. 10, 1904; s. Kingstonian 9590 ..... Mr. E. Carter	5½
Sow, Polegate Donna Fortuna 10907, own sister to previous lot ..... Admiral Brand	6
Sow, Polegate Donna Maria, 10908, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. C. de Bertadazo	5½
Sow, Polegate Drusilla 10910, f. Jan. 2, 1905; s. Cecil Augustus 7756 ..... Mr. G. Hempson	14
Sow, Polegate Dubia 10911, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. G. Burt	6
Sow, Polegate Duenna 10912, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr F. J. Maitland	16
Boar, Polegate Druid 10913, own brother to previous lot ..... Exors. of Colonel McCalmont	14
Boar, Polegate Dunblane 10914, own brother to previous lot ..... Mr. L. Currie	19½
Boar, Polegate Dandy 10378, own brother to previous lot ..... Sir Arthur Stepney	11
Boar, Polegate Duty 10915, f. Jan. 18, 1905; s. Cecil Augustus 7756 ..... Mr. S. S. Berger	5½
Boar, Polegate Duvernay 10916, own brother to previous lot ..... Mr. W. M. Cazalet	5½
Boar, Polegate Donova 10976, own brother to previous lot ..... Mr. H. Howard Vyse	5
Boar, Polegate Double Event 10917, own brother to previous lot ..... Mr. E. Aschenson	6
Boar, Polegate Druid 10918, f. Dec. 12, 1904; s. Kingstonian 9590 ..... Mr. M. Seth Smith	14
Sow, Polegate Dusk, 10920, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. C. de Bertadazo	6
Sow, Polegate Druidess 10921, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. F. J. Maitland	8½
Boar, Polegate Dark Blue 10922, f. Jan. 2, 1905; s. Kingstonian 9590 ..... Mr. G. Hempson	13
Sow, Polegate Duxey 10923, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. Seth Smith	9½
Sow, Polegate Dream Dance 10924, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. Seth Smith	7
Sow, Polegate Dragaga 10926, own sister to previous lot ..... Mr. G. Hempson	11½
Boar, Polegate Darnaway 10927, f. Jan. 2, 1905; s. Kingstonian 9590 ..... Mr. H. Woods	5
Boar, Polegate Doubtful Spec. 10928, f. Dec. 20, 1904; s. Goldfinder 10088 Major-General Goldsworthy	7½
Boar, Polegate Danthorne 10940, f. June 23, 1905; s. Cecil Augustus ....Exors. of Colonel McCalmont	7½

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Ashford Ram Sales.

The annual sale of Kent or Romney Marsh at Ashford were held on Tuesday, when the demand was an excellent one all through, but prices did not rule so even in some cases as in the previous sales, particularly in connection with Mr. J. H. Harvey's sale. The most important consignment offered was that from Mr. Arthur Finn's well-known flock at Westbroke, Lydd, Kent. This year's sale was the forty-fourth annual sale of rams from this flock, the result, as given below, being, we believe, one of the best ever recorded. Compared with the same sale last year, the average realised is nearly £2 per head better.

The most noticeable feature in connection with this sale is the level range of prices. There were no high prices to make up the average, 16 gs. to Mr. Lind was the top price, 8 gs. to Mr. Mayhew the lowest. The leading buyers were Messrs. E. Finn, who gave up to 15 gs.; Laurence Hardy, M.P., who paid the same price; H. Rigden, C. File, Strouts, Levett, McDougall, Major Neve, R. Neve, Du Swaffer, Godden, etc. The whole of the sixty-five rams being kept for service in the home flocks, a fact upon which Mr. Finn can look with satisfaction, particularly when his average reaches, for so large a number, £11 18s. 9d. per head.

Mr. J. H. Harvey's consignment, which numbered thirty-five head, were of high merit and quality, included amongst them being some of the best rams seen out this year. Three particular rams were in great request, and, owing to this, the general average of the whole lot reached the satisfactory figure of £10,4s. 3d. per head, with a range of price from 32 gs. to 5 gs. The top priced ram was purchased by Mr. T. Wotton, who also gave 19 gs. for another; in both cases the runner-up was Mr. W. W. Chapman, who purchased for an Argentine client five grand masculine rams at 25 gs., 11½ gs., 10 gs., and two at 8½ gs.; Mr. A Amos being the runner-up for the 25 gs. ram. Messrs. F. de B. Collard, E. C. Lister-Kaye, Tompkins, Clements, Boon, and Strouts were the other leading buyers.

Twenty-five rams from Mr. A. Amos were offered, and sold at from 13 gs. to 5 gs., Mr. G. Scott purchasing at the former price, and Mr. McLean, who was buying for the Argentine, gave from 12 gs.

Mr. G. Buley's consignment, which numbered sixteen, sold well for the second lot; the range of prices here was from 10½ gs., to Mr. Buss, to 5 gs., and the average for the whole lot was £7 1s. 1d. Twenty-three unregistered rams from Mr. A. Sutton were sold at an average of £6 6s. 5d.

At Canterbury, Mr. F. Neame sold his second draft of yearling rams, these numbered twenty-seven. The demand was an excellent one, Mr. J. D. Maxted paying the top price, 15 gs., for a very fine ram; others made 11 gs. to Messrs. Horne, Tanner, and Ledger; others made 10 gs. to Messrs. Spanton, Marchant, Chapman, Ledger, Venison, and the whole averaged out at £9 13s. 9d.

Leicesters.

There were exceptionally large consignments of sheep and rams at the annual October fair held at Leicester on Thursday. Preference was shown for long-wool ewes and rams for breeding, and prices showed a considerable advance. The finest Lincoln longwool rams made 16 gs. to 18 gs., good useful rams 10 gs. to 12 gs., secondary 6 gs. to 9 gs., small rams 4 gs. to 5 gs., Shropshire rams 5 gs. to 11½ gs., Hampshire, Oxford, and Cotteswold 5 gs. to 7 gs., ram lambs 2 gs. to 6 gs., longwool ewes 32s. 6d. to 65s. per head, Shropshire ewes 40s. to 56s. each, Shropshire theaves 48s. to 57s., Lincoln longwool theaves, 49s. to 66s., and lamb hoggs 32s. to 40s. per head.

British Fruit Growers and Foreign Competition.

An important conference on the British fruit-growing industry was held at the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, last week, under the united auspices of the National Fruit-Growers' Federation and the Royal Horticultural Society. "Foreign Competition: How to Meet It," was the subject discussed.

Sir Trevor Lawrence, who was in the chair, remarked that in this country we were prone to have too much animal and too little vegetable and fruit diet. He was not sure that that was not to some extent due to defective methods of preparing vegetables and fruit for the table. But beyond all question the large additions made to the fruit supply of the country during recent years had been of great value to the community. The total value of the fruit imported from abroad in 1904 was £10,237,000, of which £4,538,000 worth could certainly have been grown in this country, the remainder being accounted for by foreign fruit—bananas, and so forth—which could not be grown in this country. When he was a boy he believed it was not possible to buy a pound of muscat grapes for less than 12s. or 15s., whereas now most excellent Muscat grapes could be purchased for 2s. 6d. per pound. That showed how the production of hot-house fruit had grown in this country. The more that could be done to give all possible help to our home industries in that direction the better.

Mr. G. Bunyard believed that fruit could be grown in this country to a very large extent, to counteract the effect of foreign competition. Much might be learnt from the manner in which small growers co-operated abroad and secured that fruit was properly graded and packed. Co-operation placed the small grower on a footing with the large grower. With over fifty years' experience, he expressed the opinion that the small grower had very little chance without organisation. At present it was not possible for the dealer to rely on a regular supply of British-grown fruit. Too many varieties were produced, instead of a smaller number of leading kinds, such as were constantly sent from abroad. He thought the small grower would do better to cater for the local and retail trade instead of, as at present, frequently flooding the London market with fruit which did not produce an adequate return. A great mistake had been made in planting large blocks of fruit of one kind together, as such fruit could not be properly cross-fertilised. As a result, they often found a crop on the outside, but not in the middle of an orchard. To obviate this, other varieties should be worked in.

Mr. Cheal offered some advice on the subject of which variety could be most profitably and most efficiently grown, but impressed the necessity of growing the varieties answering the requirements of the consumer and the salesman. The Government could help the fruit-growing industry by the establishment of experimental stations, the provision of instruction in cultivation, and in the treatment of diseases.

A general discussion followed, during which Mr. Engleheart, of Wiltshire, said that the sharp line between horticulture and agriculture should be broken down, and the Ministry of Agriculture—such as they had (laughter)—should give their horticulturists a helping hand.

Professor Moore, of Dublin University, said that the Irish fruit growers' experience had been that they could dispose of good apples at good prices in unlimited quantities, but they could not get rid of poor apples at any price. He urged very strongly that the best varieties of British fruit should be placed more freely upon the market.

At Wednesday's conference Mr. Cornwallis, president of the Royal Agricultural Society, said he was of opinion that if the compulsory dipping of sheep was enforced on agriculturists, there was no reason why the same principle should not be extended to the spraying of trees for the prevention of insect pests.

Mr. Arthur Griffiths Boscawen, M.P., presided over a discussion on land tenure and rating difficulties. He said the difficulty was so to adjust the interests of landlord and tenant that the latter should be secure in his own improvements and that the landlord should be willing to let his land for fruit.

The conference was concluded on Thursday, when a discussion took place on the subject of railway rates as affecting the carriage of fruit. Several growers complained of the high rates, and urged the Horticultural Society to do everything to obtain lower charges and better conditions. Mr. Boscawen, M.P., said they did not complain so much of high rates as that they apparently were based on no principle whatever. Sir Albert Rollitt, M.P., contended that the time for further legislation on the subject had arrived. Discussion also took place regarding the establishment of an experimental fruit farm by the Board of Agriculture.

Live Stock Record.

THE HORSE AND THE MOTOR.

The motor apparently is not only come to stay, but has become far more attractive for country rides than the slower-going horse carriage to large numbers of the wealthy who can afford to make use of it. The excitement of rapid transit from scene to scene, together with the stimulating atmospheric freshness, exert a peculiarly exhilarating influence which can scarcely fail in making it perpetually popular. But only the rich can afford the luxury of making use of it purely for pleasure, and it will be a long time yet before it drives omnibus and cab horses out of the streets of towns. Still, there cannot but be a considerable displacement of horseflesh, and there are numerous predictions that motors will soon increase sufficiently to render the breeding of carriage horses unprofitable.

No doubt hunters and cavalry mounts will require to be bred as long as chasing the fox continues to be a popular English pastime and the nations of the world keep up their standing armies to their present dimensions, but although not a few farmers rear the former, the latter, by general admission, are unprofitable to breed and keep five years ere sold for the prices the Army agents give for them.

What farmers have most to dread is, perhaps, the substitution of motor power for dray horses in the streets of towns. At present they supply large numbers of heavy geldings for this traffic, for, besides brewers, the railway companies, manufacturers, and merchants are customers for them. Numerous tenant farmers in recent years have become members of stud companies, and embarked in considerable enterprise in heavy horse breeding, and the chief return they have had for it has been the sale of geldings. If this should be taken away from them, the loss will be very considerable, and there will no longer be any inducement for them to improve their team mares or to take the slightest interest in horse-breeding, and the high-class studs which in the past have realised such high prices by the sale of stallions and surplus mares and filies would not be long in feeling the difference.

When, in addition to this, it is found more economical to perform all kinds of cultivating, haulage, and other agricultural work on the farm itself by motor power instead of by horses, equine-breeding will be reduced within very narrow limits. But a generation may possibly pass ere this revolution comes. The change, at any rate, is not yet. The heavy first cost of the motor will most likely prevent many farmers from becoming possessed of it until it can be rendered at less cost. But this would not be likely to influence brewing firms, railway companies, manufacturers, and merchants if they should entertain the conviction that employing a motor is more economical than keeping horses.

Worksop October Fair.—There was a very large attendance at this annual fair, held on Wednesday. Yearling store beasts made £5 to £7, two-year-olds £9 to £12 10s., milch cows to £18, and heifers up to £15. Store lambs were in strong demand, and made 30s. to 46s., gimmers 55s. to 67s., and ewes up to 52s. each. There was a large quantity of ponies and horses on offer, but nothing of any particular note.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

At a meeting of the Council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, held on Thursday, Mr. G. A. Duncombe, chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the report of that Committee upon the Hull Show. This stated that the attendance of the public was 49,951, being 3,456 less than at Huddersfield in 1904, but 3,720 above the average of the last five years. The total receipts at the turnstiles were £2,782 8s., and at the grand stand £392 14s. 6d., the total receipts being £3,175 2s. 6d., which was £314 11s. less than at Huddersfield, and £82 13s. in excess of the five years' average. The estimated profit on the show was £500, but the expenses in connection with the Hull meeting included £73 for the working dairy, and £128 for the exhibition of cheap cottages. Otherwise they anticipated the profit would have been £700. The timber sales were very satisfactory, the loss being only 30¼ per cent. The satisfactory financial result of the show was to a great extent attributable to the very handsome local fund raised in Hull of £1,841 1s. 1d. gross, to which the Hull Corporation contributed £500. The report was adopted. The sum of £2,000 was allocated towards the prizes for next year, and the Council decided to invite the Royal English Arboricultural Society to hold a forestry exhibition in conjunction with this society at the show at Middlesbrough next year.

The important horse-breeding districts of the East Lincolnshire Marches were recently visited by representatives of the Saxony Heavy Horse Society in the persons of Claus von Drathen, Major von Tago, and Herr Beseler, who purchased for breeding purposes seventeen yearling fillies. The deputation also visited Derbyshire, Yorkshire, and Scotland, but restricted their purchases of fillies entirely to Lincolnshire. Three years ago Claus von Drathen and Major Tago visited the Saltfleet district, and took twelve fillies to Germany. These fillies carried off all the principal prizes in Germany, and proved such excellent breeding mares that the society decided to purchase all the fillies it required this year in the district.

Messrs. W. and B. Hobbs will sell by auction, on Thursday next, the 19th inst., at Newingreen, about 4,000 well-bred Kent sheep, rams, and lambs, comprising 1,344 one, two, and three Kent ewes; 1,800 Kent ewe and wether half-bred tegs; 512 ewe and wether, Kent and half-bred lambs; 44 ram and ram tegs. The animals are from various well-known flocks and of high-class quality. On the following day, at the same place, Messrs. Hobbs will offer 375 excellent home-bred beasts, comprising 136 yearlings; 37 eighteen-months-old steers and heifers; 154 two and three-year-old fatting beasts; 5 barren cows and heifers; 26 cows and heifers in and with calves; 2 bulls; 15 calves. Both sales will commence punctually at ten o'clock. Catalogues may be obtained at the Auction and Estate Offices, Ashford, Kent.

The Red Polled herd belonging to Mr. H. Salvin, of Burn Hall, Durham, having outgrown its accommodation, the owner has instructed Mr. W. Chrystal, of Houghton-le-Spring, R.S.O., to dispose of a portion, and the sale will take place on Wednesday next, the 18th inst., at Herd's House, Burn Hall Parks, three miles from Durham. The herd was established five years ago, and nothing but the best stock bred, so that the animals to be offered on Wednesday are prime beasts fit for any herd. The major part of them are heifers bred and reared at Burn Hall, in a natural condition, thoroughly inured to the rigorous climate of the North-East of Durham and may confidently be expected to thrive and do well wherever they go.

Hereford Herd Book Society.

At the quarterly Council meeting of the Hereford Herd Book Society, held at Hereford on Wednesday, Mr. W. G. C. Britten was elected secretary in succession to his father. A reply was read from the Argentine Rural Society as to their new rule, which came into force on April 13 last, governing the entry of cattle in their herd book. In order to make the matter perfectly clear, two pedigrees had been sent to them by this Society as tests, and from their reply it appears that animals whose pedigrees trace back on the dam's side to any of the first thirteen volumes, and have their sires entered in "any" volume of the English herd book are eligible for entry in the Argentine herd book.

Sir James Rankin, M.P., drew the attention of the Council to the fact that Herefordshire has no Chamber of Agriculture, and is not represented on the Central Chamber in London. On his suggestion a small committee was appointed to consider the question and report. Mr. Rollo Rowlands, Evesbatch Court, Bromyard, was appointed a life member, and Mr. D. E. Strevens, Castlecotte, Roscommon, an annual member.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

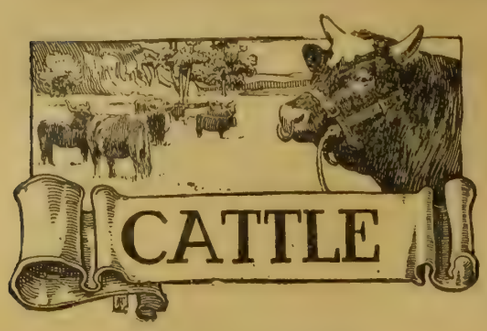
Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 7, 1905:

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	13	21		2,021	4,874	
				142			6,282	
				49			6,304	
	Outbreaks.	No.	6	9		649	1,047	
				16			1,301	
				14			1,337	
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	3	5		679	1,091	
				10			1,210	
				5			1,137	
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...		...	...	
				...			...	
				...			11	
	Dogs.	No.	...	...		...	...	
				...			...	
				...			12	
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	32	43		1,658	2,163	
				36			1,973	
				51			1,627	
	Outbreaks.	No.	14	26		935	1,392	
				21			1,171	
				19			903	
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...		...	...	
				...			...	
				...			130	
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...		...	...	
				...			...	
				1			1	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	34		1,082	1,200	
				7			804	
				12			842	
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	27		762	769	
				7			692	
				8			678	
Period.				Week ended Oct. 7, 1905		Total for 40 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904	
				Corresponding week in 1904			Corresponding period in 1903	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Lancaster Horse and Sheep Fair.—The October fair at Lancaster was held on Wednesday, when the supplies were far in excess of those at previous fairs. Horses, as a rule, met with slow trade, and many excellent two-year-olds were not disposed of. Prices ranged from £10 to £30. There was a very keen demand for sheep, which were entirely of the white-faced variety. Ram lambs were the best show, and made £5 to £6 10s.; shearlings, to £6; and aged rams, £3 to £4.

Barnsley October Fair.—At the annual October fair at Barnsley, held on Wednesday, there was a good atendance, but business was not very active. The quality of horses was poor, though a few young heavy horses made full value. There was a fair show of sheep, mostly North country. Ewes sold at 42s. to 50s., and rams from £3 to £3 10s. There was an active inquiry for calving cows, which sold readily at £15 to £20, but business in calves was not so good, prices ranging from £5 10s. to £9.



Notes and Jottings.

The season is now fast drawing on for the fat-stock shows, and, so far as the cattle for these shows are concerned, the much lower temperature than is usual at this time of year that now prevails will be beneficial. A close, muggy temperature is very bad for the finishing off of these highly-fed cattle. The poorer brethren of these monsters that are at present in most cases out in the fields are also having a very favourable time, for though the weather is cold, it is continuing generally remarkably dry, which is all in favour of health. The dryness, however, is being felt terribly in some districts in respect of the water supply and springs; small streams and ponds are alike very low. As winter comes on a little labour should be spared to see that all ditches and drains that supply drinking places are open and clean, so that nothing is wasted in that respect.

The autumn has been quite unusually fruitful of auctions of pedigree cattle of almost every breed, and though we are now at the middle of October, there are still a large number to come off. It must be or ought to be very encouraging to breeders of pedigree cattle of the popular breeds that such good all-round prices continue. Last week was a better week in several instances, the Stonebrook House Herefords making an average of £30 4s. 9d. in seventy-eight lots, which is very satisfactory. The comparatively new breed, so far as the northern part of the country is concerned, the South Hams, also appear to have had a very good time of it at the autumn sale under the Herd Book Society's auspices, thirty and up to forty-three guineas figuring amongst the prices realised, and with a fairly good average.

Shorthorns that are able to pass the tuberculin test, and whose pedigrees are acceptable to the Buenos Ayres breeder, appear to go off well at the auctions on the other side, several heifers, recently shipped by Mr. Robert Taylor, of Pitlivie, ranging from £300 to upwards of £400 each, whilst of bulls shipped by Messrs. Hughes prices ranging up to £474 were realised. Half a dozen bulls imported by Mr. A. Bruce also ran up to the good average of £234 3s. 6d. The extent of territory in South America all round, there is little doubt, will be found an opening for practically an endless supply of pedigree stock from England for many generations to come. The feeding climate and all other conditions appear most favourable to this country as a stock-producing one.

When we look back at the great number of years that first-class cattle of various breeds have been fostered in the British Islands and see the vast number of inferior stock that are continually duced and brought out. Milk breeds, too, there is scarcely a possibility of the pedigree stock market being overdone, provided only that good, healthy cattle of the right class are produced and bought out. Milk breeds, too, there is little doubt will shortly share in the good demand from that country. As the population increases a good deal of dairy produce will be needed locally, besides which there are already many very large dairies of cattle being kept for the production of butter to Great Britain and other countries.

In England the difficulties of labour, both male labour in looking after the animals and female labour in attending to the udder produce, form a very great barrier to the profits of butter-making, whilst to add to these difficulties the continued increase in the quantity of imported butter and its improvement in quality have the effect of keeping prices at such a low ebb that the British producer can scarcely compete at a profit, even under the most favourable conditions. The improvement in the Colonial butter at the recent London Dairy Show was very noticeable. It will be a long time, it is to be feared, before many of our upper classes even will be able to distinguish between first class pure butter and first-class mixtures. Could they but be taught this, the home producer of the best quality of butter would find a ready market.

Attention has previously been called in these notes to the benefits of sending fat cattle to the market at this time of year, perhaps more than any other, in thoroughly ripe and fit condition. Looking through the market reports of last week, I notice one market—Colchester—quotes its beef as follows: Stall-feds, 5s. per stone of 8 lb.; grass beef, 4s. to 4s. 6d. This points very directly to the benefits of the firmer and warmer handling of the stall-fed cattle to that of the outside-fed ones. Though it is rather early yet to find stall-fed cattle in the markets, there is no doubt it pays on tillage farms where the manure counts. On grass farms only a great deal may be done to compensate for the lack of the stalls by giving a little hay every morning and a good feed of meal, cake, and chaff at night.

Markets generally, especially provincial ones, were a little brighter in the ripest classes of stock. This is as had been anticipated, but the class of cattle that come below the average in quality find but few buyers, and these at a very low and disappointing figure, and how many animals there are of the latter class compared with the number of the former? Even in the Metropolitan Market, where, as a rule, we expect to find the choicest of our fat stock and the kind likely to bring the highest quotations of the week, there are not more, on a rough calculation, than 10 per cent. of the number pitched that are up to the highest quality. In that market it occasionally happens, certainly, that a solitary consignment of Highland Scots, or, especially, neat Devons, exceed the quotations.

One branch of the cattle trade has become much more animated of late, and very much brighter to the seller—that is, the store or feeding branch. With a persistent drought lessening both the root and hay crops in the summer, and with only medium prices ruling for the general class of beef, a very flat trade might fairly have been looked for, but where the early winter sales of feeding cattle have taken place, prices have been quite the reverse of this. In the north the best quality lots of blue-grey crones have run from £18 to £24 per head, and younger cattle have also been sought after at good prices, especially where a tinge of quality has prevailed.

The report of the great cattle market at Chicago for the week ending September 26 gives the total of cattle received at the stock yards as 96,318. This enormous total, it is almost needless to say, quite swamped the market. Nevertheless, as stated at home in previous paragraph, the best finished cattle found a fairly satisfactory market. With such a total, it can easily be understood how every avenue would be blocked to repletion, and it appears that salesmen, packers, and all concerned were about at their wit's end, whilst telegraph messages made the wires ring so frequently and rapidly as if they were discharged to shippers (consigners) to hold back further supplies until the yards and slaughter-houses could become a little denuded of this over supply.

Jersey breeders who have been sellers during the past season have been having rather hard times of it until recently. It is, however, a long lane that has no turn in it, says the old proverb, and the combination or collective sale of the breed held at Bletchley last week was quite a red-letter day. In cows and heifers especially animals with but little to recommend them could reach 30 gs. easily, and good ones considerably more. So scarce, it appears, is milk, that these great prices were suddenly sprung upon the public from sheer obligation. Most of the lots were bought for private family use, however, and not for dairymen's work, so that the question of wear and tear will not be of so much consequence.

The readiness with which Jersey cattle come into season during the winter months is one of their greatest recommendations. With Shorthorns there is often very great difficulty in getting them to take the bull during the dead of winter, and so from October to the end of January there is invariably a dearth of milking cows. The Jersey coming in season during this dead time of the year fills up a blank, and those who have good new milched ones to spare at this time are pretty certain to reap great benefit. No matter how severe the weather may be, the newly-calved Jersey, if properly cared for, will take the bull as readily in the winter months as the summer.

Shorthorn Sales in Scotland.

The Collynie and Uppermill Herds.

Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co.'s annual week of Shorthorn sales in Scotland commenced on Tuesday, when at Tillycairn, near Old Medrum (one of Mr. Duthie's farms), they conducted the well-known animal joint sales of Collynie and Uppermill Shorthorns.

The Uppermill sale of last autumn witnessed the ever-to-be-remembered dispersion of the late Mr. W. S. Marr's splendid herd, but his cousin, Mr. John Marr, Cairnbrogie, who succeeded to the tenancy, has built up a new herd on the old foundation, and he continues with Mr. Duthie the arrangement for a joint-sale of the season's crop of calves, so that the great gathering which has annually assembled from all parts of the country, and which has, ever since the Cruickshank breed came so prominently to the front, attracted many foreign representatives in search of the choicest strains of blood, will be maintained. There were in all 40 animals catalogued, 28 of which were from Collynie, 11 from Uppermill, and one consigned by Mr. J. Duthie Webster. Mr. Duthie's crop of bull calves has this year been smaller than usual, and, as he only offered 16 on this occasion, he made up the number by sending forward a dozen heifer calves, so that breeders had a rare opportunity of enriching their herds with some of the best young female stock that has ever been presented at a public sale. The Collynie bull calves are all sprung from great milking cows, and they are also noted for their fleshy character, while their pedigrees go back sufficiently far to satisfy the most exacting taste for "blue blood." Mr. John Marr made a successful first appearance as an exposer of Shorthorns, and the quality of the bull calves which he offered was such as to reflect credit on his skill as a breeder, and to maintain the high reputation of the Uppermill herd. They were not all of popular colours, but they were well-bred, and were shown in a healthy and robust condition, which indicated sound constitutions.

It was hardly to be expected that the sale would come up to the notable one held last year at

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
October 17	Shorthorn Cattle	Sir W. H. Wills	Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset.
17	Hackney and Shire Horses, and Cobs	Mr. F. W. Page	Cowfold, Sussex.
18	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. E. Harwood	Woodhouse, Almondsbury, Bristol.
18	Black Angus, Galloway, and Blue-grey Polled Cattle	Sir G. Greenall	Terrington Stud Farm, near King's Lynn.
18	Red Polled Cattle... ...	Mr. H. Salvin	Burn Hall, Durham.
18, 19 & 20	Horses	Various	Cheshire Repository, Crewe.
19	Shire Horses	Members of the Montgomeryshire Entire Horse Association	Welshpool,
19	Devon Cattle	Members of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society	Taunton.
19	Horses	Various	York Horse Repository.
19	Kent and other Sheep ...	Various	Newingreen, near Westenhanger, Kent.
19	Cattle and Shropshire Sheep	Mr. F. Wright	Bradbourne, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire.
20	Cattle	Various	Newingreen, Kent.
20	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. C. H. Joliffe	Goldicote, Stratford-on-Avon.
20	Store Stock	Various	Shrewsbury Smithfield.

Uppermill, when three figures were quite common for calves, and the record price of 620 guineas was obtained for one of the Collynie herd; but trade was very buoyant, there being a brisk inquiry for the best stock by home breeders, and the prices were highly satisfactory. The top figure was 470 guineas, as against 620 guineas paid by an Argentine representative for a Collynie bull calf last year, and the average of £186 8s. 9d. was also under the £226 12s. 6d. of that famous sale; but last week's prices could not but be gratifying to the sellers, and a total of nearly £4,000 for 28 calves is a valuable asset for a stock-breeder. Only two of the bull calves and three of the heifer calves sold at less than 50 guineas, while no fewer than 13 of the animals ran well into three figures. The pick of the sale was Proud Monarch, a magnificent red bull calf of great thickness and wealth of flesh, and with a splendid coat of hair. He is sired by Proud Edward, and is out of the Scottish Champion cow Rose of Stittyton Third. This gem elicited a very brisk competition; he was started at 100 guineas, and after some spirited bidding he was knocked down to Mr. Stephen Mitchell, Boquhan, Stirlingshire, at 470 guineas, the runner-up being Mr. Aimes. The second highest price of the day was given for Royal Choice, a handsome red calf of the Bellona family, and sired by Royal Pride. He was put up at 100 guineas, and drew out several competitors, Mr. Walter Scott, Gloucestershire, prevailing in the end at 420 guineas. Numerous other three-figure prices were realised, as the following sale list will show :—

COLLYNIE HERD.
BULL CALVES.

	Gs.
Master Favourite—Mr. Atkinson, Overthwaite, Carlisle	65
Proud Monarch—Mr. Stephen Mitchell, Boquhan	470
Diamond Star—Mr. Anderson, Saphock	150
Royal Prince—Mr. Reid, of Hillhead, Ellon	100
Golden Chief—Mr. Watson, Bruceland, Elgin	71
Royal Choice—Mr. Walter Scott, Nether Swell Manor, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucester	420
Proud Star—Mr. Norrie, Cairnhill, Turriff	34
Sittyton Royal—Mr. D. Anderson, Loriston, Aberdeen	280
Royal Victor—Lord Lovat, Beaufort Castle	400
Royal Baron—Mr. Preece, Drayton	160
Bright Silver—Mr. Raphael, Porter's Park, London	120
May King—Mr. F. Horlick, Howley, Cheltenham	175
Royal Fancy—Mr. Shepherd, Shetlinn	40
Prince of Ceremonies—Mr. John Marr, Uppermill	140
Proud Fancy—Mr. Malcolm, Dunmore	71
Scottish Mint—Duke of Northumberland, Alnwick Castle	145

HEIFER CALVES.

Miss Dorothy—Mr. Sidney Herbert, London	60
Rosaline VII.—Mr. Sidney Herbert	36
Royal Rose—Mr. Hill, Little Haddo	120
Gay Rosaline—Mr. Wilson, Pirriesmill	62
Proud Marigold—Lady Cathcart, Cluny Castle	165
Collynie Rosewood IV.—Mr. A. J. Gordon, Combscauseway	60
Red Rosaline—Lord Northbrook, Hampshire	31
Proud Mistletoe—Mr. Hill, Little Haddo	36
Proud Rosalie—Lady Cathcart	78
Gay Mistletoe—Mr. Reid, of Hillhead	64
Royal Violet—Mr. Mitchell, Boquhan	100
Royal Mistletoe—Mr. Hill, Little Haddo	52

UPPERMILL HERD.
BULL CALVES.

Prince Nonpareil—Mr. Douglas, Spots Mains, Kelso	33
Scottish Crest—Provost Fowler, Tain	60
Lieutenant Colonel—Mr. Ramsay, Carmichael	20
Royal Scott—Mr. J. Massey, Nevermill, Tarves	27
Proud Maxwell—Mr. Taylor, Pitlivie	30
Robin Hood—Mr. D. C. Bruce, Byres	25
Gay Gordon—Mr. Evans, Natal	38
Lord Duke—Mr. Stewart, Thrapston	38
Royal Crest—Mr. Potter, Daybrook House, Nottingham	32
Diamond Duke—Mr. Preece, Drayton	16

SUMMARY.
COLLYNIE HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
16 Bull calves	493 10 0	186 8 9
12 Heifer calves	162 15 0	74 14 6

UPPERMILL HERD.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
10 Bull calves	63 0 0	33 9 10

Joint Sale at Pirriesmill.

The second sale took place on Wednesday at Huntly, the consignments being from the well-known herds of Mr. A. M. Gordon, of Newton; Mr. John Wilson, Pirriesmill; Mr. F. Simmers, Whiteside; and Mr. Alexander T. Gordon, Combscauseway. In all 82 animals were catalogued. The sale was held at Pirriesmill, within a few minutes' walk from the railway station at Huntly, and it drew together a large gathering of breeders and others interested, most of those who were at Tillycairn on the previous day being again in attendance.

Business on the whole was very good, fashionable pedigrees being in demand. Although the splendid prices realised on Tuesday for ten outstanding animals in the Collynie draft were not reached, there was smart competition for the highest class of stock, and in several cases long figures were recorded. The total number disposed of was 71, and they brought an aggregate of £4,392 3s., representing the very satisfactory average of £61 17s. 3d. The highest general average was made by the Combscauseway collection, which worked out at £68 5s. each, the Pirriesmill lot coming very close at £65 5s 3d. For the Whiteside heifers an average of £60 13s. 2d. was realised. To the Pirriesmill herd fell the distinction of gaining the top price of the day, namely 280 guineas for a two-year-old heifer. Several of the best animals were acquired by Professor Campbell, Dublin, on behalf of the Board of Agriculture in Ireland. A list of the chief sales is appended :—

NEWTON HERD.

HEIFER CALVES.—Newton Princess Royal II., Mr. Reid, of Hillhead, Ellon, 56 gs; Pauline V., Mr. Robertson, Coleburn, 31 gs; Newton Jenny Lind, Mr. Smith, of Pittodrie, 42 gs.

BULL CALVES.—Newton Star, Mr. Robertson, Coleburn, 58 gs; Newton Prince, Mr. Coey, Larne, 74 gs; Newton Champion, Mr. Calder, of Ardargie, 105 gs; Newton Crest, Mr. W. T. Malcolm, Dunmore, 41 gs.

PIRRIESMILL HERD.

COWS.—Maria XIV. (5 years),, Mr. J. Duthie Webster, Tarves, 46 gs; Countess VII. (5 years), Mr. George Bruce, Inchfield, 26 gs.

TWO YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Lavender Thyme XII, Mr. Wm. Duthie, Collynie, 280 gs.; Waterloo Vine III., the Earl of Moray, Doune Lodge, 160 gs; Crescent IX., Irish Agricultural Department, 115 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Lavender Thyme XIV., Irish Agricultural Department, 170 gs; Primrose VI., Mr. Raphael, Porter's Park, London, 40 gs; Lavender Thyme, XIII., Lord Calthorpe, Elvetham, 150 gs; Water Lily VI., Mr. Stephen Mitchell, Boquhan, 115 gs; Dinorah II., Irish Agricultural Department, 60 gs.

BULL CALVES.—Jamissary VIII., Sir Alexander Baird of Urie, 24 gs; Prince Charlie, Mr. Robert Anderson, Fingask, 25 gs; Melbourne City, Mr. W. M'Connachie, Ardrone, Keith, 26 gs; Carse o' Gowrie, Mr. George Inglis of Newmore, 110 gs; Master Mason, Mr. Whinnerah, Carnforth, 54 gs; Wandering Willie, Mr. Anderson, Comisty, 43 gs; East Neuk o' Fife, Mr. Anderson, Ballachraggan, 50 gs; Earl of Eglinton, Lord Lilford, 70 gs; Madagascar, Mr. Evans, Natal, 28 gs; Quintin Durward, Mr. Beaton, Monellie, Forgue, 22 gs; Man o 'War, Mr. Rothwell, Preston, 52 gs; Strathbogie Castle, Mr. Snowball, Knapton, Yorks, 72 gs.

WHITESIDE HERD.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Lucy's Maid, Provost Fowler, 54 gs; Waterloo Maid, Mr. Lee, of Congleton, 170 gs; Elvira's Rose XXVIII., Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 51 gs. Yearling Heifers.—Lucy's Rose, Mr. A. Haley, Malton, 31 gs; Waterloo Girl, Mr. Lee, of Congleton, 120 gs; Jilt XXXVIII., Mr. T. A. Anderson, Ballachraggan, 37 gs. Heifer Calves.—Jilt XXXIX., Mr. Raphael, London, 37 gs; Lady Tarves XI., Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, 31 gs; Waterloo Princess XXXIX., Mr. J. A. Preece, Thrapston, 130 gs.

COMBSCAUSEWAY HERD.

COWS.—Bessie Craibstone II. (11 years), Mr. Pennan, Craigie, 40 gs; Lady Mary IV. (9 years), Mr. Napier, Dallachy, 52 gs; Royal Maid (6 years), Mr. Livingstone, Mountblairey, 29 gs; Augusta Bruce III. (3 years), Mr. Robertson, Coleburn, 72 gs. Two-year-old Heifers.—Princess Royal C., Irish Agricultural Department, 160 gs; Lavender Augusta, II., Mr. Campbell, Harthill, 62 gs; Lady Ythan VII., Mr. Robertson, Coleburn, 30 gs. Yearling Heifer.—Royal Rose, Mr. Duthie, 100 gs. Heifer Calves.—Lady Ursula, Mr. A. F. Bristowe, Suffolk, 41 gs; Rosewood CI., Mr. Lloyd, Chester, 81 gs; Clara LXVII., Mr. Livingstone, Mountblairey, 40 gs; Primrose Lady, Mr. Smith, Pittodrie, 45 gs; Queen Bess, Mr. Beaton, Monellie, Forgue, 32 gs.

BULL.—Koh-i-noor (4 years), Mr. Lloyd, Chester, 115 gs. Bull Calves.—Redgauntlet, Mr. Haley, Malton, 41 gs; Autocrat, Mr. Hunter, Seggat, 40 gs.

SUMMARY.
NEWTON HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
3 Heifer calves	58 16 0	45 3 0
7 Bull calves	110 5 0	50 5 0
10 Head		48 14 4

PIRRIESMILL HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
3 Cows	48 6 0	32 11 0
3 Two-year-old heifers	294 0 0	194 5 0
6 Yearling heifers	178 10 0	98 3 6
1 Heifer calf	11 11 0	11 11 0
19 Bull calves	115 10 0	39 2 6
32 Head		65 5 3

WHITESIDE HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
3 Two-year-old heifers	178 10 0	96 5 0
3 Yearling heifers	126 0 0	65 16 0
7 Heifer calves	136 10 0	43 4 0
13 Head		60 13 2

COMBSCAUSEWAY HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
4 Cows	75 12 0	50 13 3
3 Two-year-old heifers	168 0 0	109 4 0
1 Yearling heifer	105 0 0	105 0 0
5 Heifer calves	85 1 0	50 3 9
3 Bulls	120 15 0	68 12 0

Huntly.

Immediately after the sale at Pirriesmill an adjournment was made to the premises of the Northern Auction Company, where the crowd taxed the accommodation to its utmost limits. The animals forward consisted of drafts from New Keig, Whitehouse, Middleton, Troup, Banff, Mains of Lessendrum, Huntly, Phingask, Fraserburg, and Burnside, Depple, Fochabers. The big prices by no means daunted the spirits of those in search of good blood, and the prices realised were nearly as good as those got from the Pirriesmill sale, keeping out of view, of course, the big figures obtained at Pirriesmill and at Collynie the previous day. The competition was keen.

Mr. Murray, of the Northern Auction Mart Company, conducted the sale, and there was no time lost in disposing of the large number of consignments. The top price of the sale was reached by Mermaid, a red heifer, the property of Mrs. Law, New Keig, Whitehouse, which fetched 130 guineas. The prices all over reached figures which suggest that cattle breeding is not yet a business that is played out. A roan cow, the property of Mr. Robertson, Phingask, brought 135 guineas, and a one-year-old heifer belonging to Mrs. Law, Keig, reached 130 guineas. Ninety-five guineas was the next lowest figure, and prices ranged from 15 to 130 guineas.

Mr. M'William's and Mr. Watson's.

The third sale of the week took place on Thursday at Stoneytown, Keith, when drafts from the herds of Mr. M'William, Stoneytown, and from Watson, Bruceland, Elgin, were disposed of. Shorthorns have been bred at Stoneytown since 1871, and the stock has always been healthy and vigorous, the bulls used having been selected with an eye to their breeding value. The Bruceland herd, better known by the name of Auchronie, was founded a quarter of a century ago by the purchase of two cows from the herd of Mr. Cruickshank, Sittyton, and additions were afterwards made from the Kinellar and other well-known herds, while sires of exceptional merit were introduced. The number catalogued was 55, but six were not forward, or were withdrawn.

There was not such a large attendance as on the previous days, but the company was essentially a business one, and comprised a good lot of buyers on the outlook for the best stock from herds of such a high reputation. Trade was brisk for the choicest animals, as may be gathered from the fact that a dozen of the animals ran well into three figures, while a top price of £220 10s. for a yearling heifer, and an average of £69 for 49 head, were very satisfactory, even in these days when Shorthorns are being boomed. Nor was the brisk trade caused by a foreign demand, for none of the animals were bought for the Argentine, but the home trade was sufficiently healthy to carry forward the sale on lines which could not, on the whole, fail to prove satisfactory to the exposers. His Majesty the King got a cow and a heifer from the Stoneytown draft at good prices, and Mr. Hedley Smith, who has been attending the series of sales in the interests of the Whittingehame herd, secured a fine breeding cow for the Prime Minister at 150 guineas. Details as to purchasers and prices are appended :—

STONEYTOWN HERD.

COWS.—Flora 2nd, 8 years old, Mr. Buttar, Corston, 42 guineas; her heifer calf, Floral Wreath, Mr. Johnston, Linksfield, Elgin, 27; Ella, 7 years, Sir Jas. Sievwright, Tulliallan, 165; her heifer calf, Ella 4th, Mr. Charles Bruce, for His Majesty the King, 95; Golden Lily, 5 years, Mr. Hedley Smith, for the Prime Minister, 150; her bull calf, Gallant Lad, Colonel Smith Grant of Mintmore, 42; Lady Maud, 5 years, the Earl of Moray, 180; White Rose, 4 years, Mr. Murray, Old Manse, Banff, 46; her bull calf, Avondale, Mr. Robertson, Ballechin, 61; Heather Bloom, roan heifer calf, out of Heather Bell, Mr. Charles Fleming, Keith, 41; Lady Rothes, three years, Mr. Mackenzie, Balnain, Rossshire, 31; Daydream 7th, 3 years, Mr. George Inglis, of Newmore, 48; her heifer calf, Daydream 9th, Mr. Inglis, 22. Two-year-old Heifers.—Sunbeam 10th, Colonel Smith Grant, of Minmore, 100 guineas; Golden Thistle, the Earl of Moray, 150; Proud Countess, Mr. Fleming, Keith, 100 guineas; Lancaster 43rd, Sir Jas. Sievwright, Tulliallan, 150. Yearling Heifers.—Golden Pansy, Mr. Cameron, Balnakyle, 100 guineas; Golden Thorn, Mr. William Duthie, Collynie, 210; Mary Grace 8th, Mr. Law, Mains of Sanquhar, Forres, 130; Floss, Mr. Law, Holl, 25; Carnation, Mr. Raphael, Porter's Park, London, 50; Gem of Spey, Mr. Raphael, 42; Radiant Rosebud, Mr. Torrie, Dorset, 75; Daydream 8th, Mr. Inglis, of Newmore, 30. Heifer Calves.—Golden Princess, Mr. Mackay, Burgie, Forres, 42; Roan Gem, Mr. Malcolm, Dunmore, 33; Lady Duff, Mr. Malcolm, 32; Sunbeam 11th, His Majesty the King, 110; Busy Bee, Mr. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington, 35. Bull.—Gold Bank, 2 years old, Mr. Calder, of Ardargie, 66. Bull Calves.—Pride of Spey, Mr. White, Mains of Orton, 21 guineas; Golden Avon, Colonel Smith Grant, Minmore, 30; Scotch Baron, Mr. R. Anderson, Viewfield, Urquhart, 76; Merry Monarch, Mr. Douglas, Spott Mains, 40; Prince of Avon, Mr. Strickland, Yorkshire, 62.

BRUCELAND HERD.

Yearling Heifer.—Golden Princess, Mr. Anderson, Ballachraggan, 50 guineas. Heifer Calves.—Madge 5th, Mr. Campbell, Harthill, 44; Bessie Lee, Mr. Buttar, Corston, 25; Red Beauty, Duke of Richmond and Gordon, 32; Roan Beauty, Mr. Johnston, Linkswood, Elgin, 30; Barrie, Mr. Wordsworth, Gorey, 20; Royal Gem, Mr. Hughes, Crewe, 125; Rosetta, Mr. Torrie, Dorset, 56. Bull Calves.—Royal Scot, Mr. Moggach, Towiebeg, 21; Scottish Captain, Mr. Cameron, Caledon, Ireland, 78; Golden Fancy, Mr. Fleming, Keith, 17; Elgin Prince, Mr. Barnes, Aikbank, Cumberland, 36; Prince of Moray, Sir Algernon Coote, Queen's County, Ireland, 38.

SUMMARY
STONEYTOWN HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
7 Cows	189 0 0	97 16 0
4 Two-year-old heifers	157 10 0	131 5 0
8 Yearling heifers	220 10 0	86 17 9
9 Heifer calves	115 10 0	50 19 8
1 Stock bull	69 6 0	69 6 0
7 Bull calves	79 16 0	49 16 0
36 head		77 5 3

BRUCELAND HERD.

	Highest. £ s. d.	Average. £ s. d.
1 Yearling heifer	52 10 0	52 10 0
7 Heifer calves	131 5 0	50 14 0
5 Bull calves	81 18 0	39 18 0
13 head		49 4 6

Sale of Jerseys at Bletchley.

A number of well-known breeders contributed stock to the collective sale of Jerseys held at the Park Hotel, Bletchley, on Wednesday by Messrs. Thornton and Co. Among them may be mentioned the Earl Cadogan, the Bishop of Ipswich, Lady de Rothschild, Mr. J. Carson, and Mr. G.

Murray Smith. There were nearly eighty entries, and a good trade throughout was experienced, the 74 head sold averaging close on £18. Lady de Rothschild's beautiful cow Rainbow, first prize at the Bath and West Show this season, made the highest price—viz., 36 gs., Mr. Weetman being the purchaser. We give below a list of the principal lots with purchasers' names and prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS

White Rosebud (Mr. Murray Smith's), broken colour, c. July 2, 1899; s., Golden Fern's Lad 6236 Gs.
Colonel Charlesworth 24
Maisonette Frederica (Capt. Gisborne's), nearly whole colour, c. May 1, 1900; s., Baronet 7094
Colonel Charlesworth 29
Burgh's Brenda (the Bishop of Ipswich's), whole colour, c. Oct. 21, 1900; s., Thunder 6726
Mr. C. B. Balfour 22
Mashova (Capt. Gisborne's), whole colour, c. Jan. 19, 1901; s., Advancer 6758 .....Mr. John Tremayne 30
Dairymaid (Bishop of Ipswich's), whole colour, c. Feb. 14, 1901; s., Trousers 7056 ..Mr. J. de Knoop 21
Crystalbrook Tiny (Mr. Carson's), whole colour, c. April 22, 1901; s., Spring's Glory 6413
Mr. J. de Knoop 25
Crystal (Mr. Murray Smith's), broken colour, c. April 27, 1901; s., Napoleon Bonaparte 6966
Capt. Gisborne 21
Rowena's Queen (Lady de Rothschild's), whole colour c. June 14, 1901; s., Reminder's Joy 7349
Mr. G. F. Hodgson 22
Mistress (Messrs. Palmer's) whole colour, c. July 31, 1901; s., Vervain's Lad 7390 .....Mr. J. A. James 24
Golden Wonder's Daisy (Mr Murray Smith's), nearly whole colour, c. Dec. 25, 1901; s., Golden Jolly 7518
Mr. J. Tremayne 24
York Rose (Bishop of Ipswich's), nearly whole colour, c. Dec. 31, 1901; s., Swift Hamley 7048
Mr. J. de Knoop 21
Belgravia 3rd (Earl Cadogan's), whole colour, c. Jan. 8, 1902; s., Peacemaker 7955
Mr. B. E. Fenwick 27
Snowdrop (Capt. Cannbell's), whole colour, c. Feb 28, 1902; s., Kaffir 6908 .....Sir Reginald Graham 20
Flying Fox's Guinea Gold (Mr Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. May 6, 1902; s., Flying Fox 6859
Mr. A. Melville 29
Rainbow (Lady de Rothschild's), whole colour, c. May 12, 1902; s., Rear Admiral 7656
Mr. T. H. Weetman 36
Lady Ethel (Mr. Carson's) broken colour, c July 2, 1902; s., Badier's Jolly 7416 .....Lord Lathom 22
Winter Cherry (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. Oct. 5, 1902; s., Morny Cannon 7598
Mr. J. A. James 34
Millicent (Capt. Gisborne's), whole colour, c. Jan 3 1903; s., Goldworthy 8216 .....Mr. H. C. Smith 27
Lupe (Bishop of Ipswich's), whole colour, c. Jan. 11, 1903; s., Carnatie's Gem 7445 ..Sir J. Wernher 23
Sultane 20th (Lieut.-Col. Coote's), whole colour, c March 5, 1903; s., Harmonic 6884 ....Mr. E. Nichol 20
Gold Lock (Lady de Rothschild's), broken colour, c. June 2, 1903; s., Oxford Brigadier 7320
Mr. J. de Knoop 33
Gaily (Mrs. Dauncey's), whole colour, c. Aug. 11, 1903; s., Herb Bennet 7860 .....Mr. W. Hope Johnstone 33
Crystal Wave (Mr. Carson's), broken colour, c. Oct. 12, 1903; s., Barrister 7719 .....Mr. E. Nichol 29
Flying Fox's Countess (Mr. Carson's), whole colour, c. Oct. 18, 1903; s., Starlight's Flying Fox 7676
Sir J. Wernher 30
Dodo (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. Oct. 24, 1903; s., Majestic 7586 .....Mr. S. G. Wells 31
Cleo Lass 10th (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, Nov. 13, 1903; s., Ivan 7254 .....Mr. J. Tremayne 22
Wood Pigeon (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. Nov. 17, 1903; s., Majestic 7586 .....Earl Howe 27
Barbette (Lady de Rothschild's), whole colour, c. Nov. 24, 1903; s., Abbott 7706 ..Mr. J. A. Knight 23
Walcombe Mayfair 3rd (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. Dec. 4, 1903; s., Ivan 7254
Mr. T. H. Weetman 23
Chanter (Lady de Rothschild's), whole colour, c. Dec. 6 1903; s., Western King 8049 .....Mr. J. Tremayne 21
Freda (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. Jan. 24, 1904; s., Golden Gate 8208 .....Mr. H. C. Smith 20

BULLS.

White Heather (Lady de Rothschild's), whole colour, c. May 23, 1904; s., Jester 7551 ..Mr. C. B. Balfour 28
Silken Fop (Mr. Ward's), whole colour, c. June 27, 1904; s., Silken Lad 7666 .....Sir E. Stern 24
Lagopus (Earl Cadogan's), nearly whole colour, c. Sept. 28, 1904; s., Topsy's Fox 7384 ....Col. Walter 22
Golden Regent (Mr. Murray Smith's), whole colour, c. Oct. 1, 1904; s., Golden Rex 7339 ....Mr. C. Callard 22

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
62 Cows and heifers ..	19 0 6	1,179 13 6
12 Bulls	12 2 4	145 8 6
74 Head	17 18 2	1,325 2 0

Bingley October Fair.—At this fair, on Tuesday, a large number of sheep were penned, and were sold at satisfactory prices. Lonks made 30s. to 33s., half-bred ewes 40s. to 45s., Scotch ewes 19s. to 22s., half-bred lambs 25s. to 30s., tup lambs 30s. to 36s., and rams 50s. to 65s. For cattle the demand was an average one, milkers and laying-off beasts making £14 to £21 each. Horses were a very middling lot.

Sulphate of Copper in Preserved Peas.—The question of whether preserved peas containing sulphate of copper are injurious to health was submitted to the Ramsey Stipendiary last week in a test prosecution against two tradesmen. A sample of a French brand had been submitted to the analyst, who pronounced it contained 3.22 grains of copper sulphate, and was injurious. This was supported by the Board of Trade Departmental Committee and other authorities, also by two medical men who were called. For the defence several medical men gave a contrary opinion, and declared that copper sulphate was used as a nervous tonic and astringent, and taken in such quatities as found in the sample would be innocuous. Judgment was deferred.

Horse Notes.

The "Bookish theoric" is responsible for some remarkable statements respecting the origin of some of our breeds of horses. Writers about horses seem to have thought that every breed, such as the Cleveland Bay, the Hackney, and others, are the result of an elaborate system of crossing, and it never appears to have struck them that to produce the results they see there must have been much more system than was likely to be adopted in the state of civilisation which prevailed in the times of which they write. I must say, however, that used as I am to reading the elaborate theories of writers on horses, I was astonished when I read that the Suffolk Punch was the result of a cross between the Arab and the English cart mare!

The English cart mare is a mythical animal which serves as a foundation for any powerful breed. When you want to account for the existence of such a breed—a breed, that is, which has power and quality—go to the carting breed for the former and to the thoroughbred for the latter, and there you are. But the English cart horse in his present development is as modern a breed as the thoroughbred, and more modern than the Hackney. The horse used for draught purposes in the Middle Ages was a much smaller and lighter horse than the cart horses of even 150 years ago. He was not used for the plough at all, all that work being done by oxen, and most of the merchandise was conveyed about the country by pack horses or pack mules.

Captain W. A. Kerr, V.C., who had considerable experience of the Suffolk Punch in the Crimean War, always said that they were the hardiest and best transport horses he ever came across, and that they did the most work on the least and roughest of food of any horses that were in his charge. He was a great admirer of the Arab, also, and he used to hold that there must have been an Arab strain somewhere in the Suffolk, and that it was from Eastern blood that he got his stamina.

I am not very familiar with the history of the Suffolk Punch, but it seems to me that the shape of his legs—the roundness of his bone—is opposed to that theory. Wherever Eastern blood is to be found in any quantity, the clean, flat, hard bone is always in evidence, and it is needless to insist upon the fact that in this particular the Suffolk horse fails.

In one thing, however, he does not fail, and that is in pulling. He is admirably built for draught, and he puts his heart into his collar. Indeed, there is no better horse at a dead pull than he is. Lawrence speaks of the old Suffolks as excelling in "drawing," and tells how the Suffolk farmers and landowners used to make big wagers on the capabilities and courage of their horses. "Drawing" seems to have been a somewhat cruel sport. The horses were yoked to some immovable object, as likely as not a tree, and the test of superiority was the horse who would make the greatest number of attempts to move the immovable. Occasionally matches were made between neighbouring parishes, and it is stated that on one occasion fifteen horses from each parish were matched for 1,500 gs. Lawrence tells us that the chief place for these "Punches" was on the sands towards the coast.

What might otherwise be an excellent thing is too frequently spoiled by the over-keenness of individuals. There is no more useful class at any show than that for tradesmen's turn-outs, and, locally, there is no more interesting class. But in many districts they have got entirely spoiled by men showing a class of horse which they would never use for trade purposes at all unless it were for these prizes. In some populous districts it is possible to win several harness prizes with horses that are, in a way, eligible for tradesmen's classes, and even if the amount of money won does not do more than pay expenses, a considerable amount of kudos accrues to the owner, and he makes some profit by the sale of his horses.

It is no pleasant task to judge these classes. A few weeks ago I saw a class judged in which there were three or four horses shown that it was evident, to any man possessed of horse knowledge, had no business in a tradesman's class confined to trade horses. One could not help wondering what the judges would do and feeling amused at the eager, not to say pertinacious manner in which the drivers of these said three or four horses engaged the judges in conversation when opportunity offered. It afterwards transpired that they were endeavouring to impress upon those gentlemen how they were used every day in their respective trades. But the judges refused to listen to the voice of the charmer, and very properly passed over the three best and most valuable horses in the class, and awarded the prizes to horses that looked like the business. The decision roused the ire of the public, who hooted a little—a practice, by the way, which does not hurt the judges, but is highly discreditable to those who indulge in it. And now comes the denouement. The horses in question were all sold to a famous London carriage-horse dealer for big prices! Is it necessary to point out that this gentleman does not deal in "tradesmen's trappers?"

It seems a great pity that when conditions are laid down for a class there are some people who persistently lay themselves out to evade them. Without any active wish to do a dishonourable thing, they sail rather near the wind. It may be objected that it is open to every tradesman to do the same, but that is begging the question. The average tradesman does not buy a high-class London carriage horse to take round his provisions, or his milk, or his dry goods; indeed, the man who shows this class of horse in tradesmen's classes only takes him out in his trap a few times on "the kill a hound and qualify principle." It is for the ordinary tradesman's horse that these classes are intended, but there seems to be only one way to keep the high-class harness horse out of them. It is a simple one. Add a selling clause to the conditions, and make the top selling price £50.

I am glad to see that a branch of the Brood Mare Society has been established in Yorkshire. There is no county in England in which the Brood Mare Society is likely to do so much good. To begin with, almost every Yorkshireman has an instinctive love for a horse, and yet there is no county in which good brood mares have been more recklessly sold. In a letter I had recently from a man of wide experience, he tells me that he remembers high-class Cleveland Bay mares, of a character which it is impossible to replace in these days, being sold to go abroad at 30 gs. each, and that by dozens. Even now, when men have got to know better, they are frequently tempted to sell their good brood mares—hoping, doubtless, in spite of many disappointing experiences, that they may soon find another brood mare as good as the one they are selling. The Brood Mare Society, if it is supported as it ought to be, should be able to stop this sale to foreigners to a very considerable extent.

THE LOOKER ON.

Sale of Dartmoor Ponies.

The annual sale of Dartmoor ponies, cobs, etc., at Okehampton was held on Tuesday, when an unusually large number of animals, most of which were straight from the forest, was offered. Nearly 250 were catalogued, and many others were driven in, bringing the total considerably higher than last year. There was a large attendance, but trade was not so brisk as could have been hoped. The best prices were £15, £12 5s., £12, and £10 down to £3. The suckers sold at various prices, ranging from 20s. to £4.

Sheep Killed by Motor.—On Monday a party of motorists from Sunderland ran into a flock of sheep near the Common House Inn, Haltwhistle, killing four and injuring several others. There are four cross-roads at this point, and the occupants of the car were fortunate in escaping without injury. The flock comprised about sixty sheep, belonging to Mr. Teasdale, Bogg, who was conveying them to an adjoining farm.

Overcrowding in Rural Districts.—A remarkable case of overcrowding has been reported to the Blofield District Council by the medical officer of health, who stated that at South Walsham, in a cottage consisting of a small sitting-room and kitchen on the ground floor and two small bedrooms, the occupants were a man and his wife, five sons, whose ages were 18, 16, 14, 6, and 4 years, and five daughters, aged respectively 12, 9, 7, 2 years, and 5 months. In the sitting-room was a sofa, on which the two eldest sons were said to sleep, but the doctor said that he could not imagine how this could be. One bedroom was occupied by the husband and wife and five daughters, and the small back bedroom by the three younger sons. The house was almost entirely destitute of furniture, and although, remarked the doctor, he could bring up a case of overcrowding at each meeting, this one was so remarkable that he felt obliged to mention it.

Notes and Jottings.

For a considerable time flock-masters have complained of the very heavy losses they have suffered by reason of stray dogs, and other dogs not kept under proper control.

At different times attempts have been made to induce the Government to pass such a measure as will give the occupiers legal right to destroy such pests.

Attempts have also been made to induce the Government to take such steps as are necessary to compel owners of dogs to keep them under proper control.

These efforts have so far been in vain. It is true that certain efforts have been made in Parliament to carry into effect the wishes of the flock-masters, but hitherto without success.

Within the next week or so most of the sheep societies will be holding their autumn meetings, and, as the above subject is of immense importance and urgency, it is hoped that some further efforts will be made to induce the Government to push forward a Bill, that will not only enable the flock-owner to protect himself, by immediately destroying any stray dogs, but also compel all owners of dogs to keep them under control.

The urban inhabitants will think that these suggestions are drastic, but those who have experienced the results of the depredations of stray dogs know full well that nothing within the power of the owners of many of them can repay the heavy losses.

A recent instance came to the notice of the writer, in which a specially selected lot of stud ewes, the value of which at least to the owner was 10 guineas per head, were raced about by two curs from a neighbouring village. Fortunately, the shepherd was at hand: one of the dogs paid the penalty on the spot, and the other, although he managed to get away, will probably not be able to visit the same spot.

Another dog, in the same neighbourhood, was caught in the act of worrying sheep. He was shut up and kept, but no one came to claim him.

Doubtless, throughout the country many other similar instances could have been given, but enough has been said to show that there is need for immediate and prompt action on the part of those who are responsible for the administration of laws affecting dogs.

To the lay mind there appears no real reason why every dog for which a tax has been paid should not wear a label notifying that fact, and identifying its owner. If this simple measure could be made law, then all other dogs without the label should be slaughtered or shot at sight by any who met them.

The trade and navigation returns for the past month must afford great satisfaction to all interested in the sheep industry. It is true that the total number exported, 1,075 head, during that period, is less than the number exported during the same period of the previous year, but the reduction that has taken place in the number exported is more than compensated for by the very much higher average of declared value that the sheep exported in September last have made.

The average declared value of the sheep exported last month works out at £18 7s. 3d. per head, and when it be remembered that this is the average of considerably over one thousand sheep it will at once be apparent how very valuable indeed this demand must be for the flock-masters of this country.

Compared with the previous years, the number of sheep exported is considerably above the average, and the average declared value is, so far as regards the month of September, a record one.

We have before us as we write the records for the past eleven years, and the averages for each month of September during this period range from the average quoted for the exports of last month down to £5 17s. 5d., a very wide range of value, and one that indicates the uncertainty of the method of computation of the value of these exported sheep.

The latter remark is made with the express intention of calling attention to the fact that where as the exported sheep in September 1905 made the highest average of declared value, those exported in September 1904 made the lowest.

Everyone who is connected with the export trade in sheep, and conversant with the prices prevailing for stud sheep during the two months under review, will at once come to the conclusion that some grave error must have been made twelve months ago.

Turning to the export trade of the year, so far as completed, we find that 4,408 sheep have been exported since January 1 last. This number is 23.60 per cent. less than the number exported during the same period of the previous year, but here again compensation has been made to our flock-masters for the smaller number taken by the materially higher average of declared value, i.e., £14 11s. 11d., as against £8 2s. 1d.

The supply of imported sheep during the past month has been the smallest on record for that period during the past eleven years: 9,223 head of the average declared value of £1 11s. 3d. only were imported. Compared with last year, the reduction is 68.49 per cent.

Turning to the figures for the first nine months of the current year, we find that the imported sheep number 155,324. Here again a notable reduction is found as compared with any of the previous years since 1895, and compared with the imports for the year 1904 for the same period there is a reduction of 41.32 per cent.

The mutton supply during the past month was likewise much less than last year, the quantity imported being 299,282 cwts., or 5.68 per cent. less than in September 1904.

During the nine months of the current year there has been an increase of 4.66 per cent. in the quantity of mutton imported, which amounts to 2,930,454 cwts.

It is interesting to note that during the past nine months the Australasian supplies have increased enormously. Twelve months ago the aggregate total for that period was 162,277 cwts., and for this year the quantity imported is 308,868, a very considerable increase indeed. On the other hand, the New Zealand supplies, which at this period of last year amounted to 1,465,360 cwts., only amount to 1,303,924 cwts., a reduction of 11.01 per cent.

The Argentine supplies during the current year show a material increase, i.e., from 1,056,333 cwts. to 1,084,623 cwts., an increase of practically 30,000 cwts.

There has also been a considerable increase of imported mutton during the past nine months from other countries. From this source of supply we have received 69,843 cwts. during the past nine months, as against 9,394 cwts. in the same period of last year.

It has often been said when the Argentine buyers have been purchasing sheep at high prices for stud purposes, "How in the world can it pay these people to pay such a high price for their rams?"

A table that is before us as we write shows that in the first nine months of the year 1895 the value of the imported mutton from that country was £757,190. Ten years subsequently, i.e., 1905, the value of the imported mutton for the same period is £1,861,713, an increase of £1,104,523. This shows how it is that the Argentine buyer can afford to purchase at such high prices the pick of the stud rams of this country. The sum, large as it is, that has been invested in the purchase of stud stock from this country for improving the Argentine flocks has undoubtedly been a good investment. The figures quoted above place this fact beyond dispute.

As to what the future may have in store, no one can tell, but from a close personal intercourse with many of the leading purchasers of stud sheep, the writer is enabled to say that almost without exception their anticipations are that the demand for English stud sheep will be quite as good in the future as it has been in the past, particularly for the higher class sheep, for, say they, "The improvement has only begun with us, not finished.

The only possible cause that would make any alteration in the demand for the Argentine is the stoppage of the trade with that country, and it is on this account that every live stock breeder must, without exception, stand firm against every attempt made to alter the present import regulations of live stock into this country, because once let contagious disease again be imported, the loss and disaster that would follow in its train is beyond computation.

Important Sale of Dorset Down Sheep.

The first ram-breeding flock of Dorset Downs to come under the hammer since the formation of a registered association in Dorset—that of Mr. T. Bartlett, of West Knighton, Dorchester—attracted a very large and representative company on Thursday, which made it clear beyond a shadow of doubt that in taking this step breeders of this class of sheep have done the correct thing, which will undoubtedly greatly enhance the popularity of the sheep and, at the same time, ensure a large accession of members when the many good points of the Dorset Down become better known and more generally recognised. And this is bound to ensue at no distant date, for various reasons, as the best type of a Dorset Down is now understood to be a sheep in size coming between the Hampshire Down and the Southdown, which, for fecundity and early maturity, is the equal of the former, and for hardiness, quality of mutton, and wool closely resembles the latter. And no better illustration could have been afforded of Mr. Bartlett's success in breeding this type of sheep during the last quarter of a century than the keen competition there was for the sheep all through—prices, we consider, that quite establish a record for the breed, and also a record as regards flock sales in the district for some seasons past. This result is, no doubt, very largely due to the advantages of registration and association, and affords one more proof of the benefits of combination, which is bound to do much good to this eminently useful class of sheep. As a proof of the high prices ruling, we may mention that the sixteen ewes made from 63s. to 84s., giving an average of 72s. 8d.; the four-tooths, 63s. to 104s., averaging 78s. 3d.; two-tooths, 66s. to 100s., averaging 79s.; ewe lambs, 50s. to 56s. for the bulk, and two pens 44s. and 44s. 6d., giving an average of 48s. 1d. The sheep went into order by different districts, the chief purchaser being Mr. John Jeorrett, of Puddletown, who has given up his Horns and is in future keeping Dorset Downs, Colonel R. Williams, M.P., Mr. W. H. Chilcott, Mr. Andrews, Mr. T. O. Boatswain, Mr. Hallett (Somerset), etc.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Corby.

Corby sheep fair, the most important in South Lincolnshire, was held on Monday last. There was a brisk demand for both sheep and lambs, and exceptionally good prices were realised. Ewes made to 58s., and theaves to 50s. An exceptionally good lot of lambs were sent in, and both half-breds and long wools made up to 46s. Lincoln long wool and Hampshire down rams sold well. The top average was made by Sir John H. Thorold, Syston Park, whose consignment averaged £10 14s., the best price being 12½ gs. Hampshire Downs sent by Mr. Shaw, Peterborough, and Mr. J. Flower, Chilmark, made up to 5 gs.

Malton.

A large number of sheep were sold at the Malton Michaelmas fair held on Wednesday and Thursday last, and some good prices were realised. The biggest price for Leicester ewes was received by Mr. Megginson, with a flock which made to 65s. each. Masham shearlings of quality ruled at 48s. to 50s., secondary 40s. to 44s. Lambs were not very numerous. Good Downs made 38s. to 44s., Leicesters 40s. to 44s., crossed ditto, 25s. to 32s. and common lots from 22s. each. North-country lambs made 18s. to 25s., gimmer shearlings 35s. to 42s. Leicester shearling rams made up to £12, and two-shear rams of the same breed up to £15, whilst Down rams made from £5 to £7.

Sittingbourne.

Mr. F. Austin Bensted's annual sale at Sittingbourne took place on Friday, when the attendance was thoroughly representative, and, for the first time, the Argentine buyer was present. This fact doubtless had a very beneficial effect upon the prices realised by the rams, which sold at very much better prices than we have ever before recorded at this sale for so large numbers.

The ewes sold well, tegs making up to 59s. 6d., one-lamb ewes to 57s., one and two lamb ewes to 45s. Three lamb ewes were in great demand for all that were in good condition, as much as 50s. was paid for the best. Wether tegs went to 47s., wether lambs to 36s., for half-breds, and 32s. for runts.

(*Other Sheep Sales, will be found on page* 450.)

BARLEY AND HOPS AT THE BREWER'S EXHIBITION.

There was a large attendance on Saturday at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, when the twenty-seventh annual Brewers' Exhibition was successfully launched. To agriculturists, the sections that most appeal are the malting barley, hops, and cider. Brewers and distillers are admittedly the best customers for barley that the farmer can have, and they are prepared to pay a better price for it than is obtainable elsewhere; and the primary aim of this competition is to demonstrate to the grower the class of barley most favoured, and that quality is essential. The schedule comprises twenty different classes, and liberal prizes are offered in connection therewith; indeed, it is possible for the champion sample to take six cups, two gold and other medals, several diplomas, and upwards of £100 in cash. This year there have been submitted in competition 263 samples of British barley, 30 Foreign samples, and 2 Colonial samples. Several of the principal awards follow, but a complete list of the winners of the diplomas for seed purposes, etc., will appear next week.

Barley Judges.—Mr. Frank Flinn*, Bishop's Stortford; Mr. James Grant*, Manchester; Mr. Edward R. Hill (Messrs. F. and G. Smith, Ltd., East Dereham); Mr. W. R. Lane, Birmingham; Mr. H. Mackeson, Hythe; Mr. Lewis J. Meakin, Burton-on-Trent; Mr. C. H. Stafford, Hollow Stone, Nottingham; Mr. S. N. Thompson*, Smethwick; Mr. C. Howard Tripp, Burton-on-Trent.

* These gentlemen also act as juriors of seed barley.

PRIZE LIST.

The MARK LANE EXPRESS Champion Challenge Cup, for Seed Barley Grown in the United Kingdom and the Colonies (only). Offered by the proprietors of the MARK LANE EXPRESS to growers only, for the best sample of seed barley exhibited, grown in Great Britain and Ireland and in any of the Colonies of Great Britain.—Mr. C. G. Miles (catalogue number 101).

Class 1.—Chevalier Malting Barley, British Growth.—1, Mr. G. Miles (101); 2, Mr. G. Powell (78); 3, Mr. Charles Wilkinson (62); v.h.c., Mr. George Partridge (123); h.c., Mr. H. R. Posford (149); c., Lord de Ramsey (60).

Class 2.—Goldthorpe Malting Barley, British Growth.—1, Mr. J. Powell (233); 2, Mr. F. B. Barling (205); 3, Mr. T. W. Purser (88); v.h.c., Mr. F. E. James (239); h.c., Mr. F. Gent (197).

Class 3—Colonial Malting Barley.—1 and 2, Messrs. Woodley, Watney, and Richardson.

The Hop Section.

The judges have had a comparatively easy task this year. As the samples submitted to them did not exceed fifty. We are unable this week to criticise the quality of the exhibits, as they were not opened up when we visited the Agricultural Hall on Saturday, we must therefore postpone our remarks to our next issue and limit our present record to the prize list, as under:—

Class 1.—East Kent Goldings for Pale Ales.—1st. C. F. File, Bilting Grange, Ashford. 2nd. H. W. Clements, Boughton Aluph, Ashford. 3rd. W. Lillywhite, Thanington Court, Canterbury.

Class II.—Mid-Kent Goldings for Pale Ales.—1st. W. Rogers, Maplescombe, Farningham. This sample also secured the champion award and gold medal.

Class III.—East and Mid-Kent for Ordinary Beers.—1st. W. Rogers, Maplescombe, Farningham. 2nd. W. Rogers, Maplescombe, Farningham. 3rd. W. Lillywhite, Thanington, Canterbury.

Class IV.—Weald of Kents for Pale Ales.—1st. E. Mannington, Eaglesden, Benenden.

Class V.—Weald of Kents for Ordinary Beers.—1st. G. A. Calcutt, Paynetts, Goudhurst.

Classes VI. and VII.—No awards.

Class VIII.—Worcesters for Pale Ales.—1st. J. A. Thompson, Woolhope, Hereford.

Class IX.—Worcesters for Ordinary Beers.—1st. C. Whittindale, Aylton, Ledbury.

Class X. — Farnhams for Pale Ales. — 1st. J. Bonham Carter, Buriton, Petersfield.

Class XI.—Farnhams for Ordinary Beers.—1st. P. and C. Steward, Weston, Petersfield.

Cider.

Cider, as a health-promoting beverage, is becoming daily more popular, and the sales in licensed houses alone are stated to be more than double what they were a year or two ago. This increasing demand is evidence by the growing success of the cider and perry competitions, which must considerably further the interests of makers. This year the number of entries is nearly doubled, there being a grand total of 156, as against 89 in 1904. Farmers and merchants are taking the keenest interest in these annual contests, and, with the opportunities afforded by this exhibition, cider has undoubtedly a great future before it. The classes now number twenty-one, and medals and cash prizes are offered in connection therewith. To add to the interest of the Cider Section, the Governors and Directors of the National Fruit and Cider Institute, of Long Ashton, Bristol, are sending up to the exhibition samples of their experimental ciders, blends and pure cultivations, made in the autumn of 1904.

British Entries (263) Classed and Grouped Alphabetically in Counties.

CLASS I.—(CHEVALIER).

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two preceding Crops 1904.	Two preceding Crops 1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qty. Gn. Qrs.	Cleaning M'chin'ry
Bedfordshire.													
1	Harrison, Saml.	Renhold	Mixed; gravel		Roots	Wheat	Garton's Maltster	10	J. Fison & Co.	April 10	Aug. 15	5½	—
Berkshire.													
2	Benyon, J. H.	Sulhamstead	Med. loam; gravel		Wheat	Mngl.Swds	Kinver Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 14	Aug. 12	4½	J. Le Butt
3	Benyon, J. H.	Sulhamstead	Med. loam; gravel		Wheat	Mngl.Swds	Webb's Kinver Chev.	8	Webb's special	,, 14	,, 12	4½	J. Le Butt
4	Downshire, Lord	Easthampstead P	Sandy loam; clay		Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Kinver Chev.	12	Webb's	,, 16	,, 9 & 10	4½	Baker's & Boby's
5	Harris, Wm. J.	Chilton	Chalky loam: chalk		Wheat	Kale	Webb's Kinver Chev.	10	Webb's	Mar. 16 & 17	,, 18	4	Robinson & Auden
6	Horwood, F. A.	Bury Court Farm	Sand; sand & chalk		Wheat	Peas	Carter's P. Prolific	10	Fison's Barley	,, 27	,, 15	—	Baker's
7	Harwood, F. A.	Bury Court Farm	Sand; sand & chalk		Wheat	Peas	—	10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 27	,, 15	—	Baker's
Buckinghamshire.													
8	Bliss, E.	Maynes Hill	Loam & rock; —		Wheat	Clover	—	—	Colchester's	Mar.	Aug.	—	—
9	Farwell, Capt.	Burnham	Gravel; —		Oats	Wheat	—	12	Webb's Barley	,, 24	,, 9	—	J. Baker
10	Horwood, J. H.	Drayt'n Beauchp	Gravel; clay loam		Wheat	Clover	Carter's Chev.	8	Colchester's	,, 29	,, 12	5	Boby's
11	Purser, T. W.	Colnbrook	Loam: gravel		Swedes	Oats	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's Barley	,, 23	,, 5	6	Boby's
12	Purser, T. W.	Colnbrook	Loam; gravel		Swedes	Oats	—	12	—	,, 2	,,	6	Boby's
13	Purser, W.	Boveney Ct. Fm.	Light gravel —		Trefolium	Wheat	Carter's Chev.	10	—	,, 15	,, 2	6	Stubbs
14	Rance, Wm.	Rectory Farm	Thames Valley —		Wheat	Rape	Carter's Chev.	12	None	,, 23	,, 10 & 11	4	Boby's
15	Rayner, John	Colnbrook	Loam; gravel		Wheat	Clover	Golden Grain	10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 2	,, 2	5	Perkins
16	Rogers, A. C.	Stowe	Loam gravel; gravel		Roots	Oats	Webb's Kin. Chev.	7	Webb's Barley	,, 8 & 10	,, 9-11	5	—
Cambridgeshire.													
17	Morris & Son	Oakington	Heavy; clay		Mangold	Wheat.	Carter's Chev.	10	Colchester	Mar. 27	Aug. 4	49	Baker & Ward
18	Morris & Son	Oakington	Heavy; clay		Mangold	Wheat	Carter's Chev.	10	Colchester	,, 27	,, 4	49	Baker & Ward
19	Taylor, Sidney	Wood Ditton	Mixed; chalk		Roots	Wheat	Chevalier	12	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 25	,, 6	10cbs.	Boby
Devonshire.													
20	Adams, W. C.	Langdon Barton	Sandy: gravel loam		Ley	Barley	Carter's P Prolific	8	Fison's	Mar.	Aug. —	5	Boby's screen
21	Carpenter, J.	Pengellys	Sandy; red sandstn.		Barley	Mangolds	Carter's P Prolific	7	Fison's	,, 3	,, 1	5	Boby's screen
22	Gent, F.	Pinhoe	Sand; sandstone		Clover	Roots	Carter's P Prolific	7	Fison's	Feb. 12	,, 3	6	Boby's screen
23	Marsh, Samuel	Lyme Regis	Heavy chlk.; redscrip		Oats	Clover ley		12	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 8	,, 15	8scks	Boby's screen
24	Stile, J.	Huxham	Sandy; gravel		Wheat	Ley	Carter's P Prolific	8	Kainit & Phosphte.	Feb. —	,, —	5qrs	Boby's screen
Essex.													
25	Dacon, M. G.	Brightlingsea	Mixed; sand		Mangolds	Oats	E. W. King's	12		Feb.	Aug. —	10scks	Wood's
26	Bowlby, A. S.	Gilstead Park							Colchester's	—	—	—	—
27	Chisnell, C. H.	Thorington	Mixed; clay		Mangolds	Tares	King's P. Chev.		Fison's	Feb.	Aug. 7	4¼qrs	Boby
28	Gilbey, Sir W.	Elsenham	Light mxd.; sand		Barley	Swedes	Chilian Chev.	9	Odam's barley	Mar.	,, 12 & 14	5	Gooch
29	Giles, Edwin	Gt. Hillard	Heavy; yellow clay		Barley	Turnip	Hallett's Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co.	,,	,, 15	10scks	Gooch
30	Knowles, Geo.	Writtle	Light loam; mixed		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Chev.	10	Prentice's	Feb.	,, 8 & 9	6qrs	Corbett's
31	Manning, R. A.	South Ockingdon	Heavy clay		Fallow	Wheat	Chevalier	10	None	,,	,,	3 4qrs3bu	Gooch
32	Moffatt, J. G.	Gt. Parndon	Gravel; sandy		Oats	Grass	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	,,	,, 1	—	Ward & Silver
33	Nisbet, Wm.	Bindysh Hall	Clyaey		Barley		Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Colchester's	Mar.	— Sept —	5	Boby
34	Seabrook, R.	Tolleshunt d'Arcy	Mixed		Wheat	Clover		7	Farmyard	Feb.	4 July 26	4	Boby
35	Smith, John W.	Birchington	Loam; chalk		Mangolds	Oats	J. K. King's	11	Colchester's	,,	,, 29	6½	Boby
36	Steele & Hurst	Southminster	Loam; sandy loam		Wheat	Beans	E. W. King's Chev.	8	None	Mar.	Aug. 7	4	Gentry's
37	Tucker, W. J.	Blackmore	Heavy; clay		Mangolds	Barley	Webb's Chev.	8	Colchester's	Feb.	—	5	Baker's
38	Tucker, W. J.	Blackmore	Heavy; clay		Oats	Mangolds	Webb's Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co's	,,	,, 14	5	Baker's
39	Vaizey, F.A.	Halstead	Clay; clay		Mangolds	Oats		10	None	Mar.	,,	16...10scks	Ward & Silver
40	Wakelin, Wm.	Heybridge	Light; gravel		Peas	Wheat	Chevalier	8	Prentices	Feb.	,,	11 4qrs	Ward & Silver
41	Watson, Wm.	Great Eastern	Light; gravel		Wheat	Roots	Hallett's Chev.	10	Farmyard	,,	,,	10 4½qrs	Corbett's & Boby's
Gloucestershire.													
42	Beak, H. T.	Coln St. Denis	Brashy; stone		Barley	Seeds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's barley	Mar. 20	Aug. 24	—	Boby's
43	Butler, Henry	Newent	Sandy l'm; sandstn.		Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	Webb's special	,, 12	,, 16	4	Penney's
44	Butler, Henry	Newent	Sandy l'm; sandstn.		Barley	Turnips	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co's	,, 14	,, 18	4	Penney's
45	Cadle, Joseph	Fairford	Oolik; stonebrash		Swedes	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	Webb's barley	Ap. 1	,, 17	11scks	Boby's
46	Cadle, Joseph	Fairford	Oolik; stonebrash		Swedes	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	Webb's	,, 1	,, 17	11scks	Boby's
47	Iles, Alexander	Fairford	Stonebrash stone		Mangolds	Oats	—	8	Webb's	Mar. 25	,, 12	—	Penney's
48	Smith, L. J.	Newent	Sandy		Oats	Roots	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co's	Feb. —	,,	—	Boby's
Hampshire.													
49	Andrews, Frank	Warwash	Light loam; gravel		Wheat	Clover	—	8	None	Feb. 14	Aug. 7	11scks	Boby's
Herefordshire.													
50	Drinkwater, G. E.	Brmithan Court	Sandstone clay		Oats	Clover	Hallett's Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co's	Feb. 24	Aug. 7 & 8	4	Goutman
51	Sainsbury, J. B.	Ross	Red sandstn.	sndstn.	Oats	Roots	—	10	Soot	,, 7	July —	6	Boby's

CLASS I.

Somersetshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two preceding Crops 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qnty Grwn.	Cleaning Mach'nery
135	Brett, R.	Allerford	Stonebrash; gravel..		Ley	Oats	Carter's P. Prolific	8	None	Mar. 29	Aug. 15	14qr 3lb	Boby's
136	Levesha, T. H.	Withycombe	Stonebrash; gravel..		Barley	Swedes	Carter's P. Prolific	7	Kainit	,, —	,, —	5	Boby's
137	Long, W. F.	Wellow	Stonebrash; oolik ...		Wheat	Clover	Carter's P. Prolific	9	J. Fison & Co's	April 1	,, 15	4½	—
138	Long, W. F.	Wellow	Stonebrash; oolik ...		Wheat	Roots	Carter's P. Prolific	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 22	,, 11	4	—
139	Rawle, E.	Minehead	Stonebrash; gravel...		Mangolds	Barley	Carter's P. Prolific	8	J. Fison & Co.'s	,,	,,	5	Boby's
140	Rawle, Thos.	Porlock	Stonebrash; gravel...		Ley	Wheat	E. W. King's Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 13	,, 8	5	Penney's
141	Rawle, Thos.	Porlock	Stonebrash; gravel...		Cabbage	Barley	E. W. King's Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 31	,, 9	6	Penney's
142	Ridler, Michael	Porlock	Stonebrash; gravel...		Grass	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10		April 18	Aug. 12	50brls	Boby's

Hertfordshire.

52	Pole, J.W.	Willian	Light chalk; chalk...		Oats	Fallow	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's barley	Mar. 4	Aug. 7, 8	—	Cooch
53	Horwood, R. E.	Drayton B'ch'mp	Chalk; rag		Wheat	Sainfoin	Carter's P. Prolific	8	Nitrate salts	April 20	,, —	4	Boby's

Huntingdonshire.

54	Bowyer, Thos.	Southoe	Clay; clay		Roots	Wheat	Chevalier	10	Crone & Taylor's	Feb. 27, 28	Aug. 2, 3	4½	Cooch
55	Britain, F. W.	St. Neots	Clay; clay		Potatoes	Barley	—	10	Crone & Taylor's	,, 20	,, 12	4½	Boby's
56	Britain, F. W.	St. Neots	Clay; clay		Potatoes	Wheat	Webb's	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 28	,, 9	4½	Boby's
57	Christmas, Fd.	Great Gransden	Boulder clay; clay ...		Mangolds	Oats	—	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 25, 26	,, 14, 15	5	Baker's
58	Mitchell, Wm.	Alconbury	Clay; blue clay		Barley	Peas	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	Webb's special	,, 20	,, 29	5	Thos. Corbett
59	Priestley, W.	Offard D'Arcy	Medium; clay		Mangolds	Wheat	Chevalier	8	Crone & Taylor's	,, 15	,, 10	4	Baker's
60	Ramsey, Lord de...	Abbots Ripton	Heavy soil; clay		Barley	Fallow	Hallett's	8	Goold's	Feb. —	,, 10	4½	Boby's
61	Tompkins, B.	Woolley	Gravelly; yellow cl.		Roots	Wheat	Webb's Chevalier	9	J. Fison & Co's.	Mar. 23	,, 8	4	Baker's
62	Wilkinson, Ch.	Fenstanton	Light loam; gravel...		Peas	Potatoes	Hallett's	9	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 6	,, 7 ...11	sks	Baker's

Kent.

63	Brooker. Geo.	Frindsbury	Medium; light clay...		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	Webb's special	Mar. —	Aug. —	5	Tett
64	Cairns, Jas.	Keston Court Fm	Loam; chalk		Grass	Grass	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Steven's	,, 23	,, 10	3½	Baker's
65	Cotton, Major P...	Birchington	Light loam; chalk ...		Clover	Oats	E. W. King's Chev.	8	Colchester's	Feb. —	July 27	4½	Boby's
66	Dyke, Sir W. H.	Eyndsford	Chalk; chalk		Barley	Mangolds	—	12	J. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 3	Aug. 4	4½	J. Baker
67	Dyke, Sir W. H.	Eyndsfoed	Chalk		Barley	Mangolds	—	12	—	,, 3	,, 4	4½	—
68	Lane, H. S.	Cliffe	Light loam; chuck...		Wheat	Potatoes	J. H. King's Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 11	July 24	6	Boby's
69	Smith, J. W.	Birchington	Loam; chalk		Mangolds	Oats	Webb's Kin. Chev.	11	Webb's special	,, 24	,, 28	6½	Boby's
70	Smith, J. W.	Birchington	Loam; chalk		Mangolds	Oats	Webb's Kin. Chev.	11	Colchester's	,, 27	,, 29	6½	Boby's
71	Stennett, W.	Minster	Loam; chalk		Barley	—	Chevalier	—	Colchester's	Mar. —	Aug. —	—	

Kerry County.

72	Duncan, Richd.	Ardfert	Sandy; gravel		Potatoes	Barley	Chevalier	14 st	Seaweed & farm	April 18	Aug. 21	16q.	Booth
73	McCarthy, Hugh...	Fenit	Limestone; clay		Potatoes	Barley	Chevalier	14 st	Seaweed & farm	,, 15	,, 20	16q.	Booth

Lincolnshire.

74	Briggs, Louis, J.	Stamford	Limestone; clay		Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	...	Fison's	Feb. 13	July 31	5	Rainforth's
75	Davy, Edmund	Skendleby	Chalky; chalk		Oats	Sainfoin	Hallett's Chev.	9	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 8	Aug. 7	—	Grounsell
76	Hubbard, Thos.	Ingoldsby	Creach; rocky		Barley	Turnips	Wrinch's Prolific	10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 24	,, 9	—	Pridmore
77	Lawson, Henry	Little Hale	Heavy; gravel		Wheat	Beans	Webb's Chev.	9	Prentice's barley	,, 25	,, 20	4½	Baker's
78	Powell, George	Navenby	Sandy loam		Turnips	Barley	Hallett's Chev.	10	Salt	,, 1	,, 7	4	Rainforth's
79	Robson, Wm.	Brocklesby	Mold; chalk		Turnips	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	11	Turnips with cake	,, 2	,, 4	5	Josiah Le Butt
80	Thurlby, John	Greatford	Gravel; gravel		Barley	Turnips	Webb's Chev.	10	Crone & Taylor	Feb. 23& 24	,, 3 & 4	4	Rainforth's
81	Thurlby, John	Greatford	Gravel; gravel		Barley	Turnips	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 1 & 2	,, 1	4	Rainforth's
82	Tweed, J. T.	Caenby	Cliff; stone		Seeds	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	Webb's special	,, 29	,, 19	—	—
83	Whathoff Bros.	Baston	Loam; gravel		Mangolds	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	7	Webb's special	Feb. 10	,, 3	5	Gooch
84	Whathoff Bros.	Baston	Loam; gravel		Mangolds	Barley	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 9	,, 2	4	Gooch

Louth County.

85	Mathews, Nicholas	Cappog	Gravel & l'm; gravel	Turnip	Oats	—		14 st.	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 8	July 26	—	—

Middlesex.

86	Curtis Wm. Jas.	Heathrow	Loam; gravel		Wheat	Potatoes	Carter's P. Prolific	10	None	Feb. 2	July 26	5½	—
87	Purse., T. W.	Staines	Peaty; gravel		Swedes	Oats	Carter's P. Prolific	—	F'yard & Fison's	,, 9	Aug. —	5	Boby's
88	Purser, T. W.	Staines	Peaty; gravel		Swedes	Oats	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	F'yard & Webb's	,, 9	,, —	5	Boby's

Monmouthshire.

89	Birrell, J. S.	Usk	Light loam; rock		Barley	Roots	Webb's Chev.	12	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 11	July 31	—	—
90	Birrell, J. S.	Usk	Medium loam; rock		Barley	Roots	Webb's Chev.	12	Webb's Special	,, 16	Aug. 2	—	—
91	Huggett, John	Ifton Hill	Sand and limestone		Wheat	Clover	Carter's	12	Fison's Fertiliser	Mar. 7	,, —	5q5lb	Humphries
92	Huggett, John	Ifton Hill	Sand and limestone		Wheat	Clover	—	12	J. Fison & Co.	,, 10	,, 7	5b	Humphries
93	Parsons, H. F.	South Brook	Sandy; sandstone		Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	12	J. Fison & Co.	,, 8	,, 3	4q	Boby
94	Parsons, H. F.	South Brook	Sandy; sandstone		Wheat	Clover	Chevalier	12	Webb's Special	,, 9	,, 4	4q	Boby
95	Parsons, H. F.	South Brook	Sandy; sand		Barley	Wheat	Chevalier	12	J. Fison & Co.	,, 23	,, 14	4½	Boby

Norfolk.

96	Benton, Wm.	Buxton, Lamas	Heavy soil		Roots	Wheat	Archer's	—	Colchester's	Mar. —	Aug. —	13c	—
97	Fisk, Chas.	Witchingham	Mixed; gravel		Be't& swds	Wheat	Webb's Chev.	9	Prentice's	,, 4	,, 4	9c	Boby
98	Gurney, W. H.	Marsham	Sandy loam; sand		Swedes	Wheat	Chevalier	—	Colchester's	,, 13	,, 18	11c	Barker's
99	Miles, C. G.	Alburgh	Heavy; clay		Hay	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.	Oct. 25, 1904	July 28	5q	Boby
100	Miles, C. G.	Alburgh	Heavy; clay		Fallow	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 2	Aug. 5	4½	Boby
101	Miles, C. G.	Alburgh	Heavy; clay		Mangolds	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.	Jan. 28	July 31	5	Boby
102	Sparrow, Jas.	Bawburgh	Mixed; chalk		Wheat	Hay	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	Webb's Special	Feb. 15	Aug. 2	—	Boby
103	Wing, Wm.	Brancaster	Loam; gravel & chalk		Mangolds	Wheat	Hallett's Ped. Chev.	12	Webb's Special	Mar. 6	,, 8	6	Rainforth's
104	Young, Charles V.	Brancaster	Sandy; chalk		Mangolds	Wheat	Hallett's	10	Sup. Bne. P. S. of Am.	,, —	,, —	5	Boby & Penney
105	Youngman, F. S.	Banham	Good mixed		Swedes	Wheat	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	,, —	,,	—	Boby

Northamptonshire.

106	Brown, Wm.	Thorpelands	Sandy loam; Clay		Barley	Swedes	—	—	10	J. Fison & Co.	March —	Aug. 9	5	Cooch
107	Bruce, R.	Dogsthorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Colchester's	—	—	—	—
108	Carter, Wm.	Ailesworth	Light silty; Gravel		Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.		10	J. Fison & Co.	March —	Aug. —	4	Corbett
109	Carter, Wm.	Ailsworth	Light silty; Gravel		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Chev.		10	J. Fison & Co.	,, —	,, —	4½	Corbett
110	Fortescue, L.	Barnack	Light; Gravel		Barley	Swede	Webb's Kin. Chev.		9	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 14	,, 9	5	Corbett
111	Fortescue, L.	Barnack	Light; Gravel		Barley	Swede	Webb's Kin. Chev.		9	Webb's Special	,, 13	,, 8	5	Corbett & Boby's
112	Holmes, F.	Sutton	Loam; Gravel		Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.		10	Webb's Special	,, 27	,, 8	4½	Cooch
113	House, John	Kingscliffe	Loome; In Scale		Wheat	Peas	Premier		10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 25	,, 10	2½	Rainsforth
114	Leonard, John	Northfield	Light; Ironstone		Clover	Barley	New Universal		10	Supers & Kainit	March 1	July 31	7-8q	Kooch
115	Neverson, Chas.	Werrington	Gravel; Gravel		Clover	Barley	—	—	10	J. Fison & Co.	April —	Aug. —	10 sck	Gouch
116	Railton, John S.	Evenley	Limestone brash		Barley	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.		10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 8	,, 19	4q	Cooch
117	Railton, John S.	Evenley	Limestone brash		Potatoes	Potatoes	Wrinch's Prolific		10	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 23	,, 12	5	Cooch
118	Sharpe, T.	Dogsthorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Colchester's	—	—	—	—
119	Singlehurst, J.	Weldon	Lt. L'stone; L'stone.		Beans	Barley	Jarman's Chev.		12	J. Fison & Co.	March 16	Aug. 12	4½	Boby
120	Thorold, H. P.	Cosgrove	Loam; Limestone		Roots	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.		8	None	,, 23	,, 11	5	—

Nottinghamshire.

121	Mortimer, A. J.	Bingham	Loam; Blue Lias		Barley	Mangolds	Garton's Brewer's Fav.	11	J. Fison & Co.	March 8	Aug. 12	5	Wade

Oxfordshire.

122	Castleman, F. G.	Northbrook	St'nebr'sh 'Limest'ne		Wheat	Roots	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	J. Fison & Co.	March 6	Aug. 16	4	Boby's
123	Partridge, Geo.	Begbrook Hill	Sandy loam; Gravel		Potatoes	Oats	Chevalier	10	Crone & Taylor	,, 6	,, 14	4	Boby's
124	Smith, George	Tewknor	Gravel; Chalk		Oats	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	9	Colchester's	,, 23	,, 21	4	Baker
125	Thomas, W. R.	Lower Heyford	Stonebrash; Marl		Wheat	Mxd Seeds	Webb's Chevalier	10	Webb's Barley	,, 31	,, 16	3½	Boby's

Queen's County.

126	Maher, John	Portarlington	Medium limestone		Turnips	Oats	Webb's "Kinver."	16	J. Fison & Co.'s.	April 4	Aug. 12	15bls.	Penney's

Rutlandshire.

127	Ancaster, Earl of	Normanton	S'dy loam; limestone		Turnips	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	16	Webb's Spec.	Feb. 19	Aug. 4	5	Rainforth
128	Ancaster, Earl of	Normanton	S'dy loam; limestone		Turnips	Wheat	Hallett's Chev.	16	Fison's Spec.	,, 18	,, 3	5	Rainforth
129	Briggs & Sons	Belmesthorpe	Limesto e rocky		Clover	Barley	Chevalier	—	J. Fison & Co.	,, 21	,, 7	5	Rainforth
130	Pridmore, W. C.	S'th Luffenham	Light; limestone		Barley	Turnips	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 24	,, 14	4	Gooch's

Shropshire.

131	Bluck, William	Bridgnorth	Sandy loam; strong		Clover	Barley	Webb's Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. —	Aug. —	4½	Denton's
132	Cookson, Geo. H.	Middleton Court	Red clay; sandstone		Turnips	Wheat	Chevalier	10	Webb's Barley	April 1	,, 13	—	Boby
133	Everall, R.	Alberbury	Red loam		Clover	Barley	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	Webb's Barley	—	—	—	—
134	Preece, Richard	Cressage	Gravel		Roots	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	Webb's Special	Mar. —	Aug. 6-14	4q 3b.	Boby

Staffordshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil.	Subsoil.	Two preceding Crops 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per acre.	Manure Used.	Date Sown.	Date Cut.	Qnty Grwn	Qr	Cleaning Machinery.
143	Horne, Frank	Bobbington	Loam; clay		Oats	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	Webb's special	Mar. 22	Mar. 22	—		Boby's

Suffolk (East).

141	Dawson, S.	Stratton Hall	Light; gravel		Roots	Oats	Hallett's Chev.	9	None	Mar. 15	Aug. 12	5q.		Boby's
145	Gray, A. E.	Wenhaston	Mixed; sand & gravel		Mangolds	Wheat	E. W. King's Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co.	,, 8	,, 3	4q.		,,
146	Gray, A. E.	Huntor	Mixed; sand & clay		Oats	Beans	E. W. King's Chev.	8	Stevens'	,, 15	,, 17	3½		,,
147	Maddison, J.	Rockstone Manor	Medium; sand & clay		Roots	Oats	Webb's Chevalier	8	Prentice's	April 8	,, 8	10c		J. Baker
148	Pepper, Walter	Cove Hithe	Mixed; sand		Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 17	,, 7	5q.		Boby's
149	Pasford, M. E.	Fakenham	Mixed; gravel		Mangolds	Oats	—	8	J. Fison & Co.	,, 3 & 4	,, 9-15	12s		,,
150	Pratt, W. D.	Witnesham	Mixed		Wheat	—	E. W. King's Chev.	—	Colchester's	,, —	,, —	—		—
151	Rush, Harry	Eye	Mixed; gravel		Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kinver	8	Prentice's	Feb. 6	,, 4	6		Baker's & Boby's
152	Woolsey, W. E.	Tuddenham	Mixed; clay		Mangolds	Wheat	Chevalier	8	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 16	,, 46	9c		Baker's

Suffolk, West.

153	Berry, A.	Long Melford	Mixed; clay		Wheat	Clover	—	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. —	Aug. —	10c'bs		Ward and Silver
154	Breese, Frank	Occold	Heavy mixed; clay		Beet	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	9	Prentice's	,, 22	,, 5	9cbs		Baker's
155	Dyer, W.	Edwardstone	Light; gravel		Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Feb. 15	,, 9	8cbs		Phillips
156	Dyer, W.	Edwardstone	Heavy; clay		Mangolds	Oats	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	Mar. 8	,, 4	9cbs		Phillips
157	Goodchild, S. C.	Glemsford	Mixed; gravel		Red Clover	Barley	Archer's	12	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 10	,, 15	5½		D. Ward
158	Hitchcock, A.	Rettlebaston	Heavy; clay		Wheat	Beans	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 27	,, 15	7cbs		Boby's
159	Jackson, S.	Kersey Priory	Mixed; gravel		Peas	Barley	Hallett's Chevalier	10	Farmyard	Oct. 9, 1904	July 20	4½		Boby's
160	Jackson, S.	Kersey Priory	Mixed; gravel		Kale & Mns	Wheat	Hallett's Chevalier	10	Colchester's	Mar. 11	Aug. 11	4		Boby's
161	Jarvis, W. G.	Clare	Medium; clay		Oats	Wheat	Wrinch's Premier	12	J. Fison & Co.'s	,, 7	,, —12	cbs		Ward and Silver
162	Jarvis, V. G.	Clare	Medium; gravel		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's Barley	Feb. 17	July 2512	cbs		Ward and Silver
163	Moore, T. S.	Occold	Heavymixed; clay		Roots	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	9	None	Mar. 25	Aug. 12	5½		Baker's
164	Rush, H. W.	Eye	Mixed		Mangolds	Wheat	Webb's Kinver	8	Prentice's	Feb. 17	,, 11	—		Boby's
165	Stanley, H.	Bury St. Edm'ds	Mixed; chalk		Oats, t'nips	Man, t'nips	Chevalier	12	Folded	April 13	,, 1012	sks		Boby's
166	Thurman, R. J.	Semer	Mixed; sand		Barley	Mangolds	Webb's Kinver Chev.	12	Prentice's	Feb. 23	,, —8	cbs		Baker's
167	Thurman, R. J.	Kersey	Mixed; sand		Barley	Swedes	Webb's Kinver Chev.	8	Colchester's	,, 11	,, —9	cbs		Baker's
168	Whittome, A.	Sudbury	Loam; sand		Wheat	Potatoes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	None	Feb. —	,, —	4		Stubbin
169	Whittome, A.	Sudbury	Loam; sand		Wheat	Mangolds	Chevalier	8	None	,, —	,, —	5		Stubbin go
170	Woods, Alfred	Occold	Heavy; clay		Swedes		Webb's Chevalier	9	Prentice's	Mar. 27	,, —	5		Boby's

Surrey.

171	Goschen, C. H.	Addinglon	Chalky; chalk		Late oats	Turnips	Chevalier	12	Steven's special	Feb. 11	Aug. 9	4½		Baker's
172	Horne, W. E.	Shackleford	Sandy; sandstone		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	Webb's barley	Mar. 29	,, 12	4½		Stubb's
173	Medhurst, W. A.	Hossell	Sand; gravel		Oats	Swedes	Chevalier	10	None	Feb. 14	July 28	10 sks.		

Sussex.

174	Brand, Admiral Hon	Glyndel	Chalky; chalk		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	16	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 7-11	July 31	5½		Baker's & Boby's
175	Jennings, H.	Broome's Farm	Hazel mould; sand		Oats	Mngs, Swds	E. W. King's Chev.	10	Stevens' special	Mar. 25	Aug. 18	—		Boby's
176	Jennings, H.	Codmore Hl. Fm.	Green sand		Mangold	Wheat	J. K. King's Chev.	10	Crone & Taylor's spl	,, 3	,, 14	5		Boqy's
177	Jennings, H.	Hill Farm	Green sand		Oats	Rape, tnps.	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 18	July 27	5		Boby's
178	Jennings, H.	Park Farm	Hazel mould; sand		Barley	Turnips	Webb's Kin. Chev.	10	Webb's special	Mar. 2	Aug. 8	5½		Boby's
179	Legg, William	Selsey	Light lm.; clay lm.		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	7	Webb's barley	April 5	Aug. —	12 sks		Wake's
180	Rudwick, W. F.	West Wittering	Light lm.; clay lm.		Wheat	Clover	E. W. King's Chev.	10	Super Kainit	Feb. 21	,, 3	12 sks		Boby's
181	Rudwick, W. F.	West Wittering	Light lm.; clay lm.		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's special	,, 17	,, 2 & 3	11 ,,		Boby's

Wiltshire.

182	Cleverley, W. S.	Tilshead	Flint; Chalk		Wheat	Rape	Webb's Kin. Chev.	—	Super & Kainit	March 15	August 7	4½		Boby's
183	Coles, Cary	Winterb'neStoke	Gravel loam		Wheat	Mangolds	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's Barley	Feb. 15	August 5	4		Tasker's & Boby's
184	Cook, Richard	Box	Sandy loam; Oolik.		Wheat	Turnips	Webb's Chev.	8	None	Feb. 27, '8	Aug. 4 & 5.	4½		Boby's

Worcestershire.

185	Corbishly, G.	Brickhampton	Rich loam; brashy		Barley	Swedes	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's Barley	Feb. —	August —	—		
186	Corbishly, G.	Brickhampton	Rich loam; brashy		Turnips	Peas	Webb's Kin. Chev.	12	Webb's Barley	,, 20	,, —	—		
187	Gill, James	Evesham	Red sandy; gravelly		Seeds	Barley	Chevalier	10	J. Fison & Co.	March —	July 29	£31 5q.		Corbett's.
188	Hughes, W. H.	Wick	Sandy loam; sandy		Roots	Wheat	Webb's Kin. Chev.	8	Webb's Barley	,, 13	August 10	448		Boby's

Class II.—GOLDTHORPE.

Bedfordshire.

189	Brown, F.	Haught'n Conqst	Clay; mixed		Roots	Wheat	Webb's	10	Webb's Barley	April 22	Aug. 10			Cooch

Buckingham.

190	Bliss, E.	Aylesbury	Stone; rock		Oats	Roots	Carter's Goldthorpe	8	Artificial	Mar. 7	Aug. 6			Avery's
191	Jenrey, H.	Aston Clinton	Chalk; chalky		Wheat	Turnips	—	12	Bone Manure	April 10	Aug. 10	4		Boby
192	Purser, T. W.	Colnbrook	Loam; gravel		Swedes	Oats	—	12	Webb's Manure	Mar. 7	Aug. 6	6		Boby
193	Purser, T. W.	Colnbrook	Loam; gravel		Swedes	Oats	—	12	Farmyard	Mar. 2	Aug. 7	6		Boby
194	Purser, T. W.	Colnbrook	Loam; gravel		Swedes	Oats	Carter's Goldthorpe	12	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 23	Aug. 5	6		Boby
195	Wood, F.	Ford	Loam; limestone		Barley	—	—	—	Garston's	Mar. 7	Aug. 6	—		Boby

Cambridgeshire.

126	Morris & Son	Oakington	Heavy clay		Fallow	Wheat	Carter's "Goldthorpe"	—	Farmyard	April 3	Aug. 2	—		Baker

Devonshire.

197	Gent, F.	Pinhoe	Gravel; sand		Clover	Roots	"Goldthorpe Champion"	7	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 19	Aug. 10	5		Bobys
198	Lawrence, W. A.	Cullompton	Heavy loam; clay		Clover	Wheat	Carter's "Goldthorpe"	8	None	,, 10	July 31	5		Bobys

Essex.

199	Hine, Neville, J.	Hockley	Clay, loam; clay		Barley	Roots	—	—	None	Mar. 20	Aug. 12	3		Boby's

Class II.

Glamorganshire.

200	Thomas B.	Monknash	Clay; limestone		Swedes	Barley	—	10	J. Fison & Co.	May 2	Aug. 30	5½		Marshall's
201	Dowdeswell, R.	Netherhill	Light; gravel		Wheat	Clover	Webb's Malting	8	—	Feb. 15	July 26	—		—
202	Fear, A.	Moreton	Light; gravel		Roots	Barley	Webb's Malting	8	J. Fison & Co.	,, 20	,, 28	—		—

Hampshire.

203	Myres, W. H.	Bishops Walth'm	Mixed; chalk		Turnips	—	Goldthorpe	—	Colchester's	Mar. —	Aug. —	—		—

Herefordshire.

204	Barling, F. B.	Bollitree	Sandy loam; sandy		Turnips	Barley	Webb's Malting	9	Webb's	Apr. 26	Aug. 30	6		Boby's
205	Barling, F. B.	Bollitree	Sandy loam; sandy		Potatoes	Oats	Champion Prize Barley	8	Webb's	Mar. 8	,, 14	6		Boby's

Kent.

206	Dyke, Sir W. H.	Eynsford	Chalk		Lucerne	—	—	12	—	March 6	August 8	4		Baker's
207	Holland Bros.	Thorne	Sandy; chalk		Wheat	Potatoes	Garton's Favorite	12	J. Fison & Co.	February	July	4		Garrett's
208	Holland Bros.	Thorne	Sandy; chalk		Wheat	Potatoes	Garton's Favorite	12	Sheppe Glue Co.	,,	,,	4		Garrett's
209	Roberts, W.	Snodland	Chalk; chalk		Buckwheat	Potatoes	—	12	Farm Yard	,,	August	54		Boby's
210	Robinson, J.	Borstal	Chalk; chalk		Oats	Wheat	Goldthorpe	10	Prentice Bros.	,,	July	—		Boby's
211	Rogers, W.	Maplescombe	Flinty? chalk loam		Oats	Bis sprouts	Garton's Malster	10	Sheppey Glue Co.	August	August	4		Le Butt's
212	Triplow, F.	Minster Sheppe	Stiff; clay		Oats	Wheat	Webb's Malting	12	Bone Meal Guano	,, 21	,, 21	4		Boby's & Fett'

Kerry.

213	McCarthy, H.	Fenit	Limestone; clay		Potatoes	Barley	Standwell	—	Seaweed and farm	April 15	August 20	—		Booth

Lincolnshire.

214	Robson, W.	Limber Hill	Wold; chalk		Turnips	Oats	Invincible	11	—	—	March 6	,, 10	5	Le Butt

Louth County.

215	Carraher P. D.	Mayne	Heavy clay; gravel'y		Turnips	Oats	Standwell	—	—	,, 7	July 28	—		Boby's
216	Dolan, J.	Drogheda	Heavy clay; dry clay		Turnips	Oats	—	—	—	,, 28	August 8	—		—

Middlesex.

217	Bolton, J.	Sunbury	Light Loam; gravel		Clover	Oats		8	J. Fison & Co's	Feb. 7	August 8	5		

Northampton.

218	Brown, W.	Billing Arbours	Sandy Loam; clay		Mangolds	Barley	Burton Malting	10	J. Fison & Co's	March	August	6		Cooch
219	Castell, T. Y.	Scaldwell	Medium; gravel		Oats	Clover	Webb's Malting	8	Webb's Barley	,, 10	,, 7	5		Cooch
220	Manning, C. N.	Milton Ham	Medium; gravel		Roots	Barley	Webb's Malting	10	Webb's Barley	,, 15	,, 15	6		

Newcastle-on-Tyne.

221	Boby, J.	Heathery Shank		Strong	Turnips	Oats	Webb's "The Binder"	8	Webb's	March 10	August	—		Horsley

Northumberland.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
222	Nichol, A. F.	Addertone L'M'l	Loam; clay	Swedes	Oats	Goldthorpe	10	—	March 16	August 7	6	Boby's

Queen's County.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
223	Maher, J.	Portarlington	Stiff loam; lime	Barley	Turnips	Standwell	—	J. Fison & Co.	April 14	August 14	4	Penney's

Rutlandshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
224	Earl of Ancaster	Normanton	Sandy loam limest'ne	Potatoes	Wheat	Webb's New Binder	12	Webb's Barley	March 7	August 10	5	Ransford's
225	Earl of Ancaster	Normanton	Sandy loam limest'ne	Mangels	Wheat	Malting	12	Webb's Ammonia	Feb. 22	,, 7	5	Ransford's

Shropshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
226	Davies, M.	Woundale	Medium —	—	—	Webb's	—	Webb's	—	—	—	—
227	Everall, R.	Alberbury	Red Loam —	Clover	Barley	Webb's	8	Webb's	—	—	—	—
228	Horne, F.	Claverley	Loam; Clay	Barley	Swedes	Webb's	10	Webb's	March 24	—		Boby's
229	Humphreys, E. W.	Beighill	Light gravel	Seeds	Barley	Goldthorpe	10	J. Fison & Co.	,, 23	August 3	—	—
230	Jefferies, W. J.	Burlington	Light gravel; sand	Swedes	Barley	—	12	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 15	,, 2	—	Boby's
231	Jefferies, W. J.	Burlington	Gravelly Sand	Swedes	Clover	Goldthorpe	12	Webb's Special	,, 13	July 31	—	Boby's
232	Logan, J.	Hoccom	Red soil; red sand	Clover	Barley	Webb's	10	Webb's Special	May 22	Aug. 9	—	Boby's
233	Powell, T. E.	Hawkstone	Red loam clay	Turnips	Wheat	Garton's	—	—	,, 24	,, 11	6	Marshall
234	Powell, T.	Hawkstone	Red loam clay	Turnips	Wheat	Garton's "Standwell"	—	—	,, 24	,, 11	6	Marshall
235	Preece, R.	Cressage	Gravel	Roots	Wheat	Webb's	10	Webb's Special	,, —	,, 12	5	Boby's
236	Whitfield, G. H.	Newport, Salop	Light loam	Swedes	Wheat	Webb's	10	Webb's Special	Feb. 10	July 24		Boby's
237	Williams, J.	Wolverley	Light soil; sandy	Mangolds	Oats	Webb's "New Binder"	8	Webb's Special	Mar. 20	Aug. 9	6	
238	Wych, W.	Hinnington	Light	Oats	Clover	—	12	Webb's Special	—	Aug. —		

Somersetshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
239	James, F. E.	Minehead	Stone brash; Gravel	Mangolds	Barley	Carter's Goldthorpe	8	J. Fison & Co.	March 30	August 7	5	Boby's

Staffordshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
240	Clemson, J.	Wolverhampton	Sandy loam; Gravel	Oats	Wheat	Maltster	10	Webb's	March 9	August 1	—	Boby's
241	White, E.	Brewood	Gravelly; Gravel	Turnips	Wheat	Webb's	10	Webb's	April 4	August 11	4½	Marshall's

Suffolk.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
242	Kemball, A. C.	Boxford	Mixed; clay	Barley	Mangolds	Garton's Maltster	10	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 22	Aug. 9	—	—

Surrey.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
243	Gosling, H.	Chertsey	Gravel; —	Wheat	Clover	—	10	J. Fison & Co.	Feb. 10	,, 2	4	Boby's
244	Lang, W.	Leatherhead	Chalk; chalk	Turnips	Oats	Brewer's Favourite	12	Farm yard manure	,, 9	,, 15	—	Baker's
245	Shears, W.	Woking	Sandy; sand	Turnips	Carrots	Webb's	7	Webb's Barley	Mar. 8	,, 11	—	Coleman & Morton

Worcester.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
246	Amphlett, T.	Ombersley	Red loam; sand	Peas	Wheat	Standwell	12	Webb's Barley	Apr. 15	July 30	5	Humphries
247	Gill, J.	Eveshan	Sandy; gravelly loam	Seeds	Barley	Webb's Burton Malting	10	J. Fison & Co.	Mar. 15	,, 28	5	Corbett's
248	Hailes, E.	Hartington	Red loam; sandstone	Clover	Oats	Webb's Burton Malting	8	Webb's Barley	,, 24	Aug. 11	5	Boby's
249	Kington, J.	Kempsey	Light; sand	Peas	Barley	Webb's Burton Malting	8	—	Feb. 15	July 20	5½	—

Yorkpshire.

No.	Grower.	Where grown.	Soil. Subsoil.	Two preceding crops. 1904.	1903.	Seed sown.	Pecks per Acre.	Manure used.	Date sown.	Date cut.	Crop.	Cleansing. Machinery.
250	Coates, A.	Burythorpe	Loam; greystone	Wheat	Turnips	—	10	S. of Am. & super	March 22	August 2	6	—
251	Green, G. M.	Firby	Good loam; sand	Potatoes	Clover	Handwell	10	None	April —	,, —	6	Boby's
252	Hall, Samuel	Kennithorpe	Loam; greystone	Oats	Potatoes	—	10	S. of Am. & super	March 21	,, 2	6	—
253	Middleton, Lord	Birdsall	Limestone; —	Seeds	Wheat	Goldthorpe	12	None	February 1	July 8	—	Boby's
254	Donaldson, J. H.	Gt. Ayton	Clay loam; clay	Clover ley	Wheat	Webb's Burton Malting	8	Webb's	March 29	August 8	5	Baker
255	Donaldson, J. H.	Gt. Ayton	Clay loam; clay	Clover	Wheat	—	8	J. Fison & Co.	April —	,,	4	Baker's
256	Hall, Fred	Askew	— —	—	—	Webb's Burton Malting	—	—	—	—	—	—
257	Hodsman, J.	Burythorpe	Light loam; gravel	Wheat	Potatoes	Goldthorpe	10	Rochdale	March	August 5	5	Boby's
258	Hodsman, J.	Burythorpe	Light loam; gravel	Turnips	Barley	Goldthorpe	10	Rochdale	,,	,, 5	5	Boby's

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

We have received a copy of a card containing "Short Instructions for Butter-Making," issued by Messrs. Tisdale and Robinson from the "Dairy World," office, 98 and 99, Fetter Lane, E.C. These instructions are reprinted from "Butter-making on the Farm and at the Creamery," by the same authors, of which a revised and enlarged edition is to be published shortly. The card will be found useful to hang up in dairies for reference, and will be appreciated by beginners, as if hung somewhere near their churn, they constantly refer to it if in doubt as to what to do next. The price is only 1d., or 1½d., post free.

The subject of tuberculosis, both in man and beast, is always receiving such a great deal of attention and discussion, that there is no excuse for the stockbreeder being ignorant on this point. There are, however, always beginners to be thought of, and for them books are provided in goodly numbers. Among these is "Cattle Tuberculosis," by H. Sessions, of which Messrs. Baillière, Tindal, and Cox, 8, Henrietta Street, Strand, have just issued a new and revised edition; price 3s. net. The work deals with the causes, symptoms, and diagnosis of the disease, the tuberculin test, milk and meat inspection, etc., so that the subject is fairly exhaustively dealt with.

A second and revised edition has recently been issued of Leslie S. Wood's well-known work, "The Principles and Practice of Farm Valuations." Since the publication of the first edition, a great advance has been made in the matter of farm valuations by the almost universal adoption by valuers' associations of scales of compensation for feeding stuffs based on manurial values instead of cost price, and it was to meet this change that the new and revised edition of Mr. Wood's work was issued. Among the new features are a series of maps showing the variations of customs throughout England and Wales, and the connection between them; and a chapter on feeding stuffs. As regards the volume itself, this needs little introduction, being so well known, but it may be said that it is written in simple language for the most uninitiated, and it shows the great variations in the customs of the country, their development, and relationship to the present time. Altogether a capital work, well worth the 5s. it is published at. It is issued from the offices of the "Estates Gazette," 6, St. Bride Street, E.C.

A useful, practical, and handy volume on "Dairy Cows and the Dairy," by J. Walker, has just been issued from the office of "Farm and Garden," 148 and 149, Aldersgate Street, London. Within the compass of 150 pages, it deals in a succinct and lucid manner with every phase of dairy cattle and dairy work. All the principal breeds of dairy cattle are described and illustrated, and the important questions of housing, feeding, milking, and management generally, fully and ably dealt with by the author, a practical farmer and cow-keeper of long experience. Moreover, all the common ailments and diseases of dairy cattle are treated with sufficient fulness to render this section of the volume of great service to cow-keepers. Then the author goes on in the second section of the book to describe the construction of an up-to-date dairy and its management; the making, packing, and marketing of butter; manufacture of Cheddar, Stilton, Caerphilly, Dorset, Cheshire, and other cheeses, Devonshire cream, junket, and so on; management of milk and cream; finally winding up with a capital calendar of hints for each month of the year. The work is freely and suitably illustrated, and is remarkably good value for the shilling charged for it.

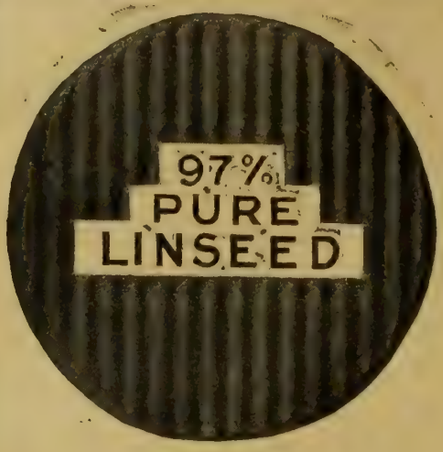
We have received a copy of the Third Annual Report of the Central Seed Testing Laboratory of the Aynsome Agriculture Station, Grange-over-Sands, Lancashire, and it proves that the station is doing good work. It appears that in the season of 1904-5 1,296 samples of seeds were tested, as compared with 1,077 in 1903-4 and 697 in 1902-3. Of these 1,296 samples the largest number have again been red clovers and cow-grasses, white clovers, Italian and perennial rye-grasses, cocksfoots, turnips, swedes, and mangolds. The number of examinationc for dodder have fallen off considerably, and amounted to only thirty-nine samples, as against 137 for the previous year. Of these thirty-nine samples, twenty-six were found free from dodder. Three of the samples, however, were special bad ones. One had 168 dodder seeds in 2 ozs., another had 202 in 1 oz., while the third had 260 in 1½ oz. It is interesting to note that of the 1,296 samples tested no fewer than 1,200 came from seed merchants, so that farmers apparently do not yet realise the value of seed testing.

The summer number of "Bibby's Quarterly" has now been issued, and that its appearance is welcomed by its readers goes without saying; in fact, it is the general regret that the "Quarterly" does not appear at regular and less lengthy intervals, for it is quite a picture gallery, and at the same time a mine of useful and interesting information. Still, as is candidly admitted in editorial remarks, to produce such a journal at the price charged for it, does not admit of a profit on the sale, but a decided loss, and one cannot expect too many numbers under the circumstances. However, schemes are being devised whereby this interesting "Quarterly" may be run without loss, whilst at the same time keeping up to its high standard as a really artistic and instructive journal, and on this point we are promised more information in the next number, but when this will appear is not stated.

"Soil Physics Laboratory Guide," by W. H. Stevenson, A.B., B.S.A., and J. O. Schaub, B.S., is an American work, the writers being respectively Professor and Assistant Professor of Soils at Iowa State College, and the book is the outgrowth of laboratory instruction given by them in that College. The aim of the authors was to present to the instructor and student a carefully outlined series of experiments in soil physics, and they have succeeded admirably, whilst the many illustrations add to the value of the work. The sole agents for Europe are Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner and Co., Dryden House, Gerrard Street, W., and the price is 2s 6d. net.

Ludlow Horse Fair.—The October horse fair at Ludlow was held on Monday, when there was a very large show of animals, and a good number of dealers. Prices were fairly good, but trade slow. Good cart horses realised £30 to £50, hacks and harness horses £25 to £35, cobs £20 to £25, and ponies £10 to £18.

Mr. C. J. Calthorpe, of the well-known firm of auctioneers (Messrs. Briggs and Calthorpe), died at his residence, Horkstow Hall, Barton-on-Humber, recently, at the age of eighty. Mr. Calthorpe's knowledge of farming matters was most extensive, and was acquired not only in the sale room, but as the result of experience, for he worked several large farms in different parts of Lincolnshire.



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and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY.

Candidates for the above appointment are requested to apply to the offices of the Society at 13, Hanover Square, W., for the necessary printed form, without which no application will be considered. Salary £600 per annum; age not to exceed 40 years. The form of application must be filled up and returned (addressed to "The President, Royal Agricultural Society of England, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.") not later than Tuesday, October 31st, 1905. Personal canvassing of any member of the Council of the Society will be deemed a disqualification.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DEC. 4th to 8th, 1905, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (cattle, sheep, pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, Nov. 1st; post entries, Nov. 6th. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5th. Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The FIFTY-SEVENTH GREAT ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Fat CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, CORN, ROOTS, and IMPLEMENTS will be held in Bingley Hall on November 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th.

ENTRIES CLOSE: Wednesday, November 1st.

Prize Lists and Entry Forms may be obtained from

W. H. LYTHALL,
Secretary.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS. (Open to all England without Subscription).

LORD TREDEGAR has fixed the 87th Annual Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 21st and 22nd.

The PRIZE LIST contains 60 regulated Classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, HORSES, and DONKEYS, the Prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

Judges for Poultry, J. P. W. MARX, Esq., and GEORGE ROSSER, Esq.; for Pigeons, H. ALSOP, Esq.

The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all Particulars, may be had on application to—

G. P. MITCHELL INNES,
Tredegar Estate Office,
Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries Close November 1st for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses; for Poultry and Pigeons, October 28th.

ASHFORD CATTLE SHOW, DECEMBER 11th and 12th, 1905.

Entries close November 7th.

A. J. BURROWS, Secretary,
41, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent.

TONBRIDGE FAT STOCK and POULTRY SHOW

will be held in the Agricultural Hall on MONDAY & TUESDAY, NOV. 27th & 28th, 1905, when £300 in prizes will be awarded. Entries close for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Potatoes, Corn, Apples, Hops, Bread and Butter ... ... November 1st.
For Poultry ... ... November 11th.
Full particulars of T. C. MAYLAM, Hon. Sec., Tel.: 194. Medway Wharf, Tonbridge.

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EDUCATIONAL.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY, AGRICULTURAL COURSE. Prospectus, Edinburgh Agricultural College; also regulations, degree of B. Sc., and Garton Lectures on Colonial and Indian Agriculture.—Apply to Clerk of Senatus.

LEGAL NOTICE.

Re WILLIAM RUDDOCK THRIFT, deceased.

Pursuant to the Statute 22nd and 23rd Victoria, cap. 35, intituled "An Act to further amend the law of property and to relieve trustees."

NOTICE is hereby given that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of William Ruddock Thrift, late of Little Hadham, in the county of Hertford, and Boreham, in the county of Essex, Miller, deceased (who died on the 4th day of March, 1905), and whose will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice, on the 2nd day of May, 1905, by Harry Thomas Hamlet Haylock, of Chelmsford, in the county of Essex, licensed victualler, and William Jackson Hart, of Much Hadham, in the county of Hertford, gentleman, the executors therein named), are hereby required to send the particulars in writing of their claims or demands to us, the undersigned, on or before the 18th day of November, 1905, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased, or any part thereof, to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 9th day of October, 1905.

RICHARDSON, FOXWELL, and HART,
Solicitors for the Executors,
Much Hadham, Herts.

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The Maltings are being worked as usual, and possession may be had on completion.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

SCOTTISH KENNEL CLUB'S 27TH SHOW OF SPORTING AND OTHER DOGS, IN THE WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 25TH, 26TH, AND 27TH, 1905.

The Great Northern Railway Company will convey exhibits for the above Show from Keighley, Halifax, Bradford, Doncaster, Worksop, Retford, Newark, Barton, Derby, Ilkeston, Nottingham, Grantham, Grimsby, Gainsborough, Lincoln, Horncastle, Louth, Alford, Sleaford, Boston, Spalding, Yarmouth, Cromer, Norwich, Sutton Bridge, Wisbech, Peterborough, Huntingdon, Sandy, Cambridge, Hitchin, Dunstable, Luton, Hertford, St. Albans, and other towns on and in connection with their system.

Through vans will be run wherever necessary for the conveyance of exhibits.

Rates for the conveyance of traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent, and they will be found in no case to exceed the rates in force by any other route.

Special arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits at the close of the Show.

A representative will be in attendance to give all information as to train service, cartage facilities, &c.,

To ensure prompt attention, exhibitors should be careful to mark the address labels "Per Great Northern Railway."

OLIVER BURY,
General Manager.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GREAT NATIONAL POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW, at the CRYSTAL PALACE, SYDENHAM, NOVEMBER 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1905.

Intending Exhibitors at this Show are informed that the Great Northern Railway Company make every arrangement for the careful and expeditious transit of exhibits to and from the Crystal Palace.

For the convenience of exhibitors, through vans will be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, November 6th.

Consignments from branch lines and intermediate stations at which these trains do not stop will be placed in the through vans at the various junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Crystal Palace.

Return Traffic.—Arrangements will be made for the return of the traffic at the close of the Show in through vans. Exhibitors wishing to avail themselves of these facilities should consign and direct their exhibits "per Great Northern Railway," and be careful to insert the route on the return, as well as the outward, portion of the address label.

A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the Show, prepared to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate removal at the close of the Show. The removal order should be sent to the Chief Passenger Agent, King's Cross Station, at the commencement of the Show.

Any information as to arrangements for the forward or return journey, &c., may be had on application to the Chief Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross, London.

OLIVER BURY, General Manager.
London, October, 1905.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL POULTRY, RABBIT, AND PIGEON SHOW at the ALEXANDRA PALACE, LONDON, November 7th, 8th and 9th, 1905.

Exhibitors are informed that the Railway Company have arranged for the transit of exhibits to and from the Alexandra Palace.

Through vans will be run to the Alexandra Palace on Monday, November 6th.

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All information may be had on application to the Chief Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross, London.

OLIVER BURY, General Manager.
London, October, 1905.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

THE SCOTTISH KENNEL CLUB'S SHOW, EDINBURGH, OCTOBER 25th to 27th, 1905.

In connection with the Scottish Kennel Club's Show, to be held at Edinburgh on October 25th, 26th and 27th, the Midland Railway Company will run a 3rd Class Saloon to Edinburgh by the 12.30 p.m. train from Manchester (Victoria) on October 24th, for the convenience of exhibitors from the Lancashire District.

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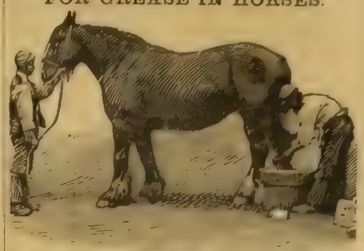

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Bibby's Quarterly.

The new number of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY, edited by our Mr. JOSEPH BIBBY, is now out, and can be had during this month at all Smith's Bookstalls, price 1/-.

There be those who say that BIBBY'S QUARTERLY is the best periodical which comes into the farmhouse, but there be also gainsayers who affirm that if it dealt more with live stock, and less with high ethics, it would be more acceptable to the average farmer; and we are rather of that opinion ourselves, but the Editor tells us that he edits BIBBY'S QUARTERLY to please himself, and we have to leave it at that; should, however, any reader of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY make a purchase at Smith's Bookstall, and is afterwards doubtful that he has got his shilling's worth, we undertake to make matters straight with him if he apprise us of his dissatisfaction within the present month.

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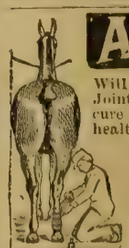

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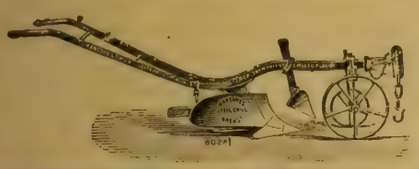

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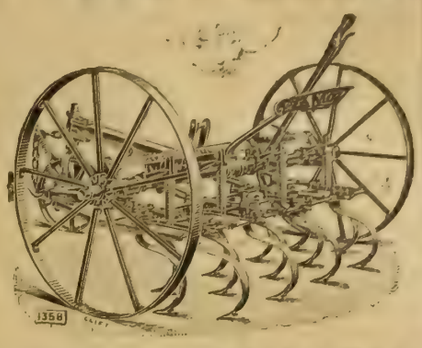

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal
and
Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

OCTOBER 23, 1905.

Correspondents are requested to address all communications for the Editorial Department to THE EDITOR, "Mark Lane Express," 1 Essex Street Strand, London, W.C.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER "Mark Lane Express" 1 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

THE FARMERS' CONFERENCE AT DARLINGTON.

The significance of Friday's conference at Darlington is not in anything said thereat, but in the Conference itself taking place. Not a single resolution was proposed which was not the embodiment of ideas urged and reiterated in these columns, at the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and at the annual dinners of agriculturists held in London during Smithfield week. But it would really seem from this big stir in the north as if farmers were at last awaking to the fact that Heaven helps those who help themselves. If, as a result of the Conference's recommendations, farmers ask the candidates at elections for their views on a few leading points of vital interest, the Conference will have marked an entirely new departure. That is to say, if the farmers so asking put a bullet in their gun, and do not, as in the past, confine themselves to platonic aspirations for the candidate's vote when returned. If farmers submit to candidates their needs they must accompany such statement by a specific pledge to vote for the candidate if he gives the required pledge, and to vote against him if he wil lnot give it. Farmers hitherto have not been sufficiently interested in the preservation of what they live by—the national agriculture. It is a good sign that in the north, at all events, they are beginning to see that such preservation is really more important than the licensing or non-licensing of the "Red Lion," the use or disuse of surplices for the village choir. On these latter questions the Order of Good Templars and the Protestant Association are prepared to give their votes. Who are we that we should blame them? But the farmers' interests are at least as vital. Let him fight for them only half as keenly as men fight for temperance or "ritualistic" issues, and the decline of British agriculture will be arrested. No Government, Liberal or Conservative, will attempt to resist the demands of a compact group of a hundred agricultural members and the farming interest if supported by the agricultural labourers is capable of returning two hundred. In our opinion the most valuable speech at Darlington was that of Mr. Bainbridge, of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture, who urged that farmers should devote themselves to bringing the agricultural labourers into line.

The farmer can speak to his men on matters affecting agriculture as no other person can, and since the labourers' vote cast against the farmer's only results in the neutralisation of agricultural influence, there is the most urgent need for such speaking. With respect to farmers being better represented on local bodies, Mr. Hill's resolution was called for, but the difficulty rests in getting farmers to attend the meetings of the parochial, rural, and county councils if elected. It might be well to attach some honour to such unpaid but most important service. A testimonial to a farmer after three years' service, or a dinner given by his farming neighbours for whom he had spoken and voted, would do much to redeem the attendance at local meetings from being regarded as a casual matter, very well when nothing else was on hand, but of no real consequence. Lord Barnard was perfectly right in his speech when pointing out how the actively pushing classes secured vastly more than their share of representation.

That agricultural rating is a matter needing particular attention was urged on the Conference from Glamorgan, a good sign of western co-operation with northern farmers. The question, indeed, admits of most important political developments, and there are a good many persons coming to think that in the freeing wheat land from local burdens might be found the simplest solution of our present problems of Free Trade and a duty on imported wheat.

The prohibition of preferential railway rates for imports was urged at the Conference, and the Board of Trade undoubtedly need fresh powers for dealing with the difficult problem of "through contracts" for delivery of foreign corn at some inland town. That the adulteration of buttermilk and other agricultural produce is not checked more sternly by the Legislature is a crying scandal, but here the sitting Members of Parliament are to blame. Had the rural Members this last July told their party Whips that from the day the Butter Bill was abandoned they should go home and not attend any more that Session, the Bill would now be law.

We cannot help feeling a little regret at the decision of the Conference to meet next year at Newcastle. A General Conference should be more peripatetic, preaching its gospel to a far wider area than that of North-eastern England. Seeing that delegates were present from Wales and Scotland, Lincoln, and Leicester, a wider radius might reasonably have been looked for in the choice of place. Newcastle has great claims, but is too near Darlington to be the immediate successor to that town.

Hereford October Fair.—By the provision of a commodious and convenient market, the Hereford fairs have been all absorbed in the weekly markets, except the October fair, and there are signs that this ancient institution is beginning to go the way of the others, for at that held last week there was decidedly a shorter number of big cattle, the supply consisting largely of yearlings and two-year-olds, and they were ultimately cleared off at about 10s. per head lower than last year. About 150 yearlings were sold by auction. Yearlings ranged from £9 to £15 5s apiece; two-year-olds from £12 10s. to £15; and bigger cattle up to £18 10s. and £19 10s. Cattle at £14 to £18 appeared to be selling the most readily. Shortness of keep in the Midlands made the trade slow. There was a record horse fair as to numbers, but trade was slow, cart horses selling up to £70 apiece, and Welsh horses up to £22; for nags there was very little demand.

Seasonable Topics.

A Fine October.

Though here and there we hear complaints about scarcity of water, most people are thankful for the delightfully fine October weather which is helping on the winter, and affording opportunities for pushing on with seasonable work. How glorious now are the thousand tints which paint the dying foliage, and though we regret the frost which has cut down the dahlias since our last notes were written, there are still some relics of the summer left. Was there ever a better season for clearing the stubbles? and farmers who are at all backward in this work have only got themselves to blame. We hear some complaints that the land is too dry for seeding, as it may be in some districts, but in others the ground works well, and a good deal of wheat has been got in since Michaelmas. What a time it is, also, for getting up potatoes; but about these there is a dismal tale to tell, for in most places crops are badly diseased. It is difficult to explain why, because we have had no great weight of rain through the growing season, but the disease appeared in the tops very suddenly, and it came just after a succession of warm misty nights. How much those climatic conditions had to do with the present diseased state of the potatoes is a moot point. The harvest is supposed to be over, but since our last notes were written we have seen several fields of oats from very late sowings not yet gathered in. What would their fate have been had the weather been different? As we write, we can hear the musical hum of the threshing machine in the crisp, frosty air, and we know of one farmer who is thankful for another fine day to get this important task finished. Indeed, though we may want rain, it will not be without feelings of regret that we shall meet the end of this glorious autumn weather.

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Back to the Land.

So hackneyed is this phrase that we are reluctant to use it, but we do so in recollection of a time when the flower of British manhood was fighting for the old flag in South Africa, and farmers were at their wits end to know how to get labour for harvest and other work. Even at that critical moment, a friend of ours who had studied the question closely stuck to the opinion (we thought somewhat obstinately) that things would right themselves in time, and that people would come back to the land of their own accord. Are they coming? or would they come if they had the opportunity? are questions worth considering at the present moment, because the tendency seems to point in this direction. One thing is certain, labour on the land is not such a scarce commodity as it was a few seasons ago, but the unfortunate part of it is that many of the people who left the country and went to the towns, but would now come back, are not of as much value for agriculture as they were before they left. The other day a large farmer informed us that a man who left him several years ago to take up more remunerative employment in Birmingham, had written to say that he would come back to the farm for any wages his old employer liked to offer him if the latter would give him a job. Perhaps if this request had been made a couple of years ago, the applicant would have found an opening, but now things are different, and the farmer has as much labour as he requires. These are but solitary instances, but a straw indicates the way the wind blows, and perhaps, the reaction having set in, people will come back to the land of their own accord, without all the tempting and persuading that some people consider necessary. Let them come, by all means, if they are formed of the stuff that is required on the land, but of the thousands of starving unemployed in the towns there are comparatively few that would be of much use in rural capacities.

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The Failure of Boomed Potatoes.

There are few men, if any, who know more about potatoes than Mr. T. A. Scarlett, of Edinburgh, and certain remarks of his which appeared in our last issue are worthy of consideration. It was in reference to some Eldorados of his that Mr. Scarlett observed that they had been grown from roots which had been propagated from shoots, and, though this was the quickest way to increase any variety for which there was a great demand, it was also, as Mr. Scarlett had since learned, the surest way of ruining any variety. Just so, and in the above remark we may find the secret of the unsatisfactory behaviour of more than one boomed variety. When the potato craze was at its height, and speculators were ready to propagate from the smell of a tuber, had such a thing been possible, we ventured to suggest that this unnatural method of increasing varieties might have an injurious effect on their constitutions. The potato fever was too high at the moment for any notice to be taken of the remark, but since they have had time to reflect, many able growers have come to the conclusion that the constitution of more than one variety has been sadly impaired, if not hopelessly ruined, by express propagation. With most people Northern Star has failed lamentably this year, Eldorado has been nearly as disappointing, and other new varieties have not come up to their reputations. Is this the reward of the sin of avarice on the part of those who were anxious to take advantage of the unaccountable boom and make money quickly? Some may argue to the contrary, but when such men as Mr. T. A. Scarlett incline to the opinion, and express themselves so emphatically on the point, you may depend there is something in it. At any rate, it is strange that only the much-boomed novelties have failed in general cultivation, while such potatoes as Sir John Llewelyn, The Factor, and King Edward VII., which were in commerce before the rush began, have acquitted themselves creditably.

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Hops in 1905.

Hopping for the season has been over some time, the people from the East End who journeyed south for the harvest have doubtless worn the Kentish tan from their cheeks by now, and the smut of the Black Country has again settled on the features of the people who lost it for a time in the hop-yards of Worcester and Hereford. And the result of it all is an aggregate crop 413,613 cwt. in excess of that of last year. What a grand thing for the hop-growers! any casual reader of the returns might say; but wait a bit. Hops are used for the sole purpose of brewing, and brewers only require a certain quantity for their needs. In addition to this, hop-growers abroad find a market for their wares in Britain, though it is hardly likely they will get much of an opening this year, and there are ugly whispers to the effect that a lot of beer is brewed nowadays without hops. Perhaps the individual who will benefit to the greatest extent through the heavy crop of hops is the brewer, because he will be able to buy cheaper, and there is not much likelihood of the working man getting his pint of beer for any less. In truth, hop-growing is a speculative business, for when Dame Nature is most kind the law of supply and demand robs the grower of the benefits he should reap from the abundance of his harvest.

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Cotswold Sheep.

In these days of sheep booms and high prices, it is rather surprising that so little is heard of the true white-faced breed that is a native of the hill country after which it is named. The true Cotswold is a large-framed sheep, hard through exposure on the wind-swept hills which are its home, and though its mutton may not be up to tip-top quality, it makes a lot of wool, and that, after all, is what is wanted in the Argentine. Those stone-built mills in the Stroud Valley in Gloucestershire, where unequalled West of England tweeds are still turned out, doubtless owe their origin to the sheep which grazed on the Cotswolds in days gone by. There are a few flock-masters who still keep to the pure white-faced breed, and, though they have faith in its value, they seem to keep up the pure strain more for the sake of old custom than anything else. We have had it from one breeder that the Cotswold sheep only needs booming to make it popular and bring it into demand, and, if this be so, it is a pity that its light should be hid under a bushel, particularly at a time when foreign wool-producers are prepared to pay handsomely for animals of strains that will serve their purpose.

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Brewers' Grains.

On the dairy farms in the Midlands a grain-hole is considered to be almost as great a necessity on a holding as a rickyard or a haybarn, and at wayside railway stations it is a common sight to see lines of trucks filled with this bye-product from the Burton breweries. The time has never been in modern times when the Midland dairy farmer did not make use of grains, and, in the days before the railways came to his aid for purposes of transit, the farmer's team and waggon used to rattle into Burton and return laden with grains. But the traffic in this material at the time when farmers made cheese and butter was little compared to what it is in these days of the milk trade, for now grains are indispensable owing to the aid they render in the all absorbing matter of producing milk. "Have you bought your grains?" is as commonplace a question as "Have you got your hay in?" amongst Midland dairy farmers, and the task of filling the grain-hole is almost as important as that of filling the haybarn. Indeed, since the object of the farmer has been to produce large quantities of milk in the winter, when at one time the cows were mostly dry and the cheese press was idle, the demand for hay has shown a decrease, and that for milk-producing food like grains and cabbage has risen. Speaking of green crops, we know of farmers who were anxious to lay down arable fields to grass some years ago because it did not pay under the plough, that would be glad to make the same fields arable again now for the sake of growing cabbage for the milking cows

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Oct. 14, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,978	13,375	Wheat ..	2,602,400	1,898,600
Sheep.....	8,813	2,370	Flour	202,000	303,000
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ..	743,800	1,050,400
Horses ...	232	90	Oats	398,00	293,600
			Peas	31,835	20,030
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	5,800	14,350
Beef	99,430	87,381	Maize ...	832,800	1,136,000
Mutton...	50,768	58,768	Apples ...	157,903	182,329
Pork	15,107	11,226	Apricots		
Bacon ...	104,517	89,866	&Peaches	22	4
Beef, salt	2,564	1,456		Bunch s	Bunches
Hams.....	19,794	10,612	Bananas	107,890	120,618
Pork,salt	6,519	3,098		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat,salt & Fresh	11,206	10,036	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	7,864	10,728	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	58,990	74,014	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	18,778	21,240	Grapes ..	68,003	57,565
Cheese ...	71,971	79,876	Lemons...	18,330	14,625
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Oranges	10,169	12,895
			Pears	14,615	24,073
			Plums ...	3,068	6,759
			Oth'r Fr't	13,720	6,894
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	2,179	2,125
Milk, Cream	80	121	Straw ...	1,952	1,408
			MossLitt'r	—	1,714
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	16,125	19,727	Hops	16,174	2,617
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	13	27	Locust Beans	1,600 Bush.	5,820 Bush.
			Onions ...	185,767 Cwt.	178,837 Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	55,449	38 925
Eggs	485,682	379,830	Tomatoes	19,768	7,850
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £7,131	Value. £7,503	Veg'ble	£2,458	£2,015
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	1,583	2,523
Rabbits...	30,673	30,763	Pres'v'd by can-		
Lard	32,505	44,035	ning	12,089	3,405

Store Cattle and Sheep Sale at Basingstoke.—Messrs. Raynbird and Sons' annual autumn sale of store cattle and sheep was held on Monday last at the auction mart, Basingstoke, when a large and influential attendance of buyers and consignors assembled from all parts to meet an assortment of well-bred cattle, the number on offer being 137 sheep and lambs and 321 store steers and heifers. The trade for the short entry of store sheep was brisk, lambs realising 25s. to 38s. Store heifers of good age and quality met a quick trade, and were easily disposed of at satisfactory prices. The trade for store steers was disappointing, it being difficult, except at a low figure, to dispose of the older beasts. The depression in the fat beef trade no doubt had an adverse effect upon the value of this class of store cattle. Yearling bulls were sold from £7 15s. to £13 5s., yearling home-bred heifers £5 to £6 10s., two-year-old heifers £8 5s. to £11 10s. each, strong Shorthorn steers £10 10s. to £13 15s. each, two-year-old Galloway heifers realised £8 10s. to £10, yearling ditto £7 5s., in-calf heifers £10 10s. to £13 5s.

Clitheroe "Saturday" Fair.—The annual Clitheroe great "Saturday Fair" was held at Clitheroe on Thursday, when the show of horses, cattle, and sheep was a phenomenal one. Thousands of sheep were shown, and there were nearly 2,000 cattle and 1,000 horses in the market. The weather was fine and the attendance approached a record, but trade, taken all round, was not good. Prices were buoyant till late in the day, when a slight decline was noticeable. Heavy horses made £21 to £60, agricultural horses £15 to £50, light horses £15 to 60 gs., cobs £10 to £35, ponies £3 10s. to £12, young horses over one year £14 to £27, ditto under one year old £5 to £12 each. In cattle newly-calved cows sold at £13 10s. to £21, present calvers £12 10s. to £19 10s., lying-off cattle £9 10s. to £17 10s., geld cattle £7 10s. to £13 10s., bulls £8 to £15, bullocks to £14, young stock £3 10s. to £11, Irish and Scotch feeding cattle £4 to £9 10s. In sheep Scotch ewes made 21s. to 29s., half-breds 35s. to 45s., Cheviots 25s. to 32s., pure-bred Leicester rams £3 to £6 6s., other rams £2 10s. to £5, store lambs 17s. to 32s. each.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

If portents go for aught, the Local Government Board, in the much-heralded and much-vaunted forthcoming Liberal Ministry, will have a considerable moment. Who, then, will be its President? Two men in the Liberal party have specially signalised themselves by a disciplined and scientific study of the local government problem. Strangely enough, too, both men have distinguished themselves in the realm of foreign affairs, and both have a considerable weight in the Chancelleries of Europe. These statesmen are, of course, Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice and Sir Charles Dilke. If Sir Charles Dilke be given a portfolio, a fact which is a good deal dependable on the attitude of British Nonconformity, I should opine it will not be that of the Local Government Board. As a fact, too, he has of late rather abandoned the unpicturesque and prosaic meads of local government for the immediate and romantic fields of Army reform and foreign affairs. Lord Edmond, though by no means divorcing himself from international problems, has ever maintained a close, intimate, and sympathetic association with the more domestic question. His long connection with the Wiltshire County Council, a connection dating back to the actual supersession of the quarter-sessional administration, has given him a practical insight into the modern developments of county government—because that connection has had ever allied with its sagacious sympathy and a natural genius for rural administrative details—such as few men in affairs possess. He has been progressive without being demagogic, he has been economical without being parsimonious, he has been abreast of the public conscience without seeking to be exuberantly ahead of it.

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If Lord Edmond Fitzmaurice be appointed to this position, it would be an assurance that while the Local Government Board is to be under the new régime moved by progressive ideals, it is not to respond immediately to the experimental verbosities and suggestions of the gentlemen who would at once make it a vehicle for ushering in a new heaven and a new earth, at the expense of the rates, for the persons who need the paterfamilian aid of our poor-law system. Lord Edmond is a clear-eyed man who, if he sees visions, seeks to discover whether they are will-o'-the-wisps, ere pretending to realise them.

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I did not apparently do full justice to the significance of the Barkston Ash election. As a fact, in the attitude which the rival candidates adopted towards rural problems, it provided the most distinctive evidence we have yet received of the reawakened intelligent interest of rural constituencies in matters affecting their own weal. Barkston Ash was not content with turgid phillippics antagonistic to or sympathetic with Chinese labour, with appeals to religious and denominational sentiment anent the Education Act or with the dry remainder biscuit of the half-exhausted Free-Trade-cum-Protectionist controversy. It wanted information as to how far the candidates were willing to utilise the resources of the State in re-establishing the yeoman-class on the land; it wanted to know how far they would utilise the same means to enable the small-holding tenant to become the small-holding owner, and to improve the equipment of his small farm; it wanted to know the nature of the further powers which the candidates would extend to local authorities to enable the erection of desirable cottages; it wanted in its audacity to know to what extent the candidates would throw the general cost of education (and not merely of secondary education) on the Imperial Exchequer; and in its hardihood it even wanted to know how far the candidates would practicalise that education, and bring it more into harmony with the labour-needs and labour-economy of the district. With an effrontery which is almost unparalleled, but which must fill the hearts of the men who desire the establishment of an Agricultural Group at St. Stephen's with hope, certain farmers actually wanted to know how far the candidates would disassociate themselves from the mere convenience of partisanism on questions affecting tenure, compensation for improvements, and compensation for disturbance.

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It is not necessary to distinguish between the attitude of the two gladiators of the fight. What is of real moment is the evidence of the rebirth of a wisely-selfish zeal in the personal interest. Some of us would have had an even more assertive attitude adopted. But, we should remember that, in Carlylean phrase, "the goal of yesterday will be the starting-point of to-morrow." Let the opportunity be wisely handled, and the foolish spirit of Laodiceanism may yet be successfully combated.

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I fear me that the Rev. Wilson Carlile, the chief of the Church Army, does not yet comprehend the real moment and kernel of the objections to his emigration policy. To provide work for the would-be workers who are compelled to a life of distasteful laziness is excellent; but the antagonists of his purpose hold that if the same amount of philanthropic enterprise, backed, as he hopes his effort will be, by a considerable State aid, were devoted to seeking an acceptable livelihood under healthy conditions for these men at home, an equally desirable result even for the poor fellows themselves would be accomplished, as may be achieved by banishing them over-seas. Moreover, it is claimed that Mr. Carlile's purpose would notbelimited to the despatch of 5;000 men to the colonies. This would be simply the inception of a continuous policy of exportation. What would this mean? It would mean not merely the deepened impoverishment of England, the deepened impoverishment of a land many of whose wide areas are thirsting for nutritious labour—for, mind you, only the best of these enforced idlers are good enough for these colonising philanthropists—but it would render the rural labour problem, which has now assumed so ominous a guise in the eyes of statecraft, a more piteous and insoluble one by reason of the very fact that the refuse of the army of present-day idlers would alone be left at home. These men left at home—lazy loafers, with a section possessed by criminal instincts—would mean the existence of a festering social sore, to the perturbation of our statecraft and our philanthropy.

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Everybody with a heart must sympathise with the splendidly-inspired and humane desire of Mr. Carlile to discover a future for the deserving men whose prospect now is only horizoned by gloom. Utilise the same generous philanthropy, seek the same State aid, be as lucid and as practical in seeking for them this hope in the land of their birth, the land, too, which needs their muscle, and our country-side might receive the promise of rescue from the threatened labour famine. We have much waste land; we have cultivable land menaced with waste for the need of labour. Why send desirable labour abroad when we should, and could, utilise it here at home? What is more, retain this labour at home under the conditions Mr. Fels and others have suggested, and you might create a perennial source of labour supply for the villages. You might create an appetite for work under rural conditions. You might eventually have done something—this is a very roseate anticipation, I confess—towards restoring that million and a quarter of labourers whom the soil has lost in fifty years! To invoke philanthropy and the State to combine to send muscular labourers from a land needing labour is to me an appalling blunder. There are difficulties in the way of establishing home colonies; but confront them in the same spirit as the emigration difficulties have been confronted, and they would have a much less ill omened and forbidding appearance.

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The point which which Mr. A. H. Clough, the architect, who is known, of course, to have been responsible for the construction of many rural dwellings, makes in the *Times*, in reply to Earl Carrington's optimistic assurance that it is possible to erect cottages for £150 at a remunerative rent, should associate a greater activity with the movement whose purpose is to induce the Local Government Board to evolve a series of bye-laws which should be generally applicable to rural areas. Mr. Clough declares that if the bye-laws existent in certain districts had been enforced at that remarkable Wiltshire colony of Winterslow, and had behind them the same invincible unsympathy which makes that enforcement, not one of the present excellent and cheap cottages could have been built. Here is the necessity for the movement put in a nutshell. Of course, the bye-laws should not be of an absolutely mathematical and invincibly inflexible character. They should take into consideration that neither humanity nor areas are made after one rigid pattern. They should, however, be as sufficiently definite in their outline as to prevent what I will describe as parochial concert and self-assertion baulking the necessities of the district. Mr. Clough's Winterslow illustration is a justification for the coercion of the Local Government Board. The Land Law Reform Association doubtless knows its business best; but it seems to me that the series of conferences which it is holding throughout England with a view to commending its programme of agrarian reform present, in their chief personalities, very much the appearance of a stage army. I am saying not a word against the Association's policy of State aid to farmers, of an extended compensation for improvements, and of specific aid to small holders; there is much in its programme which is commendatory. One can say this without accepting the arguments with which the policy is buttressed, or accepting the occasional excursions of the more enthusiastic members into the economy of land nationalisation. But, as a fact, you can be almost certain of the men who will commend this programme. I am saying not a word against those men, but they possess too defined a political hue, they are harnessed too tightly (and that with their own ready consent) to the chariot of party. A dispassionate farmer, in reviewing these personalities, might well be pardoned the fear, no doubt the unjust fear, that the anxiety is to use him as a pawn in the political game. We now know that there be Conservative agrarian reformers as well as Liberal land reformers. Have any of the politicians—men like Sir John Dorington and Sir John Kennaway—who backed Mr. Jesse Collings' Bill for the voluntary dispossesion of landlords and the re-establishment, by means of State financial aid, of yeomen on the land, been invited to any of these proceedings? Yet this Bill marked the most conspicuous advance in the agrarian economy of Conservatism and landlordism of the last twenty years. I admit that if these conferences are intended to be mere clangorous denunciations of landlordism and all its works, these men would be out of place. Would it not, however, be well to a little subdue what I will describe as the Fred-Horne note? It has now been played incessantly; and it had a full diapasonic expression at Lincoln within the last few days.

Sir Conan Doyle, addressing the annual meeting of the Northern Tariff Reform Federation at Newcastle on Wednesday, declared that the adherence to Free Trade had ruined agriculture, and had done much towards national physical deterioration. He was perfectly sure preferential tariffs and tariff reform would come to us, just as surely as to-morrow's sun would rise.

Hawick Tryst.—This old-established market for the sale of agricultural and other horses was held at Hawick on Wednesday, when there was a good attendance of farmers and others, but the display of horses was not quite so good as in former years. Mr. Foster, Carlisle, had forward ten colts, which were bought at £34 to £45; Mr. Rush, Carlisle, had a fine lot of two-year-old colts and fillies, which made £28 to £50; Mr. W. Elliot, Middles, had forward fourteen two-and-a-half-year-olds, which he sold at £26 to £40, and up to £60 for a five-year-old.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The most encouraging feature in the agricultural market is the high price of sheep. Mutton now commands what is relatively to beef a very high price, and breeding sheep and store sheep are equally high in value. The result of the sale of breeding ewes and gimmers has been very satisfactory from the vendor's standpoint, and there is every reason to think that the present rates will continue to prevail for some time. Various reasons have been assigned for the increase in value—some think the public taste for mutton is developing and the relish for beef declining, others think that the public have at last realised the superior quality of home-fed sheep, but the principal cause is the depletion of the sheep stock on the generality of farms. The recent agricultural returns prove the reality of this depletion, and the enhanced prices obtained for wool during the summer have not only drawn the attention of farmers to the necessity for bringing up their flocks to their normal strength, but have also led some to endeavour to increase their flocks. There was an abnormal consumption of fat lamb this year, and many occupiers who used generally to dispose of a fair quantity of stores during the autumn have marketed all their animals with the butchers. It does not seem probable that next year's returns will show any very large increase in sheep stocks, and the probability is that the demand will overbalance the supply.

The cattle trade is very discouraging to the grazier and the breeder, for although the markets have not yet been swollen by any great influx of Irish cattle, the supplies have been in excess of the demand. The rates for stores were very high last spring, and several lots of promising animals have recently been disposed of at practically the same prices as were given for them six months ago. There seems no reason why there should be any immediate rally, because it is believed the bulk of the cattle, which always come over from Ireland in the autumn, have been held back in view of the poor demand and the great supply of herbage available.

Some persons wonder how it is that, seeing the relative difference between the values of cattle and sheep, farmers requiring further supplies of stock do not purchase more cattle and fewer sheep. Light-land farmers—who are the chief purchasers of store sheep and lambs at the present time—have crops of turnips which are not superabundant, and some of them have very poor crops of roots, and they realise that it is essential to the success of their next crops that the land should be well trodden with sheep. Further, they know that in nineteen seasons out of twenty, they get some degree of profit from wintering sheep, while the proportion of seasons in which a profit is obtained from the winter fattening of cattle is just about reversed. It is true that the necessity of converting straw into dung must be met, but the supply of oat-straw—an article very greatly required for store cattle in winter on these farms—is very scanty, while the supplies of other straws are not great.

It must not be forgotten that the proportion of farmers who can, and do, market a part of their crops of straw is very much larger than a few years ago, and that in consequence of the increased sales off the farms there is in some cases a decided diminution in the quantity of horned stock kept during winter. There are some light and medium land farmers who sell all the straw they can, but devote a larger area than ever to roots, and consume the roots more or less entirely with sheep. All these causes tend for the time being to depress the cattle trade, and to prevent any prospect of a speedy rally in prices.

One result of an increased sale of straw and of the decreased production on the holding is, of course, that the condition of the land will be impaired unless extraneous manures are imported. There are few arable farmers who do not now purchase artificial manures and feeding stuffs pretty freely, and in this way maintain the condition of their land. Very wisely, the purchase of "patent" manures is now generally avoided, and the farmer procures either simple fertilisers, or such as are naturally complex, and eschews artificially-compounded fertilisers. But the principal manurial value of feeding stuffs is in respect of the nitrogenous or ammoniacal residue, and the phosphates purchased supply phosphoric acid only, except where bones are used in some form or other, and then a further supply of nitrogen is obtained. But the supply of the potassic element is too often neglected, and it should be remembered that in the past potash has been supplied in the dung, and that with the decreased supply of dung there is a corresponding diminution in the supply of potash.

Most clay soils have a good natural supply of potash which is rendered available by efficient mechanical cultivation, but even on clay soils a dressing of 1 to 2 cwt. sulphate of potash per acre to land for roots or in view of clover is sometimes very advantageous. It is imperatively necessary to give further supplies of potash to light and sandy lands where much straw is sold; and here from 3 to 5 cwt. of kainit may be properly used. The best application is in view of a root crop, and, as potassic applications are retained in the soil, there is practically no real waste even if the dressing be unnecessarily ample. M. Y.

October 20, 1905.

An Agricultural Party: Mr. Jesse Collings' Views.

A correspondent who endeavoured to secure the opinion of several public men on the projected schemes for co-ordinating the various agricultural organisations with the view of forming ultimately a separate agricultural party in the House of Commons, has received a long letter on the subject from Mr. Jesse Collings, M.P., in the course of which the hon. member says:—

The notion of having a separate agricultural party is good, but everything hangs on what you mean by an "agricultural party." Do you include the labourers, without whom I am inclined to think the objects in view will never be really obtained? It is difficult to generalise on this subject, because there is every variety of class interest in the great industry of agriculture. For instance, we have in England the best farmers in the world, but it would be altogether a mistake to suppose that they represent all the farmers, or anything beyond the minority. Again, we have land cultivated in the highest state of efficiency. But if you take the bulk of the farmers and the bulk of the land these remarks do not apply. We have also farmers who recognise that labourers with small holdings of land with spare time on their hands, are the most useful class to help the farmer.

This is the view taken by the farmers throughout the Continent. On the other hand we have farmers who think the labourers must be a distinct class, with no other view than that of being and remaining weekly wage earners. On the Continent, where a peasant proprietary exists, the farmer and labourer (who is also a landowner) row in the same boat, and pull in the same direction. This is not so in England, and it is difficult for it to become so so long as our present system of land tenure remains—that is, a system of landlord, farmer, and labourer. That system exists in no other country in Europe, and not even in the United Kingdom because Ireland has escaped from it.

Further, it may be denied, but it is, nevertheless, a fact, that under our system the interests of one class are opposed to those of others. The object of an association should be to improve the condition of the cultivators of the soil, to demand that Governments, which have hitherto so neglected agriculture, should give attention to it. It is difficult to see, however, how that can be brought about under our present land tenure. Suppose, for instance, that by legislation, the position of the tenant farmer was materially and visibly improved, what would happen then is that which has happened invariably in the history of agriculture—the rents would be raised.

My proposal is that the tenant farmer, by the aid of the State, should be the possessor of his holding. That once accomplished, the demand could be fairly made on the State for any amount of aid to the cultivating owner, because such aid would go direct from the State into the land, and increase its cultivation. The community at large, the taxpayers, would agree to this, while they will never agree to any substantial aid given to the tenant farmer, which they argue, rightly or wrongly, would more or less go into the pockets of the landlord. . . . I fear, however, that the English farmer has been so long in the position of tenant that he will be slow to realise the advantages which occupying ownership will be to him.

The fact is our agricultural associations, whether Chambers of Agriculture or Agricultural Shows, are for the most part top heavy, governed by the ideas of the few, and in which the great mass of the ordinary farmers of the country are but little interested. I have no great hope of any substantial improvement through the agency of associations of the kind you name, that is, if they are based on the usual principles.

I wish success to any attempt in the direction of the improvement of agriculture. One suggestion I would venture to make is that the proposed association should be confined strictly to cultivators. It might be useful and advisable to have landlords, land agents, members of Parliament, and other non-cultivators as members of the association, but they should have no voting power or control in any form, nor should any one of their number hold office of any kind.

Midland Notes.

The old saw to the effect that there "are always nineteen fine days in October" has already nearly justified itself this year, for, barring the heavy downpour of last Sunday and a trifle more rain yesterday, it is little wet indeed that we have had lately, and farmers of the heavier lands could well do with more. But if they have been fine days, they have also been bitterly cold, with a touch of north always in the wind, and nipping frosts at night that have already made all the difference to the country aspect, bringing down lingering autumn leaves in showers and demolishing the hardy flowers which were still making gardens bright and cheerful a few days ago. Nor is it only vegetation that shows the effects of this foretaste of winter. The swarms of autumn-hatching insects are thinned, so that, deprived of their accustomed food supplies, the latest of the swallows and martins must be gone over sea, and the bats to the winter quarters where they hibernate. The brigand wasps of the broken-up colonies are also dying fast, and one finds their crushed bodies on the paths where they have crawled too enfeebled to escape from danger.

The mention of insects is a reminder that two notorious pests have been somewhat unpleasantly in evidence lately—the celery-fly and the gooseberry and currant sawfly. Many of the latter have been plucked from the bushes by hand, but that is a long process, and, however careful the picker may be, many more of the larvæ will escape observation and reach the ground, where they remain through the winter. It is there that they are most effectively attacked, and where they are seen the fatal dressings of quicklime or gaslime should never be omitted. The celery-fly remains during the winter in pieces of leaf and stalk as well as on the earth, which makes it absolutely necessary that after an infested crop has been dug every particle of foliage and stem should be collected and burned.

One hears of fair sales of seed-wheat, but to all appearance the wheat acreage in Warwickshire will be a good deal reduced this autumn, and the same may be said of adjoining counties. Unfortunately, there is no certainty of other cereals turning out any more profitably. The oat crop this season has been a sad disappointment alike in Warwick, Stafford, Notts, and Derby, and there is only a poor market for barley yet. There is no great area of beans in this part of the country, but where they are grown, they seem generally to have done pretty well, and it would not be surprising to see a few extra fields planted. As to the roots, the local produce competitions which are now being held show that they are turning out better than expected.

More new combinations in the milk trade. On the one hand, the milk vendors of Birmingham have been forming another trade alliance—there was one before—which is intended to fix and regulate standard prices to the public, and to prevent under-selling; on the other, farmers of the Burton and Ashbourne districts are realising that they too must combine if they are to secure anything like reasonable rates from the retailers. No doubt we shall see a Derbyshire milk factory started like that which is now being organised for Uttoxeter, where, by the way, the shares, we hear, are being very readily taken up. The current prices—something like 9½d. and 7½d. per imperial gallon, out of which rail carriage must be paid—compare badly indeed with the rates paid willingly to the retailers, and one must pile up the costs of distribution very high indeed before accounting for the disparity.

Nor is it only in the matter of price that the milk trade is troubled. The minds of Staffordshire and other producers seem now to be much exercised over the question of the standard also. Is it to be wondered at when they find themselves required to deliver milk containing "not less than 3¼ to 3½ per cent. fat," while at the same time dealers are moving to induce the Board of Agriculture to lower the present standard of 3 per cent? One would like to be a little more assured that all this rich milk which the town buyers bargain for reaches the public in the same state. There must be a great temptation to retailers to extract some of the superfluous cream, and, indeed, we know from cases which have been before the courts that it is sometimes done. Moreover, there is grave doubt whether the law as it now stands makes it an offence.

October 20, 1905.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Some remarkable changes in the weather have been experienced during the past week, and quite a transformation scene has come over our landscape. Even Londoners are able to notice how brief has been the flush and fall of autumn leaves, but they could hardly realise that on the 14th inst. Mr. G. Richmond, of Blofield, Norfolk, gathered a nice quantity of ripe raspberries, and they were very fair fruit; and three days afterwards, at Great Yarmouth, there was a fall of snow, and the whole of East Anglia was held in the grip of frost, the keenest known in October for many years. The result is seen by the thin covering of leaves the trees now bear, while as you walk beneath them your feet almost slip upon the brilliant carpet of fallen leaves which grow thicker even as you pass.

Work in the fields is in a satisfactorily forward state, and the land has been cleaned and made clear of weeds under most favourable conditions without excessive expense. At the different markets more farmers are to be seen in attendance, but they are reluctant to part with the wheat at the present low level of prices, although the inquiry is unabated, and so we see all round an increase in the sales of barley.

The Earl of Scarborough is co-operating with his North Lincolnshire tenants in a scheme embracing motor-carriage for their agricultural produce to Lincoln and Gainsborough. Police-traps are an innovation due to this modern method of transmission, and should it be the desire to catch a train when the motor-carriage is behind time, some police-traps may be laid in Lincolnshire. These, however, must not be confounded with the ancient man-trap that has just been found at Alford, which measures 76 in. in length and its formidable jaws with teeth protruding 2 in. will open fully 2 ft. 2 in. by 18 in. Although the police-trap has a much wider jaw, no doubt the motor-carriage will be of sufficient weight as to only travel at a reasonable rate.

As our Board of Agriculture has had tacked on to its title "and Fisheries" recently, for the Government imagine these industries are akin to one another, no doubt on account of "Fish Manure," the following fact must be of interest to farmers. In this case Mr. Percy Hall was by the side of the river Yare at Reedham where he noticed a seal in the water swimming very rapidly towards Norwich, and seeing that it was impossible to catch the animal alive shot it and brought it to shore, when it was found that the seal measured 3 ft. 6 in. and weighed 60 lb.

The quarterly meeting of the Suffolk Executive Committee under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Ipswich, under the presidency of Mr. C. D. Johnson, while Captain Gerald Spencer, an Inspector of the Board of Agriculture, attended for the purpose of giving to the meeting the Board's wish that the counties of Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk should combine so as to form a scheduled area under the Swine Fever (Regulation of Movement) Order of 1903. Captain Spencer explained that the Board were anxious to keep the promise they made that when swine fever abated, or the number of outbreaks was reduced in these counties, they would remove the irritating restrictions which had interfered with the trade and movement of swine between the counties. There was already a voluntary arrangement between Norfolk and Suffolk for the removal of swine, and it was now proposed to extend the area to include Essex. The committee, after a lengthy discussion, came to the conclusion that the Board's restrictions would be more onerous than their own, and they decided to open up negotiations with Essex and Cambridgeshire, with a view of making similar arrangements as existed with Norfolk.

The annual "fungus foray" or cryptogamic meeting of the Essex Field Club was held in Epping Forest on Saturday last, and, owing to the fineness of the day, the whole expedition proved most enjoyable. The first party started from Chingford in the morning, and a second party started from Theydon Bois in the afternoon. Headquarters were established at the King's Oak Hotel, and here at the close of the day an enormous quantity of fungi was deposited for the inspection of the referees, who were Mr. G. Massee, F.L.S., Dr. Scott, F.R.S., Mr. A. Lister, F.R.S., Professor Silvanus Thompson, F.R.S., and Mr. G. M. Holmes, Curator Pharmaceutical Society. This was the twenty-sixth annual meeting of this nature, and the rambles have produced over 600 different forms of fungus. Naturally, of late years the number of fresh forms discovered has diminished; nevertheless, even last year eleven fresh specimens were procured and carefully classified in the Epping Forest Museum. After tea demonstrations were given of the objects collected, their origin and functions, and an address on "Diseases of Fruit" was also given by Mr. G. Massee.

On Tuesday the funeral of Mr. Henry Colman took place in the parish churchyard, Great Ellingham, Norfolk, amid many manifestations of respect. The deceased was one of the old-fashioned school of Norfolk farmers, who, in spite of bad times, farmed on his own lines, and managed with his knowledge to make farming pay. He was well and widely known as a keen agriculturist, and his fields were reputed to be kept in as "good" heart as any in his district. He was at Norwich market on the 7th of the present month, being a regular attendant at same although 84 years of age, but he was seized with an illness on the following Wednesday, which terminated fatally early on the morning of the 14th.—Oct. 20th, 1905.

NOTES AND NEWS

Messrs. English Bros., Ltd., timber merchants and creosoters, of Wisbech and Peterborough, have issued a nicely-got-up catalogue of their various manufactures, which include the famous creosoted wood fences, field gates, etc., which for durability should be hard to beat, for it is stated that creosoted fencing that has been in use over forty years is still practically as good as when first erected. The process of creosoting is described and illustrated in the booklet, a copy of which should be in the hands of all users of fencing, gates, etc.

Ayr Hiring Fair.—The October hiring fair for the district of Ayr took place on Tuesday in fine weather, and was very largely attended by servants, especially married ploughmen, and many engagements were made at wages ranging from 19s. to 21s. a week, with benefits. Single ploughmen, of whom there was not so many engaged, got from £14 to £16 in the half-year; and halflins from £9 to £11. Dairymaids were being engaged at from £12 to £13, and kitchen and byre girls at from £9 to £11. These rates of wages are somewhat similar to the rates of this time last year.

Anthrax in North Shropshire.—A serious outbreak of anthrax has occurred in North Shropshire, in the district of Market Drayton. A three-year-old heifer belonging to Mr. Sargeant, of Audley Brow, showed symptoms of illness, and the beast was accordingly slaughtered and dressed. While the operation was in progress, however, Mr. Sargeant became suspicious as to the nature of the illness, and accordingly sent for the police, who, in turn, called in Mr. T. K. Ramsey, the veterinary inspector of Market Drayton. Mr. Ramsey at once pronounced it to be a case of anthrax, and accordingly steps were taken to cremate the carcase, and put into force every measure to check the spread of the disease.

British Millers in Paris.—Two hundred members of the National Association of British and Irish Millers visited Paris last week on the occasion of the International Congress of the French milling trade, and including in the proceedings a general meeting at the Grand Hotel under the presidency of Mr. W. E. Nicholls, of Cardiff, supported by Mr. H. J. Sanderson, secretary, of London. Mr. Nicholls gave an address to his colleagues, in which he set forth the state of British milling, drawing particular attention to the fresh competition the industry would shortly have to cope with in consequence of an improved crop in the United States. He urged that efforts should be made to obtain the delivery of Indian corn in a purer state—that is to say, not containing more than 2 per cent. of foreign matter. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that there would be an understanding with the London Corn Trade Association for a revision of contracts.

Earl Cadogan entertained about 400 employees and cottage tenants on his Culford estate, at the annual harvest home, and, in replying to the toast of the health of Lord and Lady Cadogan, he said he thought that they could look with gratitude and satisfaction to the position in which they stood at the end of their agricultural year. They had secured quite an average harvest—perhaps more than an average one—and in many respects they had much upon which to congratulate themselves. They had had two moderate crops. Hay had been bad this year, and barley had not been very good, but the wheat crop had been good, and, what in one sense was more important, it was well and quickly got in, to the advantage of both farmer and labourer. The fact that wheat stood at 3s. 4d. below the price of last year was not so satisfactory, but, still, they must be thankful for what they had got, and at a time of depression for agriculture they had, on the whole, very little to complain of.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.

Rate-Aided Education.

At the meeting of the Farmers' Club held today, a paper on "Rate-aided Education" was read by Mr James Crouch, Ridgmont, Beds, and from an advanced proof we take the following extracts:

I think it will be universally allowed that the education, or bringing up of the young, is primarily the duty and privilege of the parents; but experience has shown us that at a certain age of the child it is beneficial for the State to lay down certain rules to be observed by all parents, just as in all civilised communities all adults are called on to obey laws which the wisdom of bygone ages has laid down as salutary.

What should be the aim of all education? Surely the only education of real value is that which will enable the child to fill satisfactorily its position in after-life. It is of no use to teach the masses what can only be of practical use to the few, it would obviously be ridiculous to train all boys to be jockeys, just as no sane man would think of training all horses to race; at the same time, it is advisable to teach every horse that man is his master, and to teach every boy to read, write, and cypher; but after this, just as the training of the cart horse and race horse will differ, so the after education of the boy should depend on what position in life he is to fill; and while a boy who is to live by his brain power should be kept at school till he passes to the University, and finally into a learned profession, so the boy who is to get his living by manual labour should begin early to exercise his muscles, the use of which is to provide his maintenance.

"From 1834, when I believe the first State From 1834, when I believe the first State recently, all grants depended on examinations, principally *viva voce*, and in many instances the salaries of the head teachers depended on the amount earned as grant. This, undoubtedly, led to a wide-spread system of cram. The pupil, from having to learn so much in so short a time, simply temporarily acquired a very superficial knowledge of many subjects, which he promptly forgot as soon as he left school. And, as the pupils in the higher standards earned the biggest grants, it was to the interest of the head teachers to keep the sharpest children as long as possible, and to cram them to their uttermost capacity, to the detriment of the less intelligent children, who, of course, from an educational point of view, required more attention than the cleverest children.

On leaving school these extra crammed children, having been flattered by their teachers and possibly by the inspectors too, often fancied themselves superior to their surroundings and relations, and, instead of turning to work, turned their attention to getting a soft job in a town. Very often a boy had no difficulty in getting a job as errand boy, or some similar job, at about six or seven shillings per week; but after a year's employment it was not so easy to get another soft job at more money in town, as most of the town boys knew quite as much as himself. Of course, he never thought of returning to his village, and would have been of very little use had he done so. I am sure, to make a really good agricultural labourer requires as long an apprenticeship as any calling. We very often hear the agricultural labourer classed as an unskilled labourer; and often, I am sorry to say, it is too true that he is unskilled. But we all know that a really good specimen of the class is by no means unskilled, but, on the contrary, is highly skilled and skilful. Therefore, if by the time a man is full grown he is to be capable of taking a first-rate labourer's place, he must begin to learn his trade at an early age; and, as physical perfection is so essential, he must, as a youth, live an outdoor life, and develop his muscles by manual employment. It follows that the superfluous man in a town is not capable of taking a place as even a second or third rate agricultural labourer. Therefore, if trade in the town happens to be bad, or from any cause there happens to be a superabundance of unskilled labour, the country-bred young man in the town must either join the ranks of the unemployed or enlist as a short-service soldier, and on his discharge probably become unemployed. On the other hand, a boy going on to a farm young will always be able to get increased wages till he reaches the maximum wage paid in the district, and nowadays that is not the starvation wage so often talked about by people knowing nothing about it.

In the case of the country-bred town boy, he will probably stay at school till he is fifteen, and then begin in town at about 6s. per week; while a boy going on a farm at twelve will begin at a wage of about 4s. per week, with an annual rise of one or two shillings per week, so that by the time he is fifteen he will be earning as much, or more, than the town boy at the same age. And whereas the farm labourer's wage is certain to rise to the maximum, it is very doubtful if a well-paid soft job awaits the other boy.

All experience shows that the longer a boy is

kept at school the less likely is he to be of any use on the land.

It used to be the cry of certain educational faddists, 'Oh! you just do not keep the boy under tuition long enough. Granted that a boy beginning to work on a farm at twelve is more likely to make a good labourer than the one starting paid farm work at fifteen; still, if you would keep the boy at school till he is seventeen, giving him partly school work and partly practical and technical agricultural training for the last two years, he would then be a far better labourer than the one beginning at twelve.'

This has been tried in Bedfordshire, and I believe that hardly any boy, the son of an agricultural labourer, who stayed for two years at the Ridgmont Farm School is now on a farm; although most, if not all of them, are filling menial positions, not as well paid as really first-class labourers are.

The scarcity of skilled agricultural labourers, and the very large number of unemployed in our great towns, are both evidence that there has not resulted from the expenditure of the very large sums of money from the taxes and rates in the past what educationalists expected, namely, a happy, contented peasantry, filling more intelligently than their ancestors their various positions in life."

Dealing with the question: Can any part of the cost of education be equitably charged on the rates? Mr. Crouch said:—It is admitted by all political parties, and by every individual possessing the most elementary knowledge of the subject, that for many years past, and at present, many charges on the funds raised by local rates cannot be considered as fairly chargeable on rateable property alone; and I must once again say that local taxation reform is urgently required. But while fully realising the necessity for such reform, I think that possibly elementary education may have a fair claim for some aid from the rates.

It appears that the annual income of persons in the United Kingdom derived from sources other than real property is certainly more than twice, and probably as much as three times, the amount of the income derived from real property; and the proportion of children not paupers, and whose parents are able to pay something towards their children's instruction, is quite as great. Under these circumstances, considering that every ratepayer also contributes as a taxpayer, I think that at least two-thirds, or possibly as much as three-fourths, of the cost of elementary education should be paid out of the National Exchequer.

I think the Board of Education should pay a fixed grant per child, and that the Managing Committee should issue precepts on the overseers for the amounts required beyond the grants to carry on the schools in their district to the satisfaction of the Board of Education inspector.

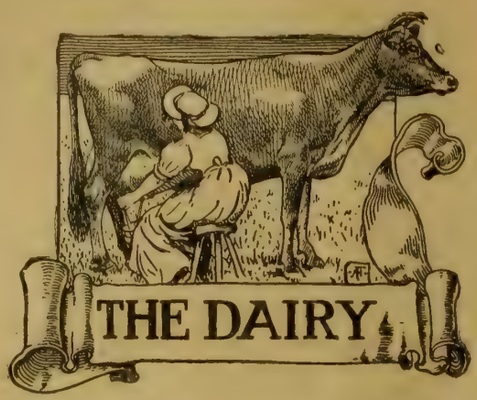
I have no doubt that personal attention to details on the part of a popularly-elected committee invested with full responsibility as the education authority for a small area, would frequently result in a reduction in the cost without any diminution in the efficiency of the schools.

I think every school staff should include a certificated teacher, and, in the case of large schools, possibly at least one for every hundred children in the school; but, as to the rest of the staff and other details of management, I think the managers should have a free hand, so long as they could show satisfactory results.

Rural Depopulation in the 13th Century.

The majority of people are of the opinion that the important question of rural depopulation is one that has arisen only in the past and present century, but such is not the case, as is pointed out by a correspondent of the *Birmingham Post*, who points out that Professor Taranger, of the Christiania University, has in his "History of Norwegian Law," Vol. II., published this year, printed some documents dating from the thirteenth century, which show how old is the question of rural depopulation. "In one of them," he says, reporting the meeting of the estates of the realm in 1260, we read the following utterances of King Haakon the Fourth to his lieges in Bergen assembled:—

"It is known to us that nothing is more detrimental to the welfare of our kingdom than the difficulty to get labourers in the rural districts, for all the men will go travelling and trading, and no one will work for the farmers; and therefore we absolutely forbid that anybody goes trading who does not own three mark (about £18). And this shall be valid from Easter to Michaelmas; but from Michaelmas and during all the winter anybody may travel in peace with what God has given unto him." This order was renewed by the following King, Magnus the Law-Mender, in 1274.



The Troubles of Dairy Farmers.

An interesting case to dairy farmers was heard in the Bristol County Court on Tuesday by his Honour Judge Austin, the plaintiff being Henry Ambrose Blacker, dairyman, of Zetland Road, who sued William Wills, of Duckett Farm, Horfield, to recover £37, damages for breach of warranty.

For the plaintiff it was stated that on March 3 of the present year the parties to the action entered into a contract under which the defendant was to supply the plaintiff with milk for twelve months from March 25. Under the contract there was a continuous warranty whereby defendant guaranteed that every churn of milk supplied should be pure new milk, unadulterated and up to the standard required by law. If there were any failure in this respect, then the plaintiff would have the right to terminate the contract, and be at liberty to bring any action that he might deem to be necessary. The defendant commenced to deliver milk on March 25, and on the 27th a sample of the milk was taken by the inspector under the Food and Drugs Act, and it was found to be deficient in butter fat to the extent of 6 per cent. That was followed by a sample of defendant's milk being taken and analysed, and that was found to be all right.

The inference he should ask his Honour to draw from this was that the defendant, hearing that a sample of plaintiff's milk had been taken, took particular care that his own should be up to the standard required by law. Following this, plaintiff took steps to daily ascertain what was the quality of the milk he was receiving, and on May 29 he found it was again falling below the standard. This led him to send a sample to the public analyst of Paddington, who certified that it was deficient in butter fat. On the 30th another sample was taken, and divided into three parts, and the one sent to Paddington was certified to be deficient in butter fat to the extent of 10 per cent. That led to a further sample being taken by the inspector from defendant, and that was also found to be deficient. Plaintiff was summoned to the Bristol Police Court, but the case was dismissed because the magistrates considered he had sold the milk in the same condition as he had received it. Plaintiff suffered considerable damage in consequence of this; he had to pay heavy legal costs, and he also had to find a further supply of milk. He therefore broke his contract, as he was at liberty to do under its terms, the milk not being up to the standard required by law. These were the circumstances under which the action was brought. A counter claim for £21 0s. 2d. for milk supplied was not disputed.

There was a great deal of cross-examination, during which Counsel for the defendant called attention to the discrepancies in the certificates given by three analysts to whom samples were sent of the milk which led to plaintiff being prosecuted. According to Mr. C. J. Waterfall, the solids not fat were 8.14 per cent., milk-fat 3.35 per cent., and added water 5 per cent. Mr. F. W. Stoddart certified the solids not milk-fat to be 9.15 per cent., and milk-fat 2.68; deficiency in milk-fat 11 per cent. The certificate from Somerset House read: Solids not milk-fat 8.84 per cent., loss through sample being kept 0.18—total, 9.02 per cent.; milk-fat, 2.60—a deficiency of 13 per cent. There was no evidence of added water. Under these circumstances he was sorry for the poor farmers. Defendant had delivered the milk as taken from the cow. It was not adulterated—it was not alleged that it was—and there had been no abstraction of butter fat. There could be no abstraction because it was impossible to abstract butter fat from warm new milk without the aid of a separator, and the defendant never possessed such a thing. Under the agreement defendant only contracted to supply milk warm, pure and unadulterated, and with nothing abstracted therefrom. It was the only construction to put upon the agreement. If upon the top of that contract terms were imposed by the plaintiff that the defendant should deliver at certain hours, and if the plaintiff knew that delivering at those hours must materially affect the percentage of butter fat in the morning's milk, then he could not complain. He had imposed his own terms, which must result in better milk in the afternoon and worse milk in the morning.

His Honour said that, after listening to the evidence, he had come to the conclusion that the milk was unadulterated—nothing had been abstracted from it and nothing had been added to it. Mr. Wills had acted in a perfectly straightforward manner and in good faith. He had been absolutely honest throughout the transaction. He could not, however, put upon the contract the construction which had been urged upon him on behalf of the defendant. He therefore gave judgment for the plaintiff for £20, with costs. The counter-claim was admitted, and there would be judgment for defendant upon that for £21 0s. 2d. without costs.

Upon the application of Mr. Wansbrough (counsel for defendant), stay of execution was granted for 14 days.

Chester Dairy Show.

There was a very fine show of cheese at the twenty-fourth annual exhibition of the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association held at Chester last week, something like 90 tons being staged, representing all the principal makers on the great estates of Cheshire and the adjacent counties. Competition increases annually in keenness, as, apart from the considerable monetary value of the prizes offered, the reputation gained by a successful exhibitor at this great show affects both the demand and price of all his cheese for the remainder of the season. In such a large show one could naturally pick out a selection of all grades from fine to mediocre, but the best of each class were exceptionally fine lots, and competition was very keen; in fact, the judges were unanimous that a finer lot of high-quality cheese had never been exhibited at Chester. The premier trophy—the Association's gold medal for the best lot of Cheshire cheese in the show—was won by Mr. J. Williams, Hollin Green, Sound, who has achieved so many successes of late that the remark of a well-known farmer and factor, that he has won more money than any man in the county, is probably justified. The cheese which gained for Mr. Williams his present distinction were of fine, silky texture, and clean and finished in flavour, while the condition and get-up were all that could be desired. Alluding to their silky texture, one of the judges remarked that crumbly cheese are not so much in favour now. Those of silky texture are more sought, and especially to compete with Cheddar. The same judge expressed the opinion that the present tendency in the cheese trade is to get rid of cheese of acid character.

The first class was for twelve cheese made by farmers whose occupations exceeds 150 acres, and contained no fewer than 56 entries, representing some of the best-known dairies in the county. The first three lots stood out many points ahead of the others. First prize went to Mr. J. Dutton, Swanley, Nantwich—who also was awarded silver medal, so that Nantwich district carried off both gold and silver trophies—second prize to Mr. E. Cockson, Poulton, and third to a neighbour of the latter's—Mr. H. Denson, Poulton. Several lots appeared to have been affected by the frost of the night before, but the judges made allowance for their stiffness on that account. Some lots unfortunately showed a little discolouration, and that put them out of court entirely. In class 2 for farmers whose holdings are from 100 to 150 acres, there were again about half a dozen dairies standing out from the others. Mrs. Mossford, Frog Hall, Tattenhall, was the winner of first prize, and Mr. J. A. Jackson, Bolesworth, and Mrs. Denson, Green Looms, Hargrave, were respectively second and third. Apart from the best six or seven lots, the others in the class were not quite as fine as the bulk of the exhibits in some of the other classes. Class 3, for farmers whose holdings are from 50 to 100 acres, had the distinction of supplying the championship lot. Mr. Williams took first in the class, Mr. J. Craddock, Ebnal Hall, Malpas, was second, and Mr. R. Johnson, Tarvin Sands, third.

The fourth class, for farmers whose holdings do not exceed 50 acres, contained only sixteen entries, but two very big classes came next in the "four coloured" and "four uncoloured" classes. There were nearly seventy entries in the coloured, and they included some very fine cheese, and competition was very close. Mr. F. Heath, Ferny Lees, Tarporley, who won first in the Cheshire class at the London Show, was first, Mr. S. Dutton, Burleydam, second, and Mr. R. Mullock, Waverton, third. There were a number of cards awarded, and there would have been more only that a number of cheese, owing probably to newness, had hacked round the edges.

In the uncoloured class the entries were between 50 and 60, and there were prime lots shown. A

Shropshire exhibitor, Mr. F. Jeffries, Penley, Ellesmere, was the first prizewinner here, and second was secured by Mr. G. H. Willis, Stoak, and third by Mr. J. Hobson, Coole Pilate, Nantwich. Class 7, for farmers who had not won a first or second since 1899, had a strong entry, and Mr. Proudlove, Broxton, was awarded first prize. In the long-keeping class the exhibits were to comprise lots of three Cheshire cheese made prior to July, 1905. The lots generally were of excellent quality and keeping properties, and the winning lot shown by Messrs. Dale Bros., Brassey Green, Tarporley, was said to be, notwithstanding its age, nearly the equal in flavour of any cheese in the show.

There were two "no barbed wire" classes, £30 of the prize money for which was given by the Duke of Westminster. In Class 9, some of the cheese were on the young side, but the class as a whole was a good one, and about half the lots were of even quality. Class 10 was an exceptionally strong one, there being perhaps not a bad lot in it. The prize winning lots, however, stood out, and the judges had no difficulty in making their awards. Mr. J. Williams, of Hollin Green, Sound, added to his other successes by again winning first prize here, and Mr. J. Taylor, of Lees Farm, Malpas, was second. The prizes for the heaviest weights of cheese sent to Chester cheese fairs between October 10, 1904, and October 10, 1905, were won by Mrs. Johnson, Wood Farm, Stanney (10 tons 17 cwt. 2 qr. and 5 lb.); Mr. S. Jones, Meadow Farm, Pulford (8 tons 9 cwt. 3 qr. and 19 lb.); and J. T. Mayers, Stoak (3 tons 18 cwt. 16 lb.).

The butter exhibits showed an improvement in quality compared with last year, and competition was keen in every class. In the Channel Islands class it was particularly close, and the judges had considerable difficulty in arriving at their awards. All the lots in this class were of good flavour, make-up, and colour. With regard to the butter exhibits generally, which were up to a high standard, the judges dropped a hint that more attention ought to be paid by makers to the straining of the milk. The ornamental butter exhibits were on a limited scale, but were pleasing to the eye, and met with admiration.

Prize Distribution.

On the second day of the show the Marchioness of Cholmondeley distributed the awards. Mr. A. Hornby Lewis (the High Sheriff of the county) presided, and was supported by Mr. George Barbour (Chairman of the Council), Mr. Henry Tollemache, M.P., Colonel Cotton-Jodrell, and the Sheriff of Chester.

Mr. Barbour commented on the fact that this was the first time that a comparatively small holder had won the blue ribbon of the show. Mr. Williams's success showed that the smaller holders stood an equal chance of gaining awards with those who dealt with larger quantities of milk.

The High Sheriff said it was a most extraordinary thing that it was difficult to obtain Cheshire cheese not only in the county but out of it. One very seldom went into a club or an hotel and found good Cheshire cheese. Another extraordinary thing was that though he lived in the heart of Cheshire he had to send to Glasgow for his butter. For the sake of the historic name of Cheshire cheese he hoped that farmers would send less milk to the neighbouring large towns and make more cheese. He was glad to hear from one of the largest London shopkeepers that Cheshire cream cheese had cut out the celebrated Devonshire cream cheese.

Mr. John Emberton, of Crewe, one of the judges, said that there had been a great improvement in the quality of Cheshire cheese during the past twenty years, and the improvement was largely due to the instruction given at the County Council Dairy Institute at Worleston. He had been informed that day by the representative of one of the largest importers of American cheese that this year customers who had previously used imported Canadian cheese had been using Cheshire cheese more freely than ever before. It was one of the worst features of modern agriculture that people were tempted, for perhaps some advantage in the relief of labour, to cease to manufacture cheese, but he thought all practical agriculturists were of opinion that the most substantial and profitable form of dairy farming still was to turn the product of the cow into good cheese.

Mr. R. Challinor (the secretary) said he did not think that in the future they would have the same competition from America that they had had in bygone days.

The Cheese Fair.

The gold and silver medal and prize cheese was sold in the open market on Wednesday, and brought good competition, Mr. Williams's gold medal cheese realising the very high figure of 120s. per cwt. The first prize cheese realised 80s. to 90s.; second prize, 75s.; and cheese honourably mentioned at 68s. to 70s. per cwt. There was the keenest demand among dealers to secure cheese bearing the judge's cards. the ordinary monthly market farmers brought from 50 to 55 tons, and with a large attendance of buyers from the North and Midlands, the demand was good, and prices showed an improvement all round. Fine Cheshire was quoted at 65s. to 70s.; medium qualities, 58s. to 64s.; and common, 55s. and upwards per cwt. So strong was the requirement from the manufacturing districts that the entire supply shown 150 tons was absorbed by dealers during the afternoon.

Moles and Potatoes.

SIR,—Under head of "Seasonable Topics" in MARK LANE EXPRESS this week you refer to damage to potatoes by moles. Two years ago I suffered through their depredations. There was not the least doubt in the matter in my case, as they tunnelled under the rows for a good distance, and the teeth marks were smaller than those of a rat; their dungs were very noticeable. They evidently fed there regularly, but made little show, except in the centre of the rows.

J. B. HARDING.

South Hill Farm, Staple Fitzpaine,
Taunton, October 13, 1905.

Hants and Wilts Outlook.

SIR,—The dry winter of 1904 and 1905 was very advantageous to the wheat crop, which turned out the best we have had for many years, but the rough, wet weather in July seriously damaged much of the heaviest crops, fields in Wilts of two tons of straw to the acre costing 20s. to cut yielding only nine sacks of second quality, and in the same parish a crop of 1 ton of straw, yielding eleven sacks of the finest possible quality, and cut at a minimum cost by the machine. The spring barley and oats were below average, but the winter varieties were good.

The turnip crop is not satisfactory, but has improved lately, consequently sheep have risen in value and are now selling freely at about the price of last year.

Owing to the dry summer in Ireland and our Midland counties, hay and grass were scarce, and cattle a very bad trade, many worth little more this autumn than they cost in the spring. Fat and store cattle are very low in price and difficult to sell.—Yours truly, J. STRATTON.

October 19, 1905.

Crops and Local Taxation in Mid-Cornwall.

SIR,—The exceptionally dry weather is beginning to affect the root crops, and they seem to make no further progress, and the leaves are turning off and the bulbs beginning to ripen.

The price of wool is not quite so good as it has been, but it is thought that the value has not receded so much as that the buyers for market purposes are holding off.

This county is not an exception to the rule that local rates are very much higher and are still increasing; with the heavy burden of local and Imperial taxation the spending power of the public is much contracted. There has been considerable outcry that the County Council is a spendthrift body, but it must be recognised that more is expected of these authorities than in olden days.

Perhaps one of the most serious matters is the enormous increase of local debt, the interest on which has to be paid, and it will be useless to cry out against increased rates as long as there is such a tendency to pile up debt. G. G. B.

October 17, 1905.

Favourable Prospects in Hampshire.

SIR,—The prospects as regards agriculture in this district are certainly more favourable than the last few years. The wheat is yielding extraordinarily well; oats fairly on the strong land. Very little barley is grown in these parts. Sheep, which are the mainstay of the farmer, are very healthy, and the last lambing season prolific, and prices are very good indeed.

The worst crop of the year is roots, on account of the dry summer, and now the long spell of drought is very serious, as the aftermath in the meadows is very short. Cattle are healthy.

October 19, 1905.

Prospects in Somerset (Cheddar). Pure Bred Stock.

SIR,—The very fine weather we have been favoured with this autumn has been very good for cleaning the stubbles and burning the couch, which is of considerable importance to those desirous of keeping their land in good condition on light soils as the practical agriculturist is well aware, on such soils to plough such weeds under the furrow means a considerable addition of the pest to be encountered the following year.

The more expeditiously mangolds which are a good crop under the present state of the weather (frost every night) are carted and secured the better, otherwise the crop will become frost-bitten, which will be of considerable importance this year, as the crop of turnips in many instances will be a light one, and the present cold weather has checked the flow of milk, and put a stop to the growth of grass in the pastures, and although the hay stacks, which are usually stacked in the fields in which the hay grew here, are smaller than usual, yet it would lengthen the time of there being a good flow of milk in the dairy herd, considering the present cold weather, if a morsel of hay was given to the cows when being milked.

I have noticed in the Press of late that some writers on agricultural subjects have been addressing or suggesting to agriculturists the supposed advantages of their breeding of crossbred or mongrel animals on their farms, which, I contend, is a great error in judgment; a fact well known to all practical men who attend the markets and fairs throughout this country, who know perfectly well that the great majority of animals are mongrels. I am convinced that if breeders of such bad mongrels as are often seen, particularly in dairy districts, were to breed pure-bred animals—or, if they could not see their way to do that at first, at all events breed from pure-bred sires to begin with—they would soon find from experience the great advantage of so doing.

October 20, 1905. A. L. C.

Monmouthshire Prospects.

SIR,—Nothing could be more satisfactory than the weather of the last few weeks, enabling farmers to clean stubbles, thresh corn, and get their work into good place for the winter. Roots have done fairly well, and are an average crop.

Potatoes got up under favourable conditions. Grass continues sufficient, and stock of all kinds have done and are doing well. Hay is abundant, and stock should winter well. Beef trade is slow and prices low, but mutton and store sheep make good prices. R. S.

Essex Prospects.

SIR,—We have been having splendid weather for cleaning the land and for preparing to sow and sowing winter oats and wheat. There has also been good keep in the meadows, and the prospects for crops and stock could not be better, if only fair prices could be obtained, when produce is ready for market.

Unfortunately, markets are ruined by the so-called "free trade," and many a good man in the farming way will go under this winter, and many more find they are living on their capital.

October 13, 1905. E. R. C.

Hampshire Outlook.

SIR,—The agricultural prospect in this part of Hampshire is generally good. Hay an average crop, got up with little expense owing to the brilliant weather. Wheat, rye, and winter oats good, above the average of the past few years, especially winter oats. Vetches bad yield, but good sample, and selling well. Spring oats bad yield, under average. Barley, plenty of straw, but what has been thrashed yields badly. The root crop under average owing to fly and dry weather. Sheep have done well, with good fall of lambs, and sold well, also the wool cheque was an agreeable surprise. Store cattle are very healthy and doing well, but low in price.

The autumn-sown corn is coming up well; rain is badly wanted. J. H. R.

October 21, 1905.

Thorne October Fair.—At this fair on Wednesday more stock was offered than for several years, and the attendance was also large. Store cattle were priced at £6 to £9. Horses were numerous, the top price in the Shire section being £35, and this was exceptional; heavy horses and nags, from £15: carting foals, £10 to £15.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—There was only a poor attendance, and consumers bought sparingly of all articles. English wheats were steady, while foreign sorts ruled firm; No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted at 34s ex ship. Maize continues firm, with values occasionally on a higher level; mixed American landed quoted at 25s and La Plata at 24s 4½d; both grades ex ship were obtainable at 6d under these prices. Barley firmly held; Odessa Nicolaieff landed has buyers at 19s 3d, while 18s 9d is wanted for ex ship and 18s 6d for American. Flour steady but quiet at 21s for Iron Duke ex store. Oats show no change; 38lb. Russian offered at 15s 9d to 16s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was moderate, but a generally quiet tone prevailed. English wheats ruled firm at last prices, while foreign grades, especially American, have a tendency in buyers' favour, although quotations mark no change; No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship offered at 34s. Maize firm and unchanged; La Plata ex quay offered at 24s 4½d, and American at 25s. Flour quiet but steady. Barley firm, but only in poor request; for Odessa Nicolaieff 18s 9d to 19s 3d is wanted. Oats quietly steady; white South Russian offered at 15s 9d. to 16s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade for English wheat dull, with a small attendance of buyers; new sample made 27s to 30s. Maize was quoted quite 1s dearer on the week, the top price being 28s per qr. New peas made 29s to 30s. Foreign grinding barley, 21s to 22s; English malting barley, 26s to 28s. New Mazagan beans, 28s to 29s; new tick beans, 31s to 33s. Oats, 16s to 20s. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s per quarter; barley, 23s to 30s per quarter; beans (new), 22s to 30s per quarter; (old), 32s to 34s per quarter; oats, 17s to 20s per quarter; (old), 19s 6d to 24s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with large supplies of barley. Oats and wheats scarce. Fine barleys maintained last week's prices. Barley, 23s to 29s; wheat, 27s 6d to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Trade was rather quiet on account of sellers asking advanced prices, which buyers were loth to give. Foreign wheat advanced from 3d to 6d per qr. on the week. English wheat remains at 10s 6d to 11s per bag (18lb). English oats quiet at from 18s 3d to 18s 6d per quarter (312lb.); beans, 12s 6d per bag; Plate maize was offered at from 24s to 24s 3d per quarter (480lb.) at Sharpness; whilst for flat ditto 24s 6d at Bristol was asked. Grinding barley was 6d dearer on the week at 20s per 400lb., Sharpness.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in good supply, making an advance of from 3d to 6d per qr, prices varying from 28s to 29s, according to quality. Foreign very firm, showing 6d rise on the week for all varieties. Maize 6d dearer. Barley also 6d dearer. Oats steady at unchanged rates. Flour very firm and a fair trade doing. Prices, however, have not advanced in sympathy with wheat.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was only offered sparingly, and the trade is distinctly firmer, at about 6d per quarter more money. Reds, 28s to 29s; whites, 28s to 29s per 504lb. The barley trade was firm, without change on the week. There remains a healthy inquiry for the finer Barton samples at prices running from 32s to 36s per quarter; useful medium runs also meet a fair demand at 28s to 31s per quarter; the most difficult samples to move are those running under 28s per quarter; foreign grinding barley, 6d to 1s per quarter dearer. Oats very firm, at 18s to 20s per quarter. Maize 6d dearer, at 25s 6d delivered. Other feeding corns, also cakes and offals, firm on the week.

Canterbury, Saturday. — Millers' wheat very firm, from 30s to 32s; an improved inquiry for seed at from 32s to 36s; barley rather slower, from 26s to 30s for average samples, and choicest up to 34s; best black winter seed oats are quoted up to 22s and spring corn to 19s.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at 6d per qr. advance; 18s 6d to 19s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—English grain of good quality commanded the quotations of last week. Oat samples are very variable this season, the weather damage being very noticeable. Indian corn a little dearer. Quotations: Wheat, white, 4s 3d to 4s 5d; red, 4s 2d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, old, 6s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indian corn, 13s 3d to 13s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday. — Small quantity on offer; trade firm. Threshing barley is now taking the place of threshing wheat. New white wheat, 29s to 30s; new red ditto, 29s to 29s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; grinding ditto, 19s 9d to 20s; oats, English, 15s 6d to 20s; peas, 23s to 30s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 25s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat. The market was very firm, and fully 6d per qr. advance was obtainable. Barley: Fair supply, and all descriptions sold readily at the full prices of last week. Beans, peas, and oats firm.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A fair attendance and moderate trade doing at principally the following quotations: Old wheat, 11s to 11s 6d; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 186lb.; barley, 29s to 33s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s; new oats, 19s to 24s per 352lb.; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s; new beans, 11s 6d to 12s; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat was firm, and was sold at 6d to 1s advance; no change to report in the value of spring corn. Wheat, new white, 29s to 30s; new red, 28s to 29s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, old, 33s to 34s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; new, 17s to 19s.

Derby, Friday.—New hay, 73s to 80s per ton; best 70s per ton; pressed straw, 56s to 55s per ton; oat straw, [illegible] 60s to 67s per ton; all [illegible] in demand at unchanged prices. Wheat in moderate demand and rather more disposition to buy 15,665 24s 9d. J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a good supply of corn. Prices show no alteration, but oats are very firm. The following were the quotations: Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 13s to 14s; new wheat, 14s 6d to 15s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 24s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 21s to 23s; white ditto, 20s to 22s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 14s to 15s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Fair supply of English wheat, and a firm market at an advance of 6d per quarter, the top price being 11s 3d per load. Foreign was in good demand and was 6d per quarter dearer on the week. Oats advanced 3d to 6d per quarter. Grinding barley was 3d per quarter dearer, and malting barley quiet at late rates. Beans firm.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good supplies came to hand again to-day, with about the usual attendance of buyers. Colder weather gave a firmer tone to business all round, and prices generally had a slightly hardening tendency, wheat being against buyers, as holders showed an indifference about selling unless their demands were conceded, which, in some cases, meant a rise of 3d to 6d per qr. Barley, both malting and grinding, held for highest rates; and oats may also be quoted as 3d to 6d against buyers. Beans and peas unaltered, but with a greater inclination to do business in face of the colder weather, factors, as a rule, had in most cases to meet the holder.

Dublin, Friday. Wheat, 16s 3d to 17s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 11s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s to 14s 6d; flour, 11s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday. — Trade somewhat slow. English wheat firm; foreign unchanged. English barley rather dearer; grinding 3d dearer. Maize unaltered. Oats very firm. Flour made rather more money. English wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; English barley, 3s 3d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday. There was the usual attendance at the corn exchange. Wheat and flour were held for 3d advance, with a fair trade doing. Maize 3d dearer for American, and 1½d dearer for Plate—per 280 lb. Barley firm, and the turn in sellers' favour. Oats steady. Beans and peas dull. Oatmeal unaltered. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Gloucester, Saturday. — English wheat less freely offered; red last week's prices are fully maintained, reds making 3s 6d to 3s 7d, and whites 3s 8d to 3s 9d per bushel. Foreign in fair demand at 6d advance. Feeders continue strong, with grinding barley 6d and maize and oats 3d dearer.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — Large attendance, and trade brisk. Wheat found numerous inquiries, and made an advance of 6d at 28s 6d to 29s per quarter. Barley was a very slow trade, but recent rates were fully maintained. Beans, peas, and oats were firm at unchanged prices.

Hereford, Wednesday. There was a good attendance, but business generally difficult. Wheats are unchanged on the week, barleys variable, oats firm, and beans in rather less demand. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 62lb.; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d per 56lb.; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s; new, 2s to 2s 6d per 40lb.; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d; new, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 65½lb.; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat supplies seem to be getting smaller, and the trade was firm at fully last week's prices; good reds or whites 29s to 30s per qr, delivered at Ipswich. Barley: With an average supply, and a continuance of liberal buying from certain quarters, prices were well maintained; useful malting runs 28s to 31s; fine brewers' samples 32s to 36s per qr. Feeding corns were all strong, with oats 1s per qr dearer on the fortnight at 19s to 21s, and old at 21s to 22s 6d per qr. Maize 6d up on the week at 24s to 24s 3d; and beans and peas firm at full prices. Linseed cakes firm at £8 to £8 10s; and cotton at £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton. Milling stuffs steady, and unchanged.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Without being active, wheat is ruled strong throughout the week at prices against buyers. Shipments continue on a more moderate scale, the U.K. still running short of its proper proportion, so that the quantity on passage has reached an exceedingly low level, which strengthens the hands of holders, and, with diminishing supplies of English wheat, prices for all descriptions must be quoted about 6d to 9d dearer. Malting barley without material change. Maize 9d dearer. Beans very scarce. Oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat firmly held at Tuesday's full prices, but foreign was the turn cheaper. No change reported in either English or foreign barley, and foreign oats maintained the late advance, with a further rising tendency. Peas, beans, maize, and flour were unaltered.

Leicester, Saturday. —With smaller supplies of home-grown wheats, and a full attendance of buyers and dealers, trade ruled brisker at an advance of 1s per quarter. Red wheats, 28s to 30s; white wheats, 29s to 31s per 36 stones; barley (larger supply), 25s to 29s per 32 stones. Oats firm at 6d per quarter advance, at 19s to 21s per 26 stones; beans, 32s 6d to 34s per 38 stones.

Lincoln, Friday. — Good attendance but moderate show of English wheat, which sold readily at an advance of 6d per qr. Oats and beans firm. Barley a slow trade at a reduction of 6d per qr. on the week.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There has been a fair attendance at the market, and wheat is very firmly held for an occasional ¼d advance, with a very fair business passing at full prices. Indian sorts are exhausted. Flour in better request for both foreign and home-made brands. Prices are unchanged, but the tendency is in sellers' favour. Maize: Mixed is steady at ¼d advance, with a moderate trade passing. Plate is quiet, with prices the turn dearer than last Tuesday. European sorts steady, unchanged. Barley: Malting, owing to decreasing stocks, is held for about 1s advance, with a moderate inquiry. Feeding is firm and in good request at 1d more money. Beans steady but quiet at about unchanged prices. English sorts favour buyers. Peas firm, with very limited offers at ¼d advance. Demand moderate. Oats firmly held, with a rather better demand all round. English are unchanged in price, and foreign mostly the turn dearer. Oatmeal in small demand, but firmly held at fully recent currencies. Oilcake: A good trade passing, and firmly held at full prices for English makes, whilst American linseed and cottonseed meal are quoted 2s 6d per ton higher.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday. — Both English and foreign wheat are dearer on the week 6d per quarter and 1d per cental respectively. Flour unchanged. Indian corn about 2d per cental dearer all round. Good demand for English and foreign oats at full rates. Peas dearer. Barley and beans unchanged. Bran in good request, thirds about 3d per load dearer.

Newark, Wednesday. Wheat a firm trade at an advance of 6d per quarter; barley quiet on former terms; oats, 6d per quarter dearer; beans unchanged. Quotations: Wheat, 28s to 29s; barley, 23s to 30s; oats, 17s to 19s; beans, 30s to 33s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. Our market was fairly steady for wheats at fully last week's prices. American maize slightly in buyers' favour; Plate firm at last Saturday's prices. Oats were held for fully last week's prices, with a fair demand. Beans and peas slightly in the favour of buyers. No change in barley, which changed hands at irregular prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Norwich, Saturday. There was a small supply of wheat at our market to-day, prices being rather against the buyers. Barley was in better supply, with a firm trade, at late quotations. Continued wet weather prevails. Wheat, red, 28s to 29s per qr., weight 63lb. per imperial bushel. Barley, average runs, 24s to 28s per qr.; better sorts, 30s to 32s. Corn inspector's return for the week ending October 7, 1905:—Wheat, 1,870, 27s; barley,

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, and prices advanced fully 6d per qr. Barley a fair show; better qualities made full prices. Oats but few offering and 6d higher. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Northampton, Saturday. — Good attendance and brisk demand for wheat. Prices remained firm. New wheat, 27s to 27s 6d; malting barley, 26s to 32s; barley, 24s to 25s; new white oats, 16s to 18s; new black oats, 16s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Oxford, Saturday.—The attendance was moderate, and, with supplies on a somewhat small scale, buyers operated sparingly. Only a small demand was experienced for wheat, but holders were firm, and values had a hardening tendency. Feeding stuffs moved slowly at steady rates.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat was again in small supply and buyers had to give 3d to 6d more money. Barley was slow for all but the best, but not quotably lower. Oats scarce and rather dearer.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday. There was a very fair attendance on our market here to-day. Barley 1s, maize 6d, oats 3d, wheat 3d to 6d—all dearer.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—Wheat closed for the week with a fair consumptive demand at about ½d to 1d per cental advance on the week. English wheat was in small supply. Poor demand for seed. Flour very steady, tending dearer. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 6d to 13s; ditto red, 12s to 12s 6d; oats, old, per bushel, 3s to 3s 2d; ditto, new, white, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; ditto, yellow, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; beans, per windle of 220lb., 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—Fair attendance, average trade. Wheat, 29s to 32s; barley, 26s to 35s; oats, 16s to 23s; beans, 32s to 40s; peas, 29s to 35s; tares, 5s to 7s per bushel; hay, 55s to 70s per ton. An order for 1,400 tons of hay at 68s per ton was placed in one hand.

Retford, Saturday. There was a distinct improvement in the wheat trade. The show was small, and the demand limited, with a slight upward tendency. Wheat, 28s to 29s; malting barley (slightly lower), best, 28s; superior lots, 29s to 30s; general run, 25s to 27s; grinding barley, 24s to 24s 6d; maize, 25s; English beans, 30s; black oats, 16s 6d to 19s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday.—A firm tone prevails, prices having an upward tendency. Holders of new oats are asking an advance of 6d per quarter. A good supply of English wheat at late rates. New wheat, 27s to 29s; wheat, foreign, 32s to 36s; barley, grinding, 22s to 23s; barley, malting, 24s to 28s; new oats, 17s 6d to 18s; maize, round, 25s 6d to 26s; maize, flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations: Wheat, 12s to 12s 6d per 225 lb.; oats, old white, 15s to 16s per 240lb.; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb.; barley, 14s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A firmer tone was noticeable in the wheat trade, and inquirers for the best had to pay 28s to 29s; secondary qualities, 27s to 28s. There was a wide range in the quality of the barley, but only the very best could command any call, and vendors could not keep the level of prices up to last week's standard; best grinding barley 22s to 24s 6d, malting fully 30s to 33s 6d. Beans, 28s 6d to 30s; oats, 16s 6d to 17s 6d per qr. Peas made late rates with difficulty.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Fair show of grain. Wheat sold at the extreme rates of last week. Barley firm. Oats steady. Arrivals, coastwise:—Barley, 802 qrs.; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s to 28s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 35s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of grain on offer. Wheat worth rather more money. Oats run 1s per qr. dearer. Fair demand for feeding stuffs, which make a slight advance on last week's prices.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat rather quiet trade, prices about 6d better on the week. Foreign unaltered. Barley 6d and maize 3d dearer. Oats occasionally 3d advance. Flour a fair demand at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain at market. Wheat sold at full prices; reds, 29s to 30s. Oats 6d dearer to buy, 17s 6d to 18s 6d. Barley, 24s to 27s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance, and business was quiet. There were no alterations in the quotations.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Moderate attendance, and very small supply of grain, which sold at practically last week's rates. White wheat, 27s 6d to 28s 6d; red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary, 26s 6d to 27s 6d; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—A firm trade, with a general advance of from 3d to 6d per quarter. For good quality English wheat from 31s 6d to 32s per quarter was paid, secondary wheat, from 31s 6d to 32s per quarter was paid, secondary making from 28s 6d to 30s; foreign, 33s to 35s 6d; malting barley, 33s to 35s 6d; feeding, 21s to 23s 6d; foreign, 19s to 20s 6d; oats, black, 17s 6d to 20s; Irish, black, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; white, 16s 6d to 20s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 33s 6d; maize, 24s to 24s 6d; rye, 21s to 22s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. A steady trade in flour, with firm quotations, fine making about 25s, and extra fine 27s 6d. Meal and offals in good request, at prices which favoured sellers.

York, Saturday.—Wheat is rather firmer; not so much offering, holders generally asking 3d to 6d advance. Fine white, 28s 6d to 29s 6d; red and mixed, 27s to 28s 6d per quarter of 36 stones. Malting barley meets with a slow trade, the supply being in excess of the demand. Fine, 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; feeding barley, 23s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats very firm and scarce. White Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 21s to 21s 6d per 36 stones; beans, 30s to 33s.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather has continued rainy and boisterous, with frosty nights. According to latest reports, potatoes are turning out a fair average crop and there are no serious complaints about the disease. There is a lively trade doing in all descriptions of grain at higher prices. Fine Holstein and Mecklen-

burg wheat is selling at 31s 9d to 32s 3d per 504lb. f.o.b., and very scarce; American hard winter No. 2 is held at 31s 3d; 80 Ko River Plate Rosso at 31s 3d; 9 30-35 Russian Ulka 31s to 31s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Offers of rye are very scarce, while there is a brisk demand; 9 15-20 Nikolojeff afloat is held at 26s 9d; 72 73 Ko Moldavian at 27s per 480lb. c.i.f. Malting barley firm in value; good Danish and East Prussian is taken by our brewers at 29s to 30s; good Bohemian at 32s to 33s; fine Bohemian and Slovakian is held at 36s to 38s; rather thin Chilian was sold at 27s 6d per 448lb.; Russian feeding barley meets with a ready sale at 18s 9d to 19s; American at 18s 3d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Oats are constantly improving in values; Russians are selling at 16s 3d to 17s 9d; white clipped American at 16s 6d to 16s 9d per 320lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed American maize has been sold afloat at 25s, January at 21s 6d; River Plate, October-November, 23s 3d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—There is very little to report regarding the provincial markets, the attendance at which continues scanty. The general tone remains calm, due to the paucity of offers, but as millers are not inclined to pay the prices asked, only fine grades of wheat are able to maintain their late price level, while ordinary kinds show a tendency to fall. At the Bourse de Commerce business was still extremely quiet; buyers are most reserved in view of the larger offers reported at to-day's weekly spot market, and refuse to pay the prices asked. The tone of the market is consequently heavy, and the prices, both of flour and wheat, have lost from 5c. to 10c. Rye: Nothing doing; prices unaltered. Oats are still firm, with a slight advance in price, due to shorts' covering. At the weekly spot market the prices of home-grown wheat remains the same, excepting in Beauce. Business has been somewhat steadier, there being more buyers. Foreign wheat is firm. In consumption marks flour business is quiet, but the prices of all grades are well held. The stocks of flour are generally very low. Business in rye is very quiet, because holders are waiting for rye to rise in price. Oats, having got in the hands of speculators, have again risen in price, despite the official figures published, showing that the crop this year is much above the average. Should the present weather continue the quality of barley will be much improved, which will also have a favourable effect upon demand; prices have already become firmer.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are not so active as the spot market, but the tone is strong. Sales have included Rosario at 31s. per 480 lb., Bahia Blanca at 32s. per 504 lb., Walla Walla at 32s. 6d. per 500 lb., Roumania at 31s. 6d. per 492 lb., and No. 2 Manitoba at 31s. 6d. per 480 lb.

Maize cargoes are very strong for near sales, but quiet for remoter futures. Sales include Argentine at 23s. 6d. per 480 lb. on passage, American at 21s. 6d. per 480 lb. to arrive early in January, and Russian at 24s. per 480 lb. for November shipment.

Barley cargoes are well held. Roumanian has made 20s. 6d. for a 416-lb. cargo on passage, and fine Kustendje, 424 lb. weight, has made 21s. 6d. per qr. Odessa offers to ship 400 lb. barley at 19s. 3d. per qr.

Oats are quieter. Roumanian 312 lb. samples are offered for prompt shipment at 15s. 6d. per qr. A cargo of Black Irish has made 16s. per 304 lb. on arrival. Other cargo sales include White Indian peas at 28s. 3d. per 504 lb., Portuguese locust beans at 97s. 6d. per ton, and Egyptian cottonseed at £5 11s. 3d. per ton.

The London Corn Trade Association c.i.f. quotations for the settlement of rejections and difference in Weights on wheat under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contract are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta, 32s.; Soft Red, 30s. 6d.; Bombay Soft White Delhi, 32s. 3d.; Kurrachee Soft White Delhi, 32s. 3d.; Kurrachee, Choice White, 32s.; Soft White, 31s. 3d.; Soft Red, 30s. 9d.—all per 492 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were 4 wheat (1 Buenos Aires, 1 Melbourne, 1 Port Victoria, 1 Port Wakefield), 1 linseed (Rosario).—Total 5.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call were 2 wheat (1 Rotterdam, 1 Waterford).

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 294 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 8 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 50 linseed.—Total 386.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 258 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 35 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 8 maize, 5 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 35 linseed and 1 canaryseed.—Total 365.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

	£	s.	d.
For 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to October 21 in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.	Qrs.	s. d.
1900	66,254	27 11	1,01,079½	26 3	26,996½	16 11
1901	52,9 4½	25 1	208,471½	26 10	18,669½	17 5
1902	56,148	24 11	143,774½	26 4	28,514½	17 0
1903	49,256½	25 10	99,029½	25 7	26,249½	15 8
1904	45,960½	30 4	213,190½	25 5	31,445½	15 11

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 21, 1905:—

Wheat	1,139,500 cwts.
Wheat-flour	346,400 ,,
Barley	754,500 ,,
Oats	285,600 ,,
Maize	811,300 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,451,100	2,430,500	1,644,195	1,081,900
Wheat-flour	232,500	453,100	435,690	145,100
Barley	706,400	1,258,000	1,042,293	491,900
Oats	254,300	267,500	220,181	380,300
Maize	1,532,500	752,300	1,075,543	589,300

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 10
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 5
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 0

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,,	473,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	630,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905.

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	31	0
,, 11 ,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
1904.									
Oct. 22	45,960½	30	4	213,190½	25	5	31,445½	15	11
,, 29	47,947⅝	30	6	221,044⅝	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816⅜	25	0	35,145⅜	16	0
,, 12	43,740⅜	30	3	204,446⅜	24	6	32,320⅜	15	11
,, 19	41,025⅜	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅜	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,635½	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	5	99,997½	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662⅜	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486½	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅜	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509⅜	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957⅜	16	10
,, 11	38,118⅜	30	9	23,448⅜	25	2	24,396⅜	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,442½	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,876½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	53,446½	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350⅜	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	6	5,912⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247⅜	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,992⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579½	31	4	289⅜	23	2	3,483½	19	7
,, 8	7,834½	32	1	375⅜	22	11	2,532½	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅜	32	3	31½	23	10	1,952½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	52⅜	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691⅜	32	3	24½	19	9	3,065½	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	371⅞	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	548½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,763½	23	4	13,656½	16	4
,, 26	88,636½	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,639⅜	26	11	11,747	23	5	24,090½	15	
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888⅜	23	4	20,622⅜	15	11
,, 16	83,187½	26	11	36,986⅜	2	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,713	26	8	70,475½	23	10	30,715½	15	11
,, 30	101,934⅜	26	9	123,125½	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1
Oct. 1	80,579⅜	26	9	147,570⅜	24	9	31,190½	16	0
,, 15	88,149⅞	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354⅜	16	3
,, 21	99,518⅜	27	1	224,53)	25	0	24,635½	16	7

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September 1	30 0 (per sack)	27	0
,, 13	29 0 ,,	26	0
October 11	28 9 ,,	26	9

(No change since last date given.)

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended October 21, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	90,548½ qrs.	27s. 1d.
Barley	224,530 qrs.	25s. 0d.
Oats	24,635½ qrs.	16s. 7d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 17, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £ s. d.
Wheat	7,067	3	10,145 3 2	1 8 9
Barley	5,583	4	7,140 19 3	1 5 7
Oats	2,960	6	2,047 14 4	0 17 11

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 11 to 18, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	2,115	87,260	89,385
Barley	3,100	57,000	60,100
Malt	17,317	...	17,317
Oats	5,200	65,000	70,200
Beans	496	610	1,093
Peas	684	776	1,460
Maize	...	32,780	32,780
Tares	...	991	991
Linseed	...	30,000	30,000
Rapeseed	...	1,200	1,200
Canaryseed	...	1,000	1,000
Dari	...	151	151
Flour sack	28,880	24,896	53,776
Maizemeal	...	7,000	7,000
Oatmeal	...	5,000	5,000
Ricemeal	...	4,400	4,400

BUTTER.

(Prices per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Evesham: 1s 1d to 1s 2½d. Kidderminster: 1s. Northtawton: 1s 2d. Penistone: 1s 3d. Penzance: 11½d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 6d to 1s 8d. per 24 ounce roll. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d tot 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Barnstaple: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 11d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 3d. Helmsley: 11d to 1s. Knutsford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Lincoln: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d and 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d Otley: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 9d to 10d; Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle, 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1½d to 1s 4d. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks), 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Birmingham: 7 and 8. Brigg: 8 and 9. Devizes: 10. Evesham: 1s 3d to 1s 3½d. per dozen. Kidderminster: 8. Penzance: 1s 3d to 1s 8d. per dozen. Northtawton: 8. Penistone: 8. Plymouth: 6 to 8. Ripon: 7 and 8. Wellington (Salop): 7 and 8. Wetherby: 7. Axminster: 1s to 1s 4d. per dozen

Friday.—Altrincham: 6 and 7. Ashburton: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen. Barnstaple: 10 to 12. Camelford: 10. Chester: 7. Crewe: 6 and 7. Congleton: 7. Dartmouth: 1s 5d per dozen. Derby: 8. Helmsley: 9. Knutsford: 7. Leyburn: 7 and 8. Lincoln: 8 and 9 Lostwithiel: 12. Macclesfield: 6 and 7. Nantwich: 8. Northwich: 7. Otley: 6 and 7. St. Austell: 8. Stamford: 8 to 10. Stockport: 6 and 7. Tavistotck: 6 and 7. Totnes: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 6 and 7. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 8 and 9. Ipswich: 10 to 12. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Malton: 8 and 9. Pontefract: 7. Retford: 2s 8d to 2s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 6 and 7. Shrewsbury: 7 and 8. Skipton: 9 and 10. Stokesley: 8 and 9. Whitby: 7 and 8. Worcester: 7. York: 7 to 9

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Market well stocked; indeed, better stocked than is usually the case at this period of the year; demand slow. Conditions quiet at sale, but they seem to be more popular in East of Scotland. Values steady. Home Cheddars in Glasgow market are quoted from 56s to 61s per cwt., and Dunlops from 58s to 63s.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply and business was fair. Quotations: Cartpitches, 58s to 59s per cwt.; factory ditches, 57s to 58s; truckles 58s to 60s. Dunlops, 55s to 57s; and Cheddars, 59s to 60s.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Low temperatures have warned farmers to hurry up their autumn work and to get roots stored. The fine weather has favoured threshings, and a large supply of new wheat and barley has been a feature of the country markets. The weather in France has been extremely cold for the time of year, and an increase is reported in trade generally. Germany is a free buyer off Austrian and Roumanian grain surpluses, and shows, if possible, an increased tendency to rely on these countries to the neglect of America and Argentina. The Russian crops are threshing out better than anticipated. Oats often show fine quality, rare in Russia, and the weight is 312 lb. to 320 lb. from lands where 304 lb. is the average expectation. The maize crop of South-East Europe, however, is not up to a full average.

Argentina reports a large net increase in the area sown to wheat. In Buenos Ayres proper the increase is as much as 20 per cent. There is some little increase in the sub-tropical regions, but the temperate districts are those where wheat growing is most rapidly developing. There are no returns as yet to hand from Bahia Blanca and the South but the demand for the wheat of that region is so excellent that we anticipate increased sowings will fully equal the increment in Buenos Ayres.

The American crop reports point to the newly-secured maize equalling at least three hundred and fifty million quarters, a prodigious production, which is likely to give us cheap American meat in 1906, no less than cheap feeding stuffs. There is need of further particulars, but no doubt is now expressed either at Mark Lane or Liverpool concerning the main fact of the American maize yield of 1905 being "a record."

Canada reports 80 per cent. of the new wheat to grade No. 1, 18 per cent. No. 2, and 2 per cent. No. 3. There is no frosted wheat to mention this season, the frosts not setting in until mid-September, by which date all the corn had been secured. Canada is likely to expect more wheat in 1906 than in any previous season; population is increasing slowly production at a much more rapid rate.

The wheat markets of the United Kingdom are decidely stronger from a week ago, the demand being especially good for new English. Farmers should make an effort to hold the remainder of the crop much more stiffly; the sales up to 21st inst. were extremely heavy, and the prices consequently have been miserable. Owing to the small supplies on passage, foreign wheat is held for at least the prices of the 16th. As a rule, a little more money is obtainable for Indian, Argentine, and Australian, while Russian and American are in improved request at old prices. Flour is 3s. per sack cheaper on the year for the ordinary household type, but bread is as dear as it was in October, 1904. This increased profit should be a boon to bakers, who, we notice, are only big buyers just now of country flour.

The recent heavy threshings of grain have led to large deliveries of straw. Luckily the demand is excellent and prices have been maintained. For ordinary wheat and oat straw to private buyers 30s. to 36s. per load is charged, while wholesale transactions take place at 28s. to 29s. for sound wheat straw, 25s. to 27s. for oat straw, and 30s to 36s. for rye straw; the latter is peculiarly good this season. Barley straw is as usual, but a poor fourth to the other three white crops, but it has certain buyers at a price.

Some minor arrivals into London of late have included castorseed, carraways, pearl barley, French straw, New Zealand grass-seed, haricots, cloverseed, and dholl. The demand for moss litter increases. We seem to get a considerable proportion from Holland.

Potatoes are plentiful, and while their quality exceeds expectation and their price is moderate, it is not surprising that they are affecting the demand for breadstuffs in retail. The restaurants at least come to the aid of the baker, for while bread costs three times that of potatoes, wholesale bread is an uniform penny at all places of refreshment, while potatoes are never less than two pence, and are often three pence for an equal quantity.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been heavy, the resulting price low.

This season, 631,000 qrs. at 26s. 11d. per qr.
Last season, 341,000 qrs. at 30s. 0d per qr.

The sales of British barley from September 1 to October 7 were below the average, but they are now overtaking arrears, and for the last six trading days have been exceedingly heavy.

This season, 663,000 qrs. at 24s 0d. per qr.
Last season, 622,000 qrs. at 25s. 4d. per qr.

The sales of oats of the home crop have been small.

This season, 201,000 qrs. at 16s. 1d. per qr.
Last season, 266,000 qrs. at 15s. 11d. per qr.

The reserve with which farmers have met the enquiry for oats has had its reward, that staple being the only one which has kept up in value.

Last week's imports into the United Kingdom were as follows:—

Wheat, 444,000 qrs.: above the average.
Flour, 122,000 sacks: rather less than usual.
Barley, 295,000 qrs.: an exceptionally large supply.
Oats, 109,000 qrs.: rather below the mean.
Maize, 266,000 qrs.: above the average.

Returns of oilseeds imported are not yet issued, but are known to be considerably above the mean for linseed.

Supplies of wheat on passage are much below the average.

	Quarters.
Californian	30,000
American	170,000
Russian	370,000
Indian	125,000
Argentine	160,000
Australasian	115,000
Various	40,000
Total	1,010,000
A week ago	1,096,000

Flour on passage amounts to 279,000 sacks.

Of maize the quantity afloat shows a striking diminution. It now is as follows:—

	Quarters.
Russian	15,000
American	120,000
Argentine	470,000
Total	705,000
A week ago	905,000

Of barley 510,000 qr. are on passage from America, California, Russia, Roumania, and Persia. An unascertained quantity is on passage from Turkish ports in Europe and Asia. Of linseed 137,000 qr. are on passage, and of cottonseed 21,000 tons are afloat.

The dearness of maize for November and December delivery is in remarkable contrast to its cheapness for January, February, and March. There is an enormous quantity already sold for shipment in those three months, and we expect imports for February, March, and April will be fully three million quarters. The difference between spot and January prices at most markets is 3s. per qr., so that farmers will do well to do on as little maize as possible between now and Christmas.

The dearness of oil cake is leading to an increased business in proprietary articles, calculated to take its place, and is also a cause of increased inquiry for barley meal. The heavy oats from Russia find favour, and so does the excellent 416 lb. poultry barley from Roumania and Bulgaria. The dearness of foreign beans leads to these being neglected by most buyers, but there is an increased sale of fine small split lentils at 10s. per cental. There is also an improved demand for rye at 22s. per 480 lb., for dun peas at 29s. per 504 lb., and for feeding millet and sorbhum at a guinea per 480 lb.

Shipments last week were as follows:—America: Wheat 191,000 qrs.; barley 60,000 qr.; oats 55,000 qr.; maize 91,000 qr.; and flour 130,000 sacks. Argentina: Wheat 68,000 qr.; maize 179,000 qr.; and linseed 125,000 qr. Russia: Wheat 480,000 qr.; barley 377,000 qr.; oats 296,000 qr.; and maize 12,000 qr. Roumania: Wheat 270,000 qr.; barley 100,000 qr.; and rapeseed 10,000 qr. India: Wheat 39,000 qr. and linseed 25,000 qr. Items showing an increase on the week wer what shipments from America and India, maize shipments from Argentina, and linseed shipments from India. Items showing a decrease were wheat shipments from Russia and Roumania, and oat shipments from Russia and the United States.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October, 23.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Russian	43 to 44
Morocco	46 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	41 to 45
Calcutta	38 to 40
Argentine	37 to 39
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	38 to 39

COTTONSEED. per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/9 to 6/0
Indian	4/9 to 5/6

RAPESEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	40 to 41
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	34 to 36

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Indian	39 to 40s

SUNFLOWERSEED. per 448 lb.	
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 23.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The demand for English wheat to-day was excellent, and prices were 6d. dearer from the 16th. They are still, however, a good deal lower than the situation warrants. Foreign was firm, and rather dearer for Australian, Argentine, and Indian, but dull for American. Prices for Russian were steady, with a fairly good trade doing at currencies. Maize was 3d. dearer from Friday, but prices appear to have reached their highest, a demand for 25s. generally stopping business. Barley was firm for English malting and for foreign feeding, but was rather weak for brewing grades. Beans were scarce and dear; peas firm at full rates. Oats were sometimes 3d. dearer for both English and foreign; the inquiry was good, though of a non-speculative disposition. Poppyseed, rapeseed, and cottonseed advanced about 3d. per cwt., but linseed, though a firm market, was not quotably dearer.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	29	— 33
Red	,,	28	— 31
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	34	— 38
Brewing	,,	28	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	18	— 10
Crystallized	,,	21	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Cartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	21	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	41	— 43
Tick	,,	34	— 36
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
(New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	55	— 65
New Unpicked	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 45
Dun	,,	29	— 31
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	50	— 54
(Winter)	,,	48	— 50
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	27	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	54	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Manitoba No. 1	34/9	— 35
,, ,, 2	33/9	— 34
,, ,, 3	32/9	— 33
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	32/9	— 33
Australian	34	— 34/3
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	32/6	— 33
Ghirka	31/6	— 32
Taganrog	31	— 31/3
Bombay	32/6	— 33
Calcutta	32	— 32/3
Kurrachee	31	— 31/3
Turkish	30	— 30/3
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	33	— 35
Brewing	27	— 32
Califor'n (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	16	— 16 3
Torrified (336 lb.)	19	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	15 6	— 16
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Libau (320 lb.)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb.)	15	— 15/6
Argentine (304 lb.)	15/9	— 16
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	17 6
American (320 lb)	16 6	— 17
,, (304 lb)	15 6	— 16

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	23,9	— 24
Argentine	23	— 23/6
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	32	— 33
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	41	— 43
Canadian	39	— 41
Konigsberg	42	— 43
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 16
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 18
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	27	— 28
Indian	24	— 25
Persian	20	— 22
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	31	— 32
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THERE WAS A GOOD DEMAND FOR SEED WHEAT AT 34s. TO 36s. PER QUARTER, AND ALL STAPLES CLOSED IN SELLERS' FAVOUR.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 23.

There was a fair sale of London makes to-day, and a brisk one for country sorts, prices for both descriptions being fully those of the 16th, but not advanced therefrom. Hungarian touched but did not exceed 31s. 6d. per sack. Manitoba flour was obtainable at 28s. and rather undersold finest Minnesota, Duluth, and Minneapolis. Fine Kansas Patents made 26s. For Iron Duke a guinea was accepted. French flour was rather neglected. A small trade in rice flour took place at a guinea per sack for best. Middlings tended to rise in price. Barley meal was in improved request at fully previous values.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 net
Town Whites	,,	27 ,,
,, Households	,,	24 ,,
No. 2	,,	21 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24 — 26
Fine Roller whites	,,	23 — 24
Ordy Roller ,,	,,	21 — 22
Best Stone made	,,	20 — 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28—28/6
,, Second Patents	,,	27—27/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	20/9—21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20—20/3
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26—26/6
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6—21
Californian	,,	26 — 27
Canadian	,,	26 — 27
Russian	,,	28 — 29
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 32
,, 1	,,	30 — 31
,, 2	,,	29 — 30
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24 — 25
,, Renaux	,,	23 — 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21 — 22
Australian	,,	23 — 24
Argentine, Fancy	,,	26 — 27

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	19 — 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour	,,	34 — 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 16
Rice Meal	,,	9/9— 10
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 21
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 10d.	Nov. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Mar. ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	5s. 0d.	Oct. delivery.
,,	5s. 0d.	Nov. ,,
,,	4s. 0d	Dec. ,,
,,	4s. 5d.	Jan. ,,
,,	4s 4d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 3d.	May ,,

To-day 6s. 11d is asked for American wheat December delivery, and 5s. 1d. for American maize also December delivery. These demands check trade. Maize, for March delivery, at 4s. 4d. sells steadily.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—Seed wheats, winter tares, still in demand, the former at higher prices. Blue peas attract more attention. In spring sowing, seed buyers, of both clovers and grasses, show signs of increasing interest; prices slowly developing. JOHN PICARD AND CO.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies, demand fair. Prices: Pheasants, 5s to 6s 6d; young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; old, 3s; young partridges, 2s 6d; old, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per brace; ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; geese, 5s to 6s 6d; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 1s 9d to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; Russian fowls, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; black game, 1s 4d; wild ducks, 1s 6d; snipe, 6d to 1s; quails, 9d to 1s 3d; venison, haunches, 12s 6d to 16s each; forequarters, 3d per lb.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—No further change in bran; demand steady, and prices continue firm with upward tendency. Flour.—At the moment, the flour market is steadier than of late, and there is greater firmness in prices. GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast)

Flour.—There is a better demand, with sellers asking 6d. advance for shipment. Grain.—Indian corn is 3d. dearer on the week, but fair demand. Plate maize is unchanged at 13s. 10½d. More business is passing in the cheaper qualities foreign oats at 3d. to 6d. advance. Scotch oats are 3d. dearer also. Barley active, American now 14s, 9d. per 320 lb. Beans dull, especially for English. Oatmeal firm. Mill stuffs.—Demand is improving for bran and common thirds. Fine thirds remain scarce. MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

We have moderate supplies of wheat. The trade is firm, and prices are 3d. per qr. higher. Flour is 3d. per sack dearer. Maize, barley, and oats are 3d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Flour.—Trade to-day has been firm with a fair demand, and prices show an advance of about 6d. on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling offals remain in fair demand at last Monday's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: The demand is not as fast as it should be, considering the time of year, but, with shippers asking rather more money, and no weakening in prices for London made, the market keeps very firm. Cotton cake: Slow and unchanged. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Stocks are now almost cleared, and the little that is left on spot is firmly held. Linseed: Trade is very good, and prices are advancing.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7	15	0	to 7	17 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	7	6		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	5	0		
Russian Oil Cake	,, ex quay	7	7	6	to 7	17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	17	6		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	12	6		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	15	0		
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	12	6	to 4	15 0
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4	17	6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	0	0		
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs.	sacks included ex warehouse	2	4	6		
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	1	0		
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.						
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,, ,,						
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.						

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Cargoes to arrive between the end of October and the end of December tend to rise in value irrespective of the sort of grain. Remoter futures are quiet.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Bulgarian, 30s 3d per 492lb., November shipment; Australian, 34s per 480lb., arrived; Red Walla, 31s 9d per 500lb., on passage; Blue Stem, 33s 6d per 500lb., November shipment; White Kurrachee, 32s per 492lb., on passage; No. 1 Manitoba, 32s 9d per 480lb., on passage; No. 2 Manitoba, 31s 6d per 480lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 6d per 480lb., prompt shipment; American, 21s 6d per 480lb., December shipment.

BARLEY.—Californian, 26s 9d per 448lb., November shipment.

OATS.—American, 16s per 320lb., November shipment.

PEAS.—White Indian, 27s 9d per 504lb., April shipment (new crop).

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 37s 6d per 410lb., arrived; Argentine, 36s 9d per 416lb., on passage; Argentine, 35s 3d per 416lb., February shipment (new crop).

RAPESEED.—Brown Cawnpore, 37s 3d per 416lb., November shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Bombay, 38s 9d per 377lb., November shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 12s 6d per ton, November shipment; Bombay, £4 14s per ton, January shipment.

WOOL

Canterbury, Saturday. — Kent fleeces, 12½d; lamb wool, 8d; halfbreds, 12½d; Downs, 13½d; locks, 4d to 5d per lb.

Halifax, Saturday. — Business in wool is somewhat sluggish, being chiefly confined to small lots; but while crossbreds may be bought at slightly easier prices, other descriptions keep steady.

London, Saturday. English—per package of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to —— 10s; half-bred hoggs, £13 to £14; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £13 to £13 5s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 10s to £13 10s Colonial— per lb.—Vic.: Fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d. N.S.W.: Second average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s. S. Aus.: Greasy average, 9d to 9½d. N.Z.: Scoured average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½c Cape: Scoured super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d. Natal: Scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Grs.—Vic.: Good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d. New Zealand: Fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d; medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; coarse, 11d to 1s.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Oct. 23, 1905. British.	Total. Oct. 24, 1904.	Monday, Oct. 24, 1904.
Beasts	1,280	1,280	1,280
Sheep and Lambs	6,440	6,440	5,950
Calves	10	10	10
Milch Cows	50	50	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 66; Devon, 35; Ireland, 78.

We note to-day an increase of 250 in the number of beasts on offer compared with the corresponding day last week. Trade for both prime and second quality cattle was a slow one, nevertheless late currencies governed all transactions. The Irish arrivals consisted of 34 Dublin Shorthorns, and 44 Waterfords; trade ruled very dull for this class of cattle, with a downward tendency in value, though not quotably so. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a fairly steady demand by both town and country buyers at late rates. A clearance is expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 24, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d ex 4s 6d
Runts	4s 6d to 4s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 8d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 2d	3s 10d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was a decrease of 910 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow but steady nature, wethers selling best; nevertheless la e currencies were well maintained. The first consignment of Scotch Longwools were received here to-day; these shared in the slow trade at late values. Irish were in excess of the demand, the tendency in regard to value ruling in the favour of the buyer. A clearance will be made in this part of the market. The supply included 300 Scotch, 1,889 Irish, and 472 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 24, 1904
8 st Scotch (Longwools)	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d

Calf trade not worth noting.

No pigs offered for sale to-day.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies. Steady demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 8d to 4s 6d; English, 3s 4d to 3s 7d.; American, 3s to 3s 7d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; veal, 3s to 3s 6d; pork, 4s to 5s per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 873, sheep 478, pigs 482. Beef, 8s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat cattle fair demand. Stores better trade. Fat sheep good demand. Stores fair. Fat and store pigs good demand. Milch cows fair show; trade prices £14 to £23.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,282. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 355 head, and consisted of 868 from the United States and 414 from Canada. Trade, taken as a whole, was of a very slow nature; prices, however, were good, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one. Best quality States, 4s.; seconds, 3s 8d; Canadians, 5s 9d; good seconds, 3s 6d (offal given in). No sheep on offer for sale to-day. On Saturday 1,480 beasts from the United States were offered for sale; these met with a very slow trade at from 3s 9d to 4s per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Liverpool, Monday.—The supply of cattle was about the same as on Monday last; demand fair, and prices unchanged. A considerable decrease in the number of sheep on offer; the trade in consequence was more active, and sales were more easily effected; prices, however, were not quotably higher. Best, 6d to 4d per lb; mutton, 5½d to 6d. At market: 1,421 cattle and 4,797 sheep.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Prices of English fruit and vegetables are as follows:—Apples, 4s 6d to 12s per bushel; pears 3s to 4s per box; peaches 4s to 16s 6d; green figs, 4d to 1s 6d per dozen; grapes, 6d to 3s; melons, 9d to 2s; cobnuts, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; filberts, 4s to 5s per 12 lb.; tomatoes, 2s to 3s 6d per 12 lb.; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; ditto (picklers) 5s to 6s 6d per cwt.; celery, 7s to 10s 6d per dozen rolls; Brussels sprouts, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; Jerusalem artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s per half-sieve; parsnip, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per bag; cauliflowers, 3s to 4s.; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per tally; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; leeks, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; mint 2s to 2s 6d; radishes, 6d to 9d; carrots, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; turnips, 1s 6d to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; horseradish, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; cucumbers, 1s to 3s; endive 9d to 1s 3d per dozen; cos lettuce, 9d to 1s 6d per score; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; spinach, 1s to 1s 6d per half-sieve; potatoes, 55s to 70s per ton.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The demand continues for English hops, consumers are availing themselves of the opportunity to stock up at the low prices now ruling, which, in the majority of cases, is below the cost of production. Fine hops are eagerly sought after and are hardening in value.

Worcester, Saturday.—There is now a material falling off in the quantity of hops on offer here. Choice qualities are especially scarce and command higher prices; failing them, the best medium hops are of good value, and come comparatively cheaper. Useful copper hops also obtain a good sale when offered at reasonable prices. Yearlings have been more inquired for, and sell at current prices, whilst are above the values of new. 3,551 pockets have been weighed this week, making the total 28,316 of new; some few small lots of 1904's have also been sold.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

With a rather larger supply of both prime and second quality beasts at Islington, of which the majority arrived from the Midlands (as is usual at this time of the year), trade opened and continued throughout the day of a dull and dragging nature, salesmen experiencing difficulty in maintaining late currencies. The Irish arrivals consisted only of 4 Dublins and 24 Waterfords, these also meeting with less demand, but no quotable decline in value was noticeable. On Thursday a few fat cattle were held back in the lairs, the trade, as usual, being confined to fat butchering cows and bulls, these on both days meeting with a poor country demand, on Monday there being too many middling quality on offer.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, there was a fair supply, the majority arriving from the United States; trade, taken as a whole, was of a slightly firmer nature. Wednesday's consignment of States, however, were very middling quality cattle. The total number of beasts offered for sale at both markets was 4,337, as against 5,470 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,130 British (increase 60) and 3,207 foreign, these latter comprising 2,616 from the United States and 591 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d., ex. 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade chiefly confined to Islington on both market days was of a decidedly slower nature, with a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value, and a further decline of 2d. on Thursday. Irish on Monday were in full supply and shared in the general depression, Scotch also, though in smaller numbers, were quoted 2d. lower. A small consignment of Canadian ewes were offered for sale at Deptford, and made good money. The total number of sheep penned at both markets was 8,026, as against 6,450 during the preceding week, consisting of 7,570 British (increase 1,120) and 456 Canadians. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 11 stone Canadian ewes, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.

Calves numbered 20; trade nominal.

Pigs (40): trade slow but firm, best small breeds being quoted at from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d., heavy ditto 4s. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Business at the closing sales of sheep for the present season is proving rather more satisfactory, both as to price and demand, than many had, from the inactivity which has characterised the trade of late, expected, and the trend of prices has been decidedly against buyers, this being particularly so with lambs, which during the last week or so have been making from 2s. to 3s. a head more than was obtainable a month back, and this, too, despite the early frosts and their injurious effects on pasture keep. Best wether lambs, suitable for the butcher, may be quoted from 48s. to 57s. apiece, good working wether lambs, 38s. to 47s., plainer lots bringing 32s. to 36s. 6d.; chilver lambs, 31s. to 42s.; mixed lambs, 25s. to 32s.; ordinary runs of grazing ewes make up to 41s., ranging down to as low as 28s. for anything very plain. The few good flock ewes now to be met with are selling exceptionally well at from 45s. to 55s. each, specially good drafts in some cases bringing phenomenally high prices where purchased for some particular purpose. And as sales dwindle to a close the more apparent the scarcity of sheep all over the country becomes. In store cattle a very quiet tone characterises business all round, milch beasts of a good stamp being the only sorts at present claiming any attention, and for these from £17 to £21, or occasionally £22, is the best price obtainable; any secondary, either in heifers or cows, meeting a very slow trade at any price ranging down from £16 to as low as £10 or £11. Barreners, too, are slow, even for the best, and, though occasionally a single grazier makes up to £14 or £15 each, a more general run may be given as from £20 to £26 per pair for decent quality animals, anything decidedly plain being still much neglected, though offering at £16 to £18 or £19 per pair. Young stock find a little sale, though very low prices rule. Calves for rearing are not only dear but very difficult to procure, many more being wanted than there is at present offering on the market. Some make over 50s. apiece, where they promise to develop into something useful for the dairy.

If things are quiet in the store line they are still more so, with a few solitary exceptions, as regards fat stock. As a rule, there are rather more beasts offering than is wanted, and, as a consequence prices are injuriously affected. Anything ripe and well finished in Devons, however, may be quoted at 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per stone, exceptional qualities occasionally making another 2d.; beasts not quite so well finished, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; other bullocks, cross breds or Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 4s. All the lighter weights in mutton, choice wether lambs, sell at full rates—5s. 8d. to 6s.; but heavier sheep cannot be quoted more than 5s. 2d. or 5s. 4d.; whilst ewes meet a very slack demand at 4s. to 4s. 4d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been slightly under the average. Good quality still continue scarce. The best class met a satisfactory trade, while secondary kinds have also made an advance of 1s. per cwt. There was a moderate supply of sheep. These have been dearer throughout, and for those adapted for shop purposes from 1s. to 2s. a head dearer. Ewes being rather scarce have made high prices. A smaller supply of lambs, which sold well. Fat calves a full average show and slightly cheaper. Pigs rather more plentiful, and they met the best trade of the season. There was a very large number of store cattle. These have met a very dragging trade, and while the better class got fairly well sold out, the inferior were very bad to sell, and a considerable number of this description were left unsold. A small supply of store sheep, mostly of a very secondary class. Anything good made previous prices, but some of the inferior descriptions were left over. Milch cows a fair show, and they met a quieter trade at prices favouring buyers. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s. 6d.; Current, from 35s. to 36s. 6d.; Irish, from 32s. to 36s.; Mutton, from 7d. to fully 8d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

Buying opened fairly briskly, but a change soon came, and it was with difficulty that sales could be made, even at reduced rates. About 1s. 6d. per cwt. may be put down as the reduction on the primest bullocks and heifers, but on ordinary and coarse beasts the fall was much more pronounced, and a large number remained over unsold. Prime ox and heifer beef made from 48s. to 52s. per cwt., and a few lots of extra quality up to 55s.; good second-class beef from 45s. to 47s., and inferior from 42s. 6d. per cwt. upwards.

The sheep market was almost as disappointing—though supplies were almost identical with the previous week. Heavy mutton was particularly dull, but there was a general drop all round, neither butchers nor exporters seeming to be in anything of a speculative mood. Even prime, light-weight mutton, which is usually in request, was hard to sell. Lambs still linger on in the market, but are not sought for now, the season being out. Prime wether mutton sold at from 6¾d. to 7¼d. per lb; ewe, 6¼d. to 6½d.; and inferior from 5d. to 6d. per lb. Some nice Cheviots made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb. Hoggets suitable for the English markets gave way about 2s. per head, with very little buying. Prime veal was in slow request at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; all other sorts neglected at from 5d. per lb. upward. A fair supply of milch cows, but these met with a disappointing sale, especially for secondary or inferior animals. Prime new milch cows and springers were in fair request at steady prices, selling at from £17 to £21 each; inferior from £9 upwards. Store cattle were in small supply, and were nearly all young cattle.

The great four-day fair of Tuam, which took place on Tuesday of last week and three following days, was a very large one for cattle. It was a disappointing one for sellers, prices for cattle being from 20s. to 25s. per head under last year's fair. In very few cases was there any margin left in excess of the year's feeding, and cattle bought last May did not realise the cost price, except where they had been fed on the best pastures. Still, there was a good clearance. Two-year-olds made from £8 10s. to £11; three-year-olds from £10 10s. to £13 10s.—stockowners seeming anxious to sell out at any loss sooner than hold over. There was a large fair of sheep at Tuam, on the opening day (Tuesday) some 15,000 being offered for sale. Prices all round were lower than last year. The Mohill Great October Fair was also held last week, but the demand was very poor and prices very low. Hundreds of fine cattle were driven out unsold, as in many cases the best did not pay 5s. a head for the summer's grazing.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply, compared with Thursday last, showed increase of 70 head, and consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, middling quality predominating. A few prime quality beasts were also offered, but met absolutely no inquiry, rates consequently being unquotable: on the other hand, fat shed cows and bulls met slow but steady trade, last Monday's quotations governing all transactions. Top prices paid per 8lb.: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Decrease of 180 in number penned in sheep market, compared with last Thursday, supply consisting entirely of Downs and halfbreds, trade for which was exceedingly slow, though no lower rates are quotable. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows: 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10-stone halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10-stone Down ewes, 4s. Calf trade nominal. Pig trade fairly firm, best small porkers quoted 4s 8d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb., sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; calves, 5s 6d; pigs 2s 8d to 4s 8d Total supply: Beasts, 100; sheep, 220; calves, 10; pigs, 40.

London (Central), Friday.—Large supplies were on offer, for which a slow inquiry again prevailed, prices, however, remaining firm. Quotations: — Beef, Scotch short sides 4s 4d to 4s 6d; long sides 3s 10d to 4s; English 3s 6d to 3s 7d; American (Deptford-killed), 3s to 3s 5d; Liverpool sides 3s to 3s 4d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; Rancher hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 10d; forequarters, 1s 11d to 2s; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; River Plate hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 3d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s. Mutton: Scotch tegs, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ditto wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 10d; River Plate, 2s 1d to 2s 3d; Dutch wethers, 4s to 4s 2d; ewes, 3s. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 3s 2d; Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 6d; Irish, 2s 6d to 2s 10d. Pork: Town killed, 4s to 5s; country, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Trade dull and attendance small, owing to Maidstone Fair being held same day. Beef cheaper, 4s per stone being top price. Mutton slightly easier, but not notably lower; best wethers made up to 5s 10d. Veal, 2d lower; nothing above 5s 2d. Pork dearer, best small roasters up to 4s 4d. Ram tegs sold fairly well.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 35 fat beasts, 70 calves, 395 fat sheep and lambs, 210 pigs, and 145 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime Devon steers made up to £20 10s; young Shorthorn steers up to £16 5s; ditto cows up to £15 5s, and bulls to £18 10s; fat calves, 70s to £5 15s; small, 20s to 50s; fat hogs, 60s to 93s; fat porkers, 42s to 58s; small, 26s to 38s; store pigs, 9s to 15s 6d; dairy cows, £8 to £21; prime quality fat Down wethers and young ewes made from 50s to 56s; smaller, 45s to 48s; nine-months-old ditto, 48s to 56s; smaller, 36s to 44s; three-months-old sucking lambs, 30s; old ewes, 32s to 38s; Down store rams in demand from 50s to 63s; fat rams, 42s to 50s. The short supply of fat beasts met a dull inquiry with a reduction in prices from late sales. A slower trade for fat sheep and lambs, with a reduction in price for half fat and inferior lots. With a large supply of dairy cows and heifers on offer, prices ruled high for the best-class milchers, a brisk trade being maintained throughout. Store cattle sold slowly, except for strong two-year-old heifers, which are inquired for. Fat calves sold readily at late rates. Fat hogs and porkers were in demand and sold most readily at a slight advance. Store pigs also met a good trade. Ruling values:—Prime fat beasts, Devons, 6½d to 6¾d; ditto Shorthorns, 5¾d to 6¼d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 5d to 5¼d per lb.; best fat sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7¼d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 5½d to 8d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 8d per lb.; fat porkers, 9s 6d to 11s; hogs up to 10s per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—A large show—825 cattle—462 more than the previous week. Trade better than last week. Calves, £6 to £7 10s; heifers, £8 to £10 10s; stirks, £8 to £11; two-year-olds, £12 to £13 10s; three-year-olds, £13 10s to £16 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Prices:—Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; porkets, 10s 10d to 11s 6d per score; sows, 8s 6d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Fat beasts were in fair supply, but demand was by no means brisk, and trade was slow at last week's prices. Sheep were not numerous. Business was steady at current rates. Pigs were in limited supply, and porkers advanced 3d per score, whilst bacons declined 3d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Ready sale for good sheep, but trade dull for bullocks. Lambs, 17s 6d to 22s; better class, 25s to 32s 6d; ewes, 40s to 54s 6d; working wether tegs, 36s to 38s per head.

Carlisle, Saturday. Today was what is known as the Head Hempton Fair at Carlisle, but the supply on the Sands was small for the occasion, consisting of about 350 or 400 Irish bullocks and heifers. The attendance of buyers was small, and business was very quiet at from £8 10s to £10 10s for bullocks, £7 10s to £11 10s for wintering heifers, and up to £15 10s for heifers for finishing off.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in Price per Sc. any part of Back.	s.	d.
6s c. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	8	9
Under 10 sc. ...	...Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	8	9
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	8	3
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	7	9

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Chester, Thursday. There was a large supply of all descriptions of stock, but the sudden advance of winter seriously checked the demand, and little trade was transacted. Quotations:—Milch cows, £16 to £21; calves, £16 to £18; barren stock, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £5 to £9; bullocks, £11 to £15.

Colchester, Saturday. Grass beef, 4s to 4s 6d. Mutton, 5s 6d to 6s. Pork, 3s 6d to 3s. There was a good supply all round, and a good trade for pork. Trade was, however, slow for mutton and beef.

Doncaster, Saturday. — Large supply of cattle, especially Irish stores, but trade continues dull, and prices

unchanged. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers and drapes, £11 to £14; stirks, £6 to 9; young stock, £4 to £6 each. A fair supply of sheep, but smaller than usual at this season, and trade almost stationary. Ewes, 35s to 50s, and lambs, 28s to 42s each.

Dorchcester. Saturday.—At the Dorchester Repository to-day there was an exceptionally heavy supply of fat and store things, milch beasts making an exceptionally good display. All the better class things made a fairly brisk sale, but this was hardly the case with the more ordinary runs, which speculators were very coy about buying. The best heifers and calves sold from £16 10s to £21; and seconds, from £13 15s to £15 15s; cows and calves, £15 to £19; two-year-old in-calf heifers, £9 10s to £10 7s 6d; yearlings, £5 10s to £6 7s 6d. Barreners still slow of sale, up to £26 per pair, the top price for the best; others, £20 to £2 10s. Fat bullocks found a fairly steady sale, but prices are certainly easier than they were; heifers, £16 to £19; steers, £16 5s to £17; cows, £16 to £18 15s. Best beef sold up to about 11s per score ,and secondary qualities 9s 6d to 10s 6d. Mutton is very quiet at 7d to 8d per lb., for the best ewes and wethers.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market; Beasts 4,461, increase 1,048; sheep 7,044; decrease 12; calves 37, decrease 2. With the exceptionally large increase of 1,048 beasts, and worse trade across the Channel, buyers operated very cautiously and secured their wants, even the very choicest, on much better terms; middling and inferior cattle being very difficult to place, and a large proportion left unsold. Sheep of all descriptions in poor request and generally lower, the exports wants being few, and heavy qualities in excess of requirements. Cattle, live weight, best, 28s to 30s per cwt.; exceptional, 31s per cwt.; middling and inferior sorts, 24s to 27s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7¼d per lb. —GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh. Wednesday.—A large and fine show of cattle and sheep. Good cattle sold well, secondary slow. Sheep of good quality met a ready sale, as also did milch cows. Best polled bullocks, £11 11s to £15 15s; horned cattle, £11 to £14; stirks to £10; Cheviot dinments. 39s to 36s; Cheviot ewes to 30s; best milch cows to £26; Ayrshires to £20; crosses, £23

Exeter, Friday.—Beasts 380. Only choice animals maintaining late rates; 11s per score for steers and maiden heifers; 9s to 10s cows. 1,035 sheep; quiet trade; hogs, 8d to 8½d; wethers, 7½d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; small lambs, 9d to 10d; most of the best quality sheep sold. 85 calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a better show of cattle and sheep, and a fair demand for best quality. Top Scotch cattle, 63s; secondary, 55s to 58s; top Irish, 58s per cwt.; top hoggs, 9d.; top wedders, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7½d to 7¾d per lb. Dead meat was in fair demand, and values steady; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d; best Canadians, 5d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—A large supply of cows and calves (90), with trade no worse, the best prices being £22 12s 6d, £22 5s., and £21 10s. A large supply of store cattle, with slightly improved trade, nearly all being sold.

Hereford. Wednesday.—The October fair took place to-day, and was as well attended as in former years, and trade was fairly good. Bullocks and maiden heifers realised 6d to 6½d to 6¾d per lb. Fat cows, 4½d to 5½d per lb. Veal, a small quantity, sold dear, up to about 7½d per lb. Choicest wether sheep found ready customers at 8d to 8½d per lb., and fat ewes were in fair demand at 6d to 6½d. Fat lambs also sold a little better up to 34s apiece. Pigs, not a very large supply, met with a brisk trade, bacons and porks selling at 10s 6d per score and upwards, or from 5d to 7d per lb.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report there was a slight increase in the numbers of fat cattle penned, and a brisk trade for all well-finished animals at from 9s 6d to 8s 9d per stone. A large show of English and Irish grazing cattle. At the third special sale, about 350 were offered, and included several choice lots of steers bred in Cumberland and Westmorland. There were more buyers present and a better clearance was affected at a slight improvement in prices for the best bred animals. Those short of condition, and second qualities, were very dull, many not paying for the summer's grazing. Two-year-olds, £12 5s to £11 12s 6d; eighteen months, £9 15s to £7 15s; sixteen to fourteen months, £8 5s to £5 15s; Irish calves, £5 17s to £3 15s. Several cows were on offer, and rather more money was obtained for good cows and heifers freshed calved, and near prices ranging from £19 10s to £16 10s; some in-calf Dutch heifers made from £20 to £17. Fat sheep were dear up to 11s 6d per stone; hoggs to 60s; shearlings to 71s; grazing hoggets were not brisk; Suffolks 43s 6d to 40s. Fat swine were short, and met a sharp demand at higher prices. Numbers at sales and market:—1,552 cattle, 1,511 sheep, 1,601 swine, and 118 horses.

Leicester. Saturday.—Full average deliveries of home-bred bullocks. Trade ruled brisker for choice lots, but secondary sorts met a dragging sale. Choice milch cows, £20 to £25; good lots, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; Hereford bullocks, £15 to £17; Irish cattle, £10 to £13 10s; Welsh bullocks, £9 to £14; young stock, £5 to £7; calves, 15s to 35s. Sheep were a moderate supply and lambs sold freely at 24s to 37s 6d.

Lincoln, Friday.—There was a fair consignment of horned stock, and a slow trade. Yearlings, £9 to £10; two-year-olds, £12 to £14. Sheep were in small supply, and in fair demand. Drape ewes, 30s to 40s; lambs, 20s to 40s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of store beasts, trade slow at £6 to £17 each. Fat beasts smaller show, trade late rates, 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Few store sheep on offer made 42s to 49s each. Fat sheep smaller supply, trade very firm at 2s to 16s per stone. Few store lambs 30s to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef, first-class, 4½; second, 4d to 4¼d; third, 3d to 3½d. Mutton, first-class Cheviots (Scotch), 7½d; others, 7d; second-class, 6d to 6½d; third, 5d to 5½d. Veal, first-class, 6½d; second, 5½d to 6d; third 4½d to 5d. Bacon pigs, first-class, 5¾d; second, 4¾d to 5¼d; third, 3¾d to 4¾d. Porket pigs, first-class, 7½d; second, 7d to 7¼d; third, 6¼d to 6¾d.

Norwich. Saturday.—Good trade for best quality fat beasts, but supply short, prices averaging 7s to 8s per stone; store cattle met with quiet demand, business was marred by inclement weather, and values ranged from £6 to £13 per head. Less store sheep offered, and trade by no means brisk; breeding ewes, 45s to 55s per head; lambs, 25s to 30s. Fair trade for fat sheep, which were in good supply at 9s 6d to 10s 6d per stone. Fat pigs sold readily at 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Fair show of milch beasts; best cows, £18 to £22; and in-calf heifers, £14 to £18 10s. Small show of store beasts, which met with a slow trade; strong heifers and steers, £9 to £14; and younger beasts, £5 to £9. Large show of calves, with rather slower trade, making 25s to 50s. No sheep or pigs.

Retford. Saturday.—The store stock on offer was scarcely beyond medium quality, and changed hands slowly at barely late rates. Milch cows, £16 to £18; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; and calves, 36s to 40s.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts; trade slow. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Fewer calves offered, trade better, at 5s to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade slower; best, 5s 10d to 6s; middlings, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Slow demand for store beasts. Large supply of pigs, trade rather better.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Moderate demand for store cattle, and usual trade for fat at slightly lower rates. Sheep and pig trade good. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 8d to 9¾d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 7d per lb.; porket pigs, 9s 6d to 10s 3d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score. Numbers offered as follows:—606 cattle, sheep and lambs 1,170, calves 107, pigs 367.

Truro. Wednesday. Business fairly brisk; attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 38s; ewes, 38s; wethers, 7¾d per lb.; ewes, 5½d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 8s to 9s each. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market: 372 bullocks, 62 calves, 352 sheep, 261 pigs, 20 horses.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—Beasts a moderate supply all round; fair trade for sheep. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb.; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb.; veal, 6d to 7d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. Fair supply of stock, with late present high prices fully maintained. Best beef made 7s to 7s 6d, secondary qualities, 6s 6d to 7s per stone; best Southdown and cross-bred shearlings, 8d to 9d; ewes, 6¾d to 7d; lamb, 9d to 9¼d per lb.

York. Thursday.—This was the last of the extra markets, and there was only a very light show of Irish cattle, owing to Yarm Fair. The English cattle were principally stirks, which made £6 to £11 10s. No two or three-year-olds were shown. A few calving and milch cows were shown, but there were no quotations, and trade was practically at a standstill. A poor show of sheep of all classes. North-country ewes, 44s to 50s; Cheviot ewes, 26s to 32s; Masham ewes, 38s to 46s. North-country gimmers, to 48s; North-country lambs, 28s to 33s; twice-crossed shearlings, to 50s; Masham shearlings, 38s to 44s; twice-crossed lambs, 28s to 35s; Masham lambs, 21s to 26s. A few rams made late rates.

FOREIGN

Yorkhill. Monday. — Large supplies of Canadian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 620 head being penned in the lairages. All the cattle, which were of fair average quality, were delivered in good shape and condition, and presented a nice apearance in the pens. There was the usual large attendance of buyers and a steady selling trade was experienced, clearances being effected at all the stances, but values, owing to a glut and lower quotations in other markets, were considerably easier than those obtained last week, there being a drop of about 2s per cwt deadweight on all classes of bullocks. Bullocks of handy sizes and weights made up to 55s per cwt deadweight, and secondary and inferior qualities from 50s to 53s per cwt. Zulls of prime quality made about 46s per cwt. deadweight and other sorts were sold down to 42s per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firmer in all positions at the late advance. The autumn demand for kainit and basic slag at present is only quiet, and this likewise applies to feeding stuffs, which meet only a slow consumptive sale:—Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 7s 6d; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 1s 3d to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d to £7 10s; ditto English prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 15s; linseed meal (pure rolled linseed), prime, in bags, £14 to £15; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good to prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 3s 9d; ditto English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 10s to £4 15s; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 18s 9d to £6; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £6 to £6 2s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, nominal; Indian meal, coarse to fine grinding, prime, in bulk, nominal; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 6s per quarter, 416 lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding, prime, in barrels, 4s 3d to 4s 4½d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; ditto ditto guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; ditto ditto guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s 6d to £1 13s 6d; ditto prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2 0s 6d; ditto finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 2s to £2 3s per ton—at depots inland.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were forthcoming and experienced a steady inquiry. Best silts 60s to 70s; Blacklands 55s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, with plenty of potatoes on offer. On the whole the market was a trifle firmer, though the business done was only slight. Plenty of Evergoods were on offer, but merchants were not disposed to purchase this variety. A few lots of the better kinds of potatoes changed hands at 45s per ton, but 42s 6d was the average price, and where they were sold in loads 4s 9d was the price. On the retail market potatoes still remain at 4d to 6d per stone.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have exceeded the demand, and prices have had a downward tendency. The following are this day's quotations: Essex, Kent, and Surrey Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s; ditto Pioneers, 60s to 65s; ditto British Queens, 55s to 60s; Lincoln Evergoods, 55s to 60s; ditto Up-to-dates, 55s to 70s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 50s to 55s; ditto British Queen, 50s to 55s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a moderate scale, and the demand showed a slight improvement. Royal Kidney 60s to 65s; British Queen 60s to 65s; Blacklands 55s to 60s; Up-to Dates 60s to 70s; Scottish Queens 55s to 60s; ditto Up-to Dates 60s to 70s per tton.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday. Brewers' and distillers' wet grains: The trade for these feeding stuffs, so well known for forcing milk, continues firm on slack supply and good demand, 1½s 6d to 2os ale, and 1½s 3d to 1½s porter, per ton on rails, London, being made, paid, and with a continuance of cold frosty weather the demand will increase and the supply decrease. Distillers' grains: Owing to the very small supplies in London not nearly sufficient for the demand, prices rule very high, viz., 30s to 32s 6d per ton. At this figure they are not such good value as brewers' grains as relatively they should not be more than about 7s per ton higher than ale grains. Pressed white distillery maize meal: Small supplies, and ready sales at late prices. Dried grains are low in price, in comparison with all other feeding stuffs, and higher prices are looked for, as larger parcels every year are shipped abroad, where their merits for sheep and horses (being a cooked food and easily digestible) are well known. Most drying plants are closed down for the season, prices of wet grains making it unprofitable to dry at present. Ale range from 95s, mixed 90s, porter 87s 6d; distillers 110s. Dried distillery meal, containing 45 to 80 per cent. oil and albuminoids, 118s per ton and upwards, on rails, London; bags extra. —HAMLYN AND CO., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, E.C.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: Market steady, with a fair demand for near seed, but upward is quiet and more disposition shown by Plate importers to sell. Calcutta-London—Spot, 37s 6d, and afloat, 37s 3d; Oct.-Nov., 37s; April-June, 35s 6d. Hull dull, with a very poor demand. La Plata spot, 35s 3d; passage, 35s 6d; Oct.-Nov., 36s 6d; Dec.-Jan., 35s 6d; and Jan.-Feb., 35s. Rapeseed has improved in value, importers being so firm. Brown Cawnpore, Nov.-Dec., 37s; Brown Calcutta, 36s; April-June, 35s 9d; Ferozepore, 37s. Cottonseed has met with a better inquiry; prices having advanced in Egypt, have caused values to improve here. London—Passage, new, £5 17s 6d; old, £5 12s 6d; prompt new, £5 16s 3d; October, £5 15s; Nov.-Jan., £5 15s. Hull—Spot and passage is selling at £5 15s. Early loading October, £5 15s; Nov.-Jan., £5 13s 9d paid. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm. London made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet. London made £4 12s 6d —THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 540 quarters from Buenos Ayres, 703 Cronstadt, 37 Harlingen, 32,276 Rosario, 4,540 San Lorenzo; total, 38,096 quarters. Cottonseed: The market has shown considerable improvement for Egyptian seed during the week, and up to £5 12s 6d paid old crop on spot. A good business done in new crop at £5 11s 3d to £5 13s 9d in all positions to January, latter being to-day's value Nov.-Jan., but £5 15s required passage and October. Bombay afloat and shipments to December sold at £4 15s, and a few hundred tons Dec.-Jan., also Jan.-Feb., found buyers at £4 12s 6d, to-day, £4 13s 9d being quoted. Oilseed cakes: A very firm tone, with rather better demand for all sorts.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade at last shows signs of improving, there being a better consumptive demand and rather more disposition to buy ahead; at the same time, shippers continue to offer sparingly and importers are compelled to pay full prices. Russian are scarce on spot, and firmly held at a slight advance in price. American move off quietly and are unchanged. East India seed pures are also without alteration. London-made meet a better inquiry at last week's prices. Cotton cakes: Egyptian remain fairly plentiful on spot, and, with a considerable quantity about due, the market is barely as strong, but quotations are unaltered. English sell slowly at about late rates. Decorticated London-made is in good request at £6 15s to £6 17s 6d for cake and meal and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand offers at £7, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes: Scarce and dear; Ravison and East India unchanged. Maize germ meal: Landed lots of white American make £5 15s, but for winter despatch there are sellers at £5 10s. English is fully as dear at £5 11s 3d to £5 12s 6d. Maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: The market is still bare of stocks, and shippers ask £4 16s 3d ex ship terms for steamer parcels to come along. Locust beans are without change at £5 5s per ton for whole, and £5 15s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is the turn dearer at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
Russian, in bags	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
in mats.....	7 7 6	to 7 8 9
Calcutta, to arrive	7 10 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 6 3	to 7 7 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
,, for shipment.....		
English	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Bombay	4 0 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 15 0	to 6 17 6
,, ,, ,, Meal.....	6 15 0	to 6 17 6
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	7 0 0	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	4 17 6	
Ravison	4 10 0	
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 11 3	to 5 12 6
American, Dec /Jan. .....(c.i.f.)	5 10 0	
American .....spot	5 15 0	
Maize Gluten Meal..... .....June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice	4 16 3	
Broken Rangoon.....		
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled.....	5 15 0	

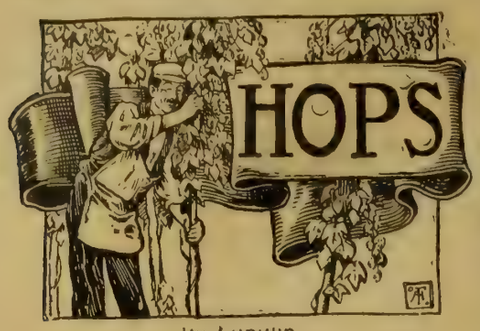
—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4½d to 5½d; clover, 5½d to 6d; straw (wheat), 3½d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were on a liberal scale and trade ruled quiet, prices, however, being unchanged. Best clover 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 63s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; meadow and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 36s per load.



By Lupulin.

Trade Notes.

England.

Since the opening of this season's market, the Borough has been going through an unprecedented experience. Growers, having large quantities to offer, and desirous to realise, have constantly crowded one factor's offices, and merchants, being willing to take advantage of the very low currency, have bought freely, so that factors, with their clerks and warehousemen, have been compelled to work hard, both early and late, in order to cope with the heavy business. It is impossible to state accurately the proportion of the crop that has changed hands, but it is generally estimated that more than one-half, and probably two-thirds, of the 1905 hops have been already sold. During the past week a slight relaxation of the pressure is perhaps apparent, but the evident desire of brewers to protect themselves against future contingencies suggests that further extensive purchases will be made, and that all the bright healthy portion of our growth will soon be taken over. In the meantime the line of cleavage between the values of the best and the medium and inferior samples becomes more definite. While buyers are willing to pay more for choice colouring samples, the values of the lower grades are receding. From 20s. to 40s. approximately represent the currency of the latter, the former having advanced to 70s. or 75s., and a few very choice lots have realised 80s. There are some excellent parcels of good mediums still remaining, and it appears probable that more attention will be given to these when the better growths are exhausted, and that they will in their turn feel the effect of the demand. It is anticipated by one of our leading merchants that brewers will not suspend their operations until they have secured at least one and a half years' consumption, or, say, about 900,000 cwts. Should this be the case, imports will be required to the extent of about 170,000 cwts.; but thus far the prices of foreign hops, being above our own, do not offer much inducement for shipment. We may, therefore conclude that the bulk of the English crop will be absorbed before any important business can be done in foreign growths.

America.

The New York market is practically denuded of choice 1904's, but a few medium yearlings are being dealt with at 14 to 16 cents. New Sacramentos of middling quality, offered at 16½ cents, have not found buyers. Washingtons are selling at 10 to 12 cents. The New York State crop is reported, from samples received, to be probably the poorest in quality that has been harvested for some years; buyers will not handle them at higher prices than 15 to 16 cents.

Belgium.

The firmer tone, briefly noticed in last week's report is fairly maintained, and growers are more reserved. Values on the Brussels Bourse are quoted at 32 to 40 francs, and the active demand in the country markets has raised prices a few points.

Burgundy.

Business at Dijon is becoming more active, and values are improving, prices ranging from 40 to 60 francs.

Germany.

The Nuremberg market has been rather slow during the past week, demand having slightly fallen off. Without any quotable reductions in values, the tendency is towards weakness as regards the lower qualities, while choice descriptions are still firm, and perhaps a few marks higher. At Munich, Saaz hops are seling at 135s., Hallertaus at 115s., and Wurtembergs at 125s. These figures represent about half the values quoted on this market a year ago.

An exhibition of English ciders is to be held in the Zoological Gardens, Amsterdam, the first week in November under the auspices of the Dutch Government. Any English cider maker can send on communicating with Dr. J. J. L. van Rijn, Friesland Agricultural Commissioner to Great Britain and Ireland.

Weather and Yield of Milk.

There is a general opinion that a severe storm or a cold snap of weather diminishes the yield of milk, and also reduces the quality. Careful observers, however, have noticed that the effect of a storm is sometimes to decrease the quantity, at other times to increase it. An explanation of such contrary results is difficult to give, but it appears to depend partly on the violence of the storm, and partly on the quantity and quality of the food. When a cow, during the summer months, is in good pasture, and can eat its full, a storm will not have a bad influence, but if the food is deficient in quantity or quality, then the effect of the storm will be to reduce the yield, because there has been an extra call on the vital power of the animal.

What do people do in changeable weather? If the temperature falls, we put on warmer clothing, and if it is not sufficient, we cannot endure severe cold without suffering. Every storm or bad weather to which a cow is exposed, so that she suffers, diminishes the yield of milk, and this decrease should serve as a sign to the owner that his cow is not being sufficiently looked after. Self-preservation is a law of nature, and a cow takes first from her food that which is requisite to maintain bodily warmth, and the surplus she uses for milk production. When the bad weather comes she eats more than usual, and sometimes has an extra surplus available for conversion into milk, so that it does not always follow that a storm acts prejudicially on the quantity of milk. There is, however, a marked difference in the effect between moderately cold weather, and a temperature so severe that the cow suffers from it. In general, can it be said that anything which causes discomfort to the cow will diminish the milk yield? It may be physical pain, or a fright caused by dogs. It may also be simply nervousness, such as visits from strangers, unusual noises, or even a change to a new stall. Any circumstance giving rise to discomfort on the part of the animal will influence the yield and quality of the milk.

If the cow has plenty of nourishing food, and the temperature falls, she will eat more and more as it gets colder, and at the same time she will usually give a small increased yield. If the temperature continues severe, the extra food being limited by the digestive powers of the animal, the milk will fall off in quantity and probably also in quality. Cows differ in their capacity to bear cold and wet, and the owner must learn by observation when extra food and protection is desirable.—*Deutsche landw. Thierzucht.*

Dear Meat in Germany.

The great advance in the price of meat, especially pork, in Germany, is entailing great hardship on the mass of the working population in that country, and has given rise to a feeling on the part of the inhabitants of the manufacturing centres, that the import duties on meat should be given up, or at any rate greatly lowered in order that cheap supplies from South America, the States, and Australia should be at the disposal of the buyer. On the other hand the powerful agricultural circles protest that such a course is not necessary, and that the importation of live stock would be attended with great danger; they point out, moreover, that the high price is of a temporary character; and will soon pass away, as happened in 1902.

According to official statistics, the numbers of stock for food is as follows:—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.
1900	18,939,692	9,692,501	16,807,014	3,266,997
1904	19,351,568	7,907,173	18,920,666	3,329,881

So that there has been a continual increase in the different classes, excepting sheep, but the greater number does not fully represent the actual increase of meat, because in consequence of progress in breeding and feeding, the individual weight of the animals is also considerably greater, as shown by the following official figures:—

	1883. lbs.	1892. lbs.	1900. lbs.
Average weight of oxen, age two years and over	1,025	1,093	1,168
Cows	836	915	975
Pigs, one year and over	255	263	287

In regard to the diminution of sheep, this has been caused by the great reduction in the value of wool, and the preference shown by the Germans for pork to mutton, also by the decrease in export. During the period 1883-88 there was an average export of 1,272,000 sheep, but in consequence of the imports being prohibited in other countries, chiefly in France, the German exports fell to 115,500 in 1904.

The total quantity of flesh at the disposal of the population was last year, according to a careful calculation, in round figures:—

	Tons.
From the licensed slaughterhouses	2,500,000
From the private killing	580,000
From imports	130,000
Total	3,210,000

equivalent to an average consumption per head of the population of 119 lb., of which 114 lb. was covered by the home production. For the sake of comparison it is mentioned that the average per head consumption of meat in England is 123, which is recognised as being very high.

From these data it is contended that the home production of flesh in Germany is practically equal to the demand, and that the dearness of meat does not arise from any growing scarcity of the material. The present excessive prices must therefore arise from some other cause. It might be thought that, although there were enough cattle, the farmers raised the price artificially by keeping back stock from the markets, but the official figures of the different markets show that this has not been case. However, the high prices remain a fact not to be denied, and therefore some other cause must exist.

The hot and dry summer of 1904 led in many parts of Germany almost to a fodder famine, so that all kinds of feeding stuffs advanced enormously in value, and the cost of fattening cattle was proportionately increased. This extra cost the farmers had to recover by getting more for the animals sent to market. Another, and perhaps more, important factor is that the butchers availed themselves of the rise in value to put up their retail prices out of all proportion to the extra cost to them. Just as in this country, when flour goes up, the bakers seize the opportunity to clap on an extra profit for themselves, so the German retailers have been making a very good thing out of the rise by using it as an excuse for putting up their retail prices still further.

Therefore the German agriculturists maintain that the inconvenience caused to the public must not be attributed solely to them, and they contend that, as there is actually no scarcity the prices will soon return to a normal level. They are aware of the responsibility resting on them to satisfy the flesh requirements of the population, and, as the representative of the German National Agricultural Society says, will continue to make every effort to fulfil their mission in this respect.

Lord Minto's Harness Horses and Hunters.

There was a very big attendance at Messrs. Tattersall's sale at Albert Gate on Monday to witness the dispersion of Lord Minto's fine stud of harness horses and hunters, in consequence of his impending departure for India. The best of the draft was the chestnut gelding Mikado, by Balsamo, a winner of the championship as a three-year-old at St. Boswells, and since his yearling days frequently successful at all the leading Border country shows. He changed hands at 195 gs., the top price of the sale. There was also keen competition for Emperor, another prize-winner, and he changed hands at 100 gs., while 75 gs. was the price at which Empress, the winner of the medal of the Hunters' Improvement Society at Kelso, was allowed to go. The harness horses did not sell so well, the top price, 62 gs., being paid for Toronto, a brown gelding of quality.

The Fruit Growing Industry.

Addressing a large conference of fruit growers from various parts of Kent and Sussex at Tunbridge Wells, on the 14th inst., Major A. Griffith-Boscawen, M.P., chairman of the Departmental Committee on the Fruit Growing Industry of Britain, alluded to the remarkable fact that fruit growing was the one department of agriculture in this country which was actually gaining ground, and urged that farmers should adopt every possible means of developing it. With the one exception of hops, no agricultural industry gave so much employment.

There was every reason to believe that much of the fruit at present imported from abroad could be grown equally as well in this country. One thing necessary to achieve this end was the imposition of a tariff upon imported foreign fruits, but he pointed out that the home grower, by devoting his attention to co-operation and to the better packing of his produce, matters in which he was at present far behind the foreigner, could do much without the aid of the Legislature.

Some resolute action was needed to prevent the present large quantity of bad foreign fruit being dumped into England, to be made, he feared, into very inferior jam. A practical suggestion made by Major Griffith-Boscawen was that the fruit industry could be considerably benefited in the future by the teaching of horticulture to children in rural schools.

Wisbech Mustard Seed Market.—There was a good attendance at the third mustard seed market at Wisbech on Saturday, when growers were present from Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk. There was a good show of seed, a fair amount of threshing having been done during the past week or two. The crop is reported to be above the average, and the condition of the seed is excellent. Prices were firm, and inclined to be dearer. The best brown seed made 10s. 6d., ordinary samples 9s. 6d. to 10s., and Whit seed 7s. to 8s. per bushel.

Live Stock Record.

AUTUMN MANAGEMENT OF BREEDING EWES.

Experienced flockowners and shepherds are well aware that a successful lambing season usually depends on the amount of provident care, attention, and rational feeding in-lamb ewes receive, especially in the latter part of autumn and in the early winter, up to the period of parturition. Some think it does not matter much during the first month after they have taken their season, but that will very much depend on circumstances. Rational feeding is needful always and it should be remembered that the sheep by nature is a hill-country animal—the reason why its internal organs are injuriously affected when forced to subsist on the herbage of marshes or a too watery diet. Like all other animals, sheep may gradually acquire almost a second nature by long habitude and usage to particular soils and situations, but there must be a watchful eye to make sure of their food always agreeing with them. In lowland districts, hay-feeding can scarcely be commenced too early, or, at least, the custom of placing a little sweet hay in racks to which sheep have access. In the majority of instances they might partake little, perhaps none of it; but, it might, in other cases, be partaken of more freely by the instinct of the animal being sensible of a salutary effect being produced; perhaps neutralisation of injurious influences of semi-poisonous plants. Pieces of rock salt for sheep to lick should always be put into the fields or folds where a ewe flock has abiding. The late Mr. Robert Russell used to say that, in his opinion, there are two things the shepherd should take care sheep placed under his charge should have daily access to — these being salt and drinking water. Yet how numerous are the cases of no provision being made of either.

No doubt abortions, caused by injurious feeding, are more likely to come with the November south-westerly gales than at an earlier period, partly because of the chilly effect of too much water on the organic internal system, when every particle of food partaken of is soaked, and, perhaps to a still further extent by the wet blankets about the bodies seldom being allowed time to dry before a fresh soaking comes. This cannot but exert a very baneful influence. Enervation must be produced by the perpetual evaporation from the skin. Who then, can wonder at the internal organic system getting deranged, or that in the general chill and disorder of organic functions, the generative embryo should be injuriously affected, and, in some cases, destroyed? When the late Mr. Henry Woods, of Merton, some thirty years since, published his pamphlet proving how enormous was the loss of lambs in some flocks, compared to others, it was attributed chiefly to injudicious feeding, and especially to giving too many turnips. We have had ever since numerous homilies on the subject, and some have striven in practice to dispense with turnip-feeding altogether for in-lamb ewes, preferring to keep them in grass fields where they are able to pick up a little herbage and supplementing this with full racks of hay. Scarcely is it to be supposed that a few turnips, if given along with some dry food, would injure pregnant ewes. Many hill-flockowners are compelled to give turnips in part, taking due care that the quantity of hay or dry trough food is sufficient to prove a healthful complete alterative. But giving salutary diet is only one part of the question. In a large number of cases, when for several days and perhaps two or three weeks, the fleeces of ewes are seldom dry, is seems a matter of urgency to provide shelter as well as plenty of dry food. No doubt large numbers of flockowners will declare it to be an impossibility to do this, but where there is a will there is usually a way. Temporary lambing folds have, many of them, either little huts or overhead sheeting to enable ewes to lie in the dry in the night season, and even the best of them do not cost so much that the amount ought to prevent so needful a provision being made. There should be always such a place into which the flock might be turned under the worst circumstances, when the judgment of the owner or shepherd perceives that the animals suffer privation, and especially on the approach of bad nights.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 14, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	23	53	135	58	2,944	4,937
	Outbreaks.	No.	9	13	21	15	658	1,060
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	8	8	17	12	687	1,102
Rabies	Cases confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	28	32	42	43	1,656	2,195
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	18	17	24	971	1,240
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	19	30	17	9	1,029	1,270
	Outbreaks.	No.	17	22	10	7	777	791

Period.	1905	1904	1903	1902
Week ended Oct. 14, 1905	2,944	4,937	6,447	6,366
Corresponding week in	658	1,060	1,292	1,352
Total for 40 weeks in 1905	687	1,102	1,237	1,119
Corresponding period in	1,656	2,195	2,013	1,676
	971	1,240	1,138	927
	...	...	1	1
	1,029	1,270	911	861
	777	791	692	535

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

The President of the Board of Agriculture.—Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has made several engagements for the next few weeks. On Friday, October 27, the annual conference between the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and himself will take place at Perth; on Friday, November 3, he will address the Hunts Chamber of Agriculture at Ramsey; on November 7 he will attend the dinner in connection with the Alford Bull Fair; on November 9 he will be present at the annual dinner of the Gloucestershire Root, Fruit, and Grain Society at Gloucester; and on December 8 he will attend the annual competitive festival of the Monmouthshire Dairy School, and will present the prizes awarded by the Monmouthshire Technical Education Committee at Abergavenny.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

On the front page of this issue we give a photo of the head of a splendid and typical Shorthorn bull, and it may interest many readers to know that the animal whose head is thus given is Meteor, with whom Mr. R. C. Cooper, of Shenstone Court, Lichfield, has won numerous prizes, including firsts and championships, at our leading shows. Meteor was born on March 29, 1903, and was bred by Mr. C. Morgan-Richardson, Noyadd Wilym, Cardigan, its sire being Moonlight 75110, and its dam Calluna, by Major 59419.

At a meeting of the Council of the Clydesdale Horse Society, held last week, the Editing Committee reported that 1,982 entries had so far been received for Volume XXVIII. of Stud Book, being an increase of 200 over the total number received for Volume XXVII. It was resolved to insert the portraits of the Cawdor Cup winners in next volume—namely, Hiawatha Godolphin and Rosadora. Several requested alterations in colour and marks, ages, etc., of horses exported during the last twelve months were delayed till next meeting. A lengthy discussion took place on the proposal to reduce the fees payable for entries by members of the society, and to increase the fees payable by non-members by charging an inquiry fee of 10s. for each entry. The proposal was, however, negatived by a majority. Intimation was made of numerous awards of medals and champion prizes during the past season, which were in all cases confirmed except two.

The Council of the National Sheep Breeders' Association has been summoned to a meeting in London, at which a resolution will be submitted by Mr. J. E. Quested, asking the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society to make it a condition of entry at their shows that all sheep entered for competition in the pure-bred classes shall be either entered, or be eligible for entry in their respective flock books, and that the judges appointed to award the prizes in all pure-bred sheep classes should be selected by the Council from gentlemen nominated by the respective sheep societies. One reason given in support of the proposal is that it is unfair that judges should be drawn from outside the circle of recognised breeders of sheep, or any other animal, to determine the merits of representatives of a breed with which they are in no way identified. One or more instances of this sort occurred, it is said, in connection with the Yorkshire Agricultural Show at Hull.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, Shrewsbury, despatched from Liverpool on Saturday, October 7, per steamship "Highland Enterprise," a choice lot of Romney Marsh Shearling rams for two Argentine customers. They were specially selected as being typical specimens of the breed, special attention being paid to securing good even fleeces throughout.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., Live Stock Exporters, Shrewsbury, have been doing quite an extensive business of late with Chili, their shipments including several notable Shorthorn bulls, blood reds, from the noted herds of Mr. Geo. Harrison, Mr. John Hardley, and Mr. J. T. Nickells. In addition to the foregoing must be included a blood red Shorthorn heifer, Hereford bull, Hampshire sheep, and Aylesbury ducks.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., the well-known live stock exporters, of Shrewsbury, shipped on the 30th ult., per steamship "Rem-

brandt," from Liverpool to a South American client a Shorthorn bull and heifer of exceptional merit, viz., Aikton Abbotsford, a well-grown roan bull bred by Mr. D. Bragg, sired by Abbotsford, a notable bull bred by Mr. John Cran, of Keith, from Duchess 26th, a big-framed cow from a well known prize-winning family. Aikton Abbotsford was seldom exhibited; but at the Longton Show of this year he obtained first and special prize; but his own brother, Abbotsford Duke, a year older, exported to Australia, had a very successful showyard career. The heifer hailed from Mr. R. P. Cooper's prize-winning herd, and was a member of the highly-esteemed Waterloo family. She was a blood-red in colour, and was in calf to that grand prize bull, Speculator, purchased as a yearling at 220 guineas, and a winner at the Northampton, Hereford and Worcester, Peterborough, Staffordshire, Shropshire and West Midland, Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire, and Leicester shows, and subsequently sold at a high price for exportation.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have just received advice that the show of Shropshires at the recent Melbourne Show comprised a large and good entry, and that the sales which followed established a record in prices for both rams and ewes. Mr. A. E. Mansell, who won first and second with pens of three rams, sold ten Shearling rams at an average of £107 2s., the best prices being 205, 160, and 105 guineas. Mr. H. Williams won first for Shearling rams in a class of 45, and first and champion for aged ram. These made 130 and 100 guineas respectively, and he also made the splendid average of £31 10s. for seventeen Shearling ewes

Mr. G. Harrison, of Gainford Hall, Darlington, has sold a Leicester ram lamb for South America.

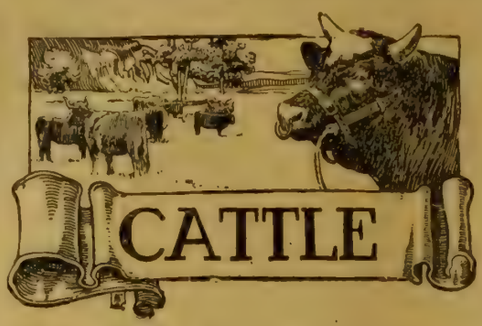
The fifty-seventh Birmingham Cattle Show takes place at Bingley Hall on November 25 to 30, and entries close on Wednesday, November 1. When applying to the secretary, Mr. W. H. Lythall, for entry forms it is necessary to state for which section they are required. The prize money offered amounts to £3,500, including the Lord Mayor's prize, the High Sheriff's prize, the challenge cups, value 100 guineas each, presented by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Mr. Joseph Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons; the Birmingham Daily Post challenge cup, value £50, for the best animal not exceeding two years old; and the Maisemore Park challenge cup, value 50 guineas, for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal. The usual extra prizes of £50 each for the best Hereford, Shorthorn, and Scot; £30 for the best cross-bred; and £20 for the best Devon, appear in the prize sheet. The Cooper challenge cup for sheep, and the Hotel and Innkeepers' challenge cup for pigs are again offered. There are the usual number of classes for roots, potatoes, and corn.

Volume XI. has been issued of the Flock Book of the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep. It is a well-got-up volume, and gives details of rams Nos. 14458 to 16195, ewes 191 to 248, and flocks 1 to 86, also particulars of prizes won by the breed at the various shows, wool prizes, record of sales and export certificates, etc. The book is published by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association, Incorporated, and all communications respecting it must be addressed to the secretary, Mr. W. W. Chapman, Room 4, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C.

At a meeting of the Council of the Devon County Agricultural Association it was decided to hold the 1906 show at Tavistock on May 22 and 23, and to ask the Duke of Bedford to be president for the year.

Mr. William Ball, one of the best-known agriculturists in the Fylde, and secretary of the Lancashire Farmers' Association, has decided to go to Canada to take up farming there.

At Donington Fair, held on Wednesday, horses suitable for town work met with a ready sale, and the best made up to 65 gs.; yearlings and two-year-olds, £20 to £35. The beast fair was numerically below the average, and business inactive. Three-year-old beasts made up to £18, and two and a half year olds to £15.



Notes and Jottings.

In our last week's "Notes" attention was once more called to the want of finish in so many of the cattle that are being marketed for the butcher, and again this week the same note needs repeating. It is a long time since so many half-finished and indifferent quality animals were seen in our markets than has been the case recently. The season, it must be admitted on all hands, has been anything but a good one, and one, there is no doubt, in which the better-bred animals stood at a great advantage over the mongrels, and when the scarceness of keep became general these were the first to be got rid of. Whether this is the cause of the extra number of bad classed ones and the minimum number of good ones is hard to say, but is quite probable.

Another cause may certainly be attributed to the increase in dairying for milk selling purposes, which is having a rather prejudicial effect upon a large number of the store cattle reared. The establishment of milking trials at our shows has led to milk records being taken in many herds, and the young stock of these are not of as good a type for feeding as are the produce of more medium milkers (dual-purpose cattle); the bulls used, too, in many of these herds recently, have been of this same light-fleshed and heavy milking type, and have impressed the want of flesh upon their offspring, in some instances, in a very marked manner. It is not, perhaps, wise to take a pessimistic view of such things, but breeders will do well to be a little cautious in breeding too extensively for milk.

Depend upon it, the day is not far distant when this country will be very largely supplied with milk from abroad. Sterilisation is already being practised much more generally than it was, and, with this process becoming fashionable and known to the public, the demand for it is certain to increase, and it is pretty well known that European countries can do these things much more cheaply than they can be managed in England. Female labour costs less there and is of better quality, the womenfolk taking a large share in the labour of caring for and milking the animals. It is true that in some parts of the north of England, in Scotland, Ireland, and Wales a good deal of milking is performed by females; but in the great dairying districts of the Midlands and South the milking is a great trouble.

The report of the Commission on our food supply in time of war brings out some extraordinary statements in a portion of the evidence affecting the importation of Canadian store cattle. One witness states, it is reported, his difficulty in maintaining his farm in a high state of cultivation on account of the want of more cattle, which he insinuates is in a great measure owing to the prohibition against Canadians. Surely this individual, and others who take similar views, must have forgotten the old proverb, "Where there's a will there's a way." If they or any one else are desirous of peopling their farms more thickly with cattle they can do so at a much less cost at home than by buying strangers were our gates open to them.

Young store cattle for growing on are purchasable to-day at a cost far below the expense of breeding them. It is the best class of stores that need but little finishing that are so dear. What is to hinder such feeders buying these young stores and giving them a little more time? If well fed, they will make rapid growth and increase in value, and, at the same time, make a lot of very useful manure for the fertilising of the farm, and a hundred of these can be purchased for the same sum that would purchase thirty forward conditioned ones the young ones would also require much less expense in feeding, and leave a far greater profit behind them in the long run.

A neighbour of the writer purchased the other day a number of capitally bred Shorthorn steer calves, born about last February, at less than £5 per head. What could pay more money than these? The producer of them, certainly, has been a loser. In Ireland, too, the stock of cattle has so vastly improved since the Government assisted in the matter, that young stock of the highest quality may be purchased there in any number, and the prices quite within easy range. Fine blue-grey Polled crosses, and well-bred symmetrical nice-quality Shorthorns of a year and a half old at £7 to £8. What is likely to pay better than these, again?

Speaking of Irish cattle and their improvement, it is not generally known what a large number of our dairymen's cattle come from that country now, as compared with a few years ago. Irish drapes or barreners of the Shorthorn class are largely purchased and brought over here now for bulling purposes, and leave in the average of years a good margin of profit. In the South of Ireland there has for years been an excellent class of Shorthorn milking cows, full of good breeding and quality, and with well-shaped bags under them. Breeders over there have paid quite as much, or more, attention to that important point than many of our English breeders, and their cattle are proportionately valuable.

The demand for the Scotch-bred Shorthorns appears one sure to be well sustained according to the results of the Collynie sale, several bull calves exceeding 40 gs., and heifers reaching 155 gs. These are remunerative figures, and should encourage other breeders to stick to their best stock and try to breed better. At Pirriesmill, too, good prices were realised, and also at Stoneytown. The Lincoln Red branch of the Shorthorn family at Louth did not experience quite as good a demand or such satisfactory prices; but these cattle have been very much picked over lately, a great number of the finest specimens being purchased for export. Such a proceeding has a more damaging effect upon this branch of the breed than upon the Coates' Shorthorns, owing to the more limited number of herds.

The famous Stonebrook House herd of Herefords were well patronised, and what must be considered an excellent average (78 lots, £30) was obtained. Mr. Fenn, who has so long had the pleasure of owning and managing this beautiful herd of Whitefaces, has sold them to go into almost all parts of the world, and it speaks very loudly for the cosmopolitan character of the Hereford breed that such satisfactory accounts of them have been received. Mr. Fenn's words, when acknowledging the toast of his health, are worthy of special attention—he trusted that the cattle would give purchasers as much pleasure and profit as the herd had given him for nearly fifty years. It is not every breeder that can add the words profit and pleasure together so conscientiously.

How seldom we hear the question of profit touched upon in connection with our pedigree cattle sales! Why is it? In these days surely good profits are, as Mr. Fenn intimated, frequently or generally made. Why, then, are breeders so backward at adding that word profit? A little more of this would do wonders in helping to improve our nondescript herds of cattle. Many of the owners of these live from year to year under the impression that all pedigree stock breeding is carried on at a loss, that the old saying "the breed goes in at the mouth" is correct, and therefore too costly. Could they be taught that there is profit attending the pursuit as well as pleasure, they would take up the matter much more readily and with energy, and great good would result.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle appear to be looking up a little in the States, which is as it should be. In the corn belt, as the tillage States are called, nothing is so likely to give satisfaction; and they feed well together and quietly, whilst a good supply of corn enables them to grow and put on flesh as well. Recent sales in that country point to a much better demand and attendance, which is a healthy sign, even though prices may not jump up altogether suddenly. A good demand is a great matter, and excessively high prices are not always the best thing that can happen to a breed of cattle. When at a low ebb, strangers that had no intention of purchasing sometimes are induced to become buyers, and so a great spread of the knowledge of the breed follows.

The time will very quickly be upon us now when we shall be hearing and thinking more of the Angus cattle at home. One always associates Christmas and its joys with these "bonnie Blacks," the sirloin for the big roast and the suet for the confectionery, and, above all, the Christmas puddings when these Blacks are in season are always of the best. In the beef the lean and fat are usually well mixed and marbled, the meat is tender, and the flavour just the very best. This year prices for them are pretty sure to be satisfactory, or at least fairly so, as the number of first-class Christmas cattle is certain to be very limited from a large area of England, and Ireland does not appear to be overdone with them.

Shorthorn Sale at Aberdeen.

A joint sale of Shorthorn cattle from various herds was held at Aberdeen Agricultural Hall, on the 15th inst., this bringing to an end the week of Shorthorn sales in Scotland by Messrs. Macdonald, Fraser, and Co., as reported in our last issue. The event was something of a new departure, several of the more prominent North-Eastern breeders having arranged an annual sale in connection with the Scottish Shorthorn autumn gatherings. At this fixture it is intended that the following herds shall be represented:—Cromleybank, Jackston, Kinellar, Westertown, Heatherwick, Saphock, Fingask, Tilieygreig, Woodend, Nether-Augustone, Deystone, and Harthill. They were not all represented on the 13th inst., but the consignment, which numbered eighty in all, included quite a large proportion of high-class stock, and it was thoroughly representative of the breed. It is anticipated that this combined sale will meet the convenience of local and district breeders, and of exporters and buyers of first-class stock generally, and the fixture, which was something of the nature of an experiment, proved, it is satisfactory to record, one of the most successful of the Shorthorn sales that have been held at Aberdeen. The stock brought forward were mostly typical of popular Northern Shorthorn families, the sires represented including such high-class stock as the Jackston Lord Lynedoch, the Westertown Diamond Mine, and Heatherwick First Fiddle. The great majority of the pedigrees traced back to registration prior to 1850, and buyers had consequently an exceptionally choice collection from which to choose. Of the eighty animals catalogued only three were absentees, and the total proceeds of the sale amounted to £3,846 3s., bringing out the very satisfactory gross average of £49 19s. The best sectional average was obtained for the two-year-old heifers, of which fourteen were put through the ring, the total realised working out at £66 12s. per head. The chief sales were as follows, the names of the sellers being given at the beginning of each paragraph:—

MR. WILLIAM ADAM, BAADS.

Cow.—Lady Pride, 8 years—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 48 gs.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Beauty V.—Mr. M'Intyre, Findon, Mains, 45 gs.; Jenny Lind XX.—Mr. Young, Cadboll, 72 gs.

BULL CALF.—Granite King—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 41 gs.

MR. WILLIAM ANDERSON, SAPHOCK.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Elizea VIII.—Mr. Reith, Old Meldrum, 50 gs.; Rosemary F. VI.—Mr. Milne, Cairnhill, 50 gs.; Rosemary CIII.—Mr. Young, Cadboll, 45 gs.; Agatha III.—Mr. Wilson, Dallachy, 33 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Vine XXXV.—Mr. Paterson, Mintlaw, 20 gs.; RosemaryCIV.—Mr. A. A. Haley, Yorkshire, 46 gs.; Lady Flower IV.—Mr. Robinson, Ireland, 32 gs.; Lady Flower III.—Mr. Hughes, Crewe, 62 gs.; Spicy Rosie—Mr. Wordsworth, Ireland, 31 gs.

MR. GEORGE ANDERSON, WEST FINGASK.

COWS.—Rosie, 4 years—Mr. Wilson, Bowiebank, King Edward, 47 gs.; White Queen, 3 years—Mr. Gray, Kersie Mains, Stirling, 27 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Flora Wenlock—Mr. W. Malcolm, Dunmore, 23 gs.; Rosebud—Mr. W. Callender, jun., Insch, 28 gs.; Lovat Cowslip—Mr. Forbes, Muirton of Barra, 27 gs.; Lady Bess—Mr. Young, Tilbouries, 28 gs.; Merry Beauty—Mr. Reith, Old Meldrum, 26 gs.; Red Bessy—Mr. Reith, Old Meldrum, 28 gs.

BULL CALVES.—Golden Pride—Mr. Fleming, Keith, 22 gs.; Dandy Boy—Mr. John Handley, Milnthorpe, 38 gs.

MR. A. BRUCE, HEATHERWICK.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Bellanna—Mr. Coey, Larne, 46 gs.; White Rose—Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combscauseway, 38 gs.; Clarissa—Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie, Perth, 70 gs.; Chrissie—Mr. A. T. Gordon, 70 gs.; Gertrude—Mr. Smith, Pittodrie, 34 gs.

BULL CALVES.—Mozart—Mr. C. H. Fleming, Keith, 42 gs.; Beethoven—Mr. Fleming, 56 gs.; Senator—Mr. Bell, Tyrie Mains, 24 gs.; Stand Firm—Mr. J. Thompson, Balbegno, 85 gs.; Wagner—Mr. Keith, Aberdour, 31 gs.

MR. S. CAMPBELL, KINELLAR.

COWS.—Sweetmeat II. Mr. Bruce, Myreton, 50 gs.; Marigold XXXIV.—Mr. Reid of Hillhead, Ellon, 26 gs.

YEARLING HEIFER.—Marigold Maud II.—Mr. J. Cran, Keith, 90 gs.

BULL CALF.—March Past—Mr. Malcolm of Dunmore, 51 gs.

MR. GEORGE CAMPBELL, HARTHILL.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Peggy III.—Mr. T. A. Buttar, Corston, 26 gs.; Clara F. V.—Mr. Reid of Hillhead, Ellon, 58 gs.; Beauty XII.—Mr. Robertson, Coleburn, 36 gs.; Rosalie, Mr. Strachan, Cork, 31 gs.

MR. A. CROMBIE, WOODEND.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Victoria LXXII, Mr. Hughes, Crewe, 125 gs.; Rosabell VI.—Mr. Morrison, Phingask, 41 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Honey Queen V.—Mr. Smith, Pittodrie, 38 gs.; Rosabell VII.—The Irish Department of Agriculture, 165 gs.; Rachel XIV.—Mr. J. Robertson, Coleburn, 62 gs.; Rosabell VIII.—Mr. Robinson, Ireland, 30 gs.; Woodend Beauty V.—Mr. Norrie, Cairnhill, 22 gs.; Augusta Bruce V.—Mr. Tory, Dorset, 47 gs.

MR. JAMES DURNO, JACKSTON.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Choice Blossom—Mr. M'William, Stoneytown, 100 gs.; Florence—Mr. Hill, Little Haddow, 100 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Beatrice—Mr. A. T. Gordon, Combscauseway, 34 gs.; Juliet—Mr. John Cran, Keith, 44 gs.; Lynedoch Blossom—Mr. Ferguson, Lumphart, 61 gs.; Diamond Bloom—Mr. Coey, Larne, 70 gs.

MR. JAMES DURNO, WESTERTOWN.

TWO-YEAR-OLD HEIFERS.—Myrtle XXX.—Mr. Ferguson, Lumphart, 50 gs.; Landlady—Mr. Robinson, Ireland, 62 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Rosie XIX.—Mr. Singer, Gloucester, 55 gs.; Diamond Rosie—Mr. Anderson, Fingask, 40 gs.; Fairy Diamond—Mr. Douglas, Spots Mains, Kelso, 41 gs.; Diamond Ruby—Mr. Hugh Fraser, New Aberdour, 71 gs.; Vine XXXV.—Mr. Cruickshank, Logie-Newton, 35 gs.; Diamond's Ringlet—Mr. Parkin Moore, Mealsgate, Carlisle, 35 gs.; Diamond Queen—Messrs. Lumsden and Mackenzie, Perth, 48 gs.; Myrtle XXXI.—The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, 60 gs.

MR. GEORGE WALKER, TILLYGREIG.

TWO YEAR OLD HEIFERS.—Lustre XXXII—Mr. Hill, Haddow, 75 gs.; Maggie XVI.—Mr. Young, Cadboll, 40 gs.

YEARLING HEIFERS.—Josephine Cordy II.—The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, 50 gs.; Bright Gem—Mr. C. H. Fleming, 32 gs.

BULL CALVES.—Proud Lord—Mr. Crawford, Ireland, 36 gs.; Golden Chief—Mr. Snowball, Knapton, Yorks, 48 gs.; Dignity—Mr. Singer, Gloucester, 42 gs.; Gay Prince—Mr. Beaton, Fyvie, 22 gs.; Director—Mr. Bell, Tyrie Mains, 26 gs.

Sale of Sir W. H. Wills' Shorthorns.

A highly successful sale of Shorthorns, the property of Sir W. H. Wills, Bart., was conducted by Messrs. John Thornton and Co. on Tuesday, at Blagdon Lodge, near Bristol. There was only a small number of animals for sale, but a very large company assembled and bid quickly and well for them. Sir William Wills presided at the luncheon, and said he was pleased to see so large a gathering of breeders and neighbours, and hoped the cattle would do well in the hands of their purchasers. Captain Whitting, of Weston-super-Mare, kept several of the best lots in the county, among them being the red yearling heifer, Blagdon Gwynne, at 205 gs., the top price of the sale. Captain Whitting also gave 90 gs. for the dam of this heifer, and 105 gs. for a calf from the same cow. The three-year-old heifer, Blagdon Penelope 2nd was in good request and went to Mr. R. W. Hudson at 120 gs., and his neighbour, Mr. Scott-Murray, paid 81 gs. for Blagdon Prudish. A beautiful white calf, promising for exhibition, was bought by Mr. A. Hiscock at 47 gs. This and most of the highest priced young stock were by the grand bull Royal Scotsman, a bull bought at a very high price in Aberdeenshire. The following were the principal sales:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Fairy 78th, red roan, c. July 30, 1896; s. Oxford Marquis 69216 ..... Mr. H. Butler	23
Charity 3rd, roan, c. May 1, 1899; s. Escutcheon 68600 ..... Lord Wolverton	30
Socks, red, c. May 18, 1899; s. Escutcheon 68600 ..... Mr. H. Butler	25
Her roan Bull Calf, c. Jan. 5, 1905; s. Blagdon Lord 3rd 82897 ..... Mr. W. Young	24
Kingscote Gwynne 12th, red, c. Jan. 9, 1900; s. Beau of Berkeley 69965 ..... Captain Whitting	90
Her red roan Cow Calf, c. March 31, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Captain Whitting	105
Blagdon Fairy, red, c. March 24, 1900; s. Blagdon Medallion 74064 ..... Mr. S. H. Pimm	26
Her red roan Cow Calf, c. May 10, 1905; s. Blagdon Lord 3rd 82897 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	25
Waterloo Cranford 3rd, rich roan, c. July 30, 1900; s. Duke of Cumberland 10th 72325 ..... Captain Whitting	55
Her red roan Cow Calf, c. April 2, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Captain Whitting	80
Blagdon Charmer, roan, c. Jan. 2, 1901; s. Wiltshire Victor 71883 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	27
Blagdon Mayflower (twin to a heifer), roan, c. Feb. 18, 1901; s. Wiltshire Victor 71883 ..... Mr. J. T. Dibsdall	30
Her red roan Bull Calf, c. May 3, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82180 ..... Mr. J. T. Hobbs	19
Solo, roan, c. May 7, 1901; s. Alto 68147 ..... Mrs. Bourne	32
Her red Cow Calf, c. April 29, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. R. Stratton	19
Plume, roan, c. August 18, 1901; s. Treasurer 78015 ..... Lord Wolverton	27
Her white Cow Calf, c. March 9, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. R. Stratton	15
Blagdon Princess 2nd, red, c. Jan. 3, 1902; s. Wiltshire Victor 71883 ..... Mr. Julius	45
Blagdon Penelope 2nd, roan, c. March 14, 1902; s. Wiltshire Victor 71883 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	120
Pink Peeress, white, c. April 23, 1902; s. Experiment 78834 ..... Mr. J. Pears	25
Her white Cow Calf, c. Jan. 31, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. A. Hiscock	47
Blagdon Princess 3rd, red and white, c. Feb. 16, 1903; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. W. H. Greville Edwards	26
Blagdon Prudish, red roan, c. Feb. 17, 1903; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. C. A. Scott Murray	81
Charity 4th, white, c. March 15, 1903; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Lord Tredegar	27
Blagdon Victoria May, roan, c. August 28, 1903; s. Alto 68147 ..... Mr. Julius	95
Blagdon Gwynne, red, c. May 24, 1904; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Captain Whitting	205
Charity 5th, roan, c. June 19, 1904; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	42

BULLS.

Blagdon Lord 4th, roan and white, c. Oct. 26, 1904; s. Lord Lieutenant 77067 ..... Mr. W. H. Greville Edwards	37
Blagdon Rover, white, c. May 12, 1904; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. J. Inskip	41
Blagdon Fitz-Rose, roan, c. August 6, 1904; s. Blagdon Lord 3rd 82837 ..... Mr. Julius	67
Blagdon Spot 2nd, red roan, c. Jan. 2, 1905; s. Royal Scotsman 82190 ..... Mr. W. S. Dowding	22

SUMMARY.

	Average.	Total
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
29 cows, heifers, and calves	49 18 4 ..	1,443 4 6
4 bulls	43 16 9 ..	175 7 0
33 head	49 1 0 ..	1,618 11 6

The Paunton Court Herefords.

This well-known herd, the property of Messrs. A. R. and G. W. Firkins, was, in consequence of Mr. A. R. Firkins's retirement from agricultural pursuits, dispersed by auction on the 13th inst. by Messrs. H. F. Russell and Son. The catalogue comprised only breeding cows and calves and two stock bulls, and was arranged for cows and heifer calves to be sold first, and then bulls and bull calves, in sequential order. Among the cows were daughters of Lurdan, a first prize winner from the Wintercott herd; Clarence, from the Leen herd; and other meritorious sires. They were all, except two, in calf to that noted twelve-years-old sire Tumbler, of The Leen and Hampton Court blood, and others to Happy Hampton, the two-year-old son of the champion bull Happy Christmas, which Messrs. Firkins bought at Leinthall sale for 330 gs. The main of the calves were by Tumbler, others by Curly Boy, used with great success in the Whittern herd, and Happy Hampton. The last mentioned was the only animal reserved at the last sale, and being from Posy, dam of the Royal winner daisy, and also a first prize winner, was expected to meet with great competition. But the veteran Tumbler's wonderful career was considered, and a spirited contest took place for him between Mrs. Baughton, Mr. Thompson, and the in-coming tenant, before the last-mentioned secured him at 81 gs. Altogether sixty head were sold at an average of £24 8s. 5d. apiece. A sale list is appended:—

COWS AND CALVES.

Fairy—Mr. W. T. Cooke, King's Pyon, 22 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. W. T. Cooke, 7½ gs.; Beauty—Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., Merthyr, 38 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 13 gs.; Gaylass 6th—Mr. T. R. Thompson, Penarth, 41 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. T. R. Thompson, 30 gs.; Lucy 4th—Mr. W. T. Cooke, 25 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. F. S. Gilbert, Malvern Wells, 10 gs.; Daisy—Mr. Frank Firkins, 26 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Frank Firkins, 8½ gs.; May Blossom—Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 27 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Thompson, 15½ gs.; Gaylass 4th — Mrs. Boughton, 34 gs.; her heifer calf — Mrs. Boughton, 34 gs.; Cornelia 4th—Mr. T. R. Thompson, 46 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. P. Batherwick, 27 gs.; Margarine—Mr. William Morris, Manest, 19 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. P. Blatherwick, 16 gs.; Mamie 2nd—Mr. J. W. Smith, Thinghill, 26 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Gilbert, 11½ gs.; Luna—Mr. Howells, Crickhowell 15½ gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Gilbert, 11½ gs.; Mistake—Mr. W. T. Cooke, 21 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Gilbert, 12 gs.; Evesbatch Beauty—Mr. T. R. Thompson, 31 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. W. T. Cooke, 12 gs.; Cornelia 9th—Mr. Newman, Wickton, 22 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. James Lane, The Hill, Bishop's Froome, 10 gs.; Charity Ann—Mr. Frank Firkins, 24 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. H. J. Bailey, Rowden Abbey, 14½ gs.; Countess—Mr. Frank Firkins, 19 gs.; her heifer calf—Mr. Frank Firkins, 13½ gs.; Nesta—Mr. Frank Firkins, 17½ gs.; her twin bull calf—Mr. George Edwards, Dilwyn, 22 gs.; her twin bull calf—Mr. H. W. Taylor, Showle Court, 11½ gs.; Elsinora—Mr. Frank Perkins, 25 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Whittingdale, 16 gs.; Posy—Mr. Frank Perkins, 21 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Butters, 23 gs.; Strawberry 6th—Mr Frank Perkins, 36 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. T. Morris, Weston,

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
October			
24	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. C. M. Doyne	Wells, Gorey, co. Wexford.
25	Shorthorn Cattle	Major R. W. Cradock ...	Derry, Rosscrea, co. Tipperary.
25	Red Polled Cattle... ..	Mr. H. Rider Haggard ...	Bury St. Edmunds.
25	Sheep, Cattle and Horses	Various	Maidstone Fair.
25	Shire Horses	Mr. J. Wynford Philipps	Lydstep, Hoven Stud Farm, near Tenby, S. Wales.
25	Large Black Pigs	Sir R. Wilmot	Binfield Grove, Bracknell, Berks.
26 & 27	Hunters, Shires and Harness Horses	Various	Derby Repository.
27	Shire Horses	Messrs. E. & S. Pigg ..	Chipping, Buntingford, Herts.
27	Hampshire Down Sheep ..	Various	The Butts, Salisbury.
27	Cattle and Kent and Half-Bred Sheep	Various	Cattle Market, Ashford.
27	Store Stock...	Various	Kidderminster.
30	Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs	Mr. J. B. Dimmock ...	Shotford Hall, Harleston, Norfolk.
31	Shorthorn Cattle	Various	York Cattle Market.

Pembridge, 40 gs.; Cornelia 6th—Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P., 30 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Sidney Smith, Woodmanton, 8 gs.; Aylesborough Rose 2nd—Mr. Sidney Smith, 19½ gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Jones, Stockton, 14 gs.; Gaylass 11th—Mr. Frank Perkins 34 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Pudge, Frogend, Much Cowarne, 21 gs.; Luna Pearl—Mr. Rowlands, Eveshatch Court, Bromyard, 46 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. A. Tanner, Shrawardine, 9 gs.; Minnie 21st—Mr. Vaughan, Preston Wynne, 22 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Adams, Avenbury, Bromyard, 15 gs.; Carnation—Mr. J. Lane, 25 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. Beaumont, Much Cowarne, 11½ gs.; Gaylass 5th—Mr. Frank Firkins, 32 gs.; her bull calf—Mr. A. Tanner, 20 gs.; Cornelia 7th—Mr. T. R. Thompson, 38 gs.; her foster bull calf—Mr. Sidney Smith, 6 gs.; Cornelia 10th—Mrs. Boughton, 38 gs.

BULLS.

Tumbler (17588)—Mr. Frank Firkins, 81 gs.; Happy Hampton (23483)—Mr. Whittingdale, 34 gs.

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
29 Cows	29 13 5	....	860 9 6
29 Calves	16 13 10	....	484 1 0
2 Bulls	60 7 6	....	120 15 0
60 Head	24 8 5	....	1,465 5 6

Sale of Mr. Harwood's Shorthorns

The second sale of Shorthorn cattle held last week in the West of England took place at Woodhouse, Almondsbury, near Bristol, on Wednesday, when Messrs. John Thornton and Co. sold Mr. E. Harwood's herd. The stock were in excellent condition, and there were a capital lot of calves by Bapton Yeoman, a son of Mr. J. Deane Willis's C.I.V. Mr. Willis was a purchaser at the sale, securing a couple of the heifer calves at 51 gs. and 27 gs. Lord Moreton and Mr. Julius each gave 71 gs. for a cow and heifer respectively, and Captain Whitting purchased Dora 14th, a red six-year-old, at 65 gs. The old bull Bapton Yeoman was reserved at 300 gs., but Woodhouse Dalesman went at 105 gs. to Mr. Casares for South America, and Woodhouse Jester at 61 gs. to Mr. Julius. The sale was considered satisfactory, an average all round of £29 18s. 3d. being obtained for forty-nine head, which included several calves. We append a list of chief lots:—

COWS, HEIFERS, AND CALVES.

	Gs.
Alpine Beauty 2nd, roan, c. Oct. 18, 1894; s. Rosedale Jovellar 63237 ....Mr. J. R. Codrington	20
Pretty Maid 8th, roan, c. Jan. 11, 1896; s. Rosedale Jovellar 63237 ....Mr. Merritts	25
Her red and little white Cow Calf (twin to a heifer), c. Jan. 23, 1905; s. Woodhouse Harold 85106 Mr. F. Webb	24
Her twin red Cow Calf ....Mr. H. Butler	15
Cambridge Chatelaine, red and little white, c. March 25, 1896; s. Wild Britisher 66551 ....Mr. Merritts	32
Her red roan Cow Calf, c. July 1, 1905; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. J. Deane Willis	27
Clara, roan, c. June 5, 1896; s. Oxford Marquis 69216 Mrs. Fox	34
Her red Bull Calf, c. Aug. 13, 1905; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. E. Hadley	10
Dora 14th, red, c. March 10, 1899; s. Master Archer 70362 ....Captain Whitting	65
Rosacarno, roan, c. Sept. 27, 1900; s. Carnoxford Knight 74184 ....Mr. G. Anstie	22
Ragwort, red, c. Jan. 3, 1901; s. Raglan 77552 Mr. J. T. Dibsdale	28
Her red and little white Bull Calf, c. April 28, 1905; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. E. Dewdney	12½
Carnation 28th, roan, c. Jan. 28, 1901; s. Treforrest 63452 ....Mr. W. Jones	22
Her white Cow Calf, c. Jan. 30, 1905; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Lord Tredegar	25
Wild Duchess 23rd, red, c. April 17, 1901; s. Lord Gwynne 2nd 77060 ....Lord Moreton	71
Olivia, red, c. Oct. 30, 1901; s. Osiris 79510 Mr. G. L. Foster Harter	31
Rose of Woodhouse, red, c. March 7, 1902; s. Osiris 79510 ....Mr. J. Horlick	34
Joy, red, c. March 11, 1902; s. Gallant Victor 74597 Mr. R. Stratton	27
Woodhouse Cecilia, red, c. May 6, 1902; s. Holker Duke 3rd 79075 ....Mr. J. Pears	46
Her rich roan Cow Calf, c. Nov. 7, 1904; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. J. Deane Willis	51
Countess 76th, red, c. July 14, 1902; s. Bapton Victor's Champion 76084 ....Mr. J. C. Harford	28
Her red and little white Bull Calf, c. Feb. 2, 1905; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. A. J. Combes	15½
Woodhouse Flora, roan, c. June 13, 1902; s. Lord Lowther 77083 ....Mr. Merritts	21
Pretty Pippin, red, c. March 26, 1903; s. Lord Blaphe 9th 79235 ....Mr. H. Butler	22
Cambridge Chatelaine 2nd, red, c. July 16, 1903; s. Holker Duke 3rd 79075 ....Mr. Julius	71
Woodhouse Patience, red, c. March 21, 1904; s. Holker Duke 3rd 79075 ....Mr. F. Webb	45

BULLS.

Woodhouse Dalesman 90556, red, c. Nov. 27, 1903; s. Holker Duke 3rd 79075 ....Mr. E. N. Casares	105
Woodhouse Speck, red, c. April 30, 1904; s. Dewstow 82863 ....Mr. T. Minett	20
Woodhouse Prince, red, c. May 21, 1904; s. Dewstow 82863 ....Mr. W. Wright	45
Rambler, red, c. July 20, 1905; s. Holker Duke 3rd 79075 ....Miss Talbot	30
Woodhouse Jester, red, c. August 4, 1904; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. Julius	61
Woodhouse Hero, red, c. Sept. 22, 1904; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. A. Skelton	20
Woodhouse Captain, roan, c. Jan. 13, 1905; s. Bapton Yeoman 85248 ....Mr. G. Freeman	26

SUMMARY

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
40 cows and calves	27 15 5	....	1,110 18 0
9 bulls	39 8 8	....	354 18 0
49 head	29 18 3	....	1,465 16 0

Sale of Sir Robert Greenall's Black Angus, Galloways, etc.

The fifth annual sale of Black Angus, Galloway, and Blue Grey Polled cattle belonging to Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., took place at Terrington Stud Farm, near King's Lynn, on Wednesday, when between 300 and 400 prime Polled beasts were brought under the hammer by Mr. W. Banbridge, of Warrington. They mainly consisted of big two and three-year-old bullocks and heifers, amongst which were some splendid Blue-Greys. A number had been cake-fed, whilst the stores were very thick and forward, and should make heavy weights and finish quickly. There was a large attendance of farmers, dealers, and butchers from the Lynn and Marshland districts, with a sprinkling from the far side of the county and Cambridge. For the pick of the animals bidding was brisk, but prices were not very high. The average price was about £14, and the highest figure was £21 5s., paid by Mr. Palmer, of Middleton, for a very big Shorthorn bullock. Mr. Palmer was the biggest buyer, and he also paid the second highest price, giving £19 each for two other massive Shorthorns, which had been keenly competed for. He took eight of the first eleven lots, his purshases being four Shorthorn crosses at £15 5s. each, two at £15 10s., two at £13 10s., two at £16, and two at £18 10s., the last pair after sharp bidding with some half-dozen graziers. Later Mr. Palmer successfully bid for two bullocks at £14 each, three at £14 15s., two at £15 15s., four black Angus at £16 5s., and six at £13. Mr. A. Rowell, of Stow, was also a large buyer. The first three lots, consisting of six blue-grey bullocks, were all knocked down to him—four at £14 15s. and two at £14 each. His subsequent purchases included two bullocks at £16 2s. 6d., two at £14, two blue-greys at £12 17s. 6d., and six at £13 5s. Mr. J. Gamble, North Runcton, started with eight black Angus at £14 7s. 6d. each, and shortly secured quite a big herd of very promising cattle—three at £15 17s. 6d., eight at £14 2s. 6d., eight at £13 2s. 6d., six pure-bred Galloways at £11 10s., six blue-greys at £13 15s., and seven more at £13 2s. 6d. each. Mr. H. Stratton, of Norwich, secured a dozen animals—two bullocks at £14 5s., two at £15 10s., six at £13 17s. 6d., and two heifers at £13 each. Mr. J. Rush, of Cambridge, got a good bargain in ten pure-bred Galloway heifers at £13 15s., and a similar lot at £12 each, the starting price in each instance being £10. Mr. Nicholls was also an extensive buyer, securing altogether forty-nine animals of various sorts, at prices ranging from £11 for an Angus up to £15 each for six blue-greys. Numerous other transactions took place at similar prices.

Bull Sale at Carlisle.

Messrs. Harrison and Son held a sale of pedigree and non-pedigree bulls at their Carlisle auction mart on Thursday, some 250 bulls being catalogued, and most of the chief breeders of the Borders were represented. Buyers attended in large numbers from all parts of the United Kingdom, and a strong demand was experienced throughout, at prices considerably in excess of the quotations at the corresponding sale last autumn. For the pedigree bulls the demand was exceedingly keen at prices ranging up to 66 gs., this figure being got for a fine bull consigned by Mr. Ecroyd, of Low House, while the average price all round was about 30 gs. Non-pedigree bulls made up to 41 gs., and some white bulls up to 22 gs.

Sale of Devons at Taunton.

The annual sale of Devon cattle at Taunton, held under the auspices of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, took place on Thursday, when there were altogether sixty-nine lots, and the great majority of beasts found purchasers. Mr. E. Clatworthy, of Taunton, paid the highest price, 48 gs., for a bull calved in April, 1904, and bred by Mr. Tom Dibble of Bagborough, Taunton, and Mr. T. S. Morgan, of Whimple, paid the second highest price for a bull calved in November of last year, the property of Mr. A. J. Hill, of Washford, 45 gs. being the amount realised; while Mr. H. Gillham, of Taunton, paid 40 gs. for a heifer, bred by Mr. S. Kidner, of Milverton. The best prices paid for other lots were 36 gs. by Mr. S. Kidner for bull calved September, 1904, and by Mr. Haydon, Burlescombe, for bull calved October, 1904; 32 gs. by Mr. W. Kidner, Kingston, for bull calved in January, 1901, and by Mr. R. Denny, Chard, for bull calved in June, 1904, while several other lots fetched 30 gs. and upwards.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS. The best Farm Account Books are "WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK," with Preface by Clare Sewell Read; 72nd edition; 6s.; larger size, 7s. 6d. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOKS, 3s. 6d.; JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., post free. List of Game and Dairy Account Books, post free, of Jarrold and Sons, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

For many years the old theory that all our various breeds of horses come from one common stock has been the subject of attack, and though some able and practical men have, even in these later days, adhered to the theory, it is now generally admitted that horses have descended from various stocks and not one parent stem. Amongst those who were believers in the "common origin" theory was the late Captain Horace M. Hayes, who founded his belief on the fact that our various breeds of horses interbred and that their produce was fertile. But, as Professor Ridgeway points out, the dog, the wolf, and the jackal amongst carnivorous animals, and the common ox, the zebu, and the yak, amongst herbivorous animals do exactly the same thing, yet no one asserts that they all come from one parent stock.

It was pretty clearly demonstrated by Professor Cossar Ewart, Professor of Natural History at Edinburgh University, that our horses had not a common origin, and that gentleman's "discovery" of the Celtic pony, types of which existed in prehistoric times, was an event the importance of which it would be difficult to over-rate. I referred to Professor Ewart's discoveries some months ago, and there is no need to discuss the matter further here.

There are three recognised species of horses at present—for the purposes of this article it is unnecessary to take into consideration those equidæ which may be roughly divided into asses and zebras. These three species are: (1) The horse (Equus caballus); (2) the Celtic pony (Equus caballus celticus), and (3) Prevjalsky's horse (Equus prezwalskii Poliakoff). To these Professor Ridgeway would add a fourth, which he terms the Libyan horse (Equus caballus lybicus), from which he assumes that the English thoroughbred, the Arab, and the Andalusian horse are descended. It is not my intention to go through the various reasons which Professor Ridgeway gives for arriving at this conclusion on this occasion, though I may refer to them at some future time. I may point out, however, that he proves that the Arabs had not horses in early historic times, and that they got their horses from Egypt.

Without going into the scientific side of the question at all, there seems to be good reason for Professor Ridgeway's conclusions. Historically he proves that the Arabs got their horses from Egypt, the presumption being that these were Libyan horses. That there was in early days a breed of horses in England on somewhat similar lines to our thoroughbreds is certain. In the twelfth century there was racing of sorts at Smithfield, and in the sixteenth century the unfortunate Ferdinando, Earl of Derby, built for himself a house at Wallasey, from which to view the racing, this probably being the first grand stand ever erected. Two centuries later we find a writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* deprecating the introduction of Arab and Eastern blood into this country. He said that it was possible that the infusion of Eastern blood might improve the speed of our horses, but that it was certain that it would have a prejudicial effect on the stamina, for which they had been famous for so many years. And this, by the way, throws a somewhat curious light on many latter-day controversies and theories. We find the Andalusian horse spoken of enthusiastically by old writers, and it is very easy to see how readily his ancestors could get from the Great Libyan Desert to their new home, but it is with the English horse that we have more especially to do here.

A common saying—one that has passed into a proverb of universal application—is "as thoroughbred as Eclipse." But, as the late Mr. Joseph Osborne pointed out in his useful "Horsebreeders' Handbook," Eclipse was not thoroughbred at all. If we examine his pedigree closely in the fourth generation we find that in nine out of the sixteen quarterings the pedigrees cannot be traced—that is to say, that the ancestors were of undoubted English blood. About the superiority of Eclipse

there can be no mistake. He stands out as undoubtedly the greatest horse of his time. But he would be a bold man who would assert that he owed his superiority to his Eastern blood. It, of course, might be urged that the unknown element in his pedigree was of Eastern origin, but beyond a doubt this was not the case, as all the Eastern pedigrees were very carefully recorded at the time. Indeed, pedigree was then beginning to be studied, and the value of it to be understood. It is also a fact worth recording that the article in the "Gentleman's Magazine" was written within a short time of the birth of Eclipse; I forget the exact date, but, speaking roughly, within thirty years. So that undoubtedly we then possessed a stout and valuable breed of horses practically clear of Eastern blood, and there seems no reason why these should not have been descended from the Libyan horse of which Prof. Ridgeway writes.

It came as a shock to me when the late Admiral Rous spoke of Eclipse as falling far short of the modern thoroughbred in point of pace and stamina. Of course, all theories on this score are and must ever remain theories, for there is no way of proving them. The curious thing, however, is that there has always been in every age men to be found who, finding fault with the horses of their own time, had nothing but laudation for those of a previous one. If the statement that Eclipse galloped a mile in a minute be true, which, of course, it is not, there is no doubt about the position he can claim amongst the horses of all time. But the timing at the present day is none too reliable, and what it was in the middle of the eighteenth century may be easily guessed.

Many curious calculations and statements have been made about Eclipse, and it is a great pity that his skeleton has not been preserved. It would have been very interesting to compare it with, say, that of Hermit. Mr. Charles Vial de Saint Bel, professor of the Veterinary College of London, published a book in 1791 on the proportions of Eclipse. This ingenious writer calculated that Eclipse without any weight on his back could cover 25 ft. in his stride, and could repeat this action twice and one-third in a second. A matter of multiplication shows that this, if he kept it up, would enable him to run close on four miles in 6 min. 2 sec. It is manifestly absurd to assert that a horse could do such a thing, and it is difficult to see the object of such a calculation.

It is equally difficult to understand the somewhat arbitrary standard of measurements set up by the veterinary schools in France at the beginning of the nineteenth century. According to this, Eclipse was a good deal out of proportion. For instance, in height, according to this standard, he was one-seventh too high, and his neck was a third too long. Then a perpendicular line drawn from his stifle downwards should just have reached his toe. We learn that it touched the ground half a head in front of it. Once more we are told that the length from the elbow to the bend of the knee should be the same as from the bend of the knee to the ground, but that the former in Eclipse was two-thirds of a head longer than the latter. Curiously, we have not anything about the length from the hip to the hock—a very important point. Now with all due regard to the French standard, if the measurements of Eclipse as stated are correct, I should be inclined to say that he was correctly proportioned, and the French standard was a wrong one. I do not hold with the theory that horses go in all forms. A horse with true action must be truly made. He may be angular, his neck may be wrong side up, but it stands to reason that true action is the corollary of correct shape. It has been stated about Eclipse that his heart weighed 13 lb., and we have it on the authority of Mr. Joshua Brookes, a somewhat eminent anatomist in his day, that the chief professor at the Veterinary College said that on dissecting him he found his muscles abnormally large, as large as the muscles of a carthorse.

This abnormal development of muscle had, no doubt, much to do with Eclipse's superiority. I once had a horse that had this development in an extraordinary degree. He was a hunter by Cape Flyaway, who was by the Flying Dutchman. His dam was a pony. He was nine years old when he came into my possession, and I rode him nine seasons. Though he was only a little horse, he stood under 15 hands 3 in.—he was one of the best weight carriers it was ever my lot to ride. He looked up to 13 st., and carried 15 st. with consummate ease. When he was badly lamed by an accident I sent him to the kennels with instructions that his skin was to come back. The huntsman subsequently told me that he was one mass of muscle, that there was no flesh in the proper sense of the term upon him, and that he would not even make broth. There is no doubt that his exceptional muscle enabled him to do his work so easily and well.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Notes and Jottings.

The Lincoln ram sales of home-bred sheep in the Argentine, according to advice that has been received, are hardly up to the expectations of the owners. Mr. Cobo averaged for twenty-seven £41 6s., the first twelve making £92 15s.; the champion ram made £175. This is the only sale of home-bred sheep of which details have yet come to hand. Some of the imported sheep have been sold. Amongst the prices realised are the following, imported by Mr. F. Miller, £122 10s., £83 12s. 6d., £78 15s., and £61 5s. Some Lincoln ram lambs imported by this gentleman made £36 15s. to £21 17s. 6d.; imported Lincoln ewes realised £26 5s. Another consignment of Lincoln rams, imported by Mr. Sidey, made from £39 7s. 6d. Four imported by Mr. D. Church made £96 5s., £61 5s., £52 10s., and £35. Messrs. Dean and Son's importation of yearling rams realised from £78 15s. to £52 10s., his yearling rams making £28 17s. 6d. each. Mr. J. E. Casswell's consignment of yearling rams sold at from £32 2s. 6d. to £21.

Other sales from the Argentine will be arriving by next mail, but it would appear that the importation of Lincoln sheep has been fully as large as required; in fact, there is a marked tone of dullness in the demand as compared with some former years. This may wear off as the season advances, particularly as both mutton and wool are selling so well.

The Palermo show exhibit of Lincoln sheep is reported as being a very fine one indeed. It was not so large as last year, but the reduction in number was compensated for by the average merit. The Hampshire Downs were well shown, and it is reported that their entries were larger than usual. The Oxford Downs and Shropshires were also well represented.

The home trade for sheep remains a good one, and as the appearance of the probable supply of food looks very promising indeed, there is every reason to anticipate a continuance of the present prices. The increased supplies of mutton that are being received from our sources of supply abroad and in the Colonies, however, render it most imperative that our feeders should take every care to make their mutton fat before they send it to market. The current rates of first-class mutton, as compared with those for the lower grade, show a remarkable difference in price, and when it is remembered that the cost of production of the two articles is almost identically the same, the difference in the profit realised will at once be apparent.

Every market one attends the same striking difference is found between the tip-top article and that of lower grade. To produce the best mutton, of the choicest quality and the neatest joints, it is essential that the feeders should start with sheep calculated to produce the above. It is no use to buy ungainly sheep, bad in formation, without proper symmetry, etc., for these, fat as well as you will, will never, when they come to the market, have that same neat and taking appearance as sheep with proper conformation and even symmetry. It may be that those of the latter type will cost a few shillings per head more when purchased at stores, but if careful accounts be kept, it will be found that the few shillings more in the cost is more than compensated for by the many shillings per head more such sheep realise when properly finished for the butcher. The outside observer probably notices this difference more clearly than the feeder who is always engaged in the business.

It may be that many will think that these remarks are unnecessary, but such cannot be the case when in every market to which you may go the marked difference between the best and the worst is so clearly apparent that it is well worth while to call attention to this particular point.

Again, experience and facts both show that the keenness of the competition with regard to the imported mutton is felt far more severely in the lower grades than in the higher; in fact, the price of mutton of the highest quality and merit at the present time is nearly, if not quite, as good as ever it was, the decreased price having only to be taken for those sheep that produce the lower grade of mutton, and do not cut to the same advantage as those of higher grade and having better conformation.

The "fag end" of the ram sale season has now arrived, and it is, as usual, apparent that there are on offer at the present time far more rams of the lower grade than the demand really requires. This fact is applicable not to one but to many breeds, and it brings home clearly to the mind of the observant man how essentially important it is, for the benefit of all connected with the ram-breeding industry, that greater care and more discrimination should be exercised in the selection of sheep for this purpose.

At one or two sales at which we have been present we have seen rams and ram lambs of two or three different breeds offered and sold at prices which, had they been wethers, would have been considered very cheap indeed. This shows that the extra cost and trouble connected with ram-feeding and breeding has been wasted, and it further proves that the selectors of these particular sheep for stud purposes committed an error in judgment in so leaving them. Time after time this important point has been brought before the notice of breeders. In some years it appears that the lessons of former years have been taken to heart and acted upon; and then, again, comes a season like the present, when the top prices for many breeds are higher than usual, and the lower grades are almost unsaleable, or, at any rate, only saleable at prices which leave a certain loss.

Sheep Fairs and Sales.

Maidstone Fair.

This well-known Kentish fair is one of the most important held in the district, all kinds of live stock are on offer—cattle, sheep, and horses. The fixture is quite one of the great days of the Kentish market town, and in years when the hop trade has been good few better centres for the disposal of live stock exist. Unfortunately the poor price of hops realised this season had a damping effect upon the demand, and prices for most classes of stock must be written as dull. Most of the 8,000 sheep and lambs on offer were disposed of, but the general run of prices were lower than at the earlier fairs.

With one exception, there were no Argentine buyers present for Kent or Romney Marsh rams, and, consequently, the prices that were realised were hardly so good as in former years. Mr. George Farmer, who has sent a consignment of rams to this fair for many years past, was represented upon this occasion by thirty-two first-class rams, the average realised was £8 15s. 2d., as against £9 3s. 4d. last season. The whole of the lot offered were sold, and amongst the prices being 16, 11½, 10, 9½, 9, 8, 7½, and 6 gs. each. Mr. C. P. Wykenham Martin sent forward a real good lot of twenty-four rams from his well-bred flock at Leeds Castle, and they attracted attention. Mr. E. Neve, who was entrusted with a commission from the Argentine, took eight of them for that country at 18, 16½, 16, 15½ (twice), 14½, 13, and 11 gs. each. The same buyer also gave 10 gs. for another. The top price ram of this lot, however, was 18½ gs., at which price Mr. J. B. Palmer secured him, only however, to sell him almost immediately for export to the Argentine at 25 gs., a profitable purchase. Others sold at 18, 14, 13 gs., etc., the average working out at £13 19s. 4d. Messrs. W. Skinner Brothers' consignment numbered sixteen, these were appreciated, and realised the capital average of £7 16s. 9d., with a range of prices from 11 gs. to 5 gs. Mr. M. Bursted sent six, which sold at from £8 5s. to Mr. Harrison to £5, and averaged £6 10s.

The Southdown rams and ram lambs on offer were sold out at a much lower range of prices than was the case some three or four years back, fully 30 to 40 per cent. The following summary of the sales will indicate the tenour of the demand. Major-General Goldsworthy's old rams averaged for two £7 1s. 9d., for yearling rams, six, £4 18s. Mr. W. M. Cazalet averaged for old rams £4 17s. 6d., for two, for three yearling rams £4 17s. 6d., and for nine ram lambs £2 14s. 5d. Mr. P. Cutbush averaged for eleven yearling rams £4 5s., and the Hon. R. P. Nevill averaged for fifteen ram lambs £3 7s. 10d. The Hampshire Down ram lamb demand was no better. Eight from Messrs. Moore Ruskin averaged £4 8s. 9d., ten from Messrs. Cannon and Rogers averaged £3 17s. 6d., five from Mr. H. B. Hohler averaged £3 10s., two from Mr. G. F. Hohler averaged £3, and four from Mr. W. H. Waterlow averaged £2 10s. The demand for Shropshires was a very poor one indeed, and a clearance was not effected. Two from Mr. P. Scott averaged £3 17s. 6d., and six from Sir E. M. Collett averaged £2 3s. 8d.

THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

This week we are able to give a full and complete list of the prizes and diplomas awarded at the Brewers' Exhibition. The results of these competitions, which may be read in conjunction with the elaborate details printed last week showing how, when, and where the crops were grown, will prove of immense interest. The scope of the information may be gathered from the fact that a reference to the tables shows that the champion barley was grown by Mr. C. G. Miles at Alburgh, Norfolk, on heavy land with a subsoil of clay. The preceding crops were mangolds and barley, while the seed was Webb's Kinver Chevalier, sown at the rate of ten pecks per acre. The manure used was supplied by Messrs. J. Fison and Co., and the seed was planted as early as January 28, and the crop cut on July 31. The quantity grown was 5 qrs., and the cleaning machinery used was Boby's.

Similar details are given for the whole of the entries, and although space will not allow us to recapitulate all these particulars for the various winners, we cannot but help thinking that readers may derive a great amount of information by referring for themselves to the districts in which they are more especially interested.

There is one point to which we should like to direct attention, and that is that insufficient attention is given to threshing. Maltsters rightly complain that much barley is damaged by having the drums set too close, and there is still a great deal of improvement to be made in this direction. In conversation with one of the judges we were pleased to hear that the effects of previous exhibitions have had good results among barley growers, and that the entries still bulk on the average as largely as they have done in the past, while the quality of the sample has certainly gone up, and the good work of the exhibition bears fruit in bringing the requirements of the maltster prominently before the British producer.

The following will be found a full list of awards:—

The "Mark Lane Express" Champion Challenge Cup.

Cat. No.
101.—C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Norfolk.

CLASS I. (Chevalier)
101.—1st, C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Norfolk.
78.—2nd, G. Powell, Navenby, Lincs.
62.—3rd, C. Wilkinson, Fenstanton, Hunts.
123.—V.H.C., G. Partridge, Kidlington, Oxon.
149.—H.C., M. E. Posford, Falkenham, Suffolk.
60.—Com., Right Hon. Lord de Ramsey, Abbott's Ripton, Hunts.

CLASS II. (Goldthorpe).
233.—1st, T. E. Powell, Hawkstone, Salop.
205.—2nd, F. Bonnor Barling, Ross-on-Wye, Hereford.
88.—3rd, T. W. Purser, Colnbrook, Midd.
239.—V.H.C., T. E. James, Minehead, Somerset.
197.—H.C., F. Gent, Pinhoe, Devon.

CLASS III. (Colonial).
264.—1st, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.
265.—2nd, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.

CLASS IV. (Foreign).
266.—1st, R. Liebmann and Co., 13, Southwark Street, S.E.
267.—2nd, R. Liebmann and Co., 13, Southwark Street, S.E.
276.—3rd, S. and J. Reif, Vienna.

CLASS V. (Foreign).
268.—1st, R. Liebmann and Co., 13, Southwark Street, S.E.
287.—2nd, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.
286.—3rd, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.

CLASS VI. (Foreign).
281.—1st, Spillers and Bakers, Ltd., Cardiff.
291.—2nd, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.
282.—3rd, Spillers and Bakers, Ltd., Cardiff.

CLASS VII. (No Entries).

CLASS VIII. (Foreign).
294.—1st, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.
293.—2nd, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.
283.—3rd, Spillers and Bakers, Ltd., Cardiff.

CLASS IX. (Foreign).
272.—1st, R. Liebmann and Co., 13, Southwark Street, S.E.
285.—2nd, Spillers and Bakers, Ltd., Cardiff.
[illegible]—3rd, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.

CLASS X. (East Riding).
252.—1st, Lord Middleton, Birdsall, Malton.
251.—2nd, G. M. Green, Firby, Kirkham Abbey.

(CLASS XI. (West Suffolk).
156.—2nd, W. Dyer, Edwardstone.
165.—3rd, T. S. Moore, Occold, Eye.

CLASS XII. (Colchester Brewing Co.'s Cups).
33.—Essex, W. Nisbet, Radwinter.
149.—Suffolk, M. E. Posford, Falkenham.
101.—Norfolk, C. G. Miles, Alburgh.

CLASS XIII (Sheppey Glue and Chemical Co.'s Prizes).
208.—1st, Hollands Bros., Shorne, Gravesend.

CLASS XIV. (Steven's Chemical Manure Co.'s Prizes).
171.—1st, C. H. Goschen, Addington.
175.—2nd, H. Jennings, Pulborough.
146.—3rd, A. E. Gray, Halesworth.

CLASS XV. (Crone and Taylor's Prizes).
123.—1st, G. Partridge, Kidlington.
80.—2nd, J. Thurlby, Market Deeping.
176.—H. Jennings, Pulborough.

CLASS XVI. (Joseph Fison and Co.'s Manure Prizes).
Group A.
149.—1st, M. E. Posford, Falkenham.
27.—2nd, C. H. Chisnall, Chichester.
99.—3rd, C. G. Miles, Alburgh.
Group B.
113.—1st, J. House, Wansford.
110.—2nd, L. Fortescue, Stanford.
128.—3rd, Earl of Ancaster, Normanton, Stamford.
Group C.
21.—1st, J. Carpenter, Alphington, Exeter.
140.—2nd, T. Rawle, Porlock, Taunton.
141.—3rd, T. Rawle, Porlock, Taunton.
Group D.
62.—1st, C. Wilkinson, Fenstanton, St. Ives, Hunts.
19.—2nd, S. Taylor, Dullingham, Newmarket.
57.—3rd, F. Christmas, Great Gransden, Sandy.
Group E.
66.—1st, Sir W. H. Dyke, Bower Farm, Eynsford.
207.—2nd, Hollands Bros., Shorne, Gravesend.
177.—3rd, H. Jennings, Park Farm, Pulborough.
Group F.
6.—1st, F. A. Horwood, Bury Court Farm, White Waltham.
7.—2nd, F. A. Horwood, Bury Court Farm, White Waltham.
122.—3rd, F. G. Castleman, Northbrook, Kirklington.
Group G.
81.—1st, J. Thurlby, Baston, Market Deeping.
84.—2nd, Whathoff Bros., Baston.
75.—3rd, L. J. Briggs, Priory Farm, Stamford.
Group H.
93.—1st, H. F. Parsons, South Bank, Chepstow.
95.—2nd, H. F. Parsons, South Bank, Chepstow.
44.—3rd, H. Butler, Pauntley Court, Newent.

CLASS XVII. (Webb and Sons' Manure Prizes).
Group A.
43.—1st, H. Butler, Pauntley Court, Newent.
205.—2nd, F. Bonnor Barling, Bollitree, Ross-on-Wye.
228.—3rd, F. Horne, Claverley, Wolverhampton.
Group B.
102.—1st, J. Sparrow, Church Farm, Bawburgh, Suffolk.
103.—2nd, W. J. Jarvis, Church Farm, Clare, Suffolk.
103.—3rd, W. Wing, Walpole, Wisbech.
Group C.
112.—1st, F. Holmes, Greatford, Stamford.
111.—2nd, L. Fortescue, Barnack.
220.—3rd, C. H. Manning, Hilton House, Northampton.
Group D. (No Entry).
Group E.
11.—1st, T. W. Purser, Tanhouse, Colnbrook, Bucks.
33.—2nd, T. W. Purser, Tanhouse, Colnbrook, Middlesex.
4.—3rd, Marquis of Downshire, Wokingham.
Group F.
183.—1st, C. Coles, Stoke, Salisbury.
245.—2nd, W. Shears, Pyrford, Woking.
178.—3rd, H. Jennings, Park Farm, Pulborough.

Class xviii. The "Mark Lane Express" Diplomas.

Chevalier Variety.
6.—Berks, F. A. Horwood, White Waltham.
7.—Berks, F. A. Horwood, White Waltham.
10.—Bucks, J. H. R. Horwood, Drayton, Beauchamp.
12.—Bucks, T. W. Purser, Colnbrook.
19.—Cambs, S. Taylor, Newmarket.
18.—Cambs, Morris and Co., Oakington.
21.—Devon, J. Carpenter, Alphington.
23.—Devon, S. Marsh, Lyme Regis.
33.—Essex, W. Nisbet, Radwinter.
34.—Essex, R. Seabrook, Tolleshunt D'Arcy.
43.—Glos., H. Butler, Newent.
44.—Glos., H. Butler, Newent.
50.—Hereford, G. E. Drinkwater, Ross-on-Wye.
52.—Herts, J. W. Cole, Baldock.
53.—Herts, R. E. Horwood, Tring.
62.—Hunts, C. Wilkinson, Fenstanton.
60.—Hunts, Lord de Ramsey, Abbott's Ripton.
63.—Kent, G. Brooker, Rochester.
66.—Kent, Sir W. H. Dyke, Evnsford.
78.—Lincs, G. Powell, Navanby.
81.—Lincs., J. Thurlby, Market Deeping.
85.—Louth, N. Mathews, Dunleer.
87.—Middlesex, T. W. Purser, Colnbrook.
86.—Middlesex, W. J. Curtis, Heathrow.
93.—Monmouth, H. F. Parsons, Chepstow.
94.—Monmouth, H. F. Parsons, Chepstow.
101.—Norfolk, C. G. Miles, Alburgh.
99.—Norfolk, C. G. Miles, Alburgh.
113.—Northampton, J. House, Wansford.
110.—Northampton, L. Fortescue, Stamford.
123.—Oxon, G. Partridge, Kidlington.
122.—Oxon, F. G. Castleman, Kirtlington.
128.—Rutland, Earl of Ancaster, Stamford.
130.—Rutland, W. C. Pridmore, Stamford.
134.—Salop, R. Preece, Crossage.
131.—Salop, W. Black, Bridgnorth.
140.—Somerset, T. Rawle, Porlock.
135.—Somerset, R. Brett, Allerford.
143.—Stafford, F. Horne, Bobbington.
149.—Suffolk (East), W. E. Posford, Falkenham.
144.—Suffolk (East), S. Dawson, Levington.
155.—Suffolk (West), W. Dyer, Edwardstone.
156.—Suffolk (West), W. Dyer, Edwardstone.
171.—Surrey, C. H. Goschen, Addington.
177.—Sussex, H. Jennings, Pulborough.
178.—Sussex, H. Jennings, Pulborough.
183.—Wilts, C. Coles, Salisbury.
184.—Wilts, R. Cock, Box.
185.—Worcester, G. Corbishley, Pershore.
186.—Worcester, W. H. Hughes, Pershore.

Goldthorpe Variety
1.—Bedford, S. Harrison, Renhold.
189.—Bedford, F. Brown, Ampthill.
14.—Bucks, W. Rance, Taplow.
11.—Bucks, T. W. Purser, Colnbrook.
197.—Devon, F. Gent, Pinhoe.
205.—Hereford, F. Bonnor Barling, Ross-on-Wye.
216.—Louth, J. Dolan, Drogheda.
215.—Louth, P. D. Caraher, Castlebellingham.
88.—Middlesex, T. W. Purser, Colnbrook.
217.—Middlesex, J. Bolton, Shepperton.
220.—Northampton, C. W. Manning, Northampton.
218.—Northampton, W. Brown, Billing Arbours.
222.—Northumberland, A. F. Nichol, Belford.
223.—Queen's County, J. Maher, Portarlington.
225.—Rutland, Earl of Ancaster, Stamford.
224.—Rutland, Earl of Ancaster, Stamford.
233.—Salop, T. E. Powell, Hawkstone.
229.—Salop, E. W. Humphreys, Oswestry.
239.—Somerset, T. E. James, Minehead.
240.—Stafford, J. Clemson, Wolverhampton.
241.—Stafford, E. White, Brewood.
245.—Surrey, W. Shears, Pyrford.
244.—Surrey, W. Lang, Leatherhead.
249.—Worcester, Mrs. Kingston, Kempsey.
247.—Worcester, J. Gill, Evesham.
253.—Yorks (E. Riding), Lord Middleton, Birdsall.
257.—Yorks (W. Riding), J. Rodsman, Burythorpe.
258.—Yorks (W. Riding), J. Rodsman, Burythorpe.
264.—Colonial, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.
265.—Colonial, Woodley, Watney, and Richardson, 31-32, Crutched Friars, E.C.

CLASS XIX. (Sheaf Class).
260.—1st, C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Harleston, Norfolk.
261.—2nd, C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Harleston, Norfolk.
259.—3rd, F. Horne, Bank Farm, Claverley, Wolverhampton.

CLASS XX. (Threshing Machine Prizes).
1st, Nalder and Nalder, Ltd., Wantage.
2nd, Marshall, Sons, and Co., Ltd., Gainsborough.
3rd, Clayton and Shuttleworth, Ltd., Lincoln.

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR IRELAND—SILVER MEDAL.
85.—H. Matthews, Cappog, Dunleer, Co. Louth.

The Hops.

The entries this year were much below average in number. The catalogue only included the names of twenty-six planters, who entered forty samples, the names of six others entering nine samples being received after the printing of the official list. Thus not more than thirty-two growers were found to represent our English industry, which numbers in its ranks between 2,000 and 3,000 farmers. It is very disappointing that such limited interest is taken in this exhibition by those who have therein such an excellent opportunity for demonstrating to British brewers their ability to produce hops of most excellent quality, and in sufficient quantity to provide for the whole of our home requirements. We would respectfully suggest to the managing directors of the exhibition that by better organisation of this section, and by more careful attention to the exhibits, they might materially enlarge its importance, and make it more worthy of the consideration of the industry as a whole, and more attractive to brewers, for whose special benefit the exhibition is presumably held.

Having carefully examined in detail the various samples, we venture to make the following remarks. Giving precedence to the sample shown by Mr. W. Rogers in Class II., which was selected by the judges for the honour of championship, we have no hesitation in accepting this decision as well deserved. These Bramblings are of rich colour, with a brilliant face, and a plummy side demonstrating their wholeness and their excellent management. Their flavour is fully pronounced, and of the finest character, and we heartily congratulate the grower on his present success, which, when added to his previous achievements, proves that he is progressive and persevering in his determination to attain to the highest possible pitch of excellence.

The first prize in Class I. was awarded to Mr. C. F. File, but we regret that, owing to the absence of his sample, we are unable to remark upon the good points it undoubtedly possesses. Mr. H. W. Clements gained the second prize, and Mr. W. Lillywhite the third prize in this class. Both these samples show boldness and good management, but appeared to us to be somewhat deficient in the brightness usually associated with East Kent growths. Colonel Hardy's exhibit had very good colour, and also Mr. R. M. Wakeley's, but both were apparently rather short of condition. The first prize was the only award in Class II., and was, of course, taken by Mr. W. Rogers. This position was, however, closely competed for by Mr. E. Goodwin, whose sample of Goldings, cured by Davidson's Sirocco system, was bold and silky, with a splendid side, but rather dull on the face. It seemed to us to be worthy of recognition for a second award.

Coming to Class III., we found Mr. W. Rogers again at the top with his Goldings, of most attractive appearance and quality. Bold, rich in lupulin, and bright, they gave further evidence of his intelligent cultivation and management. The same grower took the second prize, but we were disappointed with this sample, which appeared to be much below the standard hitherto associated with his produce. We were rather inclined at first sight to think that Mr. W. Lillywhite, to whom the third prize was awarded, should have changed places with Mr. Rogers, but when the test of flavour was applied, the award of the judges was confirmed.

In Class IV. Mr. E. Mannington was the only prize taker. His sample may be described as pretty, being of a very delicate, even colour, and well managed, but apparently deficient in lupulin. It was difficult to understand why the two excellent samples shown by Mr. C. A. Calcutt in this class had not been marked by an award, being of

such clear colour, with an attractive face and bold side. But judges know best, and we suppose there was some deficiency in quality we were not sufficiently skilled to discover. Mr. Calcutt, however, came to the front in Class V., wherein he gained the first and only prize. But the special claim of this sample to distinction was not evident to us, as it appeared to be wanting in several particulars. The sample shown by Mr. Geo. Neve in this class escaped recognition, and we wondered why, as it appeared to us to be well worthy of notice.

Classes VI. and VII. might be briefly dismissed if we were to be guided by the absence of any awards. Upon inquiry, we were informed that as there were but two entries in each class, there was not sufficient competition; but we venture to think that the judges might have recognised by special mention the excellence of the samples shown by Mr. Gilbert Eames. His Fuggles in Class VII. attracted the attention of all the visitors, their boldness, rich colour, and quality, good management, and fine flavour being very evident.

Those of the Worcester hops in Class VIII., that were on show, were generally poor in quality, somewhat chaffy, and short of condition. The first prize in this class was awarded to Mr. J. A. Thompson, of Woolhope, Hereford; but, by accident, his sample was not exhibited. The Midland Counties were also represented in Class IX., the first position being gained by Mr. C. Whittindale, with a sample which was whole, ripe, well conditioned, and of good colour, and whose general aspect reminded us of the productions of his skilful neighbour, Mr. W. F. Pudge. If Mr. Whittindale, who is a new exhibitor, perseveres on the same lines, we shall doubtless hear of his further successes in hop growing. Classes X. and XI., comprising Farnhams and Country Farnhams, were only marked by one first prize in each, taken by Mr. J. Bonham Carter and Messrs. P. and C. Seward. The sample shown by the first-named was bold and attractive, but we thought the hops would have been more valuable if they had been allowed to ripen further. Although Messrs. Seward's sample presented a nice, bright colour, and were therefore pretty in appearance, they seemed to be short of lupulin, and were of only moderate flavour, and hardly up to the excellent standard of general quality for which these growers have been previously noted.

Taking a general survey of the competition, we think it must be admitted that the average of quality was distinctly below that of many previous seasons. In this respect it may, perhaps, be taken as representative of the greater part of this year's crop. We have grown a record quantity, but Nature does not yield her goodness in every direction. If we gain in extension, we must lose in concentration. Our plantations have shown us what they can do in giving us excessive weight, but therein their efforts have been apparently exhausted, hence the large proportion of medium and inferior hops with which we are overladen. Therefore we can hardly be surprised if our annual national show is found to be representative of almost universal experience.

Judges for the Scottish National Fat Stock Show.

At a meeting of the council of the Scottish National Fat-Stock Club, held at Edinburgh on Wednesday, the judges for the society's annual show to be held on November 29 and 30 were appointed as follows:—

CATTLE.—Shorthorn, Aberdeen-Angus, and Cross-bred: Messrs. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; William Wilson, Coynachie, Gartly; and Henry Milne, Haymarket, Edinburgh. Galloway, Highland, and the President's Prizes: Messrs. James Phillips Carse, Kirkcudbright; Duncan Macdiarmid, Camusericht; and Andrew Young, Kelso. Other classes: Messrs. Adam Beazman, Hermitage, Kelso; Andrew Wood, Tantallon Place, Edinburgh; and Charles Harrison, Giggleswick, Settle.

SHEEP.—Blackfaced, Cheviot, and Half-breds: Messrs. James Greenshields, West Town, Lesmahagow; George Douglas, Hindhope; and Hugh Lawrie, butcher, Leith. Cross-breds and extra classes, Messrs. James Thomson, Haddington; William Jackson, Symington; and J. C. Mitchell, Kelso.

PIGS.—Mr. Charles Robertson, Glasgow.

ROOTS.—Messrs. James Caldwell, Knockshoggle; James Newton, Queenscairn, Kelso; George Donald, Ladyhill, Grange; and J. A. W. Mein, Hunthill, Jedburgh.

MISCELLANEOUS. — Grain: Messrs. William Inglis, Bonnington Mills, Leith; and George MacLennan, Edinburgh. Buttermaking: Mr. William Smith, jun., Dairy Supply Co., Belfast.

CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGES.—Cattle: Mr. George Harrison, Mr. D. M'Diarmid, and Mr. Andrew Wood. Sheep: Mr. George Douglas, Mr. William Jackson, and Mr. John Clay, Chicago.

National Potato Society.—Mr. Walter P. Wright, hon. secretary of the National Potato Society, will deliver a lecture on potatoes at the Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, on Tuesday, October 24, in connection with the vegetable show of the Royal Horticultural Society. The National Potato Society's show will be held in the same building on Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24.

THE ROYAL SHOW.

The Proposed Site at Derby.

Following upon the appointment of a deputation of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society to visit Derby to inspect the site which would be available in case it was decided to hold the Royal Show in this Borough, certain steps preparatory to the visit have been taken locally. The Council of the Derbyshire Agricultural Show recently met at Derby, when it was resolved to endorse the action of the Mayor of Derby in sending an invitation to the Royal Agricultural Society, and to co-operate in every way likely to promote the success of the undertaking. One result of the meeting was to appoint a sub-committee to meet the representatives of the Midland Railway Company, the owners of Osmaston Park, which comprises the proposed suitable site, and confer with them upon the matter. The conference with the officials of the Midland Railway Company took place on the following day, and, after the inspection of the ground, it was agreed that a capital site of about 80 acres could be placed at the disposal of the Royal Agricultural Society. The ground required by the Royal Society is at least 60 acres, so that the available site meets every requirement in this respect. The representatives of the County Society decided to prepare a statement to submit to the deputation of the Royal Agricultural Society on their arrival at Derby.

Duke of Devonshire's Support.

The Duke of Devonshire has promised to preside at a meeting at Derby on November 10 to secure public support for next year's Royal Agricultural Show in that town.

Value of the Show to Live Stock Breeders

Mr. W. Staley Spark, writing from the Royal Colonial Institute, sends a letter to the *Yorkshire Post* anent the show of the Royal Agricultural Society, and his remarks are of such an interesting nature that we reproduce them in full. He says:—

"Much has been written and said with regard to the future and past of the Royal Agricultural Society. The past has undoubtedly proved that the annual show of the Society has done excellent work in the interests of our principal national industry—firstly, with its scientific operations, quite apart from the actual show; and, secondly, by creating the finest market in the world for the best types of live stock connected with the agricultural industry. The future will depend greatly on the administrative ability of the Council and its staff.

"I have travelled considerably in our Colonies (especially in Canada, where I was for some time connected with the Board of Agriculture of the Dominion), and have seen the immense improvement in the type and quality of live stock, traceable directly to the importation of animals purchased from exhibitors at the Royal Show. Where, I wonder, would the good meat we are getting from Canada, the United States, and the Argentine, and the New Zealand mutton, have come from had it not been for the purchases made of high-class bulls and rams bought from exhibitors of stock at the Royal Show?

"I have had the honour of judging all over Canada, and last year at the national show at Palermo, Buenos Ayres, and have heard from the lips of the largest and best breeders of stock in those great agricultural countries (also from stockmen of New Zealand) that it would be a calamity to the agricultural interests of the whole civilised world were the Royal Show to be discontinued. The nation should support this national show in order that the continuance of it shall not be a matter of doubt in future, but one of certainty. Surely the good work of the Society for the last seventy years, or nearly so, must not be allowed to drop.

"In Canada nearly all the agricultural shows are subsidised by the Government, they all pay, and are excellently managed.

"Nearly all the large banks are liberal subscribers to the shows, and the local committees have, in nine cases out of ten, some of the local bank managers as members. The general public are well catered for with amusements in the afternoons and evenings. The hotel proprietors have fixed prices all the year round, and do not increase them during the show weeks. The local committees establish an office where lodgings can be procured at reasonable prices. I suggest that some of these ideas might be carried out with success by the Royal Society.

"The following seem to be wanted:—

"1. An increase of members and subscriptions.

"2. District committees all over England to bring the Society and its work to the knowledge of the agriculturists and rural public.

"3. Better and more entertainment for the general public at the shows.

"4. The individual help of all persons interested in farming to prevent the discontinuance of our national show, and the deterioration of the finest market in the world for live stock.

"It is not too late, so let us all, who are interested in agriculture, put our shoulders to the wheel, and save the Royal Agricultural Society."

The Real Working of the Agricultural Rating Act.*

The Agricultural Rating Act, passed in 1896 as a temporary measure and twice renewed for terms of five years, has been spoken of as "an Act to alter the incidence of local taxation," "an Agricultural Relief Act," and also "an Act giving a dole to the landlord."

Bare agricultural land is now rated on 50 per cent. of its annual value. This has often led to the statement that the Agricultural Rating Act has given an advantage to owners and tenants of agricultural land not enjoyed by other ratepayers, but it will be seen that this contention is not borne out by the facts as they appear to-day in East Anglia. To illustrate this point, I have before me particulars of sale of three farms, the upset price being given at about £10 per acre. In each case the farm-houses and premises have cost more to build than the total reserve on the farm. The gross upset price of the three farms referred to is £2,100. On reference to the rate-book I find the gross assessment of these farms is £120 15s., and rateable £110 10s.—paying rates under Agricultural Rating Act on £65 10s. Now, if instead of using this £2,100 to purchase these farms the sum was expended to erect a factory or workshop the gross assessment would probably not exceed £75; then a reduction of 33⅓ per cent. would be granted from gross to rateable, with the result that this factory or workshop would probably pay rates on £50, as against £65 10s. on the same amount of capital invested in land. Take another case: £1,000 is expended in erecting workmen's cottages or other house property, the assessment of which property when completed would be somewhere between £30 and £40, probably not exceeding £30 rateable. Recently, at the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, a small farm was sold for £1,000; reference to the rate-book shows that the gross assessment is £60 15s., rateable £56 5s.—paying rates under Rating Act on £33. It may be that it is in East Anglia only that land is assessed more out of proportion to its capital value than is the case with other classes of property, but I am writing of things as I find them.

We will now examine the total grant from the National Exchequer in relation to (a) all cultivated land; (b) to our wheat crop. The total amount of land under all crops and grass in Great Britain in 1903† was 32,323,176 acres, so that the grant amounts to nearly 1s. per acre on all agricultural land. The total arable land in Great Britain was 15,409,084 acres. Therefore, if relief were granted to arable land only, this would on the basis of the present grant amount to 2s. per acre—a substantial relief if properly apportioned. Then the total acreage of wheat in Great Britain in 1903 was 1,587,587 acres, so that the grant from the Exchequer in aid of local rates would in that year have amounted to practically £1 for every acre of wheat grown.

But perhaps the inequitable distribution of the grants will be more easily shown by comparing the three Eastern counties—Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk—with four counties in the North-West, namely, Derby, Lancaster, Cheshire, and Stafford. These two sets of counties comprise very nearly the same area, and while the three Eastern counties contain 5,066 square miles, as against 5,114 square miles of the four North-Western counties, the former had under all crops (including grass), 2,021,016 acres in 1903, and the latter 2,445,240 acres. Had the two groups received under the Act equal grant per acre, the three Eastern counties would have had 7 per cent. more grant than the fourth North-Western. As a matter of fact, the latter receives nearly 25 per cent. more than the former. The comparison will be better seen by the Schedule below.

Comparing columns 3 and 4 in each set of counties, it will be seen that the number of acres of arable land in the Eastern counties is nearly three times that in the North-Western, and the acreage under wheat more than four times as great. Column 5 gives the amount of grant calculated at per acre of arable land in each county. It will be seen that the Eastern counties average is only 1s. 2½d. per acre, against 4s. 1½d. per acre in the North-Western. With these figures before us, it is difficult to regard this Act as anything like a just measure, for who could say that the arable land of the four North-Western counties required nearly four times the relief granted to the arable land in East Anglia? Column 7 shows that for every £1 paid in lieu of tithe in the North-Western counties, £2 14s 10d. is paid in the Eastern counties.

If the Agricultural Rating Act was passed for

* By Alfred Blomfeld, in the "World's Work."

† All through I shall quote figures referring to 1903, as these are the latest as have as yet been published in full.

SCHEDULE OF GRANTS IN TWO SETS OF COUNTIES UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL RATES ACT, 1896.

Total Area of the Three Eastern Counties, 5,066 Square Miles.

County.	1 Grant.	2 Grass Land.	3 Arable Land.	4 Wheat.	5 Grant per acre on Arable Land.	6 Estimated total grant if at 2/- per acre on arable land.	7 Commuted Tithe paid.
	£	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	s. d.	£ s.	£
Essex	37,583	277,621	510 777	100,693	1 5	51,007 14	248,688
Norfolk	47,446	292,342	776,634	105,928	1 2	77,663 8	278,132
Suffolk	28,710	186,420	569,322	90,983	1 0	56,932 4	202,562
Total	113,739	756,383	1,856,733	297,604	Average 1/2½	185,603 6	729 382
Total Area of the Four North-Western Counties, 6,114 Square Miles.							
Derby	26,155	403,718	88,511	12,246	5 10	8,851 2	42,926
Lancaster	48,206	574,410	247,036	18,391	3 10	24,703 12	78,395
Cheshire.....	35,384	332,892	202,966	12,223	3 5	20,296 12	64,085
Stafford	33,181	435,517	160,127	17,578	4 1	16,012 14	80,658
Total	142,926	1,746,600	693,640	60,438	Average 4/1½	69,864 0	266,028

Total grant under Agricultural Rating Acts, £1,510,795.

Total wheat in Great Britain (1903), 1,581,157 acres.

Total grass land in Great Britain (1903), 16,934.495 acres.

Total arable land in Great Britain (1903), 15,409,084 acres. 2s. per acre would require £1,540,908.

Total agricultural land in Great Britain, 32,343,579 acres.

If grass land were reduced on assessment 2s. per acre gross to rateable and rates 6s. in £1. Grant of £508,034 would be required. If arable land were reduced on assessment 5s. per acre gross to rateable and rates 6s. in £1. Grant of £1,155,681 would be required.—Total, £1,663,715.

If arable land only were reduced, 7s. per acre gross to rateable and rates 6s. in £1 this would require grant of £1,617,953.

the relief of Agriculture, then the relief should be given where the depression is felt. If the main purpose of the Act was the alteration of the incidence of local rating, then every part of the country should have been treated equally. As I have already pointed out, the grant amounts to practically £1 per acre for every acre of wheat grown in 1903. Some well-known politicians advocate this bonus on wheat-growing as a remedy for the present state of agricultural depression. For my part, I think this would be wrong in principle and disastrous in effect, but one may note that had the grant been apportioned thus, the Eastern counties would have received in 1903 £297,604, and the North-Western £60,438. As already stated, the grant from the Exchequer comes to practically 2s. per acre for all arable land. If it had been distributed in that proportion the Eastern counties would have received (as per column 6) £185,672, as against £69,864 by the North-Western.

It is on arable land that labour is expended, and, as will be seen by column 7, it is the arable land that is most heavily tithed. While this may be regarded as beside the question when discussing rating, yet it is obvious that this charge has to be paid out of produce, so that land that has to bear this additional burden should be as liberally dealt with as that which is more favoured

Having shown how inequitably the relief works out under the present system, or lack of system, I make three alternative suggestions for the adjustment of the relief at present given.

First.—All agricultural land should be assessed at full value, then the tithe which pays rates under a separate heading should be deducted, and the assessment reduced 5s. 6d. per acre from gross to rateable. With rates at 6s. in the £ it would require a grant of £1,698,037 to meet the deficiency in the rates caused by this reduction in assessment.

Second.—Assess all grass land at its full value, less tithe, and reduce all arable land 7s. per acre, gross to rateable. This would require a grant of £1,617,953.

Third.—Reduce all arable land 5s. per acre from gross to rateable and grass land 2s. per acre (of course deducting the tithe). This would require a grant of £1,663,715, supposing in this case, as in the last, the rates to be 6s. in the £.

The last suggestion is the one that commends itself to my mind, and it would, I believe, be received with better favour than either of the others. If the deficiency in the rates which would be caused by this reduction in the assessment were met by a grant from the National Exchequer the amount of this grant would vary in accordance with the amount of the rates in the £. In order to calculate approximately the sum required as grant, I have supposed the rates to be 6s. in the £. In many agricultural areas they may be less, but in others, I am sorry to say, they exceed that amount; probably the average would be rather under the 6s., in which case the grant required would not be more than the amount (1½ million) given under the present Act.

Mr. James Dobbie, founder of the firm of Dobbie and Co., seed growers, died in Rothesay, on the 17th inst., at the advanced age of eighty-seven. The deceased gentleman was a well known and enthusiastic horticulturist, and wrote several treatises on such subjects.

British Woodlands and State Forestry.

An interesting lecture on British Woodlands was given by Sir Herbert E. Maxwell, M.P., at Dumfries on Tuesday, under the auspices of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, of which he is a past president.

He began by reference to the reports of the Select Committee of 1885, and of the Departmental Committee, which reported in 1902. These Committees were agreed that the world is rapidly approaching a shortage, if not actual dearth, in its supply of coniferous timber, which constitutes between 80 and 90 per cent. of the total British timber imports; that there is a vast area, estimated in millions of acres, capable of growing timber of the finest quality; that the climate of the British Isles is favourable to economic forestry conducted on a proper scale (not in grudging patches, clumps, and strips); and that it requires only the exercise of timely forethought and a moderate annual expenditure to anticipate the time when scarcity of foreign timber shall have greatly enhanced the price, and to replace with British-grown timber those enormous imports upon which we depend at present. In view of these conclusions, Sir Herbert Maxwell urged that the State should make an investment—not a gift—of £10,000 a year, for the purchase and planting of suitable land.

In supporting his plea, Sir Herbert said:—"No branch of agriculture, not even wheat-growing, has suffered such a slump in the last twenty-five years as hill sheep farming. There are hundreds of thousands of acres in Scotland, once valuable sheep pasture, now rented at from sixpence to not more than two shillings an acre. From some of it a good additional return, say a shilling an acre, is obtained for the grouse on it; but a great deal of it is unsuitable for grouse, but very suitable for growing timber. Such land is constantly being offered for sale. Twenty-five years' purchase would secure 1,000 such acres for £2,500. If the ground is level, planting three feet by three will take 4,840,000 trees; the cost at £6 an acre—£6,000 for the 1,000 acres. On sloping or steep ground fewer trees will be required, and the cost proportionately less. I make no provision for houses or fences, assuming that the farm is bought all standing, but £500 must be allowed for repairs and preliminary draining, making a total initial outlay of £9,000 on the 1,000 acres. The interest on the balance of £1,000 ought to pay the annual tool bill.

"Now, the great question is, will this investment pay? Well, I am bound to say that it is not one that I could advise any private individual to make and expect good interest upon his capital; the lock-up would be more than the circumstances of most landowners would permit. But I do consider it an investment which the State, which pays no death duties, not only might make with prudence, but is bound to make as a matter of public policy. It is a difficult thing to find any woodlands in Great Britain, either Crown property or in private hands, which have been systematically managed on a working plan over a sufficiently long period to estimate the results commercially.

"Nevertheless, I have had the advantage of examining the balance sheets for five years of 3,700 acres of wood on the estate of Novar in Ross-shire. Extensive planting was done there from the beginning of last century continuously, except during thirty-two years, from 1850 to 1881. This was an unfortunate break, for it vitiated the regular rotation of the working plan; nevertheless, the results are not unsatisfactory. The average net profit upon these woodlands for the five years 1892-6 was slightly over 11s. an acre. Next I took the official returns of the German State forests covering five years, and found that the average net return was exactly the same as from the Novar Woodlands, 11s. an acre.

"Here, then, we have this result, that land which, for agricultural purposes, is not worth at the highest estimate more than 2s. an acre annually has been made to return an annual net profit of 11s. an acre. I say, then, that money so invested cannot be regarded as unprofitable. Moreover, these results were obtained upon the prices of timber current at the close of last century, whereas all indications point to a considerable rise in that price. The German official returns show that during the last thirty years the net profit per acre has been steadily increasing, owing to rise of prices and the establishment of pulping mills and chemical works.

"All I ask, then, is that the State should invest £10,000 a year in the purchase and planting of land. At the end of fifty years it would have made a progressive investment of half a million sterling—the cost of four days' campaign against the Boers. The property, which it had acquired on the rent basis of 2s. an acre, would be yielding 11s. an acre, a rise in value of 550 per cent. And this assuming, against all appearances, that the price of timber will continue stationary for half a century.

"But that is not all the advantage to be gained. The minds of politicians and sociologists are grievously exercised just now, and justly so, about the physical deterioration of our population owing to the concentration of the working classes in our large towns. No greater boon can be devised than healthy and remunerative work in the open air of the country. Suppose only fifty thousand acres to have been planted by the State. Instead of a rural population of one shepherd to 1,000 acres of pasture—fifty shepherds on the whole extent—you will have established one woodman to every 100 acres, or 500 woodmen on the whole ground. Then there are the forest industries which will spring up, each requiring a number of hands. In the whole United Kingdom there is not a single pulping mill; we import £3,000,000 worth of wood pulp and wood paper annually. The first pulping mill was established in Saxony in the year 1854, fifty years ago. There are now 600 pulping mills at work in the German Empire alone."

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The aim of "The Advertisers' Year Book," published by Messrs. H. Dawson and Co., 42, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C. (price 2s. 6d.), is to be of practical, up-to-date service to advertisers in connection with the carrying out of their advertising projects, and it undoubtedly fulfils its object, for it gives handy working lists of newspapers, magazines, and periodicals in town and country, as well as a number of informing articles on the various aspects of the art and business of advertising. These articles include the following:—"What Advertising Can Do," "Advertising as a Commercial Asset," "The Art of Advertisement Preparation," "Where Advertising Fails," "Facts About Printing," etc. In addition, a good deal of general advertising information is given, including particulars of towns according to population, rateable values, and some practical notes concerning illustrations, special positions, "class" publications, etc.

In the "Badminton Magazine of Sports and Pastimes" for October, there is an interesting article on "Queer Tempered Horses," which is compiled by the editor from experiences and incidents contributed by Lords Durham and Ellesmere, Col. W. Hall-Walker, M.P., Majors Charles Beatty, D.S.O., and Arthur Hughes-Onslow, Messrs. Gwyn, Saunders-Davies, and E. C. Clayton, Sam Darling, Tom Cannon, Joseph Cannon, and Richard Marsh. In the same number there is a charmingly illustrated article on "Dreamwold, the Farm of Mr. Thos. W. Lawson, the American Sportsman and Financier." Major Arthur Hughes-Onslow's "Hints to Young Foxhunters" is as interesting as it is instructive. "With the Khirgizs of Khan Tengri," by Lord O. Beauclerk, is a description of sport on the Russo-Chinese frontier. The series of "Royal Homes of Sport in Germany" is continued by a description of Letzlingen in the Province of Saxony. The "Past Cricket Season" is reviewed, another "Strange Story of Sport," and the monthly notes on "Bridge," "Books," etc., are included.

At a meeting of agriculturists held at Grantham, it was decided to form a local branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.

THE NORTHERN FARMERS' CONVENTION.

A Successful Start; Many Subjects Discussed.

The long-talked-of and much-discussed convention of Northern farmers took place at Darlington on Friday, and was attended by more than 300 from all parts of the North. The object of the convention was, as previously stated in these columns, to bring into existence a great federation for the protection and promotion of the farmers' special interests, and to formulate for that federation a programme and a policy. It was essentially a farmers' meeting, in which landowners as such had no part. The great majority of those present were tenant farmers, the only notable exception being Lord Barnard, who was present in an unofficial capacity, but who took an obviously keen interest in the proceedings. The initiative in the movement was taken by the Darlington Farmers' Association, who felt that the time was ripe for the establishment of an organisation more accessible and less cumbrous than the Central Chamber of Agriculture, and yet large enough to represent effectively a great body of agricultural opinion. Even the promoters themselves were surprised at the keen interest which the scheme has aroused.

The representative character of the gathering may be gathered from the following list of associations taking part, with the names of their appointed representatives:—Darlington Farmers' Association.—Mr. G. Smurthwaite (chairman), Mr. J. H. Walker (vice-chairman), Mr. W. Parlour, Mr. G. Gibson, Mr. W. Dent, and Mr. P. B. Kent (secretary). Newcastle Farmers' Club.—Mr. J. Hurter, Mr. G. Kirkup, Mr. A. Morton, Mr. J. E. Angus, and Mr. R. C. Hedley (secretary). Northumberland and Durham Dairy and Tenant Farmers' Association.—Mr. W. Hill, Mr. R. Longlands, Mr. J. Knox Lyal, Mr. E. J. Weightman, and Mr. C. Marshall (secretary). Darlington Chamber of Agriculture.—Mr. C. H. Johnson, Mr. M. Brown, Mr. W. Horseman, and Mr. E. Wilkin. Hexham Farmers' Protection Association.—Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, Mr. A. Wood, and Mr. R. Ord. Stockton Chamber of Agriculture.—Mr. T. B. Bainbridge, Mr. J. Atkinson, and Mr. J. T. Wilson. Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture.—Mr. C. Robinson and Mr. C. Middleton (hon. secretaries). Bedale Farmers' Protection Association.—Mr. J. O. Trotter (chairman), Mr. T. J. Ord, and Mr. R. N. Richardson (secretary). Chester-le-Street Farmers' Club.—Mr. C. N. Hutton, Mr. J. B. Turnbull, and Mr. R. Brewis (secretary). Ripon Chamber of Agriculture.—Mr. G. Gothorp and Mr. J. E. Cowthorn. Northallerton and District Agricultural Club.—Mr. G. Kendrew (chairman), Colonel Godman, Mr. H. Clark, and Mr. J. Kirby (secretary). Skipton and District Tenant Farmers' Association.—Mr. R. Garnett, Mr. A. Simpson, Mr. J. Watson, Mr. J. Colling, and Mr. R. Lamb. Holderness Agricultural Club.—Mr. W. M. Stickrey and Mr. J. F. Robinson. Lincolnshire Farmers' Union.—Mr. Colin Campbell (chairman), Mr. G. Powell, and Mr. H. W. Palmer (secretary). Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture.—Mr. W. Glover (chairman). Federation of Dairy Farmers' Associations of Scotland.—Mr. A. Sloan (secretary). Wensleydale Farmers' Association. Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural Discussing Society. Glamorgan Chamber of Agriculture.—Mr. W. Meyler Thomas. Central Chamber of Agriculture, London.—Mr. A. H. H. Matthews (secretary).

Mr. George Smurthwaite (Chairman of the Darlington Farmers' Association) presided, and Mr. P. B. Kent, of Darlington, acted as secretary to the Conference.

Mr. Joseph Walker, called upon to expound the aims and objects of the Federation, congratulated the chairman on the honour of presiding over that gathering—a gathering altogether without precedent in the history of Darlington, and unique, he imagined, in the history of the Northern counties: He was glad to find that the new movement had awakened such deep and widespread interest. They were not a political organisation. It would be disastrous for them to range themselves on the side of any political party. They had felt that notwithstanding the many excellent local organisations something more was desirable. When great questions closely affecting agriculture came before them, it was desirable that they should be able to act in unison. With this Federation they would bring into existence a force which politicians and others, such as the great railway and brewing monopolies, would have to reckon with in the future. They were not in rivalry or competition with any other agricultural institution in the country. There must, he added, be earnest, zealous, self-denying work put into the matter, and then they would provide a force which would be a benefit to agriculture in the future.

Captain R. Cecil Hedley (Newcastle Farmers' Club) urged every man present to become a missionary in the matter of federation. If every one did this they would be able to speak with the united voice of the whole of the farmers in the North-Eastern district of England.

Representations of Farmers on Local Councils.

Mr. William Hill (Northumberland and Durham Dairy and Tenant Farmers' Association) moved a resolution to the effect that farmers should be adequately represented on parish, district, and county councils, and that steps be taken to secure such representation. He considered local representation was not second to Parliamentary representation. Local bodies were responsible for rates, and as farmers they had practically no representation on these bodies. On the County Council of Durham there was only one tenant farmer. That, he said, was no credit to them as farmers. They should put up a farmer in every district for all local bodies.

Mr. Weightman (Sunderland), a member of the Durham County Council, in seconding the resolution, said that on that body there was only one tenant farmer, whilst there were seventeen checkweighmen. If farmers would take a share in local work, instead of contenting themselves with grumbling about the rates, it would be better. (Hear, hear.)

Lord Barnard, in supporting the motion, said the part he had taken in the business of the Durham County Council convinced him that a great amount of injury was worked to the farmers' interests by farmers not being sufficiently represented. An enormous amount of power was vested by Act of Parliament in the Executive Committee under the Diseases of Animals Act, but how was it possible to deal with that matter properly if there was only one agriculturist on the County Council? "I have not," his lordship added, "the slightest desire to exclude the miners and working men, but they have no right to monopolise the County Council. It becomes class legislation of the worst description if the interest of only one class of the population is to be considered, and the interests of all others cast to the winds."

The resolution was adopted.

Farmers in Parliament.

A resolution referring the question of direct Parliamentary representation for the farming interest to the Standing Committee for consideration and report was moved by Mr. W. Parlour, of Darlington. In times gone by, he said, it had been the custom to let agricultural representation in Parliament take care of itself, and as a consequence agricultural interests were now neglected. There were only two or three tenant farmers in the House of Commons. In the past they had been indebted to country gentlemen for representing agricultural interests, but the country gentlemen now did not occupy the same position in Parliament that they used to do, and instead of being able to look after the farmers' interests along with their own, they would be pleased for any help they could get from farmers' representatives. The first thing necessary was to provide a fighting fund.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. Richard Garnett (Gargrave) made a spirited speech in urging upon the Conference the adoption of a Parliamentary programme to be put before candidates at the coming election. He drew attention to the two significant facts that whilst unemployment in this country is becoming a very serious fact, more and more land is going out of cultivation. He did not say that Protection would be any remedy. If that was outside the range of practical politics it rested with the leaders of both parties to say what remedies they had to offer. Bound up with the prosperity of agriculture as a commercial undertaking was the question of national physique. "Is it anything to be proud of," he asked, "that as years go on we have so many fewer people employed on the land and so many more in factories? We should need no Royal Commissions on Deterioration if we could get the people back to the land, and make the land remunerative to people with energy and intelligence." Mr. Garnett's concluding exhortation was: "Assert yourselves like men; be determined to be represented in Imperial and local affairs; have a policy which you are determined to carry out, and you will frighten party politicians on both sides."

The resolution, which was seconded by Mr. A. B. Graham, of Glasgow, was unanimously adopted, and the Conference then proceeded to consider the details of its programme.

The first item in the programme was the continuation of

The Agricultural Rating Act.

until the whole system of rating was dealt with. This was proposed by Mr. J. W. Wilkinson, of Hexham, who counselled his brother farmers to secure representation on local bodies. "I am a member of the Northumberland County Council," he said, and then he added, "I never sat on a public body with less capacity to deal with public business." He went on to complain of the undue burden of local rating, and advocated the Scottish system, by which the rates are divided between landlord and tenant.

The resolution was adopted, as was also a resolution calling for the absolute prohibition of preferential rates for foreign produce.

The Motor-Car Nuisance.

"Better regulation for motor-car traffic, with a view to the safety of the public and the prevention of dust," is to find a place in the federation programme, a resolution to this effect, proposed by Mr. C. H. Johnson, of Darlington, being adopted.

Mr. Johnson, in moving his resolution, said the motor-car at present was only in its infancy. He anticipated that the tendency would be to build more powerful cars, capable of travelling faster, and then the nuisance would be increased. He alleged that motor-cars not only created a nuisance, but damaged the roads. "Is it reasonable," he asked, "that we farmers can allow this state of things to continue without taking some action in the matter? I am sure that any suggestion made by this federation will be both welcomed and accepted by the public themselves." To prevent dust, he suggested that motor-cars should have solid tyres. He would double the tax on motor-cars because the owner of a motor-car could afford to pay any tax.

Mr. Wilkinson, in seconding, said that nothing in this country needed so much regulation as motorists. He declared that motor-cars were a "gravely dangerous nuisance," and added, "I think we shall be all to blame if we do not pull motorists up a bit. If a revolution is necessary, they ought to be pulled up. I object entirely to the abuses that have been committed by motorists. Public life it not safe with them."

Secondary Education.

On the agenda was a resolution that "secondary education should be voluntary, and not charged upon the public funds." In moving it Mr. Charles Marshall, secretary of the Northumberland Dairy and Tenant Farmers' Association, said he was not fully in sympathy with it, but so great had been the abuse of education in the past that he was very nearly in sympathy with it. If things continued at the rate they were going on at present, it would be an utter impossibility that people could pay the rates that were imposed upon them. Education, he declared, was undermining parental responsibility. He could see no justice whatever in calling upon the public to educate the children of people who were perfectly able to educate their own children. Secondary education on the rates meant that the children of the middle classes would be educated at the public expense. There was also a good deal of money wasted on technical education.

Mr. Hunter seconded the resolution.

Lord Barnard said that all the cost of education and other local matters did not fall entirely on the tenant farmers, they fell on all ratepayers, and any extra burden affected him as much as any one present. He stated that since the Act came into force the Voluntary schools had cost him more than before in consequence of the large sums he was having to contribute to have the schools enlarged and improved, playgrounds added, and so on. He thought the resolution went a little too far. He did not believe that education could create a practical farmer or a practical craftsman, but it was not to be despised. He would ask that the question of public funds as distinguished from rates should be carefully considered. To put extra burdens on the public exchequer was almost as serious a thing as putting burdens on the rates. Public funds came out of the pocket of the public. "The duties I had to pay," added Lord Barnard, "on my succession to the Raby estate have hung a millstone of debt around me which will never leave me as long as I live."

Ultimately the resolution was withdrawn, and the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Walker, and seconded by Mr. Parlour, adopted in its place:—"That education, primary and secondary, in rural districts should be more adapted to the needs of agriculturists, and that the system of rating should be so arranged that agriculturists only pay their just proportion." abriculturists only pay their just proportion."

Other Items of the Programme.

The prevention of adulteration of butter and milk and a Pure Beer Bill were also adopted as items in the Federation's programme. All subjects possed will be submitted to all Parliamentary candidates within the area covered by the North-Eastern Agricultural Federation. Their replies will be tabulated and published, so that farmers generally and members of this Conference in particular may carefully consider them before recording their votes.

Newcastle was chosen as the place for the next Conference.

Winter Egg Production.

Poultry keepers are always anxious to get eggs from their birds during the winter months, but although they hatch their pullets early with this object in view, they do not always realise the best prices for their eggs, because they are not able to produce them at the time when eggs are scarce, and consequently fetch the highest prices. It is possible, by careful management of the birds, to secure eggs all the year round, and those who hatch pullets for laying will do well to learn how it is managed.

Birds which are not required to lay at the present time should be fed entirely on hard corn from the time they are three and a half months old, and this should be given to them sparingly, and they should be made to scratch for all the grain they have. This causes the birds to grow well and become strong and healthy, and when they commence to lay they will not be troubled with ovarian diseases. If the young pullets' combs grow well, and they redden up for laying before eggs are required, they can be kept back by being moved from their run to another every fortnight.

A peaceful, contented life, combined with warm soft food in the morning, and good grain, produces development, and consequently activity, of the egg organs, and assists in the growth of the birds, which are certainly stronger and hardier than those which are encouraged to lay at an early age. If pullets are first allowed to lay at an early age, as birds bred from really good laying strains will do, eggs will be produced before they are wanted, and then, when they are fetching the best prices, the birds will be resting between their batches.

Those who have not tried to arrange matters in this respect will be very surprised to see how much they can do by the regulation of the birds' diet. We have frequently kept pens of pullets back from laying for two months in this way, and then when we have required eggs we have had them in full lay, by feeding them on nourishing soft food for breakfast and boiled grain at night, with the addition of some meat two or three times a week.

It is necessary to begin feeding on soft food carefully—not to soften the condition of the birds too much after being fed on hard corn altogether. Where there are flocks of young birds, as there are now on every successful poultry-farmer's place, and on many ordinary farms, it is most essential that plenty of housing accommodation be provided.

Over-crowding should be very carefully avoided, as the young birds grow better when they are not crowded together, and they keep much healthier. Where it is not possible to build substantial houses to keep in reserve for the extra number of birds, which there must of necessity be during the autumn, before the cockerels hatched in the summer are disposed of and the young pullets sorted for laying purposes, it is well to provide the extra accommodation by the erection of padded hurdles, or sheets of galvanised iron, taking care to allow plenty of light and ventilation for the birds. We have frequently seen birds which have not been doing well improve wonderfully in their condition by thinning them out and giving them all more room, and a dose of castor-oil once a week.

A little aperient is most helpful to fowls, which frequently suffer from partial indigestion, and we believe that much illness would be avoided if more care were taken in this respect. Young cockerels and pullets should always be separated as soon as they can be distinguished from each other, as the pullets do not develop so quickly when separated thus, and this is a distinct advantage to their stamina, for although early laying proves that the laying strain of the birds is all right, and the sight of a few eggs is a pleasant one to those who have not done much rearing, the experienced poultry-keeper knows that it is not for the good of his pullets to have eggs which are worth but little produced before the birds are from six to seven months old.

We have been frequently asked as to whether it is possible for those who rear pullets for laying to get a constant supply of eggs throughout the year, and we have invariably answered in the affirmative, but we know so many who fail to accomplish their purpose that we feel it will be helpful if we give a few hints on the subject. First of all, to secure eggs all the year round, one must consider that the egg-selling season commences in October, and to produce eggs then, pullets should be hatched in February and March, and kept back from laying until the beginning of October, then pullets hatched in April and May will be laying in November and December, and these, if run on through the winter months and well fed and cared for, will lay throughout the winter, spring, and summer.

The secret of securing plenty of eggs from pullets which lay brown-shelled eggs—consequently of breeds which sit—is to allow them to waste no time in broodiness. It is always a subject for conjecture to people who get too many opinions on the best breeds for certain purposes as to which is really the best, because the opinions vary so much, and the advice offered by so-called experts is so entirely at variance with much that is written on the subject that amateur poultry-keepers who wish to make the best selection possible are more confused than helped.

Many people argue that non-sitting breeds must be the best for egg-production, because the birds do not waste any time in broodiness—and there is sound sense in the argument, but everything depends upon the selection of the strain of those non-sitting breeds as to whether they will produce as many eggs as is expected and required of them.

Minorcas are good layers, but are not hardy enough to stand the variations of the English winter, unless they have particularly well-sheltered houses and runs. Some strains of Minorcas are absolutely useless for egg production in the winter months, owing to their lack of stamina and the impossibility of their supplying the reserve needed for the activity of their egg organs, on account of their being too frail to assimilate sufficient food (1) to sustain the birds in health, and (2) to supply the necessary motive power to enable their egg organs to become operative, and especially in the winter months.

It is not possible for those who have not studied the habits of fowls to fully understand that there must be first of all sufficient nourishment for the maintenance of the birds in good health and vigour before the egg organs are affected at all, so that stamina is absolutely necessary if fowls are to be profitable egg producers. This is one of the reasons why we so strongly advocate the introduction of fresh blood into every pen of birds bred from each year, when eggs are required, as the more vigour in the birds the better it is for egg production.

We have referred to Minorcas as a non-sitting, good laying breed, and as there are several other profitable egg producers which are much written about, we specially wish to emphasise that Leghorns, Houdan-Leghorns, and pure Houdans, when bred from as good laying strains as can be obtained, and properly treated, produce as many eggs as it is possible for fowls to do; but they are not more profitable than each of the varieties of Orpingtons and Wyandottes for egg production, because these birds, if checked by being placed in the brood coop as soon as they become broody, recommence laying in about ten days.

Utility Poultry Club's Plymouth Exhibition.

Encouraged by the success of their show at the Crystal Palace last year, the Utility Poultry Club have been instrumental in arranging for a show at the Plymouth Exhibition from November 15 to December 4 upon a scale never before approached.

Classes are being given for working incubators, fowl houses, foster mothers, coops, trap nests, drinking fountains, green bone cutters, egg packages, and any other inventions. The chief feature of these classes is that, beyond a small entry fee, no exhibitor will be required to pay anything. It therefore gives the "small man," who cannot afford to rent a stall at the big exhibitions, an opportunity of showing, which has hitherto been denied him.

Table poultry (live and dead) and eggs have been provided with some 20 classes, while as an object lesson which should be of great value is a class for the best packed hamper or box containing country produce. A silver cup, value £4 4s., will be awarded the winner. Altogether over £125 will be given in prizes and specials. Entries close on November 1.

During the last week of the Exhibition a series of eight lectures on poultry keeping will be given by G. A. Palmer, T. R. Robinson, A. Newport, and C. E. J. Walkey, to which admission will be free. Demonstrations will also take place on trussing, shaping, etc., as also on cooking poultry.

Among the features to amuse and instruct the utility poultry-keeper will be "A Model Poultry Plant," including an incubator room, a working American chicken brooder containing 300 chickens, fattening pens, and an egg testing and grading machine.

Particulars of the Exhibition and of the Club can be had of the hon. secretary, E. W. Richardson, 260, Nantwich Road, Crewe.

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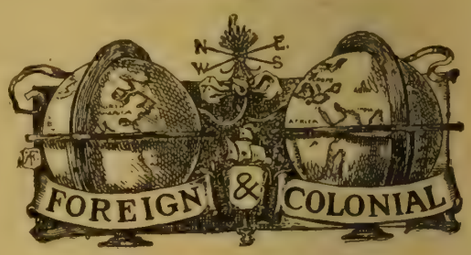

Advances to Farmers.
The System in Victoria.

One of the most satisfactory instances of Government assistance in the opening up of new land is afforded by the system of making advances to farmers, particulars of which are given in the recently issued report of the Savings Bank Commissioners in the State of Victoria, Australia. The advances to farmers system had, at the end of June last year, been in operation for nearly eight years. Considering this fact, the Commissioners regarded with satisfaction the number of loan applications received during the year under review, which totalled 703, as compared with 1,036 in the previous twelve months. Now that these Government advances have become an accepted principle in the development of the State's resources, it is only natural that there should be a gradual diminution, down to a given point, in the number of applications. The total amount actually advanced under the Act during the year was £159,925, this making, with the amounts previously advanced, a total of £1,749,409. The total number of loans existing at the time this report was completed was 3,074, and the average balance of each loan was £436. During the year dealt with the repayments on account of principal were £88,945, making the total of such repayments since the system came into force £408,858. The net amount of advances was thus left at £1,340,550. The amounts repaid by farmers have included some repayments in full, borrowers having the option of paying off on any stipulated pay-day. In the event of a borrower desiring to pay off a portion of his loan in addition to the half-yearly instalments originally arranged for, the additional money is placed to a separate account bearing interest at 3½ per cent., until a sufficient sum is accumulated to release the property. Under this grateful arrangement sums were received during the financial year 1904 which amounted to £8,920 compared with £6,030 for the preceding year, the balance of principle remaining in the Commissioners' hands on behalf of clients being thus brought to £19,040. These advances are issued in all cases with a definite purpose—either to pay off liabilities, to pay Crown rents, or to improve and develop land. By far the greater portion, £1,558,150, has been devoted to the payment of liabilities already incurred, and has thus tided the borrowers over difficulties which would probably have been too much for them had they to depend for loans upon private individuals or companies. In the payment of Crown rents £70,083 has been utilised, and £121,174 has been borrowed for the immediate improvement and development of land. The number of repayments by farmers which became due during the year dealt with by this report was 6,037, representing interest to the amount of £57,607, and £24,848 intended for the reduction of principal. Only nine farmers were in arrears when the report was issued, the total amount of arrears being £218. Nor are the struggling farmers the only ones who benefit in Victoria under the system of Government advances, for the department controlling these loans derived a net profit for the year of £7,810.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal,

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

SMITHFIELD CLUB FAT STOCK SHOW, DEC. 4th to 8th, 1905, at the ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, ISLINGTON. Entries close as follows:—Live Stock (cattle, sheep, pigs), Carcase Competition, and Dead Poultry, Nov. 1st; post entries, Nov. 6th. The entries for Implements have already closed on Oct. 5th. Prize lists, entry forms, and other information can be obtained on application to E. J. POWELL, Sec., 12, Hanover Square, London, W.

DAIRY FARMERS' ASSOCIATION, WHITCHURCH, SALOP.

DAIRY SHOW, NOVEMBER 14th and 15th.

£315 Offered in Prizes for the best Exhibits in CHEESE, BUTTER, and FARM PRODUCE.

Schedules ready. THOS. NUNNERLEY, Secretary.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS. (Open to all England without Subscription).

LORD TREDEGAR has fixed the 87th Annual Meeting for TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, November 21st and 22nd.

The PRIZE LIST contains 60 regulated Classes for CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, HORSES, and DONKEYS, the Prizes in which vary in value from £20 to £5.

POULTRY PRIZES to the value of £300 are also offered.

Judges for Poultry, J. P. W. MARX, Esq., and GEORGE ROSSER, Esq.; for Pigeons, H. ALSOP, Esq.

The Prize Lists, with Certificates for Entry and all Particulars, may be had on application to—

G. P. MITCHELL INNES, Tredegar Estate Office, Newport, Mon.

N.B.—Entries Close November 1st for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, and Horses; for Poultry and Pigeons, October 28th.

TONBRIDGE FAT STOCK and POULTRY SHOW

will be held in the Agricultural Hall on MONDAY & TUESDAY, NOV. 27th & 28th, 1905, when £300 in prizes will be awarded. Entries close for Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Roots, Potatoes, Corn, Apples, Hops, Bread and Butter ... ... November 1st. For Poultry ... ... November 11th. Full particulars of T. C. MAYLAM, Hon. Sec., Tel.: 104. Medway Wharf, Tonbridge.

NATIONAL POTATO SOCIETY.

GREAT SHOW in the HORTICULTURAL HALL, Vincent Square, Westminster, on WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd and 24th. Magnificent Cups and other Prizes. Admission 1s. Members Free. Schedules, Guides to the Show, and all particulars post free from the hon. Secretary, WALTER P. WRIGHT, Postling, Hythe, Kent.

AUCTION SALES.

IMPORTANT SALES OF PURE-BRED STOCK.

JOHN THORNTON & CO. will SELL by AUCTION as follows:—

THURSDAY next, NOVEMBER 2.—The entire of SHORTHORNS belonging to Mr. M. Lewtas and Mr. J. P. Halsall (of Ormskirk), at Stalmine Grange, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

THURSDAY, December 7.—Mr. W. E. Balston's herd of SHORTHORNS, at Barvin, Potters Bar, Middlesex.

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MESSRS. H. N. NEWTON & CO. will SELL the above by AUCTION on THURSDAY, 2nd NOVEMBER, 1905, at 12 o'clock. Samples on view day prior and morning of Sale. Auction Offices, 67 and 69, Chancery Lane.

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DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.—Galvanised Sheep Netting, 3ft. wide, 4in. mesh, 6d. 3d. per 50 yd. roll, also galvanised wire netting in all widths and meshes; galvanised steel cisterns, 100 gals., 19s. 6d.; 150 gals., 31s.; 240 gals. 47s., any size supplied carriage paid; galvanised barb wire, 13s. per cwt.; steel fencing wire, 8s. 9d. per cwt.; sheep hurdles, 6ft. long, 31s. per doz.; cattle hurdles, 6ft. long, 41s. 6d.; continuous 5 bar fencing, 1s. 7d. per yard; "Unchallanged" field gate, 21s., 6 gates carriage paid; galvanised sheets; sheep racks; corn bins, etc. Send for Catalogue.—DAVID & CO., Taff Vale Ironworks, Cardiff.

JOHN PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Bristol.

Wire Netting.—Best Galvanised, Cash prices per roll of 50 yds. 3 in. mesh, 2 ft., 3s. 4d.; 3 ft., 5s. 0d.; 4 ft., 6s. 8d.; 2 in. mesh, 2 ft., 4s. 1d.; 3 ft. 6s. 1d.; 4 ft., 8s. 2d.; 1 in. mesh, 2 ft. 7s. 6d.; 3 ft., 11s. 2d.; 4 ft., 15s. 0d. BEST GALVANISED SHEEP NETTING.—50 yard rolls, 3 ft. wide, 4 in. mesh, centre strand, 7s. 7d., 8s. 3d., and 10s. 3d. per roll. Strong Stakes, 6s. per dozen. Carriage paid on lots, netting or stakes, 70s. value.

Iron and Steel Hurdles, Fences, Gates.—Excellent quality; 6 ft. hurdles, 4 rails, 33s. per doz.; 5 bars, 36s. Steel fencing wire, 9s. per cwt.; galvanised wire strand, 15s. cwt., galvanised barbed wire, 13s. cwt., 590 yards. Challenge field gates, 9 ft. by 4 ft., 22s. each. Carriage paid on six gates. Strong sheep fencing, five steel wires and iron posts, 8d. per yard.

Splendid Galvanised Roofing.—Perfect quality; 5 ft., 1s. 3½d.; 6 ft., 1s. 6½d.; 7 ft., 1s. 10d.; 8 ft., 2s. 1d.; 9 ft., 2s. 5d.; 10 ft., 2s. 9d. Ridging, 2½d. per ft. Best Wire Nails, 11s. cwt.

Galvanised Cisterns corrugated steel, 30 gals., 9s.; 50 gals., 13s. 3d.; 100 gals., 21s. Corn Bins; Sheep, Pig, and Cattle Troughs, at very low prices. Lists free.

J. PRIEST & SON, Ltd., Castle Iron Works, Victoria Road, Bristol.

Continued on p. 499.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(continued from front page).

MY SPECIALITY. — Imperishable IRON SHEETS, as supplied for 25 years to largest Estates. Once fixed, these are everlasting. Full particulars and prices free. The old house for cheapest Iron Fencing, Gates, Wire Netting, Tanks, Felt, Iron Tubes, and General Estate Requisites. Terms cash.—JOHN ATTWOOD REEVE, Stony Stratford.

LOIN CLOTHS.—Best and strongest in the market, 46 in. long by 38 in. wide; waterproof, on stout navy canvas, and weighs 4 lbs. I will send one post free for 3s. Cash returned if not approved of.—HY. J. GASSON, Rye.

LOOK.—The best strong and warm hardwoven Wool Horse Rug, 6 ft. long, 5 ft. wide, with throat strap, and bound, carriage paid, 5s. 6d.; sizes smaller, 4s. 6d. and 3s. 6d. Cash returned if not approved of.—HY. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

WATERPROOF COVERS, same materials and pliable as railway sheets: 12 ft. by 9 ft., 12s.; 15 ft. by 9 ft., 15s.; and so on to any size at 1s. per sq. yd., with lashes. Quantity of large pieces of Tarpaulin at 20s. per cwt.; odd pieces, suitable for roofing, at 8s. per cwt.; cash returned if not approved of.—H. J. GASSON, Government Contractor, Rye.

POWDER for DESTROYING LICE IN CATTLE and HORSES, and FLEAS and LICE in DOGS and POULTRY. Sure remedy; simply sprinkled on, no washing; quite harmless, 1/- per lb., over 3lbs. post free. E. RUMSEY & Co., Rhuddallt Fawr, Carnarvon.

WILLSON'S CANADIAN PIG POWDERS. Packets, 7 powders, 7d.; 16, 1s. 2d.; boxes, 48, 3s.; 144, 8s., all post free.—STEPHEN WILLSON, Peterborough.

VESICO SUDORIFIC (*Flying Horse* non-itching blister), for Lame and Unsound Horses, Weak Joints, Strained Sinews, Diseased Bone, Puffy Swellings, and other defects. Sold in pots, 2s. 6d. or 5s., from GREGORY & CO., Temple, Bristol, or through Chemists.

AUCTIONEERS AND LIVE STOCK AGENTS.

H. & E. M'GRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS. — To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers. — JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE. — Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP — Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

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Established 1851.

Current Accounts. 2% Interest allowed on minimum monthly balances when not drawn below £100.

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Advances made. **Stocks and Shares** bought and sold.—Apply SECRETARY, Southampton Buildings, High Holborn, W.C.

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1835.)
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Reserve Liability of Proprietors under the Charter, £1,600,000.

An allowance of 10s. per cent. on sums of £100 and upwards, is made to purchasers of Letters of Credits, Drafts payable on demand, and Cable Transfers issued on any of the numerous Branches of the Bank throughout Australia and New Zealand.

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ACCIDENT AND DISEASE.
(Small Pox, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, Diphtheria, Appendicitis, &c.)
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RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.
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LOWEST Current Rates.
Liberal and Prompt Settlements.
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☞ Small Advertisements of Miscellaneous, Seeds, Plants, Live Stock, Situations, &c. (under classified headings and set in body type), are charged at the rate of three words a penny (only when accompanied by remittance).

Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

FARMS, BUSINESSES, &c.

FARMS.—Rents from 10s. Acre; prices £7 Acre. Monthly List 2 stamps. RUTTER, 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, London.

MESSRS. CRONK'S LIST of FARMS, containing particulars of numerous Farms in Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and elsewhere, to be obtained gratis at their office, or will be sent by post on receipt of a stamp Properties inserted free. 12, Pall Mall, London, S.W., and Sevenoaks, Kent.

FARMS TO LET of various sizes in Kent, Sussex, Surrey, &c.—LANGRIDGE & FREEMAN, Agricultural Valuer, and Auctioneers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and 28, Queen Street, London, E.C.

FARMS to be LET in Sussex and numerous other counties. Dairy, Flock and Poultry Farms. 2 to 900 acres. Send 2d. stamps for list, and state requirements to GLADDING & CO., Farm Specialists and Valuers, Hove, Sussex.

CITY, E.C.—To be LET, capital light offices, 2nd floor, 103-4, Fenchurch Street, E.C. Rent £60 per annum, inclusive of rates and taxes. Keys with hall porter, 10, Mark Lane, E.C.—For further particulars apply to H. JOHNSTONE, 25, Moorgate Street, E.C.

PUBLICATIONS.

THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

"ARTIFICIAL MANURES. How to Make, Buy, Value, and Use." a Useful Handbook for Agriculturists, Chemical Manure Manufacturers, Merchants, and others. By Alfred Gibson, F.C.S., Consulting and Analytical Chemist. Revised and re-written by the Author and A. E. Gibson, F.C.S. Price One Shilling. Post free, 1s. 2½d. — W. A. MAY, "MARK LANE EXPRESS" Office, 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

"FODDER CROPS; Their Growth, Cultivation and Uses" By C. G. Freer Thonger, M.R.A.C., F.C.S., Professor of Agriculture. The Colonial College, Hollesley Bay. Price One Shilling. Post free 1s. 1½d.—W. A. MAY, "THE MARK LANE EXPRESS," 1, Essex Street, Strand W.C.

SITUATION, AGENCIES, WANTED AND VACANT.

WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

AGENTS Wanted by an old-established firm for the sale of their Linseed, Cotton Feeding Cakes, Manures and Seeds. — For further particulars apply to JOSEPH ASHWORTH & SONS, Ltd., Oil Cake Mills, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge.

SITUATION WANTED as FARM BAILIFF, thoroughly practical, used to pedigree stock; dairy cows speciality showing, market, labour, accounts. Large Argentine experience. Good characters. Wife, dairy or poultry. No family.—Apply, "W," this Office.

A GENTLEMAN of good social position, with unexceptional references, desires appointment to represent first class firm of cake and artificial feeding stuff manufacturers; been farming 1,600 acres, and has good connection Wiltshire.—Apply, "B," 1, Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.

TO OIL CAKE IMPORTERS. Wanted to represent a first-class house in Ireland, desiring to cultivate or extend trade in that country. Address, CAKE AGENCY, Care of Deacon's, Londenhall St., E.C.

FARM PUPIL. Estate Agent and Farmer (farming 1,000 acres of light, heavy and mixed soil) has vacancy for above. Apply, LEECH, Thorington Hall Farm, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

SEEDS, PLANTS, &c.

CABBAGE AND LETTUCE PLANTS.—Autumn-sown Early Rainham, Enfield Market, Wheeler's Imperial, Red Pickling, Early and Late Drumhead, Brown and White Cos Lettuce.—T. DAVIES, Great Tangley, Guildford.

SEED POTATOES.—From healthy, selected crops. Scotch, Yorkshire, or Lincolnshire grown. Quotations for autumn or spring delivery.—For prices apply, W. J. ATKINSON, Weston St. Mary, Spalding.

RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW,
to be held at the
CRYSTAL PALACE,
November 7th to 10th, 1905.

The London and North-Western Railway Company have arranged for through vans for the conveyance of Poultry, &c., to be run to the Crystal Palace, on Monday, November 6th.

Consignments from the branch lines will be placed in these vans at the various junctions.

Conveyance rates can be obtained at the various stations on the line.

Exhibitors must write their names and addresses distinctly on the backs of the direction labels issued by the Show Committee.

The Company's representatives will be at the Show to answer all enquiries.

Information can be obtained of the Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station, London; the Company's District Superintendent, Euston Station, London; or Mr. F. H. Dent, Broad Street Station London, E.C.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

General Manager's Office,
Euston Station, London, N.W.,
October, 1905.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GREAT NATIONAL POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW,
at the
CRYSTAL PALACE SYDENHAM,
NOVEMBER 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th, 1905.

Intending Exhibitors at this Show are informed that the Great Northern Railway Company make every arrangement for the careful and expeditious transit of exhibits to and from the Crystal Palace.

For the convenience of exhibitors, through vans will be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, November 6th.

Consignments from branch lines and intermediate stations at which these trains do not stop will be placed in the through vans at the various junctions, thus ensuring direct transit to the Crystal Palace.

A Great Northern representative will be in attendance at the Show, prepared to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate removal at the close of the Show. The removal order should be sent to the Chief Passenger Agent, King's Cross Station, at the commencement of the Show.

Any information as to arrangements for the forward or return journey, &c., may be had on application to the Chief Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross, London.

OLIVER BURY, General Manager.
London, October, 1905.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL POULTRY, RABBIT, AND PIGEON SHOW
at the
ALEXANDRA PALACE, LONDON,
November 7th, 8th and 9th 1905.

Exhibitors are informed that the Railway Company have arranged for the transit of exhibits to and from the Alexandra Palace.

Through vans will be run to the Alexandra Palace on Monday, November 6th.

Branch line consignments will be placed in the through vans at the various junctions.

Conveyance rates can be obtained at the various stations on the line.

Exhibitors should consign and direct their exhibits "per Great Northern Railway," and be careful to insert the route on the return, as well as the outward, portion of the address label. A representative will attend the show, to give every information to exhibitors, and to facilitate removal at the close of the show. The removal order should be sent to the Chief Passenger Agent, King's Cross Station, at the commencement of the Show.

All information may be had on application to the Chief Passenger Agent, Great Northern Railway, King's Cross, London.

OLIVER BURY, General Manager.
London, October, 1905.

MACKINDER'S
LAMB FOOD
The Best and Most Wholesome Diet for all Stock.

Delivered, Carriage Paid, to all Stations.

See Pamphlet on "Good Food & Good Blood.

MACKINDER'S PORRIDGE MEAL,
Rears Calves splendidly and cheaply. Try it. Price 11s. per cwt.

E. MACKINDER,
Inventor and Sole Manufacturer of
LAMB FOOD AND PORRIDGE MEAL,
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RHEUMATISM.
BLAIR'S
GOUT PILLS.
The only remedy that relieves and cures all Rheumatic complaints. Sure, safe, and effectual. All Chemists and Stores.
1/1½ and 2/9 per Box.

THE BEST CURE
FOR GREASE IN HORSES.

T. MOTT'S POWDER LOTION. It will cure Grease of all descriptions, stops gnawing of legs, mane, and tail, cures Cracked Heels, Mud Fever, Eczema, Sore Shoulders, Saddle Galls, and all Inflammatory Swellings. Price, 12s. per doz.

T. MOTT'S Condition Powder and Blood Purifier for horses in work or for getting horses fit for sale or show. It is invaluable in the hunting stable, it will keep your hunters fresh and full of vigour. Price, 5s., 11s. and 21s. per case.

T. MOTT'S Cooling Drinks, Yellow Drenches, Worm Powder, Special Cough Powders, and all medicines required for Stud or Farm.

Testimonials from some of the largest Studs in Great Britain sent on application.

ALL GOODS SENT CARRIAGE PAID.

T. MOTT, Littleport, Cambs.

DOGS
Of all kinds, for health and condition, should now be fed upon
GEORGE SMITH'S
CELEBRATED
Meat Dog Biscuits
or SMITH'S
Hound Meal.
Each 16s. per cwt. at any station in England for Cash.

Send your orders direct to
GEORGE SMITH'S
DOG AND POULTRY FOOD FACTORY,
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New Descriptive list of Dog, Poultry and Game Foods, with numerous testimonials, post free.

NO CURE! NO PAY!!
G. F. DAWES'
IS THE ONLY GUARANTEED CURE FOR FOOT ROT,
leaves the hoof and foot soft and healthy. Price 3s. and 1s. 6d. In Brown Pots only, sufficient to dress 80 Sheep and 40 Sheep. Trial Pot free from the Manufactory.
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J. RANDS & JECKELL'S ROTPROOF AND WATERPROOF COVERS,

For Wagons, Engines and Machines.

THE BEST FOR ESTATE AND FARM PURPOSES.

All sizes complete with Brass Eyelets and Best Quality Cords.

Qualities D E A B C

1/9 2/- 2/6 3/- 3/6

PER SQUARE YARD.

Illustrated Price Lists and Samples Free direct from the Manufacturers:

J. RANDS & JECKELL,
IPSWICH.

Manufacturers by Special Royal Warrant to His Majesty the King.

GUNS 21/- **GUNS 21/-**

Single Barrel **EJECTORS** as above, in 12, 16 or 20-bore. Fine steel barrels, English proof. Specially bored for close and hard shooting, **21/-** each.

Double 12-bore Top Lever Guns, fine quality, walnut stocks, **45/-** each. English manufacture throughout.

Write for Illustrated Lists, Free.

We are Specialists for GUN REPAIRS.

DARLOW, Ltd., Gunmakers, Bedford

The Uses of Artificial Manures

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"ARTIFICIAL MANURES,"

which has already passed through several editions, and is the acknowledged authority upon this important subject, Agriculturists, Chemical Manure Manufacturers and Merchants, Gardeners, and others interested in similar pursuits, and those recognising the increasing need for proper cultivation of the land, should read

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which tells how to make, buy, value, and use these fertilisers.

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FROM THE

"MARK LANE EXPRESS" Office, 1, Essex St., Strand, London, W.C.

97% PURE LINSEED CAKES.

Guaranteed to contain 13% Pure Linseed Oil and under 4% of Sand.

This is the Purest and Best Linseed Cake manufactured.

Waterloo Round Feeding Cakes.

The most perfect mixed Food in the Market for all Classes of Stock.

Every Delivery Guaranteed up to Dr. Voelcker's Analysis.

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SPECIAL ROYAL WARRANT

MANUFACTURERS TO H.M. THE KING.

Sold under the Warranty Required by the Royal Agricultural Society of England, viz., TO BE DELIVERED PURE AND IN GOOD CONDITION.

Particulars of

AYRE BROTHERS,
High Street, HULL,
or from the

WATERLOO CAKE COMPANY, Ltd.,
HULL.

TO WOOL GROWERS

"BALMORAL.—*The Queen is very much pleased with the Rugs.*"

A. & J. MACNAUGHTON, Woollen Manufacturers, **PITLOCHRY,**

Awarded the Silver Medal, Paris, 1900. The Only Gold Medal, Edinburgh, 1890. Highest Award, Chicago, 1893, &c.

WE REMIND FARMERS that the Special Feature of our Business for the past **SEVENTY YEARS** has been

THE MANUFACTURE OF GROWERS' OWN WOOL INTO TWEEDS, COSTUME TWEEDS, BLANKETS, RUGS, KNITTING YARNS, &c.

Our Appliances are of the Most Modern Construction; hence our superiority in Awards. Our Mills and Warehouses are equipped with Electric Light generated in our own Works.

WE PAY CARRIAGE OF WOOL.

NEW SEASON'S PATTERNS AND CATALOGUES FREE.

Parties wishing to buy our **GENUINE WOOLLENS** should, in writing for Patterns, add "FOR PURCHASE." Any Length Sold.

TAILORING TO MEASURE. Self-Measurement Forms and Price Lists Post Free.

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OF

The "Times"

APPEARS EVERY MONDAY, and as all Advertisements of a Farming character are placed either next to or facing the reading matter in this Section,

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY IS OFFERED OF SECURING PUBLICITY AMONGST THE VERY BEST CLASS OF BUYER

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WOOL A. & J. MACNAUGHTON Manufacturers, PITLOCHRY. EXCHANGE or MANUFACTURE WOOL into TWEEDS, COSTUME TWEEDS, BLANKETS, RUGS, PLAIDS, &c., with the most Modern Machinery, at Reasonable Charges. We pay Carriage of Wool. Patterns Free. We have always a large Stock of our Famed Tweeds and other goods for Sale. Patterns on Application. LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING.

CUPISS

CONSTITUTION BALLS.

Testimonial.

Burgh-by-Sands, Carlisle.

Having used Cupiss' Constitution Balls for over 20 years, I have always found them exceedingly useful for purifying the blood and keeping in excellent condition.

THOS. CARRIE, Horse Breaker.

HORSES. — For Grease Swelled Legs, Cracked Heels, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throats, Disordered Liver Broken Wind, Influenza, Loss of Appetite, &c., &c.

CATTLE.—For Hide-bound, Staring Coat, Hove or Blown, Distemper Epidemic, Surfeit, Conditioning, Preserving Health, Scouring in Calves &c.

SHEEP. — For Rot or Fluke, and for Keeping in Health, Assisting to get into Condition, Scouring in Lambs, &c.

Prepared upwards of 50 years by the late

FRANCIS CUPISS, M.R.C.V.S., DISS, NORFOLK.

Sold in packets 1/9 and 3/6 each, 7 small packets 10/6, or 7 large 21/-, by Chemists and Medicine Vendors, or from Francis Cupiss, Ltd., Wilderness, Diss, on receipt of amount.

MOTORS V HORSES.

HIRE WORK ON THE FARM.

THE SCOTT AGRICULTURAL MOTORS

12, North Saint Andrew St., Edinburgh,

will now contract for next season's work:—

MOTOR PLOUGHINGS,
MOTOR CULTIVATING,
MOTOR REAPING AND BINDING,
MOTOR HAULAGE,

at prices about one half below the cost of horse work. Only large contracts quoted for. Immediate application necessary.

YOU HAVE TRIED every known remedy, now try

The Great Somersetshire Remedy FOR FOOT-ROT

In large Stoneware Bottles at 2/6 each.

Send a post-card for prospectus to the Sole Proprietors and Manufacturers,

GATWARD & WRIGHT,
YEOVIL, Somerset.

DELICIOUS **COFFEE**

RED WHITE & BLUE

For Breakfast & after Dinner.

THE
"BIBBY" CAKE
V.
LINSEED CAKE.

In out-of-the-way districts, amongst farmers who perhaps do not often see the Agricultural papers, there are some few feeders who still fatten bullocks and other cattle on Linseed Cake.

To all such we venture to suggest that the present high price of Linseed Cake affords an opportunity for putting the "**BIBBY**" **CAKE** to a competitive test.

Consider the saving! At the relative prices the cost of "**BIBBY**" is something like 30s. per ton less than the cost of any good brand of English Linseed Cake, so that on a four-ton truck of Cake a saving of £6 is effected.

But this is not all; we maintain that cattle can be fatted more expeditiously on "**BIBBY**" **CAKE**, which effects a saving of both time and other keep.

But let us waive the latter point, for the money saving alone is well worth the feeder's attention.

We supply the whole Cakes, or in the form of Cakettes, as may be desired.

We also supply our famous **DAIRY CAKE** in Cakettes, Whole Cake or Meal, and we believe better value for Dairy Cows is not to be obtained than we are now giving in out well-known **DAIRY CAKE**, **CAKETTES**, and **MEAL.**

Bibby's Quarterly.

The new number of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY, edited by our Mr. JOSEPH BIBBY, is now out, and can be had during this month at all Smith's Bookstalls, price 1/-

There be those who say that BIBBY'S QUARTERLY is the best periodical which comes into the farmhouse, but there be also gainsayers who affirm that if it dealt more with live stock, and less with high ethics, it would be more acceptable to the average farmer; and we are rather of that opinion ourselves, but the Editor tells us that he edits BIBBY'S QUARTERLY to please himself, and we have to leave it at that; should, however, any reader of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY make a purchase at Smith's Bookstall, and is afterwards doubtful that he has got his shilling's worth, we undertake to make matters straight with him if he apprise us of his dissatisfaction within the present month.

J. Bibby & Sons
EXCHANGE CHAMBERS,
LIVERPOOL

LEARNER'S
PATENT
FOOT-ROT CURE
Guaranteed to cure & leave the Hoof soft & pliable.
TINS 3/- & 1/6 EACH.
POST FREE.
ALFRED J. LEARNER.
REDHILL, SURREY.

Established over 100 Years.
FOREST TREES,
For Profit, Ornament, and Game Cover.
THOMAS KENNEDY & CO.,
High St., DUMFRIES, N.B.
HARDY
SCOTCH GROWN
Before contracting for this season, ask us for
SAMPLES AND QUOTATIONS.

VESTA CAKES and MEALS.

In order to enable us to supply clean Cotton Seed and a Cotton Cake of good quality we have taken over a mill lately fitted up with the very best modern machinery, which enables us to sell at the lowest possible and at the same time turn out an Undecorticated Cotton Cake practically free from LINT, DIRT, and SAND.

The Cakes are branded "VESTA" PURE.

Buyers of the "VESTA" FEED CAKES can have the Cottons shipped at same time, thus saving any delay.

ANALYSIS.

UNDECORTICATED COTTON SEED CAKE	
Moisture	11·30
Oil	5·67
✱Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	26·50
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar	32·55
Indigestible Woody Fibre	19·28
Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·70
	100·00
✱Containing Nitrogen	4·24
Sand	·10

MECHANICALLY CLEANED COTTON SEED.	
Moisture	10·20
Oil	21·63
✱Albuminoids (Flesh-Forming Matters)	23·50
Starch, Mucilage, Sugar	25·11
Woody Fibre	15·36
Mineral Matters (Ash)	4·20
	100·00
✱Containing Nitrogen	3.76

LIVERPOOL VESTA CAKE CO.
Blackstock Street, LIVERPOOL.

Portable Buildings
of every description manufactured in **Wood, Iron,** or in **Cement Slabs,** on Calway's Protected System,
Estimates Free. Lists Free.
WILLIAM CALWAY,
GLOUCESTER.

WREN KNOWN ALL OVER THE WORLD WREN
SADDLE
AND
HARNESS
PASTE.

AS ENGLAND'S BEST
AS SUPPLIED TO ALL THE LEADING REGIMENTS
HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE
THEREFORE THE WORLD'S
NORTHAMPTON NORTHAMPTON

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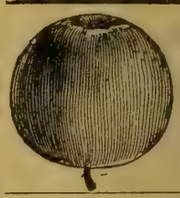
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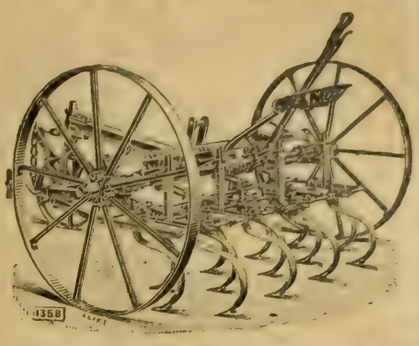

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WHEAT CULTURE, REMUNERATIVE AND OTHERWISE.

The present dry, fine autumn is turning out favourable for wheat sowing. Some of the heaviest soils, always, if possible, cropped in October, have, indeed, been almost too dry for the operation up to the present; and land-pressers and clod crushers have been necessary in a great many instances to get a compressed, suitable seed-bed. Last year the area in Great Britain cropped to wheat was 1,795,985 acres, and there is every reason to suppose that the cropping of the present season for next year's return will not fall far short of that acreage. There has been no marked permanent change in the wheat area during the past fifteen years. The quinquennial average for Great Britain, 1891-95, was 1,954,017 acres. Since then the area of 1905 was only exceeded in the years 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900, having been less in 1896, as well as in the four years 1901 to 1904. The variations which now occur appear to be more influenced by the good or bad seed-time than anything else. No doubt there were some larger croppings in 1904 made in anticipation of better prices owing to the deficient United States crop, as there will be this autumn owing to the falling off of grain shipments from Russia. But when we take into consideration the low average market price of wheat which has been current during the whole of these fifteen years, no other conclusion can be arrived at but that there is still a large proportion of British farmers who have not discarded wheat from their regular course of cropping. At any time during the past twenty years we have been assured that British wheat-growing entailed loss instead of profit, and that its utter discardment must be regarded as only a question of time; yet we find no signs of such a result happening.

There is more than one cause for this. Not a few grow wheat chiefly for the sake of the straw. In many districts wheat straw can be sold at a good price, often about £2 per ton; and in the pottery districts, where it is wanted for packing, the rate has often been much higher. When crops yielding six quarters of grain and two tons of straw to the acre are grown, the return, the whole being marketed even at present prices, would be remunerative. But most farmers ought to be able to find a far more profitable way of disposing of their wheat grain than selling it at 28s. to 30s. per quarter. Stock, in most cases, would be on the farm which would pay handsomely for wheat consumption. Putting it into the mouths of fatting bullocks or sheep, or in those of dairy cows kept in full profit during winter to supply milk contracts, would do so. By marketing the straw. In many districts wheat straw wheat crop, the farmer would pursue a far better system—one which could scarcely fail in yielding a satisfactory return. Moreover, he would sell the portion of the crop of least value, for although landlords in olden times were accustomed to insist on straw being consumed on the farm, it was in utter ignorance of the chemical properties of the impounded article. The manurial value of straw, in fact, does not amount to much, and, although farmers prize it highly for convenience in littering their stables and stalls, the farm-yard manure is rich or poor according as the cattle, horses, or pigs are fed which make it.

Wheat is grown for the home-consumption both of grain and straw in a great many cases. Stock-keeping has become the order of the day. By growing big wheat crops such as are above indicated, and consuming them bodily as food for stock, herds, and flocks can be increased very much. We do not assert that his is done on a very large scale, but the trend of things is this way on large, well-managed farms, fully stocked with animals of a character to pay. On the other hand, it must be admitted that there is a class of farm-occupiers who have few stock of any kind on their holdings, and that the few animals they own are not at all of a character to pay for the consumption of wheat, even if what they grow were given them. This class of farmers continue to grow wheat on the old system, and usually have to make sale of it in autumn, when it is lowest in price, solely because they have no capital to adapt themselves to times and circumstances by embarking in new courses. They most likely in the generality of seasons grow wheat at a loss rather than at a profit. The supposition might reasonably be entertained that the capital required to enable them to engage in pig-breeding would be slight, so that they might convert the corn they grow into baconers. But, however, this may be, one thing is very obvious, that an exceedingly heavy crop must be grown for the grain to be sold at present prices to yield any profit.

The annual root crop competition of the Wellington (Salop) Farmers' Club proved most successful, as the following report of the judges will show:—"The season has not been a favourable one for root growing, but the skill and attention devoted to the crops by the competitors has, on the whole, resulted in a favourable return. Mangolds are especially good, and we have had considerable difficulty in determining the order of merit. We highly commend the whole class. The whole of the crops were very clean and well managed, and reflect great credit on the competitors."

One of the most disastrous rick-yard fires that has occurred for many years in Shropshire broke out on Wednesday afternoon at the farm of Mr. Richard Gough, of the Sydnal, near Market Drayton. Both the Hinstock and Market Drayton Fire Brigades attended; but so rapidly did the flames spread that the entire produce in ten huge ricks was destroyed. The damage represents some thousands of pounds, and the fire brigades at the time of telegraphing were endeavouring to save the adjoining house and buildings. The outbreak is supposed to be due to gipsies camping in the vicinity.

Seasonable Topics.

Jack Frost has made an early appearance this year, and in addition to spreading devastation in the garden by ruthlessly cutting off the dahlias and other flowers, he has established records in the way of severity for October. If reports be true such severe frosts have not been known in many places in the memory of the present generation, and farmers have had reason to feel anxious about the welfare of their wurzel crops. We have heard a good deal of coughing amongst cows that have had to pass the nights in the frosty air outdoors, and we commend those people who are not governed by hard and fast rules in this matter, but make a point of tying up their cows at nights as soon as the state of the weather renders this course necessary. Indeed, farmers should never be slaves to rule, and we have no sympathy with men who turn out their cows for the night on one particular date, and take them up the same, irrespective of weather, simply because they made it a habit to do so. The early appearance of frost has set the tongues of the weather sages wagging, and whereas one says that the sharp pinches in October indicate a severe winter, others foretell that mild conditions will rule for a spell when the weather changes. From our own experience of weather prophets, however, we think they should let their prophecies be as broad as possible, and the gazer into the future who says that we shall either have severe frost or some other kind of weather, is most likely to come out about right.

Early Frosts.

It is not likely that sportsmen will have reason to complain much this year about the leaves remaining on the trees for an unduly long time, as the sharp frosts experienced of late have put the finishing touches on the foliage, which is painted with a hundred delicate tints, and all day long the leaves come down with a mournful pitter-pat, which tells its own story of the coming winter. It is not without feelings of regret that we watch the trees denuded of their leafage, but we know that is part of Nature's programme for the dead foliage to provide food for the living, and as each leaf flickers to the ground, a little more plant food is added to the great store-house—the earth. Leaves do not form such an important item of the working programme of the farmer as they do in that of the gardener, for what the latter would do without leaf-mould in the mixing up of his potting soil, it is difficult to say. Yet dead and dying leaves have their uses in agriculture, and when taking a walk abroad on one of these bright October days one may observe the children of the cottagers gathering the dry leaves up and carrying them off in bags. With a little straw litter added to them the leaves will serve as bedding for the pig, and that accommodating animal will trample them down and mix them up till they are leaves no longer, but manure that will help to produce heavier crops on the allotment or cottage garden. Indeed, many of the latter enclosures would stand a poor chance of getting any manure at all if it were not for Nature providing the leaves, the youngsters collecting them, and the pig accommodatingly doing the rest.

Falling Leaves.

Just when a child should begin to attend school, and just when it should be allowed to leave, are matters now under general discussion. Before the cost of education became such a serious item on the rates, country people did not worry about the school doors being open to children of three years of age, but now they have to pay many are asking why teachers should be paid professional salaries for acting as nurses. The outcome of it all may be that mothers will have to look after their own babies till they are five. Old men tell us how they commenced earning their daily bread at nine years of age, and some of them added to their store of knowledge afterwards by attending the village night school. It seems likely that in its advanced stage education will again adopt the old system in a revised form in rural districts, for the farmer says that the lad at fourteen is too old for him, and the young hopeful knows too much. The farmer says that he would rather take the lad at twelve, and argues that what he learns at school after that is of little use to him if he is to follow in the footsteps of his father, and be an agricultural labourer. The proposal therefore is for parents to have the option of taking their sons from school at twelve years of age, but if this is done the lads will be under compulsion to continue their education by attending evening school classes, in which arts and crafts likely to be of service to them in after life will be taught. We admit that the suggestion strikes us favourably, and if the evening instruction provided is of the right character, we see no reason why the scheme should not work with advantage, but after all, it is only going back to the old night-school days with certain variations.

Education Again.

The casual observer might be inclined to wonder how it is that the straw of oats, wheat, and barley stands up stiff and straight in one place up to the time of reaping, while in another it lacks the strength to support itself perpendicularly. The practical man, however, knows that it is largely a question of soil and weather. On strong lands which are well charged with silica the straw stands up well, while on soils which are largely of vegetable origin, such as peaty and bog soils, it invariably falls over. Most people have learnt through observation that in a dry summer straw holds itself erect, except it be beaten down by storms, but a wet July is always conducive to the weakening of cereal straw. The question of how nature may be assisted in the keeping of straw erect is a matter that has occupied the attention of both scientific and practical minds in the past and present. It has been observed that basic slag has had the desired effect on the straw of oats and barley on peaty soils and long before basic slag came into use it was found that a dressing of salt on light land had the effect of keeping the straw erect. Soot is generally recognised as being a useful fertiliser both for farm and garden crops, and more than one corn-grower has recognised its virtues in the work of building up and giving strength to the straw of wheat and oats.

Stiffness of Cereal Straw.

While the greater part of the community is rejoicing over the gloriously fine autumn weather, and expressing hopes that it will continue, another section is crying out for rain. The latter is formed of people who are put to inconvenience through the lack of that essential commodity—water, and those who have never known the want of it can hardly realise what trouble and expense one is put to when the supply runs out. It is a long time now since we had any weight of rain, and we see ditches and watercourses as dry now as ever they were in the summer, while drinking pools are either low or entirely empty. Fortunate is the man who has a limpid stream running through his holding where he can water his cattle, for it does not require much knowledge of bacteriology to know that the slimy, evil-smelling liquid in some ponds, which is often the only water the cattle have to drink, cannot be good for them. In some dry hill districts water-hauling is now a daily task, and certainly a most unsatisfactory one, as there is no direct return for money spent on it. Still, it has to be done, and, while recognising the necessity, there is wisdom in making every possible preparation for storage when the rain does come. When ponds are empty it is a suitable time to get the mud cleaned out of them, so that they will hold more water and help to avoid a famine in the future; yet we know ponds that have never been cleaned out for years, and, through not holding half as much water as they would if the mud were removed, there is a shortage of liquid for the cattle whenever we get a spell of dry weather.

The Shortage of Water.

There is food for much serious thought in the remarks made by different speakers at the prize distribution ceremony at the Chester Dairy Show, a report of which appeared in our last issue. The High Sheriff of the county drew attention to the difficulty of getting Cheshire cheese, either in the county or out of it, and he observed that though he lived in the heart of Cheshire he had to send to Glasgow for his butter. One of the judges, Mr. John Emberton, of Crewe, remarked that it was one of the worst features of modern agriculture that people were tempted, for perhaps some advantage in the relief of labour, to cease to manufacture cheese. With these sentiments we fully agree, and, though one cannot blame a farmer for going in for milk selling if it pays better, it is a thousand pities that the milk trade should be built up at the expense of the equally important industry of cheese making. Is there not room for both? There ought to be in a country like this, but farmers are not unlike sheep in the way they follow each other, and the manner in which cheese presses have been abandoned, not only in Cheshire, but in other counties perhaps more so, for the sake of the milk churn, is very regrettable. It is only the fortunate few who can indulge in English cheese now, because the greater part of the community are unable to get it, though they would prefer a good English cheese to anything which comes from America. Some say that the day is not very far distant when history will repeat itself, and farmers will realise that milk-selling is not the only branch of dairying to be followed. When that day comes will it find cheese-making apparatus all scattered and good cheese making a lost art amongst farmers' wives and daughters? Possibly.

Cheese Making and the Milk Traffic.

Sugar Beet Growing in Lincolnshire.

Sugar beet growing in Lincolnshire was the subject of an interesting paper read by Mr. W. S. White at the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce on Thursday. He pointed out that we are sending out of this country 20 millions sterling for sugar yearly, and receive from Germany alone 800,000 tons of sugar each year. We are the largest consumers of any country in the world of that commodity, and yet we are the only country that does not make it.

The question of beet growing in Lincolnshire was exciting interest among farmers who were looking for something to grow other than wheat that would make a profit. The soil was adapted for sugar beet growing, but before the matter was taken in hand it would be necessary to petition the Government to establish a factory in the county. They reckoned the cost per acre would be £10, the yield 15 tons, and the profit £6 10s. per acre. He proposed that a deputation from that Chamber and other Chambers in Lincolnshire visit Germany, and make observations to further develop the sugar beet industry in Lincolnshire. Mr. Stein, Liverpool, gave an address on the subject, and the resolution was adopted.

What is Agricultural Work?

An interesting decision was given in the Court of Appeal on Thursday on the question of whether a farm carpenter and keeper who, while rabbiting, was accidentally shot in the foot by his employer's son, was entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Act, 1900, which extended the scheme of the Act of 1897 to agricultural labourers.

The county court judge at Salisbury held that the carpenter was entitled to compensation under the Act, and against this decision the employer appealed.

The only point argued on appeal was whether the Act of 1900 included a farm servant of this kind, or whether it was restricted to farm labourers.

The Master of the Rolls, in dismissing the appeal, said he declined to construe the Act as applying to farm labourers only. Any man "mainly engaged in agriculture" was, according to the county court decision, entitled to the benefits of the Act, and that decision the Court of Appeal now confirmed.

South Eastern Agricultural College

A meeting of the Governors of this college was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Monday, October 23, Lord Ashcombe, the Chairman of the Governors, presiding. The report of the Principal (Mr. M. J. R. Dunstan) stated that 100 students, the largest number yet recorded, were now attending the college, an increase of twelve on the number for last session. The special points in the report were the commencement of the building extension, a gymnasium and college hall being included, thanks to an anonymous donor of £1,000, the increase of the college farm to 490 acres, the lengthening of the diploma courses to three years, the appointment of a mycologist to investigate the fungus diseases of hops, fruit, and farm crops, the recently-held summer course for elementary schoolmasters, and the appointment by the Colonial Office of Mr. E. G. Chamberlaine, a college student, as agricultural normal master in British Guiana.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Most assuredly I had not expected the Earl of Onslow to be a second Daniel come to judgment. I had never expected that his lordship would give his benison to an organised agricultural Parliamentary group determined upon a definite policy and importunate and vigorous in the influence it brought to bear upon the Government in realising that policy. The Earl's unwonted and unexpected act is, as a fact, the most impressive evidence we have yet received of the manner in which the minds of statesmen have been moved by the new spirit of agrarian self-assertion. It may be, of course, that the Earl, with his inherited and natural associations with agrarianism, is a little wearied of the disregard of rural interests as a consequence of the arrogance of other Parliamentary influences—that he is a little tired of the spectacle of those active, vivacious, pertinacious legislators who loudly bay for the moon, having the very statesmen who treat agriculture with supercilious contempt, bowing in obsequious assurance of their desire to realise their impossible ambitions. The fact, however, remains, that a leader of one of the two great parties in the State—a man who was likely to regard fidelity to party convenience as the sacro-sanct duty of every politician, and who himself has been always obedient to the party-rein—telling agriculturists, out of the fulness of his own experience, that it is only by pressure and organisation that they can secure a sympathetic Parliamentary attention. Pressure and organisation must imply independence. Nay, without political independence there could be no effective pressure, and organisation would be useless. Be importunate, be assertive, refuse to be dragooned by whips, and you may achieve good. This is the moral of the Earl of Onslow's advice.

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I do not, of course, attribute any sinister purpose to Lord Onslow. Though his methods at the Board of Agriculture, particularly in regard to the concession of State-aid, were rather tepid, he was undeniably moved by a whole-hearted sympathy with the interest. 'Twas his method, and not his heart, that permitted him to agree—and this is his own confession—to the Parliamentary supersession of agriculture by other interests. The unexpected favour, however, with which the new movement is being greeted in circles allied to party organisations half oppresses me with fear. These compliments from these quarters, these laudations of this assertive attitude, this innovation of an independent policy of men to whom Parliamentary independence must inevitably be an inconvenience, if not a frustrating influence—all these things induce me to hope that this patronage will not act as a sedative and an opiate. The agricultural interest is apparently fashioning for itself a Parliamentary back-bone; it must not be cozened into a failure to give it a proper temper. There is probably, no doubt, I repeat, about the sincerity of these compliments; but compliments too often lull even an active intelligence into a false sense of security.

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To me, more inspiring than the Earl's acceptance of the independent spirit is his confession of the insincerity of Parliament (so far as agriculture is concerned), when agricultural M.P.s complacently accept every official party instruction. In 1902, 2¾ hours were devoted to agriculture; in 1903, 10 hours; in 1904, 1½ hours; and in 1905, 12 hours. This confession ought to be the accepted preface of the finally-accepted programme of the Agricultural Group. It should be an ever-present reminder to every farmer who is wisely desirous of his own weal. When compliments soothe, these sentences should nerve to renewed activity. Maybe, had we been assertive during the Onslow régime, we should have had by this time a national grant sufficient to permit of the reproduction of the Irish agrarian executive authority in England.

Mr. Henry Chaplin has rendered a great service by registering an emphatic protest against a redistribution scheme whose result would be the penalisation of rural and county areas. A policy of vigilant scouting should be adopted towards the promised Redistribution Bill. The abortive and abandoned Bill of the last session would have done much more than modify the representation of Ireland. Whether this was intended or not, it is undeniable that the Bill was calculated to foster the anxiety of the urban constituencies to aggrandise an unfair preponderance of Parliamentary influence. The definite and exaggerated population limit adopted for the counties, whilst permitting an infinitely less urban population the dignity of distinct representation, was not a menace to electoral equality; but it was a distinct degradation of and insult to the rural voter. An urban voter, say, in the city of Salisbury or the city of Winchester would have had, according to this scheme, something like four times the electoral significance of the voter in the rural areas of either Wiltshire or Hampshire. It is, of course, beyond the wit of man to fashion a scheme in which every voter, no matter under what conditions his life may be cast, shall have an exactly equal electoral value to that of his fellow. The inequality, however, which this Bill expressed and embodied was a grievous anomaly—nay, I repeat my word, it was insulting. It should be a part of the new Parliamentary movement to safeguard the adequate representation of the counties in the House of Commons. To neglect to do this would be to unfairly handicap the leaders of the propaganda, and would jeopardise its success. Heaven forfend it be deemed I desire to revive the old town and country jealousies. The best way to prevent this revival, however, is to safeguard the electoral rights of the counties. There must inevitably be, I repeat, some inequality; but it should be our duty to, as far as possible, moderate this disproportion of influence.

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I have heard a good deal of approval of your criticism of the resolve to hold the next general conference of farmers at Newcastle. True, this particular effort was in its inception a northern movement; but it has evoked a sympathy which extends far beyond the north. Here was an opportunity of revealing that there are men of sufficient hardihood in agriculture to invoke a national campaign on behalf of a sanely-moderate policy of farming reform and rural reform. Most assuredly when this effort crystallises in a distinct Parliamentary movement, there will be no anxiety to confine it to the Members for northern constituencies. Such a policy would be ruinous to its very purpose, beyond which it might provoke unnecesary rivalries. It would thus have been infinitely wiser had the delegates resolved to hold the next conference, say, in the Midlands. Such conferences as these, where farmer meets farmer, and where the presentation of known grievances is couched in the language of intimacy, may not have a vivifying effect. Perhaps this is as well, for your vivifying effects are not unseldom evanescent. They must, however, induce to thought. They must be the parent of a comprehension that assertive, individual action is necessary if Parliament is to be aroused to a proper comprehension of the economic and legislative necessities of agriculture. A conference in the Midlands might have been followed by a conference in the south. A bridge of sympathy would then have been provided between the confines of the kingdom. Indifferentism has been the bane of modern agriculture. Let us not supplant it by sectionalism, or, if I may coin the word, by area-ism. This must be a national, and not merely a northern movement.

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Lord Rosebery is the enigma of our modern-day politics. A great prefatory effort was, I believe, made to induce him to reveal his attitude on the land and tenure reform during his speech at Stourbridge. Of course, Stourbridge is within a few gun-shots of the Vale of Evesham. Naturally, the question was asked as to how far Lord Rosebery would apply the Evesham custom to general agriculture? This is a matter of the utmost moment to the Liberal farmers of the Midlands. Well, how did his lordship satisfy this anxiety? "Then," said the Earl, "there is that second group of questions relating to the great labouring masses of our fellow-countrymen, such as temperance and housing, relief of what I may call meritorious poverty and destitution, and the land question—a somewhat vague term, but which, speaking generally, means, I take it, an effort to put a much larger proportion of the population on the land than is at present there!" This and nothing more, not another sentence. 'Tis a fine sonorous mouthful, I confess; but who can say it is illuminative or satisfying? When the Earl uttered the words, "The land question," his audience encouraged him to revelation by a generous cheer. It was an unrequited generosity. Not a man of them can say to-day that he has the slightest idea of what Lord Rosebery's views are in regard to the land, whether he is favour of the extension of the Evesham custom, whether he is in favour of utilising the resources of the State in re-establishing the race of yeomen, whether he would support Conservatives like Sir John Kennaway and Sir John Dorrington in the voluntary dispossession of landlordism, or whether he would venture upon the disciplined cultivation of waste land. He uttered a sweltering phrase or two, which have about as much application to modern-day politics as would have had the blessed word "Mesopotamia." The land question is a serious, dramatic problem, and not an issue for the toying phrases and dilettante sympathy.

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The Land Law Reform Association, or certain of its members, resents my suggestion that it is in danger of becoming a mere partisan-instrument of a mere political purpose. One of its most authoritative members, Sir Walter Foster, a man of whose sincerity in the cause of tenure-reform we have, of course, received many illustrations, assures me that I am at least mistaken in assuming that there are no Conservatives present at the Association's conferences. As a fact, at the two last conferences Conservative speakers were encouraged to freely express their views and criticisms. "I have sometimes been surprised," said Sir Walter, "to discover in my conversations with Conservative farmers how far we are, when we have got rid of our political and personal predilections and prejudices, in accord as to the chief necessities of the land. At all events, you may be assured," said Sir Walter, "that if we have not yet attracted prominent Conservatives to a position of distinction at our conferences, we welcome Conservative contributors to the debate. As a fact, this is the best means of discovering the possibility of a common platform on which all sections may unite." Sir Walter is himself proceeding at the next conference at Tunbridge, and he bids me freely invite Conservative landlords and farmers.

Agricultural Organisation in Scotland.—At a meeting of agriculturists in Edinburgh on Wednesday, under the chairmanship of Sir John Gilmour, it was decided to form a society to organise agriculture in Scotland, on much the same lines as the Agricultural Organisation Society in England. The Chairman stated that they had a guarantee for the next three years of £930 annually.

Newcastle Cow Hill Fair.—This fair was held on Wednesday, and notwithstanding the disagreeable weather, there was a large attendance. Business was anything but brisk for horses, but there was a fair exchange for cattle. Irish cattle brought from £5 to £14. Strong cattle were about 10s. a head down on last year's figure, and young cattle were £1 down. Scotch were no cheaper. There were not many good draught colts in the show, and good horses did not go cheap. The price ranged about £30 to £34, with £40 to £45 for best classes. Some capital harness horses from Ireland brought £70 to £80. Young long-tailed horses went at a lower figure than last year. Hunters were not a numerous lot, but a sale of two Irish animals was effected at £100 each. There was a lot of Shetland ponies, but nothing seemed to be doing.

Midland Notes.

When was there a better autumn than this has been for seasonable farm work? One might say "Never" with some confidence were it not for the extreme dryness of the land, which is all against wheat drilling, and discouraging, to say the least, to seed which has already germinated. On the other hand, it has prevented the surface soil from freezing hard during the bitter cold nights, and in the early morning one has sometimes seen the unusual spectacle of plough and harrow at work when pools and puddles have been coated thickly with ice, and, by the general appearance of the landscape, the ground should be frozen solid and unworkable. Mangels still in the ground, being more or less sheltered by their leaves, have come through the ordeal pretty well, but we fear some of the potatoes we have seen lying insufficiently protected will have been sadly nipped, for the amount of water they contain makes them delicate and susceptible to cold. We hear, by the way, more disappointing accounts of some of the new varieties, which seem often to have yielded very poorly, and at present market prices must prove a losing venture. Prices of 3s. to 3s. 6d. per cwt. at Wolverhampton, 45s. per ton for Up-to-Dates, and 35s. to 40s. for British Queens at Birmingham, 40s per ton at Shrewsbury, and 50s. at Worcester, do not leave much margin of profit for the grower, and where disease is rife—as it undoubtedly is in parts of Warwickshire, Stafford, Notts, and elsewhere—the season will be looked back upon with anything but pleasant feelings.

The early coming of winter for such severe and prolonged cold amounts to more than a mere seasonable "snap"—is necessitating correspondingly early inroads into fodder, and it is fortunate that there is generally no marked scarcity. There will not be much to spare, however, and, comparing the average bulk of the hay harvest with the number of stock in the country, it is hard to resist the conclusion that hay ought to be making better prices than it is.

Among the many local shows which are now being held, that at Harewood End, which gave Sir James Rankin an opportunity of holding forth yesterday upon co-operation, was interesting. Mr. J. B. Sainsbury, of Whitecross, had reason to be pleased with his success here, for he carried off the silver cup for the best cultivated farm of not less than 150 acres and the silver cups for the best and cleanest ten acres of roots, and best and cleanest three acres of mangels. It is a pity more of the larger agricultural societies cannot see their way to offering rewards like these for enterprising and efficient farming. The prizes are much coveted, and the competitions offer a welcome opportunity of winning distinction to many farmers who can hardly exhibit at the summer shows with any prospect of success.

Midland agriculturists who are troubled by high and burdensome Education Rates will look with an approving eye on the action of the Gloucestershire County Council, which has done well for local farmers and set an example to similar authorities elsewhere by rejecting a scheme for rating the whole county for the purposes of higher education. Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote was among those who most strongly opposed the proposal, but in this case little or nothing was said as to the nature of the education, emphasis being rather laid on the fact that it was intended to be given at centres which it would be impossible for those in many districts to reach. Perhaps that is the safer and stronger argument. As farmers know by sad experience to urge against the ordinary forms of technical and higher education that they do no good, and even positive harm, to rural interests, does not prevent them from being taken up by most local governing authorities. To impress upon local electors that they are asked to pay money they can ill spare to be spent in other districts, and for the benefit of other people, is in practice a much stronger card to play.

In these notes last week brief reference was made to experiments at Stoneleigh Park, the seat of the venerable Lord Leigh. To the sorrow of all who knew him, the noble owner of Stoneleigh has since passed away, and his remains have today been laid to rest in the family mausoleum. Besides the deputations from the many philanthropic institutions for which the late peer laboured so long and indefatigably, his Warwickshire tenantry and many from his Staffordshire, Cheshire, Leicestershire, and Gloucestershire estates mustered in force to pay their last tribute to one who was honoured as a man and respected as a landlord of the finest type.

This is not the place to speak of Lord Leigh's half century of work for reformatories and hospitals, in Freemasonry, and on public bodies of many kinds, but his interest in the welfare of all who lived upon his estates should not pass unrecorded. It has been recalled that in their palmiest days Mr. Joseph Arch and his National Agricultural Labourers' Union never acquired any hold upon the Stoneleigh district. There was no discontent there for them to work upon. Good cottages and gardens, good schools, almshouses—all these Lord Leigh provided—and long before the passing of any Allotments Act the labourers upon his estates were able to take up and work what land they needed. His tenants had no complaints to make of insecurity of tenure, or danger of losing the value of their improvements. They found him considerate and open-handed, and could rely on generous remissions of rent in bad seasons. His kindness to the occasional poacher was another characteristic trait. With the hardened and regular poacher he could, as a magistrate, deal sharply enough; but how often did he plead with his colleagues on the Bench for mercy on the poor fellow who had succumbed to the temptation of knocking over a stray hare or partridge which came across his path? Lord Leigh was not generally associated specially with agricultural work, but his death deprives the Warwickshire Agricultural Society of an active and generous supporter.

As these lines are written comes news of an intended farmers' union for Notts, which will perform the ordinary duties of a chamber of agriculture in keeping a vigilant eye upon legislation affecting rural interests, and helping to push forward fresh legislation where it is needed. Is it too much to hope that it will also be a trading—at any rate, a buying organisation, and will assist its members to obtain the lowest possible railway rates by helping them to make up large consignments? We hope not. In any case, the membership ought to be numerous, and as the subscription, we hear, is fixed at no more than a halfpenny per acre, it should be fully representative, comprising both large cultivators and small.

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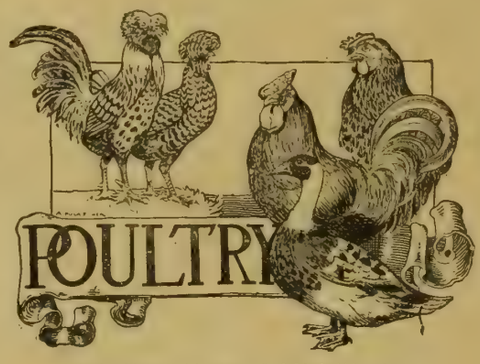


Adulteration of Middlings.

At the last meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, Dr. Voelcker drew attention to a very bad case of adulteration, a miller, selling under the name of "Middling" for the use of poultry a mixture of middlings with rice husk ground up so finely as to be unobservable by ordinary inspection. The miller maintained that as "middlings" was an "offal," he was justified in putting into it any "offal" he pleased. A member, residing in Essex, sent in July 17, for analysis, a sample of "middlings," 30 cwt. of which he had purchased at £5 5s. per ton, for the use of poultry, from a miller in Hertfordshire.

"From the time he began using the middlings he experienced serious losses with his poultry, and, on sending me a sample," says Dr. Voelcker, "I reported that it was an impure adulterated article. It had an excessive amount of husk, this consisting mainly of rice husk, and along with this was some oat husk, maize, and weed seeds, corn-cockle seed figuring among the latter."

Inquiries made as to whether the middlings were of the vendor's own grinding resulted in the following reply being received:—"I have made inquiries of my man, and he says the middlings you had from us are our own grinding, and, as far as I know, pure. It has occurred to me that for very young poultry they might be a little too coarse."

The purchaser was advised to draw further samples in the presence of the vendor, and this was done. The vendor maintained that middlings were offal, and therefore could be adulterated with anything, and the public had no redress. I examined the further sample, and reported: "I find this to be like the former sample adulterated with rice husk. 'Middlings' certainly are of the 'offals' of wheat, but 'middlings' has also a very definite meaning, and is applicable only to one of the 'offals' of wheat, and not of any other grain."

The purchaser was urged to bring the matter before the County Council, with a view to the taking of proceedings under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, but ultimately the case was compromised, the vendor paying £15 by way of compensation.

Causes of Failure in Turkey Rearing.

The chief losses in turkey rearing are caused by breeding from immature or closely related stock birds. Weakly birds are the result, and this practice, being fatal to success, should be abandoned. The general treatment required for young turkeys is very similar to that for chickens, except that for the first few days close attention must be paid to them. For twenty-four hours after hatching they require no food. During the following four days, hard boiled eggs and breadcrumbs may be given, for which, after the second day, oatmeal, barley meal, or biscuit meal mixed with sweet milk may be partly substituted. Boiled rice is a useful addition to the diet, and prevents diarrhœa.

The young turkeys must be fed very frequently during this period. At the end of a fortnight grain may be introduced into the diet. Small wheat is very suitable, but should be given in limited quantities. Mixed mash, consisting of ground oats, barley meal, wheat meal, and pollards, should, however, be the chief food until the birds are three or four months old. Skimmed or separated milk is better than water for mixing the meals. No food, especially during the first few weeks, should be given in a very wet or sloppy condition, as this causes diarrhœa in young birds.

Turkeys require more flesh as food than do chickens. Boiled fresh meat or liver, finely chopped, is most suitable. From the first week turkeys should receive an abundance of green food, such as cabbage, boiled onions, or boiled young nettles, chopped up fine and mixed with the meals. There is great danger in allowing the birds to run about amongst long, wet grass or in heavy rains until they are five or six weeks old. It is best to keep them confined in a limited grass run for the first three or four weeks, the grass being kept short, and, if the run becomes foul, to move the birds on to fresh grass.

Large, roomy coops are suitable for housing, but these should have wooden floors. The coops also give shelter on wet days. In addition to the coops one or two extra shelters should be provided. When the young turkeys are given their liberty, the mother, if a turkey hen, will take them away to the fields, and they then thrive remarkably well, chiefly because of the new ground and the abundance of insect food obtained. All through the summer and until fattening commences, the turkeys should be fed in the fields and encouraged to stay there. An airy, well-ventilated house should be provided for them.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Oct. 21, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,185	11,590	Wheat ...	2,451,100	1,139,500
Sheep.....	9,859	5,966	Flour	242,500	316,400
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	706,400	754,500
Horses ...	271	338	Oats	254,500	285,600
			Peas	68,438	38,960
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	11,750	7,440
Beef	111,803	108,295	Maize ...	1,532,500	811,300
Mutton...	51,496	90,137	Apples ...	159,437	161,174
Pork	13,460	10,369	Apricots		
Bacon ...	111,853	79,040	& Peaches	26	5
Beef, salt	2,564	1,730		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	21,421	10,883	Bananas	79,365	148,797
Pork, salt	4,372	2,824		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	9,951	10,464	Cherries	—	—
			Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	16,331	29,489	Gooseb'rs	—	—
Butter ...	72,096	77,054	Grapes ..	52,602	68,420
M'rg'rine	16,890	20,316	Lemons...	12,696	16,488
Cheese ...	83,067	83,518	Oranges	9,564	17,415
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Pears	13,543	14,633
			Plums ...	978	4,536
			Oth'r Fr't	4,828	7,048
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	2,416	2,893
Milk, Cream	87	101	Straw	1,804	1,064
			MossLitt'r	—	1,166
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,147	16,366	Hops	14,623	2,850
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	103	134	Locust Beans	36,820 Bush.	19,781 Bush.
			Onions ...	172,490 Cwt.	120,892 Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.	Potatoes	73,136	22,770
Eggs	498,184	400,393	Tomatoes	11,801	9,058
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £12,097	Value. £5,251	Veg'bles	£3,015	£3,145
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	968	5,674
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	48,057	26,085	by can-		
Lard ...	14,431	37,777	ning ..	6,235	6,936

NORTHERN NOTES.

The King has just paid a private visit to Lord Londesborough, one of the territorial magnates of the county of many acres. But private though the visit may have been, it was found impossible to altogether prevent the expression of the exuberant loyalty of the Northerner. As Prince of Wales, his present Majesty won the goodwill and affection of those with whom he came in contact, and he was ever a favourite with the general populace. His demeanour since his accession to the Throne has been such as to preserve and accentuate his popularity, for no one is better able than himself to combine dignity with affability—a combination which, although perhaps somewhat rare, is none the less pleasing when it occurs.

It must be nearly forty years since the King paid his first visit to Londesborough, but the surrounding district is still one of the best partridge preserves in the country. Turnip-growing is one of the staple pursuits on the wold farms, and it is only where turnips are good and abundant that good partridge shooting can be had in the end of October. The Londesborough estates are, generally speaking, very highly farmed, and the tenants have far too great a regard for their landlord to do anything that would militate against the preservation of game. A tenant on these estates knows that he practically holds under a lease for life, determinable by himself in any year, for the Londesboroughs never discharge tenants, and never attempt to raise the rent of a sitting tenant.

Partridges are abundant in the North, but considering that the end of October has only just arrived, it is surprising how wild the birds are. There is an unusual tendency to pack, and this was noticeable during the Royal visit to North Dalton, where the birds had not been previously disturbed. On one occasion about a hundred partridges came over together, just as if they formed one covey, and similar occurrences of a minor character have been constantly noted in many places. It is generally found also that hares are more numerous than in recent seasons, and so it seems that these kinds of game are not at present on the decrease.

Now that wheat sowing on the fallows and old seed lands is practically completed, stubble ploughing is put in hand. During recent years it seems that thistles have become more prevalent, and the question has been mooted whether this increasing prevalence is due to inefficient stubble ploughing. In other words, do more thistle roots escape severance through the wider furrows now turned? Is the introduction of the American digging plough, with its furrow slice cut from a width of ten or twelve inches, in any way responsible for this increase in thistle growth? The width of the furrow cut should be regulated by the depth at which the plough is set, and a twelve-inch furrow must be proportionately deep or the furrow slice will be turned completely over and lie quite flat, a result which the old-fashioned farmer, and many modern farmers too, consider most objectionable. A consideration of all the evidence, pro and con, leads to the conclusion that the ploughing of wide furrows, whether during stubble ploughing, or cross-ploughing, does tend to the increase of thistles, as the roots of these plants do, under such circumstances, sometimes escape unsevered.

The lifting and storing of the mangold crop is now being effected, but in many places the plants are still in full growth. At first but slow progress was made, but during harvest, and indeed throughout September, there was vigorous growth, which still continues. For some reasons, it would seem the wiser plan to postpone lifting until later in the season, until November is well advanced; but there is always a danger of some early severe frost setting in, which might cause serious damage, and so advantage is taken of the fine weather that prevails. The roots, when lifted out of the ground in their present state of immaturity, may well remain upon the land three or four days before clamping, and the clamps should not be covered up until a considerable time after they have been made.

Some men, while admitting that fermentation does occur in newly formed clamps, deny that any perceptible heat is given off. If any person will place upon a newly made clamp of mangolds a covering of earth nearly reaching the ridge and leave the ridge merely covered slightly with straw, and then visit the clamp early some morning after a hoar frost during the night, he will see how rapidly a hoar frost disappears from the straw on the ridge through the heat given off by the mangolds; the frost will pass off this straw much sooner than from other objects near.

A moot question has been, what is the best use to which the mangold leaves can be put? Some have always advocated the feeding of these to horned stock or to sheep, but it now seems generally admitted that the best and most profitable results are obtained from ploughing in the leaves green for manure, and if the leaves could be ploughed in the day the mangolds are lifted, it would be all the better for the land. M. Y.

October 27, 1905.

THE DAIRY.

Kilmarnock Dairy Show.

The fifty-first annual produce show under the auspices of the Ayrshire Agricultural Association was held on the 19th and 20th inst. in the Corn Exchange, Kilmarnock, and was in every way a success. Following immediately upon the jubilee show, which was naturally invested with a record interest, the exhibition made the most favourable comparison, the total entries showing but a small decrease. The cheese exhibits were, of course, the principal, and it was gratifying to note that the large entry of the jubilee year—namely, 715—only outnumbered this year's total by 27. The handsome premiums, amounting to fully £500, brought out the keenest competition, and it was estimated that the heavy weight of last year—namely, 160 tons of cheese—was slightly exceeded. There were no fewer than ninety-seven entries in the coloured deep class, and the absence of inferior parcels was notable. Disappointment was expressed by the judge, however, with the flavour, a great number of the lots being far too green. Eighty cheese were entered in the white deep class, made according to any method, and here, too, inferior lots were conspicuous by absence, and those placed well showed greater richness, mellowness, and fine keeping qualities than the exhibits of previous occasions. Sixty entries were made in the class for two flat cheese made according to the Dunlop or any other method. The competition was restricted to dairies where flat cheese were made exclusively during the season. The whole pitch, with very few exceptions, was well handled, and had a finished appearance, while many of the entries were sweet in flavour, and possessed the "meaty" qualities so largely in demand. Some, however, were open and slack in the texture.

Loaf cheese, coloured or uncoloured Cheddar, were more mixed in their character, and while some were very fine, the majority were decidedly second and third rate, being evidently made for exhibition purposes only, and showing stiff, flavourless, and over-coloured qualities. The five leading parcels, indeed, quite exhausted the fine points of the section. Both the open and limited sweepstake classes for sweet milk cheese were well contested. The cheese of any kind or make from a dairy not exceeding 25 cows were a very mixed lot, consisting as they did of Cheddars, Dunlops, loaf Cheddars, and Stiltons, and judging was accordingly rendered rather difficult. Dunlops predominated, and three of them, all of good quality, carried off premier honours. No fewer than 75 entries were placed in the ton class, and some excellent lots were forward. There were forty-eight entries in the half-ton class, limited to Ayrshire, but the majority of the parcels showed considerable irregularity and general inferiority.

In the cheese market there was a moderate business done, the ruling prices ranging from 58s. to 62s. per cwt., a shilling or two more being given for prize lots. There were several English dealers forward, but they bought very little, stating that they could buy for 2s. 6d. less in their own market. The championship butter was exposed for sale by public auction, and was sold at 16s. per lb.

Competition in the various butter classes was very keen. The powdered lots, with the exception of the prize-winners, were somewhat disappointing, there being frequent evidences of overworking, while in some cases inferior salt was used, so that a nippy flavour was unfortunately imparted. The fresh lots ran each other closely, and quality was very meritorious.

Irish Farmers and Faked Butter.

A largely attended conference was held at the Limerick Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Sir Thomas Cleeve presiding, for the purpose of urging on the Irish Department of Agriculture the immediate necessity of appointing representatives in English markets to look after the interests of Irish agricultural produce, which, it was complained, is seriously affected by the increased sale of what is described as "faked" butter. Letters were read from representative agriculturists and dairy societies from various parts of Ireland supporting the object of the meeting, and an influential deputation was appointed to wait on Sir Horace Plunkett, the Vice-President of the Department of Agriculture.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

In the last half of the month of October we have experienced colder weather than has been known to have occurred for many years, and the ponds that is to say, those that are not dry, for many are empty for want of rain—covered every morning with a thin sheet of ice, have reminded the farmers of their danger in allowing mangel to remain longer in the field. So throughout the Eastern Counties one could see last week the mangel fields being cleared in feverish haste, the roots being housed or "clamped" this season with extra protection, as the farmers are all looking forward to a hard winter. Wheat-sowing is being carried on as fast as the swede and mangel fields are cleared, although the soil in many districts is getting almost too dry for this operation. A little rain now would be most beneficial, and by the middle of November, or third week at the latest, we ought then to see all the winter wheat it is intended to sow in the ground. For farm work this season is well forward, although there are some laggards, as is always the case, never mind what the season may be.

Roots have turned out much better than many farmers expected they would do when they first appeared above ground. A farmer at Deeping St. Nicholas, in the Fen district, has grown a crop of mangolds which yielded the uncommon weight of 65 tons to the acre.

At a meeting of agriculturists and those interested in farming in Harleston (Norfolk) and district, on Wednesday, the report of the Sub-Committee appointed at the previous meeting to ascertain what support would be forthcoming in the event of the Norfolk County Show being held at Harleston in 1906, was presented, and it showed that £172 had been promised, besides what the chairman had been promised from a gentleman interested in English farming. And the secretary further reported that the secretary to the Norfolk County Association had been over the proposed site for the exhibition, and expressed his satisfaction as to the suitability of the ground. As the result of these reports a general opinion was expressed that sufficient support was assured to warrant an invitation being given, and a deputation was then appointed to wait upon the council of the Norfolk Agricultural Association with an invitation.

It would not be considered by my yeoman friends, or, the matter of that, the East Anglian farm labourer, if no mention was made in these "notes" of Nelson's centenary. Therefore, I must place on record the fact that homage was paid to the memory of the great national hero in a large number of places in each of the counties that form East Anglia. But perhaps the proudest village of all was Burnham Thorpe, the birthplace of Nelson, and here the inhabitants egotistically declared it was one of their village sons who had won the Battle of Trafalgar. So interested is the Prince of Wales in the village with which our greatest naval hero was so intimately connected that his Royal Highness had provided a good dinner for every man, woman, and child in Burnham Thorpe to celebrate the centenary of the glorious day on which Trafalgar was fought and won.

Our old familiar friend "bounties for wheat-growers" came up at a meeting at Assington, near Sudbury, on Monday last, when Major Tippet, in the course of his speech, dwelt upon the depopulation of rural areas, and strongly advocated the 1s. registration duty on corn in order to aid English agriculture. That duty, he contended, would enable the Government, not only to give a 5s. bounty on every quarter of wheat grown in the country, but on double the number of quarters produced at the present time. If we could bring under the plough at a profit a sufficient acreage to double our supply of home-grown wheat, it would bring some millions of pounds a year more to the pockets of farmers, labourers, and tradesmen in our country towns and villages. Those who were deeply interested in agriculture, like himself, considered it a very serious thing for England that land went out of cultivation, and, in concluding his speech, Major Tippet condemned preferential railway rates for foreign produce.

In his market-day lecture on "Pigs, Past and Present," Mr. Sanders Spencer, of St. Ives, Huntingdon, said Essex had produced some of the most successful raisers and feeders of pigs in the country. There had existed in the United States for years now a breed of pigs called the Essex, which owed their origin to breeders who farmed in Essex and Suffolk in years gone by. He had not heard of the famous so-called sheeted sows in the past so prolific for some time, but

that day he had noticed a couple of this variety in their Chelmsford Market. They must nowadays do all they could to produce such a pig as their customers required. The old-fashioned 400 to 600 pound pig was a thing of the past. What was now required was a nice compact young pig of about 70 lb. live weight which was converted into "London porkers" or fat pig of 200 lb. to 300 lb. A carcase of 220 lb. could be obtained, with the aid of well bred pigs, in about seven months. The most successful breeder was one who bred his pigs from well-selected parents and kept them in a progressive state from birth until they were turned out fat at four or seven months old. The cost of manufacturing each pound of pork, it should be borne in mind, increased with the age of the pig.

Lord Onslow on the Need of Farmers' Organisation.

The Earl of Onslow, who it will be remembered was at one time President of the Board of Agriculture, has written to Mr. H. Pike Pease, president of Darlington, Durham, and North Riding Chamber of Agriculture, with reference to the action of that body in appointing a committee to consider questions of interest to farmers as they arise.

Lord Onslow says the reason why in recent years the House of Commons has given so little attention to agricultural matters is that there is so little organisation among farmers, and so little is done by them to impress those who represent them in Parliament with their needs and desires. All classes interested in the cultivation of the soil (his lordship continues) should make clear to their representatives the conditions upon which they will continue to support them, and pertinaciously to press their needs on Parliament. The Government yielded where the pressure was greatest, and it was only those who made their wants known in the most importunate manner who were heeded. It was the practice in Scotland for the Minister to confer annually with the Chamber of Agriculture, and he was in touch with the London Chamber. He was sure the Minister of Agriculture would gladly confer with representatives of agriculture in the north-east and west of England similarly.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The Russian Government have forwarded us a detailed report of the first census taken in 1897 of the entire population of the Russian Empire, comprising the fifty governments of European Russia, ten Governments of the Vistula, nine governments of Siberia, eleven of the Caucasus, and nine of Central Asia. The total for the empire is given as 62,512,698 men, 63,167,984 women; both sexes, 125,680,682. This assessment of the population is made according to the mother tongue, religion, degree of instruction, civil position, health, profession, and, in particular, that of agriculture, cattle rearing, fishery, hunting, and auxiliary professions. The total number of men employed in agriculture in the empire is 381,350, women, 15,916. The culture of flax, hemp, etc., occupies 1,697 people; beetroot, 5,859, this includes melons and other special cultures; herbs, 986; cotton, 7,442; tobacco, gardening, and fruit growing, 88,229; cultivation of the vine, 26,859. Cattle rearing occupies 203,510 men and 5,308 women. Of these, 203,083 people are engaged in stock-breeding and rearing, 1,021 in that of thoroughbred horses, 1,001 in rearing horses in troops, and 2,713 in other branches. Statistics are also given of forestry, fisheries, and the chase, with many branches of commerce and industries.

The latest numbers to hand of the Harmsworth Encyclopædia are parts 16 and 17, and these carry to references down as far as "genius." As we have had occasion to previously remark, the volumes are well printed, and the reasonable figure at which they are published (7d. per part) put a useful work within the reach of all.

Bourne October Fair.—The last of the two autumn fairs at Bourne was held on Thursday, and was largely attended. The show of cattle was an average one, but business was no better than it was at the fair a month ago. The slowness of trade is attributed to the shortage of keeping. Many lots of cattle were consequently taken away unsold. Those which changed hands made about the following prices:—Yearling beasts from £6 to £8, two year olds £10 to £14, and three years-old up to £16. In-calving cows up to £20 and heifers up to £16 were about the average quotations. There was reason for the general complaint that prices were not remunerative to the grazier. Sheep maintained a satisfactory price but there was very little doing either for horses or foals.

The Farmers' Club and New Members.

SIR,—With reference to the present determined attempt on the part of the farmers in the North of England and in Lincolnshire to make their voices heard, may I take up a small space in your columns to bring to the notice of agriculturists a somewhat new departure by the old Farmers' Club, which has its headquarters in Whitehall Court, London?

The committee have felt for some time that while there are innumerable societies and associations in connection with agriculture, there is no known social central meeting place for farmers, and consequently much of the good work which is done in general meeting or committee by these societies stops short of the ideal when members disperse in different directions after the meetings.

It is the aim of the committee to make the Farmer's Club a well known meeting place for farmers and others who are connected with agriculture, and, to that end, the club premises have been more than doubled recently, and now consist of some four private club rooms and five semi-public rooms suitably furnished as a comfortable and quiet club.

The membership was under 300 three years ago, but since the move to Whitehall Court, it has increased to 900—necessitating the enlargement of the club premises.

The committee are anxious to largely increase the membership and with the right sort of member, viz.: the true agriculturist, and to that end they have recently decided, for a time to admit, without entrance fee, those agriculturists who are members of a National Agricultural Society or Association such as the Royal Agricultural Society, the Breed Societies, the Central Chamber of Agriculture (including secretaries and delegates), and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, etc.

The committee consider that much good work is done where agriculturists meet in an informal and conversational way as opposed to the formal meetings, and they want to see members of these societies drifting to Whitehall Court after the meetings, where interchange of opinion can take place.

It may be said that these are not times to ask farmers for club subscriptions, but there is no doubt that farmers do not use the advantage of the nearness of large towns in England to their farms, and an occasional visit to London would, I am sure, be no loss in the long run, for its inhabitants are anxious to buy English produce, if they only knew how to obtain it, and the few smart farmers who are in close touch with the London market are the men who are disposing of their produce to the best advantage.

The annual subscription to the Farmers' Club is, and always has been, one guinea, and, considering the advantages in Whitehall Court, it is by far the cheapest club in London.

Some seven meetings are held during the year, when papers are read and discussed by members, the proceedings being printed in the Club journal, which is sent out free of charge.

Proposal forms can be obtained on application to the secretary of the Farmers' Club, Mr. Trustram Eve, 2, Whitehall Court, S.W., who will be pleased to give any further information.

Thanking you for your courtesy in inserting this letter.—I am etc.,

October 27, 1905. W. H. PROUT,
Chairman Farmers' Club.

The Warble Fly.

SIR,—I think if farmers realised the fact more that the Warble Fly is a source of loss to stock-breeder, butcher, and carrier alike they would adopt better preventive measures. When a beast is suffering from the effects of the fly striking, it cannot fail to suffer in condition and appearance, the irritating effects of the Warble Fly being evidenced in a good many instances at the stock sales. I repeat it is to the best interests of the farmer as well as the butcher and leather factor that preventive measures be taken, and each beast dressed all over with one of the several specifics now on the market at least once every three months.

When once the Warble Fly strikes the mischief is done, and for a few shillings sufficient dressing can be purchased to treat a fair-sized herd, and the saving to the farmer would be represented by as many pounds.—Yours faithfully,

October 27, 1905. PREVENTION.

Dr. Schwappach and the Systematic Study of Sylviculture.

SIR,—Men who are great specialists—at the same time gifted with imagination—expressing themselves with an admired terseness in a way that prevents the subject they treat of from becoming monotonous, are, it must be admitted, somewhat rare! Belonging pre-eminently to this category is my friend Professor Dr. Schwappach, the well-known doyen of German "Agronomes." I have quoted him before in the hospitable columns of your valued journal. As Montesquieu remarks of a great ancient writer, so I may say of this foreign expert: *Il abrège tout, parce qu'il sait tout!* And I think the letter I have just received from this littérateur, who has devoted a lifelong study to agriculture, and forestry in particular, may be of interest to your readers. I beg to give it in an English dress! These Lintzel experiences are specially interesting, apart from the ethical side, because here we have before us not a forest "in full swing," but one in process of formation, and that, be it remembered, in a district—like many of our own, alas! under present conditions—thinly populated.

Writing under date October 19, from Eberswalde, where, as is well known, there is to be found the alma mater par excellence to which the best forest students of Europe are wont to resort, Dr. Schwappach observes: "I thank you most heartily for your letter of the 1st inst. and the MARK LANE EXPRESS accompanying same.

"My reply has been delayed owing to the fact that I only returned a few days ago from a six weeks' journey to France for purposes of study.

"The employment of the 'unemployed' in the provincial forests of Hanover is only taking place on the provincial moor at Fullen. But, in this case, it is not so much afforestation as a pure agricultural dealing with the land that is in question.

"The actual afforestations near Oerrel-Lintzel are not being carried out by the 'unemployed' in your sense of the term, but by loafers, beggars—'tramps,' rather, I might call them—who after having served their terms of imprisonment, are handed over to the police for compulsory employment for a period not exceeding two years.

"These people are not in possession of as much liberty as the unemployed would be, but occupy a position midway between convicts and free labourers. But we hope, gradually, to train them by a little gentle pressure to habits of remunerative work.

"The area belonging to the province of Hanover under forest is 4,834 hectares. With the aid of loans granted by the province, about 11,831 hectares have hitherto been put under afforestation.

"I send you herewith an article from my pen on the important bearing of the new Chambers of Agriculture under the new law upon private sylviculture, which may probably interest you.

"At the meeting of the German Sylvicultural Society (Forstverein), held at Darmstadt in September, I read a paper on the 'Promotion of Private Sylviculture.' As soon as I have received printed copies of it I shall take the liberty of sending you one."

Major Craigie, of the Board of Agriculture—I am quoting from his recent evidence (British Forestry Blue Book) is right! "They go into these things (forestry matters) with more detail in foreign countries."

Passing away from the wider subject (treatment of this question by the State directly), perhaps I may be allowed, in a subsequent issue, to say a few words on the working of the new German law as detailed by Dr. Schwappach, in respect of its operation *vis-à-vis* of the owners of private woods and forests. The object these "forstliche sachverständige" seem to have is to bring about *dans la mesure du possible*, some approach to the continuity of method so devoutly to be wished, as well as that order which, indeed, is "Heaven's first law."—Yours obediently,

CHARLES HANCOCK, B.L.,
Member of Scottish Arboricultural Society.
London, October 24, 1905.

Selling off Hay and Straw.

SIR, Would you kindly give your opinion or allow others to give theirs in your valuable paper as to the above? If you would kindly do so you would confer a great favour upon several.

Personally, I see no objection to allowing a tenant to sell off hay and straw, provided that he expends a fair and reasonable proportion of the amount which it realises in approved artificial manures, which must be applied to the land from which he has sold the produce.—Yours faithfully,

R. H. R.

October 26, 1905.

The Milking Qualities of Hereford Cattle.

SIR,—Owing to the various reports on the above question emanating from authoritative sources and otherwise that have been recently going the round of the agricultural papers, especially those published in Ireland, I think it only right that you should give publicity hereto.

It has been stated that a draft of Hereford cows in Ireland failed to produce enough milk to rear their own calves. There must be some untoward circumstances connected with this case which have not been made public, because one of the chief reasons that Hereford cows are not more to the fore in the dairy world is that they are allowed to run with and to totally sustain their calves, especially in the home county, where this is the prevailing practice, and the calves themselves will bear striking testimony as to whether they are in any way insufficiently nurtured, also the first claim of the breed, *i.e.*, early maturity, necessitates that the calf must not be neglected.

The majority of Hereford breeders do not want milk, they breed solely for beef, and this is an advantage to exporters, as the greater demand from countries such as the Argentine is for cows whose supply of milk is consumed by their calves; thus obviating the necessity of stripping them daily on the ranch, which would be practically an impossibility.

It seems hard to locate the reason for the alleged failure of this particular draft of cows, and I can only surmise that they were an exception to the general rule; for the climatic conditions cannot be urged in excuse, there being at the present moment numerous very successful herds of Herefords in Ireland; and the export returns of the Hereford Herd Book Society, together with the whole history of the breed, goes to prove that there are few countries in the world in which Hereford cattle will not do and thrive.

The whole question of milking as affecting the Hereford, or in fact any breed, is simply a matter of training, and the practice of letting the calves run with the cows is very injurious from a dairyman's point of view.

The practice followed by a very successful breeder of Herefords is to take the calves from the cows when about a week old and rear them by hand, keeping the calves simply in a growing state and in order to develop their milking qualities, not allowing them to become overloaded with superfluous fat when young.

This same breeder (Mr. W. J. S. White, of Zeals, Wilts) is at present milking eighty cows, and sends his milk to a factory. In the months of May and June last, part of his milk (5,400 gallons) made 5,444 lb. of cheese, which was sold at the end of September. This is a record which few, if any, dairy herds can beat. While referring to this breeder, I may state that he has time after time won prizes at dairy shows with his Herefords, and I quote from the judges' report of this year's show of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, in awarding the third prize, in Class 123, for large dairy herds:—"Mr. White exhibited seventy-four of the best Hereford cows your judges had ever seen. The cows are of uniform type, large, and in high condition (though only moderately kept), and lastly, and of most consequence, they are evidently good milkers and have very well shaped udders. Amongst the herd was a grand old cow, sixteen years old, from which many have sprung; she is, or rather was, an enormous milker, and no doubt has greatly influenced the herd in this direction."

Mr. White in this class met some of the leading dairy cattle breeders of the country.

Mr. W. Tudge, of Summer Court, Kington, a breeder of show Herefords, has also bred cows who have won prizes at dairy shows. This is all the more striking when it is remembered that the accusation of being non-milkers is made chiefly against show Herefords.

I think that the foregoing ought to prove that the Hereford breed can be trained to make first-class dairy cattle; but, as previously stated, the primary aim of the majority of Hereford breeders is the production of beef.—Yours, etc.,

W. G. C. BRITTEN.
Secretary to the Hereford Herd Book Society.
20, East Street, Hereford, October 25, 1905.

A Quiet Time in Gloucestershire.

SIR,—On the farm at present there is not much to write about, the weather continues dry, and all work is well forward. Here and there an early planted field of winter oats and rye is up nicely; but just now many are waiting for rain to begin drilling wheat. Some of the clover leys are even too hard to plough. Mangolds are being hurriedly got up for fear of more frost. We have had some very sharp ones lately. Many heavy crops are seen, but most of the large roots cut hollow, which will be against their keeping well, and the swedes are badly mildewed. Water and grass are running short, and the cold nights make dry food necessary for cattle, and so hay may be worth more before spring.

The threshing machines (which are very busy) reveal that the wheat crop was over-estimated for quantity, but it is of excellent quality. Barley quited as good as expected. The prices of both stock and produce are quite disheartening. Sheep trade is the only thing with any life about it, and that is falling off. J. H. W.
October 25, 1905.

Weather for November: Mr. Clements' Forecast.

SIR, At London the tidal influence will be most efficacious in the causation of rain and wind when the latitude of the disturbances varies from 5 deg. to 11 deg. north and south of the equator. I have indicated these latitudes by thick perpendicular lines opposite the given dates. Upon an examination of these lines in columns A, B, C, and D, and more particularly by column E, giving the absolute longitude and latitude of the disturbances caused by the conjoint action of the moon and sun, it will be found that there will be very few days free from tidal disturbances, and the result will be as follows at London—viz.: (a) Rain will fall on 22 days of the month; (b) 8 days without rain, on 4th, 10th, 12th, 19th, 20th, 24th, 25th, and 26th; (c) heavy rain on 5th, 13th, 14th, and 27th, and not so heavy on 3rd, 7th, 25th, and 30th; (d) it will be unsettled and rainy, particularly round the 2nd, 8th, 14th to 18th, round the 22nd and after the 27th—November will prove to be a very wet month, with at times great rains and floods (e) it will be windy also approximately on the 6th, 18th, 23rd, and 27th; (f) it will be a month of low barometer and of cyclonic conditions.

My recent predictions for July, August, September, and October to date have proved correct: with regard to September, I predicted there would be rain on 14 days; at Greenwich there was recorded rain on 13 days, and rain not sufficient to record on other two days.

The most notable of past predictions was one made for April, 1884, which correctly forecasted the wet and dry periods for 18 years in advance, and another which correctly predicted the rainfall for 153 consecutive days from August 1 to December 31, 1897. As the weather problem has been solved, it now rests with the public, and especially with the Government, to put my method of forecasting in operation at home, in India, and the Colonies. HUGH CLEMENTS.
Newton House, Barry Road, Dulwich, S.E.,
October 21, 1905.

Hampshire Prospects.

SIR,—Agricultural prospects are none too rosy in this county. Owing to the dry weather good progress has been made in threshing wheat and barley. The yield has not come up to expectations, though the quality of much of the wheat is first rate, weighing 64 to 65 lb. per bushel; top price in our local markets about 30s. per qr.—very cheap considering the weight and quality. Barley comes to market in good condition, and samples of malting quality make from 28s. to 32s. per qr. Oats are very poor, about half a crop, and selling at 15s. to 16s. per qr.

Mangolds are being stored in some districts; they are not to be compared with last-year's crop over most of this county. Turnips and swedes have become mildewed owing to the long spell of dry weather and frosty nights. Very little demand for hay and straw, and prices very low.

Our flocks of Hampshire Down sheep are doing well, they represent the backbone of farming. With a good demand for mutton and lamb throughout the year, prices have been remunerative. The same cannot be said of horned stock. Beef has been too cheap for the producers, who have had to go without profits; while store cattle are a drug on the market and purchasers difficult to find at the low prices prevailing.

The early sowings of rye, winter barley, tares, etc., are doing well, but the land has remained too dry for wheat sowing. Up to the time of writing this, very little wheat has been planted, and unless rain comes in sufficient quantity very soon a short acreage will result.

This has been a grand time for cleaning the land which had become foul owing to showery weather during seed time last March.
October 26, 1905. G. J.

Farming Outlook in Montgomeryshire.

SIR,—The harvest has now been finished some weeks, and turnip-drawing and carrying have commenced. Wheat sowing is in full swing, and we are having a grand time for getting it in.

Beef is selling at a rather unremunerative price, and I fear the graziers in this county have made very little out of their fat cattle this year.

The sale of Shire horses on the 19th was generally thought satisfactory, considering that the Shire trade is not so good now as it was some time ago.

There are several changes of tenancy this year, but good farms elicit strong competition still.—Yours, etc. R.
October 26, 1905.

Seasonable Notes from Hampshire

SIR, The season now drawing to a close has been a good one on the whole. Among cereals wheat is the crop of the year. The quality, especially red, is distinctly of a high rate of average, weighing 65 lb. per bushel. The yield is from 40 to 48 bushels per acre.

Oats, owing to a spell of drought in the spring and again preceding harvest time, coupled with late sowing, are but a moderate crop. Barley yields well, but the continuous rain and wind for several days immediately before harvest damaged the colour somewhat.

Hay was a thin crop, but well got up. Roots on the whole are good. Mangolds rather patchy. Swedes a good plant, but present dry weather has caused mildew to appear rather too freely.

Turnips are a capital crop, the roots swelling evenly and well. Kale is most promising as sheep food. Much land is ready for wheat, the sowing of which is deferred on account of present drought. The acreage promises to be rather more than last season.

Sheep have done remarkably well. Keep is abundant. The ewes have taken season well; prices have ruled high for all good flocks. Tegs are now becoming scarce.

Steers are at the present time cheap; good milch cows and promising heifers are dear, as usually is the case at this season.—Yours, etc.,
October 27, 1905. E. M.

Cambridgshire Prospects.
When to Plant Wheat and Barley.

SIR,—The corn crop is a good average one, although the very hot weather in July caused the corn on some lands to ripen too fast, and consequently reduced the yield, and prices are not good.

The worst part of farming this year was grazing cattle, many not making more money than they cost last spring, and so losing all the keep, etc. Sheep have done well.

The wurzle crop is very fine, indeed. Turnips looked at one time very promising, but in many places mildew has taken them and spoilt them. Potatoes, too, looked very promising, but unfortunately there are a very great many bad ones.

The harvest being early has given the farmers time to get the land ready for wheat sowing. It comes up well, and has a fine seed bed.

The wheat going in well—and many farmers have nearly finished—I consider the best time to sow wheat is the last fortnight in October and the first fortnight in November. If sown before the middle of October it is likely to get winter-proud, and if after the second week in November and rough weather sets in, the plant is likely to suffer. When I was a boy there was an old saying: "You should see all your wheat in rows and all your barley land set up before you had your Christmas dinner," and it holds good now. If your wheat is up before Christmas it will stand the rough weather, and if the barley land is set up before Christmas the frosts in January and February will do it as much good as a coat of manure, and as soon as the spring opens you can get the barley in early and so grow malting barley. A. W. R.
October 27, 1905.

Prospects in Hunts.

SIR.—Wheat sowing has been progressing as fast as the dry weather would permit; a good proportion of the seed wheat has already been consigned to the earth in a good bed, if rather a dry one. The weather has been all that could be desired for carting off the mangolds, which are a heavy crop of splendid quality. The increase in the weight of the crop during the last month has been very great; now we have an over average crop. The barley markets are quite demoralised; farmers have been pouring in the samples at something like twice the average speed, with the result that the buyers are completely masters of the situation. The short acreage of barley should have given the farmers the whip hand had they reduced instead of enormously increased the supply of barley; but money must be had from somewhere. S. S.
October 27, 1905.

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

The pitch at this fair on Wednesday was 45 tons, being below the average. This was accounted for by the fact that Chester Dairy Show was held in the previous week, and also by the improved demand for Cheshires, causing more buying in the country. There was a brisk trade for all classes, and a clearance was quickly effected at prices well maintaining previous quotations. Highest qualities realised 65s. to 70s. per cwt., and medium and lower grades 55s. to 64s.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Firm tone in all branches, but actual business was on a small scale. English wheat was in limited supply at full prices; white quoted at 28s 6d to 32s, and red at 28s to 31s. Foreign grades firm, and held for 3d to 6d advance; No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted at 34s 3d to 34s 6d, No. 2 Club Calcutta at 32s 6d, Australian at 33s 6d to 34s, and New Zealand at 29s 6d to 31s. Maize firm and dearer; La Plata landed offered at 24s 6d and ex ship at 24s and mixed American landed at 25s 3d and ex ship at 24s 6d to 24s 9d. Flour quiet at 21s 6d for Iron Duke. Barley tends against the buyer; Odessa-Nicolaieff landed is quoted at 19s 9d to 20s, American at 19s 3d to 19s 6d, and Persian at 18s 6d. Oats quiet and unchanged; 38lb Russian obtainable at 15s 9d to 16s.

Mark Lane, Friday.—There was a fairly large attendance, and prices generally were advanced 6d to 9d, with a good trade passing. English wheat ruled firm and 6d dearer; white held for 29s to 32s 6d, and red for 28s 6d to 31s 6d. Foreign grades were in active demand at 6d to 9d advance; No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship held for 35s to 35s 3d; No. 2 Club Calcutta quoted at 33s, New Zealand at 30s to 33s, and Australian at 34s to 35s. Maize had a fair trade at 6d to 9d over last day; mixed American landed is quoted at 25s 6d to 25s 9d, ex ship at 25s 3d to 25s 6d, and La Plata ex quay at 24 6d to 24s 9d, and ex ship at 24s to 24s 3d. Flour in good demand and 6d higher; Iron Duke 22s and Hungarian 31s 6d. Barley: Amoderat business at 6d advance; Odessa Nicolaieff ex ship held for 19s 6d to 19s 9d, landed for 20s 3d to 20s 6d, and Persian for 18s 9d to 19s. Oats: Americans 9d dearer and Russians 6d; 38lb Russian offered at 16s to 16s 3d and mixed American No. 2 at 16s 9d to 17s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Better tone was manifest in regard to wheat, oats, and barley, while maize also held its own; best wheat for milling, however, did not exceed 30s per quarter, though more was paid for lots for sowing. Malting barley made 26s to 28s, and feeding barley 20s to 21s. Oats ranged from 16s to a guinea. Mazagan beans fetched 28s to 29s; tick beans, 31s to 33s. Maize, 27s to 28s per quarter. Flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 27s 6d to 28s per quarter; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 29s to 30s; (old), 32s to 34s; oats, 17s to 21s; (old), 20s to 24s; peas, 27s to 30s.

Berwick, Saturday. — Good attendance, with similar supplies of barley to last week. All qualities made fully late rates. Wheat small show. Oats scarce and tending dearer. Wheat, 27s 6d to 30s; barley, 24s to 29s; oats, 18s 6d to 21s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—All descriptions of grain were again dearer, which caused trade to remain quiet. Foreign wheats have advanced fully 6d per quarter on the week, English ditto making up to 11s 4½d per bag (top price). Both flat and Plate maize have advanced 6d per quarter, and grinding barley 9d, sellers now asking 20s 9d per 400lb. at Sharpness for the latter. English oats a good trade, and make from 18s 6d to 19s 6d per quarter (312lb.), delivered at Birmingham.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance and firm trade. Oats 6d dearer. Wheat in good supply, 6d per quarter dearer, and flour at 6d per sack advance. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; oats, English, 17s to 19s; peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Bristol, Thursday.—During the past week trade has been fairly active, and all articles have displayed great firmness. English wheat in moderate supply to-day, 6d more money being asked. Foreign very firm at 6d advance. Maize from 3d to 6d dearer. Barley 9d advance. Oats 6d higher. Flour firmer, bakers not buying freely yet.—GRAYCE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday. — Wheat was in shorter supply, and with a good steady demand, both from millers and shippers; the trade was firm at 6d per quarter advance, reds or whites making 29s to 29s 6d per quarter. Barley with a fair supply, the trade was hardly so good as last week. Some buyers, who have lately lifted a good bit off the market, seem to be temporarily full, and the local malsters' demand is not yet as active as it should be. There was, however, no great change in values; medium malting runs at 27s to 32s per quarter, and fine Burton qualities the turn against sellers. Feeding corns were all firm, with maize and lentils 6d per quarter dearer, and oats scarce. Feeding stuffs also very firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been animated, and prices have advanced 1s per quarter. Farmers are not free sellers, and supplies are restricted. Fair supply of medium barley, but good qualities are scarce, and wanted. There was a moderate supply of wheat, which were quickly taken at 1s advance; red wheat, 28s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lbs. Barley in fair supply, and fully maintained late rates. Oats 1s dearer. Beans 6d dearer.

Canterbury, Saturday. — An improved trade and prices are hardening. Barley ranges from 27s to 34s, and wheat of 64lb. and 65lb weight is worth from 31s to 32s; seed qualities up to 36s. Oats are firm, from 18s 6d to 20s for spring corn.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Larger supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand for good quality at full prices, 18s to 19s 6d per 336lbs. Inferior oats made 16s 6d to 17s. THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—An advance has taken place in the price of American mixed maize of 6d per sack, and other feeding stuffs are on the rise. English grain firm, and prime samples harder to buy at late rates. Quotations: Wheat, white, 4s 7d to 4s 8d; red, 4s 7d to 4s 8d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 20 b.; oats, new, 2s 2d to 2s 5d; ditto, old, 3s 2d to 3s 4d per 46lb.; Indian corn, new, 13s 4d to 14s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday. There was a good attendance, and prices showed a general upward tendency, wheat being from 6d to 1s, and oats 6d dearer. New white wheat, 29s 6d to 31s; new red ditto, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; grinding ditto, 19s 9d to 20s; oats, English, 17s to 20s; peas, 34s to 35s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 25s; flour, 27s.

Colchester, Saturday. There was only a very moderate supply of wheat here to-day, and farmers found ready buyers at fully 1s per quarter advance on last week's prices. Malting barley sold quickly at current rates. Trade very firm. Oats 1s per quarter dearer. JOSEPH WILLS AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday. A moderate attendance. Wheat in small supply, and last week's prices obtainable. Spring corn a firm trade. Oats about 6d per quarter dearer, but barley rather neglected. Quotations: Old wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 496lb.; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 496lb.; barley, 29s to 34s per 448lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 12s per 496lb., old beans, 14s 6d to 15s per 496lb., new beans, 11s 6d to 12s per 496lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; new oats, 19s to 21s 6d per 352lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat firm, and prices demanded were 6d to 1s advance. Spring corn 6d dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, new white, 30s to 31s; new red, 29s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, old, 33s to 34s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; new, 18s to 19s.

Devizes, Thursday. There was a fair supply of corn and the condition of the samples was generally good. Wheat was the turn in favour of sellers, but otherwise prices showed no alteration in value. The following were the quotations: Best old wheat, 16s to 17s 6d; secondary ditto, 15s to 14s; new wheat, 14s to 16s; secondary, 12s 6d to 15s 6d; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Small supply of English wheat, and trade firm at an advance of 6d to 1s per quarter. Foreign was also very firm, and advanced 1s to 1s 6d per quarter. Steady trade for malting barley; grinding barley 1s per quarter dearer. Oats 6d, and maize 1s 6d per quarter higher. Other things steady and unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday. — At to-day's corn market there was a fair attendance, in spite of the fair earlier in the week, with a moderately good offer of grain. Wheat was very firmly held, and prices may be given as 6d higher than of late, both for English and foreign. Barley for malting quite held its own for good and suitable parcels; and feeding sorts sold at an advance of 3d to 6d per quarter. Maize was also 6d against buyers, as were oats, which were very firm at the advance. Beans and peas were 6d on the turn dearer. Flour may be quoted 6d higher than at late markets.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s to 18s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s 6d to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 11s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade fairly brisk, though prices show an upward tendency. Foreign wheat 6d dearer, grinding barley 9d to 1s, maize 6d to 9d, oats 3d to 6d, flour 6d. English wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s

Glasgow, Wednesday. There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange to-day. Wheat and flour a quiet trade passing at last week's firm prices. Maize firm, and 3d to 6d per boll dearer on the week. Barley in sellers' favour, and 6d per boll dearer. Oats, foreign 3d per boll dearer, and home oats firmer. Beans firmer, but not quotably changed. Pease 3d per boll dearer on the week. Scotch oatmeal 6d per sack dearer since Wednesday. Bran 2s 6d per ton dearer, but thirds unchanged. —GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Market generally firm, American advices having been strengthened by Russian strikes. Wheat held for 3d to 6d advance over Wednesday, but the advance precludes a chance of free business. Flour likewise firm, and moves with more freedom. Mixed American maize scarce and firm at 14s 7½d; Plate 14½d to 14s3d. Feeding stuffs, with the single exception of beans, held for more money, with a fair business.

Gloucester, Saturday. There was a fair attendance. Prices are difficult to quote. English wheat may be called fully 1s per qr. dearer, and foreign made 6d advance. Grinding barley 6d to 9d dearer. Maize and oats 6d more money.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — An average attendance. Wheat was in fair supply, and sales were effected at fully 1s per quarter more money on the week. Barley was a large show, best qualities maintaining last week's rates. Common sorts a slow trade. Oats showed an upward tendency to the extent of 6d per quarter. Beans and peas firm.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Moderate attendance, but the general tone was somewhat less favourable, English wheats moved off slowly at last week's figures. English barleys were dull, with a tendency to lower prices. Oats remained firm, but beans were less active. Vetches nothing doing. Quotations: Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per bushel; barley, 2s 9d to 3s 9d; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s; new, 2s to 2s 6d; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d; new, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat in only moderate supply, with a fair demand, at 6d per quarter advance. Useful reds made about 30s per quarter. Barley in good average supply. Trade not so brisk as last week; prices the turn lower, partly owing to the fact that the average of quality was not so good; ordinary to medium malting runs 27s to 30s. Burton qualities quieter, at 31s to 35s per quarter. Maize 6d per quarter dearer, at 25s per quarte. Maize germ steady at £5 15s to £6 per ton. Oats firm at 18s 6d to 21s per quarter. Other feeding corns met a fair inquiry, and were steady all round. Linseed cakes firm at £8 to £8 10s, and cotton cakes at £5 5s per ton. Milling stuffs: Millers short of stock, and prices consequently firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—With an improved consumptive demand, there has been a fairly large trade in wheat during the past week at gradually hardening prices. Shipments, though liberal, continue below requirements for the United Kingdom, continental wants proving far larger than was generally anticipated, and with the Black Sea ports and America practically the only sources of supply at present. Shippers have daily and successfully raised limits. Both English and foreign wheats must be quoted 6d to 9d dearer. Malting barley irregular. Maize 3d to 6d dearer. Beans and oats steady. DUNNS AND CO

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats fully maintained Tuesday's prices, with a slight advance for the best descriptions. Flour was the turn dearer, but beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, and all other feeding stuffs firmly held at last quotations.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with moderate supplies of home grown wheats. Trade steady at firm prices. Red wheats, 28s to 30s 6d; white wheats, 30s to 31s 6d per 35 stones; barley, 25s to 28s per 5½ stones; oats, 19s to 21s per 26 stones; beans, 3s 6d to 3s 4½ per 38 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—English wheats in moderate supply, and selling readily at an advance of 1s to 1s 6d per quarter on the week. A large show of barley, which met with a dragging trade at about last week's prices. Oats and beans in limited supply, and prices firm.

Liverpool, Friday. Wheat: There has been a good attendance of millers at the market, and wheat is very firmly held for 1d to 2d advance, a moderate trade being put through at the higher prices. Flour very firm, with a better trade doing. Foreign brands close 6d and English-made 1s per sack dearer than last Tuesday. Maize: Mixed is very firm at 1s3d advance, with a moderate business doing. Plate is also firm, with a fair trade at 1d over last Tuesday. European sorts are unchanged, but are getting into smaller compass. Barley: Malting quiet, unchanged. Feeding firm, with a good trade at 1d to 1½d dearer. Beans steady, but quiet at about late rates. Peas very scarce, and held in strong hands at 1d to 2d advance. Oats very firm, with a better demand for foreign of good quality at fully 1d advance. English firm, the turn dearer. Oatmeal very firmly held, but inactive. Oatcake in good demand, but firmly held at an occasional advance of 2s 6d per ton for American cakes; other sorts unchanged, firm.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday. Not only wheat, but each other description of grain was on the advance at the market to-day. Millers had to pay 6d to 1s per quarter more for wheat than last week, and oats, consequent on the state of affairs in Russia, have increased in cost. Barley, beans, and peas also firm, but not such a proportionate rise. Maize realises high prices at present, but consumers do not purchase very freely, expecting less change shortly.

Manchester, Thursday.—Both English and foreign wheat are dearer on the week, the former 6d per quarter and the latter 2d per cental. Flour, 6d per sack higher. Indian corn, mixed American, 5s 5d; Plate, 5s 1d to 5s 2d per 10lb.. Beans unchanged. Peas firmer. Oats scarce and dearer. Foreign barley on easy side. Bran offals 6d per load dearer.

Newark, Wednesday. — Wheat a firm trade, at 6d advance on the week. Barley, a small show at unchanged values. Oats and beans firm. Quotations: Wheat, 28s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 19s; beans, 30s to 31s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — Wheat at our market to-day was very firm at 1s per 504lbs. over last Saturday's quotation; buyers, however, only supplied their immediate wants. Maize 6d dearer. A fair demand for oats, and 9d per quarter over last Saturday's quotation were readily made. Barley irregular in price. Demand slow. Beans and peas steady at late rates.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat in small supply, and advanced 6d to 1s per quarter. Barley more offering. Slow sale at previous values. Oats scarce, and 6d higher. Beans firm.—ROBERT HUBBLE.

Norwich, Saturday. Wheat was only in small supply at our market to-day, at an advance of 1s to 1s 6d per quarter on the week. There was a fair supply of barley on offer, with a firm trade, at late rates. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per quarter, weight 63lbs. per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending October 14, 1905:—Wheat, 1,933—27s. 5d. Barley, 19,321—, 24s 5d.—J. A. MILLS.

Northampton, Saturday. Better attendance, but very little wheat on offer, which sold at 6d per qr. dearer; oats and beans firm; barley slow sale. New wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; barley, 26s to 30s; new white oats, 17s 6d to 19s; new black oats, 16s to 18s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat was a small supply; trade firm at 1s more money. Barley very slow, and rather lower where sales were pressed. Oats 6d dearer, with few offering.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a fair attendance on our market here to-day; prices higher all round. Barley 9d, oats 3d, maize 3d, wheat 6d.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Average attendance, with fairly brisk trade, at appended prices:—Wheat, 29s to 32s; barley, 25s to 34s; oats, 17s to 23s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 30s to 34s.

Retford, Saturday.—Rather an improved supply in the quantity of malting barley. A fair amount of business was transacted at 25s to 28s; grinding, 23s 6d to 24s 6d per quarter. Samples of locally grown wheat were moderately numerous and in good condition. Trade was firm, and prices kept well up at 28s to 29s per quarter. There was no quotable alteration in the currencies of grain for feeding purposes. Maize, 26s; English beans, 30s; and black and white oats, 16s to 18s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday. — A firm all-round tone, grinding barley and oats in most instances making 6d per quarter more money. A good attendance, with a brisk business. New wheat, 27s to 29s; foreign wheat, 32s to 36s; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting barley, 24s to 28s; new oats, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; round maize, 26s to 26s 6d; flat maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb.; old white oats, 15s to 16s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb; barley, 14s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford, Friday.—A very good market, and an exceptionally good business tone prevailed, prices in advance of last week being readily conceded in many instances. Wheats were enhanced 1s per quarter on the week, making 28s 6d to 30s; malting barley of good quality, 30s to 33s; trade for common parcels was sluggish; grinding barley, 23s to 24s 6d; oats, 16s 6d to 17s 6d. Beans advanced 6d on the week, 30s to 31s being the ruling quotation. Peas were a fair trade at late rates. Maize and feeding stuffs firm.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Good supply of grain. Wheat sold at 1s per quarter advance. Spring corn rather dearer. Arrivals coastwise: Wheat, 230 quarters; barley, 460 quarters; oats, 295 quarters. Foreign: Wheat, 4,875 quarters; barley, 4,000 quarters.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 28s to 29s; new red ditto, 27s to 28s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 18s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday. Very small supply of wheat, for which farmers are asking considerably more money. Business done at about 3d per bag advance. Poor demand for barley, except for best samples. Feeding stuffs dearer all round; good demand.

Wisbech, Saturday. — A small supply of grain at market. Wheat advanced 1s per quarter. Reds, 30s to 31s; oats, 18s to 19s; barley, 25s to 27s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Winchester, Saturday. - English wheat about 1s. dearer. A fair supply. Foreign 6d advance. Barley, maize, and oats 6d higher. Flour a steady trade at fully late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a good attendance, and a fair amount of business was transacted. Quotations: New wheat, 11s to 12s per 216lb.; flat corn, 27s to 28s per 480lb.; English beans, old, 15s; new, 13s; oats, new, 11s; old, 15s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Good attendance and fair show of grain. White wheat made last week's full prices. There was a good inquiry for best barleys, and oats were scarce. White wheat, 27s 6d to 29s 6d; red wheat, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; black ditto, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 27s per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—Wheat sold at from 3d to 6d per quarter advance. Barley, oats, and maize likewise made 6d per quarter more money. Home grown wheat of best quality, 31s 9d to 32s; secondary, 29s to 30s 3d; foreign, 33s 6d to 36s; malted barley, 30s 6d to 35s 6d; feeding, 24s 3d to 25s 6d; foreign, 20s 9d to 21s; oats, black, 18s to 20s; Irish black, 17s to 18s; white, 16s to 20s 9d; beans, 32s 6d to 38s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 26s; rye, 21s 3d to 22s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Good inquiry for flour, which sold at an advance of 6d per sack, fine realising from 25s to 25s 6d, and extra fine 27s to 27s 6d. Milling offals and meals in request at slight advance all round.

York. Saturday.—The Russian domestic troubles have caused a sharp rise in the price of wheat in the local market. Fine wheat, 30s to 31s; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per quarter of 36 stones; malting barley steady; fine, 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; other sorts, 23s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats are about 6d per quarter dearer; white Tartary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 21s to 23s; beans, 30s to 33s per quarter of 36 stones.

FOREIGN

Hamburg. Saturday.—Market rules decidedly firmer, and prices must be quoted higher, as our local malsters and brewers have bought rather freely—in fact, they are laying in large stocks before the new duties come in force on March 1 next year, so they will have an ample stock next autumn to commence the season with, as a duty of 8s per quarter of 448lb will reduce the importation of foreign barleys a good deal, and principal attention will be drawn to home-grown.—FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg. Saturday.—The weather continues cold and rainy. The soil is not in a fit state for sowing operations, which are much retarded. There is a brisk trade in all descriptions of grain at rapidly rising prices. The impression is gaining ground that this year's harvest in Germany turned out more deficient than hitherto believed. Holders of German wheat have mostly withdrawn from the market; we quote red Holstein and Mecklenburg 33s 6d to 34s per 504lb f.o.b., American hard winter No. 2 32s, 80 ko. River Plate 31s 9d per 504lb ex ship here. Offers of rye are very scarce; 9 15 20 South Russian December shipment is held at 28s 3d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley is getting dearer. Dutch is selling at 28s 3d to 31s 6d, Bohemian at 33s to 31s 6d, Prussian at 29s to 32s, Holstein at 30s. Chilian at 29s 6d to 30s 6d per 448lb. A considerable amount of business is doing in grinding barley; for South Russian 19s 9d per 400lb is paid, and for American 19s 3d ex steamer here. Maize continues improving in value; mixed American December shipment 22s 9d, River Plate October November 23s 9d per 480lb c.i.f. Hamburg. White clipped American oats are held at 17s 3d per 320lb c.i.f. Hamburg. JOHN TATLOCK

Paris. Wednesday.—The provincial markets continue quiet; offers are more or less scanty according to district; but, taken altogether, they are not as large as they usually are at this time of year. However, this state of affairs is prevented from exerting any adverse influence by the paucity of inquiries. At the Bourse de Commerce current parcels of flour are pursuing their upward tendency, and have to-day advanced 70c; other positions are steady, and are quoted at practically late prices. Business in wheat is quiet, with no changes of importance in prices. Rye: Nothing doing, prices steady. Oats: Offers are easier; the tone of the market is quieter, and prices have again drooped. At the weekly spot market both buyers and sellers of home-grown wheat were reserved, and the tone of the market quiet. In foreign wheat the firmness has become accentuated in all grades, but more especially as regards Russian sorts. In consumption marks flour business is quiet, but prices remained unaltered. The rise in the price of beans is becoming more accentuated, so that manufacturers of bean flour have again had to increase their prices. Rye flour is lifeless and prices are weaker, despite the firmness of the raw material. Barley prices continue firm, and show a marked rise, notably in the West, on those ruling a month ago. The dearness of oats is causing a lot of barley to be consumed; in addition to this, threshings are also restricted.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are 6d. dearer on the week. Transactions have included finest Russian at 36s. 6d. per 496 lb., good new winter Russian at 34s. 6d. per 492 lb., South Australian at 34s. 6d. per 480 lb., Walla Walla at 33s. 3d. per 500 lb., Bahia Blanca at 32s. per 504 lb., Rosario at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb. The last two quotations are not "onpassage, but for February shipment of the new Argentine crop, for which they constitute the opening prices.

Maize is fully 3d. dearer for all cargoes. Transactions include Argentine at 24s. 6d., per 480 lb. on passage, American at 24s. 6d. arrived, and 22s. 6d. for December shipment.

Oats have been firmly held since the 17th, and the last few days have seen the market further hardening under the influence of the Russian strikes. Sales have included American at 16s. 9d. per 320 lb., Chilian Tawny at 16s. 6d. per 320 lb., Argentine at 16s. per 312 lb.; Black Irish at 16s. 9d. per 304 lb, and Russian (Southern ports only) at 17s per 304 lb. There are no offers for November shipment from any Baltic port.

A cargo of white Calcutta peas sold on Saturday for 28s. 6d. per 504 lb., and one of Kustendje barley for 21s. per 416 lb.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (Adelaide), 1 maize (Rosario), 1 linseed (Buenos Ayres). Total 3.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Cardiff, 1 Dublin), 1 maize (Plymouth), 1 linseed (Sharpness). Total 4.

Since January 1 1905, the total arrivals have been 295 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 9 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans and 51 linseed. Total 389.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 264 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 36 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 9 maize, 5 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 39 linseed, and 1 canaryseed. Total 377.

The secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards will be available for inspection and comparison from November 1, and that small samples of the standard can be purchased. The standards are:—Wheat.—F.a.q. Plate of the Province of Santa Fe, ditto 58 lb. at time of discharge, ditto 59 lb., ditto 60 lb., ditto. 61 lb., F.a.q. Barletta from Buenos Ayres, Russo from Buenos Ayres 63½ lb., at time of discharge, Southern Plate (June-July) 64½ lb. ditto., Bahia Blanca/Barletta and/or Russia 64½ lb. ditto., ditto. 65½ lb., ditto 62½ lb., Russo from Bahia Blanca 64 lb. ditto., ditto. 62½ lb., Barletta from Bahia Blanca 64 lb. ditto., ditto. 63 lb. ditto. F.a.q. Entre Rios, F.a.q. Hongrois, F.a.q. Frances. Maize.—Yellow and Red La Plata.

East Indian wheat rejections are as follows:—Crop 1904-5.—No. 2 Club Calcutta 33s. 6d.; Choice White Karachi, 35s. By rejections is meant the price to be paid if on arrival the grain is not actually taken

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to October 28, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	54,514⅞	27	5	204,836	26	3	16,602½	16	11
1901	43,307⅜	26	2	223,493½	26	10	16,351⅜	17	7
1902	44,366½	25	0	177,079⅜	26	7	30,541⅜	17	3
1903	41,412	26	0	130,955⅜	24	2	26,050	15	8
1904	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044⅜	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, October 28, 1905:—

Wheat	1,288,600	cwts.
Wheat-flour	382,000	,,
Barley	486,000	,,
Oats	321,100	,,
Maize	713,000	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	3,478,900	1,371,500	2,032,391	1,056,900
Wheat-flour	308,500	418,000	505,054	294,300
Barley	714,000	601,300	686,676	502,200
Oats	234,400	304,300	407,481	337,200
Maize	1,030,400	1,214,100	715,674	503,400

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	0

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,,	478,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	680,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	77,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.
NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	31	0
,, 11 ,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.
CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	30	0	(per sack)	27 0
,, 13 ,,	29	0	,,	26 0
October 11 ,,	28	9	,,	25 9

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Oct. 29	47,947⅜	30	6	221,044⅜	24	11	29,704⅜	15	10
Nov. 5	43,513⅜	30	6	205,210⅜	25	0	35,145⅜	16	0
,, 12	43,740⅜	30	3	204,448⅜	24	6	32,320⅜	15	11
,, 19	41,926⅜	30	2	178,529⅜	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,960⅜	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,260⅜	24	6	35,831⅜	16	2
,, 10	50,718⅜	30	4	165,357⅜	24	4	36,634⅜	16	2
,, 17	44,715⅜	30	4	129,563⅜	24	4	35,990⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,397⅜	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,517⅜	24	8	18,106⅜	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,617⅜	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,462⅜	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,769⅜	30	6	89,498⅜	25	1	41,667⅜	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,434⅜	16	7
,, 11	50,685⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,970⅜	16	8
,, 18	44,495⅜	30	5	51,753⅜	25	2	36,643⅜	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,569⅜	25	0	30,627⅜	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	43,477⅜	25	2	30,957⅜	16	10
,, 11	38,118⅜	30	9	23,4 8⅜	25	2	24,396⅜	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18, 42⅜	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,871⅜	30	9	17,428⅜	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,236⅜	25	1	17,703⅜	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104⅜	25	6	15,666⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,601	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	24,984⅜	30	8	2,875⅜	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185⅜	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,044⅜	25	3	11,57 ⅜	18	0
,, 13	53,446⅜	27	1	4,172	19	10	16,350⅜	16	6
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003⅜	24	8	8,503⅜	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761⅜	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,912⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,085⅜	31	1	247⅜	24	0	6,115⅜	18	11
,, 17	12,819⅜	31	7	1,171⅜	26	0	3,392⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,571⅜	31	7	145⅜	23	9	3,031⅜	18	11
July 1	9,579⅜	31	4	289⅜	23	2	3,48 ⅜	19	7
,, 8	7,894⅜	32	1	37⅜	22	11	2,562⅜	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅜	32	3	31⅜	23	10	1,962⅜	19	7
,, 22	6,558⅜	32	2	52⅜	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691⅜	32	3	24⅜	19	9	3,005⅜	17	10
Aug. 5	5,062⅜	31	11	371⅜	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184⅜	30	5	43⅜	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715⅜	28	5	1,768⅜	23	4	13,656⅜	16	4
,, 26	88,696⅜	27	1	6,461⅜	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,600⅜	15	
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,885⅜	23	4	20,622⅜	15	11
,, 16	83,187⅜	26	11	36,980⅜	2	7	23,705⅜	16	0
,, 23	95,713	26	8	70,475⅜	23	10	30,715⅜	15	11
,, 30	101,984⅜	26	9	123,12 ⅜	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1
Oct. 1	89,579⅜	26	9	147,570⅜	24	9	31,19 ⅜	16	0
,, 16	85,449⅜	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,384⅜	16	3
,, 21	90,548⅜	27	1	221,539	25	0	24,635⅜	16	7
,, 22	86,116⅜	27	4	237,307⅜	24	11	23,860	16	8

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended October 28, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	86,116⅜	qrs.	27s. 4d.
Barley	237,307⅜	qrs.	24s. 11d.
Oats	23,860	qrs.	16s. 8d.

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 24, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Total Amount. Bus.	£	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	2,466	3	3,488	3	3	1	8	3
Barley	5,450	1	6,231	11	0	1	5	5
Oats	1,337	4	1,219	6	0	0	18	3

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.
October 18 to 27, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,306	42,570	43,876
Barley	2,700	36,000	38,700
Malt	16,333	...	16,333
Oats	5,000	90,600	95,600
Beans	1,176	600	1,784
Peas	755	1,389	2,144
Maize	...	17,400	17,400
Tares	30	5	35
Millet	...	175	175
Canaryseed	...	829	829
Dholl	...	250	250
Linseed	...	700	700
Rapeseed	...	100	100
Hempseed	...	282	282
Flour sacks	29,974	21,946	51,492
Ryeflour	...	459	459
Oatmeal	...	824	824
Maizemeal	...	4,000	4,000

WET GRAINS.

London. Monday.—The trade is without any particular feature, and 18s 6d to 20s for ale, and 16s 3d to 17s per ton for porter grains are being paid. Wet distillers' grains still remain at 30s to 32s 6d per ton. Pressed white distillery meal, 32s 6d per ton. Dried grains: A better consumptive inquiry; prices are 2s 6d per ton more, at 97s 6d ale, 92s 6d mixed, 90s porter, 110s distillers. Dried distillery meal, containing 45 per cent. of starch and albuminoids, 115s per ton. All above free on rails London. HAMLEN AND CO., 37 38, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Rather more inquiry for Kent fleeces, which have advanced 1 per lb. on last sale.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Prices are firm for the best descriptions. Good second-class samples are being gradually taken at from 45s to 56s per cwt.

Halifax. Saturday.—Merino wools maintain recent quotations steadily, but there is a slight easing off in some descriptions of cross breds, especially the lower numbers. Home-grown wools, for the leading kinds, are unchanged.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel. Saturday.—Although supplies were of rather smaller extent, a quiet demand prevailed, but quotations remained unchanged. Best clover, 75s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 65s to 73s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 36s per load.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The exceedingly dry weather has been of no small benefit at a time when farmers have been at their busiest with the flail and its more modern substitutes. The cold winds have also been exactly what the thresher has required. The lifting of roots has proceeded apace, and the night frosts have not done any material injury. The drought, however, has told upon meadow land, suddenly cutting off the feeding value thereof and compelling farmers to an unusually early use of dry feeding stuffs. Ploughing has become laborious, the sowing of wheat in a very dry seed bed is never wholly advisable, and the entire situation points to the desirability of November showers. The catch crops have been severely checked by the early morning frosts, especially mustard, and the kitchen garden side of farming has a good many losses to deplore. The month of October has not had so low an average temperature as that of this year for a very long period, but the sunshine has been a great mitigation of the cold, and live stock have been in exceptionally good health.

The event of the week has been the great strike movement in Russia, for the dependence of the United Kingdom on Russian grain has seldom been greater than it is in October, 1905. The strong Russian wheat is needed by our millers when America is failing to respond to expectation, while cheap feeding barley from Russia and light 504 lb. oats from Russia are in constant demand. Russian flour, Russian linseed, Russian rye, and Russian maize all have buyers who would be greatly inconvenienced if supplies from the Czar's dominions are to be dried up. The vast empire east of the Vistula also sends us from time to time no inconsiderable quantities of hempseed, millet, sunflower seed, and the like, while the kindred markets for food derived from vegetation through the intermediate stage of the animal world are always urgent, for Russian hares and rabbits, chickens and geese, turkeys and game birds. Now, if the purely political press were to be followed implicitly we should have to believe that Russian commerce was at a standstill, "instead of which," as the judge said, very considerabls exports of wheat, rye, barley, and oats have taken place within the last six days, and from ports which are said to be in a state of anarchy and under mob law. The market, so far, believes the political press as to be 1s. dearer for Russian produce from a week ago; but it so far fails to believe it as to be only that degree dearer. This is illogical, but the best that can be made of a situation which seems to call for something authoritative at the hands of the Foreign Office. What our Consuls in Russia draw their salaries for if they fail to give the commercial world a word of counsel in crises like the present would be hard to say, and we hope that agricultural, no less than commericial, M.P.'s will ask the question in the ensuing Session.

America was holding grain with firmness before the Russian affairs became serious. It is not likely that this tendency will be diminished by the recent events. Argentina and India are but feeble shippers just now, and Australasia is not likely to have any shipments for Europe before New Year's Day. The situation favours higher prices, and farmers will do well to hold their produce with firmness. The small supplies of foreign grain on passage argue a very moderate rate of imports between now and the end of 1905.

Of wheat our expectations are as follows:—

	Quarters.
Californian	95,000
American	200,000
Indian	100,000
Russian	300,000
Australasian	90,000
Argentine	110,000
Various	40,000
Total	935,000
A week ago	1,010,000

When supplies of wheat on passage are below a million quarters it is always safe to hold grain. Of flour, too, only 285,000 sacks are on passage, or 215,000 sacks below the average.

Of barley, 590,000 qr. are on passage, which is a full average, but of oats, the quantity which stood at 440,000 qr. on October 14 was only 290,000 on the 28th. Expectations of maize are very moderate:—

	Quarters.
Russian	15,000
American	115,000
Argentine	310,000
Total	440,000

Of linseed 137,000 qr., of cottonseed 21,000 tons, and of rice 54,000 tons are now on passage.

The sales of English wheat last week were estimated at 225,000 qr. for all markets, and were 25 to 30 per cent. above the average for an ordinary season. As the yield is at most 10 per cent. above an average, and in many counties is not 5 per cent. over the mean, this rate of supply argues an immoderate and deplorable pressure of grain on sale. Imports of foreign wheat have fallen from 445,000 qr. in the week before last to 265,000 qr. last week, and pressure is not coming from abroad, but rather strength. Of flour, 131,000 sacks were imported. This is an increase, but is still less than an average weekly importation. Maize imports last week were 190,000 qr., against 265,000 qr. in the week preceding. The good supplies of maize in September are not being repeated, and the maize arrivals of November are not likely to equal those of October. It is therefore little wonder that spot holders of Indian corn show very real confidence in the situation, and are not at all disturbed by a big business being done for January and February shipment at 21s. per qr. The imports of barley last week were 211,000 qr., a good deal more than we need in a single week, but not more than with barley stocks much below average, we can take without any weakening of spot values. The imports of oats were 105,000 qr., and a little below the average.

A very large business has been done in 448 lb types of barley since the 16th inst. Not only have sales at the statute markets risen from a total below the average to a total above it, but the foreign sorts which the Government does not include in its returns have moved off with a business similar to that of the home-grown. The prices have reached 38s. in exceptional instances both for English and for foreign, but the greater proportion of business has been put through at 30s. to 33s. per qr. This price has commanded perhaps a half of the new English offered, the bulk of Chilian on offer, and also fine screened Ouchak.

When we pass from the sorts of barley which interest the maltster to those which fail to do so, we come, of course, to a lower price level. We have North African barley at 26s. for best, Syrian at 24s., English chicken barley at the same price, the commonest American at 19s. ex quay, and Russian at 19s. 6d. paid and 20s. asked. The rise in light Russian sorts is due to the state of affairs in that country, and to apprehended interruption of shipments. The trade in oats shows a general advance of 6d. on the week, and is more active than it was a week ago. A good many holders of fine new English 336 lb. oats have recently stood out for a clear sovereign per qr.

Maize on spot is up to 25s. for all varieties, while beans and peas have an equal tendency to favour sellers. Split Egyptian beans realise 24s. per 320 lb., and Mazagan split are firm at 23s. per 320 lb. Blue peas are 1s. dearer at most markets.

Oatmeal made on Friday £10 7s. 6d. cash for Aberdeen, and the tendency of the market is in an improved direction. Scotland is decreasing her offers for the South, and £14 per ton is the lowest taken for fine Midlothian.

The seed trade in its widest sense is a very large one. Linseed is making 41s. for good Russian, 47s. for the best Morocco, 40s. for Persian, 40s. for (98 per cent. pure) La Phata, and 45s. for finest Dutch. No English linseed is obtainable. Rape seed makes 52s. for fine English, and 48s. to 52s. per qr. for Dutch. Indian and Roumanian are as usual obtainable at more modest prices. For fine red cloverseed 80s. is paid where the sample is English, 70s. where it is Canadian, and 65s. where it is German. In the case of white cloverseed 80s. is paid for yearling English, 70s. for good German, and 55s. for American. Some Canadian Alsyke is offered at 72s., with buyers at a florin less. German Timothy seed proves a finer sample than American, and averages about 24s., against 20s. The buyers of mawseed can get fine Dutch at 26s. per cwt., ordinary Indian at 17s. 6d. per cwt. The price of safflower seed is 9s. per cwt.

Shipments from Russia for the week ended 28th inst. were 487,000 qr. of wheat, 83,000 qr. of rye, 274,000 qr. of barley, 176,000 qr. of oats, and 2,000 qr. of maize, an amount of export business which would be surprising even in a period of unimpeded inland transit and of industrial calm. Shipments from Roumania were 330,000 qr. of wheat and 106,000 of barley.

America last week sent off 178,000 qr. of wheat, 47,000 qr. of barley, 140,000 qr. of oats, 97,000 qr. of maize, and 139,000 sacks of flour. These shipments, although they show increasing exports, do not indicate any rapid development thereof. Other shipments of the week were 60,000 qr. of wheat, 194,000 qr. of maize, and 19,000 qr. of linseed from La Plata, and 44,000 qr. of wheat and 17,000 qr. of linseed from India.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 30.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was firm, with a good inquiry for English, Russian, Indian, Argentine, and Australian produce. American staples, if on hand and nearly due, were also in good request; but there was very little sale for remoter futures. English wheat was 6d. dearer for both red and white kinds. Russian was 1s. to 1s. 6d. up, and for Indian, Argentine, and Australian 6d. more money was made, with 1s. advance often asked and also stood out for. There were buyers of maize at fully 6d. advance on the week. Barley a good sale of English at 28s. to 30s. for sound brewing and 31s. to 38s. for the better malting sorts. Russian was held for 20s. per 400 lb. Oats were firm and 6d. dearer all round. Some Russian sorts were 1s. up. Peas were 6d. dearer, with an improved inquiry. Beans, rye, linseed, and rapeseed were firm. Cottonseed was quiet. The prices given for Russian produce are the nearest ascertainable on a capricous and fluctuating market for that type. There are several firms holding Russian grain who decline to sell at present rates at all.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	30	— 34
Red	,,	29	— 32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 38
Brewing	,,	28	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	35	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	18	— 10
Crystallized	,,	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	17	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	15/6	— 16
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	22	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	,,	41	— 43
Tick	,,	34	— 36
Winter (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	31	— 32
Spring	,,	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	55	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	40	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	30	— 42
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	32	— 33
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 84
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	51	— 52
Brown	,,	47	— 49

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.:		
Manitoba No. 1	34/3	— 35
,, ,, 2	33/9	— 34
,, ,, 3	32/9	— 33
American Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	33	— 33/6
Australian	34	— 34/6
Saxonka	35	— 36
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	33	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	31	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	28	— 30
Californ'n (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	19/6	— 20
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
Persian (400 lb.)	18/6	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	16/6	— 17
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	22	— 23
OATS:		
New Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 22
Australian (320 lb.)	16	— 17
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Libau (320 lb.)	18	— 19
,, (304 lb.)	16	— 17
Argentine (304 lb.)	16	— 17
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 11
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	17/6
American (320 lb)	17	— 18
,, (304 lb)	16	— 17

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	25	— 26
Turkish	24	— 25
American	24/6	— 25
Argentine	24/6	— 25
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	32	— 33
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 6/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	40	— 42
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 18
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	25	— 26
Persian	21	— 23
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

ALTHOUGH THE MUCH MILDER WEATHER CHECKED THE SALE OF FEEDING STUFFS THE MARKET CLOSED WITH VERY CONFIDENT HOLDING OF ALL STAPLES. PRICES WERE FULLY AS MUCH ADVANCED AS IN THE EARLIER HOURS OF BUSINESS ABOVE REPORTED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 30.

The market to-day was decidedly strong for flour, and the prices of London makes were 6d. up from the 23rd. Country sorts were not quotably dearer, but if the present tendency continues they will be put up on Friday. American patents were rather irregular. For delivery within a month 27s. 6d. was accepted for the best, but of the fine sorts the spot supply is very small, and each holder has his own ideas. The price of Hungarian was no higher from the 23rd, and Australian, though 3d. up, as a rule, was not in brisk request. Bran, pollard, and middlings were 2s. 6d. per ton dearer in the majority of cases.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30 net
Town Whites	,,	27/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	24/6 ,,
No. 2	,,	21/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/6 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/6 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21/6 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	24	— 26
Fine Roller whites	,,	23	— 24
Ordy Roller ,, ,,	,,	21	— 22
Best Stone ma.e ,,	,,	20	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	— 29
,, Second Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, First Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Californian	,,	26	— 27
Canadian	,,	26	— 27
Russian	,,	29	— 30
Hungarian, 0	,,	31	— 32
,, 1	,,	30	— 31
,, 2	,,	29	— 30
,, 3	,,	28	— 29
French, Corbeil	,,	24	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	23	— 24
,, P.S.D.	,,	21	— 22
Australian	,,	24	— 25
Argentine, Fancy	,,	27	— 28

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	10	— 11
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	7s. 1d.	Nov.	delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Dec.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Jan.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Mar.	,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	May	,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 3d.	Dec.	delivery.
,,	4s. 0d.	Jan.	,,
,,	4s 5d.	Mar.	,,
,,	4s. 4d.	May	,,

The market in futures was rather excited to-day. 7s. 3d. being the price for which wheat was held; with buyers at 7s. 2d. per cental, maize made 4s. 6d. for January delivery, but there were no buyers at the fancy prices asked for nearer dates.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies to hand except for seed; steady demand. Best silts, 60s to 70s; BlackLands, 55s; Scottish, 65s to 70s per ton.

Manchester, Saturday.—Cheshire, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per cwt.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the supplies on offer have been heavy, and buyers, being pressed by sellers, prices have again had a downward tendency. The following are this day's quotations:—Scotch Up-to Dates, 55s to 65s; ditto British Queens, 55s to 65s; Lincoln Evergoods, 55s to 60s; ditto Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland Up-to Dates, 50s to 55s; ditto British Queens, 50s to 55s—per ton.

York, Saturday.—A fair supply and a steady trade, without change from last week's market. Sands make up to 40s per ton; warps, 45s to 50s.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Demand moderate; buyers only disposed to operate for immediate requirements. No further change to report in prices.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals.—The demand for bran continues steady; prices firm without further change.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—The wheat and flour markets are strong with more business doing at 6d. per sack advance. Grain.—Indian corn is now held for 14s. 9d. per 280 lb. Plate maize is 4½d. dearer at 14s. 3d. per 280 lb. Scotch and foreign oats are in good demand at advancing prices. Barley held for 15s. per 320 lb. Calcutta white pease are 6d. dearer, being held at 16s. 6d. per 280 lb. Feeding beans are quiet. Oilcakes, 2s. 6d. per ton up. Oatmeal steady. Mill Stuffs.—Bran is 2s. 6d. per ton better. Common and fine thirds, and in fact all mill stuffs are in good demand.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour has ruled firm to-day, and with a continued good demand prices are 1s. to 1s. 6d. dearer on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LIMITED.

Milling offals are in good demand at 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton advance from last week.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are moderate, and sales are made at an improvement of 1s. 6d. to 2s. per qr., and 1s. per sack. Maize and oats are 1s. per qr. and grinding barley 1s. to 1s. 6d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: There is a considerable improvement in the demand, and prices have begun to harden again for Russians and Americans. Undecorticated cotton cake: Enquiry is also better at last week's values. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Owing to continued scarcity the market has advanced 1s 3d to 2s 6d for spot. No change in forward. Linseed: Market strong and advancing at 1s per quarter more money.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	7	17	6	to 8	0 0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	7	6		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	5	0		
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	10	0	to 8	0 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	17	6		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	12	6		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	15	0		
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	12	6	to 4	13 9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	4	17	6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	1	19	0	to 2	1 0
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs.	sacks included ex warehouse	2	0	0	to 2	5 0
Russian do. (in bulk), per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	2	0		
Larmea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.						
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,, ,,						
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.						

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Holders of grain on passage are inclined to stand out for a further advance, while for futures the business in most cases is uneasy, views differing widely. Russia continues a free grain shipper despite her internal troubles. Linseed is advancing, but cottonseed, with increased offers from Egypt, is in buyers' favour.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Manitoba, 33s 6d per 480lb., on passage; No. 2 Manitoba, 32s 9d per 480lb., on passage; White Kurrachee, 6s 9d per 100lb., on passage. Blue Stem, 34s per 500lb., November shipment; Theodosian, 33s. 3d per 492lb., November shipment (Black Sea); Roumanian, 31s 3d per 480lb., November shipment; White Canadian, 31s per 480lb., November shipment; Bahia Blanca, 31s 9d per 504lb., March shipment (New Crop).

MAIZE.—Argentine, 24s 6d per 480lb., on passage; American, 24s 6d per 480lb., on passage; ditto, 24s per 480lb., January shipment; ditto, 20s 9d per 480lb., February shipment.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 20s per 400lb., prompt shipment; Kustendje, 21s per 400lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—American, 17s per 320lb., prompt shipment; Petersburg, 17s 9d per 304lb., on passage.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 34s per 480lb., November shipment.

PEAS.—Green Indian, 25s 3d per 504lb., November shipment; White Indian, 28s 9d per 504lb., April shipment (New Crop).

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 38s 3d per 410lb., on passage; Argentine, 37s 9d per 416lb., on passage.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 37s 6d per 416lb., March shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Bombay, £4 17s 6d per 2,240lb., December shipment.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report: The market is hardening for choice hops, and a considerable clearance has been made of the good brown English hops for copper purposes, for which they are the best value of any hops in the world.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	British. Monday, Oct. 30, 1905.	Total. Monday, Oct. 31, 1904.
Beasts	990	290 1,370
Sheep and Lambs	6,000	6,000 6,420
Calves	10	10 5
Pigs	—	20
Milch Cows	60	60 50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d	3s 6d	4s 0d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals included as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 17; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 956; Devon, 30; Ireland, 47.

We note to-day a decrease of 290 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. Trade, owing to the inclement weather, was a very disappointing one; consequently a downward tendency in value was inevitable, but not sufficient to enable us to quote any lower rates. Irish were in smaller numbers and consisted of 9 Dublin Shorthorns, 10 choice black polled ditto, and 28 Waterfords; trade for this class of beasts ruled very slow; nevertheless late currencies were maintained. There was less demand by both town and country buyers for fat butchering cows and bulls; consequently fat values were difficult to maintain. A clearance is not expected to be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 31, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was a decrease of 350 in the number penned in the sheep market compared with Monday last. The heavy rain, combined with a slack demand, made sales difficult to effect; late values, however, were in most cases both asked and obtained, ewes selling best. Scotch descriptions met with a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value, whilst Irish, though slow of sale, maintained late currencies. It is feared that a further decline will have to be made if a clearance is to effected. The supply included 400 Scotch, 1,900 Irish, and 355 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned;—

	To-day.	Monday, Oct. 31, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supply, trade steady. Beef, Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; American, 3s to 3s 4d. Mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb, New Zealand, 2s 8d to 3s. Veal, 2s 8d to 4s 2d. Pork, 3s 10d to 4s 8d per 8lb.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts 731, sheep 355, pigs 288. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat cattle, fair demand; stores, better trade; fat sheep, good demand; stores, fair; fat and store pigs, good demand; milch cows, fair show, trade prices, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,391. To-day's supply of beasts compared with Monday last showed an increase of 109 head, and consisted of 1,050 from the United States and 341 Canadians. Trade was of a slow nature, with a downward tendency in value; besides the above, 200 more Canadian ranchers were left unsold. States were quoted at from 3s 8d to 3s 10d; Canadians, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per 8lb. Sheep numbered 202 from Canada, and were quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8lb. (offal given in). On Saturday 2,046 beasts from the United States and 180 from Canada were offered for sale, and, with a slow trade were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d for the former, seconds 3s 6d to 3s 8d; and Canadian ranchers, 3s to 3s 2d; seconds, 2s 10d per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle was practically unaltered, demand slow, and late rates not maintained. There was a slightly smaller supply of sheep in market; notwithstanding this, there was no appreciable improvement on last Monday's trade; finished handyweights made the top quotation, but strong and rough sorts were hardly so good to sell. Beef, 5d to 4d; mutton, 2½d to 6d. At market, 1,455 cattle and 4,500 sheep.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—The Russian crisis is making considerable impression on our market. Seed wheats are dearer. Winter tares firmer. There is more inquiry for spring sowing seeds, red clovers attracting most attention.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, October 30.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Russian	43 to 44
Morocco	47 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	41 to 45
Calcutta	38 to 40
Argentine	37 to 39
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	40 to 41

COTTONSEED. per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/0 to 6/0
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Culcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	40 to 41
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	34 to 36

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Indian	39 to 40s

SUNFLOWERSEED. per 418 lb.	
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Throughout the week the market for fat beasts of both prime and second quality at Islington was of a slow and dragging nature, nevertheless salesmen were able in most cases to maintain late currencies on the first market day of the week. On Thursday, as usual, trade was practically confined to rough cattle. The majority of the supplies were drawn as usual from the Midland, Home and Western Counties, and Ireland, the latter consisting of thirty-four Dublin Shorthorns and forty-four Waterfords. This class of beast met with a very limited inquiry, with a downward tendency in value, though barely sufficient to quote any lower rates. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a fairly steady demand by both town and country buyers, sellers both asking and obtaining late values.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade throughout the week was of a slow nature, rates favouring the buyer, though not sufficiently so to warrant our quoting them lower. The total number on offer at both markets was 5,756, as against 4,337 during the preceding week. The supply consisted of 1,370 British (increase 240) and 4,586 foreign (increase 1,179)—the latter comprised 3,684 from the United States and 702 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

In the sheep market trade on Monday was of a slow nature, and continued so throughout the week; however, on the first day of the week salesmen both asked and obtained late currencies; but on Thursday there was practically no inquiry, consequently quotations were not worth recording. We note this week the first consignment of Longwool Scotch sheep, these sold at about late values; whilst Irish descriptions, being greatly in excess of the demand ruled lower. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number on offer was 6,590, as against 8,026 during the previous week, consisting entirely of British consignments. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch (Longwools), 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d..; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4.

Calves numbered ten, trade for which was nominal.

No pigs were offered for sale.

Trade in the West.

The phenomenally cold weather which set in so early has played serious havoc with the pastures, which, under the influence of a 12 to 15 deg. of frost, have been terribly "nipped," vast tracts in some districts having been burnt up as if seared by a hot iron. With milch beasts things are fair, as milk is still very badly wanted in many places. This, of course, helps the sale, without, however, benefiting the price very materially, as it is seldom just now that over £20 or £21 is made, though one or two exceptional milchers occasionally reach to £22; but they must be very good indeed to do this. Yearlings are finding some little inquiry, but prices remain practically unchanged from what they were in the spring, and, with the poor keep prospects now threatening, we can hardly hope for any great improvement just at present. Keeping sheep about continue to hold their own for ewes, etc., at from about 28s. to 55s. for draft or grazing purposes, but small lambs, which are in much request, are dearer than they were, ranging from as low as 20s. for small mixed lambs to 35s. for good wethers, and the prospect is that they are likely to keep so. Wether sheep are rather dear, some of the best selling up to 50s. As regards the trade generally, there seems to be more stock on the market than buyers can deal with.

Coming to butchers' stock, things have undergone no very great change, but what alteration there has been tends rather to lower values than to any improvement, this being undoubtedly the case with fat beef, except for the very best type of heifers and steers, which are with difficulty has been experienced and satisfactory prices obtained, but secondary kinds still meet a sluggish trade at disappointing prices. Sheep in full supply, and the quality also better. Trade was good throughout, without change in value. There was a larger supply of lambs, and those of good quality met a very satisfactory market. Calves in short supply, and very dear, while pigs also maintained previous prices. There was a smaller supply of store sheep, and generally of a very secondary description. Trade rather quieter, and a part of the secondary sheep left unsold. A good supply of store cattle met a very slow demand at moderate prices. For the smaller descriptions lower prices have to be taken than for some years back. Milch cows met a very dull market at rather less money. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 40s.; current, 34s. to 36s.; Irish, 30s. to 34s. 6d. Mutton, 7d. to 9¼d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and the general quality much improved. For the best descriptions a good demand

Trade in Ireland.

There was a better attendance of exporters at Dublin Market last Thursday, while home dealers and victuallers were in about the usual number; all, however, were in a very apathetic mood, and business all round was decidedly slow and discouraging, particularly for coarse, unfinished cattle. Really tip-top bullocks and heifers were looked for, and sold readily enough at late rates, but coarse, thin animals made no recovery from the bottom level at which they were last day. Best ox and heifer beef sold at from 48s. to 52s. per cwt, with extra choice going as high as 55s.; good second-class beef, 45s. to 47s.; and inferior beef from 42s. to 44s. The live weight for best beef averaged for ordinary cattle from 28s. 6d. to 29s. 6d., but choice Shorthorn and Polled beasts sold at from 30s. to 31s. 6d. per cwt. Sheep were in shorter supply, and, except for prime Cheviot and other choice mutton, prices were very unsteady, there being a downward tendency for ordinary sheep. There was a very limited export trade done, making it difficult to dispose of hoggets. Prime wether mutton sold at 6¾d. to 7¼d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep from about 5d. per lb. Prime heavy hoggets were worth from 44s. to 55s. each; small to middling from 32s. to 42s. A few lambs were sold, and averaged from 32s. to 38s. each for large fat; while others sold at an average of about 25s. each. There was no quotable change in the price of prime veal, which made from 7½d. to 8½d. per lb., but other sorts sold cheaply. Milch cows in slow demand at very irregular prices, only the very best springers and newly calved cows meeting with a satisfactory sale. The store cattle trade shows no improvement, the discouraging state of the beef market seriously handicapping any business in stores.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, middling quality predominating. Trade ruled very slow; nevertheless, last Monday's values were well maintained for the best. Top prices per 8lb: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Decrease of 70 in number penned in sheep market, supply being one of the smallest this year. There was practically no inquiry for either wethers or ewes, the few sales effected being all more or less forced, and tendency in value ruling in favour of buyers, though barely sufficient to quote it so. Best pens made per 8lb as follows:—8st Downs, 5s 10d; 9st ditto, 5s 8d; 10st ditto, 5s 6d; 10st half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 4s. No calves or pigs offered. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d. Total supply: Beasts, 90; sheep, 150; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Heavy supplies were forthcoming, but, with no improvement in the inquiry, trade all round again made very slow headway, prices in some cases ruling lower. Beef arrivals included 80 tons Scotch, 112 Liverpool sides, 2,100 hindquarters, and 1,400 forequarters American refrigerated, also 1,350 Argentine chilled hindquarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; English, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; American Deptford-killed, 3s to 3s 4d; Liverpool sides, 2s 10d to 3s 1d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 6d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 5d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; Rancher hindquarters, 2s to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s; River Plate hindquarters, 1s 11d to 2s; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d. Mutton: Scotch tegs, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; River Plate, 2s to 2s 2d; Dutch wethers, 4s; ewes, 3s. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 3s; Dutch, 4s 4d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 2d; Irish, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Pork: Town-killed, 3s 10d to 4s 8d; country, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

London, Saturday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleece S. Dn. liggs, £14 to £14 10s; halfbred hoggs, £12 10s to £13 10s; wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 10s to £13; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.: Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy avr. to fair, 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., Second. avr., greasy avr. to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., Second. avr., greasy average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z.—Scoured avr., 1s 9d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal Scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Grs.: Vic. good to super, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3½d; medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; coarse, 11d to 1s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Very poor trade for beef, best steers and heifers making 4s to 4s 4d per stone, and inferior 3s 8d to 4s. Mutton sold very slowly, but no reduction. Downs making up to 5s 10d and Kent wethers up to 5s 4d. Veal unchanged. Pork very dear, roasters making highest prices known for years, from 4s 4d to 4s 10d per stone.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 35 fat beasts, 54 calves, 373 fat sheep and lambs, 266 pigs, and 179 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised: Fat Devon steers, £19; Devon cows, £15 10s; shorthorn cows, up up to £15 10s; best Highland cows, £9 to £10 10s; fat calves, 70s to £5 10s; small, 18s to 50s; fat hogs, 78s to 93s; porkers, 43s to 58s; small, 28s to 39s; store pigs, 12s 6d to 20s; dairy cows, 3s to 24s; young Hants Down ewes and wethers, 58s to 63s; smaller, 46s to 52s; ten months old ditto, 48s to 52s; smaller, 38s to 46s; old Down ewes, 36s to 42s; Down rams and lambs, 50s to 57s; small and inferior, 35s to 45s; small Southdown wethers, 41s; three months old sucking lambs, Downs, 28s to 33s 6d; crossbreds, 25s to 28s. A slow trade for fat beasts of all kinds, with a reduction in prices, the exception being for choice lots of moderate weights, which are wanted. A good inquiry for fat sheep and fat lambs, and prices well maintained. Good class milch cows and heifers met a brisk trade with high prices; secondary sorts were difficult to sell at late rates. Store cattle continues a slow business. Fat calves, with a short supply, met a good trade. Fat hogs and porkers sold readily, and last week's satisfactory prices were maintained. Store pigs sold well, with a good inquiry. Ruling values: Prime Devon beasts, 6¼d to 6¾d; Shorthorn ditto, 5¾d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4¾d to 5d per lb.; best quality fat sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7¾d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5¼d to 6d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 8d per lb.; fat porkers, 9s to 11s per score; fat hogs up to 9s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—The cattle numbered 607, 112 less than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers was fair, and trade good. Calves, £6 10s; stirks, £8 to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £13; three-year-olds, £13 10s to £14 15s; Shorthorn bulls, £12 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Trade good for pigs but slow for beasts and sheep. Prices: Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 6¾d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8¾d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; sows, 8s 4d to 8s 6d per score; porkets, 11s to 11s 8d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Market was of an average character. There was a limited demand for fat cattle, which were in plentiful supply, and best qualities were only quoted at 56s, rather less than lately. Fair number of sheep, and trade quiet at late rates. Pigs not numerous, and porkers declined to 10s 6d per score, baconers remaining at 8s 9d.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Sheep in large supply, trade rather slower. Eighteen months old horned stock were selling at from £8 15s to £12.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under ...	9	0
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2¾ in.	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	8	6
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	0

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply of Irish cattle at the Sands Public Market showed a big falling off compared with late weeks, there being only between 200 and 300 penned. Buyers were also scarce, and trade dragging. Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £11 10s; stall-feeding beasts, £12 10s up to £15 for a few exceptionally good ones.

Chester, Thursday.—An excellent supply of store and dairy cattle, with a fair attendance of buyers. Trade was disappointing, the demand being slow, and last week's prices difficult to obtain. A smaller show of sheep, with quotations much the same as last week. Welsh cows, £17 to £23; calves, £15 to £20; barrens, £9 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £5 to £10; and sheep, 18s to 32s.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Messrs. Stride and Son held special sales of about 2,000 Southdown and other sheep and about 400 cattle of all classes. A good selling trade prevailed for sheep at about recent prices. Fat cattle met a firmer trade at about late prices. There was a large show of dairy cattle, and a brisk selling trade prevailed at higher prices. A large entry of store cattle met rather a dull trade, but very few remained unsold at the end of the day. Quotations:—Devon steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; Southdown sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very large supply of cattle, especially of Irish stock, and trade a shade better, though prices were practically unchanged. Milch beasts, £16 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers and drapes, £11 to £16; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £4 to £6. Small supply of sheep and lambs, and no improvement in trade or prices. Drape ewes, 33s to 40s; lambs, 36s to 44s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The fair on Wednesday exercised but little appreciable effect on either the attendance or supplies at to-day's market, at which there were good deliveries of most kinds of stock, especially of fat beasts. Trade was slow for most things, the chief exception to this being milch beasts, which were in active request at from £16 10s to £22 each, and from £12 to £15 15s for plainer and smaller beasts. Barrenes are still very depressed, even the best not exceeding £23 per pair to-day, the poor keep prospects no doubt deterring speculation; plainer grades only made £16 to £19. Fat beasts, from an excessive offer, heifers ranging from £14 to £21 each, and cows and bulls from £9 to £18 each. Scarcely any reached £11 per score to-day. Mutton also a limited offer, a slow trade at from 43s to 48s 6d for ewes and wethers (or 6¼d to 7¼d per lb.).

Dublin, Thursday. Numbers in market: Beasts, 4,497, increase 36; sheep, 6,574, decrease 470; calves, 40, increase 3. The few choice cattle exposed for sale were bought up early at about last week's full rates; rough and inferior sorts were again in excess of requirements, and met a slow, dragging trade, with prices rather in favour of buyers. Sheep not so easily placed, even the choicest, at last week's prices, and a clearance could not be effected. Cattle, live weight (best), 28s to 31s per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 25s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 53d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Small supplies of sheep and cattle; more milch cows on offer. Horned bullocks sold at £12 10s to £14, polled bullocks £11 to £14, stirks £8 8s to £10 10s, half-bred lambs 22s to 36s, Cheviot lambs 17s, Cheviot ewes 24s to 26s, Cheviot sheep 32s to 37s 6d, shorthorned cows to £24 15s, and Ayrshires to £16 10s.

Exeter, Friday. Large supply of beasts, but dragging trade. Best quality maiden heifers and steers, 11s; cows, 9s 6d to 10s; some of the latter unsold. Not quite so many sheep on offer, and only best quality big lambs and hoggs in demand at 8¾d; wethers, 8d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; small lambs, 9d to 10d. Calves, 7¼d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—A moderate show of cattle and sheep, and demand slow, with values unchanged. Top Scotch cattle 64s, extreme 60s to 62s, current secondary 56s to 57s, Irish 56s per cwt.; top hoggs 9d, secondary 8½d to 8¾d, top wether 8d to 8¼d per lb. Dead meat quiet, but values steady; best Scotch beef 6d, best States 5¼d to 5¾d, best Canadian 5d to 5¼d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves and in-calves a large supply (85), with good trade, the best prices being £22 10s, £21, £20 15s. A fair supply of store cattle, with slightly improved trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A smaller supply, following the October fair, but there being more customers trade was slightly firmer. Fat bullocks and heifers a small supply, sold quicker than last week at 6d to 6½d, and 6¾d per lb for the primest; cows at 5½d per lb. Store cattle slow. Fat calves few at about 7d per lb. Store calves a little dearer. Sheep very moderate supply. Fat wethers and yearlings up to 8d per lb, fat ewes 6¾d per lb. Fat lambs were scarce, and met with a ready sale at 8d. Pigs numbered a few more than last week. Porks and bacons met with a prompt clearance at 6d per lb all round. Store pigs were dear.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a shorter supply of fat cattle, which sold freely, the local demand being strong. Choice yard-fed animals made from 9s 3d to 8s 6d per stone; grass cattle, 8s to 7s 6d per stone. Grazing cattle were well represented, including large consignments from Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Ireland. There was a fair demand for strong steers at recent values, but young growing cattle were dull, and lower prices had to be accepted. Two-year-olds, £12 15s to £11 7s 6d; eighteen months, £9 10s to £8 10s; sixteen to twelve months, £8 to £5 10s; red polled steers, eighteen months, in good condition, £11 15s; Cumberland heifers, eighteen months, £10 12s 6d; Irish calves, £6 15s to £3 10s. Fat sheep were in good demand, and recent rates were fully maintained. Early hoggets to 62s, shearlings to 65s. Grazing sheep and ewes were in fair demand, but the trade was not brisk. Fat swine dear and prices higher. Stores in strong request from 35s to 18s.

Leicester, Saturday.—Large consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers and dealers were well represented, but trade ruled slow, and prices generally declined fully 10s per head. Choice milch cows, £20 to £24; good lots, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; cross-bred Polled cattle, £14 to £15; Shorthorns, £11 to £13 10s; Welsh cattle, £10 to £13; Irish stock, £12 to £14; young stock, £5 to £8; calves, 15s to 35s. Sheep were a small supply, and sold slowly at irregular rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—Cattle were penned in small numbers, but trade was brisk. Yearlings made £8 to £10, two-year-olds £13 10s to £15. Sheep were also a small show, and trade was good. Drape ewes 35s to 40s, lambs 35s to 43s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts, trade slow, 7s to 7s 9d per stone. Large show of store beasts, trade slow, £16 to £17 each. Average show of fat sheep made late rates, 9s to 10s per stone. Store pigs, 42s to 48s. Lambs, a small show, sold up to 40s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 4¾d; second-class, 3¾d to 4d; third-class, 2¾d to 3d. Mutton: First-class, 7¼d; second-class, 6¼d to 6¾d; third-class, 5¼d to 5¾d. Veal: First-class, 6¼d; second-class, 5¾d to 6d; third-class, 4¾d to 5d. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5¼d; second-class, 4¾d to 5d; third-class, 3¾d to 4d. Porket pigs: First-class, 7¼d; second-class, 6¾d to 7d; third-class, 6¼d to 6¾d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small supply of stock all round. In-calf cows, £18 to £20; in-calf heifers, £13 to £16 10s, and two and-a-half-years-old steers and heifers, £12; yearling steers and heifers, £7. A small show of calves, and a very slow trade, making 18s to 35s each.

Norwich, Saturday. — Trade easier for fat beasts, which were in good supply; prices averaged 7s to 8s per stone. Store animals in decreased numbers and trade very quiet, values ranging from £6 to £18 per head. The small supply of lambs was quite sufficient to meet a dull demand at 28s to 40s per head; fat sheep included a number of hoggets, and prices were about the same, viz., 10s to 10s 6d per stone. Firm demand for pigs, fat animals making 6s 9d to 7s per stone.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a plentiful supply of cattle, and a good supply of sheep, but in both departments a rather slow trade was experienced. Heifers made 5¾d to 6d, bullocks 5¾d to 5¾d, cows and bulls 5d to 5¼d, hoggs 8¾d to 8¼d; tups 5¼d to 6d, ewes 6d to 6¾d, lambs 8d to 8¼d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. — Good milch cows, £18 to £20; medium kinds, £14 to £17; steers and heifers, £8 to £12; yearling, £5 to £7; and calves, 35s to 45s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a good supply, and also a good trade. Grass beef sold at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone of 8lb.; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; and pork at 9s per score.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade unchanged; best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce; fair trade at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep plentiful, trade worse; best, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Slow demand for store beasts. Average supply of pigs, trade about the same.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—There was about the usual supply of cattle, etc. Buyers met a large number, but trade was good. Quotations:—Beef, 5¼d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 7¼d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 8d to 8¼d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score. Numbers offered as follows:—859 cattle, sheep and lambs 1,013, calves 77, pigs 598.

Thame, Tuesday.—With a larger attendance of buyers trade ruled brisk throughout the sales, beef selling at an advance upon previous week's prices. Mutton in request. Bacon, pork, and veal at much higher figures, weaning calves and store pigs quickly changing hands. Messrs. Beard and Burrows sale comprised 83 fat beasts, 159 fat sheep, and 117 fat and weaning calves, and 90 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 10s to £20 17s 6d; fat heifers, £15 10s to £19 10s; fat wethers, 50s to 60s 6d; fat ewes, 40s to 48s; fat calves, £3 15s to £5 3s; weaning cow calves, 30s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 45s; bacon hogs, £3 10s to £6; porkets, 32s to 48s; store pigs, 15s to 45s.

Truro, Wednesday. — Business fairly brisk; attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16; rearing calves, 25s to 30s each; wethers, 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5¼d; lambs, 7¼d; pigs, 3s 6d to 45s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7¼d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4¼d to 5¼d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 311; calves, 75; sheep, 335; pigs, 227; horses, 2.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—A shorter supply, with fair demand. Quotations:—Beef: 5d to 6¼d per lb; wether mutton, 7d to 7¾d per lb; lamb, 8d to 9¼d per lb; ewes, 6¾d to 7d per lb; calves, 6d to 7¼d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score; porkets, 10s to 11s per score; sows, 7s to 8s 3d per score.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small supply of stock, with trade fairly good. Best beef made 6s 9d to 7s 3d, secondary qualities 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone, best Southdown wethers and cross-bred shearlings 8d to 9d, ewes 6d to 7d, lamb 9d to 9¼d per lb, store lambs up to 35s each.

Yeovil, Friday.—Good demand for milking animals. Heifers with calves made from £14 10s to £19 15s; cows and calves, from £13 to £13 10s; in calvers, from £12 10s to £15 10s; barreners, £9 10s to £12 5s; store steers, £9 5s to £10 10s; wether sheep, from 48s to 53s; ewes, 45s to 51s; store lambs, 28s 6d to 35s.

York, Thursday.—A very large show of both Irish and English store cattle, about 3,100 being penned. The Irish cattle are for the most part strong, but the English are chiefly west and south country small steers. A few south country buyers were present, but they were cautious in their purchases, as trade is not good in the south. There were more customers generally than last week, and plenty of the stronger cattle sold, though in favour of the buyers, trade being poor, especially for the smaller steers. Some good three-year-olds made up to £15 10s, useful sorts making £13 to £13 10s. The price of stirks varies with size and quality, from £8 to £9 10s. A good show of calving and milch cows, which met with a fair demand at last fortnight's rates. Exceptional animals made up to £22 10s, the general run being £16 to £18 10s. This was the last of the large sheep fairs, but the supply was smaller, rather less than 12,000 being penned. Best north country ewes made up to 50s, others 40s to 45s; north country lambs, 26s to 32s; best twice-crossed wethers, up to 48s; Masham shearlings, 40s to 44s; twice-crossed lambs, 28s to 34s; Masham lambs, 21s to 26s; and Cheviot ewes, 23s to 28s. A lot of smaller sorts of all kinds were left unsold, and trade ruled very slow throughout.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday. At the usual weekly sales of Canadian cattle held to-day only moderate supplies were on offer, 548 head being penned in the lairages. The animals were mostly bullocks, a large range of light, medium, and heavy weights being shown at the stances, but the majority were of secondary, middling, and inferior qualities, and for these a very poor selling trade was experienced at prices considerably lower than those ruling last week. Bullocks of first-class quality were in request, but the small number on offer were cashed at values slightly under last Thursday's top quotation, and the bull trade showed no improvement. Bullocks of useful sizes and weights made up to 55s per cwt dead weight, while secondary, middling, and inferior sorts were cashed from 51s to 53s per cwt, and bulls from 45s to 46s per cwt

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 5 and 6. Doncaster: 8 and 9. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 7 to 9. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Malton: 6 and 7. Pontefract: 8. Retford: 2s 8d to 2s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 6 and 7. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Stokesley: 8 and 9. Whitby: 7 and 8. Worcester: 7. York: 6.

BUTTER

(Prices per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 9d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1½d to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 1d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—A good supply, and business was slow. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 52s to 56s per cwt; fancy dairies, 59s to 60s; truckles, 53s to 60s; Derbys, 68s to 70s; and Cheddars, 60s to 56s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese were heavy. The demand was slow, as the bulk of the buyers had got their requirements at Kilmarnock. Holders were not disposed to concede anything. Cheddars were quoted from 56s to 71s per cwt., and Dunlops from 54s to 59s.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Sheffield, Saturday.—Fair supply; demand slow. Prices: Pheasants, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; young grouse, 4s 6d to 5s; old, 3s; young partridges, 2s 6d to 3s; old, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per brace; geese, 5s to 7s; ducks, 2s to 2s 9d; Surrey fowls, 2s 6d to 4s; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 3d; black game, 1s 2d; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; snipe, 6d to 9d; quails, 1s to 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d; wild rabbits, 6d to 10d; live hens, 1s 4d to 1s 9d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 8s per dozen. Venison haunches, 12s 6d to 15s each; forequarters, 3d per lb.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday. — A brisk demand prevailed for a good supply of fruit and vegetables. Quotations for British produce:—Apples, 4s 6d to 12s per bushel; melons, 9d to 2s; peaches, 5s to 15s; green figs, 6d to 1s 6d per dozen; grapes, 4d to 3s; cobnuts, 5s to 6s; filberts, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per 12lb.; walnuts (Grenoble), 7s to 8s 6d; chestnuts (Redon), 7s to 10s 6d per bag; tomatoes, 2s to 3s 6d; Jerusalem artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s; Brussels sprouts, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per half sieve; mushrooms, 7s 6d to 12s per 12lb.; cucumbers, 1s 6d to 4s; endive, 9d to 1s 3d per dozen; cos lettuce, 9d to 1s 6d per score; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; onions, 5s to 5s 6d; celery, 7s 6d to 12s per dozen rolls; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; carrots, 2s 3d to 3s per bag; leeks, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; radishes, 6d to 9d; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; cauliflowers, 3s 6d to 5s; cabbages, 3s to 3s 6d per tally; horseradish, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; potatoes, 55s to 70s per ton.

HOPS

Worcester, Saturday.—The smaller quantity of hops now offering meets a steady demand; good samples are wanted, and sell readily, also any lower priced lots. Medium samples are more plentiful, and offer best value. Yearlings sell at low rates. 2,027 pockets have been weighed this week, making 22,313 to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—**Linseed**: Under pressure to sell arrived seed the market early in the week was flat, and 35s to 35s 1½d accepted for spot Plata. The close, however, is firmer, with a better demand. 35s 3d having again been paid for seed in lighter. October-November is nominally 35s 9d, and new crop January-February 35s 3d. Petersburg has sold at 35s 6d to 35s 9d prompt shipment. **Cottonseed**: During the past week there has been an easier tone in Egyptian seed, but a fair business done at £5 13s 9d to £5 14s 6d per steamers on the way and October B/L, also on November-January at £5 12s 6d to £5 11s 3d, the market being steadier to-day at £5 14s 9d October, £5 14s 6d November and November-January. Bombay done at £4 15s to £4 15s 6d, November-December, shippers scarcely offering this position to-day. A fair £4 14s. **Oilseed cakes**: Linseed cakes: Demand moderate; prices very firm. Cotton cakes: A firmer tone with better demand. Feed cakes are 4s 9d to 5s per ton dearer.

KEIGHLEY, MANSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed continues firm in absence of offers by importers, but except for all-at parcels the demand is poor. Calcutta London, spot 28s 6d, and all-at 38s 3d, October-November 38s, April-June 35s 6d. Rapeseed has maintained its position, importers continue to show increased firmness. Brown Cawnpore November-December 38s, Brawn Calcutta 37s, April-June 35s 6d, Ferozepore 38s. Cottonseed: A good demand in Hull has stimulated prices, and Egypt has advanced considerably. London: Passage, new £5 12s 9d, old £5 15s., prompt new £5 17s 6d asked, October £5 17s 6d, November-January £5 17s 6d wanted. Hull: Spot and passage is selling at £5 16s 3d, October £5 17s 6d paid, November-January £5 16s 3d. **Oil cakes.**—Linseed cakes: Firm. London made £7 15s to £7 17s 6d. Cotton cakes quiet; London made £4 12s 6d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Values continue to harden in spite of only a moderate demand, and, with dearer seed, there is every indication of still higher rates in the near future. Russian are getting scarce on spot and landed lots make full prices. American remain best value at a slight advance on last week's prices. Round Austrian in bags offer at £7 17s 6d to £8 London-made command rather more money and are 2s 6d dearer. Cotton cakes: A fair quantity of Egyptian is available in warehouse, and for these last week's prices are asked, which are also the nominal quotations for forward shipments. English meet a slow sale and are unchanged. Decorticated: In consequence of a heavy demand for London-made the manufacturers have raised their prices to £7 for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand offers at £7 2s 6d, and meal at £6 12s 6d. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal: Some business is reported in steamer parcels of White American for December-January shipment at £5 7s 6d, which is about present value. English are again the turn dearer. Maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: A steamer cargo of Rangoon just arrived has found buyers at £4 16s 3d ex ship terms, which is also the price asked for November-December shipments. Broken Rangoon rice is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton ex docks. Locust beans sell steadily at £5 10s for whole and £5 15s for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is without change at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
Russian, in bags	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
in mats	7 8 9	to 7 10 0
Broken Rangoon Rice (in bags) ex quay	7 17 6	to 8 0 0
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 7 6	to 7 10 0
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
,, for shipment	4 11 3	to 4 12 6
English	4 12 6	to 4 13 9
Bombay	4 2 6	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	7 0 0	
,, ,, ,, Meal	7 2 6	
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	7 0 0	
,, Meal ,, ...	6 12 6	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta		
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 13 9	to 5 15 0
American, Dec./Jan. ..... (c.i.f.)	5 7 6	
American ..... spot	5 15 0	
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice ..... Spot	4 13 3	
Broken Rangoon Rice ..... ex docks	4 15 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: Australian meets a good demand, with more business passing, doubtless due to the falling off in the home make and the colder weather. Choicest brands of salted are making 112s per cwt, with an occasional 114s. Unsalted of choicest quality makes 2s per cwt more. The market in Copenhagen is reported better, but the official quotation is left untouched at 100 kroner. The arrivals from Denmark this week were 1,740 cwt below those of the previous week. Siberian is selling freely, especially the best quality, at 102s to 106s, and for extra quality 108. The railway strike in Russia, which has stopped all Siberian butter in transit at Moscow and beyond, will undoubtedly cause much inconvenience to the trade owing to the delay en route, and should the delay last for a fortnight or more the shortage of Siberian butter will stiffen the butter market, even if it does not increase the prices of butter generally. Cheese: The demand for Canadian this week has been quiet, but prices on the spot have shown no appreciable change. Choicest September white is bringing 57s per cwt, and coloured 58s; other qualities are making 55s to 56s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

POTATOES.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Arrivals were on a fair scale, but the demand was only moderate. Royal Kidney, 60s to 95s; British Queen, 60s to 65s; Blackland, 55s to 60s; Up-to-date, 60s to 70s; Scottish dates, 60s to 65s; Queens, 55s to 60s per ton.

MR. FELLOWES AT PERTH.

Conference with Scottish Agriculturists.

The annual conference of the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture and affiliated societies with the President of the Board of Agriculture took place on Friday, Perth having been selected as the place of meeting this year. The meetings were held in the hall of the West United Free Church, Watergate, which was placed at the disposal of the Chamber by the kirk session, and was largely attended, about two hundred members being present. The Right Hon. Ailwyn E. Fellowes, M.P., was present for the first time in his official capacity as Minister for Agriculture, and he was accompanied by Sir Thomas H. Elliott, K.C.B., Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, and Major Craigie, of the Statistical Department.

The Forenoon Conference.

At the forenoon conference the chair was occupied by Mr. John Drysdale, Arngibbon, Port of Menteith, president of the Chamber, who, in welcoming the delegates, said he was pleased to report that they had now sixty-seven affiliated societies from practically every county in Scotland. Whatever little prejudice had formerly existed against the Chamber was now dying out, and it was increasing in usefulness year by year, and becoming the channel through which the wants of agriculture in a legislative and administrative sense might be submitted to the proper quarter. As a corporate organised body they could do much, but acting as individuals or units they might be as a voice crying in the wilderness.

Resolutions on various subjects were subsequently moved and discussed.

Subsequently the office bearers for the following year were elected, Mr. James Biggar, Chapelton, Dalbeattie, was appointed president of the Chamber, and Mr. John A. Dewar, M.P., honorary president for the current year.

The Luncheon.

At the close of the forenoon conference the delegates were entertained to luncheon in the Salutation Hotel by the local committee. Mr. John Stroyan, M.P., occupied the chair, and, in proposing the toast of "The President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries," said the Department had a wide range of duties, and had done much excellent work and much for agriculture since it was established. The success of all Departments must depend largely on the personnel, and in the case of the Board of Agriculture they had been extremely fortunate in that respect from first to last, not only as regarded the political and responsible head, but also in the devoted body of permanent officials.

Mr. Fellowes, in responding, said he had now been for three years connected with the Board, and for many years he knew the work of the permanent officials, and he wished to say publicly that the words used by Mr. Stroyan were not one whit too generous. Presidents of Board came and presidents went, under their party system, but the permanent staff stayed on for ever. Agriculturists had to thank the permanent officials of the Board for the action they had always taken to prevent disease from coming into the country. Critics of the Board hardly realised that it was no wish on their part that they should pass unnecessary regulations, or to take action which would bring loss to any one or be detrimental to farmers. They had to think, not of one particular district; they had to think of the country as a whole. Although some of their regulations might be irksome and might cause dissatisfaction, let them give the Board credit for this, that during the last few years the regulations which they had been compelled to make had nearly rid the country of all disease. Other toasts were duly proposed and honoured.

The Afternoon Conference.

The conference was resumed at two o'clock, with Mr. Stroyan, M.P., as honorary president of the Chamber, in the chair. He was supported by a large company on the platform, and there was a big attendance of members. The Chairman thanked the Chamber for the honour conferred upon him in electing him their president, and welcomed Mr. Fellowes to the conference, dealt with some of the questions now receiving the attention of agriculturists, more particularly in Scotland, and he concluded by stating that he was not one of those who despair of the future of agriculture in this country, the less so when he saw so many prosperous agriculturists around him. Why had they so many farmers still doing fairly well in Scotland? It was not because their land was specially good or specially cheap. With the competition of to-day the old style of farmers could not make a living if they got the land rent free. They succeeded simply because they combined energy with high intelligence and scientific principles, and in that way and in that way only they would continue to succeed.

Members of the Chamber then introduced various subjects for discussion, and some resolutions were passed, but as these were dealt with by Mr Fellowes in his reply, we need not set them out here.

Mr. Fellowes' Speech.

Mr. Fellowes, on rising to address the conference, was received with loud applause. At the outset he expressed his pleasure to him a real one of being able to meet such a large body of Scottish agriculturists and then reviewed the action which had been taken with regard to the different subjects which were brought before the conference last year, and he said he thought the Board could fairly claim that a very considerable measure of success had attended their efforts to carry into effect the wishes which were expressed by the Chamber at the Glasgow meeting. Passing on to the various subjects brought before him that day, Mr. Fellowes said: First of all, there was the resolution in favour of

The Compulsory Dipping of Sheep

twice a year. This subject had naturally engaged a very large amount of his time and attention this year. It was practically the first question with which he had to deal when he succeeded Lord Onslow, and it was not long before he found himself in the thick of a discussion which was, to say the least of it, somewhat animated. As they knew, the indignation against the action the Board proposed to take was both wide and deep. It was in these circumstances that he suggested a conference between the Board and representatives of the Scottish flockmasters, to see if they could come to some amicable arrangement, and it was largely due to the valuable assistance of those who came to that meeting that they were able to devise a scheme which was practicable and sufficient to mee the object they had in view. However, this was all ancient history now, and he hoped that in any future action they might take they would carry with them the approval of all those who, equally with them, desired to see the eradication of this troublesome disease. He understood that some complaint had been made as to the considerable cost which had fallen upon the county funds in carrying out the Order, but he would ask them to regard this as an insurance which would be well repaid in the increased freedom from disease which they hope to see.

Well, he added, the resolution to-day indicates that you are in favour of compulsory dipping of all sheep twice a year, and I suppose there is general agreement that periodical dipping is only part of the ordinary practice of all large flockmasters. It is not with them that the difficulty mainly rests, but with the crofters and smaller men, who, sometimes from neglect and sometimes from lack of the necessary facilities, allow their sheep to go undipped. It was considerations such as these which made them hesitate to suggest a large measure of compulsory dipping, but he was bound to say that after their experience of the recent Order in Scotland they would be able to take a more rosy view, and it was very gratifying to him to know that he could count on the support of the Scottish Chamber in this direction. At the same time, as soon as one came to close quarters with the question, the practical difficulties that arose were undoubtedly serious, and he was not sure that the framers of the resolution had kept them sufficiently in view. It could not be too often remembered that the real difficulty was that, if the value of the dippings was not to be altogether destroyed, it was essential that sheep that had been dipped must be kept separate from sheep which had not. It was this consideration that made it so important that the dipping period should be as short as possible, in order that the necessary restrictions on movement should not continue for longer than is absolutely necessary, and, of course, it was this point which had caused all the difficulties about the markets. He was afraid, therefore, that it was not possible to allow each flockmaster to choose his own time for dipping, but he would do all he could to arrange that the dipping period should be fixed for as convenient a time of the year as was possible. But he would warn them that it was impossible to please everybody in this way, and he would therefore ask that they would look upon his decision, whatever it might be, with as favourable an eye as they could.

The Motor Car Act.

Coming next to the question of motor cars, Mr. Fellowes said he shared the Chamber's satisfaction at the appointment of a Royal Commission. He had no patience with what were called road hogs; but they had to make the best of motors. They must realise that they were the future traction of their country districts, and they might be of enormous benefit to agriculturists. He could not agree with the general view of the conference as to lights on slow-going vehicles. Two or three years ago the Norfolk County Council passed a resolution that all such vehicles should carry one lamp except in June, July, and August. The first few months there was a great feeling among agriculturists. Other counties, however, took the matter up, and from that day he had never heard a word against the regulation. He would, however, bring the view of the Chamber before the proper authority.

Departmental Committee.

Referring to the resolution dealing with the Departmental Committees on contagious cattle, abortion, and small holdings, Mr. Fellowes said that the former were now making scientific experiments, and he hoped that in the course of a year or two they would have the results of their labours. He was very much struck by what was said at Glasgow last year by Mr. Speir and others on this question, and he was glad that the Board had been able to meet their wishes by appointing a committee of experts to inquire into the whole matter. He took that opportunity of thanking the Highland Society for so magnificently giving them £500 towards the expenses of this committee. It had been said that this was to save the Treasury. He did not think that was the case, because the Treasury had already agreed to give them £4,000 for this purpose. At the same time he was grateful to the Society for their contribution, and he hoped the result would be satisfactory.

With regard to the veterinary profession, he thought that agriculturists owed them a deep debt of gratitude. They have done grand work for the agriculturists. As regarded disease, the condition of the country was on the whole most satisfactory at the present moment. Cattle plague, pleuro-pneumonia, rabies, and foot and mouth disease had disappeared, and he hoped that none of those present would ever see them again. The number of outbreaks of swine fever during the first three quarters of this year had decreased 39½ per cent. Last year also showed a very large decrease. The number for corresponding period last year was 1,068, while for this year up till last Saturday the number was 665. Sheep scab showed a large reduction of 34½ per cent., and glanders a reduction of 21 per cent., and only in the case of anthrax had there been a very small reduction.

With regard to the Small Holdings Committee, he would only say that the presence of Sir Ralph Anstruther and Mr. William Brown on the Committee, as representing Scottish Agriculture, would be a guarantee of the practical nature of any recommendations they may arrive at, and he added that the appointment of the Committee was, of course, in no sense any reflection on the efforts of past presidents of the Board to promote the extended acquisition of small holdings.

Agricultural Legislation, &c.

Dealing with this matter, Mr. Fellowes said there was no subject which deserved the serious attention of the country more than the increasing difficulty of passing legislation through the House of Commons. It was sometimes said that during recent years the House of Commons had fallen from the high position of respect which it was accustomed to hold in the minds of the British people. If this was so, the cause, more than anything else, was the growing feeling that a legislative assembly which could not legislate was in a condition which inspired feelings far removed from respect. The question was one far above party, and should be considered with a single eye to the interests of the nation as a whole, and with a view to see in what way the urgent needs of the country for legislation in many directions could be most practically carried out.

What the remedies were for this state of things he could not undertake to say. It was a question which could only be finally settled by agreement between men of all parties, and its thorough consideration could not be much longer delayed; but there were one or two suggestions which he would throw out, which might do something to mitigate the evils of the present position. In the first place, he believed that private members might do a great deal to help the passage of more or less uncontroversial Bills promoted in the interests of agriculture. He was sure that the example of the Irish party was one that the agricultural members might well imitate in this respect. With carefully arranged organisation and concentration of forces, the agricultural members might agree to unite to ballot for two or three Bills, and if this were done there was no reason why they should not be successful.

Coming to the last two resolutions, which related to milk prosecutions and fertilisers and feeding stuffs, Mr. Fellowes said they both required legislation, and both of them seemed to him eminently suitable subjects to be taken up by the agricultural members. He feared, however, that there was not much possibility of the Government being able to deal with the questions next session, but he thought they might be undertaken by a private member with a reasonable prospect of success if he were fortunate in the ballot.

In conclusion, Mr. Fellowes thanked the members for their patient hearing, and said that while he may not have been able to meet their wishes on all points so far as they could have wished, it had not been from any want of sympathy, but rather on account of circumstances over which he personally had no control. On the whole, however, he was glad to think that they were in substantial agreement upon all the subjects which had been discussed, and he assured them that he and the officials of the Department would give their best attention during the coming year to the matters brought before them, with a view to doing all that was in their power to help forward the great industry in which they were all engaged.

Live Stock Record.

NOVEMBER TREATMENT OF GRAZING BULLOCKS.

When November comes, however abundant grass-keep may be, the fatting bullocks ought to be in their stalls or feeding-houses, where they are to have winter feeding. Besides the natural deterioration of grass at the latter part of autumn, the nights are liable to be either cold, wet, or stormy. Animals to thrive and lay on flesh well should be in comfort. The very elements of animal physiology teach that when a considerable proportion of the food taken into the stomach goes to supply heat to the skin and keep the blood at its right temperature, secretion for flesh-forming becomes impaired or stopped altogether. Farmers, when busy with field labours, often delay housing their beasts a little too long, unmindful of the fact that if they should take cold, or get a serious check, owing to a sudden night tempest, it might take some time and cost to repair the mischief. The exact period of putting beasts into their winter quarters, had needs, of course, to be much earlier in some parts of the country than others, and ought to depend very much on climate, soils, situations and circumstances. Sometimes the change has to be made quite early in October; in other cases, experienced feeders having an abundance of grass have taken in their cattle at the close of every day as soon as the nights get inclement, to turn them out every morning, which course has often been pursued far into November.

When bullocks are housed for good, there should never be too great a change from succulent to dry diet. Cabbages form the most suitable substitute for grass in autumn, and if there should be any arable connected with the holding, one of the principal crops to grow should be autumn cabbages, so valuable are they to serve this object. Some may fancy that yellow turnips, which cost less than cabbages, might do as well, but they are more watery and less nutritious. There are many grazing farms in alluvial lowlands and rich marshes which have no arable, however, in which cases silage ought to have been made and to be in readiness to be supplied to the grazing beasts, in the proportion of about 20 lb. per head per day, after being taken in from grass. That is about the quantity of roots judicious feeders prefer to give their cattle either early or late in the season. In all cases, the best hay is usually kept fully supplied in the racks, that the animals might partake of it ad lib. Frequently they are found to eat considerable quantities, even in the earliest housings.

As to the quantity of cake or corn allowed, that ought very much also to depend on circumstances. Some bullocks may have been grazing more or less during the summer and be half or three-parts fat; in other cases they may not have had auxiliary feeding stuffs but slightly as yet, and it would be anything but right to put all alike on the same rations. Far more rational would it be to assimilate the quantity of the auxiliary food, as well as its character, to what it had been previously; if the nearly ripe ones had been used to 7 or 8 lb. of oil cake, this should not be lessened, and it would be riskful to substitute meal lest the flesh got flabby and soft. On the other hand, cattle taken in fresh to graze may economically be fed on one-half corn or meal, instead of all cake at first, and, according to very good testimony, 5 lb. per day of auxiliary food need seldom be exceeded.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

An interesting innovation has been made at the famous saleyard in St. Martin's Lane. I, of course, refer to Aldridge's Repository. On Saturday week, for the first time, the hunters entered for sale were made to jump artificial fences, and, whilst the performances gave the company present some cheap entertainment, it gave buyers a better opportunity of estimating the value of the hunters, and so successful was the experiment that it is likely to be continued. The idea is not a new one for the Messrs. Withers, at their open-air sales in the Wembley Paddocks, run the horses over a miniature steeplechase course, but the experiment was a bold one and deserved the success which attended it.

This year some of the Northern agricultural societies in Scotland held a combined show at Inverness, and the financial result was as satisfactory as the show itself, for at a meeting of the Joint Show Committee held last week, at which representatives were present from Easter and Wester Ross Farmers' Society, and the Black Isle, Inverness, and Nairnshire Clubs, it was stated that there was a surplus of over £100, after the expenses had been met. The members expressed the hope that the success of the show would be the means of doing away with local shows, and promoting joint shows in the Northern district. It was agreed to give an honorarium of forty guineas to Mr. D. Gray for the excellent manner in which he had performed the secretarial duties.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., Live Stock Exporters, Shrewsbury, have recently shipped for Freemantle, from the Port of London, per ss. "Port Victoria," two high-class Shropshire stud rams on account of Mr. H. F. Harvey, who owns a flock of Shropshires in that State. In selecting, size combined with nice character and a close dense fleece was the object in view. One ram came from the old-established prize-winning flock of Mr. Peter Everall, and was sired by Bank Manager 10964, bred by Mr. W. F. Inge, by the 120-guinea Banker, reserve No. at Maidstone R.A.S.E., from a ewe by Cornish Giant 9861, bred by Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, and a winner at Birmingham R.A.S.E. Mr. J. W. Dee, of Woollas, also supplied a good ram in a son of Woollashill 11940, by Dunsmore Commander 10318, winner S. and W.M., bred by Mrs. Barrs, by the 180-guinea Ensdon Four B.'s 9005 from a ewe by Rejected Star 10497, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell, by Dream Star 8977 (a son of the 175-guinea Montford Dreamer).

It is to be noted that the champion ram at the recent Royal Show at Melbourne exhibited by Mr. Harry Williams and Nephew, was practically a Whiston-bred sheep, being sired by Whiston Beau 11324, bred by Mr. Matthew Williams, by Bonny Dreamful 9362, the dam being a very choice in-lamb ewe which Mr. M. Williams gave to his son Bertie when he emigrated to Tasmania with his uncle about two years ago.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., Shrewsbury, have received advice from Melbourne from Mr. Hart, for whom they purchased His Majesty the King's champion shearling Southdown ram at the recent Royal Show, Mr. Adeane's 1st prize ram at the Bath and West of England, and Mr. Ellis's 2nd prize pen of shearling ewes at the Royal Show, and one of his commended pen, have arrived safely at the quarantine station there, and that they have been greatly admired by all breeders out there who have seen them. Mr. Hart also expresses his complete satisfaction with them.

The Welsh National Agricultural Society have decided to hold their next show at Aberystwyth on August 8 and 9, 1906.

At a meeting held at Harleston, on Wednesday, to receive the report of the sub-committee appointed to ascertain what support would be forthcoming in the event of the Norfolk County Show being held at Harleston in 1906, Mr. C. Devereux, the secretary, reported that upwards of £172 had been promised, and the chairman stated that he had the authority of a gentleman to promise another £10. The secretary further reported that Mr. Barker, the county secretary, had been over the proposed ground, and was satisfied with it. The opinion was expressed that sufficient support was assured to warrant an invitation being given, and a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Council of the Norfolk Agricultural Association with an invitation.

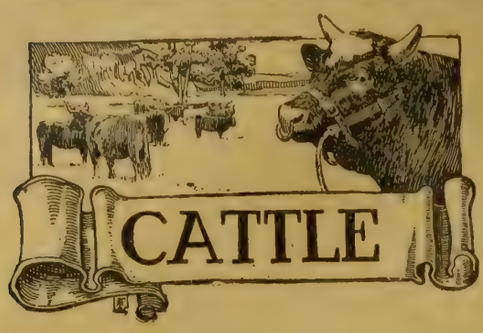
I would remind intending exhibitors at the forthcoming Smithfield Club Show that the entries of live stock and table poultry close on Wednesday next, November 1, at ordinary fees, and on November 6, at post entry fees. The secretary is Mr. E. J. Powell, 12, Hanover Square, W.

By an order of the Victorian Government, the introduction of certain animals into the State of Victoria from any place outside of the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland will be prohibited on and after January 1 next, save and except such as may be introduced for the Zoological Gardens. The animals scheduled are as follows:—Bull, cow, ox, calf, bison, buffalo, mare, gelding, foal, stallion, ass, mule, ram, ewe, wether, lamb, pig, camel, deer, antelope, and goat.

I learn that still another shipment from the world-famous piggery has been recently made by Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son, of Holywell Manor, near St. Ives, Hunts. This was of a splendid Large White boar and of an equally choice sow, which left Hull last week on board Messrs. Thos. Wilson, Sons' and Co.'s steamer for Libau, Russia, to the order of Countess Kapnist, in whose fine herd is to be found much of the blood of the Holywell Manor pigs.

The Farmers' Club.—The first meeting of this club after the summer recess will be held to-day (Monday), and not as stated in our last issue, the mistake arising from the confusing of dates. The paper set down for reading is "Pate Aided Education," by Mr. J. Crouch, Ridgmont, Beds., extracts from an advanced copy of which were given in last week's issue.

Marshfield Fair, considered to be the most important sheep fair held near Bristol, took place on Tuesday, when Messrs. George Nicholls, Howes, and Co. had nearly 1,500 sheep and lambs to offer by auction, and the whole were sold at good prices, with the exception of twenty only. The trade for sheep and lambs has recently been much firmer, and this was very noticeable at Marshfield. The highest price reached for lambs was 57s. 6d., others ranging down to 30s. There were only a few cows and calves offered, but what there were sold at good prices, whilst the store cattle trade also showed signs of improvement as nearly the whole of the seventy-five cattle offered found buyers.



Notes and Jottings.

Up to the time of writing these notes most unusual weather prevails over the greater part of England and Wales. It is simply a time of excessive drought. Wells are dry, reservoirs are low, ditches that usually at this time of the year are giving quite a little stream are also so dry as to be almost past cleaning out. It is, however, a capital time for the mangold harvest, and good crops of this great mainstay in the root line are quite the rule, bad ones the exception. It is quite reasonable to suppose that these roots will be less watery than usual, and therefore able to be used with advantage a little earlier than usual. Cattle that are out in the fields have, owing to fine weather and dry lying, done remarkably well.

The tuberculosis restrictions or regulations are at the present time causing considerable discussion amongst all our breed societies, especially those whose breeds are most in demand for export. A suggestion that one examination, or rather one test, made in Great Britain before the animal is removed should be considered as decisive, without a second test taking place on the other side. Many vagaries have been known with regard to these tests and the after results. At one time quite sceptical as to any benefit accruing from these tests, recent experience has proved to the writer that too much care cannot be taken over the testing, and that cases that fail to pass are much best to be slaughtered.

With regard to a second test on the other side, from circumstances that have come under the writer's notice, it seems quite possible for an animal to pass safely on this side and to be sound entirely, whilst the long voyage and quarantine appear to give ample time for the disease to be contracted, and therefore the second test would, upon this theory, be quite necessary. Animals have been known to pass the test here without the slightest suspicion, and yet die of the disease within a very comparatively brief period, the thriving and healthy appearance of such animals at the time of testing giving as it were a guarantee that the beasts were quite sound. There does not appear to be any experience (veterinary) bearing upon the time a severe case may contract the disease and die.

There is no doubt that, though many herds have been tested, and all suspicious members weeded out, that there is still a good deal of disease of this kind in our cattle generally. There must be a great difference in the type of disease—some cattle waste away very rapidly and become a bag of bones; others that are undoubtedly affected will live on for years without being very seriously affected in any way beyond just the cough that so frequently accompanies this disease. Again, yet other beasts will fatten up to the very highest possible condition even whilst very badly affected, and will carry this flesh, until some day they die quite suddenly.

The general experience of extensive carcase butchers, whose business naturally gives them great opportunities of learning the state of things, and any reasons that may cause the disease, appear to be quite unanimous that by far the majority of affected animals are found to be from herds where excessively warm and continuous housing is practised, and the healthiest stock from those breeds and herds that almost perpetually lead an out-door life. Heavy milking cows and aged bulls, as a rule, are said by these people to be most frequently affected of any classes. Very heavy losses have fallen upon some of our butchers through the disease. That seems rather hard lines, as a wellfattened, healthy beast would seldom be suspected, yet such have proved to be unreliable.

Some butchers report also having found quite young calves (veal calves) badly affected; this again seems to prove that a very short time is required for the disease to develop, unless the trouble occurs from the dam whilst carrying the young. Altogether the question is a very vexed one, and will require very level heads to discuss and decide as to the best steps to take in dealing with it, not only in regard to animals for export, but also with our home herds. Probably something may be heard shortly from the Government experiments that have been or were to be carried out, that might throw a little light upon things.

The *Breeders' Gazette* (Chicago) of October 11, in speaking of feeding cattle, says the profitable class of these have never been so scarce and dear in the States or Canada as at the present time. Prices being quite beyond hope of a very high profit being realised by fattening. In the Toronto Market the question was put direct to a dealer there, "Where are all the feeders for which Canada has been so frantically clamouring for admission to British feeders?" The reply came, "To be candid, they exist only in imagination." As a matter of fact, we cannot supply the home demand." Surely such information as this direct from headquarters on the other side should convince our agitators of the uselessness of their scheme.

From January to December hundreds and thousands of beautiful calves are fattened and killed in this country realising but a very small price, and hundreds and thousands of others equally good are killed at two or three days' old without fattening at all. Many of these calves are sired by first-rate bulls, and the produce of equally good dams. Surely there never could be a greater waste of fattening material than this. So many of our feeding farmers are afraid of the trouble of rearing and weaning calves, but a little organising of matters and a careful man and his wife would attend to a few milking cows, and, with the assistance of other food, a splendid lot of young stock could be obtained at small cost.

On large tillage farms this sort of business could be easily carried on. Young calves grow, it may be said, night and day in a fold yard during the summer season when well supplied with vetches or other green food, which can always be obtained at a minimum of cost upon such farms, and manure is being made at the same time that will come in equally useful. Well-bred Shorthorn or cross-bred calves are purchasable at the present time at very little money, and grow very rapidly. Twenty good bullocks for fattening cannot be purchased now of good class and in forward condition at less than £300 to £340. Twenty young ones could have been brought up at home at very much less cost than this, and the cost would have been spread over a longer period. Also of benefit.

The Hereford breed of cattle would seem from appearances to have displayed a good number of herds of commoner kinds of cattle throughout a vast extent of vale or meadow land in Wales and on the borders of the Principality and England, and some remarkably well-bred and well-shaped herds are to be seen in that district. The uniformity that prevails in Hereford herds is a wonderfully strong feature. This is seen most readily and plainly in the lots of steers that come from the Hereford-breeding districts into the feeding pastures of the Midlands and other parts. It is no uncommon thing to find a herd of twenty of these steers form a herd as level in size and weight, and improve in other respects as could be imagined.

Uniformity ought to enter much more strongly into a breeder's scale of whatever cattle he is breeding. To see a herd of cows, it may be of dairy breeds, of beef breeds, possessing similarity of character, as well as condition, shape, and udders has a wonderful effect, and can only be accomplished by truest and the greatest possible care in the selection of the sires used, but there is no doubt it is the greatest possible mark of a breeder's skill, and nothing pays better. As tending to show the quality of the Hereford steer in the store market, at the recent great Hereford October fair a batch of pedigree-bred yearlings brought no less a figure than £16 per head. Yearlings, however, that have been so well cared for take a good deal of moving on. This price strongly supports the theory of home-rearing mentioned in another note.

Your letter, published in last issue re the value of our pedigree stock in other countries and in connection with the Royal Show, comes at a very appropriate time, and it is to be hoped that some measures will be taken that will lead to a continuance of Park Royal. It has proved itself to be the best possible place in England for the sale of stock to the foreigner, and, seeing that, as stated in your admirable article, our live stock are so superior to any other in the world, it would or will be the more regrettable if the "Royal" should have to take up some ignominious position on bad ground for the sake of the implement section, a part of the show that is very frequently excelled by foreign manufactured implements.

At a meeting of the West Riding Chamber of Agriculture, held at Wakefield on Friday, Mr. E. Spurr, who presided, drew attention to the allegations of cruelty in the transit of calves contained in several letters which recently appeared in the *Yorkshire Post*. He said he had seen hundreds of calves in sacks on railway station platforms in his time, and, in his opinion, there was no more humane way of sending them than nicely packed in sacks and per passenger train. A discussion took place on birds useful and inimical to agriculture, in the course of which the lark and the sparrow were condemned as the greatest offenders. A resolution was adopted in favour of the consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Acts and other Acts relating thereto.

Sale of Mr. Jolliffe's Shorthorns.

The first-class herd of Shorthorn cattle belonging to Mr. C. H. Jolliffe, in consequence of the estate having been sold, was dispersed by auction on the 20th inst. at Coldicote, Stratford-on-Avon, and was a most successful sale, an average of £120 5s. 2d. being secured for sixty head. The herd was a remarkably fine one, it having been carefully selected at considerable cost from the most leading breeders and was in an excellent breeding state, as the young cows and heifers, and an extraordinarily good lot of bull and heifer calves testified. Mr. Jolliffe does not care for showing; but has supported the county shows of Warwickshire and Worcestershire and invariably won, whilst his five young bulls at Birmingham this spring realised 1,097 gs., an average of over £230.

At the sale on the 20th inst. there was a large attendance, and some spirited bidding. The highest price was 370 gs. for the bull Primrose Pride, bred by Mr. Duthie, the purchasers being Messrs. Denny. The cow Rose of Lynedoch made 355 gs. to Mr. Duthie, and Broadhooks 15th 340 gs. to Mr. Mitchell. Jessica went to Mr. C. H. Sanford at 320 gs., whilst several others made well over the £100, as the following sale list will show:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Laura Jane, roan, c. May 12, 1895; s. Windsor 60209 ..... Earl Manvers	40
Jessica, red, c. March 20, 1896; s. Corporal 66868 ..... Mr. H. Dudding	76
Dalmeny Fragrance 4th, red and little white, c. May 10, 1896; s. Lord Provost 65846 ..... Mr. G. L. Reid	32
Her C.C., red, c. Sept. 4, 1905; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. C. W. Tindall	36
Rose of May, red roan, c. May 17, 1896; s. Abbotsford 66588 ..... Mrs. Walsh	61
Waterloo Countess, white, c. July 22, 1897; s. Bright Archer 68275 ..... Mr. A. T. Gordon	60
Veda 4th, red, c. March 14, 1898; s. Wild Emperor 2nd 71373 ..... Mr. F. Ames	50
Hazel, red roan, c. April 9, 1898; s. Jameson 74760 ..... Mr. F. Ames	160
Mary 14th, roan, c. Feb. 26, 1899; s. Cedar's Pride 70114 ..... Hon. C. Portman	80
Fairy Light, roan, c. March 15, 1899; s. Scottish Victor 69557 ..... Mr. H. Higson	40
Rosebriar, red, c. Jan. 22, 1900; s. Count Arthur 70194 ..... Mr. S. Mitchell	130
Columbia, red, c. March 17, 1900; s. Prince of Beauty 77489 ..... Mr. R. Hague	42
Duchess Frederica, red and white, c. March 18, 1900; s. Frederick the Great 72563 ..... Mr. G. Dickson	63
Snow Queen, white, c. March 24, 1900; s. Moonlight 75110 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	72
Sylvia 4th (twin to a heifer), red and little white, c. March 4, 1901; s. Silver Boy 79862 ..... Mr. R. R. Rothwell	70
Rose Lynedoch, roan, c. March 17, 1901; s. Lord Lynedoch 74900 ..... Mr. W. Duthie	355
Fancy 9th, roan, c. June 3, 1901; s. Scottish Prince 73593 ..... Mr. W. B. Robinson	65
Lady Abbotsford, red roan, c. June 30, 1901; s. Abbotsford 2nd 69838 ..... Mr. S. Mitchell	95
Sycamore 4th, red, c. August 9, 1901; s. Mescombe 79429 ..... Captain Whitting	135
Hazel 2nd, red and little white, c. Jan. 7, 1902; s. Mescombe 79429 ..... Mr. F. Ames	120
Chalice, red, c. Feb. 8, 1902; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. C. H. Sanford	120
Stella, red, c. March 13, 1902; s. Star of Destiny 71682 ..... Hon. C. Portman	105
Rachael, roan, c. April 9, 1902; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. S. Mitchell	90
Maisie, white, c. August 9, 1902; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. T. Potter	71
Joan, roan, c. Jan. 11, 1903; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. C. H. Sanford	210
Broadhooks 15th, red, c. March 20, 1903; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. S. Mitchell	340
Veda 12th, roan, c. May 17, 1903; s. Lord St. Clair 79305 ..... Mr. H. Dudding	70
Jessamine, red, c. July 24, 1903; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Earl of Sefton	135
Sylvia 5th, red, c. July 25, 1903; s. Golden Arrow 82583 ..... Hon. C. Portman	125
Jessica 3rd, red, c. Oct. 18, 1903; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. C. H. Sanford	320
Lady Fragrant 15th, red and little white, c. Jan. 11, 1904; s. Crimson Rambler 80800 ..... Right Hon. A. J. Balfour	56
Hazel 3rd, white, c. Jan. 12, 1904; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Hon. C. Portman	145
Flora 4th, roan, c. Feb. 1, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. C. H. Sanford	170
Rosebush, white, c. Feb. 6, 1904; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. T. Matthews	80
Diamond 30th, white, c. March 1, 1904; s. Count Nicholas 76435 ..... Mr. W. Graham	43
Primrose Dame, red, c. March 30, 1904; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. W. M. Scott	67
Maisie 2nd, rich roan, c. April 9, 1901; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. R. W. Hudson	81

Rosie 5th, red, c. April 23, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. J. Eccles 90
Veda 14th, red roan, c. May 26, 1904; s. Royal Emperor of Oxford 16th 84609 ..... Mr. E. Harwood 38
War Dance, roan, c. July 4, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 Hon. C. Portman 190
Joyous, red roan, c. Nov. 18, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. C. H. Sanford 90
Golden Wreath 12th, rich roan, c. Jan. 7, 1905; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. J. Deane Willis 220
Ransom, rich roan, c. Feb. 16, 1905; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. T. Matthews 50
Lady Sanquhar, red, c. March 21, 1906; s. Earl of Sanquhar 85849 ..... Mr. G. Dickson 35
Columbia 2nd, red and white, c. March 31, 1905; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. A. T. Gordon 25
Janette, roan, c. April 16, 1905; s. Golden Arrow 83583 Earl of Northbrook 68
Marie 3rd, red roan, c. May 8, 1905; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Earl of Northbrook 75

BULLS.

Primrose Pride 79605, roan, c. March 12, 1900; s. Pride of Morning 64546 ..... Messrs. Denny 370
Golden Arrow 83583, red, c. Nov. 6, 1901; s. Golden Star 76799 ..... Hon. C. Portman 255
Buxburn 88088, white, c. Jan. 4, 1904; s. Winsome Lad 82648 ..... Mr. W. Jones 40
May King 89280, red, c. Sept. 16, 1904; s. Golden Arrow 83583 ..... Mr. F. Ames 220
Golden Shaft 88734, rich roan, c. Sept. 24, 1904; s. Golden Arrow 83583 ..... Mr. C. H. Sanford 200
Golden Light, red, c. Nov. 20, 1904; s. Golden Arrow 83583 ..... Sir O. Mosley, Bart. 51
Chancellor, red, c. Nov. 21, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. T. F. Roskruge 56
Choir Boy, red roan, c. Nov. 24, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. M. Marshall 200
Chaucer, red roan, c. Dec. 24, 1904; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. W. Nicholson 250
Chanticleer, red and little white, c. Jan. 16, 1905; s. Chorister 76351 ..... Mr. R. H. Abbot 90
Christopher, red, c. Feb. 4, 1905; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. H. S. Williams 54
Golden Flash, red and little white, c. April 22, 1905; s. Golden Arrow 83583 .... Mr. J. O. Taylor and Co. 45
Sir Primrose, roan, c. April 24, 1905; s. Primrose Pride 79605 ..... Mr. H. S. Leon 95
Chamberlain, red, c. May 7, 1905; s. Chorister 76351 Mr. G. Harris n 76

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
46 cows	111 3 9	....	5,114 11 0
14 bulls	150 1 6	....	2,101 1 0
60 head	120 5 2	....	7,215 12 0

Sale of Red-Polled Cattle at Bury St. Edmunds.

The Ditchingham herd of Red Polled cattle, belonging to Mr. H. Rider Haggard, of Ditchingham House, Bungay, was included in a sale held on Wednesday, at Bury St. Edmunds, Messrs. Simpson and Sons, being the auctioneers. This choice small herd was established in 1860 by the purchase of heifers from the Shouldham herd of the late Dr Allen, and tracing back to the old Norfolk Duke blood. Subsequently, animals were purchased from Marham, as well as cows from the late Mr. H. Spurling's herd at Shotley. Of twenty-nine lots, the best Red Polled cow fetched £27 10s. Others fetched from £19 to £18, and from £17 10s. to £16, and from £15 10s. to £15, and some from £14 10s. to £14. A very few sold at prices below these quotations. A Red Polled bull made £18 10s. Mr. F. J. Methold, of Thorne Court, Shimpling, consigned Red Polled cows, one of which fetched £13 10s. Amongst his Red Polled heifers, £6 10s. was the top price. Mr. C. S. Ewer sent a Polled cow, which made £20. Mrs. M. Tharp's consignment from Chippenham included a Red Polled cow, which made £13 5s., and a Red Shorthorn bull, which fetched £11 15s. Mrs. Maul, of Market Weston, had consigned several well-bred Shorthorn heifers, each with a calf at foot. These lots realised from £19 10s. to £19; two made £17 10s. each, one £17, another £15.

The Frenze Hall Red Polled.

The Frenze Hall herd of pedigree Red Polled dairy cattle was dispersed by Messrs. T. W. Gaze and Son, at the repository sale grounds, Diss, on Friday. The herd was founded in 1885, by the late Mr. Thomas William Gaze, by the purchase of five specially selected heifers from the herd of the late Sir Edward Kerrison, four being of the Oakley group, and one of Mileham blood, and bulls from the Thornham herd were then used. Fresh blood was introduced by the purchase of bulls from the well-known herd of Mr. Alfred Taylor, of Starston Place, and a grand bull, Woodstock, bred by the late Sir Baldwin W. Walker, was purchased in 1897; his dam, 4817, Charm, won, when ten years old, second prize in the milking trials and second in the inspection class at the London Dairy Show, 1896. Bulls were also purchased from Mr. Garrett Taylor's herd, and the blood of the foundation cows and the above-mentioned sires are maintained to the present day. The herd was never exhibited, being kept exclusively for dairy purposes.

Considering the condition of the market for pedigree milking cattle, good prices were realised, a good company assembling from far and near. Among the cows and heifers, Kinross, calved in 1901, sire Bogey Man, fetched 21½ gs.; Kissing Cup, c. January, 1898, s. Woodstock, 26 gs.; Kirkcaldy, c. June, 1902, s. Ensign, 20 gs.; Northern Light, c. March, 1903, s. Ensign, 21½ gs.; Nocturne, c. March, 1902, 20 gs.; New Broom, c. July, 1902, s. Ensign, 21 gs. The highest-priced bull was Starston Plunger, c. May, 1903, which made 18 gs. Kissing Cup was purchased by Mr. Cowdry for Lord Rothschild. Other buyers included Mr. Bascombe, Grimsby; Mr. W. Taylor, Upper Norwood; Mr. Youngman, Walsham; Mr. C. Simpson, Old Buckenham, Mr. G. Symonds, Thelveton; Mr. Edgar, Cockfield; Messrs. Woilard, Goodwin, How, Lait, Jeffries, F. R. Rout, Brame, R. Baldwin, P. Palmer, and Tibbenham.

The Showle Court Herefords and Sheep.

There was a large attendance of farmers and dealers at the sale of Mr. H. W. Taylor's stock on The Farm, Tarrington, on Thursday, when Messrs. A. and D. Edwards sold a portion of the well-known Showle Court pedigree Herefords, together with a flock of 400 Shropshire and Ryeland sheep, horses, implements, etc. The sheep consisted of the whole of Mr. Taylor's flock of Shropshires and about forty Ryelands. The Shropshires were started from ewes bred by Mr. Coxon and Mr. Nott and others, and good selections were made in the choice of rams. The Ryelands were as old a flock as could be found in the county. No big prices were obtained, the highest for three-year-old Shropshires being 51s. and for two shear 51s. The highest figure for Ryeland rams was 65s. Three-year-old Shropshire ewes averaged 49s.; two-year-old ewes averaged 47s. 6d. apiece; and yearling ewes worked out at 45s. apiece. Shropshire ewe lambs made on the average nearly 30s. Shropshire wether lambs made 29s.

The pedigree Herefords formed part of the well-known Showle Court Herd, which has been in existence for over half a century and which was founded by Mr. Taylor's father, whose name is to be found in the early volumes of the Herd Book. The cattle having not been shown for several years were only in store condition. The highest figure obtained was 23 gs. for the bull calf of Rosabella, which was bought by Mr. Smith, of Ledbury. Rosabella was bought by Mr. Bradstock, who was a big purchaser. The best prices for cows (calves sold separately), was Coriander, 17½ gs.; Perfection, 19½ gs.; Nell Gwynne, 17 gs.; Madame Rachel, 21 gs.; Queen Catherine, 16 gs.; Tarrington Queen, 15½ gs.; and for the heifer calf of Coriander, 13½ gs. The best prices for three-year-old heifers were Sweet Marian, 23 gs.; Christina, 15½ gs.; and Glass Jug, 15½ gs. The highest figures for two-year-old heifers were secured with Aline, 22 gs.; Cecilia, 21 gs.; and Royal Gem, 15½ gs.; whilst 16 gs. for Pansy was the best price for yearling heifers. Steers made in the best instances £28 10s. and £26 the pair.

Exporting Irish Live Stock to France.

Last Wednesday the Committee of the Irish Cattle Traders' Association, under the presidency of Mr. William Field, M.P., met in Dublin to consider the possibility of starting a direct export trade in live stock between Dublin and France. The great decrease in Irish live stock exports lately makes it imperative that something of this sort should be done, and the secretary of the association was directed to see the French Consul in Dublin, and ascertain particulars as to freights, railway rates, etc. The figures, showing the decrease in the export of stock from the Port of Dublin from January 1 to October 21 of the present year are given as follows:—Cattle 27,196; sheep 43,911; pigs 102,903; horses 2,907; asses 539; and goats 381; in comparison with the same period of last year. A total export decrease of 177,842 in live stock, represents a tremendous falling off in national capital, and a much smaller turn-over of money in the country.

Sale of Irish Shorthorns.

Messrs. John Thornton and Co. held a large sale at Derry, Moneygall, Roscrea, last Wednesday, when the herd of Shorthorns, the property of Major R. W. Cradock, was dispersed. The herd was originally founded in 1858, from the stock of Mr. R. Welsted, of Ballywalter, County Cork, and Major Cradock had been very successful since. A large number of breeders were in attendance, and very good prices were realised, the sixty-seven head offered for sale averaging nearly 20 gs. The highest price was paid by Mr. R. G. Carden for the bull Derryc Grandmaster (85753), a nice roan by Yeoman (80303), which fetched 110 gs. The cows, heifers, and calves also sold well.

Sale at Aberdeen.

The annual autumn joint-sale of pure-bred Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorn cattle in connection with the Agricultural Hall Company, Aberdeen, took place on Thursday, when the entries included 66 Aberdeen-Angus and 27 Shorthorns. In each case the quality was very mixed, comparatively few animals having either popular pedigrees or merit sufficient to commend them to a judicious breeder. Trade was consequently very stiff, the demand being practically entirely local. Aberdeen-Angus were first disposed of, and business dragged so badly at the outset that a considerable number were withdrawn unsold. The top price for bulls was 23 guineas, paid by Mr. Simpson, Slioch, for Prince Toby, an Emma of Montbletton calf by the Mulban-bred bull Postscript, belonging to Mr. Wattie, Milton, Glenbucket. For another of the same draft, Mr. Reith, Aberdeen, paid 22 guineas. This was Prince Sam, an Alexandra of Montbletton, also by Postscript. For females, the highest price was 28 guineas, paid by Colonel Gordon, of Culdrain, for a Pride of Aberdeen cow belonging to Mr. Forbes, Greystone. Dainty Darling, a cow from Cullen House, and sired by the Ballindalloch-bred bull Emerson, made 23 guineas. Twenty-seven bulls made an average of £17 18s. 9d., compared with an average of £18 5s. 8d. last year, and a total of 53 head, both males and females, averaged £16 16s., compared with £17 12s. 9d. for sixty head last year. There was a slightly firmer trade for Shorthorns, but the gross average for 21 head was only £20 16s., representing a drop of twenty shillings per head on last year. Gross average for sixteen bulls sold was £20 1s. 7d., compared with £22 13s. last year. Top price for bulls was 54 guineas, paid by Mr. Robert Duncan, Aberdeen, for Silver Prince, a Cruickshank Butterfly three-year-old bull belonging to A. Irving Fortescue, of Kingcausie, whilst the highest price for females was 30 guineas, paid by Mr. Campbell, Kinellar, for Hilda, a six-year-old cow of Cruickshank Countess strain, belonging to Mr. Florence Knowley, Warthill. A Cruickshank Flora two-year-old heifer, belonging to Mrs. Smith, Bogside, made 22 guineas, the purchaser being Mr. Walker, Tillygreig; and a Red Lady five-year-old cow, belonging to Mr. Florence Knowley, made the same price, the purchaser being Mr. J. G. Stephen, Conglass. The following is a summary of the sale:—

ABERDEEN ANGUS.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
27 Bulls	17 8 9	....	470 18 6
8 Cows	19 16 4	.....	158 11 0
3 Two-year-old heifers	20 9 5	...	61 8 6
10 Yearling heifers	13 11 11	.....	135 19 6
5 Heifer calves	12 14 1	.....	63 10 6
53	16 16 0		890 8 0

SHORTHORNS.

16 Bulls	20 1 7	...	321 6 0
3 Cows	24 3 0	.....	72 9 0
2 Two-year-old heifers	20 10 6	.....	43 1 0
21	20 16 0		435 16 0

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
October 30	Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Pigs	Mr. J. B. Dimmock ..	Shotford Hall, Harleston, Norfolk.
31	Shorthorn Cattle	Various	York Cattle Market.
31	Red Polled Cattle... ..	Various	Drill Hall, Ipswich.
November 1	Cattle, Sheep and Pigs ...	Sir Oswald Mosley ...	Home Farm, Rolleston, near Burton-on-Trent.
2	Shorthorn Cattle	Mr. M. Lewtas & Mr. T. P. Halsall	Stalmine Grange, Poulton-le-Tylde, Lancs.
2 & 3	Shires, Harness Horses, Hunters, &c.	Various	Crewe Horse Repository.
3	Shires, Harness Horses, Hunters, &c.	Various	Peterborough Repository.
7	Hunters, Harness Horses, &c.	Various	Cardiff and South Wales Horse Repository, Cardiff.
9	Shire Horses	Messrs. W. & J. Thompson	Desford, Leicester.
9 & 10	Hunters, Shires, Hackneys, Harness Horses, &c.	Various	Cheshire Repository, Crewe.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

Animal surgery has progressed by leaps and bounds during the last few years, and some marvellous things have been done. More than one valuable cow has passed the last years of her life with a wooden leg, and broken limbs of dogs have been set successfully. Nor has the broken leg of a horse always defied veterinary skill, though the horse, from his extreme nervousness and irritability, is a difficult animal to treat surgically, and incidentally it may be mentioned that there has been considerable trouble with Sansovino, who broke his leg at exercise a short time ago, and who has a rooted objection to the slings. But by far the most remarkable case of dealing with a broken-legged horse is that of Morris Dancer. On June 2 that horse, the property of Major Vance, broke a leg at Epsom. On Tuesday last he ran again at Gosforth Park, and managed to run into third place. The exact extent of his injuries I do not know, but it was generally stated at the time that he had broken his leg. Neither do I know the veterinary surgeon. But the fact is one which deserves to be chronicled.

Of all the curious suggestions that have been made respecting the future management of the Royal Agricultural Society is that which appeared in last Thursday's *Times* over the signature of Sir Charles Thomas Dyke Acland. Sir Thomas begins by begging the question. He says that everyone who has the welfare of agriculture at heart rejoices that the council has returned to a policy of country shows. I fancy there are many advocates of the permanent showyard who have shown and are showing their devotion to agriculture and the Royal Agricultural Society in quite as marked a manner as those who are of opposite opinions. This, however, is not the point at issue. Opinions are sure to be divided on this question, and time alone will try whose opinions have most reason on their side.

But when Sir Thomas Dyke Acland suggests that at the Royal prizes should not be given, and that medals of comparatively small value or certificates should be substituted, he strikes at the whole system of showing, and especially affects the interests of horse-owners and breeders. In the first place, he asserts that not more than a third of the exhibitors receive any prize money at all, and then he says that these money prizes—"a very large proportion, probably as much as three-fourths goes to the wealthiest fourth of winning exhibitors, who probably, if they ever see the cheque at all, it is handed at once to the steward or herd." Taking this last statement first, I think it will be generally admitted that it is beside the question, and that what a man does with the money he wins has nothing to do with the principle at stake. I know of some establishments where the prize money won is handed over to the manager of the stud as his own. It is, in fact, a part of his salary, and was bargained for when he entered on the situation. In others the prizes won are divided between the owner of the stud and his manager, and in others, again, every item goes to the credit side of the stud account.

The expenses of a large stud are necessarily very heavy, and showing expenses are no small item in a year's expenditure. It is only fair, therefore, that the manager should have the credit of every win, and that there should be some substantial amount to win at the large shows where the outlay involved by exhibiting is necessarily heavy. But Sir Thomas Acland would have the other big shows all follow the example which he hopes the Royal will set, though he does not object to the small county shows (how does he class the Royal Lancashire, the Yorkshire, the Nottinghamshire, and others like them?) giving money prizes. He cannot have really thought out the matter, or what a serious upheaval in the show system an adoption of his advice would entail.

Let us go no further than the last Royal Show at Park Royal, and take the prize money won in the horse classes. I purposely leave out the Suffolk classes, because I know but little of the owners of Suffolk horses. I have also left out the harness classes and all those for which overnight entries were taken. This, however, leaves a sufficiently wide ground upon which to base an argument, for all the more important sections are under consideration, viz., Hunters, Hackneys, Cleveland Bays, Yorkshire Coach Horses, Polo and Riding Ponies, Shetland Ponies, Ponies, Mountain and Moorland Ponies, Shires, and Clydesdales. Dividing exhibitors into two classes, professionals (by whom I mean tenant farmers, and men who derive a considerable portion of their livelihood by breeding or buying and selling horses), and amateurs (by whom I mean men who spend immense sums on princely establishments, intending, doubtless, to show a profit, but to whom a profit on this particular portion of their enterprise is a secondary consideration), we find that professionals took £726 in prizes, against £639 taken by amateurs. It may, perhaps, be objected that amongst the professionals I have included some men who are well to do. Undoubtedly I have, but they are well to do on account of the skill with which they have conducted their business.

Sir Thomas Acland would, further, not allow any animal to enter for the Royal that had not taken first or second prize at certain shows to be specified. This, of course, means that the shows would have to be of good standing—something a long way in front of the ordinary district show. Whether it may be desirable to restrict the entries in some sections is a matter with which I have nothing to do in this column. It may or may not be. But one thing is certain that anything at all likely to restrict the entries in the horse sections would entirely do away with the national character of the show. The weak feature of the horse section at the Royal has been for many years small classes. One reason exhibitors give for not showing is that the prizes are out of proportion to the expenses; and, assuredly, if Sir Thomas Acland's advice were followed, there would soon be an end of the Royal as a horse show.

It has been announced in the newspapers that the world's record for a high jump has been made, and that a rail 7 ft. 10 in. in height has been jumped. Is it necessary to add that this remarkable feat was done in America? Mind, I am not disputing the accuracy of the statement, and I do not see why an exceptional jumper should not have made such a record. I have once seen 7 ft. jumped. This was when Bailey and Barnum's circus was held on Knavesmire. It was certainly a wonderful performance, and the circumstances were not especially favourable, so that where they were favourable it is, I think, quite within the range of probability that the other 10 in. could be jumped. But this is trick jumping, and, though clever enough, is by no means good for getting a man over a country. I asked Messrs. Bailey and Barnum's manager what would happen if he were ridden to the tail of hounds from Knavesmire Wood and over the rails which fence off the racecourse. His answer was brief and to the point, "I guess he'd fall," said he. Horses that jump these great heights do not seem to jump at all in our sense of the word. They apparently lift themselves over the rail. What good purpose is served by the trick it is difficult to see. To begin with, the style in which the horse jumps makes it especially dangerous for his rider, who has only the remotest chance of getting clear of him; and, as before intimated, a horse that jumps in this style cannot spread himself sufficiently to jump water. The biggest jump I have ever seen is the stone wall in the Duke of Beaufort's country, which was jumped for a wager many years ago. This wall is 6 ft. high, and is a sufficiently formidable obstacle. Some forty-five years ago there was a bet made about a horse jumping a big wall in Ireland—I think the wall was two or three inches over the six feet, but cannot be sure. One stipulation was that the huntsman was to have hounds at the far side of the wall, and to blow his horn and gallop away to encourage the horse, who was to have three trials. He jumped the wall right enough, but not till the third attempt, if memory serves me rightly. It certainly seems needless to train horses to jump 6 ft. or more of timber when not one man in fifty will tackle 4 ft. if it is very strong, no matter how big a hurry he may be in.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Essex Horse Show Awards in Dispute.

At the Chelmsford County Court, on Wednesday, before His Honour Judge Tindal Atkinson, the Essex Agricultural Society (through Mr. Fred Taylor, the secretary, and Mr. David Christy, one of the Council) were sued by Mr. Walter Burnell Tubbs, of Harley Street, London, for the sum of £30. At the last Essex Show, held at Southend, Mr. Tubbs was awarded by the judges three first prizes, of the value of £10 each, in the horse classes, but a protest was lodged on the ground that at the time the entries were made the plaintiff was not the bona fide owner of the horses (which were awarded the first prizes) and on this ground the Council of the Society withheld the money.

For the plaintiff it was stated that the case turned upon the meaning of the Society's bye-law, which said that entries should be the "bona fide property of the exhibitor at the date fixed for the time of entries." Learned counsel's contention was that this meant at the time the exhibitor was allowed to enter. These horses were bought by the plaintiff, at a public auction, on May 25, and the following day they were entered for the Essex Show. The time announced for the close of entries was advertised to be May 16, but that late-entries would be accepted, by payment of extra fees, on May 23. The plaintiff, however, knowing the practice of secretaries to frequently accept entries on a later date than that fixed, tendered his entry on May 26, and it was accepted. It was incidentally mentioned that the protest was lodged by Sir Walter Gilbey.

His Honour said it was an important question, and he would reserve judgment until November 8.

Sir R. Wilmot's Large Blacks.

On Wednesday, the herd of pedigree Large Black pigs, belonging to Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart., was sold by Messrs. Buckland and Sons, in conjunction with Mr. Ernest Prentice (secretary to the Large Black Pig Society), at the Grove Farm, Binfield, Berks, and with a good attendance of buyers from a distance and the neighbourhood, satisfactory prices were realised. An average of £8 14s. per head was obtained for sows, the top price being 10 gs., and a pair of six months old gilts brought 9 gs., the average for twenty-one being £3 4s. per head. Boars averaged £7 13s. 3d. each, the stock boar Binfield Cæsar making 12½ gs., and young boars from 5 to 8 gs. The purchasers of the principal lots were Lord Moreton of Sarsden, and Mr. E. C. Voysey (Oxfordshire), Mr. Hy. David (South Wales), Mr. Howard Palmer (Berks), Mr. W. Huntriss (Notts), Mr. L. Stevenson (Lincs), Mr. H. W. Langley (Shropshire), Mr. Harold Wardlaw (Dorset), and Mr. Ernest Prentice.

Fareham Farmers' Club.

The members of the Farcham and Hants Farmers' Club met at Fareham on Thursday, when the Secretary presented the accounts of the last annual horse show at Petersfield, these showed donations to have been £268 1s. 6d., gate money £188 1s. 2d., entry fees £92 6s. 6d., programmes £19 9s. 3d., right of supplying refreshments £12, sale of timber, hurdles, etc., £51 1s., the total being £635 5s. 5d. Last year the total receipts were £540, exactly the same amount as was received at Petersfield four years ago. The total receipts had therefore gone up nearly £100 over the previous year. The expenditure, however, was £50 more than last year, prizes taking £268 4s. 6d., and a balance was left in hand of £100 3s. 10d.

The club considered the question of the amendment and consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Act, and Mr. Christian said this was required. With regard to the law as to compensation, it was based upon two or three Acts of Parliament, which all had to be consulted so as to know what was the law. What they wanted was a comprehensive Act covering the whole of the law. They wanted the Act simplified also. The important point was that they wanted security of tenure. As far as possible the tenant should be protected, so that the tenant's rent should not be raised on his own improvements. He moved, and it was agreed to, that in the opinion of the club the Agricultural Holdings Act should be consolidated and so amended, that greater security should be given to the tenant, in order to encourage good farming, and also protection should be secured for the landlord against negligence and deterioration on the part of the tenant. A discussion also took place on the bird question, and a resolution was passed as follows:

"This club considers that the Wild Birds Protection Act requires amendment, and birds which do damage to farm crops and fruit should be withdrawn from its provision."

SHEEP.

Notes and Jottings.

It will have been evident from the many reports of shipments given in connection with the Kent or Romney Marsh breeder, that there has been experienced during the past year a large demand for these sheep. The figures, however, given by the secretary at the last Council meeting in connection with this export demand, were much larger than generally anticipated. From January 1 last to the present date 475 head of these sheep have been exported. This total is by far the largest on record for the time, and fully confirms the belief that the results which have followed the introduction of these sheep into South America have been entirely satisfactory.

Six new members were added to the members' list at the last meeting of the Council, each of them being flock owners, and one life-member was also elected—*i.e.*, Dr. W. Walker, an Argentine breeder of Kent or Romney Marsh sheep, who thus becomes the first foreign member of this society.

Amongst the sales of imported sheep in the Argentine that have been reported by the last mail is one of particular significance, namely that of five imported Oxford Down yearling rams, as it is presumed these were for an average of £98 17s. 6d. per head, the individual prices of which were £236 5s., £87 10s., £70, £65 12s. 6d., and £43 15s. The executors of N. Vivot were the purchasers of the top-priced ram.

Messrs. Dean and Son, of Dowsby, has also had a very satisfactory sale of Lincoln rams at Buenos Ayres, twenty head making an average of £50 each, the range of prices being from £91 17s. 6d. to £26 5s.

Twenty other rams of the same breed also sold at the Argentine, realised a slightly better average—*i.e.*, £52 12s., the range of prices being from £96 5s. to £21 17s. 6d.

The high prices that have been for many years paid by the importers of Lincoln sheep in the Argentine make any sale returns of rams sold in that country of interest to English breeders, because unless those who import the high-priced stud rams are able to realise adequate profit, it follows that the demand will not continue. However, from the summary of prices given below it will be evident that the investment made by purchasing leading and typical stud rams is one that has well paid for the outlay incurred. Mr. M. J. Cobo's average for ten Lincoln rams works out at £96 17s. 3d.; Mr. J. M. Malbran's for thirteen at £49 5s.; Mr. C. Lopez's for fifteen at £42 19s. 3d.; Mr. J. Macdonald for five at £42 18s. 6d.; the Espartillar Estancia Co. for ten at £40 8s. 6d.; Mr. C. Pereda for fourteen £38 17s.; Mr. R. Walker for five at £37 2s.

For yearling Lincoln rams the following are amongst the best averages realised at the Palermo sales:—Mr. G. Villafane for seven £61 17s. 3d.; Mr. T. E. de Anchorena for five £42 17s. 6d.; Mr. M. J. Cobo for seventeen £40 8s. 6d.; and Mr. R. Walker for five £32 4s.

The Argentine-bred Oxford Downs, from the executors of Mr. Vivot's flock, averaged £26 10s. 3d., and Mr. R. Taurel's Shropshire ram lambs averaged £23 5s.; another lot of this breed from Mr. M. J. Cobo's making £14, and a lot of ten Hampshire Down ram lambs realised £10 4s. 9d. per head.

The Council of the Southdown Society at its last meeting elected no less than seventeen new members. The increase in the membership of this Society is most gratifying, but there is room for more energetic action on the part of the Society in the advancement of the interests of the breed in importing countries, particularly South America. Southdown mutton is famous all over the world for its fine flavour and high quality. These merits must make the breed a valuable one for the production of first-class mutton, and consequently the breed is one that should be largely used in breeding up sheep and lambs to be slaughtered and sent here as mutton.

The value of the Southdown for crossing purposes is not so fully appreciated as it should be. The cross-bred classes at Smithfield have many times had some really grand specimens of cross-bred sheep sired by Southdowns included, but as a rule those who adjudicate in these classes give preference to the crosses of the larger breeds.

It would be an excellent object lesson were the Smithfield Society to offer prizes for cross-bred sheep with a limit of live weight. This weight limit was formerly one of the conditions in some of the pure-bred classes, but for some reason or other it was given up. Probably the larger increase in weight possible under present-day management had something to do with this being done, but in view of the higher prices obtained for the neat, small joints at the present time it would appear advisable for such a class to be again added to the schedule, particularly for cross-breds, for the object of exhibiting such sheep is to demonstrate the value for the butcher of the result of crossing the breeds of pure-bred sheep. The Shropshire sheep are evidently becoming very popular in Australia. Some notable prices have been made for rams of this breed at Melbourne. Mr. A. E. Mansell, who, before he emigrated to Tasmania, was one of the leading breeders at home, has evidently been able to continue his successful career in his new home. Amongst the prices secured for yearling rams by this breeder were 205, 175, 160, 120, and 105 gs., ten making the excellent average of 102 gs.

Mr. Harry Williams, another of the Shropshire breeders that have left England for Tasmania, in recent years was first for yearling rams, and first and champion for two-shear rams, which, when sold, made 130 and 105 gs. each, and this breeder also averaged £31 10s. for seventeen yearling ewes.

The Australasian breeders are waking up to the fact if their mutton is to keep pace in respect to quality, etc., with the Argentine they must use more of the English strains of blood. The adoption of this suggestion means a much larger demand for English mutton breeds, and emphasises the need there is that success should attend the efforts of the National Sheep Breeders' Association to secure a reduction in the period of quarantine enforced on all imported sheep into the whole of the Australasian Colonies.

Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders Association.

A meeting of the Council of the Dorset Horn Sheep Breeders' Association was held at Yeovil on the 20th inst., when, under the chairmanship of Mr. F. J. Merson (Bridgwater), the Secretary reported that the Finance Committee had gone through the accounts, and the balance at the bank was satisfactory. They had £200 on deposit and £80 10s. 10d. on the current account. The Committee had sanctioned the signing of cheques for £44 2s. 3d. The report was adopted. A letter was received from the Secretary of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, stating that the Society's Stock Prize Sheet Committee had resolved to recommend to the Council that the usual prizes for shearling ram, pair of ram lambs, and pair of three shearling ewes be offered in the Somerset and Dorset horned classes at the Swindon meeting next year. The Committee were informed that there was a desire on the part of some of the breed associations to add prizes for two shear rams in the various sheep classes. He (Mr. T. F. Plowman) did not know what the views of the Dorset Association might be as to this, but he was authorised to say that should their Association desire to offer such prizes they would be pleased to afford facilities for their doing so.

It was resolved, on the the proposition of Mr. Creed, seconded by Mr. Hawkins, to write to the Bath and West Society suggesting that it would be desirable in the interests of the breed to offer prizes for a pen of three chilver lambs. They were of opinion that it was not desirable to offer prizes for two shearling lambs. They regretted to notice that the Society at their show last year cut out the Dorset Horn classes altogether.

On the motion of Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mr. H. Elworthy, it was agreed that the delegates to the meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association be asked to support the following resolutions on the agenda:—(1) "That the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society be asked to pass a resolution that, in the opinion of this Council, the time has arrived when it should be a condition of entry at the Royal Agricultural Societys Show that all sheep entered for competition in the pure-bred classes should be either entered, or eligible for entry, in their respective flock books, and that the judges appointed to award the prizes in all pure-bred sheep classes should be selected by the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society from gentlemen nominated by the respective Sheep Societies"; and (2) "To consider whether or not it is desirable that an effort should be made to secure a reduction of the period of quarantine enforced against stud sheep exported by this country to Australia."

The Secretary reported that the result of the Association advertising in the foreign papers was very satisfactory. This year they exported more sheep to foreign countries than in any year during the existence of the Association. He had signed certificates for seven rams to America, two to New Zealand, and two to Australia, fifty-one ewes to America, and eight to Australia, making a grand total of seventy-one. In addition to these sheep had been sent to Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and the Isle of Man. He thought there was more demand for the breed, which seemed to be appreciated.

Mr. Ensor announced that he should like to offer for competition in May a 20-guinea challenge cup for ram lambs. The prize would be for the best pen of ram lambs of not less than four, nor more than eight, to be taken in the proportion of two ram lambs to every 100 ewes, the lambs to be dropped on or after November 1.

On the motion of the Chairman it was resolved unanimously that Mr. Ensor's offer be accepted.

Suffolk Sheep Society's Flock Competition.

The thirteen Suffolk flocks and six lots of ewe lambs entered in competition for the various challenge cups offered in the annual flock competitions of the Suffolk Sheep Society, have, during the past few weeks, been visited by the judges, and the premier award—the Bristol Champion Challenge Cup, for the best flock of Suffolk breeding ewes—has been awarded to the flock of three hundred ewes belonging to Mr. Percy Eagle, of Risby Hall, near Bury St. Edmund's, the reserve number being bestowed upon the flock of 169 ewes owned by Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, of Livermere Park. The full list of awards is as follows:—

Division 1A (previous cup-winners, flocks of over 240 ewes): The Baird Challenge Cup, Mr. Percy Eagle, of Risby.

Division 1B (previous cup-winners, flocks not exceeding 240 ewes): The Davis Challenge Cup: Withheld in consequence of lack of entries.

Division 2A (flocks of over 240 ewes): The Wentworth Reeve Challenge Cup, Mr. Leopold Davies, of Herringswel; r. and v.h.c., Right Hon. Earl Cadogan, K.G., Culford; v.h.c., Mr. Robert Barclay, Higham; h.c., Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall; and c., Mr. S. W. Slater's Exors., Balsham.

Division 2B (flocks not exceeding 240 ewes): Adair Challenge Cup, Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Livermere Park; r. and v.h.c., Mr. W. G. Fairhead, Peldon; v.h.c., Mr. Clement C. Smith, Trimley; h.c., Mr. A. W. Ruggles-Brise, Spains Hall, and Mr. J. T. Stockburn, Clare.

Pretyman Challenge Cup (for ewe lambs): Mr. Thos. Keeble, Bentley Hall; r. and v.h.c., Mr. Herbert Smith, Walton Grange; v.h.c., Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall; h.c., Mr. Robert Barclay, Higham, and Mr. Robert E. Smith, Otley; c., Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Livermere Park.

Bristol Champion Challenge Cup: Mr. Percy Eagle, Risby Hall; r., Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Livermere Park.

Dorchester Sheep Fair.

The last of the sheep fairs for the present season was held on Wednesday. Buyers were well represented, in spite of its being now recognised as a "cull" fair, although by no means entirely so, a good proportion of the sheep being of a very serviceable character, both horns and Downs. About 600 were penned altogether by Messrs. Ensor and Son and Messrs. Duke and Son, a smaller sale being conducted by Messrs. Symonds and Sampson. Considering the shortness of keep in many places, and that roots are on some holdings none too plentiful, there was a very good trade for the more useful grades, and most of the sheep found buyers, though in some prices fell below sellers' anticipations for very plain things.

As a general run ewes sold from 46s. to 52s. for best drafts, and from 36s. to 44s. for others; horn couples, 53s. to 72s. 6d.; horn wethers, 33s. to 45s. 6d.; horn Chilver lambs, 36s. to 43s. (Mr. W. R. Flower, Weal, and Stafford); horn wether lambs, 26s. 6d. to 37s.; cross-bred lambs, 26s. to 36s. In Downs the best draft of ewes made 38s. 6d. to 46s. 6d.; and seconds, 32s. to 37s.; Down wethers, 34s. to 50s.; Down Chilver lambs, 28s. to 35s. 6d.; Down wether lambs, 28s. to 35s. 6d.; mixed lambs, 26s. to 34s. 6d.; South Down ewes, 28s. to 36s.; South Down lambs, 23s. 6d. to 31s. On the whole it was considered a very satisfactory fair for sellers.

Winchester Fair.

Winchester Sheep and Lamb fair was held on Monday at Bar End. The weather was fine as compared with previous years, hence the stock was seen to advantage. This fair, like many others throughout England, has lost its importance when contrasted with those of fifty years ago. Then 12,000 or 13,000 were penned, but on Monday only 7,000. The prizes offered for ewe and wether lambs by the citizens and the Hursley Hunt are great aids to the maintenance of the fair.

Trade was brisk, and prices ruled quite a shilling a head above the recent Weyhill Fair. Messrs. Harris sold some of the pens which entered for the fat wether lambs, and they realised the following prices:—Mr. Phillips, 62s. to 65s.; Lord Ashburton, 61s. to 67s.; Mr. D. Nicol, 62s. to 63s.; Colonel Le Roy Lewis, D.S.O., 59s. to 60s.; Mr. James Stratton, 48s. to 53s.; Mr. B. M. Martin, 50s. 6d.; Mr. Eames, 56s.; Mr. F. Bostock, 54s. 6d. to 56s. 6d.; Messrs. Harris sold over 5,000 sheep, and they fetched good prices, for example, Mr. J. T. Best, 51s.

THE ROYAL SHOW CRISIS.

No Prize Money—Medals Only.

Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., writes to the *Morning Post* with reference to recent correspondence in the Press and various announcements which have been made as to the future of the Royal Agricultural Society. Sir Thomas says:—"I am sure that those who are interested in the progress of agriculture and the maintenance of an efficient Royal Agricultural Society for the whole kingdom must rejoice at the decision of their Council to return to the practice of local meetings, and will wish all success to the meeting at Derby. But what I wish specially to urge upon the consideration of the public, and especially of the supporters of the larger agricultural societies, is the utter needlessness and, as it seems to me, the extravagance of continuing the practice of giving money prizes for stock or implements. Anyone who will take the trouble to analyse the prize lists of the larger exhibitions, that is to say, the exhibitions not confined to one county, will find that as a rule not much more than one-third of the exhibitors receive anything at all in the shape of a prize, and yet many of them exhibit year after year in the hope of winning one. The money subscribed for prizes is, as a rule, distributed among not much more than a third of the total number of exhibitors, and among that number it will be found that very much the larger proportion, almost, it might be said, three-fourths, is distributed amongst the wealthiest fourth of those who receive prizes at all.

"Without giving any names, I am sure that it will be admitted at once that the money received by those persons is not the main inducement to them to exhibit. Probably if they ever see the cheque at all it is handed at once to their steward or hind.

"The object which they have in exhibiting is not the acquisition of money by means of prizes; it is solely the advertisement of their herd or flock, and no one knows better than the successful exhibitors themselves how great is the increase in the value of the produce of a prize-winner. I know of a case (probably not at all out of the common) in which the price of a calf which before the cow had been exhibited was about £3, jumped in a week or two to £16 upon her winning a good prize. By far the larger number of the prize-winning exhibitors in the Royal Agricultural Society, the Highland Agricultural Society, the Bath and West of England and Southern Counties Association, the Royal Counties Society, and at the Islington Shows, are moved by an intelligent, far-sighted public spirit, and they and the other exhibitors, I am firmly convinced, would continue to exhibit just the same if they received medals or some other more permanent testimonial than a cheque, which has no lasting value and is to them utterly unnecessary.

"It appears to me insulting to the owners of herds of world-wide reputation to suggest that they require the chance of winning £15 to induce them to exhibit. If the "Royal" would set the example of giving up the practice of money prizes and award medals or certificates it would save from £5,000 to £6,000 a year, and I cannot doubt that such a wise economy would very soon be adopted by other similar societies. I do not for a moment deprecate the giving of money prizes in small county shows, because the winners at these shows include a very large proportion of tenant farmers, and the addition of the money to the advertisement is to them of very great value, while the addition of money to the advertisement in the case of the larger shows cannot be said to be of any value at all.

"I have discussed this point with many people and generally found the truth of the opinion admitted, though I have met with some instances of persons prejudiced in favour of the old system. But it seems to me that the recent misfortunes of the Royal Agricultural Society afford at the present moment an ample justification for a revision of their old line. Another useful reform would be the exclusion from exhibition in the "Royal" showyard of any animal that has not previously won a first or second prize in some other approved show.

"We should then have quality rather than quantity. The area required would be diminished, and with it sundry other difficulties with which the 'Royal' has had to contend."

Farming Burdens Cause of Royal Show Troubles.

The peculiar situation in which the Royal Agricultural Society of England is placed to day makes me ask myself, Why should this be? writes Mr. A. J. Macdonald to the *Standard*. He answers himself, of course, there is the usual reply that the public do not patronise the annual show as they used to do, etc., but again I ask, Why should this be? May I venture to tell you? My father was one of the oldest members of the council of the R.A.S.E. when he died, and was a large landowner farming his own land. Year after year the loss on the agricultural account became heavier, until three years after his death I was compelled to abandon the hopeless struggle against foreign imports of agricultural produce imported into this country free of duty and sold at a price with which it was beyond the possibilities, at cost price, for home-grown produce to compete.

I dropped out of the ranks of English agriculturists, and let my farms. The new tenants would naturally not be bound down to any "four-course" or other system of farming, and now I view the fields which once were well cared for and farmed soundly turned into pasture or rather rough grass, with an occasional patch of something (?) which the tenant hopes may help to pay the rent. In the past twenty-five years, to my personal knowledge, my average rent per acre has fallen from 35s. to 18s., while rates and taxes have increased in proportion! Under these circumstances I have no further interest in agricultural shows, and do not attend them. I have now no bailiffs or head cowmen to send to attend these shows for their observation and instruction, and I personally avoid these shows, as they only too forcibly remind and prove to me that England is not prospering, and that something is wrong.

I do not wish to appear egotistical, but I emphatically state that my case does not stand alone, and that hundreds of similar cases collectively are partly the cause of the semi-collapse of the R.A.S.E.

We have now to face this fact, and to find the actual cause of it. The fact we face is the semi-collapse of the leading society of one, if not the principal, of our national industries; ousted from its proud position, compelled to retire to some humble kind of combined office and council chamber, forced to sell its exhibition grounds, and last, but not least, to probably sacrifice its efficiency, in having to part with a staff of experts, whose past services have deservedly been recognised and honoured by their Sovereign.

I daresay I shall be attacked for saying that England is not prospering, but I would ask my critics to account for the benefit obtained from the huge debt incurred by the London County Council since its creation, and also to satisfactorily demonstrate any benefit arising from an increase in rates in an agricultural district from 2s. 3d. to 7s. in the £.

I am only a humble individual with a sense of duty to my country, and when I see what I do see, with no one coming forward to remedy matters, I say deliberately that partial and qualified "Protection" is the only policy which will save the situation. Will others help and support me in my protest?"

Blackpool and the Royal Show.

Mr. James Pearson, chairman of the Blackpool Winter Gardens Company, on Saturday week presided at the thirty-first annual meeting of the shareholders, when he made an emphatic protest against what he described as "Corporation shows" being held at the busy times of the year. He wished, he said, to sound a note of warning to the Town Council with regard to their invitation to the Royal Agricultural Society to bring their show to Blackpool. If the society could not come at a quiet time of the year it would be a stupendous failure, like the motor races of this year, and the Corporation should not go on with it.

Suffolk Horse Society.

A meeting of the Council of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, Mr. R. Eaton White presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the president (Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P.).

On the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, reference was made to the question of granting duplicate export certificates for Suffolks. The secretary stated the result of his communications with the Shire Horse Society, in respect of the course they pursued, and it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. E. A. Cook, that a duplicate certificate should not be granted after an animal had left the country.

A suggestion was made by Mr. Cordy that the society should in future Stud Books have portraits of some of the best Suffolk men, to vary the practice of having illustrations of Suffolk horses. After some discussion it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Robert Edgar, to refer the matter to the Committee.

The Breeding Scheme Committee reported that at the Society's sale held in July, Society mares were purchased by Mr. C. B. Clowes, of Sutton; Mr. Freeman of Henley; and Mr. J. Cordle, of Holbrook, averaging 40 guineas apiece, on which the Society advanced £92 10s. The foals from four Society mares were disposed of, realising £73 10s. Crediting the four breeders £16 10s. each for their foals, and Mr. Pipe, of Framlingham, a further £6 10s., being half of price realised over 20 guineas in his case a total credit was passed to the breeders' account of £72 10s., leaving a balance of £1 in favour of the Society. In the season 1905 twenty nominations were granted to small holders. On the other hand, the sale of the nomination foals, for which the Society paid to the breeders £15 each, resulted in a loss of £4 to the Society. The report was adopted.

The Secretary stated that up to the present there had been 353 entries for the next Stud Book. The last volume contained 478 entries, but there was another month in which to make further entries, and it was expected that in that period there would be 200 more entries, which would thus exceed those of the last volume.

Hunters' Improvement Society.

Col. Victor Van de Weyer (president) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on Thursday.

Finance.

Col. G. C. Ricardo (chairman) reported that the balance at the bankers on the current account was £199 12s. 10d.; receipts since the last meeting, £160 12s. 6d.; arrears of subscription, £36 15s.; accounts for payment, £104 12s. 3d.

In accordance with the Council minute of February 9, 1905, the committee had carefully considered the amount of prizes which the Horse Show Committee had that morning suggested should be voted to the 1906 Spring Show, viz., £1,140, and the Finance Committee recommended that the Council approve the grant. Report adopted.

Special Committee on Horse Breeding.

Mr. Algernon Turnor, C.B. (chairman), reported that the committee had met on Monday, October 16, when the letter from the Brood Mare Society, referred to the committee by the Council at their last meeting, was discussed and ordered to stand over. The committee had further resolved to suggest to the Brood Mare Society that they should communicate with their local committees to ascertain what could be done in obtaining reports as to the class and character of existing thoroughbred and halfbred sires in their districts. The first report and accounts of the Brood Mare Society had been handed in to the committee. This report having been presented, Mr. Algernon Turnor stated that it would be interesting to the Council to know that the Brood Mare Society had got four districts established, with the fifth and sixth in preparation. There were three things strongly in evidence, firstly, that the farmers would take the mares that the Brood Mare Society provided; secondly, they could find plenty of gentlemen to form local committees; and, thirdly, that suitable mares could be obtained with a little trouble. What they wanted was encouragement in mares and funds.

Editing Committee.

Mr. Romer Williams (chairman) reported that the number of entries received for Volume II. of the Stud Book was 533, as compared with 525 in Volume 1. Though practically identical in the sum total, the three sections showed marked differences in their respective returns, an increase of seven stallions and forty-four mares in the more important section of the Stud Book being very satisfactory. That portion of the volume devoted to the record of honours gained by the produce of premium and registered hunter stallions continued to increase, as in the forth coming volume they would be able to show returns from over 365 stallions and their 1,370 produce. Many awards had of necessity to be omitted owing to the honours being restricted to those gained at National, County and Associated shows. Exhibitors and members could greatly extend the range of information given in these returns if they would use their best endeavours to obtain the co-operation of all shows offering prizes for hunters, whose returns would then be available for registration. Nineteen entries had been specially put before the committee for their consideration; three stallions were referred to members of the Council for inspection. The reproductions of the four champion hunters in the next volume of the Stud Book were duly approved. This report was adopted.

The 1906 Show.

Col. G. C. Ricardo (vice-chairman) presented the report of the meeting. The dates of the 1906 show would be Tuesday, March 13, to Thursday, March 15, inclusive. The prize list had been carefully considered, together with references to the committee from the Council. Comparative entries in each class for the last two years had also been prepared, and the committee recommended:—

(a) The retention for another year of the four-year old class for mares bred by the exhibitor and on Stud Book lines.

(b) The three weight classes for the last Show to be replaced by the following:—

Class 6. Five-year-old mares or geldings, not exceeding 14 stone.

Class 7. Five year-old mares or geldings, over 14 stone.

Class 8. Mares or geldings, four years old and upwards.

(c) The elimination of the special prizes offered for the best gelding in each section, and also the restriction of the yearling colts to the one class open to yearling colts or geldings.

The committee therefore recommended the

adoption of the proposed schedule of prizes amounting to £1,140, while they strongly urged upon the Council that in the riding classes no entry shall be accepted without the name and address of the breeder, or that of the individual (not being the agent of the exhibitor) from whom the entry was purchased. In the latter case, the exact markings of the horse should be given on the entry form, and failing the provision of these details, the entry should not be accepted. The markings would be duly communicated to the judges. The committee presented their recommendations in respect of judges and veterinary surgeons for their 1906 show.

The report of this committee having been adopted, Mr. Carden moved that it be referred to the committee to draw up a list of judges suitable for both the riding and breeding classes; such a list would be invaluable to some of the smaller shows, who could apply direct to the Hunters' Improvement Society for the names. After a short discussion, it was resolved that the desirability of drawing up such a list should be referred to the Horse Show Committee for consideration and report by them at their next meeting.

Country Shows, 1905 and 1906.

The Secretary presented his annual statement of the awards of the Society's gold and silver medals at affiliated shows in 1905. From this it appears that the following medals had been awarded:—

	Gold.	Silver.
Scheme A and B (Brood Mares)	40	
Scheme C (Fillies)		51
Scheme D (Geldings and Fillies		5
Scheme E (Mares and Geldings)		47
Scheme F (Yearling Entire Colts)		11
	40	114

The committee had dealt with several questions arising out of the awards. It was agreed to again renew the offer of the Society's medals under the above schemes, though for the brood mares it was felt necessary to amend the conditions as to foaling, viz.:—To require the brood mare taking the Society's gold medal to have either produced a living foal in 1906, have her foal at foot, or foal in 1906; in the first instance, a certificate to that effect to be furnished before the medal was sent.

National Shows.

It was decided to offer gold medals, value ten guineas each, at the following 1906 shows:—

Royal Agricultural Society of England.—One gold medal, for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old, and one for the best hunter mare four years old and upwards, registered in the Hunter Stud Book.

Royal Dublin Society.—Two gold medals, for the best hunter bred stallion, foaled in 1904 and foaled prior to 1904 respectively, exhibited at the Spring Show, and one gold medal for the best hunter brood mare, registered in the Hunter Stud Book, exhibited at the Summer Show.

Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland.—One gold medal for the best hunter filly, not exceeding three years old, registered in the Hunter Stud Book.

Judges Selection Committee.

Pursuant to notice, Hon. Alex. Parker moved:—

1. That a Special Committee be appointed to select the judges for the London Show.
2. That it shall consist of seven members, who shall be annually appointed at the Council Meeting in Derby week.
3. The Committee shall meet before each October meeting of the Council, at which it shall present its selection of judges for the next Spring Show.
4. Nominations of suitable judges to be invited from the Council.

In moving the appointment of this new Standing Committee, Hon. Alex Parker emphasised the importance of a Breed Society carefully selecting its judges. The Society's invitation to gentlemen to act at their Spring Show was the precursor of invitations to act all over the country, and their selection of the judges should be therefore most carefully made. He proposed that nominations should be sent in two or three weeks before the committee met, so that their qualifications might be very carefully investigated.

Mr. Carden cordially supported the views put forward, and it was unanimously resolved to appoint this Standing Committee.

The Council then adjourned till their meeting in Smithfield week.

Sturminster Fair.—This celebrated Dorsetshire fair took place on Monday. Sheep consisted largely of those intended more for the butcher than for grazing, and trade was not particularly fast, except for the choicest drafts, ewes ranging from about 40s. to 51s.; wethers, 45s. to 53s. 6d.; lambs, 30s. to 39s. Anything fresh in barreners met a fair inquiry, at from £22 to £26 for the best, and others, £16 to £20 5s.; yearling and two-year-old heifers, £6 to £11 10s.; fat steers and heifers, best, £17 10s. to £22; second, £14 to £17; fat calves, 40s. to £6 5s.; rearers, 15s. to 38s.; porkers, 40s. to 63s.; baconers, 65s. to 95s.; stores, 16s. to 30s.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Darlington Chamber.

The item of interest at Monday's meeting of the Darlington Chamber of Agriculture was an address by Professor Gilchrist on "The Manuring of Pastures," with special reference to the experiments at Broomhaugh Farm and the Cockle Park Experimental Farm. At Broomhaugh, the Professor said, which was sandy soil, nitrate of soda did not pay for putting on in producing grass, nor did basic slag pay. Kainit had given no increase, but when slag and kainit combined was applied, there was a resulting gain of 12s. per acre. On this sandy soil slag showed much better results than superphosphate. There was also more than double the amount of clover from slag and kainit. Continuous dressing of slag and kainit had a good effect, and not for a few years only, as was sometimes supposed to be the case. At Cockle Park the soil was a stiff clay lying on boulder clay. Lime there practically gave no return. Basic slag, without the assistance of potash manure, had given marked results, but the addition of a potash to a phosphatic manure had not been profitable. When about three-quarters of a hundredweight of sulphate of ammonia had been added about every second year to a phosphate manure the annual gain had been decreased by 5s. 6d. per acre. In the old land hay experiment the annual application of phosphatic manure (slag and supers), combined with a potash manure, had developed clovers and the allied plants to the greatest extent, and had produced the most nutritious hay and considerably the most profitable result when the feeding value of the hay was taken into account. Phosphates only (slag and supers) had also maintained and developed clover throughout the nine years' experiment. Feeding on cotton cake was one of the best means of enriching a pasture. Some little discussion ensued, and Professor Gilchrist was thanked for his address.

Durham.

The Durham County Agricultural Society, in recognition of valuable services rendered during the past quarter of a century, have presented the Mayor of Durham (Mr. G. H. Procter) with a roller top desk and an address. Colonel Darwin, in making the presentation, said that Mr. Procter for twenty-five years had had charge of the dog and poultry department, and the increases in this department were very gratifying.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

Some interesting details of what the Worcestershire County Council had done in the way of producing small holdings were given at the last meeting of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture by Mr. W. Wadderburn, who urged that similar lines should be followed in Gloucestershire. Under the powers conferred upon them by the Small Holdings Act, the Worcestershire County Council, he said, had purchased a farm of 146 acres, paying an average of £3 an acre. To get it into condition they spent something under £300, and then divided it into thirty-two holdings. Houses, with stable and pigsty, were erected on each, at an average cost of £256, and families established on each. The money was borrowed from the Public Works Loan Commissioners at 3½ per cent., and it had been arranged that the whole should be repaid with 4 per cent. interest in forty years. The holders of the lots had each paid one-fifth of the purchase money down, and the balance would be extinguished by instalments, and at the end of forty years the County Council would be left with a small balance to cover any unforeseen expenditure. Every holder seemed to be comfortable, and he had been informed by the clerk to the Worcestershire County Council that none were in arrear with their instalments. As the subject was not on the agenda, discussion was deferred. Mr. J. C. Mead opened a discussion on Mr. Lambert's Continuation Schools Bill, and a resolution was passed supporting the principle of Mr. Lambert's Bill in reference to agricultural education, but expressing the opinion that the whole of the expenditure on continuation schools should be defrayed by the central authority.

Lancaster Farmers'.

At a meeting of the Lancaster branch of the Lancaster Farmers' Association on the 21st inst., a discussion took place on the assessment of occupiers of land for local rating purposes where tithe is paid by the landlord, which revealed the fact that in many cases the farmers were paying rates on tithes and also the tithe owner. The farmers present were recommended to inquire into their assessments and to appeal if necessary. A discussion took place also on the question of the increase in local taxation on land, and a resolution was passed asking that the incidence of the education rate especially should be considered at an early date. Another resolution was passed against fraudulent practices in the butter trade, asking for the intervention of Parliament to compel the introduction of some innocuous substance into margarine, as in Germany, Belgium, and Austria, which will reveal itself when used in the adulteration of butter. It was stated that firms in this country were now buying colonial butter and increasing its weight by moisture, selling the butter as "milk blended."

Lincolnshire Chamber.

The various subjects before the Central Chamber came under discussion at the last meeting of the Lincolnshire Chamber of Agriculture, and the following resolutions were passed: "1. That it is desirable some scheme should be devised whereby a system could be adopted for reducing the number of rooks, wood pigeons, sparrows, and other birds harmful to agriculture. 2. That it would be an advantage to the agricultural interest if the Agricultural Holdings Act could be consolidated and amended by giving proper protection to the good tenant and drawing a distinction between good and bad farming, and so putting an end to the existing state of things, which gives an unfair advantage to the farmer who does not do justice to the land and leaves the same in a condition which puts an unfair burden on the landlord; and that to make an Act useful the local requirements of every district must be separately considered and should be referred to local committees composed of farmers, agents, and valuers for consideration and report. 3. That a weighbridge should be provided at every railway station; and (4) That in the Redistribution Bill every endeavour should be made to retain the agricultural constituencies as at present, and that the representation of agriculture should not be reduced."

West Riding Chamber.

Mr. E. Spurr, who presided at the last meeting of the West Riding Chamber, drew attention to the allegations of cruelty in the transit of calves contained in several letters which recently appeared in the *Yorkshire Post*. He said he had seen hundreds of calves in sacks on railway station platforms in his time, and, in his opinion there was no more humane way of sending them than nicely packed in sacks and per passenger train. A discussion took place on birds useful and inimical to agriculture, in the course of which the lark and the sparrow were condemned as the greatest offenders. A resolution was adopted in favour of the consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Acts and other Acts relating thereto.

Woodbridge Horse.

The Committee's report, presented at the annual meeting of the Woodbridge Horse Show Society, stated that this year's show was a great success. The gate money realised the record sum of £80—an increase of £15. The entry fees realised £44 (an increase of £14), and the catalogues, which were raised in price from 2d. to 3d., realised an increase of £2, but this was balanced by a loss of £2 on the advertisements. Thus far, a gain of £29 was shown. This satisfactory result, however, was counterbalanced by a substantial increase in the prize list, and a falling off in subscriptions. The prize list was increased by £15, £11 of which was allotted to the Shire classes, and the remainder to the Hackney classes. The subscriptions, which totalled in 1904 £122, dropped in 1905 to £110—a falling off of £12. These two items of loss amounted together to £27, and, when other expenses were added, the Committee was left with a balance of only £21 10s. 9d., against £38 6s. 10d. in 1894. Last year the general meeting voted the Secretary an honorarium of £20. Should this be repeated, the Society would have in hand only £1 10s. 9d., against £18 6s. 10d., which was the net balance of last year. The Committee were naturally disappointed in the loss of subscribers, especially in the small measure of support given by the town of Woodbridge to its own show, and they remarked that the Society should at once take practical steps to increase the number of subscribers, and consider the question of forming a guarantee against loss.

Some discussion ensued upon the framing of a resolution dealing with the subject, and ultimately the following resolution was carried:—"That the meeting notes the Committee's remarks as to the insufficient support given to some of the classes, and it was resolved that the Committee for 1906 should consider whether the number of classes might not be reduced, and whether bye-law 9 should be modified." The bye-law (9) referred to reads as follows:—"The judges will be instructed not to award any prizes in classes in which the animals exhibited do no possess sufficient merit, and no second prize will be awarded in any class unless there are three exhibits, except on the special recommendation of the judges."

The Secretary was granted an honorarium of £20 for his services; Mr. E. G. Pretyman, M.P., was re-elected president for the ensuing year, Mr. A. J. Smith vice-president, and the other officers were re elected.

CIDER AT THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION.

The general exhibition of cider, perry, and cider apples at the Brewers' Exhibition made the finest display of the kind yet brought together in this country, and thereby attracted attention. The exhibits sent for judging alone comprised 156 samples of cider and 31 exhibits of cider apples comprising over 500 varieties of cider apples, in addition to which the governors and directors of the National Fruit and Cider Institute, Long Ashton, Bristol, sent a sample of each of their experimental ciders, blends, and pure yeast cultivations made in the autumn of 1904 at the Institute under the superindendence of the assistant director, Mr. B. T. P. Barker, M.A., the samples totalling 72. These ciders had to be placed in their order of merit by the judges, who were unaware of how they were made or blended before giving their verdict. The farmers' classes, which have been generally pretty good, were even much better than usual, and showed a great advance both in blending as well as in the careful manner in which the bottles and casks had been prepared.

Devonshire Ciders.

The Devonshire ciders made the most noteworthy advance in this respect, the judges being enabled to make the full award of prizes without withholding any, as has previously been the case. In the class for bottles exhibited by farmers in the counties of Devon, Dorset, or Cornwall the first prize went to Mr. F. G. Evans, Littlehampton, Totnes, for a very pleasant tipple, a trifle perhaps too much on the sweet side. Mr. W. Turner, Pinhoe, Exeter, was second with cider that was bright in the glass but lacking smack, the third going to a clear drink sent by Messrs. Mann, Broadhempston, Totnes.

Class II. was for cask cider from the same counties; here, again, Mr. Evans was to the fore with a pleasant cider slightly drier than his bottled exhibit, the second going to Messrs. Mann for an exhibit that had not quite got over the fatigues of its journey, whilst, as the other exhibit had been prepared on the Devonshire match system, the judges passed it over, there being other and far better methods of arresting fermentation. The next two classes were open only to farmers in the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Monmouth, and Worcester. The bottle class constituted the finest that has yet been sent from these counties to London, the competition being so keen that the judges had to go into the minutest details in order to determine which was the best; this was found to be Mr. Geo. Ballard's exhibit from Stockton, Worcester. It was fine, it was of a brilliant amber hue, and it glassed to perfection; it was a trifle lacking in aroma, but otherwise there was no disputing its right to the first prize in the class and the silver medal of the farmers' classes, and subsequently the reserve for the champion gold medal of the whole show; and it might even have secured this had a warm instead of a bitterly cold night succeeded the first day's judging and that of the second day, when the champion award was made, the heavier cider having the best chance. Second prize went to Mr. Fred. Ballard, Colwall, Malvern, for a very bright, nice cider possessing very similar characteristics to the first. Mr. John Bazeley was third with a superb cider of a nice degree of dryness, and it much resembled his champion cider at the Bath and West at Nottingham. The ciders of these three makers were so even that either might have been placed in first position; and it speaks well for the county of Hereford that such perfection has been reached. The reserve went to Mr. D. Phelps for a very brilliant cider and body, but which did not linger on the palate, it being of a heavier character and lacking the pleasant briskness that gave the others monetary honours. Mr. A. D. Willcox sent a very strong cider up from Gloucestershire for a very highly commended mention, and it was very pleasant to the taste, but of bad appearance. Mr. Rogers, Monatity Farm, Abergavenny, for the first time introduced the county of Monmouth into the running by securing a highly commended mention with a rather thin, dry cider, well made, however. The cask class from the same counties was small indeed, there being only three entrants. Here Mr. Willcox was an easy first with a strong cider, Mr. John Bazeley being second with cider of quite a different character—a nice luncheon cider.

Somerset Classes.

From the first the county of Somerset has been a strong and consistent supporter of the show, and this year was no exception, all the best makers being represented, especially in the bottle class. Here those well known exhibitors Messrs. Croft, Sutton Montis, were placed first with a very nice cider that had not yet turned all its sweets into alcohol. It was bright, clear, and fine, and this placed it as reserve for the silver medal of the farmers' classes. Messrs. Tilley were very close runners for the position; their cider was also excellent, but could not advance beyond second; it was very brisk and rather dry for Somerset cider. The third went to Mr. Herbert for a very heavy, rich cider that, however, had an excess of tannin in it. Messrs. Tilley Bros. were reserved with a very brilliant cider, and they also received some minor mentions.

The cask class did not find so many entries, and the quality was not up to that of the bottles, and, on the whole, inferior to some other shows. The first prize went to Messrs. Croft for a very similar cider to their bottled exhibit, a trifle brisker on the palate perhaps, Messrs Tilley taking second with a clear, rather thin cider for Somerset make; the third went to Mr. Herbert Davis for cider that had a decided smack of the filter. No minor mentions were made.

Merchants' Classes.

For the first time the ciders made in other counties than those mentioned dropped out, and then came the variation classes, as the Merchants' classes might be aptly termed. Here ciders may be made from home-grown or purchased apples, and the ciders may be purchased or blended. The bottle class was indeed a strong one as regards numbers, but very variable as to quality. However, this year it contained the champion cider of the show, which was sent by Mr. D. Phelps. It had a nice head, was brisk on the tongue, and yet had plenty of body; it was a grand cider, though it might have been a bit more brilliant, the sole thing that made its fate tremble in the balance when compared with Mr. Ballard's. Second prize went to Messrs. Tilley Bros. for a real fruity Somerset cider, the reserve going to Messrs Yeomans Bros., Canon Pyn, Hereford, for an extremely nice, pleasant cider, somewhat lacking in aroma, else it might have been second. Very highly commended went to Mr. W. T. Allen, Glastonbury, for a very rich aromatic cider, and to the Quantock Vale Cider Company for a very clean cider with a good aroma. Messrs. Pilley Brothers also were very highly commended with a very clean cider.

The merchants' casks were only represented by half a score. Here Mr. W. T. Allen was placed on top with a rather sweet cider of the right kind for a city trade, the second going to cider made in Ireland by Messrs. Power, Dungarvan. It was very brilliant and of a fairly dry character. The reserve went to Mr. Thomas Stone, Axminster, for a very pleasant cider that would have stood at the top of the class had it not possessed such a decided flavour of the chestnut wood cask in which it had been stored. Messrs. Tilley Brothers were very highly commended with a very pleasant cider that showed well in the glass. A highly commended mention went to Messrs. Meek, Shirley Birmingham, for a useful cider that did not look at all attractive as regards colour in the glass, being of a greenish hue. The addition of a few coloured apples would have obviated this.

Then came the battle between the farmers and the merchants, both sides turning up in strong force. The prize, however, fell to Messrs. Tilley Brothers for a very pleasant cider, not overmuch pronounced as to fruity flavour; the second going to Messrs. Leamans with one of their nice, kindly, brisk Hereford ciders. The reserve went to undoubtedly the best cider in the show, but it was badly muddled with its sediment. This was sent by Mr. A. D. Willson, Gloucesterhire. Mr. W. T. Allen was very highly commended with a dry, clean cider, as was also Mr. Thomas Stone with a brilliant semi-dry cider, and he was also highly commended with another slightly more astringent, Mr. Turner being commended with a very rich, fruity cider from Devon.

The class for sweet ciders did not bring such a large competition, though it was obvious that sugar candy had been used to make the cider come under the designation sweet. In the dry class there were ciders that would have been noticed in the sweet class; and the sweet class contained the best dry cider in the competition. The first prize went to Mr. D. Phelps for a very characteristic sweet cider. Messrs. Slatter were second with a sweet in which the alcoholic condition was more advanced. The reserve went to Messrs. Tilley Brothers for cider that had scarcely advanced sufficiently to give it character, and they were very highly commended with a pleasant apple wine. Mr. Chippers, Glastonbury, was highly commended with a very nice sample of Somerset produce, quite sweet enough for the most fastidious.

Perry.

Then came the perry classes, which this year, by the division of the dry and sweet perrys by the provision of a class for each, there were some superb English champagnes in the dry perry class. The first prize went to Mr. F. Woodward, Pershore, for a superb perry sparkling like hock and grand on the tongue, and calculated to make the consumer of it friendly with all. The second prize went to another excellent perry sent from the Berkeley Vale by Mr. Thos. Shipp. The reserve went to a fine old crusted perry that had been shaken up in transit; it was evidently the same perry with which Mr. Meek took high honours a couple or three years ago.

The sweet perry class was also good here; Mr. D. Phelps again drew to the fore with a nice perry not quite nauseatingly luscious, but a very pleasant drink, second prize going to another beautiful perry that looked lovely in the glass, sent by Mr. Fred. Ballard. Messrs. Slatter were reserved with another nice perry a trifle dry for the sweet class; these three perrys were very even, and very few points indeed between the prize winners.

There was but one solitary cask of draught perry, sent by Mr. Saul Savage, Berkeley; it was of such excellent quality that the judges had not the slightest hesitation in awarding it chief honour, a position that it could have held in the face of strong competition.

The under 3 per cent. of alcohol class as usual brought out ciders that were well above it. The first prize went to a very pleasant ladies' drink, sent by the Quantock Vale Cider Co.; second, to a tipple of a drier character, sent by Messrs. Slatter. A third prize was recommended Mr. W. T. Allen for his apple juice, whilst Messrs. Tilley's reserve was very fruity.

Apples.

The exhibits in this class were very fine. In the class open to the world for exhibit of cider apples the medal was won by Messrs. C. Osborn and Sons, North Cadbury, with a case of 30 varieties of Somerset cider apples, equal bronze medals being awarded Messrs. R. C. Scott, Martock, Somerset, for 16 varieties of the choicest-named Somerset apples, and Mr. R. Brown, Court Farm, Failand, Somerset, for a collection of 18 varieties of French cider apples grown in England, the reserve going to Mr. A. D. Willcox, Gloucester, with 28 varieties that were not so well exhibited either as to packing or naming.

The farmers' class made a superb show, nearly 200 ft. of staging being required to stage the same. Messrs. Crofts were first with a very fine exhibit well named and containing few duplicates. Messrs. Osborn and D. Phelps were bracketed equal seconds for Somerset and Gloucestershire apples; and Mr. Bayley was third with a superb selection of Herefordshire fruit, well graded, rightly named, but as there were only thirty-two varieties, he had to be content with third. The reserve, Mr. Herbert Davis, had forty-four varieties, but these were not all named or so well packed. Messrs. A. D. Willcox, Gloucester, and Messrs. Power, Ireland, were very highly commended. A diploma of merit was awarded Mr. D. Phelps for his exhibit of perry pears, and a silver medal and diploma of honour to the Kingsacre Nursery Co. for their exhibit of cider apples and cider apple trees and perry pears. The show, as a whole was remarkable for the general purity of the exhibits and the comparative absence of faking, which has done so much to check the advance of the cider movement in this country.

The German Barley and Hop Show.

The German Barley and Hop Show took place on October 5 and 6. The number of prizes awarded for brewers' barley was 8 first prizes of 100 marks (£5), 20 second prizes of 50 marks (£2 10s.), 26 third prizes of 25 marks (£1 5s.), and 21 testimonials; 16 prizes and diplomas were awarded to producers from the province of Saxony for samples of barley, 46 of which were entered, and 13 prizes and diplomas to Hesse and Plausitz out of 23 samples entered. A first, second, and third prize was awarded for winter barley. The silver medal of state was won by Mrs. Cramer, of Emblen, and first, second, and third prizes, also a testimonial, were awarded for brewers' wheat to Count von Bothmer.

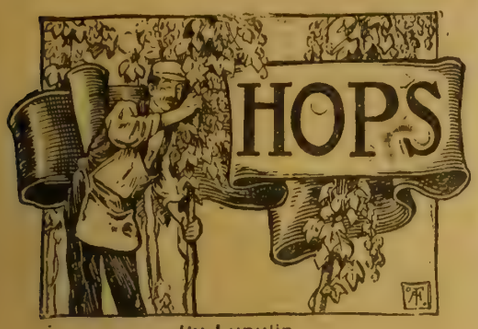
The prizes awarded in the hop section were:—1st prize 150 marks (£7 10s.), second prize 75 marks (£3 15s.), and third prize 40 marks (£2), of which there were 6 first prizes, 15 second prizes, 12 third prizes, and 4 diplomas. First prizes were awarded to Herr Bebelein, of Absberg, Spalt, Herr Hürzer, of Au, Herr. Bauer, of Geisenfeld, Up. Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Alsace.

The sum of 6,000 marks (£300) was awarded in money prizes. Particulars of the victor's prize will follow shortly.

The Barley Prizes.

In addition to gaining the champion prize at this show, Mr. C. G. Miles took the Burton Challenge Cup, Boby's Champion Screen Prize, Messrs. J. Fison and Co.'s Challenge Prize, and Messrs. Webb and Son's Seed Prize. These awards were omitted from the official list given in our last issue.

Mr. Perry's lease of his Hardy Plant Farm at Winchmore Hill has expired, and being unable to renew it owing to the ground being wanted for building purposes, he has removed to more extensive grounds at Enfield, where he will have far better facilities for growing plants than hitherto. Owing to the great cost of removing stock, he has decided to offer all his surplus at a sacrifice to ensure a rapid clearance. Something like a million plants of all sorts are to be cleared and catalogues can be had on application to Mr. Perry.



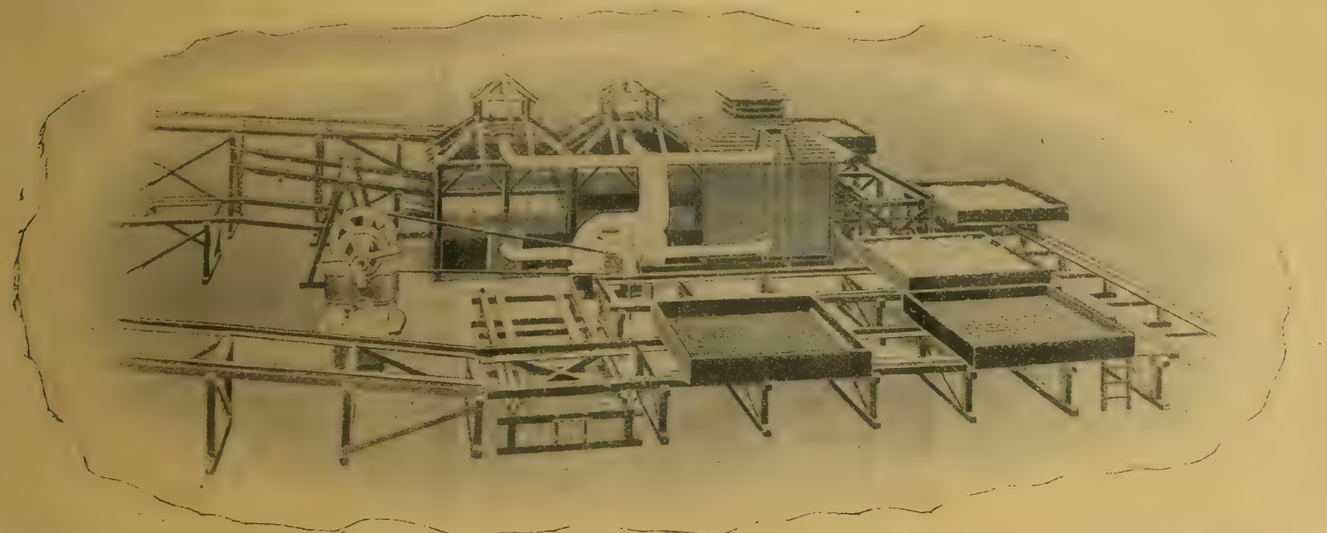
By Lupulin.

Drying and Curing of Hops.

It is a self-evident truth that the manufacture of hops for their use in brewing beer really commences with the drying process, and is included in the period which is found by experience to be necessary for this purpose. During the growth of the plant and the development of the fruit, Nature, assisted by the skill and attention of the farmer, is the chief element in the success of the crop, but immediately the cones are gathered, artificial means are needed, and a problem is presented to every grower that is of so complex a character as to demand the most careful consideration, if he desires to attain perfection. He must dispel all superfluous moisture contained in the green cones to the extent of 75 to 85 per cent. of their weight, but he must have regard to the important fact that the valuable constituents, the essential oils and the resins, are volatile and changeable. An eminent authority has declared, and his statement is undeniable, that the substances that impart their real value to hops are "most sensitive to injury by excessive heat, and that hundreds of tons are damaged annually, and in many cases their brewing value almost totally destroyed by the careless or ignorant manner in which they are dried. A change takes place in the appearance of the lupulin, which becomes more apparent as the heat is increased, until at about 100 degrees the globules begin to disappear and run together, presenting a dull brown or red colour." Mr. C. Whitehead, writing in 1897, concerning the treatment of hops then usual in England, confirms the above observations, and condemns the stewing or baking at high temperatures on the kiln, as causing "an absolute, visible loss of lupulin, besides the loss of ethereal essences." The dispersion of sufficient of the natural moisture to avoid any subsequent deterioration, and the retention of the whole of the essential properties provided by Nature in the cones, are therefore the main, and to an extent, the antagonistic points to which attention must be given in this delicate and critical operation.

The climatic conditions of the various countries in which hops are produced must, of course, materially influence the methods adopted. In England, open fires with natural draught have been universal for many years. But there are so many uncertainties and disadvantageous risks connected with this system, that we are almost compelled to recognise the truth of a competitor's criticism when he says that, "It is regarded by progressive growers as a long way behind the times, and affords few, if any, tests of value, except of 'how not to do it.'" As, however, we have amongst us many intelligent planters with desire to improve, it is gratifying to know that progress has been, and is being made, many kilns having been reconstructed or modified; the introduction of fans for increasing the draught, and installations of pure hot air apparatus, being marked features during the past ten years. Continental growers still abide by their long-established custom of drying partially by exposure to the natural air, whereby the cones are closed and withered, being subsequently finished on kilns at low temperature. By this means the whole of the essential oils and soft resins are preserved, the brewing value of the hops being thus absolutely maintained. This system is, however, only applicable to small plantations, and therefore cannot be adopted under the conditions in which hops are grown in England or America.

It is with the object of directing the attention of English growers to the advanced ideas of their competitors on the other side of the Atlantic that I briefly attempt to describe the system of drying hops in use in the extensive plantations of the E. Clemens Horst Co. of California, and illustrated by a perfect working model exhibited by this company at the recent Brewers' Exhibition at Islington. By reference to the accompanying engraving, it will be seen that three kilns are erected in series. Each kiln contains two drying floors, so that six loads of hops are operated upon at the same time. The green hops are dumped into the cars shown, which are propelled in succession over tramways leading to the first drying chamber. Having been there partially dried, this car-load is succeeded by another, and so on in turn until the six chambers are occupied, an ingenious switch arrangement being provided at the end of the lower three to transfer the cars to the upper storey, from which they are drawn for removal by tram-line to the cooling and packing warehouses. As the atmosphere of California averages 100 degrees Fahrenheit during the picking season, and is therefore practically devoid of moisture, the natural air, propelled through the hops by an electrically-driven fan, is generally found sufficient to completely cure each car-load of hops in ten hours from the time of its first entry into the kiln. But in case of necessity the air current can be warmed by suitable arrangement. The cars on which the hops are laid are each 30 ft. square, and are loaded about 18 inches deep. The floors are constructed of perforated sections, easily removable for the release of the contents on to the cooling floors, the result being that from the moment when the hops are picked into baskets, until they are baled and ready for shipment they are not disturbed or touched by hand. The cost of labour is, therefore, reduced to the lowest possible point, and the wholeness and perfect condition of the produce is secured. The process presents a special, and, from an English point of view, a curious one. The air current, instead of rising upward through the load of hops, is forced downwards. Issuing from the directing pipes, it strikes against the top of the kilns, and being thus distributed is reversed, until it escapes, bearing with it the moisture extracted from the hops, by a flue or tube opening at the lower section of the building. The air-conducting tubes are provided with valves, whereby the current can be diverted, when it is found necessary for the extension of the drying time to any single car-load that may contain extra moisture.



The system can hardly be called experimental, as the company have constructed and are operating thirty sets of the apparatus on their various plantations in America. They claim for it the following advantages:—

1. The process of drying begins immediately after the hops are picked, and there is no loss or damage from sweating.
2. The drying is accomplished evenly and without heat, no hops can be high dried or slack dried.
3. The hops are not handled, and no cones are broken, the resins are left in their natural state, that is soft and soluble, the aroma is uninjured.
4. The hops present a uniform clean appearance, bleaching with sulphur is unnecessary.
5. Being perfectly cured, the hops will keep better in the bale, as there will be no disturbing chemical changes.
6. The system is applicable, and can be used for the curing of hops in any country, no matter what the climatic conditions may be.

The Harper Adam's College.

The half-yearly meeting of the Governors of the Harper-Adams Agricultural College was held at Newport on October 25. Sir Thomas Boughey, Bart., presided, and the meeting included representatives of the Shropshire and Staffordshire County Councils, Mr. W. H Lander, Mr. Perry Jones, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Colonel Twemlow, etc.

The report of the Principal showed that the new session has commenced with a very satisfactory number of students, and that the annual examinations which were held for the awarding of the college diploma and certificate testified to the satisfactory work that had been done by the college staff during the past year.

The students of the college have also done well at the public examinations, including the National Diploma in Agriculture, and at the examination for the Professional Associateship of the Surveyors' Institute. The college staff are also engaged in delivering county lectures in both Shropshire and Staffordshire.

The arrangements made to enable farmers in Shropshire and Staffordshire to have their milk tested at the nominal fee of 6d. per sample has been much appreciated, and a large number of samples have been sent in.

The college is continuing to co-operate in the carrying out of field experiments in both Shropshire and Staffordshire, and in the former experiments upon trials of varieties and manurial experiments upon potatoes have been conducted at ten centres; other experiments upon the manuring of various crops and grassland have also been carried out at a number of centres in both counties.

The college farm, which has been recently increased, has been largely devoted to experimental work, and during the past season about 500 farmers from various parts of Shropshire and Staffordshire have visited the College for the purpose of seeing the experimental work. Parties were organised by the Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Farmers' Association, Shropshire Chamber of Agriculture, Newport Agricultural Trading Society, Shifnal Agricultural Society, and by land owners and private individuals interested in the work. There has been a good demand for seed wheat and oats from these experimental plots, and it is very satisfactory to note the growing interest in the county in this work.

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, President of the Board of Agriculture, has consented to attend the annual dinner of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs, at York, on Thursday, February 1.

Crystal Palace Poultry and Pigeon Show.—For the convenience of exhibitors at this show, to be held on November 7 to 10, the London and North-Western Railway Company will make arrangements for through vans for the conveyance of poultry, etc., to be run to the Crystal Palace on Monday, November 6, by special trains from certain stations, in addition to the vans running regularly on the through trains to London. Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in through vans at the close of the show. Full details can be obtained of Mr. Robert Turnbull, Superintendent of the Line, Euston Station.

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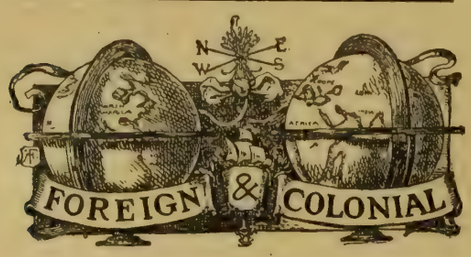

Agricultural Education at the Antipodes.

It has been truthfully observed that "The typical Australian agriculturist, relying largely on a bountiful Nature, does not exercise upon his crops anything approaching the same patience, care, and labour that are bestowed by the European cultivator, nor as a rule does he avail himself of the benefits of scientific farming and improved implements to the extent that prevails in America and Europe." But it must be remembered that until within the last few years the means for conveying his surplus produce to over-sea markets were too slow, uncertain, and expensive to enable him to successfully dispose of it at remunerative rates. Of late the increase of cold-storage accommodation and the means of cheap and rapid transit has completely altered the situation, and the Australian farmer is beginning to cultivate for export as well as for local consumption. But to be enabled to build up an extensive export trade, considerably in advance of that at present enjoyed by him, improved methods of agriculture are necessary, as in older countries. This is fully recognised by the various State Governments, each of which makes the spread of agricultural education a portion of its policy. In many portions of the rural districts, according to an official publication, agricultural colleges and model farms have been established, and travelling lecturers are sent to agricultural centres.

In New South Wales the Hawkesbury Agricultural College provides accommodation for 120 resident students. The farm attached to the Institution comprises 3,430 acres, of which 597 acres were under crop in 1903. Instruction in dairying is made a speciality, and the butter and cheese factory is one of the most completely equipped in the State. Experimental farms are also established in various districts of the State, and the instruction is adapted to local climatic conditions. At several accommodation is provided for students, who receive instruction in the practical farming work suited to the respective districts. The fees are small, amounting, as a rule, to about £25 per annum, which sum covers tuition and board, while at the Hawkesbury College and the farms several bursaries are awarded to specially deserving students. In Victoria, the Dookie College has accommodation for 66 resident students. It is situated in a healthy and picturesque part of the north-east portion of the State, on the outskirts of a rich agricultural district. Attached to the college is a farm.

About eight years ago the Queensland Government established an agricultural college and experimental farm at Gatton, about 58 miles west of Brisbane. Accommodation is provided for 60 residential students, and of the 1,692 acres of land attached to the college a considerable portion is under crop. State experimental farms are also in operation in four selected districts, and there is a State nursery at Kamerunga, near Cairns, and a Government tobacco farm at Texas. Extensive experiments are also carried on in connection with the sugar-growing industry, and at the central Government station at Mackay special modes of cultivation are tested, and experiments carried on in manuring, irrigation, etc. In order that the actual work of the central station may be brought before the cane-growers, 14 sub-stations conducted by farmers' associations have been established, where the most successful experiments conducted at the central station are repeated upon a small scale. In this way farmers become co-operators, and are brought into actual touch with the scientific work carried on by the Government experts.

Again quoting from the work previously referred to, it may be mentioned that South Australia has an agricultural college and experimental farm at Roseworthy; and a central agricultural bureau in Adelaide, with about one hundred branch bureaus in the country, which assist the farmers by disseminating valuable information, publishing papers, introducing new economic plants, and improving the breed of dairy cattle. A State school has also been established in Adelaide for the purpose of affording instruction to "secondary agricultural pupils." The fees paid by the scholars, who must be over 13 years of age and have passed the compulsory examination, are at the same rate as those paid in the ordinary State schools.

In Tasmania the Council of Agriculture gives valuable advice to farmers concerning improved methods of agriculture, extermination of insect pests, etc. Western Australia, one of the most enterprising of the Australian States, possesses four experimental farms, at the first two of which students are admitted at nominal fees, the instruction being confined to practical work on the farm, with the exception of occasional lectures by the scientific staff of the State Agricultural Department. There are also 65 "Agricultural Halls," erected by settlers, with State assistance, in which lectures are given by officers of the Department, and, in addition, 75 Agricultural Societies in receipt of Government subsidies, and which are utilised for the distribution of agricultural literature. It may be said that Australian agriculture generally has shown greater improvement during the last ten years than during the previous half century.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 21, 1905 :—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	39	78	52	104	2,083	5,005
								6,449
								6,470
	Outbreaks.	No.	7	8	19	26	6 5	1,068
								1,341
								1,373
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	8	6	27	15	695	1,118
								1,254
								1,161
Rabies	Cases confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								12
								11
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	33	46	16	36	1,719	2,941
								2,071
								1,706
	Outbreaks.	No.	24	33	27	19	995	1,273
								1,215
								946
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								190
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	24	24	19	9	1,122	1,254
								930
								860
	Outbreaks.	No.	20	22	15	6	796	813
								617
								511

Period.			
Week ended Oct. 21, 1905			
Corresponding week in	1904	1903	1902
Total for 42 weeks in 1905			
Corresponding period in	1904	1903	1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Morpeth Fair.—The half-yearly fair for the sale of cattle and horses at Morpeth was held on Monday, when the supply was not large, and the attendance of dealers was small. The big horses, fit for heavy trolley work in towns, were few, and while £60 was in cases the price asked, it was not got, £50 being the commission figure for the best. One and a half year old and two and a half year old colts made from £23 to £32; cobs and harness horses up to £30; small ponies to £8; and second-hand horses anything from £10 to £26.

Death of Mr. J. Peecock.—We regret to announce the sudden death of Mr. John Edward Peecock, in his eighty-first year, at his residence in Ipswich, on Sunday morning. Mr. Peecock was born at Great Blakenham, and was engaged in farming until, in October, 1865, he entered the service of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Jefferies, Limited, of Ipswich, as traveller and general representative in the Eastern Counties. His practical knowledge of farming stood both him and his firm in good stead, as, in addition to his travelling, he was able at once to take part in the great ploughing contests in which at that time Messrs. Ransomes were engaged, competing almost daily at matches in all parts of the country. From that time to the present, Mr. Peecock has thoroughly worked the Eastern Counties, and secured for himself and his firm a large number of friends in the agricultural world.

Yorkshire Chamber.

A general meeting of the Yorkshire Chamber of Agriculture was held at York on Thursday—Major J. W. Dent presiding. A letter was read from the Liverpool and District Farmers' Club asking the Union to join them in making representations to the proper authorities as to the urgent necessity for relieving agricultural land of all rates in connection with the Education Act. The Chairman said he could not agree with that proposal, as he thought it was going too far. He thought agriculturists were paying more than their fair share, but he believed himself that the agriculturists required educating quite as much as any other member of the community, and it was only fair and just he should bear his proper share of the expenses of that education. He moved that no steps be taken on the letter.

Mr. J. B. Simpson (Bridlington), however, challenged the Chairman's view, and moved as an amendment that the subject be fully discussed at the next meeting of the club, and this amendment was agreed to.

A long report was presented by the Railway Rates Committee upon the hire and return of railway sacks, in which they expressed regret that the North-Eastern Railway had been unable to accede to the request of the union that sacks hired at one station should be returned to another without extra charge. It was decided that the complaint of the Bridlington Chamber should be submitted to the Board of Agriculture, with a request for their assistance. The question of the amendment and consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Act was also considered and a resolution moved: "That in the opinion of this Union the amendment and consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Act is desirable," but ultimately the discussion was adjourned to the next meeting.

Southdown Sheep Society.

A meeting of the Council of the Southdown Sheep Society was held at 12, Hanover Square, on Thursday, Mr. Herbert Padwick (president-elect) in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the General Purposes Committee submitted a report of their proceedings on May 25 last, which was duly adopted. The representatives of the Southdown Sheep Society on the Council of the National Sheep Breeders' Association were unanimously re-elected for 1906 as follows:—Mr. Newton Clayton (vice-president), Sir Thomas Barrett-Lennard, Bart., Mr. Allan Cooper, and Mr. Henry Webb.

The Council then took into consideration the matter of the prizes for Southdowns to be offered by the Society in the year 1906, and it was resolved unanimously that similar prizes be offered in 1906 as in 1905, with the addition, in the case of the Bath and West Society, of prizes of £10, £5, and £2, for a class for two-shear rams. The complete list of prizes to be offered by the Southdown Sheep Society in the year 1906 is therefore as follows:—

Royal Agricultural Society.—Champion Gold Medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best two-shear or shearling ram. Silver Medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs. Prizes of £10, £6, £4, for two-shear rams. Prizes of £10, £6, £4 for pens of three shearling rams.

Royal Counties.—Champion Gold Medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best ram or ram lamb. Silver Medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.

Sussex County.—Champion Gold Medal, value £10 10s., or £10 10s. in cash, for the best ram or ram lamb. Silver Medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.

Bath and West.—Silver Medal for the best ram or ram lamb. Silver Medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs. Prizes of £10, £5, £2 for two-shear rams.

East Kent, Essex, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Tunbridge Wells.—Silver Medal for the best ram or ram lamb. Silver Medal for the best pen of ewes or ewe lambs.

The Flock Book.

Arrangements having been made for the necessary inspection of the new flocks, Mr. Allan Cooper gave notice that at the next general meeting of members he would move a resolution to the effect that after December 31, 1906, the Southdown Flock Book should be definitely closed to all unregistered sheep. The Council then adjourned until February.

Grantham October Fair.—The annual October Stock Fair was held in the streets at Grantham on Thursday, and though a fair number of cattle were offered yet there was not nearly as large a representation as last year. There was also a very small show of sheep and horses, and trade generally was slow. The quotations were:—Bullocks, three-year-olds, £15 to £17 10s.; bullocks, 2½-year-old, £12 to £12 15s.; heifers, £12 to £14; milk cows, £15 to £21; drapes, £10 to £13; yearlings, £5; lambs, 17s. to 37s.; nag horses, £12 to £20; ponies, £8 to £10 each.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

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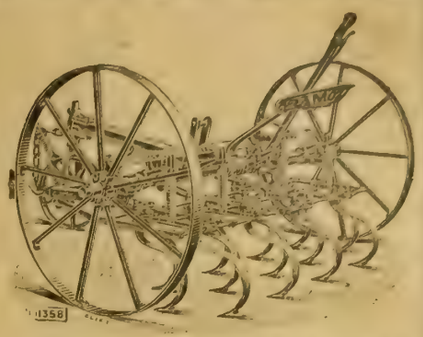

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THE ROYAL SHOW AT DERBY.

The Council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society last week was mainly devoted to a discussion concerning arrangements for the 1906 exhibition at Derby. We are pleased to see that the Society intend to co-operate most heartily with local bodies of all sorts and descriptions. It is pleasant to think that the local institutions and associations as well as the large firms in the locality are prepared to work hand-in-hand and unitedly to make the Royal Show of 1906 a success. If there is one item more than another which we welcome, it is the decision of the Derbyshire Agricultural and Horticultural Society to lend their willing aid, and the privileges which are to be extended to members of the County society in return for their support, are of such a nature as to leave the Royal Agricultural Society at the termination of the 1906 show with a large number of friends and well-wishers in the county of Derby.

By no means the last word has been said as to how the Royal Show may aid and assist the local societies whose districts they visit from year to year. Classes are to be provided at the Derby Show for farmers and others who reside in the county of Derby or within the area of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society; there is nothing particularly novel in this, but we do think it is a move in the right direction to increase the local interest in the show. The huge size of previous Royal Shows has tended to kill individual interest. "What is everybody's business is nobody's business," and in the past few years local enthusiasm has been more or less missing. Possibly here lies the reason of the diminution in the powers of attraction of the show, and we welcome any and every step which will restore to the Royal Show that position which it had attained in the past, of being the "red-letter week" of the year in that particular locality.

A liberal prize list has been arranged for the Derby meeting, and the sum of £4,000 has been voted by the Society as a prize fund. There is but little doubt that, given fine weather, the Royal Show of 1906 will be a brilliant success, if the Council and permanent officials of the Society will work hand in glove with the local authorities, and see that the latter's views are treated with every consideration.

Last month we had occasion to refer to the muddle into which the Society had floundered financially. We are glad to think that very shortly the members will have placed before them a balance-sheet showing as simply as possible the exact position in which they stand. The realisation of Harewood House and Park Royal will enable all mortgages to be paid off, and then we shall know definitely whether the Royal Agricultural Society is in debt, or whether the balance, be it ever so small, is on the credit side of the accounts. The facts disclosed may be unpleasant, but at all events they will clear the situation and put an end to a great amount of rumour and gossip.

BIRDS: THE FARMERS' ENEMIES?

The Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture agreed at their meeting on Tuesday last that a vigorous campaign should be initiated against birds whose existence is a terror to farmers, and a resolution was adopted expressing the opinion of the Council that the depredations of birds are a cause of serious loss to growers of various products of the soil, and that an official enquiry should be made as to the means to adopt to prevent such losses.

With the last part of the resolution we are in entire accord, for in England the study of the food of birds and the part which they play in the economy of nature has unfortunately been much neglected, and, as a rule, the only information which can be gleaned from English writers on the subject is, with but few exceptions, of an unsatisfactory nature. And, in this connection, we would remark that it takes a close observer to see the good which is done, while any damage to a crop is at once noticed, and too often put down to "them pesky birds," with the penalty of indiscriminate slaughter. For this reason we are quite unable to agree with one of the earlier speakers in the discussion on this subject last Tuesday, who, in a list of birds which should be kept under control, had rooks, larks, and starlings, as well as the sparrows, for the latter of which his remedy was "the simple one of extermination, and that at the earliest possible moment."

Now, although the food of a sparrow in our agricultural districts consists of quite sixty per cent. of corn, in the breeding season, which is a long one, and extends over some months, the food of the nestling is nearly all insect in character; in fact, five-sevenths of the whole diet is made up of insects, so that this bold little "companion of man" does a certain amount of good. In fact, it has been estimated that a couple of sparrows will consume in food for their young about 3,000 insects weekly, each parent bringing a beakful thirty times an hour to satisfy the very good appetites of their young. In connection, however, with the sparrows' love for corn, we must bear in mind that the smaller area under cereals at the present time makes the armies of birds that descend upon it greater than ever, which causes a great deal more destruction than formerly, so that the number of sparrows should be proportionately reduced, *but not exterminated*, for the reason given above, sparrows may be included amongst useful birds, as the historical fact related of them proves. Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, being very fond of cherries, one day ordered

a crusade against the sparrow tribe, some of them having ventured to pick at his favourite fruit. A price of six pfennings a brace was set on them; consequently, throughout Prussia the sparrow-war was briskly carried on, and so successfully that at the end of two years *not only were cherries waxing but most other fruits.* The trees were covered with caterpillars and completely stripped of leaves, and insects had increased to a most alarming extent, for not only were the useful sparrows exterminated, but other birds had been frightened away by the extraordinary measures taken against the sparrows. The King was obliged to confess to himself that he had not the power to alter that which had been ordained in the balance of nature by a greater King than he, and so Frederick had to retract his decree, and at considerable expense import sparrows from afar, for these, being birds of obstinately sedentary habits, would never have returned of their own accord.

Now, as regards the field lark, it should be most strictly protected, on account of its use to agriculture, for its food consists of slugs, worms, spiders, small beetles, wireworms, small moths, and other insects taken both on the wing and *on the ground.* As regards starlings, it is generally acknowledged that they should be looked upon as among the best friends of agriculturists, but rooks are both harmful and useful, so that they should be kept within narrow limits. Thus we see the utmost care must be exercised *as to the extent* of the destruction of birds, as a little observation as to their organisation and mode of life in England will at once show that the orders of birds whose daily and principal food is drawn chiefly, if not entirely, from the animal world are those that exist both in the greatest number and the greatest variety, and anyone who makes any pretension to know anything of entomology in relation to farming must admit that it is by no means an unimportant work which has been allocated to our feathered friends in agriculture.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

Interesting extensions of the curriculum at this college have recently been arranged in two important particulars. In the first place there is now open to all students a two years' course of lectures and demonstrations in poultry and poultry-farming, Mr. Cecil S. Byrne being appointed to the post of lecturer and practical demonstrator. The classes, which will cover the whole field of scientific poultry-farming, will be held once a week, and students, when qualified and approved, will in turn be appointed to take charge of fowls, or of incubators and foster-mothers, under supervision. There will be an examination for certificates at the end of the course. The other new departure is the establishment of "post-graduate dairy classes." With the opening of the new year students who have taken the college diploma will have the option of attending, without the payment of any fee, vacation dairy classes, viz., during three weeks in the spring vacation, and during four weeks in the summer vacation. Students attending these classes will be expected to undertake all manual operations of butter and cheese-making, under supervision, and to qualify by examination for the special certificate of the college in dairying.

Mr. Isaac Allen Goodwin, of Nantwich, a well-known Cheshire farmer, died on the 21st ult. at the age of seventy. When Henhull Farm on the Dorfold estate became vacant in 1863, Mr. Goodwin was selected as the tenant, and he occupied the holding until five years ago, when he was succeeded by his son, Mr. T. C. Goodwin. He was closely interested in the various agricultural organisations in the county. He was one of the earliest members of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture, the Nantwich Farmers' Club, and the Milk Producers' Association, and was a director of the Cheshire Farmers' Supply Association. Of the last-named body, with the exception of Mr. Hollinshead, of Sandbach, he was the oldest member, and, with the late Mr. Fitton, the first manager, he was largely instrumental in the formation of that association.

Seasonable Topics.

A Disease-Resisting Potato at Last.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society, Mr. T. A. Scarlett, the well-known specialist of Edinburgh, exhibited tubers of what is said to be a disease-proof potato. This potato, by the way, is not a new variety, but a very old one—a black Scotch kidney, called Trochie Grant—and was supposed to be lost to cultivation, but it has been discovered and brought to light. It is said, in connection with this potato, that there is documentary evidence to show that, though grown since 1745, it has never shown the least sign of disease. Probably we shall hear more about Trochie Grant later on, as regards its cropping powers and edible qualities. The colour, of course, is not quite what is wanted in these days, but it is something to hear of a variety that has never been known to take the disease, and, with this potato to work on, hope is given that a disease-resisting variety of modern type may yet be raised. What a boon it would be to farmers and others who suffer more or less every year with the disease in this important crop.

A New Vegetable.

When we consider what has been done in the development of farm and garden crops, it makes us wonder what may be done in the future, and by way of progress we have now a cross-bred brassica, derived from a cabbage and a Brussels sprout, and showing the chief characters of both parents. This novelty was exhibited at a recent meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society by Mr. Ridgewell, of Histon, Cambridge, who attached the following statement to his exhibit:—"The result of a cross between Winningstadt cabbage and Cambridge Champion Brussels sprout. The plants produce fine large cabbage, and at the base of every leaf large buttons are formed, so that after cutting the cabbage a good crop of firm, large buttons may be gathered. As the plants were raised in the autumn, a good many suffered through the hot weather, but if sown in the spring fine heads of cabbage may be cut in the autumn, to be followed by large buttons." Such is the raiser's description of the new vegetable, which, we understand, is to be tried at the society's garden at Wisley, and, if it can be kept true, it will doubtless prove an acquisition, as it would be distinctly economical to be able to get autumn cabbage and Brussels sprouts from the same plants. At the present time this is all that can be said about the new cabbage-cum-Brussels-sprout, but if it fulfils all that is said about it we shall doubtless see and hear more of it in the future.

Storing the Mangolds.

Farmers often find themselves in a bit of a quandary over the harvesting of the mangold crop. Sharp pinches of frost, like we had in October, naturally make them anxious, and, with the possibilities of getting further spells, even a little more keen, there is a natural desire to see the roots safe in the clamp. On the other hand, in many places it may be observed that mangolds are still growing, and while they are putting on size and weight it is only natural that the farmer should want to leave them in the ground. The growth of root crops, by the way, has been very spasmodic this year. Early in the summer they looked very sickly, but the rain came in the nick of time, and in August the progress became very perceptible. Since then the roots have continued to put on weight, and returns are heavier than was at one time anticipated. On the whole, we are inclined to think that now November is in, with possibilities of wintry weather any time, it is well to forego any further chances of size and take advantage of dry days to get in the crop. Though opinions naturally differ on this point, we agree with the old-fashioned method of leaving the roots in heaps on the land for three or four days before clamping, merely covering them with leaves; and, with regard to the latter, we think the advice given by "M. Y." in our last issue, namely, to plough them in green for manure, is the best that could be given in the matter of their disposal.

Market day Lectures.

Agricultural education is a matter that has received more attention in Essex than it has in many other counties, and quite a novel line was struck when the County Council authorities conceived the idea of arranging lectures at Chelmsford on market days. We understand that this departure has been attended with success, and that the market day lectures have aroused a good deal of interest. There is still, of course, a considerable amount of prejudice to be overcome amongst farmers in regard to lectures, speaking generally, and the farmer looks upon a lecturer with a certain amount of suspicion. There may be some excuse for this, because in the past purely theoretical men, who knew little or nothing about the practical work-a-day side of the farmer's life, have set out to teach the latter his business and very often in language quite above his head. Teaching of this kind is not only useless, but harmful, as it arouses an antagonistic spirit against education and lecturers in general. On the other hand, if the lecturer is sound in his theory and has acquired his practical knowledge in the school of experience, he can impart a good deal of useful information to farmers by means of his discourses. Market-day lectures of the right kind strike us as being distinctly useful, because it is part of the routine of the average farmer to attend his local market, and, after the business of the morning is over, he frequently finds himself with an hour or two to spare before he need return home. How that time is spent largely depends on the disposition of the man, but none of us are too old or too highly educated to learn, and useful information may be often acquired through listening to a lecture on some agricultural topic. Again, we find that a good deal of knowledge may be obtained through interchange of opinion amongst practical men, and the usefulness of lectures are considerably enhanced when followed by spirited and friendly discussion.

Prizes or Medals at the Royal Show.

Since the failure of the last show at Park Royal, and it became obvious that retrenchments of a drastic character must be made in the management of the society, various suggestions have been made how this could best be done The reduction of establishment and the lowering of the working staff are matters which have come in for a good deal of comment, and the whole matter has been referred to in Press correspondence as "Agriculture in the Gutter." No matter how one argues, however, the position remains unaltered, and the fact has to be faced that something must be done. One suggestion is embodied in a letter written by Sir Thomas Dyke Acland, Bart., to the *Morning Post*, which appeared in our last issue, namely, that medals or certificates be awarded at the Royal Show as prizes instead of money. It is argued that the majority of persons who exhibit do it, not for the sake of the prize-money, so much as the honour and the advertisement of the herd or flock, and, consequently a certificate or medal would be valued equally as much or more than the money prize, and the cost of these trophies would be trifling in comparison. The idea, by the way, is by no means new, for the Royal Horticultural Society, which is at present enjoying a reign of unexampled prosperity, holds a highly successful show in the Temple Gardens, London, at which no money prizes are given, but the awards take the form of pieces of plate and medals. It may be urged that this is largely a trade show, and the nurserymen who exhibit depend on the advertisement as a reward for their labour and outlay. Just so, but according to the arguments of Sir Thomas Dyke Acland the Royal Agricultural Show is somewhat similar, as the chief object in competing for a prize is not so much to acquire the money offered as it is to advertise the herd and enhance the market value of the animal which wins honours. As Sir Thomas Dyke Acland points out, the case is entirely different to a small county show, where the exhibitors are mostly tenant farmers, and the prize-money to them is a consideration.

Ploughing Matches in North Kent.

The twenty-eighth annual ploughing match of the North Kent Agricultural Association, the largest of its kind in the world, was held at Chimham's Farm, Farningham, near Dartford, on Thursday, in the presence of a large company. One hundred and nine teams took part, as against 130 last year. The special prize for the best piece of work with the iron plough was won by George Colville, employed by Mr. E. Vinson, of Sidcup; and Arthur Turner, in the employ of Mr. V. Earle, Farningham, was the winner of the principal award for the best work with the turnrise plough.

Mr. Peter Palmer, of Houton Kirby, secured the silver cup competed for by farmers and farmers' sons, and Thomas Chapman, aged sixty-five, of Southfleet, and Ernest Godfrey, aged thirty-one, of Darenth, received silver watches, being the oldest and youngest winning ploughmen. The special prize offered by Mr. John Russell, father of the association, was awarded to Frederick Letchford, aged twenty-five, of Bexley, and the long service prize was gained by George Pratt, who had been in the employ of Mr. R. Rogers, Ash, for thirty-one years.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The spirit of organisation is in the air. The Darlington resolution has now, I learn, been followed by the determination of the Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce not merely to formulate a Parliamentary programme, but to exact loyalty to that programme from every one of its members. I am not aware of the actual terms of the resolution, but a member of the Chamber has assured me that it indicated a very definite determination on the part of the members to consider their own weal rather than partisan convenience. "I can assure you," said he, "that, speaking generally, we Warwickshire farmers will refuse to support any candidate who will not emphatically promise to withhold his support from a Government which continues the old game of agrarian neglect." "Of course," he added, "there are men among us who are partisans first and agricultural policy men afterwards. They have, however, for the moment, at least, subordinated their predilections to the anxiety to exact necessary reforms and a more generous executive scheme of agricultural administration from Parliament." Most excellent information, in all sooth. I pray, however, that the Warwickshire agricultural reformers will not restrict their vision—will not let the be-all and end-all of their purpose be the concession of the Butter Act, a Dogs Act, the throwing of the cost of secondary education on the Imperial Exchequer, and the increase of the grant to the Board of Agriculture by a score of thousand pounds. There should be other things in this philosophy than these.

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I see that Liberal candidates for rural constituencies are making much of the Earl of Onslow's frank confession of the sedulous and unvarying Parliamentary neglect of the interests of agriculture during the lifetime of the present Ministry. Well, I suppose we cannot wonder at this. The confession places a pretty flail in their hands with which to belabour their antagonists. The Conservative party is traditionally the rural party, and when a Conservative Minister confesses that he and his fellows have only yielded six hours of Parliamentary time during each of the last five years for the organised consideration of agricultural necessities and agricultural problems, we are provided with an example of almost brutal recreancy. However, the farmer's plain duty is to ask these Liberal candidates if they will insist on a Liberal Ministry doing better than this. Of course, they could not, under any possible combination of circumstances and conditions, do worse. The reply will be inevitably in the affirmative; but, then, the interrogative farmers should ask that the Liberal candidate should indicate whether he means by this that the Liberal Parliament shall—that is, as far as his personal influence can secure this—give a practical heed to workaday matters of moment to the rural interest. Does he mean that that Parliament shall give weeks of consideration to feather-head schemes of land reform probably impossible of realisation, or that it shall give attention to questions like adulteration, tenure reform, housing reform, rating reform, and taxation reform, the establishment of experimental farms and the dissemination of the results by a State-established machinery, and the practicalising of education in harmony with rural needs? The Conservative Government of the last four years has been barren. The urban centres may be the siren influence with the promised Liberal Government. Will these Liberal candidates promise to seek to deflect that Government into the path of rural reform? Denunciation of the official apathy of the past is not of necessity a promise of official Ministerial sympathy in the future.

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The fact that Mr. Chaplin is persevering with his objections to the redistribution scheme embodied in the abortive Bill of the Government is excellent. It means, if I read portents aright, that that scheme, or, rather, the population basis, which would so sorely penalise rural areas, will never be expressed in an Act. Even if this Parliament be extended unto another session, and even if the Ministry have sufficient virility (which, by the way, faithful supporters like the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Pall Mall Gazette* frankly doubt) to conduct so momentous a legislative business, this particular proposal would be defeated. The Liberals might not be possessed by the same relentless objection to it which possesses Mr. Chaplin; but, like the Irish Nationalists, they hold that the Government is without any mandate to deal with the question, and that the parent of the whole business is the anxiety to jerrymander the constituencies in the interests of party. Mr. Chaplin would by no means be an isolated Conservative malcontent. With him would be associated all that considerable Conservative section who look upon the population basis adopted for urban centres in the abandoned Bill as calculated to vest a disproportionate and unfair Parliamentary interest in urban centres. On the whole, therefore, I think we can regard the prospect, so far as this matter is concerned, with serenity. The rural representation in the House of Commons is not yet likely to be depleted.

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Well, Mr. Akers-Douglas, the Home Secretary, did something more than chew the dry remainder biscuit of obsolete Parliamentary platitudes in declaring that the rating question, which in its present incidence so unfairly penalises the farmers, must come up for settlement very shortly, no matter which party is in power. This must be remembered as an explicit pledge from an authoritative influence in Conservative leadership. I doubt that the Liberals will deal with this question —and I am assuming that the next Liberal Government will deal with it—in a manner satisfactory to the rural interest. The Liberal hierarchy will be compelled to consult the party economists. Those men are not exuberantly anxious to relieve farmers. Henry Georgeism has long since been exploded; but most of them believe in another form of land nationalisation. If they do not suggest the dispossession of landlordism by the simple, scientific process of taxing land to the extent of twenty shillings in the pound, they are not by any means exuberantly anxious to relieve the land of its rating burdens. I have occasionally heard Liberal candidates—I recently instanced Major A. W. Biggs, who is fighting the Evesham division —characterise with frank denunciatory enthusiasm the fact that a farmer, in order to secure an income as large as that of a town tradesman, has to pay many times as much in taxes as the latter estimable person. These candidates are, however, few and far between. Thus it is that the question will still in a measure, even though the Liberals deal with it, remain open for that Conservative Government which is inevitable in the cycle of political change. Mr. Akers-Douglas and his fellows must be reminded, then, of his declaration and of the fact that he has permitted it to be accepted as an indication of what Conservatism intends to accomplish. Official Conservatism has to rehabilitate itself in rural esteem. The neglect of the past few years has to be atoned for and expiated

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Again are the rumours revived of the prospect of an early dissolution. These are, I ween, due to the confession of even the Government organs that this Ministry is moribund, and that another session would be foredoomed to abortiveness. Why, ask the advocates of an early appeal, should the Government await a new register? It has been pointed out that if the Government went to the polls in the early months of the new year—and this has been suggested—the Liberals would receive that advantage to the full which a new register invariably gives them. Under these circumstances, if the fight is to be fought on the 1906 register the Government would postpone seeking the popular suffrage until the year is far advanced. But surely, if the best period for Conservatives is when the register is almost exhausted, no better period than the present can present itself. I know Conservatives who declare that to go to the country now would mean the retention of a dozen constituencies, the majority in which would be really Liberal under the new register. I have even heard astute politicians men whose judgment has been confessedly influenced by the nervous preparative haste which now marks the life of the Conservative headquarters—fix the third week of the present month for the dissolution. Against this anticipation is the fact that Mr. Balfour might prefer to resign rather than to dissolve. Resignation would throw on the Liberals the responsibility of administration for a brief period.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the Council was held at 12, Hanover Square, on Wednesday, Sir Edward Strachey, Bart., M.P., vice-president, in the chair.

On behalf of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, Mr. Page reported that the available balance on current account on October 31 was £5,829 14s., against which the committee recommended payments amounting to £4,859 12s., including £4,765 for prizes and other expenditure connected with the recent dairy show. The committee submitted a return showing that in the eight weeks ended October 28, 53 cwt. of fresh milk were imported into the United Kingdom, there being none in the corresponding weeks of last year. In the same period the imports of cream amounted to 888 cwt., compared with 575 cwt. last year; of preserved milk 550 compared with 504 cwt., and of condensed milk 159,462 against 135,231 cwt.

A letter was read from the Board of Agriculture having regard to the Council's resolution as to a proposed amendment of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901, and asking for a statement as to the nature of the facilities which the association desired should be given to vendors under new regulations. The communication was discussed at some length, and eventually a small committee was formed with instructions to draft suggestions to be laid before the Board after approval by the Council.

On the motion of Captain Smith-Neill, seconded by Mr. Ashcroft, it was resolved: "That this Council is prepared to join in a deputation to the Prime Minister in January or February next to urge upon him the necessity of passing the Sale of Butter Bill before Easter."

The next meeting of the Council was fixed to be held on Wednesday, December 6.

Preston Cheese Fair.

In consequence of extensive country buying during the previous fortnight and the fact that many farmers were holding over their produce for the Christmas show fair, the pitch at Preston Fair on Tuesday was smaller than usual. It consisted of 63 lots and 804 cheese, as against 85 lots and 1,450 cheeses at the corresponding fair last year. There was a large attendance of buyers, and a clearance was speedily effected at prices slightly in advance of those of a year ago. Medium made from 55s. to 57s. 6d., best from 60s. to 62s. 6d., while a few exceptionally choice dairies ranged up to 69s.

Lancashire Cheese.

It was stated at a conference of agriculturists, held at Preston on Tuesday, that there are 12,000 farms in Lancashire, and as a means of popularising and advertising the cheese made in the county, it was decided to form a Dairy Farmers' Show Society. The Mayor of Preston, who presided, affirmed that Lancashire cheese is as good as Cheddar, and the Mayor of Lancaster, who said he prided himself on being an expert in cheese-tasting, expressed the opinion that no cheese has so rich a flavour as Lancashire cheese. It would command a good price all over the country if its qualities were better known.

At a well-attended meeting of North Notts farmers, held at Retford, it was unanimously decided to form a branch of the Lincolnshire Farmers' Union until such time as the county is able to form a union of its own.

Local Taxation. Referring at an agricultural dinner in Kent to the renewal of the Agricultural Rates Act, Mr. Akers-Douglas said the Government had dealt only with the fringe of the question of local taxation. Agriculturists were paying too much towards roads, lunatics, and similar institutions, the charges for which ought to fall upon Imperial rather than local resources.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The position of affairs in the East is affecting the wheat markets, and prices are moving upwards. But the upward trend is not solely attributable to the disturbances in Russia, for farmers' deliveries are but small compared with what might have been anticipated. Growers threshed wheat freely a month ago, but the opposition of the milling trade has caused the farmer to hold his wheat and thresh barley. So, for the time being, the barley market is almost glutted. Really good samples are scarce, but are not highly appraised when they do appear—the maltsters prefer foreign grain.

The problem of the unemployed will soon present very serious difficulties, and the measure placed on the Statute Book last Session will not go far in the direction of the solution of this problem. Where the Act is put in operation, workers may be introduced to work, but what about the places where there is no work? It is true that public bodies may provide work, but having regard to the necessity for keeping the rates within reasonable limits, will they provide work that must often be unremunerative? In the towns, where the burden of a temporary increase in rates does not press upon the employed because they live in houses for which the owners pay the rates - great pressure will be brought to bear on the local authorities to provide work; but in the rural districts the rating situation is reversed. And everywhere, both in town and country, but especially in the country, there is a very numerous class, just removed from pauperism and struggling hard to keep clear of it, upon whom any increase in the rates will tell very severely. The interests of this great law-abiding class, whose voice is seldom distinctly heard in times of social or political turmoil, are often gravely neglected by the powers that be.

Whatever the situation may prove to be in the towns, it will be serious enough in many rural districts. It seems generally anticipated that the winter will prove a hard one, and as farm work is forward and farmers' finances are depleted, the labour staff on the farms, generally, will be cut down to the minimum, and there will be great distress. It will be well for the farmer to consider whether this cutting down of his staff is really desirable, and to consider whether it will not be advisable to have some work executed in these short winter days which would otherwise be postponed until work can be done during longer hours The question of increased cost can, in some cases, be met by task or piece-work, but, beyond this there is another greater question—the duty of every member of the community to assist his weaker neighbour. If farmers, as a whole, will endeavour, each in his own way, to find work for those who honestly seek it, the problem of the unemployed will be nearly solved in most rural districts. The financial difficulty stands in the way, for it is well known that at the present moment many farmers do not know which way to turn for money, and are absolutely compelled to cut down all their expenditure to the lowest possible point.

The improper feeding of farm horses is a subject upon which a good deal has been written, and even more said, and legislation has been invoked to prevent the continuance of injurious practices. Somehow or other, farm servants are impressed with the idea that wheat must be a good food for horses, and, in spite of all warnings to the contrary, some will on every opportunity give wheat to the horses in their charge. So long ago as 1863, the Misappropriation by Servants Act was passed, the effect of which is to render any servant who, contrary to the orders of his master, takes that master's corn or roots or other food for the purpose of giving that food to his master's horses, liable to a penalty of £5, or to three months' imprisonment with hard labour. Under this statute a good many offenders have been punished, but farmers complain that only the minimum punishment is inflicted, and that the justices deal far too leniently with the cases brought before them. The administration of wheat often causes the death of a horse, but when given in smaller quantities fever in the feet ensues, and the value of the animal is greatly depreciated, and the remainder of its working life is extremely painful; yet the penalty imposed upon a farm servant who wilfully gives wheat to horses in his charge rarely exceeds the penalty imposed upon a man who kills a pheasant on land where he is a trespasser!

Recently, a farm servant stole some wheat from a neighbouring farmer to give to the horses in his charge, and his master wished to proceed against his servant under the Act of 1863, but the justices refused to grant a summons against the servant, or to entertain the information, because, as the stolen corn was not his master's property, no offence had been committed against that Act. The servant was, however, convicted for larceny. The justices were undoubtedly right in their refusal, but the result seems somewhat anomalous. It should not, however, be forgotten that, previous to 1863, the giving of the master's corn to his horses, etc., by his servants, contrary to his orders, could only be punished as larceny or theft, and this Act was passed to provide a remedy less harsh in its nature, and to meet the grave doubts that were felt as to whether the giving of such corn, etc., did really amount to larceny.

This question of the wrongful feeding of farm horses has been forcibly brought to the notice of the Northern agriculturist by a most unfortunate occurrence, which has just taken place. A farmer in East Yorkshire dressed his seed wheat with arsenic, and one of his servants, who had charge of five horses, took some of the arsenically dressed wheat and gave it to the horses under his charge. The same night one of the animals died, and the other four died the next day. In each case the agony of the animals was very great. As proceedings may shortly be taken before the local justices, it is better for the present to make no comment upon the peculiar features of the case, except that, as it is fully admitted that the servant in question did not intend to cause any harm to these horses, it is evident that farm servants are grossly ignorant in these matters, and that they must be possessed by a strange perversity or they would not, in defiance of express instructions to the contrary, persist in giving such foods as wheat to horses in their charge.

November 3, 1905. M. Y.

THE DAIRY.

Nantwich Dairy Show.

Following their usual custom, the Cheshire Dairy Farmers' Association held a two days' show of cheese and butter at Nantwich last week, and it proved one of the, if not the most successful of the series. Nantwich, being in the heart of a fine pasture country, and, therefore, in the heart of the cheese making industry, is an excellent centre for the holding of a dairy show, and it almost goes without saying that the best cheese made in Cheshire, and in Shropshire, and on the Staffordshire borders of Cheshire where cheese is made on the Cheshire principle, finds its way to the association's annual show. Last week there were no fewer than 278 entries, or 76 more than last year, and it is interesting to recall that in 1890 there were only two classes and twenty-five entries. Thus the show has increased wonderfully, and so, we might add, has the cheese making industry. The changeable temperature of the weather during the last few weeks had affected the quality of some portion of the cheese, but generally the quality of the cheese was first class, and whether crumbly or close-made had that rich flavour which has made Cheshire cheese a highly palatable and saleable article. The seven classes comprising the show were well filled, and nearly all the best makers were entered. In Class 1 there were forty-one dairies exhibited, and the majority won prizes and cards. The class generally showed a uniform quality, and it contained the names of many famous makers. It had the greater honour of furnishing the championship dairy—a well-known maker, Mr. H. Denson, of Poulton, a tenant on the Duke of Westminster's estate, being awarded that highly-coveted distinction for a dairy of ten cheeses, which had not a single defect. Mr. Denson is a son-in-law of that famous Nantwich maker, Mr. John Dutton, of Swanley Hall, who last year won the association's silver cup, and who this year at the Chester Show carried off the association's silver medal. The choice of the judges lay between Mr. Denson's dairy, and the four cheeses made by Mr. J. H. Bourne, of Nantwich, who was awarded the second championship prize, the larger dairy eventually carrying the vote of the judges. The second prize winner in the championship was Mr. J. Noden, of Wettenhall, who showed a good sound dairy. In the uncoloured class Mr. H. Jones, of Aldersey, Chester, won with a handsome and perfectly made dairy, and the second prize went to a nice lot of cheeses from the dairy of Mr. W. R. Huntbach, of Dod's Green, Nantwich. In the class in which colour was optional Mr. F. Dutton took premier place with a splendid lot of cheeses, and Mr. W. Lee, of Tattenhall, who had also a capital dairy, the second prize.

Although there was not a large entry in the class in which farmers with holdings less than 100 acres competed there were a number of dairies of fine quality, the best being those of Mr. J. Dilworth, of Manley, and Mr. Joseph Jones, of Manley, who were the first and second prize winners. In a similar class of cheese (farmers with holdings of 50 acres competing), the best dairies were those of Mr. Pennington, of Spurstow, and Mr. W. Huntbach, of Stoke. The open class, coloured cheese, brought together no fewer than sixty-eight entries. Mr. John Dutton, of Swanley, whose recent triumphs have been already recorded, won with a superb dairy from Mr. C. Parton, of Haughton Hall, another notable maker of the best cheese, who had again showed a grand lot of cheeses. In the uncoloured class, Mr. J. H. Bourne, of Hack Green, the youngest son of the late Mr. Samuel Bourne, who was himself a frequent winner of prizes at all the principal shows, signalised his entry in the lists by carrying off both the first prize and the substantial prize given for the second best dairy in the show. The class was a good one, the judges distributing a considerable number of cards, and Mr. Bourne's success was therefore all the more creditable.

There was an excellent display of butter, which was presented for inspection in the most artistic style, and the quality generally, especially in the cottagers' section, where with one exception all the samples obtained prizes and cards, was simply perfect. The judge was so impressed by it that he unhesitatingly declared the exhibition of butter to be the best he had even seen at the show.

The Cheese Fair.

The usual cheese fair was held on the second day, at which buyers representing large wholesale houses keenly competed for the prize cheese. Mr. Denson's championship cheese sold at 120s. per cwt., first and second prize cheese from 80s. to 90s., and commended lots from 70s. to 75s. At the ordinary fair fine Cheshire made 68s. to 73s., medium qualities 62s. to 66s., and common 56s. per cwt. Altogether in the show and the fair 120 tons were rapidly sold.

Deficiency of Fat in Milk: Interesting Case.

At the Brighton Borough Court last week was heard an interesting case to dairy farmers. W. Aylwin, of Bevendean Farm, Brighton, was summoned for being the consignor of certain milk which was adulterated. For the prosecution it was mentioned that the analyst's certificate was to the effect that a sample of the milk contained 2.8 per cent. of fat, indicating a deficiency of 6.6 per cent. of fat, whilst a sample was sent to Somerset House, and the Government analyst certified that it contained 2.78 per cent. of fat, showing deficiency of 7 per cent. according to the standard.

The defending lawyer urged that, although slightly below the standard set up by the Board of Agriculture, it was good and genuine milk.

The defendant's cowman, Henry Hillman, stated that his master had 400 acres of land and 150 animals. The cows were milked at four o'clock in the morning and two in the afternoon. The milk was sent from the farm exactly as it came from the cows, being taken to customers by his son, who had 23 gallons. Under cross-examination, Hillman said that the pasture land was not rich. The cows were also given grains and cabbages. A separator was used occasionally for milk left at night, but the separated milk was always given to the pigs.

Frederick James Lloyd, consulting chemist, and agricultural analyst for several authorities, said he analysed a sample of the milk, which contained 2.97 per cent. of fat. There was no evidence of adulteration or abstraction, and it might have been genuine milk. Frequently he had found similar figures in respect of genuine milk. The percentage of fat in milk fluctuated largely from various causes, including diet, change of temperature, or unequal time of milking; the longer a cow was left the poorer was the milk, so that the morning milk would be poorer than the afternoon milk.

The Bench came to the conclusion that, notwithstanding the certificate from the Public Analyst, and that from the Somerset House authorities, the defendant had proved that what was sold was genuine milk. They accordingly dismissed the case with costs, including a sum of 10s. 6d. paid to Somerset House authorities and £1 1s. advocate's fee.

National Dairy Show at Chicago.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are informed, through the Board of Trade, that a national dairy show will be held in Chicago from February 15 to 24 next. It is believed that this exhibition affords a good opportunity for makers of dairy appliances in this country to bring their goods before the American public, and intending exhibitors should make immediate application for space to the National Dairy Show Association, 154, Lake Street, Chicago.

A copy of the printed form of application, with a plan of the building and other particulars, can be seen on application to the Intelligence Branch, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 4, Whitehall Place, London, S.W.

OBITUARY.

Mr. F. C. Southwell.

We much regret to announce the death of Mr. F. C. Southwell, which took place on Thursday last at his residence at Sutton, Surrey. Frederick Charles Southwell was born September 26, 1845, at Wisbech, Cambs. The son of a solicitor, he studied law four years, and then, on account of poor health, went into business life, first at Liverpool and later at Albion Ironworks, Rugeley, Staffs, as Southwell and Co., manufacturing agricultural implements, etc. In 1874 he went to Grantham to the firm now so well known under the style of R. Hornsby and Sons, Ltd., and was their general manager for the last 17 years he was with them.

Mr. Southwell left to found the present firm of F. C. Southwell and Co., 75, Southwark Street S.E., in 1895. This business has been successfully carried on since that date, being associated with the Deering Harvester Company as their general agents for England until September, 1903, when their amalgamation with other American Harvester Companies to form the International Harvester Company put an end to the agency. Other very successful lines in the way of machinery, implement, and agricultural accessories are handled by this firm, which, we understand, will shortly be converted into a private limited liability company. Having several sons in the business it was the late Mr. Southwell's intention to take the step for family reasons, and the necessary document for carrying out this purpose were in active preparation at the time of his death. The wishes of the deceased gentleman will be complied with in this respect with as little delay as possible.

Mr. Peter Stubs

A notable Shire horse breeder passed away last week in the person of Mr. Peter Stubs, J.P., of Blaisdon Hall, Newnham-on-Severn, who succumbed from heart failure on Sunday morning. The deceased gentleman, who was in his 76th year, wrs a Justice of the Peace for Gloucestershire, Cheshire, and Lancashire, and was highly esteemed and well known, more particularly in the last-named county; but he was better and more widely known for the attention he paid to improving the breed of Shire horses, of which he was an extensive and successful exhibitor, the Blaisdon Hall stud having produced a large number of winners at shows in various parts of the country. Blaisdon Conqueror, it will be recalled—to mention only one of Mr. Stubs's famous stud—was one of the very best Shire horses of his day, and has left many worthy descendants. Deceased took a great pride in his animals at New House Stud Farm, adjoining Blaisdgn Hall, and nothing gave him greater pleasure than to show visitors round his splendid stables. Mr. Stubs was a member of the Gloucester Root, Fruit, and Grain Society. On the Society's first Field Day the members paid a vislt to Blaisdon Hall, and those present will not forget the kindness with which Mr. and Mrs. Stubs attended to their guests in every way.

Mr. Tyson.

The death occurred at Winsted Hall, Derbyshire, on Friday week, of Mr. John Marshall Tyson, of East Plain, Cark, North Lancashire. Mr. Tyson, who was 51 years of age, was one of the most prominent authorities on agricultural matters in North Lonsdale. Besides being a director of the Ulverston and North Lonsdale Auction Mart Company (Limited), he was a member for very many years of the Management Committee of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society, and was a well-known judge of horses.

The Earl of Cathcart.

We regret to announce the death of Earl Cathcart, which took place on Monday at his London residence, 31, Grosvenor Place. His lordship, who, had he lived till the 14th inst., would have completed his seventy-seventh year, lived in Yorkshire for over forty years, and by his death the North Riding has lost one of its most popular and respected residents. He was an ideal country gentleman, and was a recognised authority on agricultural matters, his experience being practical as well as theoretical. He not only owned a fairly large estate, but for many years himself farmed over 500 acres at Manor House. Horse-breeding was his special fancy, and few men did more than he in the cultivation of Clydesdales. He did not, it is true, breed extensively, but the horses that belonged to his stables were splendid specimens of their type. At one time he took to Shorthorn breeding, and for this purpose imported a number of heifers from the South of England. Whatever his success may have been in this direction, however, he eventually reverted to the breeding of Irish cattle. Of live stock, and particularly of horses, he was a capital judge, and outside the ring at the principal shows there were few keener, and certainly no more intelligent critics.

Earl Cathcart, however, will be best remembered for his work in connection with the Royal Agricultural Society of England. He was President of the society for the year 1872-3, and was for some years the Chairman of the Journal Committee, many contributions on agricultural subjects from his pen appearing in the Journal, of which he was practically the Editor. He retired from the Council of the society some years ago. His lordship was also an honorary member of the Société des Agriculteurs de France, a compliment which is the more valuable because of its rarity. As was only to be expected, the deceased Earl took an interest in the agricultural societies of his district, and was, we may mention, President of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society in 1856—he had not then succeeded to the peerage. As a landlord the late Earl was popular with his tenants, and many of his old servants have been able to pass the closing days of their lives in comfort by means of substantial pensions; whilst finally we may say that in the House of Lords he always, when opportunity offered, put in a word for our greatest industry, which by his death has lost a great supporter.

The late Mr. F. C. Southwell.

RECENTLY PROVED WILLS.

Colonel Webb's.

Colonel William George Webb, J.P., M.P., of Woodfield, Wordsley, Staffordshire, 4, De Vere Gardens, W., and the Carlton and St. Stephen's Clubs, chairman of J. W. Cameron and Co., Ltd., and the North Worcestershire Breweries, Ltd., and senior partner in the firms of Messrs. Edward Webb and Sons and Messrs. Proctor and Ryland, merchants, who died on June 14, left property which has been returned by the widow, Mrs. Ada Blanche Webb, his sons, Mr. William Harcourt Webb and Mr. Frank Broughton Webb, seed merchants, and his brother, Mr. Edward Webb, J.P., of Studley Court, Stourbridge, at £592,800 gross and £559,984 net. The testator, by his will, dated September 26, 1904, with three codicils, bequeathed to his wife £500, the use of his house and furniture, his horses, carriages, and £3,000 per annum during her widowhood, or £500 per annum should she remarry; to his son, Victor Pryce, £50,000 upon trust; his daughter, Flora, £30,000 upon trust; his daughter, Ada Eugenie, £20,000 upon trust; Edith Jane Girdlestone and her issue, £1,000 upon trust; Annette and Edith Pryce, £100 each; and his brother-in-law, Harold Pryce, £1,000. He gave £100 to his old servant, Mrs. Lansdale; £50 each to his personal servants, Duce and Joyner; £100 to his timekeeper, Sheppard; £100 each to the heads of departments, travellers, or persons in the office of Webb and Son, who have been there for twenty continuous years, and £50 to each servant in the warehouse on a like condition. The residuary estate, including his interest and share in all partnerships carried on by him, his son, his brother, and nephew, he leaves to his two sons, who prove, William Harcourt and Frank Broughton Webb.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read's.

Mr. Clare Sewell Read, who had two addresses, viz., 91, Kensington Gardens Square, W., and Honingham Thorpe, Norfolk, has left estate of the gross value of £21,757 16s. 5d., of which the net personality has been sworn at £17,762 3s. 7d. The testator bequeathed to his wife £250, all consumable stores absolutely, the use of his household effects, and the income of his residuary estate for life (she thereout providing a home for his unmarried daughters), and on her decease, he left his estate to his trustees to pay £1,000 each to his daughters Margaret and Clare Sybil, if unmarried, and to distribute the balance between his children in equal shares.

Sir Jacob Wilson's.

The will has been proved of the late Sir Jacob Wilson, of Chillingham Barns, Belford, Northumberland, who was honorary director of the Royal Agricultural Society, Fellow of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, director of the Land Department of the Board of Agriculture, and, since 1891, agricultural adviser to the Board.

The gross value of the estate is placed at £6328 6s. 6d, of which the net personalty has been sworn at £23 3s. 4d. Probate of his will, a short document of seventy-six words, dated October 17, 1895, has been granted to his widow, Dame Margaret Wilson, of Chillingham Barns, to whom he left the whole of his estate absolutely.

Stockton Chamber.

The first monthly meeting of the present session of the Stockton Chamber of Agriculture was held this week—Captain J. Lilley presiding. Mr. A. C. Forbes, F.H.A.S., of the Armstrong College, Newcastle, gave an interesting lecture upon "Hedges and their management. Mr. T. J. Wilson introduced the question of the amendment of the Agricultural Holdings Act. He said that as agriculturists they did not approach the matter in any antagonistic spirit to landowners, but upon the boad basis that if the Acts were amended in various directions not only would tenant farmers be free to cultivate the land better, but there would be more capital drawn to the land, and there would be better returns, from which the whole of the people in the country would benefit. They wanted the law to give the tenant a statutory right to carry out all the improvements to his holding necessary to its proper working upon the principle already adopted in the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act, that if the landlord declined to carry them out then the tenant should be allowed to do so, and take the chance of having them considered as improvements to the holding when he left and claimed compensation, and that no man should be rented upon his own improvement. He moved that the Chamber support the Bill introduced last year by Mr. Price and backed by Mr. Lambert in the House of Commons, and this was, after discussion, agreed to.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.

A Discussion on Rate Aided Education.

The first meeting of the Farmers' Club after the summer recess was held at 5, Whitehall Court, Charing Cross, W.C., on Monday evening.

Mr. W. A. PROUT, Chairman of the Club, presided, and, in opening the meeting, said: I am very sorry to have to begin the proceedings to-day in a sad note. During the vacation we have lost several very good and worthy members of the Club, amongst others, Mr. John Hamstead, a very good man and a useful farmer in East Anglia, who was Chairman of the Club in 1891. But the foremost and greatest of our losses is that of our much esteemed friend, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, who passed away in August last in his seventy-eighth year. Our good friend, Mr. Pell, has come up from the country to-day in order to pay a last tribute of respect to our old friend, and I will now ask Mr. Pell to propose a vote of condolence.

The Late Mr. Clare Sewell Read.

Mr. A. PELL (Northampton): As the Chairman has said, I have come up especially to-day to move a vote of condolence with the widow and family of our old and dear friend Mr. Read. Over and over again have I sat and listened with the utmost pleasure to his narrative of his life, the people who taught him and worked with him in his own family. His father was not brought up to farming, but travelled for a mercantile house; but with a brother he took farming in hand and was as able a man as his son became. We are to-day to have a paper read by Mr. Crouch upon education. Mr. Read often told me about his education. He used to sit round the kitchen fire of a winter's evening with his father in the chair with a pipe, and the boys all round him. His father would say: "Now, boys, what shall we do on the farm to-morrow if it is a fine day?" and after getting their answers he would turn round and said, "Now, Clare, what if it pours with rain?" and then he used to describe to me how it puzzled him, and how he had to get his senses right before he answered; but to my mind that was the way to teach.

There was a curious feature in his character which I do not think you all know. He was such a singularly modest man that he never published before the world the fruits of his wonderful ability. When I first went to stay with him at Hollingham Court, in the sixties, I same down from my bedroom in the morning and said to him, "You are an extremely extravagant man. What made you buy those beautiful oil paintings in my bedroom? They are beautiful landscapes, and must have cost a good deal of money." He said, "Oh, I did a little of that sort of work myself," and I replied, "Read, you ought never to have been a farmer; you ought to have been a painter." He had a most beautiful command of the brush. There was no more delightful thing than to meet Mr. Read on the Norfolk hills at market time, to see the way people came round him and asked his advice and consulted him, not always, I am sure, on the merits of cattle, but in connection with their little domestic affairs and difficulties. He was always ready to meet them in the kindest possible way. He was the most faithful advocate of the tenant farmers' interests that ever entered the House of Commons. To my mind there was nobody who was so faithful an advocate of their cause, because he was one himself, and in many instances he pushed their cause to extremes. Nothing would take him away from the interest of the tenant farmers in England, and he was a splendid, upright, and admirable advocate of our cause. I move this vote of condolence with his widow and family in their great bereavement:

"That the Chairman should convey to Mrs. Read and her family, in a vote of condolence, the heartfelt sympathy of the Farmers' Club, of which the late Mr. Clare Sewell Read was for many years so distinguished and energetic a member."

The resolution was carried in silence.

The Harvest.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, it is customary to say a word or two after the vacation about the harvest. We have had, I think it may be generally considered, a very brilliant harvest and a very good time, almost a record time for the in-gathering. More than ever we have had a great yield of wheat, fair barley, and a good hay crop, which is a striking contrast to the yield of the previous year. However, there are always some drawbacks, and just when we wanted to thresh and sell prices have gone down, and, of course, there is the unfortunate potato disease in the Fens. I think, however, that the down-ward fall of the price is chiefly due to too much being threshed and put on the market at one time. The reports from abroad, except from Canada, are disappointing, and, therefore, I think there is every prospect of a rise in the price of wheat in the near future.

To-day we are to listen to a very excellent paper by Mr. Crouch on "Education," and I have not the slightest doubt it will promote a very useful discussion.

A paper on "Rate-aided Education," from which we gave extracts in a recent issue, was then read by Mr. James Crouch.

Discussion on Rate-aided Education.

Lord HENEAGE (Hainton Hall, Lincolnshire): I think Mr. Crouch struck the right note when he said "Surely the only education of real value is that which will enable the child to fill satisfactorily its position in after life." I think that is more applicable, perhaps, to agriculture than any other sphere of life. There is, perhaps, less attention given in the schools to fit a child for an agricultural life than for any other position to which it can go, and, therefore, I think this paper must be of great interest to everyone connected with agriculture, because it puts the question so clearly before you.

Whilst I do not agree with everything that has been said in the paper, still I think the main principle is this, that we do want in rural localities a great deal more elasticity in our education, and I believe the Education Department are beginning to appreciate that fact and trying to enforce that idea. I cannot go so far as to say that our children should be taken from the schools when they have learned the three Rs. On the other hand, I think they should be taught lessons which would be of use to them instead of lessons that will be of no use to them in the life they are going to pursue. (Hear, hear.) That is not only the case in our elementary schools, but all over the world. It is the case certainly in the cramming schools, in the public schools, and very likely also in our colleges.

There is another point on which I am also very strongly indeed in favour of what has been said by Mr. Crouch, and that is with regard to the age at which the children go to school. I have maintained that point in Parliament and out of Parliament. I believe I moved an amendment when the Free Education Bill was before the House to raise the age at which compulsion was to come in. I stated then that they were going to turn the school mistresses into nursery maids, and that is practically the case. I think myself that the Scotch limit is the right one. I think the age of six is an age at which children may go to school, because I do not think they learn a great deal before they are six. Certainly six is the lowest age at which it ought to be compulsory, and I do not think a child ought to go to school before he is five.

There is one point on which I do not agree with Mr. Crouch, and that is with regard to the difficulties under this Act. I suppose really it is the Act itself which is more under discussion than the general question of education—how far this Act affects education. I do not think there is any great difficulty about the multiplicity of authorities. At the present moment the only authorities that have any real power are the Education Department through or by their inspectors, and the Committee of Education which represents the county councils. The county councils have to pay, but as far as any power is concerned, all the power has gone out of them when they appoint the Education Committee, so that it is only those two authorities that have to be dealt with. The managers for all purposes are merely the agents of the county council; they have no power; they have no say in the matter; they have simply to do what they are told. I think that has an effect which is not altogether of advantage in carrying out the Act. (Hear, hear.)

I am glad to see that Mr. Crouch mentioned the question of a committee ad hoc. There was nobody who was a stronger advocate either in or out of the House, of a committee ad hoc than I was myself at the time this Bill was passed. I believe it would have been the best thing that could have been done. (Hear, hear.) I believe that if the Act of 1870 could have been what I call levelled up to the occasion without disturbing the Board schools and without disturbing the voluntary schools, which were then being carried on extremely well, that that would have been far the best way of improving the Education Act. But I think it is fair to say I have altered my opinion since then, and I am coming to the conclusion that the Act is now working very fairly well under the authorities who have it in hand. The real point will be that the advantages or disadvantages of the 1902 Education Act almost entirely depend on who are the administrators in the counties and the administrators in the boroughs. If you get good committees with good practical men upon them it will work well; if you get theorists and faddists and that class of administrator, then it will work very badly and will not work economically.

Although I believe I am not in harmony with the majority of the meeting, I very much regret that the religious question was introduced at all. I hope we shall get the Education Act amended in many practical ways, but I hope it will still remain as it is, and only be amended. With a new Valuation Bill, and with a fair and an equitable judgment according to the ability of everyone to pay their local burden, I think we shall not find the rates perhaps as heavy as they are now. At any rate, I think we have got the principle admitted that the Treasury is bound to pay the greater part of the cost of education, and, having got that, we must try and get, if we can, a little more, and at the same time, by sending good men to the county councils to be put on the Education Committee, try and get the schools under the Education Committee administered with economy and efficiency, and with, I hope, good results to all those who are taught to them. It gives me very great pleasure indeed to propose the vote of thanks to Mr. Crouch. (Cheers.)

Agriculture and Education.

Mr. E. B. BARNARD: I am delighted to second the vote of thanks to Mr. Crouch that has been moved in such a singularly suitable speech by Lord Heneage. Mr. Crouch, I think, has quite filled the situation that we require here to-day. He has read a paper which bristles with all sorts of points that are capable of approval or disapproval, according to the particular fancy of the individual who may have opinions of his own. Whilst all the points that he has raised about education, and the details that he has mentioned, may be most interesting, and, perhaps, open to discussion; at the same time, we have to realise that education has come to stay, that it is part of the policy of the country, and, whereas it may be very essential—and I think it is—in the interests of the community at large, we are entitled to contemplate what is the particular relation of agriculture towards it, and how it affects our industry and ourselves. In that respect I think it would be easy to show that a great many of the points which the speaker alluded to can be most thoroughly maintained.

It is self-evident in many directions that education has largely been at the cost of the agricultural districts, and, at the same time, the principal advantages derived out of the children educated in rural areas have, in my judgment, been for the benefit of the towns and for other parts of the community. (Hear, hear.) I do not want to labour the point; but I will give an illustration of one School Board with which I am familiar. We took out, for our own convenience a census in that district, and, out of 1,800 pupils passing through the schools, we found that 1,450 had left us to go elsewhere to try and do better for themselves. That brings home the object-lesson.

Our friend in reading his paper touched upon the word "dogma," and there were some expressions of dissent. That is the one thing which is the bug-bear of everything to do with our industry. When opinions are expressed that, somehow or other, do not exactly suit everyone amongst us, we are usually muzzled by that cant cry that I shall not mention here to-day. I would prefer to turn to the Darlington programme. I would prefer to contemplate for a minute what all those farmers' hardy men in Northumberland and Durham, and places in the north of England—what they have come to think? They met, and why did they meet? Because they said: "We live in the midst of a number of mining representatives; we live in the midst of men who have their Trade Unions and things of that description, and what is it that we see? We see that the outcome of these Trade Unions, which may not be what everyone else likes, is to the interests of the men who belong to them, and cannot we have something of the sort for ourselves, because we have been for a very long time without it, and a very long time without getting what we require."

Mr. STRATTON: I should like to say that, in my opinion, any education that boys over twelve years of age receive in the country is a luxury which cannot be afforded them. I think that, by that time, we have given the key of knowledge the three R's. The most educated and wisest men in England are not those who have been to school the longest, rather the reverse; and, consequently, I think a shorter period of education is sufficient.

Mr. J. C. KIDNER: I should like to say how thoroughly I am in sympathy with the sentiments expressed by Mr. Barnard. We want the basis of this local taxation set right. Our hair has been growing grey while this measure has been promised by successive Parliaments. I remember when I was quite a boy a great meeting held at Taunton. Sir Massey Lopes presided, and very shortly afterwards there was

a motion in Parliament, and it was agreed that the incidence of local taxation was unfair, and that it required immediate attention. What attention has it received? Nothing but just piecemeal doles, given to a starving dog. I think the dog has starved long enough; it has begun to howl, if not to bite. I think we should make our voice heard in the coming election.

The Teaching of Rural Subjects.

Mr. DYMOND (Board of Education): I should like to say, in the first place, how much I appreciate Mr. Crouch's paper. The point about which I should like to say a few words is, that as I understand he considers that the reason why the education in the schools has prepared children more for towns than for country life, is, that the children remain at school too long, and that he would like—and this has been supported by a speaker since—to see the children leave school when they are twelve years of age. I think there is another means by which we may make the education in the schools more suitable for training children for rural life, and that is, by adapting this rural education to the needs of rural life in the way that has been suggested by Lord Heneage.

There is so much that we can do. The arithmetic, for instance, in our schools, might very much more deal with the arithmetical problems that are always confronting us in our daily life in the country. Our geography, I think, should first of all deal with the geography of our own village—the soil, the land, the crops, and so on. Our nature study, in my opinion, should be based upon the observations of the children about the soil, and about the weeds that grow upon the land, about the insect pests, and birds, and so on. I think if we did this, we should find that our children were much better fitted for work in the country afterwards. I personally believe there is a certain amount of truth when people say that an interest in country pursuits is thereby aroused. What I believe also is, that in that way we should develop the intelligence of our children, and they would go out and learn about these things in their daily lives.

I should also go so far as to introduce into every school some practical subject, some subject that is of real use to the child afterwards, which he can turn into shillings and pence after he leaves school. I would not only confine it to teaching girls cookery; I would like to see the girls not alone able to cook when they leave school; but I would like to see them so educated that they could make a garment, and, in certain districts, the girls should be taught dairying, so that they would be able to help their mothers in the dairy when they left school. And for the boys, we might, in addition to teaching them gardening at school—and I think we ought to have a garden in connection with every rural school in the country—I think we might teach the boys, not only gardening, but something of the things which they can do out of doors, some of the farming operations, such as boys can do.

Work of Evening Schools.

I think Mr. Crouch has hardly referred fully enough to the work that can also be done in the evening schools. I should like to give one or two examples of the work that is being supported by the Board of Education at the present time, in the direction of rural education in evening schools. There is a village, for instance, on the northern slopes of Salisbury Plain, Rushall, where there is a gardening class being carried on in the evening in the spring and summer. I saw that class during the harvest. I found the class consisted of young men who were most of them agricultural labourers. They came right down from the harvest field—and they were working overtime—to attend this gardening class, and put off going home to tea until after the class was over. In the winter they carry on this work in the form of a night school. They study the cultivation of the garden and farm from books they have in their library, and they also study the reasons underlying cultivation. They associate with this a certain amount of farm arithmetic, and subjects of that sort. I cannot conceive that any work can be more beneficial than the work that is being done in the village of Rushall, and it is a very striking fact that I was told there was no want of agricultural labour in that village.

I cannot help believing that when we adapt rural education to the needs of rural life in this way, we shall find that the difficulties under which we are at present labouring will, to a large extent, disappear, and that that is the better policy of endeavouring to carry out what we wish than to try and save money by getting rid of the children at so early an age as has been suggested in the paper.

Mr. S. KIDNER (Bickley Farm, Milverton, Somerset): Mr. Dymond's ideal is a very high one; he says he will teach them all kinds of things in connection with agriculture at the schools, but in my experience, when they go out on to the farm they do not know how to do anything. It is all very well to talk about teaching them different things in connection with agriculture, such as science and chemistry, and one thing and another. We do not want our farm labourers to give us their opinion as to what we shall do; we want them to do the work and be practical. (Hear, hear.)

Some little difficulty cropped up with regard to the boys leaving school in our county; I do not know whether it prevails in other parts or not. We have a regulation that when the boys have attained twelve years of age, and have passed the fourth standard, that they may be taken on to work on the farms in the summer. There is also a provision made so that night schools can be carried on. I am in accord with both of these regulations. The other day in our village, which consists of just about 1,000 inhabitants, I went and saw two or three friends about starting a night school. I found the youths around me were anxious to go to school, and I though we might get twenty there. To my great astonishment, the day before the school opened we had thirty-nine names sent in, and I had to go and get another teacher. The first day we opened the school we had forty-two present, and on the second day we had fifty-two, and I can only say how delighted I was to see so many turn up. They came there looking like work, and I am quite convinced that what they learn at such a school is worth more than two or three years' training at an earlier age at school, when they go away and forget the whole of it.

Does the Chrage fall on the Proper Shoulders?

Mr. A. PELL (Hazel Beach Hill, Northampton): In the third division of his paper, Mr. Crouch asked: Does the charge fall upon the proper shoulders? We have had the statement made that the Treasury pays more than its share. I do not care twopence whether the Treasury pays more than its share or not. That is not my business, but one thing I am sure of is that we pay more than our share. (Hear, hear.) I will tell you how we come to pay more—and it will get worse and worse—it is because you have a certain number of persons applying the funds who do not supply one penny of it.

The compounding of the rates lies at the root of the whole business. I am a hereditary proprietor of land and houses in the poorest part of London of between one and two hundred years, and I am constantly amongst my people, though I live in the country. I know very well what they are doing, and how they are being educated. What have I to pay? Out of every £1 of my income 9s. is taken for rates. That is not for education. I do not mean that for a moment, but the cost of education has added to it very largely in the neighbourhood of Northampton, where I live. But why should I be the only person to pay that? Why should not my tenants, who sit by and supinely elect men to the Councils with most extravagant ideas as to education and steamboats on the River Thames and all sorts of extravagances, why should they be permitted to go on encouraging this expenditure?

Mr. WHITE: I rise to support the paper, which I think is very much to the point, and also what Mr. Kidner has said. It is no use for us to come here, or anywhere else, and grumble about the rates if we adopt such expensive ways of teaching the children of the country. The great thing we have to learn is that we cannot teach children anything before they are five or six years old; and, secondly, try and get them taught the three R's as being the most essential part of their teaching, by the time they are twelve years old; and, after that, I think there are plenty of ways for them to go on to the land and earn their daily bread, and be paid out of the farmer's pocket, rather than by the farmer paying rates.

An Imperial Question.

Mr. B. ST. JOHN ACKERS (Huntley Manor, Gloucester): I cannot agree with all Mr. Crouch said, and I will tell you in the end why I disagree with his conclusion with regard to the rates. While there is nobody more strong than myself in favour of continuation schools, I am clearly of opinion that if you want to make a child suitable for working on the land, that child should not compulsorily be kept at school after twelve years of age. It is all very well for Mr. Dymond to come here and give, as he always does, most charming pictures of how the Board of Education are going to improve education in the direction of agriculture, they could not have had a better exponent.

I should not like to pass over this paper without the strongest possible protest on my part with regard to the end of it. We do not pass resolutions at this club, but I should have thought it was our unanimous view that education is an Imperial question, and should be entirely paid for out of Imperial sources. (Hear, hear.) The Central Chamber of Agriculture, which is a cognate body on which we have two representatives, unanimously passed a resolution to that effect; and it was with the greatest possible disappointment and sorrow that, when we went to that great deputation to Mr. Balfour, our leaders turned round, and, because they wanted a certain amount of local administration, were prepared to give up the principle of the whole thing—that it was a national subject, and that national education should entirely be supported out of national funds. We have always said that, and I should not like this meeting to conclude without once again emphasising that fact. (Cheers.)

Benefits of Evening Schools.

Mr. F. STREET (Somersham, St. Ives, Hunts): I should like to congratulate Mr. Crouch upon his exceedingly instructive paper. I am very pleased indeed that he has referred to the question of evening continuation schools. In my younger days, previous to the passing of the 1870 Act, when I was living in Bedfordshire, the boys went to work when they were eight years old, they had practically no schooling, and for years and years in my native village I ran a school for two evenings a week, which was attended by young men from twelve to twenty years of age. In Bedfordshire at that time we had ploughing matches. The first class was for boys of sixteen or seventeen, then the general class of about thirty-six, and then the cup winners were taken from the rest. Mr. father's old man won that for years and years. At last one of my pupils, when he was fourteen years of age, did a first-rate piece of work, and the next year the old man came to my father and said, "I am getting old, I want Fred to go in for the champion." My father said, "No, let the boy go in for the other."

That boy went in for the prize and won the championship, and he had never had a day's schooling in his life, only what he had with me in the evening school. That boy was Fred Burser, who went to plough in every county in England and in every country in Europe before he was seventeen years of age. I believe if he had been kept at school until he was fourteen you would never have heard of Fred Burser. I had another boy who turned out to be a first-rate foreman. I am very strongly in favour of evening continuation classes.

With reference to the present Act, I must say I think it is unfair that we should have to pay for the School Boards and for the voluntary schools and then have to educate our own children at other schools. However, I believe the Act is now working well, it is as far as our county is concerned. With regard to the School Attendance Committees, I think they should really enforce the law and get the children to go to school when they are young.

Mr. HASLER: I think, in all fairness to Mr. Dymond, I should like to refer to some of the remarks which were made by a previous speaker. Mr. Dymond did not recommend for a moment the keeping of children at the elementary schools, neither did he intend the idea for a moment that children should be taught gardening in the evening. In his illustration he stated that young men, after finishing their work on the farm, instead of going home to their teas, came down and enjoyed the benefit of these classes. In the summer time in the gardens, and in the winter time they continued the theory of the thing by learning what they could from books, and learning arithmetic and other things which might be useful in connection with agriculture.

The Age at Leaving School.

Mr. W. HIPWELL (Hillside, Sharnbrook, Beds): It appears to me that the feeling in favour of boys going early on to the land is practically unanimous, and I think if that feeling is unanimous among formers it ought to be taken notice of by the Education Department. There is one celebrated instance in the general practice of the country in which boys are put at a very early age to learn what they have to do, and that instance is one of vital importance to the country—I mean the officers of the Royal Navy. If a boy is going to be a doctor, or a lawyer, or a barrister, or a soldier, he is kept at school or college until he is fairly on in life, but if he is going into the Navy he is sent there at thirteen years of age, or a little more. That has been the case from time immemorial, and it is recognised by the Government of this country as absolutely essential to the success of the Navy. The same thing applies, although it is in a humbler sphere of life, to the boy who is going to be an agricultural labourer. If the boy's education can be further carried on, either by means of the continuation schools that have been mentioned, and which, so far as my experience goes, they are very willing to attend if the boy's education can be further carried on, either by those means, or by taking him compulsorily back to school for a short period of the year when he is not wanted on the land, in the winter time, such a thing agriculturists would be glad to adopt. But we ought to have these children at an age when we can teach them what they are required to do, and not have them given to us at an age when we cannot.

The vote of thanks to Mr. Crouch was then put, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Crouch's reply to Criticism.

Mr. CROUCH, in reply, said: I have to thank you very cordially indeed for the kind manner in which you have received this very humble effort of mine, which is called a paper, but which was really only intended to open the discussion. Mr. Dymond referred to my not having exhausted the subject of evening continuation schools. I thought in my last paragraph I had made it quite clear that I had exhausted nothing. I tried to exhaust two or three points, but I found that instead of being a paper lasting half an hour it would last some six or seven hours, and that it was utterly impossible to say what I wanted in the time at my disposal.

I understood Lord Heneage to say that the county council really had nothing to do with the education after it had delegated it to its committee. My experience, of course, is a very limited one. I live in the county of Bedford, and in Bedfordshire that is not the case. Then with regard to the constitution of the committees, Lord Heneage says it is entirely our own fault if we do not put practical men on the committees. But the difficulty is this. I was on the first Education Committee in Bedfordshire, but I was bound to resign simply because I could not give up the time that was necessary to the work of the committee. The Bedfordshire Education Committee is in the habit of sitting two days a week, and it is almost impossible for any tenant farmer to give up that amount of time. Then the meetings are not held on market day. I proposed that all the meetings of the Education Committee should be held on the Saturday, which is Bedford market day. That did not suit Luton, and Luton carried a motion that it should be held on Friday. The consequence was that the next meeting of the Education Committee began at 11 o'clock on Friday morning, and did not finish till a quarter past four on Saturday afternoon. I ask you whether it is possible for any farmer to give up that amount of time?

Then Lord Heneage said that the managers did not take sufficient interest in the schools to keep down the expense. I happened to be chairman of a group of Council schools, and my committee made a long report to the Education Committee with regard to the salaries. We raise our salaries once a year. We strongly recommended that some salaries should be raised, that others should not be raised, and we left to the Education Committee itself what should be done in other cases. What did the Education Committee do? The Education Committee said, "Tell Mr. Crouch he has made a great mistake; Mr. Crouch has nothing whatever to do with the cost, only the efficiency." What is the use of managers trying to get a good article if they have nothing to do with the cost?

One gentleman alluded to our hair growing grey waiting for reforms in taxation. I can only say that mine has grown white. It is exactly thirty-eight years ago since, as a member of the Assessment Committee, I recommended the committee to hold their hands with regard to a new assessment because I said we were going to have a new Valuation Bill. That was thirty-eight years ago, and we have not got it yet.

Teaching Agriculture in Schools.

Then with regard to teaching agriculture in the schools, if the boy is to leave school at twelve years of age, which I hold he ought to be allowed to do, I do not see it is of much use teaching him agriculture before that time. I believe it is admitted on all hands now that you should not specialise with any boy until he is fifteen years of age. I believe that preparatory and public schools give exactly the same teaching to the boys until they are fifteen. Therefore I say we cannot do very much good in teaching agriculture to boys until they are twelve years old. But there is no place where you can teach agriculture as well as on the farm.

Then an allusion was made to half-timers. I have been a school manager now for forty years bar six months, and I have always set my face against half-timers, and we have never had a half-timer in any school under my management. I hold that there is nothing so subversive of discipline in a school as half-timers in agricultural districts. I say, keep the boys until you have taught them the three Rs, and then let them go to work if they can find a job. I am extremely obliged to Mr. Pell for the kind manner in which he called the attention of the meeting to the fact that my paper entirely, I hope, deals with rate-aided education, not with national education. I am quite prepared to let the nation do exactly as it likes.

I am extremely obliged to you for the very kind manner in which you have received me to-day, and can only say I wish the paper had been very much more worthy of the subject. (Cheers.)

The meeting then terminated.

Midland Notes.

The past week has brought more rain than the month before it, and Midland farmers are not ill-pleased at the change. One hundred and fifteen tons of water per acre—which is about what the returns from the Edgbaston Observatory represent—must leave effects upon the country which will endure for some time, and the forecasts and general appearance of the sky give promise of more to come. The beginning of November finds most of the wheat—indeed, nearly all, so far as we can hear—already sown in Warwickshire, where it went for the most part into a dusty seed-bed. Further north, however, there is rather more to be done, and those who have been delayed from one cause or another may congratulate themselves that even if they are later than their neighbours in clearing up arrears, they can at any rate now carry out the ancient and by no means out-of-date advice to "sow in the mud."

Stock generally have come through the season well. The early and rather heavy inroads which have been made already into the haystacks are a little disquieting to farmers who were not too well blessed with heavy hay crops, and just at the present time one hears complaints on every hand as to the poor prices paid for fat and partially fattened stock. Stores, too, have sold none too readily lately in Midland markets. But there is compensation to be found in other directions. An advance of "four or five shillings a head" in lambs, as compared with a year ago, such as a flock master in the North-East Midlands tells of, is a very substantial improvement indeed, and in Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and indeed most districts, it is long since pigs, especially small pigs, were selling so well.

At the prize-giving by Lady Windsor to members of the Redditch and District Allotment Gardeners' Association, Mr. Udale, the well-known Warwickshire County Council expert, quoted some interesting figures to illustrate the profits from scientific gardening. When he inspected the allotments at Redditch last summer, he said he calculated the produce then standing on each quarter-acre lot, at wholesale market prices, was worth about £15. On that basis the total value of the crops on such gardens during the season would be worth about £60 to £70 per acre. Considering that neither soil nor climate are remarkable, the results speak well for the cultivators. Allotments, by the way, are more numerous in this part of the country than in some others, and so are the small holdings of which we hear so much nowadays. Indeed, there is probably no county which offers better opportunities than Worcestershire to the agricultural labourer who is ambitious to climb, step by step, to the position of substantial tenant farmer. It can be done here by men of the right stamp, and one can point to men who have succeeded in doing it.

The amount of damage, or otherwise, wrought by birds is now once more among the agricultural topics of the moment. After all, there are not very many about in which there is room for any serious division of opinion. All the slender-billed warblers and their allies—swallows and swifts, pipits and wagtails—are insect-eaters and beneficial, and so are the lapwings, cuckoos, and gradually diminishing corncrakes. The thrushes feed largely on snails and insects, and magpies are worth all the encouragement they are likely to get, both as to feeding on slugs and worms, and for their raids on the eggs of wood pigeons and blackbirds. Nowadays, too, we are realising better than we used to the undeniable usefulness of owls, kestrels, and hawks. Except in fruit and market gardening districts, the rooks and sparrows are really the only birds which need much keeping down. One hears now and then some angry talk of extirpating the former altogether, but they are good friends to the farmer where they are not allowed to increase beyond reasonable bounds, for the rook is a big bird with a correspondingly big appetite, and the number of injurious grubs and insects he will dispose of when the opportunity offers is amazing.

November 3, 1905

The Great Eastern Railway have a series of lantern slides descriptive of the various points of interest on their line, which they will be pleased to loan for the purpose of lectures, etc., upon application being made. Each set of slides will be accompanied by full explanatory notes in the form of a lecture, if desired. It might be mentioned that they also loan a cinematograph film descriptive of (1) the Great Eastern Railway Company's steamer "Berlin," from the Hook of Holland, approaching Parkeston Quay; (2) the boat alongside the quay and passengers coming ashore; (3) the boat-express train leaving Parkeston Quay for Liverpool Street.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

The past week has at last seen the long-deferred rain, and it has fallen in a sufficient downpour as to put a stop for the present week of further sowing; but farmers in the Eastern Counties cannot complain at this stoppage of drilling, inasmuch as the late harvest operations were not only finished early, but the weather has enabled field work to be completed at an earlier date than is usual in East Anglia. A large area of winter oats has been sown this season under favourable conditions although on light lands; the seed-bed was considered somewhat dry, and so germination was less regular than if a good rain had fallen a month ago. Early-sown rye intended for spring keep looks well, and so far as an autumn-sown barley is concerned there is little cause as yet for complaint. There is still a good area of wheat yet to be sown, as, from the general tenor of farmers' conversation at the markets, they intend to enlarge their acreage under this cereal. Now rain has come the sowing of wheat will be vigorously pushed forward.

Tally Ho! was the familiar cry that greeted the writer's ears on driving through two of the counties that help to constitute East Anglia, and, from all accounts, a good season is anticipated; although, as an Essex farmer, a follower of the hounds, stated to the writer, they in East Anglia do not expect to have the same excitement as the huntsmen in the Badminton district of Wiltshire, where they are scouring the country for a strange mouse-coloured animal supposed to be a jackal or wolf that has been worrying sheep to such a disastrous extent during the past fortnight.

Low hedges and high farming go together; but one cannot help regretting the destruction of hedgerows in our country lanes, that in many counties is now made compulsory by the County Councils. For, although one ought to rejoice when one sees wide patchwork landscapes divided only by low, round welts of quickset, newly-trimmed to uniformity of outline, one cannot forget the mixed and tangled hedgerows with their stores of winter berries for the birds, that were good enough for our grandfathers when the old order of things prevailed. So to-day throughout the Eastern Counties one can see almost on every farm one passes by journeying through East Anglia the hedge trimmer and cutter at work with the vigorous upward motion of his "bill," while closely following him can be seen the ditcher, making compact the banks and clearing out the water courses that soon will be filled with running water drained off of the land adjoining.

Taking into account the work done at the various ploughing matches that have been held this season in East Anglia, one must admit that the assertion made at the Birch Farmers' Show last week that "ploughing was looking up considerably" was more than justifiable.

Mr. John Barker, J.P., of The Grange, Bishop Stortford, is, the writer learns, a candidate for a seat on the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, as a representative of Essex.

Hazel pears grown in the Eastern Counties, on account of their value for certain dyeing processes, have this year been making something like £10 per ton.

We regret to report the sudden death of Mr. W. Gordon Smith, who for many years resided in Risbygate Street, Bury St. Edmunds. He was the head of the firm of Messrs. W. Gordon Smith and Co., horticultural engineers, of the Victoria Works at Bury St. Edmunds. Mr. Smith was 69 years of age, and death doubtless arose from natural causes, as an inquest was considered unnecessary.

November 3, 1905.

Thirsk October Cattle Fair.—At this fair on Monday there was the largest show of beasts seen during the present year. Fat bullocks ranged up to £14 10s., two to three-year-old bullocks and heifers £10 to £12, year to sixteen months' old stirks £6 to £7, English calving cows and cows newly calven £16 to £20, calving heifers and half-bred calvers £12 to £15 each. There were a few herds of Irish cattle, principally in thin condition, but no remunerative offers were made.

The November fair for horses, cattle, and sheep at Doncaster was held on Thursday, when there was a large show of horses, but they were of an inferior character, and van horses were most in request, prices being from £25 to £30. The best agricultural horses made from £40 to £50, and trade was not brisk. Nags and hackneys were almost nil, and prices from £28 to £35. More cattle and sheep than required, and a very moderate demand. Bullocks, £10 to £15; young stock, £5 to £7; sheep, 30s. to 35s.; lambs, 36s. to 44s. each.

Hops at the Brewers' Exhibition and Market.

SIR,—It is to be regretted that more interest is not taken in the hop competition by hop growers. It ought to be one of the most interesting and important sections of the exhibition, and there is no reason why it should not be.

Why not do away with the rule that the judges are to select samples from the factors' boards? I suggest this keeps away a lot of entries, as many growers do not offer their hops until after the exhibition. Let the growers make what entries they please (as barley growers do), with the proviso that samples are drawn from pockets bona-fide offered, or to be offered, for sale. Also make a rule that all prize-winners shall be prepared to forward the prize-winning pockets to the exhibition, with weights marked on pocket, where they might be offered for sale, the exhibition authorities to deduct the usual commission for selling.

Judges should be empowered to re-draw any pocket. I should make the entry fee 5s., and put prizes at £5, £3, and £2, providing not less than eight or ten entries in a class. Samples to be of ordinary size.

It is not necessary to insist upon delivery of the pockets, but it would be well for the judges to have this power should there be any suspicion of "faked" samples being sent for competition. Growers should be invited to state how many pockets they have for sale.

I think, too, it would be well to introduce a hop-drying competition, with diplomas and prizes for the winning competitors, with several prizes ranging from £3 down to 10s. In Mid-Kent there are sometimes nearly a hundred entries for this competition. This would be for management, not quality. Let the entry fee for this competition be, say, 2s. per sample. Make about four classes for drying: (1) Kent, (2) Sussex, (3) Surrey and Hants. and (4) Worcester and Hereford. Growers in their competition to make as many entries as they please, but not to take more than two prizes in a class. Only one entry to be made for each dryer. I suggest, also, one merchant, one factor, and one brewer act as judges, or two of each.

If these suggestions commend themselves to the exhibition authorities they might be still further improved upon.—Yours faithfully,

INVICTA.

November 2, 1905.

Sheep and Cattle Ticks and the Transmission of Disease.

SIR,—As your readers are probably aware, we have purchased an estate in South Africa, and are conducting experiments out there regarding the transmission of disease through the medium of the tick.

This estate is situated in the very worst of the African tick areas, where these diseases abound, not only in cattle, but in sheep.

We are also making special investigations at home, the results of which will shortly be made public; but at present these investigations are being blocked for want of ticks.

We should be greatly pleased if any of your readers who can obtain a supply of these ticks, whether from sheep or cattle, would be kind enough to forward same to "The Cooper Research Laboratory," 7, Grosvenor Road, Watford.

The ticks will travel in an ordinary match-box with a little wool. Of course, we are referring to the grass tick, and not to the ordinary ked.

In the case of the cattle tick, we shall be glad to have particulars of any outbreak of red water in which ticks have been discovered on the cattle, or of louping-ill in which they have been found on the sheep.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM COOPER and NEPHEWS.

Chemical Works, Berkhamsted,
October 30, 1905

Position in Buckinghamshire.

SIR,—I am pleased to say this season is much better than last year, although we do not find the yield of corn very good. I hope the price of corn will improve, and also of hay; the price of hay is simply ruinous. About £2 per ton it does not pay expenses in growing. We are now moving in a serious state of things in agriculture. No legislation touches on land, which is the backbone of the country. If they let it go down any more, Old England is done for, which, if properly legislated for, might hold her own against all the world. Why is it our members in the House do not help the agricultural interest? Are they going to let the farmers be ruined? If so, it is time we kept our votes, and not trouble to support our members. If you take up a paper to read it is all about education and foreign countries, nothing done for their own. Let it fall, and then they will see their error, and where they have stood in their own light.—Yours truly,

J. H. R. HOWARD.

November 2, 1905.

Farming Prospects in the North Riding.

SIR,—The outlook for farming is not very bright in this district—N. Yorks—although the season has been fine as regards the weather; but too fine for a good many of the crops that a farmer has to depend on. The seed time was all right both for corn and roots. Corn came through the ground all right, but a good many turnips could never get a start, and they are very patchy, except in odd cases. Potatoes are fairly good, but only a poor price—quoted at 35s. per ton yesterday in Stockton.

The hay crop was fair and well got. Wheat good, also barley; but oats were a failure owing to the drought. The sheep has been the best paying animal on the farm, as both wool and mutton are dear. Beef is only a moderate trade, and grazing cattle are at a discount altogether.

JOHN DAWSON.

November 3, 1905.

Wiltshire.

SIR,—The season has been an unusual one. Early in spring we had a long period of dry weather, then a period of wet, which has been followed by a long continuance of dry. Our ponds have for some time been empty, and the land is now too dry for vegetation.

Much wheat remains to be planted, and the greater part of that sown has not yet taken root. The price of wheat is 14s. 6d. per sack weighing 12 score 12 lb.

Stock generally are healthy. Sheep are selling at last year's prices; but cattle from one to two pounds per head less money.

The present Government has done nothing for agriculture. A Liberal one could not do less.

SIMEON RUDDBY.

November 1, 1905.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Oct. 28, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,909	14,614	Wheat ...	3,478,900	1,288,600
Sheep.....	9,358	2,850	Flour.....	308,500	382,000
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	714,000	486,000
Horses ...	345	272	Oats	234,400	321,100
			Peas	58,750	47,090
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	58,570	10,290
Beef	85,159	86,425	Maize ...	1,030,400	718,000
Mutton...	55,928	70,817	Apples ...	136,419	160,509
Pork	14,982	10,881	Apricots		
Bacon ...	101,934	95,518	&Peaches	7	—
Beef, salt	4,755	2,149		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	17,557	21,729	Bananas	90,584	155,844
Pork, salt	4,210	3,013		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,901	13,822	Cherries	—	—
			Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	17,083	12,330	Goosebr's	—	—
Butter ...	62,157	65,409	Grapes ..	74,161	60,906
M'rg'rine	19,134	30,996	Lemons...	22,382	12,762
Cheese ...	77,578	88,975	Oranges	13,208	23,595
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	23	Pears.....	12,181	14,261
			Plums ...	943	557
			Oth'r Fr't	4,980	8,465
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	2,133	2,639
Milk, Cream	69	117	Straw ...	2,068	1,914
			MossLitt'r	—	2,170
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,757	19,172	Hops	17,938	4,449
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	51	71	Locust Beans	26,490	14,120
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	168,751	210,135
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	79,275	29,218
Eggs	455,763	359,409	Tomatoes	8,098	8,780
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £9,461	Value. £6,837	Veg'bles	£4,680	£3,102
				Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	2,493	17,362
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	13,331	15,845	by canning ..	5,107	10,437
Lard	40,520	43,173			

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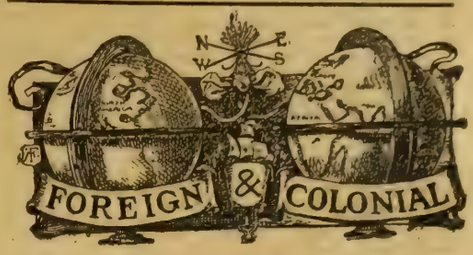
Offers advantages to British Agriculturists with moderate capital. Improved Farms at Low Rates. Fertile Lands. Famous Fruits. Enormous mineral deposits of Coal, Gold, Silver, Iron, Copper, Lead and Tin. Climate temperate and healthy. Easily accessible to all the principal markets.—Full information supplied by the Agent-General for Nova Scotia, MR. JOHN HOWARD, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.



More about Wheat Growing in Australia.

Although the possibilities of successful cereal cultivation have long been recognised in the States forming the Australian Commonwealth, it is only within the last few years that there have been any marked developments in wheat production. In 1871 the output of 1,273,200 acres (it was 703,825 acres in 1861) was 11,927,134 bushels. In 1881 the area under wheat had increased to 3,002,064 acres, and the production to 21,378,009 bushels, Victoria taking the lead, which, with the exception of a few seasons, she has still retained, with an output of 8,714,377 bushels, that of the other States being: South Australia, 8,087,032 bushels; New South Wales, 3,405,966; Tasmania, 977,365; Western Australia, 153,657; and Queensland, 89,612. In 1903 the Australian production was 74,149,634 bushels, or 15,203,005 bushels in excess of the combined outputs of 1871, 1881, and 1891, as follows: Victoria, 28,525,579 bushels; New South Wales, 27,334,141; South Australia, 13,209,465; Queensland, 2,436,799; Western Australia, 1,876,252; and Tasmania, 767,398—the total area under cultivation being 5,566,340 acres—a very limited portion of the area suitable for wheat-growing in the Commonwealth.

The value of the wheat production per acre in 1903 ranged from £2 16s. 8d. in Victoria to £1 2s. 6d. in South Australia, the average for the whole of the States being £1 19s. That the general results of Australian wheat cultivation are encouraging is shown by the fact that during the last quarter of a century there were only five years in which any of the six States did not produce sufficient wheat for local consumption. These years were 1886, 1889, 1896, 1897, and 1903. In the first-named year the wheat crop was a partial failure in Victoria and South Australia, and almost a complete failure in New South Wales and Queensland. In 1889 there was a general failure in New South Wales and Victoria. In 1896 the crop failed in Victoria, and in the following year that State, for the first time in twenty-two years, was compelled to import wheat, the net import, however, being only 61,160 bushels. In 1902 the crops of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland were almost a complete failure, owing to the drought, while those in South Australia were also adversely affected, but during 1904 some 35,000,000 bushels of wheat were available for export, the quantity actually exported being 33,084,523 bushels, value £5,242,348.

According to Mr. Coghlan, the minimum cost per acre of raising wheat on farms of large area, where the disc plough and drill are used, is 15s. 11d. for a ten-bushel crop, and £1 0s. 9d. for a seventeen bushel crop. It is also pointed out that the rapidly increasing use of artificial manures has an important bearing on the question of wheat-growing. In New South Wales, for instance, during the season 1903-4, an expenditure of 2s. to 3s. per acre on fertilisers gave in many cases an increased yield of six to eight bushels per acre, and although this result may have been partly due to exceptionally favourable circumstances, there can be no doubt that improved cultivation and manuring will considerably improve the returns. In Victoria the practice of manuring wheat lands is steadily increasing, and farmers are quickly realising its beneficial results. Between 1898 and 1903 the number of farmers stated as using manure increased from 7,318 to 19,921, and the area manured from 225,830 acres to 1,205,443 acres. In South Australia it is found that, owing to favourable conditions of culture, a yield of seven bushels is financially a satisfactory crop. In none of the other States would it be possible to grow wheat commercially on so low an average.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Generally easier tone, and demand in most cases proved of a subdued nature. English wheat remains very firm, tendency being to further harden, and a fair demand prevailed. 63lb. reds quoted 30s 6d to 31s 6d per qr. delivered up. Imported wheat proved quiet of sale, and rates in many cases were easier. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 34s 9d ex ship; Australian, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; Russian, 31s 6d to 36s; and La Plata, 31s to 33s ex store, as to quality. Flour market remained without much change from Monday. No. 1 town households, 27s delivered in; country patents, 25s to 27s; Iron Duke, 22s 6d ex store. Grinding barley weaker. Azoff, 20s 9d ex quay. Imported oats met with slow support. 38lb. Russian, 16s 9d to 17s ex quay. Maize firm. American mixed, 26s; La Plata, 25s 6d landed.

Mark Lane, Friday.—The attendance was poor, with only a small business passing, while values generally, although about unchanged, have a downward tendency. English wheat was in limited supply at late rates, while foreign sorts were quietly steady; No. 1 Northern Manitoba offered at 34s 9d. Maize quiet and unchanged; La Plata ex quay quoted at 25s 3d and mixed American at 25s 6d. Flour steady at 22s 6d for Iron Duke. Barley quiet and tending lower; Odessa-Nicolaieff landed would come at 20s. 3d. Oats have an easier tendency; 38lb Russian landed offered at 16s to 16s 6d. Imports:—Wheat, 57,440 quarters; maize, 5,610 quarters; flour, 22,730 sacks; barley, 24,810 quarters; oats, 51,930 quarters; beans, 4,660 quarters; peas, 1,150 quarters.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat very firm, with an advance of 1s in the case of the best samples; feeding corn also firm. Wheat, 27s to 31s; malting barley, 26s to 29s; foreign grinding barley, 21s to 22s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 33s; tick beans, 31s to 33s; oats, 16s to 20s; maize, 27s to 28s per qr.; flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 28s to 29s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans, new, 29s to 30s; ditto, old, 32s to 34s; oats, 17s to 21s; ditto, old, 20s to 24s; peas, 27s to 30s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Average attendance, with moderate supplies of grain. Wheat unchanged. Oats scarce, and held for more money. Barley in good demand at 6d per quarter dearer. Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 24s 6d to 29s; oats, 19s to 20s 6d.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a good attendance, but trade ruled quiet, buyers not responding to the increased prices asked. Foreign wheats met with a very poor demand at last week's full prices. English wheats were rather scarce, and made up to 30s 6d per quarter (496lb.) delivered Birmingham. Flat maize was unchanged in value on the week, but River Plate has advanced 3d per quarter. Grinding barley is still on the up grade, sellers asking 21s 6d per quarter (400lb.) at Sharpness, this being 9d over last week's quotations. English oats rather quieter, and make from 18s 6d to 19s per 312lb. delivered Birmingham.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in fair supply on our market to-day at 6d advance in values. Foreign, 3d to 6d dearer. Maize 6d, and barley 9d higher. Oats very firm at fully rates. Moderate demand for flour at slightly more money than recently.—GRACE BROTHERS

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat was in small supply, but quiet at 1s per qr. advance; reds or whites, 29s 6d to 30s per qr. Barley in fair average supply, but with fewer fine samples on offer, and these hardly making last week's prices. Useful malting runs fairly steady at 28s to 32s per qr.; grinding sorts and screenings steady, at 24s to 25s 6d per qr. Oats and beans firm at last week's full prices. Maize6d dearer, at 27s per qr. delivered. Feeding stuffs all very firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat values fully maintained, prices ranging from 30s to 31s for milling, and up to 36s for seed purposes. Barley meets a steady inquiry, at from 28s to 29s 6d per qr. Oats are scarce and firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—There was a thin attendance and moderate supply. Farmers asked more money, but buyers resisted and advance, and the prices of last Saturday week prevailed. Red wheat, 29s to 30s; and white, up to 31s per 504lb, near stations. Barley very firm. Oats and beans unchanged.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand and quick sale at last week's prices; 18s to 19s 6d per 335lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—The market for English grain continues firm, with an advance in wheat of 1d to 2d per bushel, and in oats of 1d per bushel. American corn not so well sold as last week, a reduction of 3d per sack having to be made. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 7d per 75lb; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb; beans, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; ditto old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—A small attendance and very little trade. English oats were 6d dearer than last week, and flour showed a slight advance. Foreign corn was a trifle dearer, owing to the Russian strikes. New white wheat, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; new red ditto, 29s 6d to 30s 6d; barley, 26s to 33s; grinding ditto, 19s 9d to 20s; oats, English, 15s to 22s 6d; peas, 32s to 33s; beans, 32s to 33s; tares, 6s to 7s 6d; maize, 24s 6d to 25s; flour, 25s to 27s 6d.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very little wheat offering, due probably, to wet and also to farmers being busy on the land; the market was firm at the full prices of last week. Less barley showing, and all descriptions sold readily at quotations. Beans and oats scarce, and fully as dear.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Only a moderate attendance. Supply of wheat fair, and realising about late rates. Quiet business in barley; oats firm, and good lots freely accepted. Quotations:—Old wheat, 11s to 11s 6d; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 186lb barley, 27s to 32s per 448lb; old oats, 23s to 25s; new oats, 19s to 22s per 352lb; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s; new beans, 11s 3d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat firm, but quiet at the extreme prices of last week; spring corn 6d dearer. New white, 30s to 31s; new red, 29s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; old beans, 33s to 34s; new beans, 30s to 31s; old oats, 23s to 24s; new oats, 18s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply of corn. Wheat has advanced 6d per sack. Barley a slow trade, and the quality being so poor it has, except in a few instances, to be disposed of at low prices. Oats, on the other hand, sell freely, and keep hardening in value. The following were the quotations: New wheat, 14s 6d to 16s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 28s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 25s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Moderate supply of English wheat, and both English and foreign was firm, and made fully last week's prices. Foreign was quiet, and English in average demand. Good demand for the best samples of malting barley, but no inquiry for inferior quality. Maize and grinding barley 3d per quarter cheaper. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The stormy character of the weather throughout the week led to greatly lessened supplies at to-day's market consequent on threshing operations having been stopped through the rain. The wheat trade was less animated than at previous market; but prices, despite lessened supplies, kept firm, and the same may be said of foreign, with no abatement in prices. For best parcels of malting barley there was a good sale at firm prices, but secondary grades were scarcely as dear as they were, though hardly to a quotable extent; grinding descriptions brought outside values. The same may be said of maize. Other articles about as last quoted, though scarcely as much passing.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; malt 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 11s to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our corn exchange. Wheat held for 3d per boll advance. Flour 6d per sack dearer. Maize 3d to 6d higher on the week. Barley 3d dearer. Oats 3d to 6d higher on the week, but sale slow. Beans dull. Peas 3d dearer. Oatmeal 1s per sack dearer. Thirds 2s per ton dearer, and bran unaltered. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat steady, with sellers asking slightly more, but buyers do not respond. Flour dull on the spot at late rates, but more asked for forward. Mixed American and Plate maize unchanged, the former being 14s 9d and the latter 13s 6d per 280lb. Oats firm at Wednesday's full rates for both home and foreign. Grinding barley slow. Beans dull. Peas scarce and the turn dearer.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat in moderate supply, and prices show no change from last week. Foreign met a very quiet trade, at a decline of 3d. Grinding barley 6d dearer; maize 3d dearer, and oats firm at 3d advance.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—Wheat was in fair supply, and changed hands at 29s to 31s per quarter. A large supply of barley; best qualities 28s to 33s, commoner sorts 24s to 27s per quarter. Beans declined 6d per quarter. Blue peas firm, and oats commanded a slight advance.

Hereford, Wednesday.—A moderate supply of English wheats; prices remain fully as firm as last week. Barley trade very difficult, and values show a tendency in buyers' favour. English oats moderate supply; best samples command 6d per qr. advance, and ordinary samples remain firm. Beans less active. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 7d per 62lb.; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 55lb.; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb.; new oats, 2s 2d to 2s 6d per 40lb.; old beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½lb.; new beans, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 65½lb.; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday. — Wheat only a small supply. Trade steady at 1s per qr. advance. Good reds or whites were worth about 31s per 504lb. delivered at Ipswich; flour firm at 1s per sack advance. Barley: Medium malting runs were making last week's prices of 28s to 32s per qr., with an average supply. The finer descriptions were in shorter supply; bnt, being not so much inquired for, were so hardly so good, or, as one merchant put it, "they were cheaper to sell, but no cheaper to buy"; screenings and feeding sorts made 24s to 26s per qr. Oats, beans, peas, and lentils, all extremely firm at the recent advances. Maize firm at 25s 9d to 26s per qr., with maize meal also firm at £6 to £6 15s per ton. Linseed cakes unchanged at £8 10s, and cotton at £5 10s per ton. Milling stuffs scarce, and the turn dearer.

Leeds, Tuesday.—The wheat trade has been active during the past week at 1s to 2s per qr. advance. Events in Russia have doubtless largely contributed to the rise; on the other hand, the large requirements of the Continent, especially of Germany, have foreshadowed for some time a higher range of values, and America has been only too ready to take advantage of this state of things by daily raising limits. Both foreign and English wheat is strongly held to-day at the above advance, notwithstanding the more liberal world's shipments. Maize 3d, oats 6d dearer, beans steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats are still rising in value, and at to-day's market they changed hands at a shade over Tuesday's advance. Best English made 31s, and foreign 35s 6d. Flour was also dearer, having gained from 1s to 2s per sack in a month. Beans, peas, oats, barley, and maize firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats in very good condition. Trade steady at higher rates. Red wheats, 30s to 31s; white wheats, 31s to 32s 6d per 36 stones; barley, 26s to 30s per 32 stones; beans, 33s to 35s per 38 stones; fine oats, 20s to 22s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Large show of English wheat, for which there was a quick demand at about the same prices as last week. Barley in good supply and rates easier, except for the best samples. Oats and beans firm at late rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There has been a fair attendance of millers at the market, and wheat is very steady at ½d decline from last Tuesday, but a very fair business has been put through at the lower figures. Flour: Firm but quiet at late rates for foreign brands; home-made also firm and mostly, though not generally, quoted at 6d per sack higher than last Tuesday. Maize: Mixed is 1d lower, owing to some pressure on quay, and only a moderate trade has been done; Plate is 1d lower, but meets a better inquiry at the lower quotations. Barley: Malting steady; feeding ½d dearer for Russian, but ½d lower for American. Beans: English and foreign steady, unchanged. Peas: Firmer, only green Indian offering at 1s per qr. advance. Oats: Firmly held, but not active, prices in some cases rather higher; small offerings. Oatmeal: Firm, with few offers, which are held at late prices, but inactive. Oilcake: In very good demand for English cakes at fully late rates; foreign a fair trade, without change in prices.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat was 6d to 1s dearer and foreign 1d per cental higher. Flour was unchanged, and in good request. Indian corn, mixed American, 5s 5d; Plate, 5s 2d to 5s 2½d, and a good demand. Oats scarce and steady at late rates. Beans and peas slow; no quotable change. Foreign barley about ½d dearer on the week. Bran: Thirds, etc., about 3d per load dearer.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a firm trade at 6d per qr. advance. Barley repeated last week's prices. Oats 6d per qr. dearer. Beans unchanged in value. Quotations:—Wheat, 30s to 31s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 30s to 32s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A steady demand for wheat prevailed at our to-day's market; prices slightly in buyers' favour. Maize firm, favouring sellers. Oats firm, with a moderate demand. Peas and beans in sellers' favour. A steady demand for barley at unchanged prices. JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was only a moderate supply of wheat on offer at our market to-day, with a firm trade. Barley was in small supply at fully last week's prices. Finer weather has prevailed during the past week, enabling farmers to get on with mangel lifting. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per quarter, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending October 21, 1905:—Wheat, 3,015, 27s 9d; barley, 15,389, 24s 7d.—J. A. MILLS.

Northampton, Saturday. — Moderate attendance. Small supply of wheat, which sold at firm rates. Slow trade for barley, prices unaltered. 6d. advance on oats. New wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black oats, 17s to 19s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Wheat moderate supply, last week's values supported. Fair show of barleys, best samples making full rates; secondary sorts slow sale. Oats but few offering, and 6d higher. Beans firm.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—The attendance was moderate, but only small supplies of home-grown wheats were offered, last week's full prices being generally maintained. Feeding stuffs sold slowly at late rates.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Wheat a much quieter trade than last week, and the extreme prices of that day were scarcely maintained. Barley slow, and buyers had the advantage. Oats steady and quite as dear.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a good attendance on our market here to-day. Wheat 9d, barley and maize 3d, oats 6d dearer on the week. Fair trade doing. —ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading, Saturday.—Trade was hardly up to the average. Wheat sold at 28s to 34s; oats, 17s 6d to 23s; barley, 25s to 37s; hay, 60s to 75s per ton; old beans, 35s to 39s; new, 30s to 34s.

Retford, Saturday.—Fair attendance, and a full average supply of grain. Wheat changed hands at barely the rates of the previous Saturday, the highest prices for the best being 29s to 29s 6d; others, 28s to 28s 6d per quarter. There was a good demand for first-class malting barley, which was scarce, and worth up to 0s, but there was little which realised more than 28s; inferior qualities down to 24s 6d, grinding 23s 6d to 24s per quarter. There was not much business in beans, oats, and maize, the values of which remained unchanged.

Ripon, Thursday.—Prices have gone up all round, and little business is being done. New wheat, 28s to 30s; foreign wheat, 33s to 32s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; barley, malting, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; maize, round, 26s to 26s 6d; maize, flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s to 12s 6d per 225lb; oats, old white, 15s to 16s; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb; barley, 18s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford, Friday.—There was a very large attendance, and trade was sharp, although not up to the level of recent weeks. Prices were largely affected by the recent news from Russia. Wheats made 30s to 31s; barley, malting, 26s to 32s, these quotations showing a decrease; grinding barley, 21s to 25s; oats, 17s 6d to 20s; best beans, to 31s, the ruling quotations being 1s to 2s lower; peas, 45s to 48s; maize very firm and dearer.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little business passing at this day's market. Wheat steady and unchanged in value. Spring corn firm. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Wheat, 735 quarters; oats, 700 quarters; beans, 350 quarters. Foreign nil. —E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 31s to 31s 6d; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 16s to 19s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat, which sells at a trifling advance on last week's prices. Very little other grain on offer; prices firm all round. Feeding stuffs rather dearer.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat in fair demand at 6d advance. Foreign firm at unaltered prices. Barley 6d dearer on the spot. Maize and oats unchanged. Flour a steady trade at a shade higher rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Very little grain offering. Wheat a slow trade at late rates. Reds, 30s to 31s. Oats 6d dearer to buy, 18s 6d to 20s. Other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance and quotations were firm. New wheat, 12s 6d per 216lb.; beans, old, 15s; new, 13s 6d; new oats, 13s 6d; old oats, 16s per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small attendance, and moderate show of grain. White wheat, 27s 6d to 30s; red ditto, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 33s; secondary, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 27s per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Wheat, both home and foreign, sold at from 6d to 1s advance; barley, 6d to 9d; maize, 3d to 6d. English wheat of best quality made from 31s 9d to 32s 3d; secondary, 29s 3d to 30s 9d; foreign, 33s 6d to 36s; malting barley, 31s to 35s 6d; feeding, 21s 6d to 23s 6d; foreign, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; oats, black, 18s 6d to 20s; Irish black, 17s to 18s; white, 16s 6d to 20s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 38s; maize, 25s to 26s; rye, 21s to 23s; rape, 47s to 50s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour in good request, and selling at from 3d to 6d per sack more money, fine making from 25s to 25s 6d, and extra fine 27s to 27s 6d. Meals and milling offals sold at prices favouring holders.

York, Saturday.—Dry samples of wheat sold slowly at last week's prices. Fine white, 29s to 31s; red and mixed, 28s to 30s per quarter of 36 stones. Malting barley firm without change in value; fine, 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; feeding, 23s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Not many oats on offer, but a firm trade; white Tartary, 16s 6d to 17s 6d; black, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; white Garton, 18s to 19s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 21s 6d to 22s 6d; beans, 33s to 33s per quarter of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We had a very lively market in the early part of the week, and higher prices were paid for all articles. During the last few days a more quiet feeling gained ground, all parties awaiting further news from Russia. German wheat continues in scanty supply; fine red Mecklenburgh and Holstein is held at 33s to 34s per 504lb. f.o.b.; American hard winter No. 2 is offering at 32s; 80 Ko River at 32s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye firm; 9 15 20 Odessa Nicolajeff afloat 28s 6d per 48lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Our maltsters and brewers are buying much Danish barley, which is of good useful quality, and is selling at 29s to 30s; Bohemian in scanty supply, medium quality is held at 34s to 35s; fine Bohemian and Slavakian at 36s 6d to 40s; Oderbruck and

Silesian at 29s to 34s per 448lb. f.o.b.; feeding barley quiet, 60-61 Ko South Russian November, 19s 6d; February-March, 19s 9d; American feeding, 19s 3d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Oats firm, American white clipped November-December, 17s to 17s 3d per 320lb. Mixed maize firm, American afloat, 25s; December 23s; January, 22s; River Plate afloat, 24s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes have been irregular in price. The Russian crisis leads to a great divergency of opinion among holders. Sales put through since the end of October have included Russian wheat at 7s. 3d. per cental, and at 6s. 4d. per cental, a range of 11d. per cental, of our 4s. per quarter that is to say! Other sales include Argentine wheat at 7s. per cental for best Bahia Blanca, and 6s. 8d. for Rosario and choice white Kurrachee at 6s. 8d. per cental. Transactions in American wheat have included No. 1 Manitoba at 33s. per 480lb., No. 2 at 32s. 6d., and No. 3 at 31s. 9d. per quarter; fine Hard Manitoba at 33s. 3d. per 480lb., and Walla Walla (Pacific wheat) at 33s. 3d. per 5001b.

Maize cargoes are decidedly dearer on the week; 24s. 6d. per 480lb. has been paid for American on passage, and 24s. per 480lb. for La Plata prompt shipment.

Barley has made 21s. per 400lb. for fine Russian cargoes on passage, but the purchasers would probably be glad to get rid of them now and at 3d. less. We say "probably," however, not "certainly," for there are bona-fide believers that Russian troubles are only beginning to affect the corn trade, and that the end of 1905 will see high prices made.

Oats have fetched 16s. 9d. per 320lb., for mixed American, 16s. 3d. per 304lb., for Petersburg, and 16s. 6d. per 304lb. for Odessa, all on passage.

Other cargo sales of the week include Bombay linseed at 40s. 3d. per 416lb., brown Cawnpore rapeseed at 39s. 3d. per 416lb., and Indian lentils at 25s. 3d. per 504lb.

The London Corn Trade Association c.i.f. quotations for the settlement of Rejections and Difference in Weights on Wheat, under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contract, are as follows: Calcutta, No. 2 Club, 33s. 9d.; Kurrachee, choice white, 33s 6d, both per 492lb. There are apparently no cargoes of Delhi or Bombay, or of red Kurrachee wheat on passage, under the association contracts.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports of call since last review have been 1, as will be seen by the following table:—

Cargo.	Total.	Calif. and Oregon.	Total last week.	Total since Jan. 1, 1905.	Total same time, 1904.
Wheat	1	1	1	305	270
Maize	—	—	1	9	11
Barley	—	—	—	24	49
Rye	—	—	—	—	1
Beans	—	—	—	1	6
Linseed	—	—	1	52	43
Valonea	—	—	—	1	3
Sundries	—	—	—	3	3
Total	1	1	3	395	386

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to November 4, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	41 497¾	27	3	170,558	25	11	15, 6 3	16	10
1901	62,26½	26	6	202,577½	27	0	20,066½	17	8
1902	49 887⅝	25	1	199,578½	26	3	30,745½	17	2
1903	41,897	26	4	161,211½	24	3	22,245½	15	9
1904	43 313½	30	6	205,8 6½	25	0	35,115½	16	0

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 4, 1905:—

Wheat	1,628,500	cwts.
Wheat-flour	316,600	,,
Barley	869, 00	,,
Oats	106,700	,,
Maize	451,2 0	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,229,200	2,350,800	1,393,585	1,225,100
Wheat-flour	209,200	609,200	462,888	343,300
Barley	906,900	1,142 300	852,502	619,200
Oats	233,7 0	332,100	185,646	474,800
Maize	1,017,300	1,501,200	930,822	906 0 0

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	0

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,737,000
Barley	,,	4 8,000	864,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615.000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654.000	6·0,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356, 00
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,0 0	264,000	164,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	3

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.	Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 30	0	(per sack) 27	0
,, 13	,, 29	0	,, 26	0
October 11	,, 23	9	,, 25	9
November 3	,, 30	0	,, 27	0

(No change since last date given.)

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10	27 1	24 11	16 6
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.*)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7
Feb.	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4
March	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1
April	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	8	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3
May	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0
June	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6
July	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0
August	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6
Sept.	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0
Oct.	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6
Nov.			32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3
Dec.			31	3	8	6	29	6	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0
Yrly. Avrg.			30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(*Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.*)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0
March	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0
July	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6
August	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6
Sept.	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5
Oct.	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9	23	6	26	1
Nov.			26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6½

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 5	43,313⅜	30	6	205,816½	25	0	35,145½	16	0
,, 12	43,740½	30	3	204,446½	24	6	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,925½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299½	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,899½	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,635½	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563½	24	5	35,960½	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,103½	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,569½	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,062½	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442½	30	6	76,347⅜	25	0	41,486½	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅜	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,043½	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,647½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,418½	25	2	24,396½	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,114⅜	24	11	20,279½	16	10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235½	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,000	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,690⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	23,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	25,600	30	8	2,968	24	10	12 937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,992⅜	19	1
,, 24	11 571⅜	31	7	145½	23	9	3 031⅜	18	10
July 1	9,579½	31	0	289⅜	23	2	3,48 ½	19	7
,, 8	7,8 4½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,532½	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅜	32	3	31½	23	10	1,962⅜	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	52½	23	7	2,43 ½	18	11
,, 29	7,691½	32	3	24½	23	11	3,065⅞	19	3
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	871⅜	22	0	4,341⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	649½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,758½	23	4	13 656½	16	4
,, 26	88 6 6⅞	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	16	9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090½	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888⅞	23	4	20,622⅜	15	11
,, 16	83,182½	26	11	86 9 6⅜	23	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475½	23	10	20 71 ½	15	11
,, 30	104 984⅜	26	9	123,12 ½	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1
Oct. 7	89,579½	26	9	147,570⅜	24	9	31,19 ⅜	16	3
,, 14	85,449½	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,3 4½	16	6
,, 21	90,548½	27	1	221 53)	25	0	24,635½	16	7
,, 28	86,118⅜	27	4	217,307½	24	11	23,860	16	8
Nov. 4	80 3 0½	27	0	231,869½	24	9	28 424½	17	1

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s.	0d.	per 480lb.
Barley	24s.	8d.	per 400lb.
Oats	17s.	10d.	per 312lb.

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended November 4, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	80,360½ qrs.	27s. 10d.
Barley	231,869½ qrs.	24s. 9d.
Oats	28 424½ qrs.	17s. 1d

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, October 31, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	2,130	1	3,136	0	0	1	9	5
Barley	4,459	3	5,734	2	0	1	5	9
Oats	2,416	4	2,22?	7	8	0	18	5

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

October 24 to November 1, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	1,808	47,3 9	49,147
Barley	3,200	26,020	29,206
Malt	14,261	...	14 261
Oats	7,000	96,000	103,000
Beans	1,206	3,038	4,244
Peas	470	2,864	3,334
Maize	...	52,102	2,102
Tares	38	...	38
Linseed	...	17,530	17,530
Rapeseed	100	41	141
Mustardseed	...	134	134
Dholl	...	464	464
Rye	...	500	500
Flour sacks	32,000	30,000	62,000
Riceflour	...	2 ,000	26 000
Ricemeal	...	2,000	2,000
Oatmeal	...	3 000	3,000

BUTTER

(Prices per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 8d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 2d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 6. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 7 to 9. Ipswich: 7 to 9. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Malton: 6 to 8. Pontefract: 7 and 8. Retford: 2s 8d to 2s 10d per score. Richmond (York): 6 and 7. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Skipton: 7 and 8. Stokesley: 7 and 8. Whitby: 6 and 7. Worcester: 7. Yorks: 6.

CHEESE.

Newport. Wednesday.—A good supply, and trade was also good. Quotations: Caerphillies, 56s to 58s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 58s to 62s; truckles, 54s to 60s; Derbys, 65s to 68s.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Arrivals were light, and the trade passing small. Holders adhered to previous prices; Cheddars were quoted 56s to 61s per cwt.; and Dunlops 54s to 60s. The trade are pretty well supplied with cheese.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather of October was sunny, cold, and dry, favourable to threshing, ploughing, and sowing but bad for the roots and the pastures. The record since January 1 thus stands :—

1905.	Rainfall. Inches.	Sunshine. Hours.	Warmth. Degrees.
January	1.08	45	36.0
February	0.70	61	42.5
March	3.70	108	48.0
April	1.80	90	47.5
May	0.81	215	52.0
June	4.50	171	59.0
July	1.17	240	65.0
August	3.00	150	59.0
September	1.30	100	54.0
October	1.00	84	48.0

The five days of November thus far completed have been very showery, mild, and windy a complete contrast to October conditions. As the last fortnight of October had seen increasing difficulty in the way of ploughing and drilling owing to the land getting too dry, the inch of rain which has fallen since November came in will be welcome in most agricultural regions. France reports wet and mild weather, and, as the wheat was nearly all sown by the third week of October, the moisture is welcomed. The winter is slow to set in on the Continent this year. In India a further heavy rainfall is reported, and agriculturists in that thirsty land are rejoicing. The crops of 1906 will be a great deal better than anyone dared to hope. Heavy rain in Argentina, where November answers to our June, is not an unmixed blessing. It will plump out the growing wheat, and make straw, but it may also start fungoid growths and produce the same evils that like weather in early summer does here. Still, the old English saying was that a dripping June "put all things in tune," and, on the whole, we imagine the weather news from the great wheat plains of South America to show a margin on the side of promise.

The Russian crisis is said to be over, but the French Revolution took four years to come to a head, and the French are as impulsive a people as the Russians are stolid. Nobody, we fancy, would give any Government or settlement in Russia any very long period of stability. On the other hand, the shipments for the week ending November 4 were surprisingly heavy, and the only ports at which shipments have been stopped are Revel, Riga, Petersburg, and Odessa. The stocks on which Russia has drawn for wheat were about 1,500,000 qr. in fifteen ports.

If no fresh grain has arrived from the interior, the 565,000 qr. shipped must have reduced the total to less than a million, and another fourteen days would see the stock exhausted. If Russia ceased to ship wheat from the end of November we should see a big rise in prices here. But the one thing which thus far seems to have been regarded by all contending parties as sacred to be kept from molestation is the export of corn. The stocks of barley and oats at the Russian ports are liberal, but very little maize is in store.

America cables a decided increase in the visible supply of wheat. The figures are :—

	Quarters.
November 4, 1905	6,450,000
November 5, 1904	6,495,000
November 6, 1903	5,850,000

As compared with previous years, the present total is quite ordinary : the important increase is from the 4,050,000 qr. visible supply on October 1 ; five weeks ago.

Sales of British wheat at the statute markets during September and October were 807,000 qr., as compared with 435,000 qr. for the first two months of last cereal year. The average price was 26s. 11d., as compared with 30s. 1d. per qr.

Sales of British barley at the same 190 markets during September and October were 1,065,000 qr., or almost exactly the same total as last season ; the price made, however, shows a sad falling off, 24s. 3d. against 25s. 3d. per qr. In the case of wheat the disposal of so much larger a quantity accounts for the price fall on the year, but the decline in barley is not to be so explained.

Of oats the sales were 250,000 qr. against 327,000 qr., and the price made 16s. 3d. against 15s. 11d. per qr. Here reduced offers led to a slight improvement in the price realised.

Imports of the U.K. last week were as follows :
Wheat, 301,000 quarters ; a full average.
Flour, 152,000 sacks ; nearly an average.
Barley, 137,000 quarters ; a full average.
Oats, 118,000 quarters ; nearly an average.
Maize, 167,000 quarters ; less than usual.

Since September 1 total imports have been :—
Wheat, 3,674,000 quarters ; moderate.
Flour, 1,016,000 sacks ; fair.
Barley, 1,681,000 quarters ; good.
Oats, 976,000 quarters ; fair.
Maize, 2,244,000 quarters ; a full average.

The imperial averages for October show 3d. rise on wheat, 1s. 2d. rise on barley, and 6d. rise on oats ; thus we seem slowly rising out of the slough of despond into which September cast the trade. London averages for October were :—Wheat, 28s. 3d., barley 25s. 6d., and oats 18s. 5d., against September averages of wheat 28s., barley 24s. 11d., and oats 16s. 11d. per quarter.

London arrivals of grain since January 1 have been as follows, the figures being in thousands ; thus "wheat, October 270," means that London arrivals for October were 270,000 qr. :—

1905.	Wheat. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.	Maize. Qrs.	Flour. Sacks.
Jan.	255	96	224	179	215
Feb.	284	138	311	182	338
March	345	34	251	137	273
April	401	90	272	139	342
May	299	105	363	90	283
June	285	28	328	100	202
July	414	21	494	124	215
August	340	56	369	118	223
Sept.	282	175	364	190	227
Oct.	270	144	340	117	226

It will be seen that it is only in oats that London has been the recipient of specially heavy supplies, and the London demand for staple is so heavy and so steady that the market is advancing despite receipts of 1,073,000 qr. in three months. Motors have thus far produced absolutely no effect on the horse bill of London.

Supplies of wheat on passage show an increase. On November 4 they were :—

	Quarters.
Californian	85,000
American	290,000
Indian	228,000
Russian	400,000
Argentine	270,000
Australasian	80,000
Various	20,000
Total	1,373,000

The quantity of flour on passage is 338,000 sacks, of maize is 540,000 qr., and of barley is 565,000 qr. Of oilseeds, moderate quantities are on passage. The chief items are 110,000 qr. of linseed and 22,000 tons of cottonseed.

Shipments last week from Russia were 565,000 qr. of wheat, 250,000 qr. of barley, 301,000 qr. of oats, and 5,000 qr. of maize, to which Roumania added 300,000 qr. of wheat and 16,000 qr. of barley. India shipped 113,000 qr. of wheat and 49,000 qr. of linseed, but there were no grain shipments from Australia.

The New World was a fairly free shipper, but nothing very remarkable was exported, either from the U.S.A. or from Argentina. Returns for North America were :—Wheat 216,000 qr., barley 43,000 qr., oats 88,000 qr., maize 72,000 qr., and flour 154,000 qr., and for South America were wheat 107,000 qr., maize 182,000 qr., oats, 10,000 qr., and linseed 19,500 qr.

WET GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains : There has been no movement of note during the past few days, but if anything, a slightly easier tendency, due to milder weather and slightly increased brewings, and prices have ranged from 17s 6d to 19s ale, and 14s 3d to 15s 6d porter, which prices may possibly prevail for a time until there is an increased demand for milk, when a rise of 15 per cent. to 25 per cent. may be looked for, and this usually occurs between November and December. Wet Distillers' Grains : These continue at 30s to 32s 6d per ton. Pressed White Distillery Meal : 32s 6d per ton. Dried Grains : The good consumptive inquiry continues, and prices advance to 100s ale, 95s mixed, 92s 6d porter, and 115s distillers per ton. Dried distillery meal, containing 45 to 80 per cent. of oil and albuminoids, 117s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail, London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, E.C.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supply, moderate demand. Prices :—Geese, 4s 6d to 6s 6d ; ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d ; Surrey fowls, 2s 3d to 3s ; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 6d ; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 3d ; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 1s 10d ; Russian fowls, 1s 4d ; wild duck, 1s 6d ; black game, 1s 4d ; snipe, 6d to 9d ; quails, 9d to 1s 3d ; live hens, 1s 6d to 1s 9d each ; pheasants, 4s to 4s 6d ; young grouse, 3s 6d to 4s ; old, 2s 6d to 3s ; young partridges, 2s 6d ; old, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per brace.

OIL-SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 6.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	47 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	40 to 48
Calcutta	38 to 40
Argentine	37 to 39
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	40 to 41

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	5/9 to 6/0
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
" Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta "	35 to 36
Gujerat	40 to 41
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	34 to 36

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	30 to 40s

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb.
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 6.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day commanded a fair attendance. English wheat was well maintained in price. Foreign was not dearer for American or New Zealand, but Russian sorts were decidedly up from the end of October, and Indian tended to rise. The market for Australian and Argentine may be called firm, with an upward tendency. Maize was written in some market circulars as 3d. to 6d. lower, but this was only where last week, during the Russian "crisis," an exceptionally high price had had to be quoted to intending buyers. Actual values are as subjoined in our quotations. Barley lost 6d. of the advance made on Wednesday for Russian sorts, but the latter are still comparatively dear. English barley was a fairly good trade at 32s. to 38s. for fine malting, 27s. to 31s. for sound brewery types. Oats, though quiet, were held with confidence for substantially higher prices than prevailed a fortnight ago. Beans and peas appeared to be upon the upward move, so, too, did linseed and cottonseed.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	31	— 33
Red	"	29	— 32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	"	32	— 38
Brewing	"	27	— 31
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
"	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	"	27	— 29
Black	"	18	— 20
Crystallized	"	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	"	21	— 22
New Black Winter	"	18	— 19
Grey Winter	"	18	— 19
" Black Tartary	"	18	— 19
" White Gartons	"	17/6	— 18
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	16	— 17
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	22	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	38	— 40
Pigeon	"	41	— 43
Tick	"	34	— 36
Winter (Old)	"	33	— 34
" (New)	"	31	— 32
Spring	"	32	— 33
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	"	55	— 65
New Unpicked "	"	40	— 50
Partridge	"	44	— 46
Dun	"	30	— 32
Maple (Old)	"	33	— 34
" (New)	"	32	— 33
TARES (Scotch Gores)	"	72	— 82
(English ")	"	56	— 64
(Winter)	"	48	— 56
(Spring)	"	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	51	— 52
Brown	"	47	— 49

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496 lb.	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	34/9	— 35
" " 2	33/9	— 34
" " 3	32/9	— 33
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 36
" Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	33	— 33/6
Australian	34	— 34/6
New Zealand	30	— 31
Saxonka	35	— 36
Azima	34	— 35
Ghirka	33	— 34
Taganrog	32	— 33
Bombay	33	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	31	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY :		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	28	— 30
Califor'n (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
" (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
" (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20/6	— 21
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Persian (400 lb.)	18/6	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.)	16/6	— 17
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS :		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16	— 17
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	19	— 20
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20
" (304 lb.)	17	— 17/3
Argentine (304 lb.)	16/6	— 17
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
American (320 lb)	17	— 18
" (304 lb)	16	9 — 17

MAIZE, per 480 lb. :	s.	s.
Russian	26	— 27
Turkish	25	— 26
American	25	— 26
Argentine	25	— 25,6
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	32	— 34
Konigsberg	31	— 33
Egyptian	32	— 33
Syrian	33	— 35
New Zealand	31	— 2
HARICOTS, per 504 lb. :		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	40	— 42
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
" Dun	27	— 28
" Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt. :		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 18
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	25	— 26
Persian	21	— 23
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb. :		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

WHEAT, BARLEY, OATS, AND MAIZE WERE QUIET, BUT NOT DEPRESSED. BEANS AND LENTILS ADVANCED 1s. PER QUARTER, BUT LINSEED WAS NOT SO STRONG AS AT THE COMMENCEMENT.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, Monday, November 6

The top-price was put up 1s. 3d., namely to 31s. 3d. net. The price of Households and of Town Whites was correspondingly raised. For country flour 1s. more money was demanded and obtained. All foreign sorts may be quoted 1s. dearer on the week. This is a somewhat curious report to appear on a day of some reaction, but the London trade holds three weekly gatherings and a weekly publication has to compare, not from market to market, but from week to week. The shorter period meets business exigencies, but the weekly period is required for anything to be due consideration of what prices really should be. Whether or no, existing prices are sound, whether they are too high or too low, we are for the moment precluded from saying; because the cause of variation is in politics, and moreover in foreign politics; matters beyond our scope. If any serious interruption to Russian wheat exports occurs, a greater rise than has yet occurred is inevitable, while if no interruption at all occurs, prices may go back.

LONDON FLOUR.

		s.
Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	31/3 net.
Town Whites	,,	29/3 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/3 ,,
No. 1	,,	22/3 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25/3 ,,
,, ,, No. 2	,,	23/3 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	22/3 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 27
Fine Roller whites	,,	24	— 25
Ord'y Roller	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28	— 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
Californian	,,	27	— 28
Canadian	,,	27	— 28
Russian	,,	30	— 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	32	— 33
,, 1	,,	31	— 32
,, 2	,,	30	— 31
,, 3	,,	29	— 30
French, Corbeil	,,	25	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	24	— 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22	— 23
Australian	,,	25	— 26
Argentine, Fancy	,,	28	— 29

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	10	— 11
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	7s. 1d.	Nov. delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 1d.	Dec. delivery.
,,	4s. 0d.	Jan. ,,
,,	4s 5d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 5d.	May ,,

Futures to-day are sometimes 1d. per cental lower, both for wheat and maize, but there is a strong undercurrent, due to a large minority of firms declining to offer grain for future shipment or delivery at anything under Saturday's closing rates.

HOPS

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The demand for English hops continues, many consumers taking sufficient to carry them over the two years; prices are below the cost of production, and are below those current on the Continent and America. Choice hops are hardening in value, and others are strong at current rates.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—Bran continues in good demand; prices are unchanged but firm.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—There has been more inquiry, and prices are firm, at an advance generally of about 1s. per sack.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour is in better request at an advance of 6d. per sack. Grain.—Indian corn is firm but unchanged. Plate maize quiet. Foreign oats, both light and heavy, are active and 3d. per boll up. Barley steady. Calcutta pease are getting into small compass, and are held for 17s. to 17s. 3d. per 280 lb. Beans rather firmer. Oilcake very firm, with more demand. Oatmeal advanced a further 6d. per sack. Mill Stuffs very scarce and in demand.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet but fairly steady. Prices are the turn easier on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Arrivals of wheat are moderate, and we have a quiet trade at the prices of last Monday. Flour is unchanged in value. Maize, barley, and oats are 3d. per qr. lower.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Milling Offals.—Offals move off freely at last Monday's quotations, and mills keep clear of all qualities.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade has been rather quiet, but owing to a considerable advance in price of seed, London made are 1s 3d to 2s 6d dearer; foreign unchanged. Undecorticated cotton cakes: There is a strong demand and values are the turn dearer. Linseed meets with very good inquiry, and is 1s 6d to 2s per qr. dearer.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	0	0	to 8	2	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay						
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	7	6			
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	7	6			
Russian Oil Cake	ex quay	7	10	0	to 8	0	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7	0	0			
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	15	0			
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	17	6			
Egyptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	15	0			
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5	2	6			
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	7	0			
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	0	0	to 2	2	0
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs	sacks included ex warehouse	2	0	0			
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	5	0			
Larniea Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.							
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London						
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)							
Bombay ,, ,,							
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.							

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON

THE BALTIC. 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are for the moment against holders, but the speculative market remains essentially unsettled. Maize has gone back 3d. since Saturday, and so has barley. Oats are steady but neglected. Cargoes of peas, linseed, and cottonseed are held for more money. No cargoes of beans are on offer, either on passage or for future shipment.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Finest Russian Winter, 36s per 492lb., on passage; Odessa Ghirka, 34s per 492lb., on passage; Hard Taganrog, 31s 9d per 492lb., on passage; Kustendje, 32s 6d per 492lb., November shipment; Blue Stem, 34s 3d per 500lb., November shipment; Walla Walla, 33s 6d per 500lb., November shipment; South Australian, 34s per 480lb., new crop, December shipment; South Australian, 33s 9d per 480lb., new crop, January shipment; New South Wales, 33s 3d per 480lb., new crop, February shipment; Roumanian Best, 33s 6d per 504lb., prompt shipment; Roumanian Common, 31s per 480lb., prompt shipment; Rosario, 32s 3d per 480lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 24s 3d per 480lb., arrived; American, 22s per 480lb., December shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 20s 9d per 400lb., on passage; Californian, 25s 6d per 448lb., on passage.

OATS.—Canadian, 17s 7d per 320lb., November shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 40s per 410lb., arrived.

COTTONSEED. — Egyptian, £5 17s 6d per 2,240lb., on passage.

LOCUST BEANS.—Portuguese, £5 per 2,240lb., November shipment.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies, trade being tolerably brisk. Quotations of English produce:—Apples, 5s to 12s 6d per bushel; pears, 2s 6d to 5s per half-sieve; cranberries, 10s 6d to 14s per case; grapes, 6d to 3s; melons, 1s to 2s 9d each; tomatoes, 2s to 4s; peaches, 6s to 12s 6d; green figs, 6d to 10d per box; onions, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; ditto (picklers), 5s 6d to 6s 6d per cwt; Jerusalem artichokes, 2s to 2s 6d; Brussels sprouts, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per half-sieve; cauliflowers, 4s to 6s 6d; cabbages, 3s to 4s per tally; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen rolls; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; carrots, 2s 3d to 3s per bag; horseradish, 3s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; leeks, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; radishes, 6d to 9d per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 9s to 12s per 12lb; cucumbers, 1s 6d to 5s; endive, 9d to 1s 3d per dozen; beetroots, 2s to 2s 3d per bushel; potatoes, 55s to 75s per ton.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 6, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 7, 1904.
Beasts	930	930	1,450
Sheep and Lambs	6,140	6,140	6,290
Calves	10	10	—
Pigs	50	50	—
Milch Cows	59	59	99

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 10d	4s 6d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d
Pigs	3s 10d	3s 8d	4s 6d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 24; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 823; Devon, 25; Ireland, 58.

We note to-day a decrease of 60 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. The majority of the supply was consigned from the Midland Counties and Ireland, these latter consisting of 21 Dublin shorthorns, and 37 Waterfords, no store cattle were included. Trade for all grades was a slow and dragging one, with a downward tendency in value, especially was this so, with regard to the Irish trade, sellers having to accept 2d. less money, to affect sales. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in shorter numbers, but met with little demand, late rates only being upheld with difficulty.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 6, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d ...	—
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d ...	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d ...	4s 0d to 4s 4d ex 4/6
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d ...	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 8d to 4s 0d ...	4s 0d to 4s 2d ex —
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d ...	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was an increase of 50 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. Trade for both wethers and ewes was a disappointing one, with a downward tendency in value, though not sufficient to warrant our quoting lower rates. Irish shared in the general depression and were difficult to vend, even at less money, on the other hand Scotch sold slowly, late currencies being well upheld for the best. A clearance if made will be a forced one. The supply included 200 Scotch, 7,060 Irish, and 495 from the Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 6, 1904
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d ...	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d ...	5s 8d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d ...	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Irish	5s 0d to 5s 2d ...	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d ...	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d ...	3s 10d to 4s 0d

Calf trade not worth noting or quoting.

There was a good supply of pigs, trade for which was slow but firm; best small breeds being quoted at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d per 8 lbs sinking the offal).

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 716; sheep, 441; pigs, 487. Beef, 7s to 7s 6d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat cattle, fair demand; stores, better trade; fat sheep, good demand; horses, fair; fat and store pigs, good demand; milch cows, fair show, trade prices, £14 to £23.

FOREIGN

Deptford, Monday. — Beasts, 921. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 470 head, and consisted of 200 from the United States, and 121 Canadians. Trade, taken as a whole, was fair, late currencies governing all sales for the former. Besides the above 300 States' beasts were withheld from sale. The best States made 3s 10d per 8lb.; seconds, 3s 6d; Canadians, 3s 4d per 8lb. (sinking the offal). On Saturday, 1,375 beasts from the United States and 547 Canadians (270 of which were ranch cattle), were offered for sale. Trade was extremely slow for all grades. Ranch cattle were unsold. Besides the above, 1,000 States and 400 Canadians were withheld from sale. The best States' beasts were quoted at from 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 5d; Canadians, 3s to 3s 4d per 8lb. (sinking the offal).

Liverpool, Monday.—A slightly smaller supply of cattle in market to-day, demand was very slow, but prices practically unchanged. Sheep also shown in reduced numbers, good selling trade experienced for all classes; prices, however, as a rule, were not quotably higher; finished small sorts made top quotation. Beef, 5¾d to 4¼d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market, 1,416 cattle and 4,039 sheep.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—There is more inquiry for spring sowing seeds all round, both clovers and grasses. Prices firm where fixed. Red clovers, as usual at the opening of the season, attracts most attention. Samples of the new English reds are now coming on the market.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were available, but met with quiet support. Best silts, 55s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; and Scottish, 55s to 65s per cwt.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, but a very slow trade for potatoes. Evergoods, 4s to 4s 6d; Royal Kidneys, 4s 9d to 5s 6d; King Edwards and Up-to-Dates, 5s 6d to 5s 9d per load; retail, 4d to 6d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire warps, 7s to 8s; sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire kidneys, 4s to 5s 6d; Irish, 3s to 3s 6d per cwt.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday. — During the past week the quantities of potatoes on sale have been moderate, but trade being slow, prices have not improved. The following are this day's quotations: Scotch Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; British Queens, 55s to 65s; Lincoln Evergoods, 55s to 60s; Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 55s; British Queens, 55s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Moderate supplies; demand quiet.

York, Saturday.—A thinly-attended market, and a poor supply. Only a few sales were effected, and these were at last week's rates. Sands made up to 40s; warps, 45s to 50s per ton.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market on Monday there was a decrease in the supply. Trade for fat beasts of both prime and second quality was of a dull nature, partly due to the heavy rainfall on that day; the supplies were chiefly drawn from the Midland, Home, and Western counties, with a few Devons and Irish, these latter consisted of 9 Dublin Shorthorns, 10 choice Black Polled ditto, and 28 Waterfords. For this class of cattle trade ruled very slow, nevertheless Monday's prices were both asked and obtained: for English cattle the tendency was a downward one, although not quotably so. Fat beasts met with no inquiry on Thursday. Fat butchering cows and bulls on Monday met with little demand by both town and country buyers, difficulty being experienced in maintaining late rates, but on Thursday late rates were well maintained, about twenty fat shed cows having failed to find purchasers were held back in the lairs for Monday.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade throughout the week was of an extremely slow nature, and on Wednesday the supply was of rather poor quality, consequently a bad trade ensued. The total number offered for sale at both markets was 4,797, as against 5,756 during the preceding week, consisting of 1,030 British (decrease 340) and 3,767 Foreign (decrease 619), these latter comprising 2,679 States and 1,088 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 80 to 95 stone Irish, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; Canadians, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

At Islington, on both market days, notwithstanding a decrease in the supply, trade was extremely dull and dragging for all grades, with the exception of ewes, these alone maintaining last week's prices. Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the general depression, the former meeting with a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. At Deptford, a small supply of Canadian sheep were offered for sale, rates for which were fairly steady. The total number penned at both markets was 6,572, as against 6,590 during the previous week, consisting of 6,170 British (decrease 420) and 202 Canadians. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (offal given in):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 8½ stone Canadians, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.

Calves numbered 20; trade was nominal, quotations not worth recording

Pigs numbered 50 on Thursday, trade for which was slow, best small breeds being quoted at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb. (offal given in).

Trade in the West.

Now that a break has occurred in the cold, frosty weather experienced for over a fortnight, followed by an exceedingly genial rain, which has tended still further to lessen the cold, we may confidently anticipate greater activity in regard to store things, transactions in which have been greatly stagnated by the sharp "snap" which set in so suddenly, and which left many wondering where they really were. This applies especially to the barrener trade, few of which, excepting anything very special, could be cashed for "love or money," the shortness of keep almost everywhere, consequent on the protracted drought—which is almost without precedent unless going back to a very remote date—making everybody extremely cautious about buying, especially in the way of grazing cattle, though it had no such deterrent effect in sheep sales. The barrener trade at the present moment is almost as stagnant as it well could be, no one showing any disposition to buy, despite the low price which even good barreners are now making, the best scarcely anywhere, except for very special lots, realising more than £13 or £14 apiece for really good forward cattle, whilst the plainer grades can be bought at almost any price from £7 upwards. This is not very encouraging just at a time when graziers are about to lay in their winter supplies, and no doubt the present depressed condition of the beef trade is largely responsible for the low prices ruling, bullocks in some places only making a trifle more apiece than what they cost when put up for fatting. With dairy beasts things are very different: the inactivity so generally prevalent two or three weeks back has totally disappeared, and given place to unusual briskness, especially for heifers and calves of a good type, and, for the matter of that, equally so for really good cows, these classes of milchers bringing from £27 up to £22, which is now getting quite a common figure again where beasts with special milking qualifications are being acquired. As will be understood, this is the range for a class of milcher specially adapted for a town milk walk, but there is no lack of the plainer grades, and, though these are not so eagerly in request, still anything that can be turned to account for the purposes of milk is saleable at all kinds of prices, ranging from about £16 down to £11 or £12 for animals soon going off their milk. Store sheep, for the close of the season, are making exceptionally good prices, and this is not confined to any particular district, the trade being equally good at Winchester, Sturminster, Salisbury, Blandford, Dorchester, and other fag-end fairs. This proved an agreeable disappointment to flockmasters, who, in the face of the rigorous weather experienced and the poor outlook for keep, had quite reconciled themselves to a poor trade, with low prices, which, however, did not prove to be the case.

Trade in Scotland.

The supply of fat cattle this week has been exceedingly large. For those of prime quality last week's prices were as nearly as possible obtained, but secondary and inferior descriptions met a much worse market at a £1 a head reduction. Fat cows also were considerably cheaper. Fat sheep have been offered in very large numbers. The better class are selling well, but secondary sheep and ewes were quite 2s. a head lower. Fat calves very dear, while pigs met a good inquiry at late rates. For the time of year, there was a fair supply of store sheep. These are rather slower to sell at prices slightly tending downwards, with a few inferior sheep left unsold. There was a fair supply of store cattle. Anything of a good class got sold at previous prices, but rough cattle and stirks are difficult to sell at rather less money. A fair show of milch cows met a very good trade. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 39s. 6d.; current, 35s. to 37s.; Irish 28s. to 33s.; mutton to 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

There was an average attendance of home and export buyers at Dublin Thursday Market so far as the cattle trade was concerned, but few buyers for sheep were present. There was a falling off in the supplies in both branches of stock, the decrease in cattle on the week being 748, and in sheep 1,057, but this shrinkage did not seem to affect prices, as the market was not any firmer, except for well-finished beasts, which met with a readier sale, but at no advance on last day, while half-meated cattle were practically unsaleable. Some nice fairly-finished lots of bullocks and heifers changed hands tediously at from 23s. to 24s. (live weight) per cwt., which must be considered a very moderate figure at this season of the year. Dealers claim that cattle kill very disappointingly this year, and, though apparently cheaper, are really dearer than usual. Coarse beef and rough dairy cows remain quite a drug at very irregular prices. The enormous arrival of over 14,000 head of cattle and 86,000 cwt. of fresh beef at English ports from Australia during the past week must account to a great extent for the sluggish state of the Irish cattle trade. A few very fine beasts, fed in the co. Kildare, attracted a good deal of attention, and were bought for the London market at from £20 to £23 each. Rough cattle did not clear.

In spite of the shrinkage of over 1,000 sheep, trade was even slower than on the previous Thursday, but scarcity of supplies saved a complete slump in values, and all that can be said was that prices were weaker all round. The inquiry from English and Scotch buyers was remarkably slow, due to the fact that Irish sheep are not wanted across-Channel. Home and North of Ireland buyers picked up all the best lots on easier terms. Best ox and heifer beef sold at from 48s. to 52s. 6d., and a few extra lots up to 54s. per cwt.; good second-class beef, 45s. to 47s. 6d.; and coarse beef from 40s. upwards. Prime wether mutton was worth from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 5½d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb. Large heavy hoggets made from 44s. to 55s. each; small to medium ditto, 32s. to 42s. Choice veal was scarce, and sold at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; other sorts from 4½d. per lb. upwards. The dairy cattle market was thinly supplied, but quite enough for the demand, except for best springers and newly calved cows, which cleared readily at late rates, but secondary and inferior cows sold very slowly. Stores were confined to a limited number of young cattle, which met with a dull inquiry.

The pig market was sparsely supplied, and much keener competition prevailed than at the previous market, home and export buyers purchasing freely at improved prices. Best light-weight pigs made from 50s. to 53s. per cwt.; coarse, from 36s. per cwt. upwards. A good clearance was easily effected. The general opinion was that the average prices for cattle of all descriptions last Thursday were lower than for many years past—a poor lookout for Irish graziers.

LONDON.

Central, Friday.—Good supplies were received, for which a very slow demand again predominated, values being in some cases lower. Arrivals of beef included 70 tons Scotch, 120 Liverpool sides, 2,600 hindquarters, and 1,650 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,400 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef: Scotch short sides, 3s 10d to 4s 2d; extreme, 4s 4d; long sides, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English, 3s to 3s 2d; American Deptford-killed, 2s 9d to 3s 2d; Liverpool sides, 2s 8d to 3s; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d; rancher hindquarters, 2s to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 10d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; River Plate hindquarters, 1s 10d to 2s; forequarters, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 5d to 1s 8d. Mutton: Scotch wethers and tegs, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 3d to 2s 8d; River Plate, 2s to 2s 2d; Dutch wethers, 3s 8d to 4s; ewes, 3s. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s 2d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply showed decrease of 50 head, and consisted almost entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls, and very small consignment of prime quality beasts, which were unsaleable. Trade for fat cows and bulls slow but steady, late rates governing all sales. Top value fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Decrease of 70 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and halfbreds. Trade, owing to scarcity of retail buyers, was practically at a standstill, wethers showing downward tendency in value, whilst ewes met no inquiry, even at reduction of fully 2d per 8lb. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows:—8st Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10st ditto, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 4s. Calf trade not worth noting. Pig trade shared in the general depression, a decline of 2d per 8lb. having to be made to effect sales. Quotations per 8lb., sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; calves, 5s 4d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 6d. Total supply:—Beasts, 40; sheep, 80; calves, 10; pigs, 50.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade dull, with reduction in the case of inferior qualities. Best made 4s to 4s 6d; and cows, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per stone. Mutton depressed, but not cheaper; Downs up to 5s 8d; small Kents, to 5s 2d; barrens, to 4s per 8lb.; veal, 5s to 5s 2d; pork, 4d per stone cheaper, roasters making up to 4s 6d; and larger hogs up to nearly 4s.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a fairish attendance to meet a supply of 33 fat beasts, 66 calves, 475 fat sheep and lambs, 269 pigs, and 133 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat two-year-old Devon steers made up to £19; Polled Aberdeen, £17 7s 6d; Shorthorn steers, £17; heifers, £15 12s 6d; cows, £12 5s; fat calves, 70s to 95s; small, 20s to 65s; fat hogs, 55s to 75s; fat porkers, 42s to 51s; small, 25s to 38s; store pigs, 7s 6d to 22s; dairy cows, £10 to £21 5s; prime Down wethers and young ewes made from 48s to 56s; ten months' old ditto, from 50s to 55s; smaller half fat, 40s to 47s; old ewes, 34s to 40s; Down rams, 50s to 54s; small and inferior, 25s to 42s. For fat beasts there was a slow inquiry, with a strong downward tendency in prices. For fat sheep and lambs previous prices were maintained, and a clearance very nearly made. A choice consignment of Hants Down tegs from Amport realised up to 55s. The very best stocked milch-cows and heifers met a brisk trade, but, taking the milk trade generally, prices ruled a trifle lower than last week. Store cattle trade was absolutely at a standstill. Fat calves a short supply, and met a clearance at late rates. Fat hogs and porkers sold readily, prices showing an advance. Store pigs met a good demand. Ruling values: Best fat beasts, 6d to 6½d; second ditto, 5½d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d per lb.; best fat sheep, 8¼d to 8¾d; second ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6d per lb.; fat calves, 6½d to 8d per lb.; fat porkers, 9s to 11s per score; fat hogs, up to 9s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Beasts numbered 756, 151 more than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, and trade quiet. Calves, £6 10s to £7; heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £9 to £11; two-year-olds, £12 10s to £14; three-year-olds, £13 to £16 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £11.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; porkets, 10s 10d to 11s 6d per score; sows, 8s 4d to 8s 6d per core.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in average supply, but demand, if anything, rather less than usual, and whilst trade in best qualities was slow at the recent price of 56s, secondary sorts declined from 53s to 52s. Mutton plentiful and trade moderate at about late rates. Pigs scarce, porkers rising from 10s 6d to 11s, and baconers from 8s 2d to 9s.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wether tegs, 36s to 40s; rough old sheep, 18s 6d to 22s; good useful ewes up to 48s per head. Rather more doing in horned stock, useful yearlings, £8 10s to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £10 10s to £13 5s.

Calne Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under ...	9 6
Under 10 sc. ...	...Not exceeding 2¾ in.	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	9 0
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8 6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Between 300 and 400 Irish cattle, chiefly wintering heifers, were exposed on the Sands, and there was also a better supply of bullocks. Buyers were fairly well represented, and a steady trade was done at £8 10s to £10 10s for bullocks, £7 10s to £8 10s for small wintering heifers, and up to £10 10s for better sorts. A few good heifers fetched £14 to £15 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—The market was thinly supplied with good stock, and buyers were few than of late. Prices generally of last week may be repeated, with a

slightly downward tendency. Milch cows were quoted at £17 to £23, calvers £15 to £20, barrens £9 to £13, heifers £9 to £15, stirks, £5 to £10, and sheep 18s to 32s.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a good supply of beef and mutton, and trade was good. Grass beef, 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s, and pork, 8s 6d to 9s per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, chiefly Irish, and moderate attendance. Trade dull, milch beasts making less money. Milch beasts, £16 to £21; bullocks, £11 to £16; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; stirks, £6 to £8; young stock, £4 to £6 each. Moderate show of sheep, but a quiet trade, and no change; hoggs, 40s to 44s; ewes, 38s to 42s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Good average supplies came to hand at the cattle market, Messrs. Ensor and Son offering some very good milch beasts, which met a very good sale, though prices were scarcely as firm as they were, except for the very best grades, which ranged from £15 15s to £20 apiece (the latter being the top price reached); seconds selling from £13 to £15; some rare cows and calves also sold very well at from £18 15s to £20 each. Barreners are still quiet, though some of the more fancied bullocks brought as much as £13 5s apiece where sold singly; but pairs must be quoted from £18 to £22, as a general run, with no great demand at the price. Fat beef a slack trade, to-day's range being for the best animals, £16 to £18 10s each (or 10s to 11s per score); seconds, 9s to 9s 6d. Mutton in limited offer, and met an inactive sale at 6d to 7d, bettermost qualities up to 8d.

Dublin, Thursday. — Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,749; decrease, 748. Sheep, 5,517; decrease, 1,057. Calves, 29; decrease, 11. Finished beef scarce, and in good demand at late rates. Secondary and inferior sorts met with a repetition of last week's trade, the finish up being tedious and uncertain. Sheep of all classes met a slow dragging trade at weaker prices, fewer buyers being in evidence and their wants evidently smaller. Cattle, live weight (best), 27s 6d to 30s per cwt.; exceptional (for Angus crossbreds), 33s per cwt.; rough and inferior sorts, 24s to 27s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday. — Fair supplies. Horned cattle, £12 10s to £16 10s; stirks, £8 8s to £10 10s; Cheviot Dinmonts, 26s to 30s; Cheviot ewes, 23s to 28s; best Shorthorn cows, £24 to £26; Ayrshires, £15 to £21; crosses, £20 to £23.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — There was a fair show of cattle and sheep. Good cattle were in demand, but secondary were hard to sell. Prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 65s; current, 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt. A fair inquiry for sheep, and values were unchanged. Best hogs, 9d; secondary, 8½d; best wedder, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7d to 7½d per lb. Dead meat slow, with values easier. Best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d; best Canadians, 5d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles, and Co. report their sales as follows:—Cows and calves and incalvers, a large supply (86), with excellent trade, the highest prices being £23 15s, £22 15s, £21 15s, £20 10s, etc. Store cattle, a fair supply and moderate trade.

Hereford, Wednesday. — Supplies were larger, and trade somewhat fluctuating. There were several graziers from Northamptonshire buying store cattle, of which there was the largest supply since October fair, but the trade on them was very slack. Fat cattle were over supplied. The ruling figure was 5d to 5½d for bullocks and heifers, the best going at 6d to 6½d per lb., fat cows at about 4d to 4½d per lb. Calves were an off trade altogether. Butchers' calves were few, but anything of choice quality made 6½d to 7d per lb. Sheep were a moderate supply, and the quality notup to the average. Wethers were scarce, making about 8d. Yearling ewes also reached 8d. Fat old ewes 6d. Butchers' lambs wer few, and made 8d. Ther were several bunches of store lambs, and they had a ready sale. The pig trade was not quite so firm as of late, the market being rather over supplied. Porks sold pretty well at 6d per lb., and bacons 5½d to 6d per lb. The few store pigs were in demand, and had a firm trade.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report an average supply of fat cattle and a good attendance of buyers. Trade for the best yard-fed animals was brisk, up to 9s per stone, but others ruled rather cheaper than last week. Grass cattle slow at about 7s 6d per stone. At the special sale of grazing cattle about 600 were penned, including a large entry of Cumberland and Westmoreland Shorthorns of first-class quality, buyers were numerous, and a good clearance was effected without any improvement in values. Two-year-olds, £11 7s 6d to £10 10s; eighteen months, £9 15s to £8 10s; sixteen to twelve months, £8 to £5 15s. Cows fresh calved or near met with more inquiry, up to £18. Fat sheep short, trade slow, and prices lower, the best hoggets making from 58s 6d to 52s. Grazing sheep were in fair demand, at from 40s to 34s. Fat swine dear at from 6s 6d to 7s per stone; well-bred stores in strong demand, at from 32s to 18s. Numbers at sales and market: 1,352 cattle, 786 sheep, and 1,404 swine.

Leicester, Saturday.—Large consignments of home-bred stock. Buyers and dealers were well represented. Choice lots sold freely, but secondary sorts were 10s to 20s per head lower. High-class milch cows made £20 to £23; good lots, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; polled bullocks, £16 to £17; Shorthorn bullocks, £12 to £14 10s; Irish cattle, £11 to £13 10s; Welsh runts, £10 to £14; young stock, £5 to £6; calves, 15s to 35s. Sheep sold slowly at firm rates.

Lincoln, Friday.—Cattle were in small numbers, and the demand was slow. Strong beasts made £13 to £16 10s; yearlings, £8 to £10. The sheep pens were but poorly filled, and trade was good, lambs realising 36s to 44s each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Average show of fat beasts made late rates, 7s to 8s per stone. Store beasts plentiful and slow, £6 to £16 each. Average show of fat sheep, 9s to 10s per stone. Few store sheep, 40s to 50s each. Lambs, 35s to 40s. each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First-class, 4¾d; second-class, 3¾l to 4¼d; third class, 2¾d to 3¼d. Mutton: First-class, Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d; others, 7d; second-class, 6¾ to 6¾d; third class, 5d to 5¾d. Veal: First-class, 6¾d; second class, 5¾d to 6¼d; third class, 4¾d to 5¼. Bacon pigs: First-class, 5¼; second class, 4¼d to 5¼; third-class, 3¾l to 4d. Porket pigs: First class, 7¼d; second-class, 6¾d to 7d; third-class, 6¼d to 6¾d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Show of fat beasts about equal to home requirements, and trade was quiet, at prices ranging from 7s to 8s per stone of 14lb. There was again a full supply of store cattle, and demand was slow throughout; values show no material change, and prices ranged from £5 to £17 per head. Store sheep were represented by a limited number of lambs and breeding ewes, and for these there were very few customers; lambs made from 25s to 40s per head. Supply of fat sheep was up to the average of the past few weeks, and trade was a trifle easier; prices for best qualities averaged from 10s to 10s 6d per stone. There was a short supply of fat pigs, and trade was prime at 7s to 7s 3d per stone; store pigs were also offered in limited numbers, and for these there was a bigger demand.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Average show of milch beasts with a rather slow trade. Best milch cows, £17 to £21; in-calf heifers, £12 to £17. Fair supply of store beasts, for which trade was dragging. Strong heifers and steers, £9 to £14, and younger beasts, £6 to £9; calves, 25s to 50s.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a very slow trade in cattle and sheep, and customers were not very numerous. Heifers and bullocks made 5¼d to 6¼d; cows and bulls, 4¾d to 5¼d; hoggs, 8d to 8¼d; lambs, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7d; and tups, 5½d to 6d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. An improved show of store stock, and trade was fairly brisk at the rates current last Saturday. With a few exceptions, milch cows were of medium quality, and sold from £15 to £18; bullocks, £9 to £12 10s; two-year-old steers and heifers, £8 to £11; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 40s.

Romford, Wednesday.—Fair supply of fat beasts, average trade. Best, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, fair trade at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Average supply of sheep, trade about the same. Best, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Slow demand for store beasts. Average supply of pigs; trade about the same.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supply of store cattle, which met a good demand. Fat cattle met a ready sale. Small number of store sheep, but larger of calves and pigs. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 6¼d per lb.; mutton, 7¾d to 8¾d per lb.; veal, 8d to 8¾d per lb.; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score. Numbers offered as follows: Cattle, 833; sheep and lambs, 960; calves, 130; pigs, 525.

Thame, Tuesday.—Entries of cattle and sheep showed a slight falling off on previous weeks. There was a capital attendance of buyers, a large number coming from Oxford. Choice quality beef still continues in demand and sells readily, but secondary quality was difficult to dispose of. Sheep were a decidedly better trade, every pen changing hands. Grand show of weaning calves met a brisk demand. Bacon hogs, porkers, and store pigs at late high prices. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 88 fat beasts, 202 fat sheep, 142 fat and weaning calves, and 118 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £16 15s to £19 10s; fat heifers, £15 to £18 17s 6d; fat wethers, 46s to 58s; fat ewes, 42s to 56s; fat calves, £3 to £4 10s; weaning cow calves, 28s to 60s; bull calves, 10s to 48s; bacon hogs, £4 to £6 15s; porkets, 28s to 46s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business rather slow, owing to the weather. Atetndance fair. Fat bullocks, 56s to 58s cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 30s; wethers, 7¼d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d; pigs, 7s 6d to 25s; beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; ditto, cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5½d. Numbers in cattle market: Bullocks, 343; calves, 51; sheep, 226; pigs, 164; horses, 2.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Fair supply all round, except for beasts. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8½d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Smaller show of cattle, and attendance small. Best beef, 6s 9d to 7s 3d; ; secondary, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone; best Southdown wether and crossbred shearlings, 8d to 9d; ewes, 8½d to 6½d; lamb, 9d per lb.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Saturday.—Nitrate of oda unchanged since last week's report. There is a moderate demand for kainit and basic slag at unaltered rates. The increased values of feeding stuffs following the better inquiries have retarded business, and consumers are purchasing only their immediate wants, some preferring to use home productions, considering them better value than oil cakes, etc., at current rates, and to this may be ascribed the somewhat brisk demand for feeding treacle, which is being used as an auxiliary. Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 12s 6d to £6 15s; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 1s 3d to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £8 to £8 2s 6d; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 17s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), prime, in bags, £14 to £15; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated good to prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 3s 9d; ditto, ditto, English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto, ditto, English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d; ditto, ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 15s to £5 18s 9d; corn oil cake,, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 to £6 2s 6d; rice meal Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 2s 6d—per ton. Linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 6s to £2 8s per quarter 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in cake, 4s 6d to 4s 9d per gallon; treacle, feeding, prime, in brls., 4s 3d to 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. Brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; ditto, ditto,, guaranteed, 30 to 31, in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; ditto, ditto, guaranteed 35s to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s 6d to £1 13s 6d; ditto, prime quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2 0s 6d; ditto, finest quality, guaranteed, 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 2s to £2 3s per ton at depots inland.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Saturday.—Butter: The receipts of Canadian butter for the last two weeks are only about two-thirds of what they were for the previous fortnight. The demand, however, is fairly good for secondary quality, and for "Choicest" there is a good demand, owing to scarcity of this grade. The arrivals during October this year were 46,761 cwts., against 61,849 cwts. last year. Prices are 2s down on the week. The market for Australian butter has been dull, and as there is a desire among holders to clear their receipts week by week, prices are consequently easier to the extent of about 2s per cwt., 110s being the general price, and 112s the very top of the market for best brands of salted and 114s for unsalted. Cheese: There is not that amount of business passing in Canadian cheese which is usual at this time of the year, but though the market is dull prices well maintain their position viz., 57s per cwt. for "Choicest" white, and 58s for "Choicest" coloured, with very little at 55s, and only a fair quantity at 56s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: Linseed has been a firm and advancing market throughout the week. River Plate, spot has buyers at 37s 6d, 38s 54 bd for Oct. Nov., 39s 6d the value Jan. Feb. Petersburg sold from 37s 6d to 38s 3d prompt shipment. Cottonseed: The market has ruled firmer during the week, and a fair business was done in new crop Egyptian at £5 15s to £5 16s 3d passage and October loading, also in November and Nov Jan, at £5 13s 9d to £5 15s. Old crop ex store made £5 15s. Several hundred tons Bombay were placed at £4 17s to 4 5 Oct.-Nov., and up to £4 18s paid Nov.-Dec., also £4 14s 6d to £4 16s 6d Dec. Jan. Both descriptions firm at the full prices to day. Oilseed cakes: Linseed cakes in better demand, and 2s 6d per ton dearer, with strong tendency. Russians scarce and dearer. Cotton cakes more orders, and prices are 2s 6d per ton dearer on the week. Decorticated cakes and meal are cleared off the market.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Monday.—Linseed meets with a steady demand and prices improving, owing to reserve shown by importers. Calcutta-London Spot, 39s, and afloat 38s 9d; Oct.-Nov., 38s 9d; Nov.-Dec., 38s 6d; April-June, 37s 6d. Hull firm, with a good demand for seed on the spot. La Plata spot, 38s 6d; passage, 38s 9d; Oct. Nov., 39s; Dec.-Jan., 37s 6d; and Jan.-Feb., 37s. Rapeseed has advanced considerably, with a good business doing, but closes rather quieter. Brown Cawnpore, Nov.-Dec., 39s 6d; Ferozepore, 39s 6d. Cottonseed has met with a good demand, and closes firm. London—Passage, new, £5 17s 6d, old, £5 13s 9d; prompt new, £5 17s 6d asked; Nov.-Jan., £5 16s 3d. Hull, spot and passage, £5 17s 6d to £5 16s 3d; Nov.-Jan., £5 15s. Linseed oil continues to advance in value. Spot and month in pipes, £17 15s; barrels, £18; Nov.-Dec., £18 5s; Jan.-April, £18 10s; May-August, £18 15s. Hull naked spot, £16; Nov.-Dec. £16 5s; Jan.-April, £16 15s; May-August, £17. The stock in public warehouses in London on October 28 is given as 4,971 tons Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firmer. London made £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes firm. London made £4 13s 9d to £4 15s.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Last week's improvement is well maintained, the trade assuming a healthier aspect, especially in forward positions, there being a decidedly better consumptive demand at the higher rates now asked. Russian find a ready sale at 1s 3d per ton more money. American move off steadily, unchanged. Round Trieste are obtainable at last week's prices. London-made meet a better inquiry and are fully as dear. Cotton cakes: In spite of the recent heavy arrivals of Egyptian, the market is well supported, and 1s 3d per ton more money has been paid for ready parcels, which is also the price asked for November-April shipments. English are again held for 2s 6d per ton more money. Decorticated: London-made is much inquired after being exceptionally good value at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, while American "Open Hand" brand makes £7 2s 6d. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal: Steamer parcels of white American have changed hands at £5 8s 9d to £5 10s c.i.f. terms, while English makes are if anything the turn dearer. Maize gluten meal is nominally quoted at £5 15s per ton. Rice meal: The market is almost bare of stocks and second-hand sellers still demand £4 16s 3d ex ship terms for November-December shipments. Broken Rangoon rice, in bags, is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans remain quiet but firm at £5 5s for whole and £5 15s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is without change at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 17 6 to 8 0 0	
Russian, in bags	7 12 6 7 to 13 9	
" in mats.....	7 10 0 to 7 11 3	
Round Trieste..... (in bags) ex quay	7 17 6 to 8 0 0	
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 7 6 to 7 10 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 13 9 to 4 15 0	
" for shipment.....	4 13 9 to 4 15 0	
English	4 15 0 to 4 17 6	
Bombay	4 7 6 -	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
" " " Meal.....	6 17 6	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....	7 2 6	
" Meal "		
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta		
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 15 0 to 5 16 3	
American, Dec /Jan..... (c.i.f.)	5 8 9 to 5 10 0	
American		
Maize Gluten Meal..... .....June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice .....Spot	4 16 3	
Broken Rangoon Rice .....ex docks	4 15 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled.....	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt. each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ten lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ten lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations:—Hay, £3 10s to £3 12s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 6d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—New hay, 75s to 80s per ton; best hay, 80s to 90s per ton; other hay, 75s to 85s per ton; best old clover, 80s to 90s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed straw, 50s to 55s per ton; oats straw, 50s to 60s per ton; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s per ton.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4¾d to 5¼d; clover, 5¼d to 5¾d; straw (wheat), 3¼d to 3¾d; ditto (oat), 3¾d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Light supplies were on offer, which, however, met a quiet demand at late rates. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 63s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 36s per load.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Steady demand, and more than three-fourths of the crop is believed to have changed hands, a large quantity being placed in cold storage. Best East and Mid-Kent Goldings quoted up to 70s per cwt.

Bath and West and Southern Counties.

At a Council meeting of the above-named Society, held at Bristol, on Tuesday, the 31st ult., the President (the Earl of Radnor) was in the chair.

The death of Mr. W. J. Llewellyn, a member of Council for the Western Division, having been reported, the president moved:—"That this Council desire to place on record their sense of the loss which they have sustained by the death of their colleague, Mr. W. J. Llewellyn, who, both as a member of Council and as a Steward of Stock, rendered such good service to the Society."

Stock Prizes.

Mr. Milton Bruce, as chairman of the Stock Prize Sheet Committee, brought up the committee's report dealing with the prizes and regulations proposed for the Swindon meeting. The report recommended that to the present classes for South Devon cattle be added two classes for yearling bulls and heifers, and to the present classes for Hampshire Down sheep be added a class for ewe lambs. Also, that there be three classes added for Somerset and Dorset horn sheep. Several classes, competition in which is confined to residents in the county of Gloucester or Wilts, were recommended to be added in the heavy and light horse section, together with classes, similarly restricted, for dairy herds, to be judged on the farm to which they belong.

In the cider section, the report recommended that, instead of classifying the exhibits, as hitherto, in accordance with their alcoholic strength and the county in which they were made, prizes be offered for cider made in a certain year and previously.

The total amount offered in money prizes at Swindon (including £200 contributed jointly by the Wilts Agricultural Association and the Gloucestershire Agricultural Society, and £60 by the Education Department of the Wilts County Council), will be not less than £3,300, in addition to medals and plate.

The committee recommended that an auction sale of exhibited animals be held in the showyard during the show.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Milton Druce, seconded by Mr. Sillifant, and agreed to, power being given to the Stock Prize Sheet Committee, to accept, should they see fit, and incorporate in the list, any additional prizes that might be offered by the Swindon Local Committee, by breed societies, or others, so that the issue of the prize list might not be delayed.

Dairying.

Sir C. T. D. Acland, as chairman of the Dairy Committee, moved the adoption of the committee's report, the most important recommendations in which referred to the provision of classes in the Swindon prize list for single and double Gloucester and Wilts cheeses. The adoption of the report was seconded by Mr. Story Maskelyne and agreed to.

Poultry.

Mr. Ashcroft, as steward of poultry, moved the adoption of a series of recommendations having for their object a considerable enlargement of the number of classes hitherto provided, so as to permit of a more detailed classification of breeds. This was seconded by Colonel the Hon. C. Byng and agreed to.

Nature Study and Forestry.

Mr. Farwell, as chairman of the Science and Art Committee, moved the adoption of the Committee's report, which provided for the holding of a Nature Study and a Forestry Exhibition in connection with the Society's Swindon meeting. The committee also asked for power to arrange, if possible, for an exhibition of models of machinery and mechanical appliances to which artisans and others should be invited to contribute. The adoption of the report was seconded by Mr. Napier and agreed to.

1907 Meeting.

Mr. Edwards, on behalf of the Special (1907 Meeting) Committee, reported that the committee had received an invitation from the Mayor and Corporation of Newport for the Society to hold its 1907 exhibition in that town, and, acting upon the power vested in them by the Council, the committee had accepted the invitation, on behalf of the Society, subject to the usual requirements as to site, etc., being complied with. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Phillips, and agreed to.

Railways.

A communication was read from the President of the Board of Agriculture, notifying a correspondence he had had with the principal railway companies of the kingdom, and suggesting that if any members of the Society are experiencing difficulty in disposing of agricultural produce owing to delay in transit or heavy cost of carriage, or if any of them are adversely affected by an inequality or anomaly in rates, or by the insufficiency of facilities at their disposal for the carriage of agricultural produce by rail, they should communicate with the Board, giving particulars of the difficulties or anomalies in question, with a view to the holding of a conference between some of the members of the Society and representatives of the railway companies, and one of the inspectors of the Board.

On the motion of Colonel Parry Okeden, seconded by Mr. J. D. Allen, it was resolved to thank the President of the Board for his communication.

Horses.

A communication was read from Mr. Phillpotts Williams, of Liskeard, hon. manager of "The Brood Mare Society," asking for support for that society, which, it was stated, was established in 1903 for the purpose of obtaining suitable mares by gift or purchase and lending them to farmers and others on certain conditions, the object being to keep good brood mares in the country and restrict their wholesale exportation, and the consequent deterioration in the breed of horses in the United Kingdom.

On the motion of Major Sherston, seconded by Captain Casberd Boteler, it was resolved to inform Mr. Williams that he had the good wishes of the Council for the success of the object which his society had in view.

Newport and the 1907 Show.

A deputation from the Society, consisting of Major Sherston and Messrs. C. L. F. Edwards, H. B. Napier, C. D. Phillips, A. C. Skinner, and Thomas F. Plowman (Secretary and Editor), visited Newport (Mon) on Friday last for the purpose of inspecting the site proposed for the 1907 exhibition. The deputation was met by the Mayor, the ex-Mayor, the Town Clerk and others, who conducted the members of it to the site proposed for the exhibition. This being conveniently situated close to the town and with a tram line running to the entrance, and being suitable in other respects, was approved. Those present were entertained to luncheon by the Mayor, who assured the deputation that the Society would be very heartily welcomed at Newport, and that every effort would be made to ensure a successful meeting. The Society last visited Newport in 1888, when the show was a very successful one, both in regard to its extent and its financial result.

Carmarthenshire Chamber.

At the quarterly meeting of the Carmarthenshire Chamber of Agriculture, held at Carmarthen, on Wednesday last, under the presidency of Mr. J. W. Harries Pilroath, a comprehensive paper on the Agricultural Holdings Acts and their effect upon tenant-right, was read by Mr. John Roberts, land valuer, Towyn, who said that the last Act was comprehensive in its items of improvement, and its procedure was simple and cheap, the Board of Agriculture doing the work of the solicitor gratis should such assistance be necessary. As the right to compensation under the combined Acts was one that the tenant could not contract out of, he had no hesitation in predicting that when the general agricultural community understood its friendly provisions better the majority of tenant-right claims would be recovered by the aid of its machinery; for an arbitration under it amounted in practice to nothing more than an ordinary valuation, whilst, on the other hand, the amount of compensation would be increased very much on large holdings, and almost tenfold on small holdings, and that also without the least fear of the dreaded law suit being involved, whilst the security for the amount awarded was secure. The Act affected tenant-right in such a way as to make it welcome to good farmers and broad-minded and generous landlords. Through its influence over tenant-right the Act tended to improve the state and raise the standard of agriculture generally.

Royal Cornwall.

The report of the Council read at the annual meeting of the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Society was a most satisfactory one, the Council stating they had every reason to be gratified with the progress of the society during the past twelve months. The forty-seventh exhibition, which was held at Newquay, was very successful, and the continued popularity of the society was demonstrated by the large number of new members elected during the year. The membership now stood at 674, a much larger number than ever stood on the books before. The show at Newquay was an unqualified success in almost every department—not the least important element of success being the great interest shown in the implements and machines exhibited. The accounts for the past year showed receipts £2,054 2s.; expenditure £1,836 3s., credit balance £197 19s. At the council meeting prior to the annual meeting, the Hon. John Boscawen said that he had been speaking lately to a prominent gentleman with reference to the Bath and West of England Show. The gentleman seemed to think it was the wish of the council of the Bath and West of England Society to hold their exhibition in Cornwall. He (the speaker) said he would bring the matter before the council. Some might think it would be a great advantage for such a show to be held in the county of Cornwall, whilst others might hold an exactly opposite view. He left it with them to think over.

ADVERTISMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSFICATION.

HOME FARM, WADDESDON, BUCKS.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT ANNUAL SALE OF PRIME FAT STOCK.

Messrs. BOND & BURROWS are favoured with instructions from Miss Alice de Rothschild to SELL by AUCTION, on the Premises, on THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd, 1905, at One o'clock precisely.

90 GRAND FAT POLLED ANGUS, SHORTHORN and JERSEY BULLOCKS and HEIFERS, very ripe, of exceptional quality, and nice weights, several fit for show; 170 FAT DOWN THEAVES, EWES and TEGS of choice quality.

The Auctioneers particularly invite the attention of Butchers, Dealers, and others, to this important Unreserved Annual Sale. The Cattle are fully up to the usual high standard, many of great weights, very ripe and of excellent quality, including Five Grand Show Beasts.

Luncheon from 12 o'clock.

Conveyances will run from Thame, Aylesbury and Manor Station, for the convenience of buyers.

Catalogues with Train Service may be obtained of G. A. Sims, Esq., Winchendon; or of the Auctioneers, Thame, Oxon.

ALL INTERESTED in POTATO growing should not fail to pay a visit to A. J. SOLE'S Stand at the National Potato Society's Exhibition at the Horticultural Hall, on NOVEMBER 22nd and 23rd.

STOCK TURKEYS FOR SALE.—Pure-bred American Bronze Cockerel's and Pullets from best strains; healthy, well-marked birds. For price apply to E. MOLYNEUX, Swanmore Park, Bishop's Waltham, Hants.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW,
To be held at
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
Nov. 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th, 1905.

NATIONAL DOG SHOW,
To be held at
THE CURZON EXHIBITION HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
November 27th, 28th, and 29th, 1905.

The Company have arranged for Through Vans for the conveyance of Poultry and Pigeons, to be run to Birmingham (New Street Station), on Friday, November 24th.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

The Mark Lane Express

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Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

Live Stock Record.

THE PIG-KEEPING INDUSTRY.

Essex agriculturists have been turning their attention to what in the past has been considered one of the humbler farm industries. At Chelmsford, on the 20 ult., they invited Mr. Sanders Spencer to give them a lecture on the animals he has won a high reputation for breeding, who chose as the title of it "Pigs: Past and Present." He did not extend his historic notice to Anglo-Saxon times when England was one vast forest and the gaunt swine of the period fed very much on acorns. The contrast was sufficiently striking between the stock patronised by our grandfathers and the improved porkers and baconers, which, at the present day, are alone profitable for those who do not go in for pedigree to make a market of. Mr. Spencer told his auditors that the old-fashioned pig of from 400 lb. to 600 lb., live weight, was a creature of the past. Consumers now demanded bacon-cuts from flitches, small, mild cured, lean flesh interspersed with not too much fat. The Danes and Canadians have not been slow to study the particular kind of animal required, but British farmers have failed to note the revolutionary change, the result being that of bacon imported from across the Atlantic and Denmark appearing on English breakfast-tables far more than home produced.

When it is considered that the value of the bacon imported in 1904 was estimated at £12,832,142, and of hams £3,104,999, and that twenty years previously the imported bacon was only of the value of £6,798,803, and of the hams £1,942,078, we perceive how very industriously foreigners have been working, while British farmers have allowed this source of wealth, like that of butter, to slip through their fingers. As Mr. Spencer stated, these foreigners have sent to this country men of experience to ascertain all the more perfectly how to capture the wholesale trading provision houses. That they have worked with our own weapons there can be no question. The Danes have especially improved the quality of their baconers by making a profuse use of English pedigree boars. Even this autumn, a deputation of skilled experts has been making a tour of inspection to discover the best piggeries to draw their pedigree boars from. There can be no doubt that the Danes and other foreign producers are still actively pursuing their enterprise, and hoping by the still greater improvement of their stock, to increase their exports to this country very greatly.

Whether the Essex farmers are awake to the necessity of exerting themselves to secure a portion of the wealth now flowing out of the country has not been disclosed. But if so, it appears necessary that it should be borne in mind that it was not solely by studying the urgent requirements of our markets, improving their stock, and conforming to popular taste that the Danes succeeded so well. Their co-operating system was, after all, the chief cause, just as it had previously been when they drove English butter-producers out of their own wholesale markets. And it seems probable, that, without organisation of the most determined nature for the establishment of co-operative bacon factories in Great Britain, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to succeed in making pig-keeping for the bacon trade permanently prosperous in this country. Mr. Spencer does not appear to have told the Essex audience this, although a former lecture he delivered a few years since in another country contained a strong recommendation for such a course to be taken. Our English proprietary factories have not in the past given sufficient high prices for baconers to cause the feeding of them to yield profit. Consequently, the returns of the factory must be joined to those of pig-production for successful competition with the Danes and Americans.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Hereford bull Endale, of which we give a capital illustration on the front page of this issue, was born on December 1, 1900; sire Commerce, dam Royal Luna II., and was bred by its present owner, Mr. Peter Coats, Sheepcote, Clifford, R.S.O., Herefordshire. Endale has had a most successful show-yard career, and included in its wins this year were firsts at the Royal Dublin, Shropshire and West Midlands, Welsh National, and Hereford and Worcestershire shows, being also the champion at the last-named show.

Buenos Ayres papers just to hand contain copious reports of the recent great sales of Shorthorn cattle exported from this country in the course of the past summer to the Argentine. The Argentine trade in pedigreed Shorthorns of the best class has been exceedingly buoyant this autumn, and high prices for blood-red or dark roan bulls have been the order of the day. By far the most important of these Argentine sales was that conducted by Senors Yriondi and Co., at which the great bull Royal Emblem, the champion at the Royal Agricultural Show of England, and champion also of the Edinburgh and Birkenhead shows, was sold along with Pitlivie General II., which also won first in his class at the Edinburgh and Birkenhead shows. These bulls were both exported by Mr. Robert Taylor, of Pitlivie, Carnoustie, and of Pitlivie Chiki, Argentina, who has this year exported 500 Shorthorns to the Argentine, together with large consignments of Border Leicester and Lincoln rams. According to the *Buenos Ayres Standard*, the sale ring was simply packed to see the sale of Royal Emblem, and the sale was the most sensational of the kind that has ever been held in the Argentine, some 5,000 persons being present.

When Royal Emblem entered the ring he was cheered to the echo. The first bid for this great bull was 20,000 dols., and in a few minutes it was at 35,000 dols. Then another 1,000 dols. was put on, and then another. Under great excitement, he was knocked down for 37,000 dols., equal to £3,230, to Sir Victor Dgris. Royal Emblem, it may be noted, was bred by Mr. Dunro, Jackstown, Aberdeenshire, and was bought as a calf by the Marquis of Londonderry, from whom Mr. Taylor bought him in October, 1904. Other high prices realised by Mr. Taylor for bulls at these sales were as follows:—£2,600 for Dairyman, bred by Messrs. Cameron, Westside, Brechin; £2,008 for the home-bred Pitlivie General II.; and £919 for Unionist, bred by Mr. Anderson, Ballachroggan, Alness, and bought along with Royal Emblem from the Marquis of Londonderry.

A very choice Large White Yorkshire gilt, from the well-known prize-winning Walton herd, owned by Sir Gilbert Grenall, of Walton Hall, Warrington, was shipped from Grimsby on Tuesday last to Hamburg, to the order of Mr. A. O. T. Bennett, of Gately Hall, who personally selected the animal on behalf of a client in Germany

Mr. T. C. B. Dixon, of Barff House, Brandesburton, Hull, the well-known breeder of Lincoln Longwool sheep, has shipped thirty-two rams to Buenos Ayres this season, and hopes to ship forty more in a few weeks' time, whilst he has just sold some ewes in lamb to go into the North, and also some to go into Wales this week—surely a good testimonial to the excellence of his flock.

The secretary of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club (Mr. J. Wylie), at a meeting of the Council held last week, reported that additional donations had been received towards the prize fund, bringing the total sum up to £185 2s., which is £20 more than at the same period last year. The financial statement for the year showed a balance in hand of £469 7s. 8d., against £356 11s. 1d. last year, the profit for the past year having been £113. The membership of the Club at September 30 was 686, and a strong feeling was expressed that an endeavour should be made to raise the number to 1,000. On the motion of Mr. Shields, Dolphingston, Tranent, it was unanimously agreed to increase the secretary's salary from 100 guineas, at which it had stood for the last five years, to 125 guineas, the chairman complimenting Mr. Wylie on the very satisfactory condition of their finances, which was largely due to his indefatigable exertions on behalf of the Club. The Duke of Roxburghe was nominated as president of the Club in succession to the Duke of Portland.

Our foreign friends are still drawing very freely upon our herds of pure-bred pigs. This week I have heard of an important sale of twenty-five Large White Yorkshire sows for Austria, from that herd of world-wide repute at Holywell Manor, the property of Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son.

I have received a copy of the schedule of prizes, with regulations, etc., for the seventeenth annual dairy show of the Whitchurch (Salop) Dairy Farmers' Association, which is to be held in the Market Hall, Whitchurch, on the 14th and 15th inst. The majority of the classes are restricted to farmers within the society's radius (twenty miles from the town of Whitchurch on the Cheshire and Flintshire sides), but there are one or two open classes, and in all the prizes are very liberal, some of those for cheese having no fewer than seven prizes allotted them, ranging from £1 to £15, whilst in addition there are some specials. Entries close November 8 with the secretary, Mr. T. Nunnerley, Whitchurch, Salop.

The annual fat stock show, at Leeds, will this year be held in the large Victoria Hall and annexe in the cattle market, Copley Hill, Leeds, and, with the increased accommodation, the society are looking forward to even larger entries, and they should not be disappointed, for a most generous prize schedule has been drawn up, and should attract entries from all parts. The date of the show is December 12, 13, and 14, and entries close on December 2, with the secretary, Mr. H. Kitchen, 3, Wormald Row, Albion Street, Leeds, from whom prize-schedules, entry forms, etc., can be had.

At the annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, the council, in their report, stated that for the Grantham Exhibition in July the society had many advantages, but the attendance of the public on each show day fell much below Boston and Grimsby, and, as a consequence, they had to report a small

decrease of funds. The numerous alterations made in the prize list were announced too late to influence the entries for 1905. Further changes might still be necessary, and the matter needed careful consideration in making the preparations for the ensuing year. The income of the year, less the balance brought forward, had been £3,859, and the expenditure £3,992, showing a deficiency on the year of £133. The financial statement showed a cash balance of £742 in hand, and that the other assets of the society consisted of Consols value £1,964; show plant, etc., £390; and subscriptions outstanding. £50. The report was adopted, it being the opinion that considering what bad luck most of the agricultural shows had during the year, they had done very well, and the hope was expressed that the show at Gainsborough next year would repay the loss. Mr. J. D. Sanders, of Gainsborough, was elected chairman for the year.

Mons. Hornez, director of the *haras*, has just published his report to the French Minister of Agriculture upon the "administration des haras" for the year 1904. In 1904, the number of horses exported has been 1,989 more than those imported; the numbers being 19,464 animals exported, and 17,475 imported. These figures include all business done with Algeria; if the animals supplied to and by that colony be deducted, the figures stand as follows:—Importation, 10,387, and exported, 18,849, thus showing a difference of 8,462 head. The French import their animals chiefly from Austria, Belgium, and England, and the largest number of exports are to Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, and Italy.

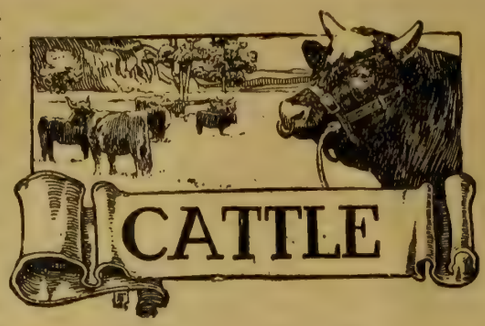
Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Oct. 28, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	61	23	3,044	5,028
				39		6,508
				179		6,049
	Outbreaks.	No.	15	11	630	1,079
				10		1,351
				23		1,491
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	18	7	713	1,115
				16		1,270
				15		1,179
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
				...		...	...
				...		...	11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...
				...		...	12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	46	43	1,765	2,284
				51		2,122
				40		1,746
	Outbreaks.	No.	31	30	1,096	1,303
				26		1,241
				24		970
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	100
				...		...	
				...		...	
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	1
				...		...	
				...		...	
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	19	26	1,140	1,280	875
				12		942	
				15		876	
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	19	811	832	553
				9		926	
				12		563	
Period.	Week ended Oct. 28, 1905						
	Corresponding week in { 1904 / 1903 / 1902						
	Total for 43 weeks in 1905						
	Corresponding period in { 1904 / 1903 / 1902						

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Sale of Store Stock at Kidderminster.—Messrs. Nock and Joseland's first annual autumn store stock sale at Kidderminster took place on October 27, and proved most successful. The entry of cattle numbered nearly 800 head and the sheep 1,400. There was a capital attendance of buyers present from London, Leamington, Birmingham, Stafford, Wolverhampton, Bridgnorth, Dudley, Stourbridge, Tenbury, Worcester, Bromsgrove and surrounding districts. Trade for the best cattle was good, but secondary qualities were a slow sale, and the sheep generally met a fair demand. A large proportion of the cattle were home bred Herefords, straight from the breeders, and this class of stock met a most satisfactory market, ten two-year-olds made from £14 15s. to £9 10s., and three-year-olds up to £14 17s. 6d. The sheep were a very fine lot, 120 in-lamb ewes making from 44s. to 53s. each, 120 cross-bred Shropshire and Hampshire wethers reaching 50s., Radnor wethers to 45s. 6d., and store lambs to 37s



Notes and Jottings.

The drought at last appears to have broken up—at least, in many parts of the country—and the sparkling springs that have already started will be greatly appreciated by stock owners in dry districts where water has had to be carted long distances for several weeks past. Not less grateful will the poor cattle be, for these seldom thrive as well when their water supply rests entirely with the men and the water-cart. At such times they are very apt either to take too much or not be able to get sufficient, and so their system becomes deranged. Grass remains very sweet and fresh though short, and in many districts hay will require to be used rather sparingly. It is ever bad to starve them, however; very false economy.

Travelling the other day the subject of abortion once more cropped up. The season appears to have become rather noted for this terrible scourge. Some breeders go as far as to say the plague should be scheduled as infectious. To do so, however, would involve great trouble in many instances. It would be difficult to begin with, to decide at what time abortion commences, and simply breaking service begins. It is quite difficult to know why some cows break service at irregular periods, going perhaps three weeks one time, a month another time, and at other times six weeks and two months. At both these latter periods it would seem as though there must have been abortion, for surely the embryo calf must have been formed at six weeks after the service.

From experience of late with several animals that have been continually breaking service, there has been frequently found something wrong internally. When fattened after refusing to hold to the bull it is not at all uncommon to find that the cow or heifer has developed some internal growth that has prevented the usual circumstance of holding to the service. When slaughtered this is discovered. In far the majority of cases, unless some extra choice or valuable animal is concerned, it is much better to accept the inevitable after three or four times of covering in season and fatten the animal off. If a heifer covering for the first time this can be done at once; if a cow in milk, fatten as soon as the milk has become so reduced as not to pay its way.

Good as the Shorthorn trade has been for months and years past, the recent sale of Mr. Jolliffe's famous herd has quite eclipsed most or all previous records of recent years. The excellent average of £120, including calves, is one to be coveted, and the district around Stratford-on-Avon has not been, and is not now one of the best in England for producing high-class Shorthorns. The blood, however, and the management make all the difference. Rarely do Irish, Scotch, and South American buyers vie with each other, as was the case at this sale, and it is well that so many breeders at home stuck to their guns long enough to prevent the American contingent taking the whole herd. The dispersion of these cattle should have good effect all round.

One lesson may be learnt, at any rate, from the success of the sale—namely, how much depends upon the sire. The old Clipper bull Chorister, a son of William of Orange, appears to have done excellent work, as seventeen of his produce in the sale realised the wonderful average of £153 12s. 2d. This great average was apparently due to the excellent quality and uniformity of the stock of this bull rather than simply to his breeding—in other words, his progeny carried their pedigrees on their backs. It is good for our great bovine friends, the red, white, and roan, that this should be so. We recollect the time when Shorthorns were sold entirely upon their pedigree on paper, and animals light fleshed, tender, and without milk appearance either went up to fabulous prices.

Those days marked the beginnings of sorrows with Shorthorn breeders, for years after that time the breed had a very bad name amongst farmers on that very account. To-day we are full of herds of Shorthorns with constitution, style, breeding, and of the very highest quality for beef-making purposes, and that can, by judicious feeding, be made equally good and useful at the pail. This is precisely what is wanted to ensure profitable stock breeding. Hitherto complaints have been made that Scottish breeders did not patronise sales of Shorthorns in England. Experiences at this memorable Stratford-on-Avon sale, however, must have dispelled any cause for complaint on that score, and it is quite probable that Scottish breeders will continue to patronise southern herds perhaps as much from obligation as choice.

The decrease in exports of live stock from Ireland this year appears to cause our Hibernian friends some uneasiness, and, doubtless, is rather a difficult subject to understand. It is easy to understand that fewer horses should have been demanded from that country, as a good number of these are exported as colts, and for young stock of that kind the demand in England and Scotland has not been very brisk, but when it comes to cattle, the decline of 27,196 between July 1 and October 31, as compared with the same period last year, is rather difficult to reason about. Yet the very dry season that has prevailed in England, extending far into the north, must have had a very deterrent effect upon requirements on this side the Channel, and, after all, the total is not very overwhelming.

The idea that has been conceived in that country of commencing a direct export business with France, may be of service for some time. It is but a few years ago when Ireland found herself overdone with store cattle, that a trade began between the northern counties of Europe, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, I believe, and many cargoes were consigned thither with, we may hope, mutual benefit. At the same time, it is worth while to give deep consideration to the fact that the present rather slow demand for young lean stock in England is due to the effects of the drought mentioned above, and that probably with a good forward spring—which we all hope to be blessed with—prices will again rise, and demand be probably insatiable, so that it would pay best to winter these surplus cattle in the Emerald Isle.

The price of second and third rate beef just now, as is generally the case, is not without its effect upon young stock that will require very long keeping. By the bye, how the dead-meat quotations, and live meat also, at Deptford show the quality of much of our imported supply. The different quotations are quite a study, and give an idea how much our pedigree stock must be needed in other countries, which probably has been the cause of the unprecedented demand for our leading beef breeds. A few of these quotations may be worth repeating in these notes as tending to show, probably, what benefit the importation of English pedigree stock has had in the counties whence the greatest numbers have been exported.

In the London Central dead-meat market we find best Scotch short sides quoted at 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lb.; American, Deptford killed, 3s. to 3s. 4d., a great difference this, but a far greater difference, proportionately, exists between American refrigerated hind quarters, which are quoted at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d., and New Zealand hind quarters, which, in the same market, are only quoted at 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. per stone. We do not know whether this great difference in the primest parts of the cattle is due to the better conditions under which the two consignments are marketed, or if due to the quality as caused by better breeding and feeding of the animals that produced that beef. We do, however, know that America has been a very large and continuous importer of our pedigree cattle, whilst New Zealand has taken but quite an incignificant number.

In the live market at Deptford New Zealand cattle, of course, are not shown, the distance being too great to admit of bringing them over at a profit, but the quotations of the different grades of American are rather startling, and show that there is still great room for improvement in some of their cattle, which means continued need of our Shorthorn, Hereford, and Angus bulls. The total supply of foreign cattle offered at Deptford last Monday appears to have been 1,391, 1,050 of which were from the United States, the remainder Canadians. The quotations for these were: States cattle, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d. per 8 lb.; Canadians, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. On the Saturday previous 2,046 States cattle and 180 Canadians were offered, the former making 3s. 9d. to 3s. 11d., and best Canadian 3s. to 3s. 2d., seconds only 2s. 10d. per 8 lb., cinking offal.

The highest quotation for these Canadians is but 4¾d. per lb., whilst the second-rate ones run to but 4¼d. per lb. It does seem strange that English and Scottish feeders should for a moment clamour for the importation of store cattle of

such a class as this, which would at once tend to give our home-produced meat a bad name, and it is quite certain those are the class of cattle we should get. Canadian farmers and feeders are much too well alive to their own interests to allow for a moment their best feeders to be sent over here, retaining only such indifferent animals for their own feeding as those quoted above. Quality in store cattle for fattening is the all-important point, making all the difference between profit and loss.

Sale of Shorthorns at York.

There was a good entry for the autumn sale of Shorthorns, held by Messrs. J. Thornton and Co., at the Wool Sheds, York, on Tuesday, Lord Henry Bentinck, of Underley, Mr. T. Atkinson, Mr. J. Harris, the executors of Mr. J. Midgley, and Mr. J. Stamper all sending a number of good young cows and heifers, as well as some capital young bulls. There was a large company present, not only of local farmers, but many breeders from a distance, as well as representatives of South America and Germany. As will be seen from the sale list, no outstanding prices were made, the highest being 70 gs., given by Mr. C. O. Hall for Messrs. Smith's Harthill Duke, the winner of a couple of first prizes at the Harthill Show, the same purchaser also taking one of the best cows—Lord Armstrong's roan Wild Duchess of Geneva 195th at 64 gs. Several animals were also purchased to go to Chili and to Germany. The sale, however, went well throughout, an average of £24 11s. being realised for the 114 lots passed through the ring. Several choice Guernseys from Mr. J. E. Ellis's herd at Scalby, near Scarborough, were forward, and these were sold at remunerative prices, Mr. Henry Williams giving 27 gs. for a two-year-old cow. A list of the chief sales is appended:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

Laurestina 65th ('Mr. C. O. Hall's), roan, c. Aug. 16, 1895; s., Duke of Albemarle 18th 63890 ..... Mr. Robson 25 Gs.

Heroine 5th (Lord Henry Bentinck's), roan, c. July 30, 1896; s., Royal Briton 64710 ..... Mr. Wright 25

Stanley Molly 3rd (Mr. T. Atkinson's), roan, c. May 25, 1897; s., Sentinel 69567 ..... Mr. C. Marshall 29

Stray Planet (Lord Henry Bentinck's), red and white, c. Nov. 30, 1897; s., Golden Treasure 67137 ..... Mr. J. H. Kelly 26

Primrose 2nd (Exors. of Mr. J. Midgley's), roan, c. June 23, 1898; s., Mariner 69071 ..Mr. Parlour 28

Lucy Raglan 2nd (Mr. J. Harris), light roan, c. July 6, 1898; s., White Prince 68806 ..Mr. G. Harrison 24

Golden Princess (Mr. J. Harr's), roan, c. Oct. 2, 1898; s., Golden Robin 68718 ....Lord Middleton 46

Waterloo Duchess (Mrs. Pinder's), red and white, c. April 4, 1899; s., Bright Prince 72100 ..... Mr. Hornsby 23

Snowdrop 4th (Exors. of Mr. J. Midgley's), roan, c. June 7, 1899; s., Mariner 69071 .....Mr. J. Noble 29

Laurestina 90th (Lord Henry Bentinck's), roan, c. Jan. 2, 1900; s., Royal Bounty 69494..Mr. J. Straker 28

Annie Benson 14th (Mr. I. Asbridge's), roan, c. April 4, 1900; s., Matchlock 70383 .....Lord Zetland 39

White Peony (Mr. J. Harris'), white, c. Sept. 2, 1900; s., Emperor of Cumberland 74487 ..... Mr E. Appleyard 24

Lady Janet (Mr. J. Harris'), white, c. Sept. 17, 1900; s., Emperor of Cumberland 74487 ..... Mr F. Appleyard 26

Rosebud 3rd (Lord Henry Bentinck's), roan, c. Sept. 10, 1900; s., Njzam 73136 ....Mr. M. Sproul 28

Freedom's Beauty (Lord Henry Bentinck's), roan, c. Dec. 26, 1900; s., Pride of Freedom 73241 ..... Mr. G. H. Proctor 30

Honeydrop (Mr. J. Harris'), red and little white, c. March 2, 1901; s., Red Butterfly 75375 ..... Mr. J. Straker 25

Morning Dew 4th (Mr W. Botterill's), roan, c. April 18, 1901; s., Look Ahead 67327 .....Mr. Riddell 23

Honey 92nd (Mr. T. Atkinson's), white, c. Aug. 14, 1901; s., Jewel Star 76919 ....Mr. J. P. Rayner 35

Primula (Mr. J. Harris'), red, c. Nov. 26, 1901; s., Quirinus 79678 .....Lord Zetland 28

Lady Muriel (Lord Henry Bentinck's), red and little white, c. Jan. 2, 1902; s., Muriel's Crown Prince 67523 .....Mr. Jackson 22

Rose of Calthwaite (Mr. J. Harr's), roan, c. Feb. 12, 1902; s., Duke of Cumberland 13th 78738 ..... Mr. H. Dudding 23

Peerless of Petteril (Mr. J. Harris'), roan, c. March 30, 1902; s., Duke of Cumberland 13th 78738 ..... Mr. H. Dudding 26

Jessica (Mr. A. E. Unna's), red, c. June 5, 1902; s., Magna Charta 77166 .....Mr. J. H. Kelly 20

Honeywort (Mr. J. H. Harris'), red, c. April 7, 1903; s., Duke of Cumberland 13th 80511 ..Mr. Mitcham 20

Morone Rose (Mr R. Hornsby's), red, c. March 29, 1904; s., Crown Prince 76452 ....Mr. R. P. Cooper 28

Gay Lillan (Mr. G. H. Procter's), white, c. May 18, 1904; s. Dominican 8880 .....Mr. W. R. Trotter 24

Wild Duchess of Geneva 195th (Lord Armstrong's), roan, c. May 19, 1904; s., Emperor of Oxford 7th 74488 .....Mr. C. O. Hall 64

Waterloo Daisy 14th Mr. R. Blezard's), red, c. July 12, 1904; s. Lord Lenton 72890..Mr. A. T. Gordon 39

York's Certainty Duchess 19th (Mr. R Blezard's), red, July 17, 1904; s., Lord Lenton 72890 ..... Mr. C. O. Hall 47

Olive Princess (Mr. R. Hornsby's), roan, c. July 18, 1904; s., Crown Prince 76452 .....Mr. Young 20

Birdsall Empress 3rd (Lord Middleton's), red, c. Aug. 12, 1904; s., Aaaron 75978 .....Mr. R. P. Cooper 45

Kussie 19th (Mr. J. W. Harrison's), roan, c. Oct. 5, 1904; s., Royal Emperor Oxford 15th 84608 ..... Mr. J. Parsley 23

Lily of the Dale (Mr. T. Atkinson's), white, c. Jan. 10, 1905; s., Chewton Victor 6th 80686 ..... Capt. Harrison 36

Anona (Mr. J. W. Harrison's), roan, c. Jan. 20, 1905; s., Royal Emperor Oxford 15th 84608 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper 41

BULLS.

Prince Charlie 84366 (Mr. W. Thompson's), white, c. Jan. 20, 1902; s., Heirloom 79050 ..... Mr. H. V. Machen 25

Warrior's Star (Mr. H. W. Hancock's), roan, c. Aug. 4, 1903; s., Electrician 83411 ....Mr. J. H. Kelly 23

Barmpton Duke 87872 (Mr .C. Bell's), red and little white, c. March 9, 1904; s., Commanding Officer 15th 88233 .....Mr. A. Bucka, Germany 50

Fashoda 88570 (Hon. H. W. Fitzwilliam's), roan, c. April 13, 1904; s., Killerby Squire 83811 ..... Mr. A. Bucka, Germany 31

Wath Wrangler 90476 (Messrs. Whitworth, Son, and Nephew's), red and white, c. April 20, 1904; s., Sherborne Monarch 87343 .....Mr. J. Midgley 25

Waterloo Baron 9th 90460 (Mr. R. Blezard's), red and little white, c. April 4, 1904; s., Crystal Quentin 76459 ..... Mr. A. Bucka 34

Park Swell 89515 (Mr. T. D. Peacock's), roan, c. May 15, 1904; s. Crown Prince 76452..Mr. Dorman 25

Wild Duke of Geneva 252nd (Lord Armstrong's), red and white, c. May 20, 1904; s., Emperor of Oxford 7th 74488 .....Mr. Young 33

Syracuse 2nd (Marquis of Zetland's) red and white, c. July 4, 1904; s., Wild Duke of Geneva 29th 82633 .....Mr. C. Smith 40

Villager (Mr. T. Pears'), red and little white, c. July 10, 1904; s., Angler 82717 .....Mr. A. Bucka 21

Birdsall Arabist 87960 (Lord Middleton's), roan, c. Aug. 9, 1904; s., Aaron 75978 .....Mr. Milligan 42

Waterloo Cherry King (Mrs. Pinder's), red and little white, c. Aug. 12, 1904; s. Airedale King 87784 ..... Col. Ramsden 21

Buttercrambe Captain (Exors. of Mr. J. Midgley's), red, c. Aug. 15, 1904; s., Light Infantry 77009 ..... Mr. T. R. Carle 28

Merchant (Mr. T. Pears'), red, c. Aug. 15, 1904; s., Angler 82717 .....Mr. Lennard 25

Bury Victor's Champion (Mr. T. Atkinson's), red and little white, c. Aug. 26, 1904; s., Chewton Victor 6th 80686 .....Mr. S. S. Berger 30

Harthill Duke (Messrs. J. and G. H. Smith's), dark roan, c. Sept. 20, 1904; s. Birdsall Artisan 82881 ..... Mr. C. O. Hall 70

Steerforth (Mr. W. Botterill's), red roan, c Oct. 3, 1904; s., Chief Grandee 80692 Mr. H Brooksbank 20

Rosario (Mr. T. B. Earle's), dark roan, c. Oct. 10, 1904; s., Ganger 81114 .....Mr. Bruce's Exors. 20

Lord Baltic (Messrs. Medd and Moon's), white, c. Oct. 16, 1904; s., Park Lad 89514 ....Mr. Donald 20

British Star (Messrs. Medd and Moon's), red and little white, c. Oct. 17, 1904; s., Park Lad 89514 ..... Mr. Taylor 26

Guy Fawkes (Mr. T. Leefe's), roan, c. Nov. 5, 1904; s., Crown Prince 76452 .....Mr. T. Roberts 22

Emperor (Mr. R. Robinson's), red and little white, c. Nov. 8, 1904; s., Merry Emperor 86618 ..... Mr. Galtry 20

Cartoon (Mr. R. Hornsby's), roan, c. Nov. 16, 1904; s., Crown Prince 76452 .....Mr. Marshall 20

Carlos (Mr. R. Hornsby's), red and white, c. Dec. 1, 1904; s., Crown Prince 76452 .....Mr. Parkinson 20

Swinton Chief (Capt. C. Behrens'), red, c. Dec. 15 1904; s., Drayman 83322 .....Mr. Petch 31

Birk's Viceroy (Exors. of Mr. J. Midgley's), roan, c. Jan. 2, 1905; s., Light Infanry 77009 ..Mr. Beckett 20

Highfield Lad (Exors. of Mr. T. Stamper's), roan, c. Jan. 5, 1905; s., British Crown 85438..Mr. Raingill 30

Potto Squire (Mr. F. Wilson Horsfall's), red and little white, c. March 29, 1905; s., Rufus ..... Mr. G. Harrison 20

Artisan (Messrs. Whitworth, Son, and Nephew's), roan, c. April 30, 1905; s., Birdsall Artist 82888 ..... Mr. Johnson 21

Whirlwind (Messrs. Whitworth, Son, and Nephew's), rich roan, c. May 31, 1905; s., Wath Windfall 90475 ..... Mr. Allison 26

GUERNSEY HEIFERS.

Wortleberry 2nd 6047, fawn, c. Sept. 3, 1903; s., Broomflower 1446 .....Mr. H. Williams 19

Patience 6th 5955, fawn, c. Oct. 10, 1903; s., Broomflower 1446 .....Mr. H Williams 27

Winter Queen 2nd 6045, fawn, c. Oct. 19, 1903; s., Broomflower 1446 .....Mr. C. O. Eaton 22

Bilberry 9th 6073, fawn, c. July 1, 1904; s., Broomflower 1446 .....Mr. W. Fleming 18

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
114 Shorthorns	24 11 0	2,799 6 0
6 Guernseys	20 11 3	123 7 6
		2,922 13 6

Scotch Shorthorns and Aberdeen-Angus.

The sales of pure-bred cattle have again come to a close, and the *Banffshire Journal* gives tables showing the results which have attended the year's transactions as they have affected the two leading breeds cultivated in Scotland—the Shorthorn and the Aberdeen-Angus breeds. Of both breeds there were sold during the year 2,621 cattle of all ages, representing a total value of £83,874 12s. 6d., and an average of £32. Last year there were sold 2,540 cattle at an average of £34 17s. 2d., which, as noted, was the highest average made by pure-bred cattle in Scotland within the last twenty years. The nearest approach to it was in 1899, when 2,189 animals sold at an average of £30 1s. 1d. In view of the very pronounced partiality foreign buyers have shown for Shorthorn cattle, and of the limited extent to which the Aberdeen-Angus breed has benefited in the extensive export trade of the year, one would not natually expect that this fall in prices as between this year and last year is wholly accounted for by a falling-off in the general average of Shorthorn cattle. Indeed, they have fallen no less than £8 14s. 8d. per head as compared with last year, a few shillings of a rise in the general average of bulls being counterbalanced by a fall in the general average of all other classes of the breed. An average of £43 0s. 5d. for 1,202 head must, however, be considered highly gratifying, and is, indeed, next to the great average of £51 15s. 1d. of last year, the highest average made by cattle of the breed during the past quarter of a century, for which period we have year by year provided statistics.

Aberdeen Angus cattle have, on the other hand, increased their average by 15s. 10d. It is not a very large increase to turn last year's average of £21 17s. 1d. into an average this year of £22 12s. 11d., but it is little short of a feat for the breed that this increase should have to be recorded at all, considering the circumstances, and the disadvantages under which the breed has laboured during the past year. The sales both in England and Scotland were unusually numerous, and though a few animals found their way during the year to South America, New Zealand, and South Africa, there was to all intents and purposes no foreign outlet. Ireland also provided a smaller market than usual, and thus the market was a home one in a very marked degree.

The little rift in the cloud which for the past year or two has bedimmed Aberdeen-Angus interests must be set down partly no doubt as a reflex action of the briskness of trade in Shorthorn cattle, but in a greater measure to the inherent qualities of the breed itself, as the best race of beeving cattle the country can produce, and accordingly the leading race of cattle for the ordinary purposes of the Scottish breeder and feeder. It is to be hoped, for the sake of the very large interests involved, that the rift in the cloud may widen until there may be reached again those halcyon days of the early eighties, when the Aberdeen-Angus transactions of the year brought averages exceeding by a good deal even the highest record for the favourites of the present day—the Reds, the Whites, and the Roans.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
SHORTHORNS.		
780 Bulls	41 18 7	32,706 16 0
120 Cows	39 18 7	4,791 13 6
63 Two-year-old heifers	61 2 4	3,850 7 0
133 Yearling heifers ..	44 15 11	5,958 4 6
106 Heifer calves	41 15 6	4,428 7 6
1,202 head	43 0 5	51,735 8 6
ABERDEEN-ANGUS.		
776 Bulls	22 6 10	17,338 18 6
223 Cows	26 2 8	5,828 0 6
140 Two-year-old heifers	25 16 7	3,616 4 0
224 Yearling heifers ..	20 13 5	4,631 0 6
56 Heifer calves	12 18 11	725 0 6
1,419 head	22 12 11	32,139 4 0
BOTH BREEDS.		
1,202 Shorthorns	43 0 5	51,735 8 6
1,419 Aberdeen-Angus ..	22 12 11	32,139 4 0
2,621 head	32 0 0	83,874 12 6

The Canadian Cattle Embargo.

At a conference of co-operators and others promoted by Perth, Forfar, and Aberdeen Co-operative Association, held in Dundee, Mr. Peter Glasse, chairman of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Defence Association, who presided, said Mr. Fellowes, Minister of Agriculture, had just stated that he would not likely be in office next year, and they must, therefore, see to it that his successor was one who would support the removal of the embargo.

Mr. William Henderson, Coupar-Angus, said there could be no doubt that this was a consumers' question, and he believed if the matter were submitted to them they would be found to be in favour of the removal of the embargo. He calculated that farmers had been prevented from earning six millions sterling by the restrictions, and he believed the embargo, coupled with the reduction in the turnip acreage and the reduced supplies of potatoes and grain, had had the general effect of deteriorating the land and depopulating country districts. Then they knew nothing about the inspection of the meat that came in tins, of extracts of meat, and of meat that came chilled, and therefore it was of the utmost importance to the consumer that the supplies should be brought in in a live state, so that they could be properly inspected. The fact was the Board of Agriculture had one end in view, and that was to protect the breeders.

Lord Provost Barrie, Dundee, moved a resolution in favour of the amendment of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1896, so as to admit of the entry into this country of cattle from Canada without the animals being subject to slaughter at the port of landing, and this was carried unanimously, as also was one to the effect that the meeting should do all in its power to assist in having the embargo removed.

Sale of Red Polls at Ipswich.

The annual sale of pedigree Red Polled cattle, held at Ipswich Drill Hall, took place on Tuesday, when 65 cows, heifers, and bulls were catalogued. The class for bulls was judged by Mr. Fred Smith, of Woodbridge, and the prizes were awarded to Mr. R. Eaton White and the trustees of the late Duke of Hamilton. There was a large attendance of buyers, including representatives from Surrey, Cheshire, and Lincolnshire; but prices were only moderate, the top being 26 guineas, obtained twice, once for a

cow and the other for a bull. The next best price was 24 guineas, and only four others made 20 guineas or over.

Sale of Messrs. Lewtas's and Halsall's Shorthorns.

On Thursday last the small entire herds of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, the property of Mr. M. Lewtas, of Stalmine Grange, Poulton le Fylde, and Mr. T. P. Halsall, of Mawdesley, near Ormskirk, were submitted for sale by Messrs. Thornton and Co., at Stalmine Grange. There was a good local company, and very satisfactory competition was forthcoming for most of the lots. Several of Mr. Lewtas's animals were prize winners, and although those from Mawdesley had not been exhibited, they were mostly bred from prize stock. A handsome show cow, Stalmine Lavender, was bought by Mr. Rowland at 46 gs., the same buyer getting her roan cow calf at 20 gs. Mr. Tong, a neighbouring farmer, sent over a very fine two-year-old bull for sale, which realised the top price of the afternoon, going at 66 gs. to Mr. J. Green, of Calwich, Derbyshire. The following were the best prices:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs
Scotch Pearl (Mr. Lewtas's), red and white, c. Jan. 10, 1895; s. British Cheer 62222 .....Mr. W. Heaton	29
Baroness Caroline (Mr. Halsall's), red, s. Jan. 13, 1896; s. Telemachus 26th 66421 ....Mr E. Harwood	20
Welcome Pansy (Mr. Lewtas's), roan, c. March 17, 1896; s. Welcome Prince 66519 .....Mr. E. Harwood	20
Vine (Mr. Halsall's), roan, c. Nov. 19, 1896; s. Fairy King 65479 .....Mr. E. Harwood	20
Inglewood Rose (Mr. Lewtas's), roan, c. Jan. 31, 1898; s. Inglewood Pearl 68796 .....Mr. R. Hull	26
Red Daisy 6th (Mr. Lewtas's), red, c. February 18, 1899; s. Inglewood Pearl 68796 .....Mr. T. Corless	20
Catseye 4th (Mr. Halsall's), roan, c. March 2, 1899; s. Bordeaux 70007 .....Mr. E. Harwood	24
Roan Madeline (Mr. Lewtas's), roan, c. Oct. 24, 1900; s. Scotch Friar 75589 .....Mr. E. Harwood	28
Wesham Girl (Mr. Lewtas's), red and little white, c. March 1, 1902; s. Coronet 78642 ....Mr. W. Fleming	21
Stalmine Lucretia (Mr. Lewtas's), red, c. March 31, 1902; s. Milord 79440 .....Mr. F. J. Steward	35
Lady Augusta (Mr. Halsall's), red and little white, c. June 24, 1902; s. Rotherfield Augustus 77692 Mr. E. Harwood	27
Catseye 7th (Mr. Halsall's), roan, c. July 29, 1902; s. Viscount Barrington 5th, 80185 ..Mr. E. Harwood	27
Countess 75th (Mr. Halsall's), red roan, c. August 1, 1902; s. Bapton Victor's Champion 76084 Mr. E. Harwood	39
Stalmine Ladylove (Mr. Lewtas's), red roan, c. Jan. 3, 1903; s. Prince of Boyndie 79628 ....Mr. W. Felming	24
Stalmine Lady (Mr. Lewtas's), roan, c. March 20, 1903; s. Rosedale Beau 2nd 82105 .....Mr. T. B. Silcock	49
Stalmine Lucretia 2nd (Mr. Lewtas's), red roan, c. July 5, 1903; s. Rosedale Beau 2nd 82105 Mr. S. Rowland	46
Her roan C.C., c. Sept. 25, 1905; s. Overthwaite 84274 Mr. S. Rowland	20
Duchess of Wellington 30th (Mr Halsall's), roan, c. July 8, 1903; s. Hale Knight 83661 ..Mr. E. Harwood	40
Ursulina 41st (Mr. Halsall's), red, c. August 13, 1903; s. Fin de Siècle 83477 .....Mr. E. Harwood	33
Wesham Rosedale (Mr. Lewtas's), red roan, c. Feb. 12, 1904; s. Prince of Boyndie 79628 ....Mr. G. Bradley	32
Stalmine Lily (Mr. Lewtas's), white, c. March 3, 1904; s. Elvetham Chance 83415 .....Mr. J. Green	31
Stalmine Lucilla (Mr. Lewtas's), red, c. June 15, 1904; s. Prince of Boyndie 79628 ..Mr. S. Rowland	21
Stalmine Lass 2nd (Mr. Lewtas's), rich roan, c. Dec. 1, 1904; s. Elvetham Chance 83415 .....Mr. Green	40
Lady Adonis (Mr. Halsall's), red, c. Dec. 16, 1904; s. Baron Telemachus 82816 .....Mr. E. Harwood	37

BULLS.

Marigold Pride 86553 (Mr. C. J. Tong's), red, c. Jan. 31, 1903; s. Woodfold Alexander 80230..Mr. J. Green	66
Toulbrick Royal Hero (Mr. J. E. Renshaw's), red, c. Nov. 21, 1903; s. Underley Hero 5th 84935 Mr. F. J. Steward	38
Diamond Victor (Mr. Halsall's), roan, c. Dec. 25, 1903, s. Mawdsley Duke 84097 .....Mr. E. Harwood	19
Stalmine Lavender (Mr. Lewtas's), rich roan, c. June 15, 1904; s. Elvetham Chance 83415 Mr. E. Harwood	25
Jester (Mr. Halsall's), red roan, c. Dec. 16, 1904; s. Baron Telemachus 82816 .....Mr. F. J. Steward	20
Bacchus (Mr. Halsall's), roan, c. January 6, 1905; s. Hale Knight 83661 .....Mr. G. Bradley	20

SUMMARY.

	Average. £ s. d.		Total. £ s. d.
35 Cows	26 1 1	....	911 18 6
14 Bulls	20 11 0	....	287 14 0
49 Head	24 9 5	....	1,199 12 6

Islington Cattle Market.—At a meeting of the City of London Corporation, held on Thursday, the Cattle Markets Committee brought up a report suggesting that steps should be taken forthwith to obtain Parliamentary powers to dispose on building lease of certain land belonging to the Islington Cattle Market, as circumstances might from time to time render expedient; that private slaughterhouses at the Market should be abolished, and public abattoirs erected at a cost of £30,000, and that the Committee should have authority to take these steps by promoting a Bill in Parliament next session. Mr. Dove, the chairman, said owing to the altered conditions of the cattle trade, the Corporation had been losing from £4,000 to £7,000 a year on the Islington Market for some time past. It was estimated that the construction of abattoirs would bring in a profit of £4,200 a year. After discussion the report of the Committee was referred back for further consideration.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

I wonder if any of the old Devonshire pack horses are still to be found. They were a wonderfully hardy and useful sort, not unlike the Cleveland Bay, though scarcely possessing the size of the northern breed. John Lawrence has nothing to say about them, neither has Nimrod; and Professor Ridgeway does not mention them in the book on the "Origin of the Thoroughbred Horse." I only remember seeing one, at one of the Crystal Palace shows some years ago, and he was a very useful short-legged, powerful horse, bay, with white markings; but I cannot say whether all his legs were white. I have been told by an old Devonshire man that the Devonshire Pack Horse was always bay with white legs and a white star, and that on occasion he was a very useful hunter indeed. There was also in Northumberland in the early part of the nineteenth century, a Chapman breed similar in every respect to the Cleveland Bay, only that their legs were white instead of black. It may also be noted here that in some of the East Moor Dales the Cleveland Bay was known as the Chapman horse, and until quite lately prizes were given for Chapman mares, etc., at the Danby Agricultural Society's show.

The Devonshire Pack Horse and the Northumberland Chapman Horse, with their white markings, raise a very interesting question. Professor Ridgeway's theory is that the origin of our thoroughbred horse is the Libyan Horse, who was himself the progenitor of the Arab, and, I think it may fairly be stated that he has established this theory. Now, according to Professor Ridgeway, the best Libyan horses were bright bay with white stars and white legs; exactly the same colouring as the Devonshire Pack Horse and the Northumberland Chapman Horse. Now it is well-known that long before the Roman invasion, a considerable trade was carried on between Britain and North Africa, and what so likely as that some of these Libyan horses should be brought over at the instance of British chiefs? These, breeding with the native mares, might easily result in the Devonshire Pack Horse.

But whence was the Northumberland Chapman derived? It is quite certain that there was no trade between Northumberland and the North African merchants. We have nothing, then, to fall back upon, so far as I know, but the Roman legions. It has been suggested, and the theory is a very plausible one, that the Cleveland Bay is descended from Barbs, and that these Barbs were brought over by the Crispinian horse, which was stationed at Doncaster. This is likely enough, but we are left with the awkward question to answer: Where do the black points of the Cleveland Bay come from, if, as is most likely, the Crispinian legion was mounted on bay horse with white legs? It is, of course, possible that the black points on which Cleveland Bay breeders prided themselves so much, was a subsequent development. Indeed, it is very likely that it was. At first this might have been accidental, and then, when it found appreciation, it might have been carefully cultivated. At any rate, it was the boast of Cleveland Bay breeders in the eighteenth century that there was not a single white hair to be found on them.

Professor Ridgeway has a remarkable theory respecting colour, and it is only fair to say that he has made out a very strong case in support of it, if he has not proved it outright. Before, however, accepting it in its entirety, I should like to study it again carefully, for I know from practical experience what a difficult question that of colour is. One of Professor Ridgeway's theories is that black horses are all the ultimate result of crossing the North African, or Libyan horse, with the common horse of Northern Europe, and he brings a very considerable amount of interesting evidence in support of his theory which I have not space at command to reproduce, or even epitomise. There is, however, practical evidence of the correctness of his theory, or rather I should say there was in the Yorkshire clean-legged cart horse, a sturdy, active horse with good shoulders that was the foundation of weight carrying hunter breeding in the south-east part of the county as the Cleveland Bay was in the north-east. This horse was black, and seldom was more than 16 hands high—from 15 hands 3 inches to 16 hands being the normal height of the ordinary working horse. Stallions might be a little bigger.

This breed I knew a little of in my early days; but even then it was beginning to get out of favour. "Not big enough for the towns" was the verdict of the dealers; and, of course, the market had to be met. So the Yorkshire or Holderness cart horse,* as Marshall calls him, was lost by crossing with the heavier and coarser draught horse of Lincolnshire. The Northumberland Vardy Horse was no doubt very similar in character, and it is on record that on one of these Vardy horses a well-known Shorthorn breeder, whose weight with his saddle was over 19 st., was wont to ride from his farm near Darlington to Newcastle market and back in a day. Of course, he started in the early hours of the morning, and it was midnight or near it when he got home.*

I made several attempts to trace the history of the Vardy horse many years ago, but met with no success. The late Sir Jacob Wilson had seen a few in his younger days, and was enthusiastic in their praise, but most of the little he knew about them was at second-hand, and consisted of such incidents as that which I have related in the preceding paragraph. The prevailing colour of the Vardy horse was black, and it is interesting to note that the practical disappearance of the Vardy and the Holderness carthorse is practically coeval with the complaints as to the scarcity of home-bred, weight-carrying hunters.

One of the last of the Holderness cart mares; I remember, was owned by that fine judge of horses and capital sportsman, the late William Holtby, of Rotsea Manor. Of her I know but little, and I only saw her once. But her offspring by Waveney were of the very best. And nothing went better over the deep ploughs of Holderness than they did. Mr. Holtby was a very "hard" man, and rode right up to hounds, and his home-bred ones never failed him when hounds ran fast and far.

Marshall had a bitter hatred for the Holderness carthorse. Says he: "Farmers are most assuredly wrong when they give encouragement to the Fen breed, the 'Howden Mack' of black carthorses, which I am sorry to see worming their way into the Vale. The breed of grey rats with which this island has of late years been overrun, are not a greater pest to it than the breed of black fen horses; at least, whilst cattle remain scarce as they are at present, and while the flesh of horses remains to be rejected as human food." He goes on to say that "a breed of horses better calculated for eating than working, and whose main tendency is to render their drivers as sluggish as themselves, are ill-adapted to the present rents of the Vale." It is a matter of regret that Marshall does not more particularly describe the horses which he admires so much, but it is with him as with so many of the writers about horses both before and after him, they describe what they dislike or what comes from a distance, and leave the well known as being too familiar to need careful description.

Marshall recommends his farmer friends of the Vale of Pickering to use the coach-horse for ploughing and oxen for draught, and somewhere he talks of the increasing value of coaching horses as making them expensive to use on the farm. There are more unlikely things than that the increasing value of coach-horses, and that they did increase in value very rapidly from 1780 to 1820, does not need insisting upon, was the reason for farmers taking to the "Howden mack" of carthorses, which were such an abomination to Marshall. The latter we have seen were practically driven out by the demand for a weightier horse for town work and by the competition of the Clydesdale. And now, when there seems every reason to think that a good

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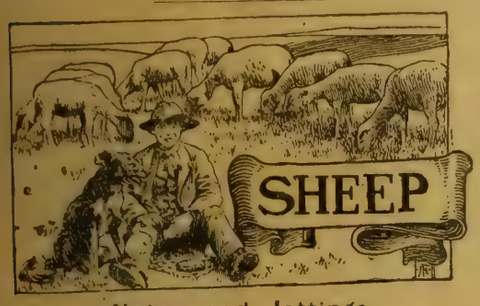
* I have somewhere in my possession a letter in which the name of the gentleman and full particulars of his journey are given; but a letter written twenty years ago is not easily found. I think it was one of the Collings.

† Sort, species.

‡ Vale of Pickering.

deal of our heavy traffic will be done by motor vehicles, we are lamenting the loss of those breeds which were the best foundation for the serviceable half-bred horse.

THE LOOKER-ON.



Notes and Jottings.

Flock owners who have pure-bred flocks which are not yet registered should take note of the fact that there is a strong tendency amongst registered flock owners to stop the entry of unregistered sheep into the different flock books.

The Lincoln flock book will close on January 1 next, the Hampshire Down will close on December 31, 1906, and notice is given of a resolution which, if carried, will effect the same purpose in the Southdown book on December 31 next year. It is a matter open to question whether or not this step is correct. It is perfectly true that every flock owner has had ample time to make up his mind, but, even admitting this, there is something to be said in favour of the system adopted by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association—namely, that which requires the exclusive use of registered sires in the flock from four or five years previous to its being eligible for registration after inspection has been satisfied.

Under the latter system there is the inducement offered to those not registered to purchase registered sires in order to become eligible for registration, and thus to some extent provide a market for registered rams, but once definitely close the flock book this inducement will be done away with. The closer attention being given to pedigree sheep breeding is mainly the reason of the more stringent rules now in force, as well as the closing of the books. The flock owner already registered is quite justified in his contention that so long as it is possible for any flock to become a registered one, they are at a disadvantage when such flocks can be registered immediately previous to dispersal, but surely some arrangement short of actual closure could be devised to prevent the registration of flocks for the purpose of sale. To those who have for the past twenty years or so been firm adherents of the registration of sheep, the present position is most gratifying. That the present position would eventually come about most of the early advocates for registration believed, but few, if any, anticipated it to come so quickly.

There are still a few who contend the results secured are hardly commensurate with the expense, etc., but here the facts are absolutely the other way. Take the result of the export demand for stud rams, etc., for the past year, and compare it with any similar period, say, from ten to twenty years back, the facts ascertained will more distinctly than words can express prove the excellent result that registration has brought about. The recent meeting of the Southdown Society was a notable one, for no less than seventeen new members were elected. The breeders in the Southdowns are at last waking up to the fact of the need of greater care in breeding being taken, and it is satisfactory to find several well-known flock owners included in the list of new members.

If the closing of flock books is adopted for this breed, there will then arise the necessity of being able to prove beyond dispute whether or not any sheep is a registered one. So far as regards that portion of the Southdowns that are trade marked there will be no difficulty, but how will the remainder be able to be identified? This is a point that must sooner or later be taken in hand by flock masters in all those societies in which registered sheep are not officially trade marked. It will be a difficult matter to decide upon, but it is one that will have to be done some road or other. The simplest way out of the difficulty is to officially trade mark all registered sheep, and to adopt that plain, but clear, rule of the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Society—namely, that no sheep, no matter how bred or by whom bred, is a registered sheep except the same be clearly trade marked by the society's official.

The National Sheep Breeders' Council, at its meeting this week, adopted two excellent resolutions, one asking that the Royal Agricultural Society should put sheep breeders upon the same footing as those of horses, cattle, and swine; namely, make it one of the conditions of entry that all animals entered for the sheep prizes in the pure bred classes should be eligible for, or entered in their respective flock books; and the other that all judges in the pure bred sheep classes at the Royal and other leading county shows, should be selected from the judges' lists of the different sheep societies.

These resolutions are both worthy of adoption, because, so far as regards the first, there ought to be no sheep exhibited at the national show of England except the same is eligible for export to any country as a stud animal; this they cannot be, unless entered in their several flock books, at any rate, so far as regards the Argentine. This being the principal source of the export demand at the present time makes the matter an urgent one.

As regards the selection of judges, the contention of the breed societies indicated by the terms of the resolution amounts to this: That exhibitors of pure bred sheep ask for the judges selected to award the premiums at shows should be men fully acquainted with the breed they adjudicate upon, and who have the full confidence of the exhibitor. Viewed in this light, there ought to be no real objection to the full adoption of the principle.

One of the most striking features of the reports of the American shows this autumn has been the very few imported sheep that have been given in the award lists. More probably than not, particularly amongst the classes for aged rams and ewes, many British sheep have been exhibited and the fact not noted; but when it comes to the classes for yearlings and lambs, the number of imported sheep mentioned amongst the winners is the smallest noted for very many years.

At Springfield show, one of the most important in the States, the following English breeders were represented by winning sheep:—In the Shropshire classes—Messrs. R. P. Cooper, A. Tanner, T. S. Minton, E. Nock; in the Oxford Downs—Messrs. J. T. Hobbs, A. Brassey, M.P., and W. A. Treweek; in the South Downs—H.M. the King, the Earl of Cadogan, and Mr. C. Adeane; and in the Cotswolds—Mr. W. T. Garne.

It is satisfactory to find that the Central Chamber of Agriculture, at its meeting this week, again urged upon the Government the necessity of passing the Dog Bill at once. The Governmental neglect of the agricultural interests is a matter of regret, particularly in connection with this matter, for all that is really wanted is power over the uncontrolled dog provision for the strict enforcement of the Dog Tax, and the immediate slaughter of all dogs for which the tax has not been paid. The damage inflicted upon flockowners by dogs is enormous, and as it arises very largely from the lax manner in which the Dog Tax is enforced, increased supervision is necessary on the part of those whose duty it is to collect the tax.

At Newark November Fair, held on Wednesday, beasts were very numerous, but proved a drug in the market. Two-year-old heifers made about £10, and two to three year old steers £12 to £15. Messrs. E. Bailey and Son sold by auction eight bulls, which made 8 gs. to 15 gs. In the same fair the same auctioneers penned nearly 900 lambs, and the principal prices were:—70 from Mr. Dickins, Newark, at 31s. 6d. to 40s.; 30 from Mr. Barnes, Staunton, average 37s.; 20 from Mr. Chapman, Spelford, at 40s.; 23 from Mr. Stangor, Stubton, at 35s. to 41s.; Mr. Hunt, Girton, made up to 45s. for his consignment. Messrs. Bailey and Sons' sales amounted to £2,331 7s. 3d.

Burton Horse Fair.—The annual winter horse fair at Burton-on-Trent was held on the 28th and 30th ult., a large portion of Horninglow Street, in the centre of the town, being lined with animals. Owing to the periodical local horse sales and other causes the fair shows signs of decadence. Up to a century ago the fair was one of the best and largest in the kingdom. It then extended over nine days, and concluded with a huge pleasure fair. It was known as the Fair of St. Modwen, Burton's patron saint, and was granted to the abbey by King John in 1200. This year animals of really good quality were few and far between. Farm workers fetched 27 gs. and 30 gs., and Welsh ponies from £5 upwards.

South Devon Sheep.

The council of the South Devon Flock Book Association met at Plymouth on October 28, when some interesting statements were made concerning the treatment of South Devon sheep at the Royal and Smithfield shows.

First a discussion took place upon the necessity of the breed making a full entry at the Royal Agricultural Society's show. It was agreed that until the breed was properly represented at the national show of the country it would not stand a fair chance in competition with other breeds so exhibited, in the export demand, and it was also urged that the society, representing no less than 213 registered flocks, ought to receive due recognition as a separate breed in the Royal Show, and it was resolved unanimously "That the Royal Agricultural Society be asked to give a full classification for the South Devon sheep at their next show; that in the event of these classes being given, the council of the South Devon Flock Book Association have every reason to anticipate that many of the 233 members of their society will become members of the Royal Agricultural Society in order to support such classes."

It was resolved to ask the National Sheep Breeders' Association's council to support the resolution.

The chairman (Mr. E. H. Hoskins) remarked that now they were asking the Royal Agricultural Society to give them separate classes for their breed, it would be only right that members interested in the breed should give more support to the Royal Agricultural Society. Eight out of the seventeen members present agreed to become members of the Royal Agricultural Society, subject to the classification asked for being granted; and it was agreed that the secretary should take means to ascertain whether any members other than those present would become members of the Royal Agricultural Society upon the terms mentioned.

A number of new members were then elected and inspectors of new flocks appointed.

Afterwards a discussion took place upon the treatment received by the owners of South Devon sheep at the Smithfield show, and letters were read from Messrs. J. W. Hallett and J. P. Matthews. The principal grievance was that the judge appointed for South Devon sheep was a judge not connected with the breed, and it was felt that the breed was of sufficient importance to have for itself one of its own judges; in fact, there are many smaller breeds represented at Smithfield that have a special judge. The secretary was directed to forward the following resolution to the secretary of the Smithfield Show:—

"That this council regrets that the council of the Smithfield Club have not selected from the South Devon Flock Book Association's judges' list a judge to judge the South Devon sheep at their show in 1905, and beg to point out that, entirely owing to this fact, several entries of the breed that would have been sent for competition at that show have been disposed of; and this council asks that in future years one of the judges included in their official list may be elected to award the prizes offered for South Devon sheep, a breed now represented by a society with a membership of 233, and having 213 flocks recorded in its flock book."

The question of colouring of show sheep, raised by Mr. Smale, did not receive support from the Council, as it was felt that whilst there were objections to the practice, each breeder must have liberty of action, in being able to exhibit his sheep in that condition which he himself considered most advantageous to the sheep and to his flock. Certain complaints having been received in connection with members not keeping to the rules re the individual registration of rams or ram lambs, etc., it was pointed out that that had in many cases occurred from inadvertence, and the council resolved unanimously that Rule 3, Section c, must be strictly adhered to. It provides that every owner of an entered flock must enter individually in the flock book, before they pass out of his control, all rams or ram lambs, used, let, or sold for breeding purposes. It was further resolved, to prevent misunderstanding, that no flock number could be transferred from one flock owner to another flock owner.

Local Taxation.—According to Part III. of the Local Taxation Returns for 1903-4, issued last week, the total receipts of the rural district councils amounted to £4,088,441. These figures, compared with those of the previous year, show an increase amounting to £89,395. The total expenditure was £4,043,190, an increase of £125,561. The aggregate receipts of the parish councils and parish meetings were £208,177, while in the previous year the amount was £230,794. The expenditure was £210,829, exclusive of outlay in respect of charities and out of loans. The total receipts during the year of the inspectors and committees amounted to £3,386.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Society's Staff—Show Arrangements—Deputation from Derby Selling Park Royal—The Journal £4,000 Prizes for Derby.

The monthly Council was held on Wednesday—Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (President) in the chair. There were also present :—

Trustees.

Earl Egerton of Tatton, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton, Sir John H. Thorold, Bart.

Vice-Presidents.

Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. Percy Crutchley, Mr. J. M. Dugdale.

Other Members of Council.

Mr. George Adams, Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. J. P. Cross, Lieut.-Col. Curtis-Hayward, Mr. John T. C. Eadie, Mr. R. M. Greaves, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. R. Neville Grenville, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. J. Howard Howard, Mr. Walter F. Ingram, Sir Charles V. Knightley, Bart., Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. Ralph C. Palmer, Mr. Claude M. S. Pilkington, Mr. George G. Rea, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. W. Scoby, Mr. E. W. Shackle, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. E. W. Stanyforth, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. Herbert Tallent, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. John Thornton, and Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler.

The PRESIDENT, in opening the proceedings, made sympathetic reference to the death, on October 30, of Earl Cathcart, a past-President and Trustee of the Society.

Election of New Governor and Members.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on October 4, 1905, having been taken as read and approved, the election of the following Governor and twenty-three members was proceeded with :—

GOVERNOR.

Mildmay, F. B., M.P., Flete, Ivy Bridge, Devon.

MEMBERS.

Bradley, J. W., Swallownest, near Sheffield.
Butland, Benjamin, Leigham Barton, Plympton.
*Drax, J. Erule Erle, 7, Lypiatt Terrace, Cheltenham.
Frayne, James, Pipers Pool, Egloskerry, R.S.O., Cornwall.
Helmer, Henry, Wonwell Court, Kingston, Kingsbridge, Devon.
Hine, Ernest, Courtgate Farm, Plymstock, Plymouth.
Holdsworth, A. F., Widdicombe, Kingsbridge, Devon.
Jones, Llewellyn M., Bradbury Farm, Crick, near Chepstow, Mon.
Jones, Thomas, Bradbury House, Llanelly, Carm.
Maxwell, Robert M., Beverley, Yorks.
Paynter, E. E. W., Battens Farm, Bere Ferrers, Bere-alstone, Devon.
Pearson, Lady, Paddockhurst, Worth, Sussex.
Rogers, Andrew, Brownstone, Holbeton, Devon.
Rowe, Fred. W., Trwego, St. Winnow, Lostwithiel.
Spence, Col. John, Biddlesden Park, Brackley.
Stevens, James, Beaufort Chambers, Newport, Mon.
Tighe, R. H. M., 121, Belsize Road, N.W.
Trant, Brooking, Trethawp, Liskeard.
Tucker, John J., Pathada, Menheniot, Cornwall.
Wakeham, John, Rowden, Revelstroke, Devon.
Walton, W. C., Home Farm, Cransley, Kettering.
Wandsworth, Lord, 10, Great Stanhope Street, Mayfair, W
Wroth, J. Sparrow, Coombe, Aveton Gifford, Kingsbridge.

* Re-elected under By-law 12.

The reports of the various Standing Committees were then presented and adopted, as below :—

Finance.

Sir NIGEL KINGSCOTE reported that at the Finance Committee's usual monthly meeting, held that morning, the accounts for the month ended October 28, 1905, as certified by the Society's accountants, had been submitted. They showed receipts amounting to £1,748 8s. 1d., and expenditure amounting to £1,413 0s. 4d. Accounts amounting in all to £540 4s. 1d. had been passed, and were recommended for payment. The draft balance-sheet for the show of 1905 had been submitted to the Committee, and had been referred by them for audit to the Society's accountants and the auditors appointed by the members.

The Society's Staff.

The Committee had held, in addition to their usual monthly meeting, a special meeting on October 17 to consider the references made to them by the Council on October 4, of the paragraphs in the report of the Special Committee which related to the Society's staff.

With regard to the Secretary, it had already been reported on his behalf to the Council, at their meeting on October 4, that he was willing to retire at once, with a view to facilitate the new arrangements for carrying on the business of the Society coming into force as soon as possible, on the understanding that he received what was legally due to him as regards remuneration. In view of Sir Ernest Clarke's past services to the Society during the 18½ years that he had been its Secretary, the Finance Committee unanimously recommended to the Council (1) that his tenure of office as Secretary of the Society should be considered as terminated at Christmas next; (2) that he should receive at that time, in lieu of further salary, the sum of £1,000 in full discharge of all pecuniary claims upon the Society; (3) that he be permitted to occupy his present rooms at Harewood House until not later than March 25 next, it being understood by him that if rendered necessary by the previous sale or letting of the house, he would have to vacate such apartments at an earlier date when required.

With regard to all the other officials of the Society at Hanover Square and Park Royal, the Committee recommended that notice be given to each officer and clerk by the President immediately after the November Council (1) that his engagement by the Society would terminate on March 25 next (Lady Day, 1906); (2) that the Council reserved the power—acting through their Finance Committee—to dispense (with or without request) with his further attendance at any date prior to March 25, and would take into consideration the circumstances of any new appointment which he might meanwhile obtain in deciding as to the date when his salary from the Society should terminate.

Appointment of New Secretary

In order that the selection of the new Secretary might be expedited, the Committee drew up, on October 17, a form of application for the post, and ordered the appointment to be advertised forthwith : the forms of application to be returnable not later than Tuesday, October 31. The Committee recommended that the question of the appointment by the Council of an Assistant to the Secretary be reserved until the new Secretary had been selected and was in office.

A total of 481 forms of application for the post of Secretary had since been issued to applicants, and 230 actual applications had been received. The Committee proposed to hold a further meeting after the rising of the Council to go through these applications and to make a selection of a small number of candidates therefrom to be personally interviewed by the Committee with a view to the final appointment of the new Secretary being made at the next Council meeting on December 6.

Show of 1906 at Derby.

Sir GILBERT GREENALL, in presenting a further report from the Special Committee appointed on August 1 last, said that in paragraph 8 of that Committee's report of September 21, 1905, it was recommended that a show be held by the Society in 1906 in the provinces if a suitable site could be obtained and financial arrangements made. As notified direct to the Council in the letter from the Mayor of Derby, dated September 29, an invitation had now been received from that borough; and a Sub-Committee consisting of Mr. Carr, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Crutchley had visited the site on Friday, October 13. The Sub-Committee's report indicated that a good and convenient site was available at Derby, that the Mayor and Corporation were willing to carry out the Society's customary requirements, and that the Derbyshire Agricultural Society was ready to suspend its own show for 1906 if the Royal Show should be held at Derby. The Sub-Committee had recommended "that the invitation from Derby be accepted if the Council decide to hold a show in 1906," and in that recommendation the Special Committee concurred. The Committee had the assurance of one of their number that in the event of the Society holding a show at Derby in 1906, and such show should (under the new arrangements as to administration, etc., which had already been sanctioned in principle by the Council) involve a loss to the Society's general funds, he would be prepared to make such loss good; and the Committee recommended that this generous offer be accepted.

The Committee thought that the show of 1906 should be held at the usual time, viz., in the week after Ascot, and that it should be a four-days' show ending on a Saturday. They recommended, therefore, that the show be open on Wednesday, June 27, 1906 (admission 5s.), Thursday, June 28 (admission 2s. 6d.), Friday, June 29 (admission 1s.), and Saturday, June 30 (admission 1s.). They recommended also that in view of the Derbyshire Agriculture Society having consented to suspend its show of 1906 in favour of the Royal Show, every member of the Derbyshire Society (numbering some 700) who was on that Society's books at the end of 1905, and who paid his subscription to it for 1906, be granted without payment the same privileges of admission to the show as a member of the Royal Agricultural Society.

In view of the present financial position of the Society, the Committee were of opinion that the Council would not be justified in voting from the Society's own funds a larger sum than four thousand pounds (£4,000) in prizes for the show of 1906. They hoped that this sum might be supplemented by grants from the various breed societies, and they were of opinion that in the distribution of the prize-money every established breed of live stock should, as far as possible, have classes and prizes allocated to it.

Deputation from Derby.

Mr. JOHN T. C. EADIE, the Member of Council representing Derbyshire, then introduced a deputation from the Borough and County of Derby, consisting of the Mayor of Derby (Mr. W. Hart), the Chairman of the Derbyshire County Council (Mr. G. Herbert Strutt), the Chairman of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society (Mr. J. Pakeman), Sir Thomas Roe, M.P., Alderman E. T. Ann, and Mr. C. Salt, with the Town Clerk of Derby (Mr. G. Trevelyan Lee).

Mr. W. HART (Mayor of Derby) said that the Society had already received an invitation from him to hold the next show in Derby, and the deputation came there that day to endorse and confirm that invitation. He was sure that if the Society could see their way to accept the invitation they might depend upon a very hearty welcome. The fact that the show held in Derby a quarter of a century ago was a very successful one inspired them to hope that if the invitation was accepted they would meet with success during the forthcoming year. Derby was a most convenient railway centre, it was the headquarters of the Midland Railway Company, and there were splendid services of trains from all towns in the Midland counties and also from London. When the new extension of the tramway from Derby Station to the entrances of the show-ground was completed, it would be possible to reach the show-ground from St. Pancras in less than three hours.

Mr. G. HERBERT STRUTT (Chairman of the Derbyshire County Council) thought Derby was an eminently fit and proper place for the Society to visit, and, as the Mayor had said, everyone had been highly satisfied with the show of 1881. It had given a considerable stimulus to the agricultural interest in Derbyshire and the surrounding counties, and they had felt the influence of that visit up to the present time.

Mr. J. PAKEMAN (Chairman of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society) said that Derbyshire was not only situated in the centre of England, but was easily approached by railway from all parts. Not only was the ground offered suitable for the purposes of a show, but there was within one hour's journey by rail a population of 3,000,000 people. He might mention that the attendance on the second day of their local show numbered 23,000 people. The Derbyshire farmers were very warm-hearted people, and in the event of the Royal holding its show at Derby in 1906, the Derbyshire Agricultural Society was prepared to forgo holding its own show.

The PRESIDENT inquired whether any member of the Council desired to ask any question of the deputation; and satisfactory replies to inquiries by Mr. Crutchley upon detail matters connected with the Show site and approaches thereto, and the railway facilities for the cartage of live stock and implements, having been furnished by the deputation,

The PRESIDENT said that, in reply to the question which had been asked earlier in the proceedings by the Chairman of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, he might say that it had been decided to recommend that, in view of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society having consented to suspend its show of 1906 in favour of the Royal Show, every member of the Derbyshire Society who was on that society's books at the end of 1905, and who had paid his subscription to it for 1906, be granted, without payment, the same privileges of admission to the Show as a member of the Royal Agricultural Society.

Mr. PAKEMAN said that he desired, on behalf of the Derbyshire Society, to thank the Council for this privilege, for which he was very grateful.

Mr. GREAVES remarked that something had been said about local prizes. Were the Council to understand that these prizes would only be open to the area of the Derbyshire Show? If so, the suggestion would have to be considered, as such prizes had never been given.

Earl EGERTON of TATTON said that it had been suggested that the local prizes should be confined to the district of Derbyshire, and he was strongly in favour of that proposition. It was a new idea, but it did not follow that because it was

a new one it was a wrong one. If they had the local farmers competing for those prizes, it would increase the interest in the Show and add to the interest of the Show generally.

The deputation having withdrawn,

Mr. VICTOR CAVENDISH, M.P., said that although he had no claim to represent Derbyshire on the Council, yet he thought he had a certain connection with Derbyshire which enabled him to speak with authority, and also as the representative of one of the divisions of that county in Parliament, he desired to support, as strongly as he could, the invitation which had been tendered to the Society. He begged formally to move "That the invitation which had been tendered by the Mayor of Derby and representatives of the County be accepted, and that the Society's Show of 1906 be held at Derby, from the 27th to the 30th June next, subject to the usual formal agreement being entered into by the Mayor and Corporation."

Mr. J. T. C. EADIE said he had much pleasure in seconding the motion, which, having been formally put by the President, was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, a General Show Committee was formed, to consist of the whole Council, with representatives of the Local Committee, to be nominated by the Mayor of Derby. It was arranged that the first meeting of the Committee should be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, December 6.

The Park Royal Estate.

Sir GILBERT GREENALL said there was another matter which had come before the Special Committee at their last meeting on October 17—viz., the question of the sale of the Society's estate at Park Royal. In their report of September 21 the committee had recommended that "immediate steps be taken for the disposal of the Society's interest in the Park Royal estate," and this recommendation had been referred back by the Council to the Committee for further consideration. The Special Committee, after again going fully into the matter, felt that they must adhere to their previous recommendation. They were of opinion that the Society would not be justified in incurring the large annual expense for interest, upkeep, etc., which would be necessary if Park Royal were retained in the Society's possession until the pre-emption period expired at the end of 1911; and they recommended, therefore, that the Council should forthwith instruct the Directors of Park Royal, Ltd., to offer the property to the original vendors at the price of £375 per acre stipulated in Clause 14 of the agreement of purchase, dated September 30, 1901.

Mr. HARRISON having seconded the adoption of this recommendation,

Mr. WHEELER thought the Council should have some statement as to the expense of holding this site, and also as to the revenue they might make out of it for other purposes.

Mr. HARRISON said the charge that Park Royal would be to the Society in case the land were retained as a speculation had been calculated at anything from £1,300 to £1,700 per annum. The Special Committee, in considering this, felt that in the present financial position of the Society it could not recommend the Society to retain possession of Park Royal for the six years which would elapse before the vendors' right of pre-emption expired. A capital expenditure of more than £1,000 a year was considerably more than the Special Committee felt justified in recommending to the Council for the retention of Park Royal.

Mr. CHUTCHLEY did not see what advantage there could be in the Directors of Park Royal expressing their views further on the subject now before them. If the Council had decided once for all not to go back to Park Royal to hold its shows there, he thought the best course, under the circumstances, would be to realise the estate, and that it was only waste of time for the Council to postpone dealing with the question.

After considerable discussion, the President formally moved the adoption of the recommendation of the Special Committee for the sale of Park Royal, which, on being put, was carried nem. dis.

Harewood House.

Sir NIGEL KINGSCOTE (Chairman) reported from this Committee the progress of negotiations as to the sale of the Society's House. The Committee asked for authority from the Council to close promptly with any satisfactory offer that might be received from an intending purchaser. This authority was granted after a short discussion.

Journal.

Sir JOHN THOROLD (Chairman) reported that the Committee had had before them estimates for the production of the Journal at a net cost to the Society of not exceeding £600, including distribution, as recommended by the Special Committee. They had arrived at the conclusion that the annual volume could be reduced for the sum named, provided that the volume be bound in paper covers instead of cloth covers, and that the size be reduced to 450 pages. They recommended therefore that the preparation of the volume for the current year (Volume 66) be proceeded with on these lines.

Cost of Chemical Department.

Mr. BOWEN-JONES (Chairman) reported that the Committee had carefully considered the report of the Special Committee as passed by the Council on Oct. 4, and had review the position with the object of making such further economies as might be possible. They pointed out, in the first place, that the very considerable economies in the chemical department effected at the beginning of the present year had not yet had time to make themselves felt. It might be remembered that, as the outcome of the Report of the Sub-Committee on Finance, presented in May, 1904, there was a reduction of £150 per annum made in Dr. Voelcker's salary, and further, the allowance of £400 given to Dr. Voelcker for the work of his laboratory, salaries of assistants, etc., was dropped, Dr. Voelcker taking in return the fees paid by members for analyses, which amounted in 1904 to £330. Accordingly there was, as commencing from January, 1905, a direct saving of about £220, which would appear for the first time when the accounts for 1905 were presented.

The present cost of the Chemical Department, inclusive of the Pot Culture Station at Woburn, did not exceed £650 per annum, this including Dr. Voelcker's salary (£550), printing, etc. (say £50), and the balance required (about £50) to pay the salary of the assistant at the Pot Culture Station (£200), over and above what was received from the Hills' Bequest.

The Committee had reviewed the work of the Woburn Experimental Station, and they desired to call the attention of the Council to the fact that owing to the liberality of the Duke of Bedford, the work of the station entailed at present no charge on the finances of the Society beyond a proportion of Dr. Voelcker's salary.

Prizes for the Derby Show £4,000.

Mr. GREAVES (Chairman) reported that the Committee had considered a draft of the prize-sheet for the show of 1906, on the lines laid down by the Special Committee, viz., that the total amount of the prizes offered by the Society should not exceed £4,000.

The Committee had considered a communication from the Polled Cattle Society asking that the age of Aberdeen-Angus cattle should be reckoned as from December 1 instead of January 1, and proposed that in the prize-sheet for 1906 the ages of Aberdeen-Angus animals should be calculated as from December 1. The Committee recommended that the Ayrshire cows or heifers should be shown in-milk only; that the auction sales should be held, as usual, in the showyard, and that facilities be afforded to exhibitors of stock for showing their animals for the purpose of sale, a privilege already granted in the case of exhibitors of horses.

Owing to the small number of exhibitors who entered in the Cotswold, Devon, Longwool, Dartmoor, Exmoor, Cheviot, Black-faced Mountain, Lonk, and Herdwick sheep classes, the Committee recommended that the Secretary be instructed to write to the breed societies concerned, informing them that the Council were very averse from the omission of any breed from the prize-sheet, and they proposed, therefore, to offer a first prize of £10 in two classes for each of these breeds, at the same time suggesting that it was open to the societies to offer second and third prizes in the classes of their respective breeds. A communication from the South Devon Flock Book Association as to the inclusion in the prize-sheet of 1906 of classes for South Devon sheep was considered, and the Committee recommended that two classes be offered for this breed of sheep with first prizes only in each class, and that the Association be informed that it was open to them to offer second and third prizes.

On the question of the age of Aberdeen-Angus cattle the President put it to the meeting, and the motion to refer this matter back to the Committee was carried by 16 votes to 3.

Implement.

Mr. NEVILLE GRENVILLE reported that, in the absence of Mr. Frankish, he had been called to the Chair. The Committee had considered the regulations of the Implement Department, and recommended that they should be printed and circulated to the Council before their next meeting. The Committee also recommended that trials of suction gas engines should take place in connection with the show to be held next year.

Selection.

Sir JOHN THOROLD (Chairman) reported the Committee's recommendation that the Earl of Northbrook be elected a Vice-President of the Society to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Sir Jacob Wilson. Under Bye-law 77 Lord Northbrook would hold office as Vice President until the next ensuing annual general meeting. As Lord Northbrook was elected in July last to represent Hampshire as an ordinary member of the Council, his election as Vice-President would create a vacancy in the representation of that county. The Committee recommended, therefore, that Bye-law 88 be put in force by the issue to each governor and member of the division of Hampshire of a notice of the vacancy, and fixing the date by which nominations of candidates to fill the vacancy must be received at the office for Saturday, November 18.

Education.

Lord MORETON (Chairman) reported the Committee's concurrence with the proposal to appeal to the Government for an annual grant in aid of the Education and Scientific Branches of the Society's work.

Appeal for Government Grant.

The PRESIDENT stated that in view of the recommendations by the various Scientific Committees as to the proposal to ask the Government for a grant in aid of the Education and Scientific branches of the Society's work, he had thought it expedient to invite the Chairmen of those Committees to confer with him as to the procedure to be adopted. A meeting had accordingly been held on the previous afternoon, attended by Mr. Bowen-Jones (Chairman of the Chemical and Woburn Committee), Mr. Wheeler (Chairman of the Botanical and Zoological Committee), Mr. Stanyforth (on behalf of the Veterinary Committee), and by Lord Moreton (Chairman of the Education Committee). They had agreed to suggest to the Council that a Deputation should be appointed to wait upon the President of the Board of Agriculture in support of a strong appeal from the Society for a Government grant in aid of the Education and Scientific Branches of the Society's work.

The course proposed by the President was unanimously agreed to, and the following members of Council were appointed as the Deputation to wait upon the Minister of Agriculture:—The President, the Earl of Northbrook, Lord Moreton, Sir John Gilmour, Mr. Bowen-Jones, and Mr. Wheeler.

Date of Next Meeting.

After the transaction of other business the Council adjourned until Wednesday, December 6, 1905, at 12 noon.

Horncastle October Cattle Fair was held on Monday with a comparatively small supply of fodder in the district and a good show of beasts; trade was not particularly brisk. About 500 animals were offered, amongst them being some particularly fine 2½-year-old bullocks, which realised £20, and 1½-year-old bullocks £13 10s. At the auctions heifers made up to £15, steers, £13, bull calves £12, and calves £6.

The two handsome prizes of £30 each which Mr. W. R. Smith, of Tattenhall Road Bone Works, Chester, offered this year for the five heaviest mangels and the five heaviest swedes respectively, grown with the aid of his special manures aroused a considerable amount of interest among root growers, as was evidenced at the competition which took place on Saturday. Competitors from various parts of Cheshire, Flintshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Gloucestershire, assembled at Mr. Smith's works, where the roots were adjudicated upon by competent experts. The first prize of £30 for the five heaviest mangels was awarded to Mr. Leonard J. Smith, of Newent, Gloucester. These five bulbs, although naturally of an immense size, were remakably fine in shape, and the flesh also showed an excellent texture. This entry was closely followed by Mr. Frank Burgess, of Arrowe, Birkenhead, and Mr. Robert Shepherd, of Parkside, Aston, whose five bulbs weighed respectively 137 lb. and 133 lb. The special prize of £30 for the five heaviest swedes was won by Mr. John Johnson, of Spurstow, Cheshire, with five handsome bulbs of the variety known as Garton's "Keepwell," which were of very symmetrical proportions; Messrs. R. and W. Roberts, Wellhouse Farm, Flintshire, and Mr. Frank Burgess, coming next in order of merit. In addition to these prizes for roots Mr. Smith offered this year some special prizes for Cheshire cheese, and in this class Mr. Bourne, of Bickerton, Malpas, a well-known Cheshire cheese maker, gained the handsome amount of £18. Mr. W. R. Smith, together with his eldest son, who has recently been admitted into partnership, along with Mr. H. A. Longrigg, showed all the competitors who were present over the works containing the latest methods in the way of machinery and other plant employed in this up-to-date establishment. We understand that Mr. Smith intends repeating these prizes again next year.

THE CENTRAL CHAMBER.

Butter and Dogs Bills—Motor Cars—Birds and Agriculture—Agricultural Holdings Act.

A meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday at the rooms of the Society of Arts—Mr. T. Courtenay T. Warner, M.P. (vice-chairman for 1905), in the chair. The Chairman moved a vote of condolence with the family of the late Mr. Clare Sewell Read, which was seconded by Mr. Everett, and supported by Mr. Chaplin, M.P., who stated that it was not too much to say that the death of Mr. Read was a national loss.

The motion was agreed to upstanding.

Among the new members elected were Lord Onslow and Mr. R. W. Hudson.

It was agreed that the Chambers should again co-operate with the Farmers' Club in holding a joint dinner on the Tuesday in Smithfield week (December 5).

The Butter and Dogs Bills.

The Parliamentary Committee reported that the Prime Minister had declined to receive a deputation from the Chamber on the subject of the Butter Bill. As showing the interest taken in the matter the Committee mentioned that 22 Chambers had previously intimated their intention of being represented, as also had the Australasian Colonies, through their agents-general, as well as other societies, while Lord Strathcona, the High Commissioner for Canada, had written saying that "the Dominion Government feel that the provisions of the Bill, if adopted, would be greatly in the interest of the Canadian butter trade, and they would regard the passage of the Bill into law with much satisfaction."

The Committee recalled the fact that the session of 1905 was the fourth consecutive session in which the Bill had been introduced. This year the Bill was read a first time on March 28, and it could have been easily passed if the Government had shown the slightest sympathy towards the measure.

The Committee recorded their conviction that this want of sympathy on the part of the Government was in no way shared by the President of the Board of Agriculture.

In regard to the Dogs Bill, the Committee regretted that the efforts of the Board of Agriculture to secure its passing had been so entirely unsuccessful.

Redistribution of Seats.

In regard to the Government proposals for a redistribution of seats, the Committee pointed out that those proposals, if adopted, would involve a considerable loss in the representation of rural and agricultural districts. Under such a scheme a rural constituency with anything less than 65,000 population would lose its representation, but a borough of anything over 18,500 would retain it. The Committee were decidedly of opinion that any such proposals should be most strongly opposed by the Council, and recommended that they be authorised to take any necessary steps to secure their rejection.

Sir EDWARD STRACHEY, M.P., moved the adoption of the report. The Council felt, he said, that the Government were not in earnest about the Butter Bill. The Bill would, however, be once more introduced, and then the Council would again bring pressure to bear on the Government. He agreed that the Bill did not go far enough at present, because other forms of adulteration had arisen, but their only chance of getting the Government to take up the Bill and carry it before Easter was to keep the Bill in its present form. They must ask for it as an instalment of justice before Easter, at any rate, before the Government goes to the country. He hoped the Dogs Bill would also be passed before the Government dissolved. With regard to the redistribution proposals, the feeling of the Committee was very strong that they ought to be opposed. (Hear, hear.) They would practically reduce the county, rural, and agricultural representation while retaining the representation of the boroughs.

Mr. CHAPLIN, M.P., said although he did not think for a moment the Redistribution Bill was likely to be passed during the coming session, yet it was very important that the Chamber should make its views on the subject known. His own view, and probably that of the agricultural interest generally, was that no measure dealing with redistribution which decreased the influence or lessened the fair proportionate representation of county constituencies as compared with borough constituencies would be satisfactory to the great interest which the Chamber represented. This was the view which he intended to press when the proper occasion arose, and this was the view which he believed all the agricultural associations would do well to press. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MIDDLETON said they had had to wait four or five years for the Butter Bill, and perhaps they might as well wait a little longer and leave it to the present Government's successors to give them a more stringent Bill, and he ventured to think that whatever Government was in office it could not afford to ignore the representations of the agricultural interest.

The report was adopted, and it was agreed that a copy be sent to the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Agriculture, and the President of the Local Government Board, accompanied by the following resolution:—"That this Council earnestly press upon the Government the necessity of passing the Butter and the Dogs Bills at an early stage of next session."

Motor Cars.

The CHAIRMAN moved that witnesses be appointed to give evidence before the Motor Car Commission. He suggested that Messrs. Kinder, T. Latham, and H. Biddell be appointed to give evidence. In regard to the Departmental Committee on Small Holdings, he put forward as witnesses the names of Mr. W. Auber Simmons and Mr. R. S. Balden, and as witnesses before the Inter-Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the expenditure on public education the names of Messrs. F. S. Corrance, R. L. Everett, and C. D. Johnson.

Colonel MAUDE hoped they would appoint some one to give evidence before the last-named Committee who could speak of the outrageous extravagance of the West Riding County Council.

Another member urged that the suggested witnesses for the Motor Car Commission should not be appointed if they owned motor cars. (Laughter.)

The three gentlemen named denied possessing cars, and one remarked that although he did not own one he had ridden in one once to his cost.

The suggestions made from the chair were adopted.

Birds and Agriculture.

Mr. POWELL (Mayfield Farmers' Club) moved "that this Council is of opinion that the depredations of birds are a serious loss to growers of various products of the soil, and that an official inquiry should be made as to what means should be adopted to prevent such losses." He said that since the County Councils had exercised their powers with regard to the protection of birds the depredations of many kinds of birds had been more severely felt by agriculturists. Boys had been prevented from bird nesting, and the increase of birds had been greater than ever. He had nothing to do with the farming of agricultural land at present, but he could well remember that in the past the depredations of birds had been a grievous loss to him.

Mr. ACKERS seconded the motion. All that the Council had to do now was to ask for an inquiry. There was no doubt that in certain parts of England there was a very strong feeling that the great increase in certain sorts of birds prevented the birds from getting enough of their proper food and caused them to prey upon the produce of the farmers and so inflict injury.

Mr. GARDENER (Worcestershire) did not agree. He thought that the request for an inquiry into this subject was frivolous. Every cultivator had the power in his own hands to keep down pests, and there were farmers' clubs and other bodies of agriculturists who could deal with the pests. He thought that it would only be belittling the Council to put forward a frivolous question like this.

Mr. CHRISTIAN (Fareham and Hants) did not agree with Mr. Gardener. The matter was of vital interest to agriculturists. He thought that the Council ought to pass a resolution on it. His Chamber had agreed that the Wild Birds' Protection Act required amendment. Rooks, larks, and starlings ought to be kept under control, and as for the sparrow it should be exterminated as far as possible.

The Rev. E. OLIVEY (Wadebridge Farmers' Club) thought that if gentlemen could see, as he saw in his own fields and in those of other people, the immense damage which starlings and rooks did because they were not kept down, they would be of opinion that the damage far surpassed any good which the birds might do.

Colonel HARBIN: I move that the question be now put.

The motion was then carried unanimously.

Consolidating the Agricultural Holdings Acts.

Mr. MIDDLETON moved: "That this Council is of opinion that the various Agricultural Holdings Acts should be consolidated." The Acts, imperfect as they were, could, he said, be made more perfect by their being better administered. There was too little elasticity, and the bad farmers received too much and the good farmers too little compensation.

Mr. H. AMOS moved to add to the resolution the words "and amended." The Acts, he said, were a great detriment to good farming, and if the English farmers had a free hand in the cultivation of their land, they could beat foreign competition "hands down."

Mr. CHRISTIAN seconded the amendment. The talk of agricultural depression, he said, was "rot." A man should not be allowed to have more land than he can cultivate.

Mr. BALDEN said his experience in the West Riding was that the landlord in order to let his farms had to let them free of tenant rights, and take his risk of what he might get when the tenant left.

Major DENT was convinced that it was only advisable to go as far as consolidating the Acts in view of the widely differing views of the members of the Chamber in regard to amending the Acts. Landlords, valuers, tenant-farmers, and agents would all like to see the Acts consolidated in a simple and intelligible form. (Hear, hear.) They could not put forward a proposal for amendment without laying down the lines on which such amendment should be based.

The amendment was defeated, and the resolution agreed to.

Hackney Horse Society.

Meetings of the Council and Committees of this society were held at 12, Hanover Square, on Tuesday and Wednesday last, Sir Lees Knowles, Bart., M.P., in the chair.

Appointment of Judges.

The report of the Judges' Selection Committee furnished the Council with the names of suitable judges for the next London show, and the Council proceeded from these names to elect by ballot judges and reserves in various districts. The following was the result of the voting:—

HACKNEY SECTION.—Yorkshire District: Judge, T. M. Bentley, Skerne Road, Driffield. 1st Reserve: T. D Reed, The Grange, Beeford, Hull. 2nd Reserve: Alfred Craggy, Manor House, North Newbald. Norfolk and Eastern District: Judge, Alfred Rowell, West Rudham Hall, King's Lynn. 1st Reserve: Lionel Rodwell, Manor House, East Rudham, Norfolk. 2nd Reserve: A. Beldam, Bluntisham, St. Ives, Hunts. Other Districts: Judge, Arthur E. Evans, Bronwylfa. 1st Reserve: J. K. Ford, Chellaston, Derby. 2nd Reserve: J. McMeeken, Mosspark, Dumbreck, near Glasgow.

PONY SECTION.—Judges: Alex. Morton, jun., Gowan Bank, Darvel, N.B.; Robert Whitworth, Southwood End, Halifax. 1st Reserve: Evan Jones, Manoravon, Llandilo, Carmarthen. 2nd Reserve: R. Brydon, The Dene, Seaham Harbour.

Prize Schedule for 1906 Show.

A few additions and alterations were made in the prize schedule, as already outlined in these columns. It was agreed to open the classes for Hackney and pony stallions in harness to horses of any age, and not to restrict them to horses four years old and over. Any exhibitor of three-year-old stallions who may desire to enter in the harness classes will now be able to do so.

Representations having been made to the Committee that there should be two classes for pairs as previously, instead of one as proposed, it was agreed to assent to this request, dividing them into over 14 hands and not exceeding 15 h. 2 in., and a second class for horses over 15 h. 2 in. Under these circumstances the class for single harness horses over six years old will have 15 hands as the dividing limit instead of 15 h. 1 in.

Several communications were received by the Committee urging the establishment of a class for ponies in harness not exceeding 13 hands. It was agreed to establish such a class for pony mares and geldings not exceeding six years old; also a class for the same aged ponies exceeding 13 hands and not exceeding 13 h. 2 in., and a further class exceeding 13 h. 2 in. and not exceeding 14 hands. It was originally intended that the pony produce group should be confined to harness ponies, but the Committee, on careful consideration, thought it well to open the group to the whole of the pony section, offering the Challenge Cup to the best sire of three pony stallions, mares, or geldings to be shown in hand. The three produce can be drawn from any of the classes in the pony section, provided that they compete for the cup in hand and not in harness. These additions will make the total amount of prizes £1,685.

Medals at the Royal and County Shows.

It was agreed to offer three gold medals at the Derby Show of the R.A.S.E., two for the best Hackneys in hand, and one for the best Hackney in harness.

It was reported that during the past season the following medals had been awarded at country and foreign shows:—Nine £10 gold medals, nineteen gold harness medals, twenty three silver harness medals, and 175 silver medals in hand.

Finance.

Sir Gilbert Greenall (Chairman) reported that

he had been re-elected Chairman of this Committee for the ensuing year.

The names of eighteen members in arrear with their subscriptions were submitted, and the Secretary was requested to take the necessary steps to recover the sums due.

A balance in the bank of £311 3s. 2d. was reported, and accounts were passed for payment amounting to £259 16s. 8d.

The Committee reported that they had received from the President a donation to be devoted to the increase of the Old Age Endowment Fund for the society's officials. It was resolved to express the society's thanks to the donor for his kindness, and to forward this and any further donations for a similar object to the insurance companies who are concerned in the matter. The report was adopted.

Stud Book.

Mr. John Rowell reported his re-election as Chairman of this Committee, and the report which he presented dealt with various details immediately concerned with the publication of the new volume next February. It was resolved that the conditions for Volume 24 should be the same as those for Volume 23. The fee for future export certificates was fixed at 10s. each certificate, non-members 20s. The American Customs Authorities having refused to admit horses duty free, unless an actual Stud Book number was attached to the horse's name, it was resolved to number all horses sold for export immediately the entries for the Stud Book are received. This will doubtless encourage export trade, and as arrangements can be made so that the present alphabetical order of the Stud Book is adhered to, there will be no inconvenience to breeders who are not directly interested in the sale of horses for export. The Committee examined applications for prefixes and affixes, and granted the following:—

Prefixes.	Applicants.
Bangor	Thomas Williams, Bangor Isycoed, Wrexham.
Cefni	O. Trevor Williams, M.R.C.V.S., Llangefni.
Ceiriog..	Richard Hughes, Pontfaen Farm, Chirk, Ruabon.
†Clearbrook	E. P. Burton, The Bungalow, Hoo Meavy, Yelverton.
Coron	W. H. Jones, Fferam Rhosydd, Bodorgan, Anglesea.
Frith Manor ..	H. G. Regnart, Frith Manor, Mill Hill, N.W.
Gwyddfor	E. Shelton Roberts, Gwyddfor, Penygroes, R.S.O.
Holly	H. Rodmell, The Hollies, Holderness Road, Hull.
Hooton	T. R. Evans, Brookfield, Hooton, Liverpool.
‡Inverness	William McAllister, The Inverness Hackney Stud, Inverness.
Johnstown	Joseph Edwards, Havod View, Johnstown, Ruabon.
Langley	W. H. H. Sykes, 9, Curzon Park, Chester.
Lascelles	Mrs. J. C. Broadbent, Lascelles Hall, Kirkheaton.
†Manor	Mrs. N. Paulet, The Manor House, Leigh, Staffs.
Morecambe	T. W. Speight, Battery Hotel, Morecambe, Lancs.
Priory	Charles Woodall, Priory Farm, Hessle, E. Yorks.
Putney	Robert Day, Prickwillow, Ely, Cambs.
Rundell's	Mrs. Frank Jagger, Rundell's, Harlow, Essex.
Scampston	T. W. Braithwaite, The Firs, Scampston, Rillington.
Sedgeford	T. J. S. Brown, Hall Farm, Sedgeford.
Trumpington ..	Alexander Towler, River Farm, Trumpington Road, Cambrige.

† Prefix and affix. ‡ Affix only.

A communication was submitted to the Committee alleging that entries of two mares in previous volumes were incorrect. As the writer furnished the names of persons likely to be in a position to know the true facts, it was agreed that full inquiries should be made for further report. Several entries of animals for the new volume, which after personal inquiries were considered to be doubtful, were either rejected or deferred.

Vacancy on Council.

The Council with great regret received an intimation of the death of Mr. Nathaniel Morton, who had for many years been a consistent supporter of Hackneys in Ireland, and it was agreed that a letter expressing the sympathy of the Council with Mr Morton's family should be signed by the President, and the vacant seat on the Council was not filled up.

The next meeting was fixed for February 8, 1906, and the Council then adjourned.

The show of sheep at Horncastle October Fair on the 28th ult., was the smallest on record, though trade was brisk. The animals shown were chiefly Lincoln lambs, and these sold at 41s. 6d. per head. Only comparatively few horses were shown in the streets, and these were mainly of the drove class.

Bridgnorth St. Luke's Fair, said to be the oldest statute cattle fair in England, it being granted by King Henry III. in 1226, was held on Monday, when a large number of horses and cattle were on sale in the streets, and at the annual store stock sale in the Smithfield about 1,000 head of cattle and 1,500 sheep, together with lambs, pigs, and calves, changed hands.

By Lupulin.

Home Notes.

The Borough.

During the past fortnight our trade has gone along merrily as to volume, but sadly with respect to values. I cannot remember a season in which growers have been more ready to dispose of their produce. Their former experience seems to have destroyed for the moment their confidence in any prospective improvement, and, despite the absence of present foreign competition, the English crop is being rapidly sacrificed at such low rates that no possible margin is left for profit, and it is more than probable that if a general balance of results could be struck it would be found that our industry will this year suffer from heavy losses Already we have heard of several of our planters being unfortunately compelled to consult their creditors about their financial positions, and in some cases the outcome of such investigations has revealed disaster. These unhappy circumstances indicate the probability of further reduction of the English acreage, and it goes without saying that if our field of operations is thus lessened another heavy blow to British agriculture will be inflicted, an important autlet for the employment of capital and labour on the land will be closed, and a wider opening will be made for the entrance of foreign produce. Our planters are intelligent and progressive, skill and economy in the growing of hops are everywhere evident, and it is admitted that our climate and soil are sufficiently favourable to enable us to secure qualities equal to those of any of our competitors. To what cause then can the present depression of our market be attributed? Although we have grown an exceptionally large crop this season it is not heavier than our brewers require for their year's consumption. There is, therefore, little doubt that but for the possibility of further supplies being sent into our open ports, reasonable remuneration might have been secured by our home growers. The reports from America and the European Continent have, however, alarmed us, and consequently we have pressed our hops for sale, in order to be clear of the crop before the foreigners have a chance to get in. The remedy for this state of panic could certainly be found in the enactment of a moderate import duty. A steady balancing of the market would be secured, and although the advancement of values would be felt by brewers, the interests of the beer-drinking public would not be affected, while our special section of agriculture would be necessarily benefited. Fortunately, the whole question of Tariff Reform is now being considered, and I have faith in the recognition of the claims of our industry when this movement is brought into practical realisation. Until we have accomplished this desirable object our planters must hold on as best they can. They must fight a hard battle, so long as present conditions exist, and justice demands that the decision cannot be long delayed, or another important element in British prosperity will be erased from our records.

The large East and Mid Kent growths have been lately brought to market, and have been readily sold at low prices now current. There is a certain amount of firmness in the trade for choice qualities, the scarcity of which becomes daily more pronounced. But merchants, encouraged by the anxiety of holders to realise, have not made any material advances in their bids. Therefore, the highest figures do not exceed 70s., or occasionally 75s., while whole growths of good average quality have changed hands at 56s. to 65s. Medium hops rather hang fire at 40s. to 45s., and the lower grades are in fair demand at 25s. to 35s. The good yearlings, which holders expected to be able to sell at much higher prices than their new growths, are being disposed of at most disappointing rates. It is to be hoped that these cruel sacrifices will arouse growers to action in defence of their grievously-threatened industry. Present experience should give them courage. The consequences of apathy must be evident. I trust I may soon be able to discern signs amongst our people of their consciousness of the gravity of their position.

Foreign.

America.

According to letters recently to hand, the final reports have not materially altered previous estimates of the crop, which is now set at about 290,000 bales, or 480,000 cwt. This figure includes 55,000 bales for N.Y. State, 70,000 for California, 115,000 for Oregon, and 52,000 for Washington. My correspondents name the current prices being paid about fourteen days ago to growers as 9 to 12½ cents on the Pacific Coast, and 14 to 17 cents in New York. It is stated that growers are free sellers, and that after the October demand is supplied everyone expects a dull dragging market, with declining prices. This anticipation is confirmed by a subsequent cable message, which refers to the market being demoralised and bordering upon panic. Speculative dealers had evidently reckoned upon such a downward tendency, as offers for future delivery are being made at 13 cents delivered in the breweries, which means not more than 7 to 8 cents to the farmer. It is estimated that about 10,000 acres of hops were planted in the U.S. in 1904, whereby the area of cultivation has been increased by about 25 per cent. The immediate effect of this extension must be evident, if we can accept as correct the statement of a Californian friend, who writes me as follows: "We had 10½ acres of new hops. The cuttings were planted in March, and from them we picked 39,000 lb. (nearly 17½ tons) of dry hops. How is that for California?" My reply to his query is that our English experience cannot produce a parallel, and that it is almost incredible, even with all the advantages of climate and soil possessed by California.

Germany.

The arrivals at Nuremberg have largely exceeded the sales during the past fortnight, stocks having been increased by several thousands of bales. The wet weather having retarded the air drying, hops arriving from the country could not be generally offered in attractive condition. These circumstances have therefore checked business, and have somewhat weakened values.

Prices are certainly firm for good green samples, which are comparatively scarce, but inferior sorts are neglected, and, with slow demand for these, quotations are falling. Ordinary market hops are selling at 25s. to 48s., Hallertans from 40s. to 80s., Wurtembergs from 40s. to 70s., Spalts from 50s. to 90s., these being the prices paid to growers.

The official return issued at Munich for the week ending October 20 shows that 587 cwt. of hops, valued at £3,530, were sold, the stocks on hand at that date being 3,752 cwt. The prices for local consumption averaged 105s. for Bavarians, 110s. for Franconians, and 140s. for Bohemians.

German imports during September last amounted to 11,746 cwt. (principally from Austria-Hungary), against 6,320 cwt. in the same month of 1904. The exports from Germany for the month were 7,332 cwt., compared with 15,488 cwt. in September, 1904. The returns enable us to trace the destination of these exports, and therefrom we find that 1,216 cwt. were shipped to England, 1,684 cwt. to Belgium, 984 cwt. to the U.S.A., the remainder being distributed in various proportions to every beer-drinking country in the world; the general popularity of the German produce, as well as the enterprise of Continental traders, being thus demonstrated.

Belgium.

The hop markets continue to be well supported in a firm position, with some tendency towards improvement in values. Recent quotations on the Brussels Bourse are 42½ to 45 francs (34s. to 36s.) for Alosts, and 32½ to 35 francs (26s. to 28s.) for Poperinghes. Buyers in the country markets are willing to pay rather higher figures, but growers are somewhat reserved. The sales in the four open markets held at Assche, the last of which took place October 24, amounted to 120,000 lb., exceeding the sales of last year by 50 per cent. A correspondent of *Le Petit Journal du Brasseur*, speaking of the results of these markets, says he is proud to be a Belgian grower when he sees that their soil can produce hops of such excellent quality. He is convinced that if they continue to thus improve they will, in a few years, have nothing to fear from foreign competition.

Thirsk October Sheep Fair.—The largest show of sheep which has been seen on St. James' Green for many years was forward at the fair held on the 28th ult., and in spite of the large supply all the pens with but few exceptions found customers. Prices ruled high, and anything fit to slaughter was readily bought up, whilst good running-on stock at the back end of the year never met a better trade than it did on Saturday. Quotations:—Pure-bred Wensleydale shearling ewes, £2 10s. to £3; half-bred shearlings, 45s. to 48s.; twice-crossed lambs 35s. to 38s.; half-bred lambs, 17s. to 22s.; black-faced and Scotch and moorland lambs, 15s. to 20s. each. There was a fair show of grazing beasts, but of moderate quality, which ruled, for two-year-old bullocks and heifers, from £8 10s. to £9 5s.

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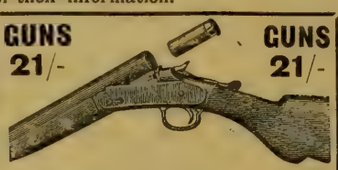

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THE NEW ZEALAND FARMER. Bee and Poultry Journal. An illustrated monthly publication, containing practical and scientific information on Farming, Stock Breeding, Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Dairying, Fruit Growing, &c. The only paper entirely devoted to Farming matters and circulating throughout the Colony. Price 1s. 1d., by post 1s. 4d. Proprietors, The Brett Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Auckland. London Manager, R. B. BRETT, 2 and 3, Imperial Buildings, Ludgate Circus, London, E.C.

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The

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Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

LORD TREDEGAR'S AGRICULTURAL and POULTRY SHOWS, 1905.

LORD TREDEGAR has fixed the 87th Annual Meeting to be held at the CATTLE MARKET, NEWPORT, MON., on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21st and 22nd.

The Show-yard will be open to the public on Tuesday, the 21st, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Wednesday, the 22nd, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Trial of Hunters will take place at Coedkernew on Tuesday, the 21st, at 11 a.m.

G. P. MITCHELL INNES,
Tredegar Estate Office,
Newport, Mon.

AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS, &c.

H. & E. M'GRATH, Hay and Provender Dealers, Live Stock Shipping Agents, Milford St., Liverpool. Cattle Sheds, Great Howard St. Telegraphic Address:—"Animals." Telephone 1963.

INVERNESS, WEST HIGHLANDS.—To Noblemen, Gentlemen, Land Agents, Farmers, and Graziers.—JAMES ARNOTT, Scotch Live Stock Commission Agent (Estd. 1870), Ellandonan, Inverness, selects and supplies on commission all classes of SCOTCH STOCK at lowest rates. Attends leading markets; orders receive personal attention. Classes with approximate prices on application; references given and required; terms cash. Telegrams: "Arnott, Inverness." CATTLE.—Shorthorns, Polled Angus, *West Highlanders from the best Herds in Scotland, and direct from their folds*, Polled and Horned Crosses, Ayrshire Cows, and Pedigree and Show Cattle of all classes. SHEEP—Border Leicester, Cheviot Black-faced and Crosses, and Pedigree and Show Sheep of all classes. Cattle and Sheep bought throughout the Winter Season.

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POTATO BAGS.—75,000 Maize Bags for sale, used once, perfectly sound, to hold 1 cwt. potatoes.—For price, &c., BRINKWORTH & SONS, Ltd., Southampton.

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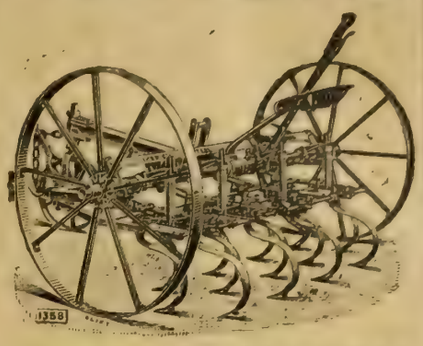

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NOVEMBER 13, 1905.

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WINTER OATS OR WHEAT.

A great many heavy-land farmers have substituted winter oats for wheat in their rotations in recent years. There are several reasons why. Chief among them is the low price of wheat, and the fact that unless about an eight-quarters crop to the acre can be grown, or the straw can be marketed, there has been found to be little or no profit in growing wheat. Then there is the larger yield of grain of the oats when there is only low medium-class or ordinary farming. They also, owing to heavy weight to measure, frequently sell for about 24s. per quarter, when such wheat as could be grown only commands three or four shillings more. In the next place, the land is occupied a shorter time, winter oats being harvested at least a fortnight before wheat, and frequently being taken from the ground early enough in July for a turnip crop or a planting of kale seedlings to be put in. When this is not required, the extra time is still valuable for fallowing, especially if the soil happens to be at all foul and in want of cleaning. For soils subject to charlock there is another advantage of no mean character, for the winter oats, together with all the charlock and other annual weeds in full growth, might be fed with sheep during the last half of April, or even in the first week of May, and a second plant of oats would spring up afterwards to have satisfactory growth for the corn crop.

Owners of breeding flocks frequently grow winter oats solely to serve the object of their serving as a provision of sheep-feed for that usual period of scarcity. Growers having no sheep might often secure a considerable profit by buying a sufficient number to feed their oats within the prescribed period, for if given auxiliary fattening food they could be finished off on grass or some other green crop afterwards.

In the autumn of 1904 a great many farmers who for several previous years had been growing winter oats instead of wheat, changed back again because, owing to the great deficiency of United States crops, a great rise in wheat prices was anticipated. The returns of last June gave an oat deficiency of 201,586 acres for Great Britain compared with the previous year, while on the other hand the increase in the wheat area amounted to 421,701 acres. The market advance was not so great as expected, and after harvest prices fell back well-nigh to the old low margin. There are this year abundant supplies of bread corn to come from across the Atlantic, but, on the other hand, failure from the Russian dominions. The autumn seeding season is a particularly fine one both for wheat and winter oats, and how far, or by what considerations, one crop is being preferred to the other, it is impossible to know. Some soils are more kindly for the one grain than the other, and certainly when such is the case this should be allowed to determine matters far more than speculations as to future prices, the most probable of which are uncertain. Then there is the still more important consideration of climate, which has always caused Scotland and Wales to grow more oats and less wheat than England, and the four northernmost English counties have climatic conditions more akin to the state of things in Scotland than that of Southern England. Still, wheat is the hardiest of all the cereals, and will withstand the severest winters in situations where farmers would deem it unsafe to attempt the growth of any other cereal planted previous to February. Thus it will be seen that there are several considerations bearing on the selection of one of these crops rather than the other, which should be alone determined by the peculiar circumstances of the farm itself.

The King's Birthday Honours.

We were pleased to see that the list of honours issued in connection with His Majesty the King's Birthday on Thursday contained the names of one or two gentlemen connected with our greatest industry. Among the new baronets figures William Beilby Avery, of Oakley Court, Windsor, whose name is associated with the well-known firm of W. and T. Avery, weighing machine and scale manufacturers, of Birmingham. Sir W. B. Avery is a large landowner, and takes an interest in the farming industry, and his name, if not he himself, is a familiar one in agricultural circles.

Then, in the list of new knights, we come across the name of Professor John McFadyean, head of the Veterinary College at Camden Town, and one of the most prominent figures in veterinary circles. Continuing our search, we did not notice another name well known to the agricultural world until we came to the list of C.M.G.'s, and amongst these we noticed that of William Saunders, Esq., LL.D., Director of the Experimental Farms of the Department of Agriculture, Canada. Mr. Saunders has done some good work in our ever-increasing and popular possession across the herring pond, so that the honour is well-deserved. No other gentlemen connected with farming matters figure amongst this quite ordinary list of Birthday Honours.

Ploughman's Valuable Find.—Whilst a ploughman was at work in one of the fields at Smalley Bight Farm, Stanley, Wakefield, his ploughshare struck an earthenware vase, and exposed to view a large number of bronze coins, which must have been buried in the earth for something like 1,500 years. The vase, which was scarcely two feet below the surface of the ground, was unfortunately broken to pieces. The coins, of which there are some 6,000, all of bronze, date from the time of the Roman occupation of Great Britain, and many of them are in excellent state of preservation. Most of them are about the size of a sixpence, and a little, if any, thicker, while the largest are no bigger than a shilling. Some of the best preserved bear the name of Constantine, with the word Constantinopolis; while others have on one side a head, with the inscription "Urbs Roma," and on the other a design depicting Romulus and Remus being suckled by the she-wolf. Some were evidently struck in the time of Nero. The vase was about eighteen inches high, and of rough unglazed earthenware. No similar discovery has been made in the district before.

Seasonable Topics.

Farmers, as a rule, are slow to move, and they like to see the way fairly clear in front before they leave any beaten track they have traversed for long, but it is quite evident that the spirit of co-operation is catching on, and **Co-operation.** that the movement is making headway. Rarely does a Chamber of Agriculture meet now without the question of co-operation cropping up somewhere in the proceedings, and meetings to establish co-operative societies and further the end in view are frequent occurrences. It is well for co-operation that it is being pushed by real enthusiasts who do it in no half-hearted manner, but thoroughly believe in its benefits for the agricultural fraternity, including landlord, tenant, and labourer. Again, co-operation has for its supporter a no less important person than the President of the Board of Agriculture, who has expressed himself freely on the subject on more than one occasion. Indeed, it may be said that farmers are at last waking up to a sense of their own interests, and ere long co-operation will be as general as it is now novel.

Some sensation has been caused of late by accounts which have appeared in the press about a mysterious animal that has been doing considerable damage within the limits of the Badminton Hunt in Gloucestershire. **A Mysterious Animal.** Several persons are reported to have seen this mysterious creature, which kills sheep and sucks their blood, and then vanishes like Jack the Ripper, leaving no traces behind him. Just exactly what this animal is no one seems to know. It is not a fox, but whether it is a jackal or a wolf seems open to doubt, and certainly its fame has been spread through the reports of its depredations appearing in the daily press. It is really surprising how much the daily papers make of a little diversity of this kind, and for several days the misdeeds of the strange wild animal at Badminton occupied nearly as much space as was accorded to the crisis in Russia. Thrilling stories were told of farmers watching their flocks at night with flaring lights and loaded guns, and casual wayfarers catching sight of the strange animal as it flitted from place to place. We have not heard whether the creature has been killed, for less news has been forthcoming of late about it, so perhaps it has vanished again, and, if so, we hope the Badminton farmers will again be able to rest in peace.

As we are now in the season when fruit trees are being planted, the vexed question again arises as to whether newly-planted orchard apple trees should be pruned at once, or whether they should be left for a year before any **Pruning Newly-planted Fruit Trees.** shortening of the leading shoots is done. Opinions differ very much on this matter, and several of our leading fruit-growers argue that it is better to let a newly-planted tree remain for a year before it is pruned, as this gives opportunity for the specimen to get established at the root, and the growths which are made after the pruning is done are stronger than they would be if the pruning was done at the time of planting. Other experts contend that if other conditions are favourable, good results follow the pruning at planting time, and to leave a tree a year before any shortening is done means loss of time. As far as our own view is concerned, we have seen excellent results through leaving the trees a year before pruning, and we know trees that were pruned immediately after planting do equally well, so the advocates of both methods are in a measure right, but the people who are undoubtedly wrong are those who never prune newly-planted trees at all, and we should not like to say how many naked, lanky trees there are now which are the result of non-pruning after planting. We are disposed to take a modified view of the question, and if trees are planted in the autumn, which is undoubtedly the best time, there need be no hesitation about cutting the leading growths hard back before growth commences the following spring, and a compact head will be formed. If, on the other hand, planting is left till late in the spring, say March, we think it is better to leave the growths intact till the following spring, particularly if the situation is dry, because if a hot summer follows late planting the trees often break badly. Our rule, however, is to plant in the autumn, and shorten back the leading growths the following spring.

As some of our readers will doubtless be establishing young orchards or renovating old ones by putting in fresh trees, we would impress the importance of keeping the turf away from the stems for the first few years. Farmers **Fruit Trees on Grass.** sometimes complain that this means losing a considerable amount of grass, but we take it that every man who plants a fruit tree wishes it to do well, and consequently it is worth the sacrifice. When young trees are planted on grass the turf should be removed in a circle at least five feet in diameter. The top spit of soil to the depth of one foot should then be removed and placed on the side, and the subsoil to the depth of another foot should be broken up in the hole. The turf should then be cut up and placed over the lower spit, and, after putting back a portion of the top soil, a stout stake should be fixed to support the tree, and the latter be planted. The fibres should be laid out horizontally and be covered with not more than 3 in. of the best soil. As a rule, it is not essential to add manure to the soil at the time of planting, but a mulching on the surface conserves moisture, and encourages surface root action. Again we say that for the first few years weeds should not be allowed to grow round the tree, and a space of two or three feet from the stem all round should be kept clear of turf.

We had something to say a short time ago about the local pig clubs which have existed in Wiltshire for a long time, and there seems a prospect of extending the movement into the adjoining counties. At a well-attended **Pig Clubs.** meeting held in Gloucester a short time ago, the matter was discussed by a number of influential people, and it was decided to take steps towards the establishment of pig clubs in the latter county. There is certainly every reason for encouraging the industry of pig-keeping amongst the working classes, and it is desirable that they should go in for the type of animal which is likely to be the most profitable. In units they cannot do very much, but if village pig-keepers combine themselves into clubs, working mutually together, the benefits are felt and shared by all. It is hardly to be expected that cottagers and working people will establish these institutions of their own accord, but if persons of influence can be induced to set the thing going we do not think that the cottagers would fail to take advantage of the movement for their mutual benefit.

We hear a good deal about agricultural education in these days, and the necessity of instructing country children in rural arts and crafts, but the other day an instance came before our notice of this being done in a way that **Farm Boys and Animals.** does not appear to have occurred to educationalists, who have almost worn the subject threadbare. It was a case of a farm bailiff who has several growing boys, and, unlike many others of this craft, he intends to bring them up to his own occupation, and he deems it advisable that, above all things, they should be taught to look after animals properly. With this end in view, the man encourages his lads to keep pets, in the way of rabbits and pigeons, on the distinct understanding that they shall not be neglected, and in the farmyard there are calves, pigs, and lambs which are the special charges of the different boys. This is practical education, and the man informed us that if the lads were taught to look after the animals now they would realise the importance of it when, in due time, they came to have valuable stock under their charge. Individuality is a great factor in education, and the bailiff in question has given up a portion of his own garden to the boys. The latter have a plot each, which they cultivate under paternal directions, and a spirit of keen rivalry exists between them. The father argues, and rightly so, that if the boys work in his garden they look upon it as drudgery, but having plots of their own, they accept the responsibility, take a pride in them, and endeavour to surpass each other in the work. This strikes us as being a practical mode of rural education.

We do not know how far it is general throughout the country, but within the range of our own observations we have noticed a great scarcity of acorns this year. Usually about this time it is a common sight to see the children **The Scarcity of Acorns.** of the village out in the lanes and fields collecting up the acorns, which help to feed the cottager's pig; but this season they may search a long time without getting much in return. The scarcity of acorns may be also responsible for the absence of the hordes of wood pigeons which invarially swoop down on districts where oaks are plentiful when acorns are abundant, but, unfortunately they do not confine their attention to what the woodland offers in the way of food, as many farmers know to their cost. Speaking of acorns, opinions differ somewhat as to their value as food for pigs, but the cottager remembers that he used to collect them for his father's pig when he was a lad, so he takes it for granted that the custom should be continued in his family.

FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS.

FRANCE.—Mild, rainy weather succeeded the recent cold spell, retarded field operations, and also was unsuitable for wheat threshing. Satisfaction is expressed, however, at the fact that the first sowings of wheat, rye, and barley are germinating nicely owing to the milder weather. The potato crop is about all gathered, and turns out very well.

BELGIUM.—The young crops are coming up well, favoured by mild weather with light rains.

HOLLAND.—The weather has been propitious for the autumn-sown crops, which promise well so far.

AUSTRIA.—Fine weather has prevailed during the past week, and consequently field work, which was greatly in arrears, has been facilitated.

GERMANY.—There was a change in the weather from cold and rain to more comfortable conditions, which have much helped the progress of field work and winter sowings.

SPAIN.—Dry weather has delayed sowings in various parts of the Peninsula, and the province of Badajoz in particular would benefit much by some rain. The sowings in the districts of Tejares and Valladolid are nearly concluded.

CANADA.—Advices from Toronto show that in some parts of the province rain has fallen and the roads have begun to break up. In some rural districts more rain is badly wanted, the land being too dry for the plough, whilst the wells and springs require replenishing. A revised estimate by the North-West Grain Dealers' Association of this year's crop in Manitoba, Assiniboia, and Alberta, gives for wheat—acreage—4,019,000; yield, 21.6 bushels per acre, total bushels, 88,810,400.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* of yesterday says that the wheat crop maintains its excellent position, and there is almost a complete absence of reports of fly. There is continued disappointment over the yield of maize and the excellence of the quality of the grain.

ARGENTINA.—Weather and crops generally are satisfactory, particularly within the last few days. This news is qualified somewhat by the intelligence, however, that locusts endanger the growing maize crop in the Provinces of Santa Fe, Cordoba, Saint Luis, and Mendoza.

INDIA.—From the Viceroy a telegram, dated November 4, was received in which it is stated that crop prospects for Bombay had greatly improved in Deccan and Karnatak, through rain which had fallen the previous week. More was wanted, but there was no cause for serious anxiety. The conditions were unchanged in the United and Central Provinces, where no rain was reported. Spring sowings had germinated well, but rain was much wanted for rice and other standing crops. In Rajputana, also, there was no rain, and harvests in progress showed poor outturn. In Central India, the spring crop prospects were unfavourable. Slight and partial rainfall in Hyderabad, and spring crops and sowings retarded in parts. Bengal has had good rain, and the crops promise well, whilst in Madras and the Punjab rain was needed, but the general prospects were satisfactory. Private advices received since were reporting further beneficial rains.

AUSTRALIA.—Fair weather for the young crops throughout the Commonwealth was mentioned in the last report by our special correspondent at Sydney, with the addition that rain, however, was urgently needed in many parts. This, again, was modified by the statement that Australia was always crying out for rain, and up to date there was nothing to cause alarm for the coming harvest. Since the despatch, however, telegrams from both Sydney and Melbourne state that crop prospects have been greatly improved by good rains, thus ensuring a good wheat yield. This according to quite recent despatches is estimated for Victoria at 35,000,000 bushels, against the previous record year (1903-4) of 28,536,000 bushels. The South Australian yield is put at 18,000,000 bushels, the previous highest being 13,200,000 bushels in 1903-4. *-Dornbusch.*

The National Potato Society has had the happy idea of publishing an illustrated guide to its great show in the Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, on Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24. This gives a resume of the schedule, with the judges who will officiate in the different classes, an alphabetical list of stand holders, particulars of excursion trains, notes of conference and committee meetings, etc.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

I will again risk the criticism of those estimable persons who do not agree with my assertion that Colonial preference would, with the illimitable fertility of Canada brought to the very doors of the home producers, operate to the hurt of the British farmer. My hardihood is attributable to the emphatic association of the Minister of Agriculture with this position. Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes cannot for a moment be said to belong to that class of politicians who regard Free Trade as *sacro-sanct*, and any meditated disturbance of it an act of greater impiety than sacreligious treatment of the Ark of the Covenant. Neither has he any ineradicable objection to tariff reform or to a policy of retaliation against the tariff-imposing foreigner, a fact of which his membership of the Government is a sufficient evidence. However, he is convinced that the Colonies would, under the scheme of preference, "soon be able"—I quote the Minister's actual words—"to supply every bit of wheat that this country requires." And so observant a man as Mr. Fellowes cannot be indifferent to the fact that Canadian statecraft is already making preparations with a view to supplying very much more than the wheat we require. Canadian agents are at this moment carefully studying what I may describe as the general produce markets with a view to meeting their requirements. Of course, I am not, and certainly Mr. Fellowes is not, indifferent to the value of uniting the Colonies to us by a more tangible and practicable bond than that of sentimental loyalty. It is a Shakespearean axiom not to heat the furnace for thy foe so hot that it doth singe ourself. And in forging this bond we must see that it does not mean our disaster.

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Of course, the danger may be capable of avoidance. It may be even a phantom of a too-sensitive imagination—though, by the way, I should not say that Mr. Ailwyn-Fellowes is the kind of man to be misled by will-Fellowes is the man to be misled by will-omened suspicion is justifiable is deepened benefit to agriculture. Yes, it might. But gonists of the new economy have refused to deal with it. The late Mr. Clare Sewell Read certainly believed that the danger has not the grim and sinister character some of us believe it possesses; but, excellent as was his position and authority, he could scarcely be said to be representative of Mr. Chamberlain. Now, the right hon. gentleman is himself to speak in Kent. Surely a meeting in such a county should be the fitting occasion for a careful exposition of the new purpose, so far as it affects the farmer. We want something more than the vague assurance such as we have recently received from Mr. Akers-Douglas that tariff reform would be a great benefit to agriculture. Yet, it might. But there is tariff reform and tariff reform. Would that tariff reform be a great benefit to British farmers which, whilst penalising foreign competition in the British markets, would deliberately and systematically encourage a Colonial rival of limitless resource, of disciplined method, and who would be able to present his products at a cheaper rate than the British farmer? This question is not antagonistic to the Protectionist principle. So far is this from being the case that it suggests rather that the Protectionist principle is to be really evaded. Will Mr. Chamberlain devote himself to a reply to this interrogation, an interrogation inspired by no querulous objection to his general purpose, and which possesses men in sympathy with his main anxiety to conserve and preserve Britain's industrial position?

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"One of his last acts," said Lord Curzon, in bidding farewell to Bombay, "was to propose to the Secretary of State the establishment in every province of an agricultural college, with a research station and a farm attached." This is for India. When will the Premier of England, or the Minister for Education, be able to make a similar announcement? Of course, it would be held to be an act of unwisdom to establish colleges under the ægis of the State. Well, it may be. Still, if we had an institution or institutions to which entrance should be by a competitive examination—which should be in the nature of a reward for special aptitude revealed in other schools—we should have taken a great step towards that proper State recognition which the first traditional interest of the country deserves. This action of Lord Curzon's is of the more importance as revealing that very soon the centre of the Imperial fabric will be alone in the somnolent indifference with which it regards the agrarian weal. If we had in this country an agricultural grant proportionately of the same extent as that given to Ireland, we should be able to secure an equipment and a machinery which would be of the utmost value to the farmer. The British Board of Agriculture would then be able to enter—and this was the original purpose in its establishment—into the daily life and weal of the British farmer.

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In reviewing the birthday honours' list, one thought impressed itself upon me. Why is it that agricultural activity or agricultural research is not now deemed worthy of honour? Every interest but that of agriculture would seem to have been recognised in this honours' list. Personalities in benevolence, patriotism, science, medicine, shipping, commerce, finance, the law, politics, the services, and municipal enterprise, have been selected for titular distinction; but you cannot discover in the long array of names one gentleman who owes the favour to his interest and enterprise in either the practical or the scientific work of agriculture. Of course, no one for a moment would attribute this to want of sympathy on the part of his Majesty. If King Edward's title in the international sphere is that of "The Pacificator," in the rural and agrarian sphere it is that of "The Farmer King." The incident is simply another evidence of the apathetic attitude of the State towards agriculture—an apathetic attitude which has certainly at last bred a spirit of protest and mild rebellion. When agriculture has the assertiveness of the other interests which have again received the rolay smile, then agriculture will be recognised.

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It is at least a gratifying fact that statesmen now comprehend that agriculture is a profitable theme for oratorical attention. The fashion of verbatim reporting of men of Front Bench rank has gone out. Here was the *Times* of a few days ago content to discuss a Minister holding the rank of Secretary of State for India in twenty or thirty lines. However, the perusal of the full reports reveals that agriculture is almost invariably one of the subjects selected for more or less illuminative consideration. This, I may say, has been particularly the case with Mr. Brodrick and Mr. Akers Douglas. This action of theirs is—I hope this assertion will not be regarded as an impertinence—is of more moment than the speeches of the statesman. I do not in the case of the Ministers I have indicated accept the incident as an evidence of the self-reproaching remorse at the Government neglect of the interest. I rather prefer to regard it as an assurance that a future Conservative Government would not consent to a repetition of this neglect. Mr. Akers-Douglas would appear to look to tariff reform as the means of agricultural redemption; and it is conceivable that under certain conditions this would be so. The farmers, however, need other things. Will the Home Secretary tell us what is his attitude towards the Darlington platform? This is the irreducible minimum of rural reform, and no man with any intimate knowledge of agriculture should find its sensationless propositions impossible of acceptance.

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"The Darlington programme!" "Yes, of course," said Mr. Dudley Ward, the Liberal candidate for West Somerset, "I accept it Who could not?" In this optimised opinion of Mr. Ward's, whose significance is all the greater, apart from his intellectual gifts, in that he is fighting Sir A. Acland-Hood, Mr. Dudley Ward reflected the view of the general Liberal party. Fighting a purely agrarian seat, he regards the agrarian programme as little more than the ratification of a platitude We are forming a farmers' organisation. Why not a farmers' programme beyond which the most timid man would advance? This is the attitude of Liberalism as indicated by Mr. Dudley Ward. Liberalism and wise Toryism are with the farmers in this project, and wish a more defined attitude on subjects of moment. I know that this is the position of Conservatives like Sir John Dorington.

MILLING.

Flour has advanced at least 1s. per sack of 280 lb. during the past fortnight in sympathy with wheat. Ogals of all kinds are making good prices, which will improve throughout the winter. There is a large demand for coarse makes, especially broad bran. Some of the large port millers are doing a very good export trade in the latter. English wheat has been coming to the mills in large quantities and in very satisfactory condition, except when the weather has been very damp, which always affects that cereal. Being of a soft nature it takes up moisture faster than most foreign wheats, and in wet weather the yield of the mill is generally lowered. Still, there has been little to complain of, and many millers would like to have a good deal more English wheat in their grist than they can obtain under present conditions. No wheat in the world is able to impart such a sweet, nutty flavour to the bread much from it, and it is much to be regretted that farmers are not encouraged to grow a great deal more.

Grading and Sizing in Flour Milling.

The process of grading, or sizing, is an important operation, both in the cleaning department and in the mill. In fact, the principle is applied throughout many of the different operations in the manufacture of flour. Upon being received at the silos, foreign wheat should be passed over a warehouse separator in order to give it a preliminary cleaning before storage. By this operation all the worst impurities are removed, and the wheat will be much less liable to deteriorate while in store. Very often the development of heat is traceable to an abnormal admixture of impurities. The warehouse separator is a most useful machine, and should occupy a place in every mill, large and small. It should have two sieves and a double aspirator—that is to say, the dirty wheat should be aspirated when it goes on to the machine and also when it leaves it. By treating it in this way all dust, chaff, and lighter impurities are, to a great extent, eliminated. The feed should be arranged to extend the whole width of the sieve, in order that the current of air may freely act upon it. If No. 14 or No. 15 zinc be put upon the top sieve, according to the size of the wheel, all the impurities larger than the latter will tail over the end, while the wheat and everything smaller than wheat will pass through the holes. If the second sieve be covered with No. 8 or No. 9 zinc the wheat will pass over the end, and everything smaller will pass through. This secures a very good preliminary cleaning, after which the wheat may be safely stored for a time, unless it is of a soft nature, and then it will need careful attention; otherwise it will heat or mould.

Grading for the Extraction of Cockle and Barley.

When the wheat is to be ground it is commonly passed over a milling separator, so as to make a more thorough separation of the impurities. A grader should follow this machine, to size the wheat, because it will be found that, practically, all the large wheat will contain the barley, if such exists as an impurity, while the small wheat will contain all the cockle. The medium size will generally be found to be practically free of both impurities. Sometimes, however, the grader is combined with the milling separator, and the combination provides a very useful machine. A sieve covered with No. 10 or No. 10½ zinc would pass over all the large wheat to barley cylinders, and another covered with No. 8 or

No. 9 zinc would fall over the small wheat to cockle cylinders. Yet another covered with No. 6 zinc would make a separation of the broken wheat and seeds from the dust and smaller impurities which would pass through.

Grading for Rye Extraction.

Again, it is absolutely necessary to grade wheat into three sizes for the extraction of rye, an impurity which approximates so nearly to the different sizes of the wheat, principally Russian and Danubian, which contain it. If three sizes of the wheat are made, the large rye will go with the large wheat, the medium with the medium wheat, and the smallest with the smallest wheat. All three sizes will approximate in length, both as regards wheat and rye, but the latter, being thinner than the wheat, will pass through slots on the rye cylinders which will not admit of the wheat. The thicker and shorter the rye, the more difficult it is to make a separator.

Grading for the First Break.

It is customary to grade wheat before it passes to the first break rolls for reduction. In the bulk there will always be found large and small grains of wheat, and, if not graded, the former receive the benefit of the first reduction. If the rolls are set properly to act on the large grains, they are too open for those which are smaller; if they are set to suit the small grains, the large ones are broken up too much. If there is a compromise, none but the medium-sized grains are properly handled. Grindage are properly handled. Grinding individual wheats and mixing the flours from them was the rule in the earlier days of gradual reduction, but that was when conditioning was almost unknown. Now, by the application of water and heat, all the wheats in a mixture can be brought into like condition, although it must not be supposed that they are all cleaned and conditioned together. That depends entirely on their structure and individual characteristics. In a four-break system, working on mixed wheats, the rolls taking the large size might be corrugated 8 to the inch, and the small size 10 to the inch. The same corrugations would do for soft wheats, like English.

Grading for Purifiers.

These are given as examples of grading in the course of flour manufacture, but the process of sizing is going on, more or less, from the time the graded wheat enters the first break rolls until the flour finds its way into the sack. The middlings from the break rolls, after being dusted, are graded into several sizes for so many purifiers. In the early days of the system, this grading was done upon reels, but the process was slow and tedious. Now the plansifter performs all these operations in a very perfect manner. Good results, too, can be obtained on rotary sieves and inter-elevator reels. The system and the manner of operation on all flour milll products may vary, but the principles underlying those operations are always the same.

MILLER-FARMER.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Nov. 4, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	9,332	10,244	Wheat ...	2,229,200	1,628,500
Sheep.....	7,011	650	Flour	209,200	316,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	906,900	869,f00
Horses ...	310	385	Oats	233,700	166,700
			Peas	44,310	86,380
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	29,460	20,920
Beef	85,383	82,926	Maize ...	1,017,300	451,200
Mutton...	57,666	68,684	Apples ...	137,137	158,747
Pork	14,270	11,335	Apricots		
Bacon ...	100,448	91,254	&Peaches	2	—
Beef, salt	6,916	1,784		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	18,654	19,664	Bananas	76,563	134,577
Pork, salt	4,023	2,377		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	11,690	12,662	Cherries	—	—
			Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	10,108	18,517	Goosebr's	—	—
Butter ...	55,372	71,813	Grapes ..	76,526	49,934
M'rg'rine	19,253	22,545	Lemons...	22,783	22,292
Cheese ...	79,000	68,533	Oranges	26,586	37,208
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Pears.....	15,498	9,613
			Plums ...	143	240
			Oth'r Fr't	4,062	4,999
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	2,108	3,313
Milk, Cream	85	146	Straw ..	2,458	1,448
			MossLitt'r	—	1,934
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	14,943	15,763	Hops	13,210	4,510
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds...	24	32	Locust Beans	1,222	23,310
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	227,088	170,313
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	70,229	22,690
Eggs	509,787	448,166	Tomatoes	9,177	10,069
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£4,965	£3,364
	£9,849	£9,114		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	3,047	13,452
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by can-		
Rabbits...	6,121	26,521	ning ..	9,791	6,026
Lard	50,742	48,946			

NORTHERN NOTES.

Early sown wheats usually germinate more quickly than those put in later, but, considering the favourable character of the season, it is somewhat surprising that there is a marked difference in the periods taken by the different sowings to make their appearance above ground. The growth of the September wheats was very rapid, and some fields will become "winter-proud" if there be no real frosts until after this month is out. But the fields put in a month ago are still brown and bare, and it is evident that though the soil retained considerable heat, yet the withdrawal of part of the sun's heat, and the advent of cold showers of sleet and of hail, have very perceptibly retarded the process of germination. Birds—particularly larks—have caused considerable damage to the young plants, and the operation of the laws relating to education render it increasingly difficult for the farmer to obtain boys to scare birds. The larks that are causing the damage are not of local origin, they are of foreign extraction, and have come over the water, and however strongly a farmer may uphold the doctrines of Free Trade in general, he strongly desires Protection against foreign larks.

Speaking of birds, it seems that the time has come when the agriculturist should protest against the senseless policy adopted by some County Councils. There are those who would even protect the rook (common crow) and the common house sparrow, and if it were possible would make it an offence for a farmer to kill these birds on his own land, and they contend these particular birds never do perceptible harm. No reasonable man would ever desire to decrease the numbers of most varieties of feathered songsters, but there are some birds whose habits cause much damage to the farmer. It was no doubt wise to give to local authorities (County Councils) great powers in the administration of and in the matter of the extension of the Wild Birds Protection Acts, but it seems that some of the faddists are determined to ride their hobby-horses to death.

From time immemorial it has been customary to employ boys to scare birds from growing crops in their earliest stages, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain boys for such work, and to employ men at men's wages for the purpose is expensive The effect of the measures adopted to promote elementary education in England is to prevent farmers from employing any perceptible amount of child labour. There were many subsidiary matters for which the employment of children was especially suited, and the earnings of those children formed an appreciable and welcome addition to the income of their parents. But all this is changed now, and this at the instance of those who contend that the father of a family should always be able to earn sufficient for the due maintenance of his children. Some of us think it would have been wiser to have first taken steps to secure that the father's earnings were sufficient before depriving him of any of his extraneous income.

We hear much about the increased cost of education, and the effect of the recent Education Act is seen in the ever-increasing precepts of the county councils, and we grumble and continue to grumble, although we fully believe in the blessings of education, and also believe, with certain reservations, that it is the duty of the State to give each child in the community a reasonable education. But the farmer finds only bitter irony in the situation when he endeavours to engage the services of children whose education has been received in a school mainly supported by rates upon land, and learns that the brightest and best of them despise the humdrum life of the farm servant and elect to go into the towns and follow commercial and industrial pursuits.

There are few farms now on the market; the majority of those which will change hands at Lady Day (the usual term-time in the North) are already let. There were fewer notices given than usual, and there has been a strong demand for the farms that were at liberty. This certainly does not look as though agriculture was depressed, but the key to the situation is found when it is noted how many persons previously engaged in commercial and mercantile pursuits and in trade are competing for farms, especially the smaller farms of from one hundred to two hundred acres. Many of these outside competitors have made their pile, others are fairly well-to-do, and all are possessed with an innate confidence in their ability to succeed in the management of a farm, and they are usually quite willing to give any rent the landlord or his agent requires. They go into the business, and for a time delude themselves by imagining their "improvements" will lead to future profits, but, as a rule, their after-success is not great.

The President of the Board of Agriculture in Lincolnshire.

The Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, was the chief guest at the dinner held in connection with the annual Bull Fair at Alford, Lincolnshire, on Tuesday, and amongst others present were the Duke of Portland and Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P.

The Duke of Portland, in proposing success to the Lincoln Red Shorthorn Association, referred in congratulatory terms to the success of the Alford bull fair. The efforts of the committee had been furthered, not only by the proprietors of cattle, but by the townspeople as well, and they were all trying to make the bull sale a distinctive feature of present-day agriculture. In the past it had been a frequent reproach that the farmer was an unenterprising fellow, that he had no initiative, and was content to run in a groove. Here they had a distinct proof to the contrary, and he was certain the charges of doing nothing could not be brought against the farmers of East Lincolnshire. Having realised that the days of profitable corn growing were now at an end, they had grasped the fact that their rich marsh land was specially fitted for rearing stock, and they already possessed in the Lincoln Red Shorthorn one of the finest kinds of cattle in existence. But the best specimens of the breed were in the hands of a comparatively few individuals, and the breed would become better when young bulls of moderate prices were available for general use. It was to remedy this defect, as well as to encourage the breeding of bulls of special quality for home and export purposes, that the Alford bull sale had been organised. In 1889, when the first sale took place, twenty-seven bulls fetched between £400 and £500, whereas last year £2,521 was paid. His Grace concluded by welcoming Mr. Fellowes, who was a well known and practical agriculturist before going to the Board of Agriculture, and by touching upon the subject of agricultural co-operation, which would enable farmers to trade on much more advantageous terms.

Mr. J. Evens replied, urging that the magnificent example which the Duke of Portland set in taking a personal interest in the welfare of his tenants should be followed by other landlords. The Duke was an ideal landlord, as was shown at the Welbeck Show. Mr. Evens also thanked Mr. Fellowes for his firm attitude in prohibiting the importation of diseased foreign cattle.

Lord Willoughby de Eresby, M.P., in proposing "Success to Agriculture," said that agricultural discussions in the House of Commons were seldom edifying or helpful. It had been said that the Diseases of Animals Act was merely a dodge of the British agriculturist to raise the price of meat, but this he strongly denied. All they asked was that their flocks and herds should be protected from disease.

The President of the Board of Agriculture, who described himself as an East Anglian agriculturist, pointed out that it cost no more to keep a good animal than a bad one, and therefore it was necessary for agriculturists to do everything possible to improve their live stock. Selection of animals was of the utmost importance, as the yield of milk could be enormously increased thereby. The action taken by successive Presidents of the Board of Agriculture in stopping the importation of diseased cattle deserved the gratitude of every live stock owner. It was deplorable that during the past few weeks men who would no doubt hold high office in a new Government should have openly stated that this question ought to be amended; and consequently he looked with great apprehension on what might take place in the next few months. As long as he had the honour—and he supposed from all accounts it would not be long—of being head of the Department, nothing would induce him to ask the House of Commons to alter this law, which was one of the greatest safeguards the British live stock owner had. (Loud applause.) Cattle disease was now practically extinct in this country, and swine fever had gone down 39 per cent. in the first nine months of this year, compared with last. Mr. Fellowes appealed to his hearers to believe that the restrictions imposed upon the removal of swine were only put on by the Board of Agriculture owing to a strong sense of duty. What they wanted was to exterminate swine fever. With the disease now so largely decreasing their policy was to combine county with county, so that there should be free movement of swine between the two.

Turning next to sheep, Mr. Fellowes said that sheep scab had been reduced by 31 per cent. this year, as compared with last year. If any county cared to approach the Board for compulsory powers in sheep-dipping, they would be given. He strongly warned his hearers to do everything in their power to export only healthy animals, for if the present condition of affairs was allowed

to go on, especially as regards the Argentine, the fair fame of the British breeder would suffer.

From stock Mr. Fellowes passed to crops, and touching upon the increase of 29,000 acres of potatoes in Lincolnshire during the last few years, he cautioned them to adopt spraying as a preventive of potato disease. About small holdings, he did not seem very enthusiastic. In some districts he thought they would pay, and in some they were absolutely useless. (Applause and cries of "No.") The enormous local burdens placed on the land would kill small holdings in the same way as they were killing farming. Despite the relief afforded by the Agricultural Rating Act, the rates on his own land in Norfolk had more than doubled during the last few years.

Alluding to General Booth's scheme for sending labourers to the colonies, Mr. Fellowes expressed the opinion that it would be much better for agriculture if they could be kept at home. He thought co-operative associations were of the greatest use to farmers, especially in the saving of railway rates. Complaints were often heard that the railway companies favoured the foreigner, as against the home producer, but it had been extremely difficult to get any evidence of that, although attempts had been made. If any agriculturist had a grievance about railway rates, the Board of Agriculture would willingly consider it and would arrange for an official of the railway company concerned to meet a representative body of the agriculturists of the district. (Applause.) What was chiefly wanted was cohesion amongst agriculturists, both in and out of Parliament.

Messrs. J. Ashworth and Sons' Root Competition.

Messrs. Joseph Ashworth and Sons, Limited, Bone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge, via Warrington, announce the following awards in their competitions:—

WHITCHURCH, ELLESMERE, AND BRONINGTON DISTRICTS.

Clovers.—Messrs. F. Willis, Joseph Williams, and Mrs. Allwood; 2, Messrs. G. Parry, W. Boughey, A. Hughes, and Joseph Williams; 3, Messrs. John Edwards and W. H. Edwards.

Swedes.—1, Messrs. Thomas Williams, Joseph Siddall, Thomas Emberton, and J. Simcock; 2, Messrs. John Lea, William Jones, E. Rogers, and E. Bright; 3, Mr. A. Shaw; champion, Mr. Robert Wade, Aston Grange, Preston Brook.

Mangolds.—1, Messrs. Thomas Hulse, John Beardmore, and Frank Batho; 2, Messrs. John Williams, R. Marsh, and Hockenhull; 3, Mr. Joseph Reeves.

STONE, STAFFORD, AND NEWPORT.

Swedes.—1, Mr. Elijah White; 2, Mr. James Bassett; champion, Mr. Robert Wade, Aston Grange, Preston Brook.

SANDBACH, MIDDLEWICH, AND HOLMES CHAPEL.

Clover.—1, Mr. James Davenport; 2, Mrs. Mason and Mr. Joseph Slater; 3, Mr. Thomas Leech; 4, Mr. Arthur Newton; 5, Mr. George Webb.

Swedes.—1, Mr. Thomas Hayes; 2, Messrs. Thomas Bell and Steinway Bowers; 3, Mr. William Buston; champion, Mr. Robert Wade, Aston Grange, Preston Brook.

Mangolds.—1, Mr. Joseph Frith; 2, Mr. Joseph Buckley; 3, Messrs. Clement Poffey and William Hooley.

Clover Roots.—1, Mr. Henry Hope; 2, Mr. Henry Hooley.

ALSAGER AND CONGLETON.

Clover.—1, Mr. William Thorley; 2, Mr. William Whitehurst; 3, Mr. J. W. Chadwick.

Swedes.—1, Mr. Thomas Lomas; 2, Mr. William Rorson; 3, Mr. Joseph Dale.

CREWE AND NANTWICH.

Clover.—1, Mr. James Sadler; 2, Mr. S. Holland.

Swedes.—1, Mr. Thomas Parton; 2, Mr. J. Hockenhull; 3, Messrs. Thomas Brassington and Thomas Wood; champion, Mr. Robert Wade, Aston Grange, Preston Brook.

Mangolds.—1, Mr. Fred Wood; 2, Mr. Vernon Smith; 3, Mr. T. G. Parton.

MALPAS, FRODSHAM, TARPORLEY, AND CHESTER.

Swedes.—Champion, Mr. Robert Wade; 2, Miss F. Jones.

SHREWSBURY AND WESTBURY.

Swedes.—1, Mr. William Davies; 2, Messrs. Robert Roberts and John Powell; 3, Messrs. Edward Edmunds, John Bowdler, J. E. Gwynne, and Miss Moyle; champion, Mr. Robert Wade, Aston Grange, Preston Brook.

AUDLEM AND MARKET DRAYTON.

Clover.—1, Messrs. John Heaver, E. E. Jackson, and John Simpson; 2, Messrs. William Hendley, H. F. Blackhurst, and William Hood.

Swedes.—1, Messrs. John Barnett and H. Cooke; 2, Mr. F. W. Furnival and Mrs. Major; 3, Messrs. Edwin Bourne and William Tapley; champion, Mr. Robert Wade, Aston Grange, Preston Brook.

Mangolds.—1, Sir George Chetwode and Mr. Jonathan Yarwood; 2, Mr. Fred Bickley and Mrs. Bebington; 3, Messrs. James Dodd and Daniel Eardley.

OTHER DISTRICTS.

SWEDES.

Penrith and Langwathby Districts: 1, Mr. John Burns; 2, Mrs. Bellas.

Warcop.—1, Mr. William Cleasby; 2, Mr. William Thorn.

Appleby: 1, Mr. Thomas Bell; 2, Mr. Thomas Graham.

Cockermouth: 1, Mr. Tyron Gill; 2, Messrs. Birkett; 3, Mr. Joseph Postlethwaite.

Lancaster, Cartmel, Dalton, and Ulverston: 1 Mr. George Hutchinson; 2, Mr. Henry Langhorn.

Fruit Grading in Herefordshire.—At a meeting of the Herefordshire Fruit Growers' Association, held at Hereford last week, a report was presented with regard to the Hereford Co-operative Fruit-grading Society. This stated that temporary premises were being used, but the railway company were erecting a permanent building at a cost of £500, with another £500 expended on the site and its preparation. The fruit received this season up to date from members amounted to 122 tons, out of which 119 tons had been graded and packed. The number of packets sent off was 6,887

Midland Notes.

There is mist in the air to-day, and the sun is again invisible; while the land is still sodden with wet, and country roads and lanes are full of mire. Yet we have had glimpses of an Indian summer just enough to remind us that that beautiful but necessarily transcient season is due and may be with us any time for its brief stay of a few days. Whence did it get its name? There seems to be no doubt it was from the North American Indians, who commonly put off the harvesting of their small crops of maize in full reliance upon the coming of the brief second summer in November, which was consequently named after them. Upon the Continent one finds it known as the "old woman's summer," or "girl's summer," but everywhere its frail loveliness seems to awaken a certain sentiment of sadness. St. Luke's Summer, the Indian Summer, St. Martin's Summer—we are fortunate in their possession, and they serve to remind us of one of the beauties of our much abused climate, which is that our seasons are not violently and distinctly marked out, but gently pass into one another through intermediate stages full of a beauty that is all their own.

Proof of the fine season in mangels is found in the remarks of the judges in the Derbyshire Agricultural Society's competitions for growing crops, for they declare that in over thirty years' experience they never found so regular a plant or such an average of great weights. Swedes, especially in the south of the county, have turned out disappointing; but as all the competing crops of field cabbage run to over 40 tons per acre there will evidently be no shortness of fodder on well-managed farms for some time to come.

At a time when young farm hands are so scarce, and those with any real skill are scarcer, it is interesting to find a comparative youngster of 23 years running the old stagers hard in the same society's stacking and thatching contests, his task being the harder from the fact that all his ricks were set up on staddles only just exceeding three yards wide. Messrs. Barber and Walker, of Eastwood, Notts, entered some gigantic ricks in this competition: in three stacks in one yard the estimated quantity of hay is 530 tons, and two of them each measure 63 by 4 yards, by about 5 yards high. These stacking and thatching competitions might be more generally tried with advantage, for at a small cost in prizes they secure not a little benefit to the farmer in having his produce well secured and a general saving by neatness in the stackyard.

Two topics of much concern to agriculturists—motor traffic and animal diseases—have been before Midland County Councils at their quarterly meetings this week. The Staffordshire county authority has decided to cremate locally all animals which may die from anthrax; but the committee which is concerned with contagious diseases among stock has failed, so far, to come to any arrangement with adjoining counties in respect to the removal of pigs, Derbyshire having been approached without result. Mr. T. C. Smith, the chairman of the committee, is, by the way, evidently a very firm believer indeed in the virtues of rock salt, for he declared that as the result of his long experience he was convinced that when animals had access to it every day their owner need have no fear of blood-poisoning—in which, no doubt, anthrax was meant to be included.

The motor question came up indirectly before the same council when Sir Reginald Hardy mentioned the refusal which had been given to all requests for danger boards to be placed at dangerous corners and cross roads; but it arose in a more acute form at the Warwickshire County Council's meeting when it was proposed to purchase no fewer than 42,000 tons of material to be laid down during the ensuing year. This represents an increase of 9,000 tons on the present year, and, as the Marquis of Hertford observed, the great increase in traffic was largely motor traffic, which caused "immense damage." Lord Denbigh and Mr. L. W. Lowe both pleaded the cause of rural rate-payers, the latter putting the case in a nutshell when he declared that they "never used the roads less than now, and never paid more for them, and it was quite impossible for them to raise any more money." But it was all in vain, and the increase was voted.

One hears good accounts of the recently-formed Co-operative Fruit Grading Society in Herefordshire, which has already dealt with 122 tons of fruit this season from its members, and marketed 119 tons, representing close on 6,900 packets—no doubt on better terms than could have been secured by growers on the old haphazard system. The Society is now installed in temporary premises, but it was announced on Wednesday to the County Fruit Growers' Association that the railway company was putting up a permanent building at a cost of £500, with another £500 expended on the site and its preparation.

Nov. 10, 1905.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

As the last of the harvest of the year is being gathered in and banked in long, low heaps in convenient corners by field gates or close at home near the farm buildings, we cannot but notice this year that an extra amount of golden straw is being utilised to protect these piles, and as fast as possible, on account of the unusual frosts at this period of the year, spades, handled by sturdy labourers, fling another foot deep covering of brown earth over the straw in order to secure the long pile of mangolds from what is now looked upon as a severe winter. But while these operations are going on we see this November morning a distinct emerald tint on the late ploughed and sown fields that proclaims the coming of another spring before the winter has hardly yet begun—for the winter-sown cereals have already changed the appearance of the scene. In this way Nature gives to man the agricultural art—and, indeed, all industries, a heart to persevere. Notwithstanding the words of Reginald Heber, written a hundred years ago:

> But earthly hope, how bright so e'er,
> Still fluctuates o'er this changing scene;
> As false and fleeting as 'tis fair.

To-day the writer of these "Notes" is despondent, for prices for British produce are not what was to have been expected in the early autumn. Why? Not for lack of quality! Not for want of commercial knowledge when selling it on our market! But because the burden of taxation is so great that there is no margin for existence. In November, 1805, wheat weighing 17 stone per coomb was sold at Norwich market at 30s. 1d., or £3 0s. 2d. per quarter, and meat was one-quarter of the present price per pound. Then we had not the great burden of the unemployed, as we have now.

Talk to the old crow-scarer, over whose head some four score years have passed, and ask him of the time when he earned his first wage by raising a shrill young voice to scare the birds from the same fields that now he is too old to plough, and he will state that his brothers and sisters who had "gone to town" in the old days knew not poverty, while those who were left at home had good wages and liberal masters. Yet even now we see him when bowed with age fallen back to the labour of his boyhood. But he has learnt to recognise the annual procession of migrant rooks which passes harmless overhead where he stands, for as each flock grows from the horizon he gets ready his old harmless muzzle-loader, and "bang" goes his pinch of powder as the birds pass on. So the old man is busy, and the stream of migration is neither checked nor quickened, although all must acknowledge the thieves grow more numerous round the cultivated patch because the arable area is so much diminished.

The growth of beetroot and the extraction of sugar therefrom has been an industry in England closely connected with East Anglia, and so far been a failure. It is not surprising, therefore, to learn that again for the same industry a site has been secured at Owston Ferry in Lincolnshire for the erection of a sugar beet factory. The new factory will be situated on the banks of the Trent and in the centre of one of those districts where alluvial plains reach away for many a mile. In the Fen district water carriage is cheap, so that this enterprise will be watched with keen interest.

Nov. 10, 1905.

Wheat Stocks in England.—At the Conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations to be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne this week, Mr. W. E. Riley (North-West Suffolk) will move the following resolution:—"Inasmuch as the rapid decline in the growth of wheat in the United Kingdom during the last thirty years, together with the meagre stocks of food-stuffs generally held by merchants and traders in this country, have become a source of danger which may at any moment develop into an appalling national calamity, this Conference urges upon the Government the imperative necessity of introducing such measures during the next Parliamentary Session, as shall lead to a large augmentation of the wheat stocks normally held, and thereby insure the nation against panic and famin prices in the event of a sudden stoppage of the supplies of sea-borne grain and flour."

The Royal Society and Aberdeen Angus Breeders.

SIR,—The breasts of all Aberdeen Angus breeders are doubtless now throbbing with a profound indignation at the action of the Council of our so-called National Society, in again contumeliously referring back to its largest and most important committee—Stock Prize Sheet—its recommendation that the request of the Aberdeen Polled Cattle Society should be conceded, and that the ages of A.A. cattle should be calculated from December 1 (its Herd Book date) instead of January 1. You are aware we have been fighting for our birthright at the Royal Show for many years past, every other society in Great Britain, including the Bath and West, the Royal Counties, the Highland Society having one and all granted it. It has worked well and without detriment or injury to our other grand breeds. Who are the 16 councillors who referred this recommendation back? Mr. Thornton we know, Mr. Palmer we know, and Mr. Greaves we know; but who are the silent 13 who are anxious to intensify past grievances and to accentuate old prejudices against the governing body? Their objection is based merely on sentiment, and is destructive, whereas the recommendation of the S.P.B. committee is practical, and would forward the work of reconstruction by a concession that would bring the society the hearty co-operation of the whole body of A.A. breeders.

And surely that is an object worth attaining at such a crucial period of its existence; harmony is strength, discord weakness. I fear there are still too many of the old regime on the Council. One of our leading A.A. men, in a letter to me, expresses surprise at Mr. J. Thornton's action; it did not come as a surprise to me, for he was adverse to the reforming spirit that came over the Smithfield Club a few years ago, and was one of the reactionaries who would have imposed rules to stultify the voting powers of its members. Besides, Mr. Thornton is not consistent; some years ago he suggested that December 1 should be the date for all beef breeds; he was not then the victim of red tape.

There is another way out of the difficulty. We should be content to have the date fixed as from the date of the holding of the R.A.S. show as is done at the Yorkshire, Northumberland, and Durham. Now he says it hardly seems just to give us our date, but if it is considered just by the Councils of all other societies, surely that overwhelms his contention; is his sense of righteousness greater than that of all others?

Mr. R. Palmer never showed much reforming zeal on the Council, and yet he is on the new, a fact he owes principally to the rule that every London member must vote for the full number to be elected—a Tammany method, "the whole ticket and nothing but the ticket." This is the rule that the members of the Smithfield Club denounced in no measured terms, and refused to accept at the great general meeting immediately preceding its incorporation. Why should such an odious method of voting have been allowed to be embodied in the rules of a regenerated Royal? Mr. Palmer, opposing the recommendation, however, was of opinion that if any alteration was made in this direction (viz., the December 1 date), it should apply to all classes of stock. To this no A.A. breeder would object; though to alter all the H.B. dates is not a feasible method of meeting so simple a difficulty; all we ask is for a date to be fixed that will not exclude over 40 per cent. of our cattle.

One can understand Mr. Greaves' perturbation and trepidation if Welsh cattle were to be compared to A.A. cattle two or three weeks older, "by a man going round the Royal Show not observing the fact in his catalogue"; he is also fearsome for the Council, and thinks it is unwise to bring a hornets' nest about their ears. Is not this "the phantasmagoria," I will not say "of a disordered mind," but of a timorous one? And yet he had heard a moment before from the lips of Mr. R. Stratton, that eminent Shorthorn breeder and experienced agriculturalist, that the concession granted by the Highland, the Bath and West, and other societies had worked well, "and damaged no one," there being no inter-breed contest.

What practical buyer wanting Shorthorn, Hereford, Angus, Welsh, or other cattle would take into consideration the difference of two or three weeks in age; it would be a very clever expert, indeed, who could carry in his mind's eye from shed to shed the difference in size that two, three, or four weeks would make in growth.

Buyers wanting Shorthorns certainly will not look at A.A. cattle, and A.A. buyers would certainly not look at Welsh cattle, although they are black, and who else could such a matter affect?

I cannot conceive that the opinion of Mr. Thornton, Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Greaves are representative of that of Shorthorn, Hereford, and Welsh breeders; their views are too narrow; surely there is room for us all.

Let me give an illustration of the injustice this rule exercises which is typical of many others: A bull born December 12, 1901, as a yearling was first at the Bath and West, Bristol, first prize and reserve champion male at the Royal Counties, but ineligible to be shown at the Royal because it was 19 days' too old; as a two-year-old he had to enter the lists in a class with a disadvantage of 11½ months; as a three-year-old he this year won the gold medals and championships at the Bath and West and Royal Counties; when shown at the Royal was unfortunately, through lameness, discarded, and although now at his zenith, cannot be shown at the Royal, 1906, or a later period owing to these age restrictions; consequently such an A.A. bull can only be shown on terms of equity one year at the Royal. For our best to be handicapped 11 months in the yearling and two-year-old classes and eliminated from the aged bull class may suit Mr. Greaves, and add to the prestige of Welsh cattle by the unobservant visitor who does not look at his catalogue, but it is an intolerable burden to an important body of breeders who are anxious to help in the resurrection of the Royal.

The thanks of every Aberdeen Angus breeder is due to Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. Rea, and their colleagues for their broad-minded recommendation to the Council in this matter, and they sincerely trust they will presevere in their action by further recommending a course that Mr. R. Stratton truly says "would do no harm to anybody," and would promote harmony

As facts speak louder, one has only to refer to the statistics for 1904 and 1905, kindly furnished by the able hon. sec. of our association, Mr. Pulling; statistics of other years speak as eloquently. So long as the Council wilfully blinds itself to the injury it is doing to our breed, so long will there be dissension and dissatisfaction; to exclude over 40 per cent. of our prize winners at other great shows from the Royal, proves unmistakably that it cannot be called a national show, and where our cattle are concerned is a mere travesty and farce; we have in the past strongly supported the society, and but for this narrow hard and fast rule should be an easy second in number of the beef breed exhibits; hitherto we have been loyal, but would the number of any other important breed society have shown so liberally under such monstrous conditions? I trow not. We ask for justice to be allowed to show our animals under the reasonable conditions of our Herd Book date to the detriment of none other.

We respectfully request the Council to exercise a little magnanimity, to put petty jealousies on one side, so that we one and all can work for the common weal, and weld the component parts of our diverse body into a solid homogeneous whole, labouring for its success and resurrection from the Slough of Despond. We cry aloud for our birthright; we can no longer be satisfied with classes for emasculated editions of the beef breed which is supreme in the great markets of the world.

It were far better in the interest of the breed that there should be no classes that pose under the present false pretence than the animals shown at the R.A.S.E. are our best and most representative.

If the new Council is to steer to success, it must remove the ban; a broad policy in this as in all other matters is the only road to prosperity and peace.

Trusting still that the sound practical common sense and the equity of the members of the new regime may rise superior to the occasion, I remain, yours respectfully, J. J. CRIDLAN.

Home Farm, Maisemore Park, Gloucester.

P.S.—Is it not remarkable no single A.A. breeder represents our interests on the new Council of 50?

Mr. Mannington's Hops at the Brewers' Exhibition.

SIR,—With reference to the remarks contained in your issue of the 28rd ult. on the "Hop Exhibits at the Brewers' Exhibition, 1905," I think that your "expert's" criticism is somewhat unfair. Last year his remarks exceeded fair criticism even more than this year, and why I should be singled out for such treatment I am at a loss to understand. I am well assured that you would not knowingly allow anything unfair to appear in your paper, and I think if you will compare last year's remarks with this year's you will agree with me that there is an undercurrent somewhere

A more representative body of judges than those who judge at this exhibition it would be impossible to find. I am quite aware that all exhibits are open to criticism, but let it be fair and above board. I beg to remain, yours faithfully,

ERNEST MANNINGTON.

[We are sorry that Mr. Mannington considers an "undercurrent" was responsible for the criticism we felt justified in passing upon his exhibits at the Brewers' Exhibition. He has, we think, in the heat of the moment, read more into the expressions used than was intended, and no doubt will be one of the first, upon more mature consideration, to withdraw the suggestion that our criticisms were prompted by unworthy motives. – ED.]

Farming in the North Cotswolds.

SIR,—The agricultural year just ended has been very variable. I am afraid a great many of the extraordinary yields of corn did not get beyond paper. Wheat hereabout is only average at present, beans (winter) good, ditto oats. Spring oats the worst on record. Few spring beans threshed, so cannot say. Barley 25s. to 30s., certainly under average. Best mutton good trade; beef very low indeed. Milking cows selling well. Store cattle very slow. Store sheep have sold well all summer. Ram trade has been good Most of the planting is now done, but some of it must have been much too dry. Roots fairly good, except early planted.

The weather has been capital for starting tegs on roots, and they are doing well. Grass going very fast—nearly over. People say we are always grumbling, and no doubt we have some cause at the present time. I am paying men to do boys' work—that is, to lead horses.

It is next to impossible to get plough boys Our far-seeing, education-run-mad people keep them at school until they are of no use to work; cricket and football seems more in their line.—Yours faithfully, H. D.

November 10, 1905.

Position in Hampshire.

SIR,—At this season of the year it is a very good time to report, as now the threshing machine has been around sufficient to enable us to form an opinion. I have the dealing with over 5,000 acres of corn of my own and other people's, and find that wheat is the crop of the season, and on some farms it has yielded fourteen sacks per acre where done well; some others only six sacks per acre.

Barley not much grown, only for feed Oats, where sown early, has proved about fourteen sacks per acre, but not so good a colour as last year.

Hay taken in good condition, but not a heavy crop, sainfoin being the best. The pastures are becoming bare owing to the frost of three weeks ago and now nearly every night stop all growths. Roots, where sown early are good, and done well All catch crops of mustard, trifolium, and vetches are doing well.

Sheep and wool have been selling for more money this year, but are falling now. —

Cows that are full of milk are wanted, but stores are not selling as well as they were a month ago In this neighbourhood the season will compare with any for the last ten years.—Yours truly, E. D.

November 10, 1905.

Cambridge Prospects: Too Few Sheep.

SIR,—The season, since harvest, in this district has been all that could be desired for farming operations. Harvest being gathered in fairly early gave the farmer a good opportunity to prepare his wheat land for drilling; and most of those who take advantage of time and season have pushed forward and got in their seed wheat early and well. The month of October throughout being exceptionally fine for outdoor work, a great many acres of mangold wurtzels have been clamped in fine condition; a better season was never known for these particular roots, as the crop on well-farmed land has been abundant—the produce good both in quantity and quality. Other roots for sheep feed are also looking quite up to the average.

Threshing has progressed most favourably during the past five or six weeks, and the yield of all grain, with abundance of straw, has been on the whole deemed satisfactory.

What our country really needs to crown a prosperous season is at least double the number of sheep, as so many farms, once well stocked with excellent flocks, are now destitute of that valuable animal, so beneficial not only to the owner but to the land on which they are needed. It is indeed most difficult to know how such farms can be worked at all from year to year without the aid

of a good flock of sheep. Better prices, as well as better yield, is what the farmer needs—the latter would be the natural result, of course, if more sheep were bred upon the land. J. C.

November 6, 1905.

Prospects in South Nottinghamshire.

SIR,—A slightly increased price for wheat will cause a larger acreage to be sown this autumn under remarkably favourable circumstances. In this district the best wheat is grown after mangel, but when the mangel has to be carted in wet weather, it is often impossible to work the land for the autumn corn crop. This year the roots have gone off clean and well, and the soil has ploughed up excellently for the seed-bed. More winter beans have been sown than I remember for years. Owing to slackening of bean imports, there has been a better demand for English beans, and a further inducement to sow beans has been the very low price for blue peas although they have shown an uncommonly sound sample. There appears to be a large stock left over from last year, and the low price of potatoes react on the peas.

A remarkably early series of frosts in October diminished the autumn keep in the pastures, and particularly in the seed land. Cattle will have to be yarded earlier than usual, but straw and root keeping is plentiful. Hay is good, but not great in bulk. H. S.

November 9, 1905.

Situation in Suffolk.

SIR,—Beetroots have been carried, and have come out a good crop—roots of good size. Turnips are scarce, more especially early ones; those that have a crop can secure a good price for same. Swedes for the most part are a failure.

As to wheat feeding, a greater part has now been planted, and the work on the farms generally is fairly forward. The threshing of barley has been very heavy, and a good many samples have found their way to Bass (Burton) at 31s. to 34s. Farmers speak of peas as being a poor crop. Wheat a fair crop of good quality. Barley and beans (winter) appear to be the best crops of the year. A large quantity of winter beans have been sold since harvest out of the county at good prices—beans generally considered to be the crop of the year.

Labour is plentiful, and several men in county parishes would be glad of regular work.

R. H. L.

Good Prospects in Warwickshire.

SIR,—The agricultural prospect is much better than this time last year. The harvest was rather catchy, but where the best use was made of the fine weather, both hay and harvest were secured in good condition. There were a few instances where a good deal of corn was much damaged, where opportunities of carrying were neglected.

The root crop generally is above the average, especially the later planted swedes and turnips There was a difficulty in getting a plant in the early part of the season, but when the failing crops were resown and kept free from weeds there is a very good crop. Unfortunately prices are very low: wheat about 28s per qr. and barley, except a few of best samples, 3s. or 4s. less than the wheat.

Best mutton sells fairly well, but beef is a very dull and unprofitable trade, many beasts are being sold at less than cost and value of cake they have eaten. There are a great many losses in some flocks of lambs from the usual autumn lamb disease (threadworm in the throat and windpipe), and in some cases the same trouble has taken the calves. C. P.

November 10, 1905.

Wiltshire.

SIR,—We have had a fine season as far as weather is concerned throughout 1905, and a very fine autumn to clean any foul land, and for putting in wheat for next year. Mangolds also have been got together clean, and not much labour required. Roots have also grown considerably of late; the crop up till now has done the cattle well, as it has been so dry. Fine rains have set in, which have been beneficial, as the wells and ponds were mostly dry, having had no vast rainfall for the last six months. The frosts, which have been lately severe, and were for weeks along May and June, spoilt the fruit crop, and also the barley. Very much corn does not yield nor answer expectations. J. BROWN.

November 5, 1905.

A Fair Season in South Wilts.

SIR,—The season has been a fair one, but the yield of corn and the prices are both disappointing. Sheep have been selling well all through. Cattle are cheaper, and milk is rather lower in price. Wheat sowing is nearly completed, and it has gone in well; there is plenty of hay and a fair supply of roots for winter feeding; but our wages bill creeps up year by year, and although there is a sufficient supply, there is no surplus. Rates increase rapidly, mainly owing to the expenditure on the main roads and education, both of which ought to be a National charge, and not a local one.

Milk and live stock is what agriculturists here exist by; corn is, so to speak, a bye product, and should disease of any kind attack our sheep and cattle the consequences would be appalling; and it behoves the Board of Agriculture to see that no risk whatever is allowed by any tampering with the present regulations excluding the importation of live stock: protection against disease is of much more importance to the tenant farmer than a protective duty on corn. G. F. G.

November 10, 1905.

Hampshire Outlook—Agricultural Politics.

SIR,—After an unusually dry autumn we have recently had some splendid rains, which were much needed for wheat sowing. Roots and all vegetation were much benefited. Wheat sowing is now being pushed forward, and this morning I noticed some fields of mine, sown during the dry weather on clover leys, coming thick and strong. All catch crops, such as rye, winter barley, and vetches, sown after harvest look well, as do also the young seeds and clovers. The roots in this neighbourhood are not promising, and it is an exception to see a really good piece of swedes, although some of the late-sown turnips are growing fast now.

Sheep are healthy, and have realised satisfactory prices. The trade was very brisk at Winchester Fair, October 23; good, fresh, working lambs made up to 44s., and fat lambs up to 67s. It is somewhat puzzling that mutton should sell so well, and beef so wretchedly bad.

Store cattle (except milk and nice young heifers for bulling) are difficult to dispose of, except at unremunerative prices. Although the hay crop is under average (with so much of last year's crop on hand), it is as difficult to sell as straw. The wheat, although yielding well, is not up to expectations; neither is barley. Oats (our principal Lent corn crop) are much under average in yield and quality, and a really fine sample is quite the exception.

Now the busy season is over, we have time to turn our attention to agricultural politics; and if agriculturists would wake up, as our friends in the North are doing, we should soon see a transformation in reference to some of our agricultural burdens. As a result of this awakening, I wish we could see farmers' clubs formed all over the country, and a good agricultural paper in every home.

I have quite recently had a delightful holiday in North Cornwall, and whilst I found the Cornish farmers most friendly, free, and large hearted, I was surprised to find practically no combination or farmers' clubs in their beautiful county, and yet they bitterly complain of increasing taxation, etc.; but, alas! the same lack of self-help applies to many other counties in England. We have a vast amount of power if we only realise it, but I venture to hope the time is near when the cant phrase "Our greatest industry" will become "Our awakened industry."

THOMAS CHRISTIAN.

November 10, 1905.

The Central Chamber.

SIR,—In your report on the Agricultural Holdings Act at the Central Chamber you say, "The amendment moved by Mr. Amos was lost," whereas it was carried by 15 votes to 11.

In reference to your short report on my speech as seconder you thoroughly misinterpret the sense of it by saying, "The talk of agricultural depression was rot, etc." What I did say was "If you give greater security to the tenant, you ought also in fairness to protect the landlord from a bad tenant. Some holdings were farmed rascally badly; it was all rot to blame agricultural depression when many tenants took more land than they had capital for."—Faithfully yours,

THOMAS CHRISTIAN.

Bushey Down, Droxford, Hants,
Nov. 11, 1905.

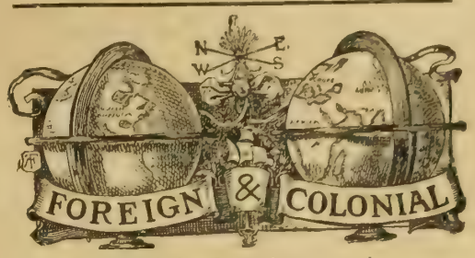
Agricultural Co-operation in Suffolk.—At a recent meeting of the Committee of Management of the Eastern Counties Farmers' Co-operative Association, the Chairman (Mr E. J. Cheney) reported a continued increase of business, which, with the large number of members elected that day, justified the confident expectation that the Association would be able to show a turnover of £50,000 for the current year. The Chairman also announced that the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., the President of the Board of Agriculture, had promised to honour the Association by his presence at the annual meeting of members, which had been fixed for January 26, 1906.

British Possessions
beyond the Seas
AND THEIR
London Representatives.

NOVA SCOTIA APPLES.

An Exhibition of NOVA SCOTIA APPLES, selected and forwarded by the Nova Scotia Government is now on view in the Canadian Court at the Crystal Palace.

Specimens may be loaned for exhibition at local Shows upon application to MR. JOHN HOWARD, Agent-General for Nova Scotia, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.



Canada's Development.

Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P., gave a most interesting address on "Canada after Twenty Years" at the Caxton Hall, on Wednesday. There was a very large attendance of the members of the Victoria League. Lord Strathcona was in the chair.

Sir Gilbert Parker, in the course of his remarks, stated that since 1890 Canada had emerged from practical isolation into open-eyed contact with outside interests, with markets to four of the seven seas. So far back as 1886 he welcomed to Australia Canada's first commercial agent. What a change had taken place since then! In 1890 there were practically but two railways in all the Great West. Meanwhile a score of lines had been built, and were feeding the Canadian Pacific Railway, and were tapping a wide area of country. He could not conceive of British money being put into South America, and other outlying places, while the country with the greatest agricultural and commercial potentialities in the world was open for investments, under a British administration, with sound laws, and a population increasing through immigration alone at the rate of 130,000 a year. (Applause.)

In 1881 the exports of home produce, including mines, fisheries, forests, animal products, agricultural produce, manufactures, etc. were valued at £16,000,000; to-day they were valued at £58,000,000. The shipping service was valued at £6,000,000; to-day it was valued at £15,000,000.

There were 7,000 miles of railway then, and there was 20,000 miles in operation now; 7,000,000 passengers were carried then, 25,000,000 were carried now. Two million and a half tons of freight were carried in 1881, ten millions were carried in 1904; the earnings of the railways were 2¼ millions then; they were 22 millions now. Paid-up bank capital then was £7,000,000; to-day it was £17,000,000. The deposits in the savings banks were £11,000,000; to-day they were £94,000,000. The premiums for life insurance had risen from £3,000,000 to £20,000,000. (Applause.) It must be remembered that that progress was made with a very small increase of population—not more than 25 per cent.—and the manufacturing output was now within a few million dollars of the agricultural output of the country.

Referring to wheat production, Sir Gilbert quoted what one noted American wheat expert had lately said of Canada:—"I believe that it is a matter of a very few years until what we in the United States call North-Western Canada will produce a larger surplus of wheat than is now produced in any country. Western Canada inside of ten years will be the principal source of European wheat supplies, and will have the position occupied by the United States for a quarter of a century." Alongside that might be placed the report of Professor W. Saunders, director of the Dominion Experimental Farms, who said:—

"The total imports of wheat and flour into Great Britain in 1902 were equivalent in all to about 200,000,000 bushels of wheat. Were one-fourth of the land suitable for cultivation in Manitoba and the other provisional territories under crop with wheat annually, and the average production equal to that of Manitoba for the past ten years, the total crop would be 812,000,000 bushels. This would be able to supply a home demand of 50,000,000 inhabitants, supposing the population of Canada should by that time have reached that figure, and meet the present requirements of Great Britain three times over."

We had seen occasional expressions of fear that Canada was in danger of becoming Americanised. He did not find Americanisation greatly developed. It would surprise very many to know that 65 per cent. of the Americans in Canada were already Canadian citizens.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane. Wednesday.—The attendance, as customary in mid-week, was small, and trading generally of a retail character. English wheat ruled steady, with only a small quantity on offer, while foreign sorts were quiet and unchanged from last day. Maize ruled quietly steady; for American ex quay 25s 6d is wanted, but La Plata was the turn easier at 24s 9d landed. Flour dull at 22s 6d for Iron Duke. Barley marks no change in price; Odessa Nicolaieff quoted at 20s to 20s 3d; Persian at 18s 9d, and American at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; for English malting, 28s to 34s is required. Oats steadily held but quiet; 38lb. Russian offered at 16s 6d to 16s 9d; white American at 17s 6d, and mixed at 17s 3d to 17s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Thin attendance and business in all directions ruled slow. English wheat, however, was firm, in spite of the slackness of demand, while foreign descriptions tended in sellers' favour, with No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted at 34s 9d ex ship. Although maize is in only moderate request, previous rates are maintained, mixed American being quoted at 25s 6d ex quay, and La Plata at 24s 9d. Flour: Both English and American is steady, 22s 6d still being the price asked for Iron Dukes. Barley is neglected, and values are nominally unaltered; English malting, 28s to 34s; Odessa Nicolaieff, 20s to 20s 3d, and American, 19s 3d to 19s 6d. Oats sell slowly, and rates in the meantime are without material change; white American, 17s 6d; mixed, 17s 3d to 17s 6d, and Russian, 38 lb., 16s 6d to 16s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday. In spite of improved feeling in London and other centres, English wheat was slow of sale, at 27s to 31s per quarter. English malting barley was a little dearer, best samples making up to 34s. Foreign grinding barley firm, at 22s to 23s. Mazagan beans made 28s to 33s; tick beans, 31s to 33s. Oats, 17s to 20s; and maize, 27s to 28s per quarter.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 29s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 29s to 30s; ditto (old), 32s to 34s; oats, 17s to 21s; ditto (old), 20s to 24s; peas, 27s to 30s per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday. — Moderate attendance, with smaller supplies of grain. Barley firm at fully last week's prices. Oats firm. Oats 12s to 20s; barley, 24s to 28s; wheat, 27s to 30s.

Birmingham. Thursday. There was a good attendance, and a much better tone about the business. Foreign wheats were at last week's full prices to 6d dearer. English wheats not active, and made up to 33s per quarter (496lb.) delivered Birmingham. Grinding barley has receded 6d since last market day. Both flat and Plate maize were unchanged in value. English oats met with a good demand at prices varying from 19s to 20s per 312lb. Beans rather easy at 12s 3d per bag (196lb.) delivered Birmingham.

Bury St. Edmund's. Wednesday.—Wheat was in average supply, and quiet, at the turn less money. Reds and whites, 29s to 30s per 504lb. Barley in average supply, with a fairly steady inquiry for malting runs at 27s to 31s per quarter, but a very quiet demand for anything better; the average of quality all round was not equal to last week's; grinding sorts firm at 23s 6d to 25s per quarter. Oats, beans, and peas firm at fully last week's prices. Maize unchanged at 26s 6d per quarter. Linseed cakes firm at £8 10s to £8 15s, and cotton at £5 10s per ton. Milling stuffs scarce and firm.

Cambridge. Saturday.—There was a better supply of wheat, which sold at last week's prices. Red wheat, 29s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lbs. Barley in good demand at full rates. Oats the turn cheaper. Beans firm.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Seed wheats continue to sell at from 32s to 36s and millers' grain up to 32s for 65lb. lots. Barley in steady inquiry at from 28s 6d to 31s. Spring oats, 18s, and black winter's up to 20s per quarter.

Carlisle. Saturday. — Small supply of oats in our market, owing to half year end. Good demand at full prices. 18s to 19s 6d per 336lbs.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester. Saturday. — Moderate supplies of English grain found ready buyers at the extreme prices of last week. Indian corn and other feeding stuffs have been in good request at about last week's prices. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 7d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; ditto, old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 4s 6dlb.; Indian corn, old, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240lb.; River Plate, new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Chichester. Wednesday.—Small attendance for a cattle market day. Not much on offer, but readily sold at following prices: New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s 21s 6d; oats, English, 17s to 21s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester. Saturday.—Wheat small supply; steady trade at last week's prices. Barley, very little offering for this period of the year, and all descriptions sold readily at prices favouring sellers. Beans scarce and full prices given. Oats rather dearer. JOSEPH WILES AND SON, Ltd.

Coventry. Friday. Wheats were in moderately good supply, but the demand was quiet at barely late rates. Other grain realised generally last week's prices. Quotations: Old wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 186lb.; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 186lb.; barley, 27s to 32s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; new oats, 19s to 22s per 352lb; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; new beans, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 196lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby. Friday. Wheat was in small supply, and a quiet trade was done at the full rates of last week. Spring corn 6d per qr. dearer. Quotations: Wheat, new, white, 30s to 31s; new, red, 29s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 27s; do., old, 27s to 32s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 20s to 24s; new, 18s to 19s.

Devizes. Thursday. Trade for wheat was dull at last week's prices, and for inferior samples less money had to be taken. No change in the value. Oats in demand, and selling very freely at late rates. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s 6d to 16s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s 6d; secondary, 20s to 24s; new, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 18s to 19s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, 16s to 18s; new ditto, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Small supply of English wheat and only moderate attendance. English a shade dearer, but foreign steady at last week's prices. Rather more inquiry for barley, unless very fine samples offered. Oats and maize in good demand at last week's prices.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Considering the stormy nature of the weather, rain having fallen in torrents in many parts of the district, there was a fair attendance and a moderate offer of grain, seeing how threshing operations have been interrupted by the wet. Wheat trade ruled somewhat inactive, and with no great demand we must quote prices as practically unchanged from previous market. Grinding barley firm, and good samples of malting made late rates. Maize also held for full values. Oats rather quiet, but no decline in value. Beans and peas nominally unchanged. Flour made late values.

Dublin. Friday.—Wheat, 17s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday. — Trade dull. Both grinding and malting barley were very much easier, there being but little demand. The general price was 28s, exceptional quality 30s; otherwise, prices were nominally the same as last week.

Glasgow. Wednesday. There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange. Wheat and flour quiet, and practically unchanged since last week. Maize unaltered, and corn 3d per boll dearer on the week. Barley a quiet trade, and no change in value. Oats continue firm at late rates. Beans 3d per boll dearer, and pease 3d per boll dearer since Wednesday. Bran and thirds, owing to scarcity, 2s 6d per ton dearer. Oatmeal 1s per sack dearer. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat dull, with prices the turn in buyers' favour. Flour steady, but not much business passing. Plate maize firmly held at Wednesday's prices; mixed American the turn higher with a moderate business doing. All feeding stuffs are quiet at previous values.

Gloucester. Saturday. There was a fair supply of English wheat, and prices were the turn easier. Foreign wheat met a very dull trade, and must be quoted 3d cheaper. Grinding barley 6d lower. Maize and oats unchanged. WAITE, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham. Saturday.—Moderate attendance. Wheat was in fair supply, and prices showed a decline of 6d to 1s per quarter. A large supply of barley, and if pressed to sell holders were compelled to accept less money. Beans, peas, and oats firm. Wheat, 28s to 30s; barley, 24s to 32s; blue peas, 42s to 48s; oats, 18s to 21s per quarter.

Hereford. Wednesday. A moderate attendance. The wheat trade slightly tended in favour of buyers. Barley trade difficult. Oats firm, with new consignments. Beans slightly easier. Maize unchanged. The wholesale dealers are inquiring for English clover seeds. We understand that in the South of England threshings are proceeding, and turning out satisfactorily. Now that clover is demanded, perhaps our local farmers would do well to thresh somewhat earlier than usual. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 7d per 62lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb; new oats, 2s 2d to 2s6d per 40lb; new beans, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 65 1-3lb; old beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65 1-3lb; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65 1-3lb.

Ipswich. Tuesday. Wheat was in small supply, and steady at about 31s per 504lb for good reds or whites, delivered at Ipswich. Barley: All sorts in shorter supply; fair malting runs were quite as good at 27s 6d to 32s per quarter, but Burton descriptions, although sparsely offered, were not so much in demand; grinding sorts firm, at 24s to 25s 6d per quarter. Oats very firm on the week, at 20s to 22s; black, 18s to 20s per quarter. Maize firm and unchanged, at 25s 6d to 26s per quarter. Beans firm and unaltered. Peas: Dun steady, at 30s to 31s; blue, 33s to 33s 6d per quarter. Feeding stuffs all very firm at fully last week's prices.

Leeds, Tuesday.—There has been a slight reaction from the excitement of the previous week, but the decline in prices has not exceeded 6d per quarter, and the tone of the trade continues healthy. This week's shipments are liberal, but not excessive, the Continent again getting the lion's shares. Business in wheat is limited to-day at 3d to 6d below last Tuesday. Malting barley unchanged. Maize slow and rather easier. Beans and oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds. Friday.—English and foreign wheats barely maintained Tuesday's prices, an easier tone prevailing owing to increased arrivals from abroad. There was no change in beans, peas, barley, maize, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday. — Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade slow at slightly easier rates. Red wheats, 29s to 31s; white wheats, 30s to 32s per 36 stones. Larger supplies of barley in rather rough condition, and trade slow at 25s to 28s per 32 stones. Old beans firm at 34s to 36s per 38 stones; fine oats in active demand at 19s to 22s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair show of English wheat, for which there was a tolerably good inquiry at a reduction of 6d per qr. on last week's rates. Best and common barleys in request; common sorts a slow trade. Oats and beans firm at unaltered rates.

Liverpool. Friday.—Wheat: There has been a good attendance at to-day's market, but wheat meets only a moderate demand, and prices are occasionally ½d lower except Manitobas, which are in limited supply and ½d to 1d dearer. Flour: A moderate trade at about last market day's prices for both foreign and home-made brands. Maize: Mixed is steady but quiet, at ½d advance fro mlast Tuesday; Plate sorts are also ½d dearer, but there is only a limited business passing: European grades are quiet, unchanged. Barley steady, but quiet for malting; feeding slow and ½d lower to sell. Beans are firm at former prices, but quiet. Peas very scarce, and firm at fully late rates. Oats quietly steady, but with rather more offering in American, which are the turn lower: English steady at fully late rates. Oatmeal firm at full prices, but moving very slowly. Oilcake: A quiet trade in foreign cakes, but English in good demand at occasionally rather better prices. — SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester. Thursday.—Both English and foreign wheat were unchanged on the week, with rather more inquiry for the former. Flour 6d per sack dearer. Plate maize was rather easier. English and foreign oats about 1d per bushel dearer. Bran and feeding stuffs firm and unchanged. Peas and beans steady. Foreign barley unchanged.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday. — A quiet demand prevailed at our to-day's market for wheats of all descriptions. English sold at fully 9d. below last week's prices. Foreign changed hands at a slight reduction on last week's quotations. Maize steady, and here Saturday's prices were maintained. Beans slightly in the favour of buyers. Peas firm and dearer. Oats favouring buyers. Barley in poor request at last week's prices.

Newark. Wednesday. A small show of wheat, which value. Quotations: Wheat, 30s to 31s; barley, 24s to value. Oats and beans unchanged in value. Quotations: Wheat, 30s to 31s; barley, 24s to 27s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 29s to 31s per quarter.

Norwich. Saturday. Wheat was in small supply at our market to-day, at last week's quotations. There was more barley offering, with no alteration in prices. Foggy and frosty weather has prevailed during the past week, which has to-day ended in rain. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per quarter, weight 64lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending October 28, 1905: Wheat, 2,327 qrs. 5 l; barley, 15,852 qrs. 4d. 0d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Northampton. Saturday. Small attendance, and a moderate supply of wheat, at unchanged prices. Best quality barley 6d advance. Oats and beans very firm. New wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black oats, 17s to 19s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d.

Nottingham. Saturday. Wheat in better supply; trade ruled quiet at about 6d decline. Barley in better demand, and values for all sorts well supported. Oats small supply, and 6d higher. Beans firm. ROBERT HURRELL.

Oxford. Saturday.—The attendance was small, and trade ruled dull. Wheat was in moderate supply, and met a slow demand, at rather easier rates. Barley was also in poor request, with prices tending in buyers' favour.

Peterborough. Saturday. — A moderate supply of wheat; trade rather slow, and in many cases 6d less money was taken. Barley steady, and last week's prices were repeated. Oats firm but quiet. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston. Saturday. — There was a moderate attendance. New grain comes forward slowly. Prices of both oats and wheat differ little from those prevailing a week ago, and there is no change in the price of any article. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 12s 9d to 13s 6d; ditto red, 12s 6d to 13s. Flour, extra superfine, per pack of 240lb., 26s to 27s; ditto superfine, 24s to 24s 6d; ditto, best fine, 22s 6d to 23s. Oats, new, white, per bushel, 2s 9d to 2s 10d. Beans, per windle, 16s to 16s 6d; bran, 10s 6d to 11s.

Plymouth. Tuesday. There was a fair attendance on our market to-day. Wheat unchanged. Barley and oats quiet at last week's prices.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Reading. Saturday.—There was a fair supply and an average attendance, but trade was very disappointing; what business was transacted was at last week's prices.

Retford. Saturday.—Wheat was rather lower in value, and very little business was transacted, the ruling quotations being 28s 6d to 29s 6d per quarter. Really choice qualities of malting barley were not to be had, but there was some very useful lots, which changed hands at 27s to 28s; interior, 25s to 26s; grinding, 23s 6d to 24s per quarter. Round maize, 26s; English beans, 30s to 32s; oats, 16s to 19s; rye, 20s to 21s per quarter.

Ripon Thursday.—English wheat shows a downward tendency, otherwise business was done chiefly at late rates. Prices:—New wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; foreign wheat, 33s to 36s 6d; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting barley, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; round maize, 26s to 26s 6d; flat maize, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 225lb.; white oats, old, 15s to 16s; new, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb.; barley, 14s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford. Friday.—There was a large attendance of local agriculturists, and a good business was done. Best wheat, 29s to 30s; secondary ditto, 27s to 28s 6d; best barley, 31s to 31s 6d; grinding sorts, 23s to 25s 6d; best oats, 18s to 20s; and beans, 29s to 31s per qr. Maize firm.

Sunderland. Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply, and last week's prices were barely maintained. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals coastwise: Barley, 1,000 qrs.; foreign, wheat, 20,992 qrs.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells. Friday.—New white wheat, 31s to 31s 6d; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 17s to 20s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 36s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 48s to 52s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat, which made about last week's prices. Very little other grain on offer. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small supply of grain. Wheat declined 6d to 1s per quarter. Best reds 33s. Oats firm at late rates, 19s to 30s. Barley, 24s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Winchester. Saturday. — English wheat quiet at about last week's prices. Foreign unaltered. Barley, oats, and maize unchanged. Flour in better demand, and a shade dearer.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance, and fair show of grain, which sold at practically last week's prices. White wheat, 27s 6d to 30s; red ditto, 26s to 27s 6d; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 27s per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—Market easier all round except for wheat, of which foreign sold at 3d per qr. more money. Best quality English wheat realised from 31s 9d to 32s 3d per qr.; secondary, 29s 3d to 30s 9d; foreign, 33s 6d to 33s 9d; malting barley, 31s to 35s; feeding, 21s 6d to 23s 3d; foreign, 21s to 21s 6d; oats, black, 18s 6d to 20s; Irish, black, 16s 9d to 17s 9d; white, 16s 6d to 20s; beans, 32s 6d to 38s; maize, 25s to 26s; rye, 21s to 23s; rape, 46s to 49s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour sold freely, fine making from 25s to 25s 6d per sack, and extra fine, 27s to 27s 6d. Milling offals and meals for feeding in good demand at fully late rates.

York. Saturday.—Only a small supply of wheat. Good dry samples sell at last week's prices. Fine white wheat, 29s to 31s; red and mixed, 28s 6d to 30s 6d per quarter of 35 stones. Malting barley is steady, but a smaller offer; fine makes, 27s to 28s; good, 25s to 27s; and feeding, 23s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats very firm and scarce; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 18s to 19; white Garton, 19s to 20s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 22s to 23s; beans, 30s to 33s per quarter of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Barley market remains very firm here, there is still a good demand at the higher prices, and rather larger importations from Denmark continue, but also the finer Bohemians are in demand and obtain full value. In Hungary, the crop seems to be practically exhausted, only a few parcels are offering in dealers' hands, and are held at ridiculous high prices, although the quality is by no means nice. FRANCIS M. TH. DUHNE.

Hamburg. Saturday.—Weather seasonable. We had a very quiet market in the early part of the week; buyers were scarce, and to effect sales lower prices had to be taken. During the last few days, however, a better feeling gained ground. There is again a good demand for all articles, and prices are the turn in sellers' favour. The imports into Germany from August 1 till October 31 amounted to: 1905, wheat 730,515 tons, 1904, 597,853 tons; 1905 rye 309,775 tons, 1904, 119,386 tons; 1905, oats 352,655 tons, 1904, 110,040 tons; 1905, barley

542,315 tons; 1904, 332,580 tons; 1905, maize 222,473 tons, 1904, 242,865 tons. Fine new red German wheat is firmly held at 33s to 34s per 504 lb f.o.b., with scanty supplies. American hard winter is quoted at 35s. 80 kc.; River Plate 32s 6d, 77 78 kc.; South Russian 32s 9d per 480 lb. Offers of Russian rye are wanting, 71 72 kc.; Bulgarian afloat is held at 27s 9d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg. Malting barley firm in value. Good Danish is selling at 29s to 30s; good Bohemian is held at 34s to 35s; fine Bohemian and Slovakian at 36s 6d to 40; Oderbruck and Silesian at 29s to 34s per 448 lb f.o.b Russian feeding barley, prompt and spring delivery, is held at 19s 6d to 19s 9d per 400 lb c.i.f Hamburg. American white clipped oats meet with a ready sale at 17s to 17s 3d per 320 lb. c.i.f Hamburg. Maize firm. Mixed American, November shipment, 24s 6d to 24s 9d; December January 22s 6d to 22s 9d; River Plate (afloat) 24s 3d to 24s 6d per 480 lb c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday. Markets continue short of supplies, although offers are getting easier than they have been for some time past. The tendency at the Bourse de Commerce is firmer, and, due to steady inquiry from sheets, the price of flour has risen from 10c to 20c, with sellers reserved. Wheat was also firm, and closed with a rise of 5c to 10c. Rye quiet but firm. Oats in good demand, with an advance of from 5c to 20c. At the weekly spot market, home-grown wheat is quoted at the same prices as eight days ago; there is also no appreciable change to report from the provinces. Foreign wheat is quiet, there being hardly any demand. There are now plenty of offers in offals, even of available parcels at Paris, and sellers have had to lower their prices 25c. After some recrudescence of weakness the prices of rye now seem inclined to improve, whilst the situation in oats is somewhat abnormal, as offers are small despite the large harvest. In barley things remain the same; there are buyers, but no sellers, as farmers are not threshing. Prices are rising steadily, and buyers now display some hesitation.—*Dornbusch.*

THE BALTIC.

Wheat cargoes are rather pressed on sale. The prices made on the 10th and 11th were: Bahia Blanca 33s. 6d. per 504 lb., Rosario 31s. per 480 lb., Odessa Ghuka 33s. per 492 lb., Hard Taganrog 31s. 6d. per 492 lb., Finest Russian Winter 35s. per 492 lb., Nicolaieff 32s. per 492 lb., Kustendje 32s. per 492 lb., Roumanian 31s. per 492 lb., Blue Stem 34s. per 500 lb., and Walla Walla 33s. 3d. per 500 lb.

Maize is decidedly easier to buy, and futures are a penny per cental lower on the week. Sales have included American at 21s. 9d. per 480 lb. for December shipment, and Argentine at 23s. 9d. per 480 lb. on passage. No round maize has been on offer apparently, either on passage or for future shipment.

Barley made on Saturday 22s. per 416 lb. for a cargo just arrived from Bulgaria, and 20s. 6d. per 400 lb. for one just sailed from the Sea of Azoff. Oats made 16s. 3d. per 304 lb. for American peas, 27s. per 504 lb. for Dun Calcutta, and cottonseed 5s. per cwt. for prompt shipment from Bombay.

The Secretary of the London Corn Trade Association announces that the following standards have been made up, viz.:—Wheat.—Choice White Kurrachee, Soft Red Kurrachee, No. 1 Club Bombay, Choice White Bombay, Atbara from Calcutta. Lentils.—Bombay, Calcutta. Peas.—Calcutta Green, Calcutta White, Calcutta Mutter, Calcutta Gram—all August shipments. Samples may be inspected at No. 26, St. Mary Axe.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were 1 maize (Buenos Aires).

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call for the week were 1 maize (Hamburg), 1 linseed (Harburg).

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 296 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 10 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 51 linseed—Total 391.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 270 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 37 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 10 maize, 6 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 39 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—Total 386.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

	£	s.	d.
For 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to November 11, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	44,672½	27	1	185,342½	25	8	24,460½	17	1
1901	57,884½	26	9	214,723½	26	9	20,122½	18	3
1902	51,592½	25	0	220,937	25	11	39,347½	17	3
1903	42,015½	26	6	172,874½	24	6	23,674½	15	9
1904	43,740½	30	3	204,416½	24	6	32,320½	15	11

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 7, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,705	3	5,493	7	7	1	9	8
Barley	3,404	1	4,420	16	0	1	6	0
Oats	1,023	0	866	1	11	0	18	11

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 11, 1905:—

Wheat	1,558,700 cwts.
Wheat-flour	259,600 ,,
Barley	459,400 ,,
Oats	129,700 ,,
Maize	547,400 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,332,400	1,747,300	2,011,023	1,231,400
Wheat-flour	193,800	443,325	339,459	331,360
Barley	669,900	827,080	1,016,133	8 7,200
Oats	211,200	514,830	371,016	519,200
Maize	824,800	1,482,270	635,772	622,800

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	0

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats, s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	36	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.		Barley. s.	d.		Oats. s.	d.	
1890	31	9	per qr.	28	8	per qr.	18	7	per qr.
1891	37	1	,,	28	2	,,	20	0	,,
1892	30	4	,,	26	2	,,	19	11	,,
1893	26	4	,,	25	6	,,	18	9	,,
1894	22	10	,,	24	6	,,	17	1	,,
1895	23	1	,,	21	11	,,	14	6	,,
1896	26	2	,,	22	11	,,	14	9	,,
1897	30	2	,,	23	6	,,	16	11	,,
1898	34	0	,,	27	2	,,	18	5	,,
1899	25	8	,,	25	7	,,	17	0	,,
1900	26	11	,,	25	9	,,	17	9	,,
1901	26	9	,,	25	3	,,	18	5	,,
1902	28	0	,,	25	8	,,	20	2	,,
1903	26	9	,,	22	11	,,	17	2	,,
1904	28	4	,,	22	4	,,	16	4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,837,000
Barley	,,	473,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	640,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	150,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

	s.	d.
September 1 (per sack)	31	0
,, 11 ,,	30	0
November 3 ,,	31	0
,, 10 ,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 12	43,740½	30	3	204,416½	24	6	32,320½	15	11
,, 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299½	16	0
,, 26	41,359½	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942½	30	4	166,809½	24	6	35,831½	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,635½	16	2
,, 17	44,745½	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,980½	16	2
,, 24	33,336½	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916½	16	1
,, 31	21,163½	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757½	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230½	16	3
,, 14	39,617½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754½	16	3
,, 21	45,646½	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957½	16	5
,, 28	48,860½	30	6	89,495½	25	1	41,662½	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442½	30	6	76,347½	25	0	41,486½	16	7
,, 11	50,585½	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080½	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,763½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165½	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188½	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	33,118½	30	9	23,448½	25	2	24,396½	16	10
,, 18	31,269	30	10	18,142½	24	11	20,279½	16	10
,, 25	22,371½	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910½	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235½	25	1	17,702½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660½	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	23,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871½	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,133½	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,57	18	0
,, 13	25,600	30	8	2,963	24	10	12,937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803½	18	5
,, 27	21,598½	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017½	18	8
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	6	5,912½	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	217½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,69	19	1
,, 24	11,574½	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031½	18	10
July 1	9,579½	31	0	289½	23	2	3,48	19	7
,, 8	7,8	32	1	37	22	11	2,532½	19	9
,, 15	4,884½	32	3	31½	23	10	1,962½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	92½	23	7	2,431	18	11
,, 29	7,69	32	3	241	23	11	3,065½	19	3
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	571½	22	0	4,344½	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	54½	22	5	8,974½	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,758½	23	4	13,656½	16	4
,, 26	58,0	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630½	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090½	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888½	23	4	20,622½	15	11
,, 16	83,182½	26	11	26,99	23	7	23,70	16	0
,, 23	95,713	26	8	70,475½	23	10	30,715½	15	11
,, 30	101,284½	26	9	123,12½	24	3	42,067½	16	1
Oct. 7	89,579½	26	9	147,570½	24	9	31,19	16	3
,, 14	8 ,119½	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354½	16	6
,, 21	90,518½	27	1	224,530	25	0	24,635½	16	7
,, 28	80,116½	27	4	257,367½	24	11	23,860	16	8
Nov. 4	80,380½	27	10	231,869½	24	9	28,424½	17	1
,, 11	78,276½	28	3	209,709	24	10	28,316½	17	4

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 20	0	(per sack)	27	0
,, 13	,, 23	0	,,	26	0
October 11	,, 25	0	,,	25	0
November 3	,, 30	0	,,	27	0

(No change since last date given.)

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.

(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended November 11, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	78,276½	qrs.	28s. 3d.
Barley	209,709	qrs.	24s. 10d.
Oats	28,316½	qrs.	17s. 4d.

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 1 to 8, 1905, inclusive.

		British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat	qrs.	2,700	58,000	60,700
Barley		4,000	25,000	29,000
Malt		15,423	...	15,423
Oats		9,000	52,000	61,000
Rye		100	2,000	2,100
Beans		828	5,100	5,928
Peas		800	1,300	2,100
Maize		...	9,532	9,532
Tares		42	...	42
Linseed		...	25,000	25,000
Rapeseed		50	144	194
Dholl		...	500	500
Canaryseed		...	195	195
Dari		...	2,000	2,000
Flour	sacks	32,612	23,043	55,655
Ricemeal		...	19,000	19,000
Riceflour		...	9,000	9,000
Oatmeal		...	1,500	1,500

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 2d to 7s 3d. Congleton: 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s to 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 4d. Helmsley: 11d to 1s. Knutsford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2. Lostwithiel: 1s 4d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Normwich: 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per 24 oz roll. Redruth: 1s 3d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 1d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s to 1s 2d. Berwick: 9d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 2d. to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 2½d. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s to 1s 2d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Stokesley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Whitby: 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 and 6. Ashburton: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per dozen. Barnstaple: 6 to 8. Camelford: 9. Chester: 6. Crewe: 6. Congleton 6. Dartmouth: 1s 6d per dozen. Derby: 6. Helmsley: 7. Knutsford: 6. Leyburn: 7 and 8. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Lostwithiel: 8. Macclesfield: 5 and 6. Nantwich: 7. Northwich: 6. Otley: 6 and 7. Redruth: 1s 6d per dozen. Runcorn: 5 and 6. St. Austell: 8. Stamford: 7 to 9. Stockport: 5 and 6. Tavistock: 6 and 7. Totnes: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 5. Doncaster: 7. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 7 to 9. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Malton: 7 and 8. Pontefract: 8 and 9. Retford: 2s 8d to 2s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 6 and 7. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Skipton: 7 and 8. Stokesley: 7 and 8. Worcester: 7. Yorks: 6.

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—A pitch of ten tons, and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 52s to 59s per cwt; tancy dairies, 60s to 62s; truckles, 58s to 60s; Derbys, 66s to 68s; and Cheddars, 58s to 60s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese this week were liberal. The demand was again very quiet indeed. Holders were not disposed to yield, as advices from Canada were strong. Cheddars were quoted from 58s to 61s; and Dunlops, from 54s to 59s per cwt.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies; slow demand. Prices: Surrey fowls, 3s to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 9d to 1s 11d; geese, 4s 9d to 5s 6d; ducks, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; wild ducks, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; woodcock, 1s 6d to 2s; snipe, 6d to 9d; quails, 9d to 1s 3d; black game, 1s 4d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d. Scotch hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s to 1s 4d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d; live hens, 1s 6d to 2s each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 8s per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s; young grouse, 4s; old, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d per brace. Venison: Haunches, 1s 6d to 1s 8d each; loin

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4½ to 5½; clover, 5½ to 6d; straw, wheat, 3½d to 3¾d; oat, 3d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supplies were to hand, but met a quiet demand at late rates. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 65s to 75s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and seconds, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 36s per load.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

Ploughing and sowing are both in active progress, and the disposition to confide wheat to the soil is greater than the low prices prevailing, and apparently likely to prevail, would appear in any way to justify. None the less, we do not anticipate that the area of last season will be repeated.

The agricultural event of the week is the Bureau Report of the American maize crop, published at Washington on Saturday. According to this report, the yield is 28.8 bushels to the acre, which on the area under cultivation, would give the following total yield Figures which we give for preceding seasons show that this year's harvest is far and away the largest ever secured.

AMERICAN MAIZE CROP.

	Bushels.
1905	2,707,000,000
1904	2,467,000,000
1903	2,244,000,000
1902	2,523,000,000
1901	1,523,000,000
1900	2,105,000,000
1899	2,078,000,000
1898	1,925,000,000
1897	1,903,000,000
1896	2,283,000,000

Out of the 2,467,000,000 bushels of 1904, the total exports have been 88,000,000 bushels, which points to home wants of about 2,379,000,000 bushels. On this basis the exportable surplus of the new crop works out at 328,000,000 bushels, or 41,000,000 qr., a truly colossal quantity. How much of it will actually be shipped remains to be be seen, but there seems to be every prospect of cheap maize for ten months of 1906, i.e., from March 1 to December 31. The new American crop will require, like all maize crops, two months to dry, and shipments will not have time to get over much in bulk to the United Kingdom and Europe before the end of February

The buckwheat crop in the United States proves to be the best ever reaped, but the total production is not very large. In 1904 the yield was 18.9 bushels to the acre, and was then itself a record. The yield of 1905 is 19.2 bushels to the acre. The yield in 1902 was 1,891,000 qr., and was 18.1 bushels to the acre.. Perhaps this year two million quarters have been secured.

The American potato crop is put as 87 bushels to the acre, which is 1 to 2 per cent. above America's average production usually estimated at 85½ bushels to the acre. In 1904, however, the U.S.A had a colossal yield of potatoes, 110 bushels to the acre, so that this year's crop looks by comparison quite small.

The hay crop of America is evidently rather above the average, thereby reducing the needs of dry food for stock. Rice is only a moderate crop, but it is never of much importance except for the negro population of the Old Confederacy. Linseed is a fine quality crop, but the yield to the acre is only 11.2 bushels.

Of linseed the area is usually about 2,250,000 acres, at which rate the crop of this year would come to a total of 25,200,000 bushels.

Other agricultural events affecting the markets are (1) the improved crop prospects in India, (2) the remarkable wheat yields now expected in South Australia and Victoria, and (3) the generally favourable character of Argentine crop news. These all have told against value, and made old prices very hard to obtain.

The affairs of Russia are in everybody's mind, but it is particularly difficult to get at the truth concerning the real position of the agriculture and commerce of that vast empire. The large shipments of grain and the liberal supply of food generally seem incompatible with an utterly dislocated rail and river service, let alone with riots and anarchy. It would look as though the Russian put in his eight hours daily work, and then rioted in his leisure. Were crowds of Russian workmen quietly loading up grain steamers at the Odessa quays while other crowds were massacring Jews, fighting Cossacks, and indulging generally in the accessories of civil war? For the present the market is of opinion that the trouble in Russia is over and prices have gone back for Russian produce all along the line. But this view of the matter may be falsified in turn; it is a situation whereon everyone must read and judge for himself.

The quantity of wheat to arrive at British ports between now and the end of the month is less than usual, so that farmers are threatened with less foreign competition than usual, and should be able to get at least present rates for their wheat. Of the grain expected nearly half is new American, so that that type may prove difficult to maintain in value. Russian is also in liberal perspective supply, and as much Roumanian as is asked for is freely to be forthcoming. On the other hand, there seems bound to be a decided scarcity of Indian, Argentine, and Australian, nor are Californian, Walla Walla, Chilian, and New Zealand cargoes likely to be in evidence before December. It is to be noted that Paris is gradually hardening for wheat. On Saturday 40s. was averaged for the week's trade, against 38s. 10d. averaged on September 1, at the opening of the cereal year.

The American flour mills are exceedingly busy. Returns of quantities ground at the ten chief mills last week were as follows:—

Week ending Nov. 11, 1905 .... 511,000 barrels.
Week ending Nov. 12, 1904 .... 307,000 barrels.

Despite this large increase in business the supply on passage to the U.K. is actually somewhat smaller than it was a week ago.

Barley had its period of brisk markets from September 29 to November 4; since the 6th inst. inertia has prevailed, and the prices ruling to-day are not so good as those of a week ago. Californian is the only sort which is held with a real confidence.

Oats have not varied much on the week, but what change there has been has favoured buyers. The competition between America and Russia is rather keen this season, but English growers are showing reserve.

Maize has naturally been sobered as a market by the news of the gigantic new crop in America, but as scarcely any of this will reach us before Candlemas the holders of stock actually in granary maintain an attitude of steady resistance to price decline.

Linseed is a little cheaper to buy at all markets, whereas cottonseed is dearer for fine Egyptian; and a little more money is making for poppyseed.

Supplies on passage show an increase on the week in the case of wheat, oats, and cottonseed, but a reduction with respect to barley, maize, linseed, rice, and flour.

Of wheat, the following supplies are in prospect:—

Californian	130,000
American	360,000
Russian	440,000
Indian	180,000
Argentine	285,000
Australasian	70,000
Various	30,000
Total	1,495,000
A week ago	1,393,000

Of flour 306,000 sacks are on passage, mainly, as usual, from the United States

Maize supplies on passage consist chiefly of flat and yellow corn. Barley is fairly divided between the feeding and the malting kinds. For oats we are still relying for the most part on Russia, but not so exclusively as a month ago. The following are particulars:—

	Maize. Qrs.	Barley. Qrs.	Oats. Qrs.
Russian	7,000	240,000	245,000
American	190,000	230,000	55,000
Argentine	310,000	none	15,000
Total.....	507,000	470,000	315,000

The sales of wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been large, with the natural result of reducing the price.

This season, 888,000 quarters at 27s 1d per quarter.
Last season, 479,000 quarters at 30s 2d per quarter.

The sales of barley have been rather heavier this season than last, but the difference is too slight to account for the rather serious decline in price.

This season, 1,297,000 quarters at 24s 3d per quarter.
Last season, 1,269,000 quarters at 25s 3d per quarter.

The sales of oats have been decidedly small, and value has advanced a little in the shires, though by no means so markedly as in the metropolis.

This season, 278,000 quarters at 16s 4d per quarter.
Last season, 353,000 quarters at 15s 11d per quarter.

The imports of the U.K. last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 380,000 quarters; a good supply.
Flour, 126,000 sacks; a modest supply.
Barley, 244,000 quarters; very heavy arrivals.
Oats, 62,000 quarters; extremely small imports.
Maize, 106,000 quarters; about half the average.

There were good imports of linseed, rice meal, and lentils, but very small imports of beans and rapeseed.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 13.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	47 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	40 to 48
Calcutta	38 to 40
Argentine	37 to 39
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	40 to 41

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian.....	6/0 to 6/3
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Yellow ...	37 to 38
,, Brown ...	35 to 36
Calcutta ,, ...	35 to 36
Gujerat.....	40 to 41
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	34 to 36

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	41 to 43

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb. s. s.
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 13.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Farmer's to-day obtained fully last week's prices for their wheat, and Red sorts were the subject of a very fair demand. Foreign was a little cheaper for Russian and Roumanian, but made old prices for Indian, Australian, and Argentine. Barley was rather irregular. Californian and Persian, two very different sorts, were the turn dearer; while English and Russian favoured buyers. Maize was not nearly so depressed as some expected to find it after the American definite report of a crop exceeding all previous returns. The general belief is that granary stocks of maize will barely meet the most ordinary demand between now and new crop arrivals, and the majority of holders to-day refused to abate their price demands. The competition of Russian and American light oats made both these kinds 3d. to 6d. cheaper on the week; but heavy oats (home and foreign) fully supported the current values of the 6th. Peas and beans tended in sellers' favour, and there was a rise of 1s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per ton in linseed cakes.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	31	— 33
Red	,,	29	— 32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 38
Brewing	,,	27	— 31
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	18	— 10
Crystallized	,,	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	18	— 19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	22	— 23
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	39	— 41
Pigeon	,,	42	— 44
Tick	,,	36	— 37
Winter (Old)	,,	34	— 35
,, (New)	,,	32	— 33
Spring	,,	33	— 34
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	55	— 65
New Unpicked ,,	,,	49	— 50
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	30	— 32
Maple (Old)	,,	33	— 34
,, (New)	,,	32	— 33
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	51	— 52
Brown	,,	47	— 49

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Manitoba No. 1 ...	34/3	— 35
,, ,, 2 ...	33/9	— 34
,, ,, 3 ...	32/9	— 33
American Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	33/6	— 34
Australian	34/6	— 35
New Zealand	30	— 31
Saxonka.....	34	— 35
Azima.....	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay.....	33	— 34
Calcutta.....	32	— 33
Kurrachee	31	— 32
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	28	— 30
Californ'n (448 lb.)...	28	— 29
Ouchak (448 lb.) ...	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.) ...	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)...	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)...	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.) ...	20	— 20/6
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Rustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
American (400 lb.)	20	— 20/6
Persian (400 lb.)...	18/6	— 19
Crushed (304 lb.) ...	16/6	— 17
Torrified (336 lb.)...	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	35	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
New Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16	— 17
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	19	— 20
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20
,, (304 lb.) ...	16/6	— 17
Argentine (304 lb.)	16/6	— 17
Dutch (320 lb.).....	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	18
American (320 lb.)	17—17/6	
,, (304 lb)	16—16/6	

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	26	— 27
Turkish	25	— 26
American	24/9	— 25
Argentine	24/6	— 25
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna.....	33	— 35
Konigsberg	52	— 54
Egyptian	33	— 34
Syrian.....	34	— 36
New Zealand	34	— 35
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian.....	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	40	— 42
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	27	— 28
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun.....	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese.....	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 18
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding".....	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 30
Indian.....	25	— 26
Persian	21	— 23
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)...	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED IN BUYERS' FAVOUR FOR WHEAT, BARLEY, AND OATS; WHILE MAIZE WAS NOT QUITE SO FIRMLY HELD AS AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MARKET.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 13.

LONDON FLOUR.

The trade in London makes is decidedly reactionary to-day, and prices are irregularly lower on the week. Country flour, while not quotably cheaper, is weaker in position, owing not only to the London makes being lower, but to large arrivals from East Anglia and Cambridgeshire. The market for American flour is firmer for good bakers' grades than for the fancy and patent types. Manitoba patents made 28s landed. Iron Duke is quoted at 22s. 6d. per sack. Red Dog or feeding flour is quoted 14s. to 15s. per sack. Hungarian is 1s. cheaper from October's best prices. Australian and Argentine sorts are scarce and firm. French flour is neglected. Fine middlings are 5s. per ton dearer in some instances, but pollard and bran are slow of sale.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 net
Town Whites	,,	25/3 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/3 ,,
No. 2	,,	22/3 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25/3 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	23 3 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21/6 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 27
Fine Roller whites	,,	24	— 25
Ord'y Roller ,, ,,	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28	— 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	2	—22,6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
Californian	,,	27	— 28
Canadian	,,	27	— 28
Russian	,,	30	— 31
Hungarian, 0	,,	31	— 32
,, 1	,,	30	— 31
,, 2	,,	29	— 30
,, 3	,,	28	— 29
French, Corbeil	,,	25	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	24	— 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22	— 23
Australian	,,	25	— 26
Argentine, Fancy	,,	28	— 29

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	26	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	10	— 11
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	7s. 3d.	Nov. delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 1d.	Dec. delivery.
,,	4s. 0d.	Jan. ,,
,,	4s 4d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	May ,,

The fall in wheat prices telegraphed to-day as having occurred at New York and Chicago made wheat futures here weak; 6s. 11d. per cental was the best price obtainable. Maize was quiet at 4s. 4d. for remote futures; 4s. 5d. for January.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Prices are firm all round, with the demand chiefly centred upon the brightest and healthiest samples. Choice descriptions are very scarce.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The demand noted in our last continues; consumers are taking all classes freely at current rates. The imports of hops for the month of October, 1905, were 14,165 cwt; for the corresponding month last year, 65,530 cwt; the total imports for September and October, 1905, were 12,771 cwt; for the corresponding period last year, 93,647 cwt. The exports of hops for the month of October, 1905, were 5,012 cwt; for the corresponding month last year, 2,618 cwt; the total exports for September and October, 1905, were 6,236 cwt; for the corresponding period last year, 3,365 cwt.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Milling offals are scarce, and prices against buyers.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Wheat in moderate supply; trade at prices of last Monday. Flour quiet, unchanged. Maize, 3d. lower. Barley a slow trade at late rates. Oats 3d. and 6d. per qr. lower. — COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Flour.—The demand to day has been very quiet and prices remain about the same as on this day week except for bakers' grades and low grades, which owing to extreme scarcity, command 3d. to 6d. more money.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Flour.—The tone is quieter, but prices are unchanged. Values here are still below replacing values. Grain.—Indian corn is scarce, but in small demand. Plate maize held for 14s. 7½d. per 280 lb. Oats are a shade quieter. Calcutta pease are getting into small compass, and are held for 17s. 3d. to 17s. 6d. per 280 lb. Beans 3d. better. Oilcake 2s. 6d. per ton dearer. Oatmeal advanced a further 6d. per sack. Mill Stuffs.—Millers are behind with orders, and the demand continues brisk.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Owing to scarcity of spot linseed home-made cake are decidedly firm, and foreign are in short supply. Russian-made in particular. Decorticated and ordinary cotton cake are firm in sympathy with all feedings stuffs. There are an unusually good demand for linseed.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	0	0	to 8	2	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay						
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	10	0			
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	7	6			
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	10	0	to 8	0	0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7	0	0			
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	15	0			
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	17	6	to 5	0	0
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	16	3			
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5	2	6			
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	7	0			
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	0	0	to 2	2	0
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs.	sacks included ex warehouse	2	6	0			
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	3	0			
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.							
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London						
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)							
Bombay ,, ,,							
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.							

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC. 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are a little steadier this morning, and barley is not quite so depressed as on Saturday. The market for oats is still reactionary and maize is again lower. Linseed and rapeseed cargoes are steadier, and cargoes of peas are rather dearer.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—White Calcutta, 33s 3d per 492lb., arrived; White Kurrachee, 34s per 492lb., on passage; No. 1 Manitoba, 32s 9d per 480lb., on passage; No. 2 Manitoba, 32s 3d per 480lb., on passage; Australian, 33s 3d per 480lb., February shipment; Red Walla, 32s 6d per 500lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 24s per 480lb., arrived; American, 21s per 480lb., January shipment.

BARLEY.—Oregon, 27s 6d per 448lb., prompt shipment; Odessa, 21s per 400lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—Black Libau, 16s 6d per 304lb., prompt shipment; South Russian, 16s 9d per 304lb., prompt shipment.

BEANS.—Smyrna, 35s 6d per 480lb., December shipment.

PEAS.—Green Calcutta, 25s 6d per 504lb., December shipment; Green Calcutta, 24s 3d per 504lb., April shipment (new crop).

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 32s 3d per 410lb., November shipment; Argentine, 38s 3d per 416lb., on passage.

RAPESEED.—Brown Cawnpore, 39s 9d per 416lb., January shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 17s 6d per 2,240lb., on passage.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fruit and greenstuff in fairly good supply, but business rather quiet. Quotations for English produce: Grapes, 8d to 3s 6d per lb.; apples, 5s to 12s per bushel; cranberries, 10s 6d to 14s per case; Redon chestnuts, 6s to 10s 6d; Grenoble walnuts, 7s to 8s per bag; cobnuts, 5s to 7s per 12lb.; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; celery, 6s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; artichokes, 2s 6d to 3s; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per half sieve; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; carrots, 2s 3d to 3s per bag; cucumbers, 2s 6d to 4s; endive, 1s to 1s 6d per dozen; turnips, 2s 3d to 3s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; radishes, 6d to 9d per dozen bunches; cauliflowers, 4s to 7s 6d; cabbages, 2s 6d to 3s 6d per tally; onions (English), 4s 6d to 6s per cwt.; horseradish, 8s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12lb.; sprue, 9d to 10d per bundle; potatoes, 60s to 75s per ton.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—There is an increasing demand for spring sowing seeds, both clovers and grasses, with a reasonable trade passing at unchanged prices. The new English reds are coming out very slowly, principally on account of the weather. Values consequently not determined.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 13, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Nov. 14, 1904.
Beasts	870	870	1 240
Sheep and Lambs	5,340	5,340	6,670
Milch Cows	40	40	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 8d	3s 6d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 26; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 792; Devon, 20; Ireland, 32.

We note to-day a decrease of 60 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. The majority of the supply was drawn from the Midland Counties; Ireland showed a falling off in point of numbers, and consisted entirely of Waterford cattle, for which trade though slow, was fairly steady, late rates being both asked and obtained; the same remark with regard to the trade applies to all classes of both prime and second quality cattle. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited demand by both town and country buyers. A clearance will be made.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 14, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat Cows	3s 4d ex 3s 6d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was a decrease of 830 in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. Trade in the early morning for all descriptions was of a brisk nature, but owing to the inclement weather, became slower as the day advanced, nevertheless no decline in value can be noted. There was very little inquiry for middling quality descriptions. Both Irish and Scotch sheep sold well at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value. A clearance will undoubtedly be made. The supply included 200 Scotch, 1,150 Irish, and 633 from Eastern Counties.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 14, 1904
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	6s 2d to 5s 10d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d

No pigs or calves on offer to-day.

London (Central), Monday. — Fair supplies, quiet demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4d 5d; English, 3s to 3s 6d; American, 2s 8d to 3s 2d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; New Zealand lamb, 2s 8d to 3s; veal, 3s to 4s 2d;; pork, 4s to 4s 8d per 8lbs.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 657; sheep, 244; pigs, 501. Beef, 7s to 7s 9d; mutton, 8s 2d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat beasts sort supply, better demand; fat sheep short supply, good demand; stores very short supply, dearer; fat store pigs, good demand; milch cows good demand, prices £14 to £22.

FOREIGN

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts 970. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with the corresponding day last week, showed an increase of 51 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade was of a firm and steady nature, with an upward tendency in value, to the extent of 2d per 8lbs. Besides the above number given about 260 also from the United States was withheld. Best States were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s; seconds ditto, 3s 8d (offal given in). No sheep on the market for sale to-day. On Saturday 1,206 from the United States and 480 Canadian beasts were offered for sale; trade was of a firm nature at an advance in value. Besides the above 300 more were withheld. The best States were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 6d; Canadians, 3s 6d to 3s 8d.; seconds, 3s 2d.; 266 Canadian ewes were offered for sale, and were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lbs.(offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday. — Smaller supply of cattle in market to-day; demand slow and prices unchanged; an increased supply of sheep. Trade was decidedly of a firmer tone, finished handy weights made top quotation, middling and rough sorts though easier to cash were not quotably dearer. Beef, 5¾d to 4¼d per lb.; mutton, 9d to 6d. At market, 1,325 cattle and 4,913 sheep.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,533 bales, and from foreign ports 11,449 bales. There was a better tone and demand in the bacon market last week, the market closing steady:—Irish, 61s to 63s up to 66s; Danish, 56s to 61s up to 64s; Canadian, 54s to 56s up to 60s. Butter: Finest butters were in good demand, and Danish some 3s dearer; prices ranging:—Danish, 123s to 125s; French, 96s to 114s; Russian, 94s to 108s; Argentine, 112s to 114s; Australian, 84s to 105s; Irish, 104s to 115s; Canadian, 92s to 103s; Australian, 92s to 114s. Lard: The lard market was quiet: Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 52s to 58s; American, 38s to 39s 6d.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE.

London, Friday.—Butter: The demand for Australian, especially for "Choicest," brands, is steady at unchanged rates. Cable advices from Australia report a continuance of droughty weather which is causing a great reduction in the output of butter in Queensland and the Northern part of New South Wales, where the greater portion of the butter exported from that State is produced. The shortage of Siberian supplies, owing to the strike in Russia, has caused an advance of 3 kroner in Denmark, and the official quotation is now 103 kroner, against 95 kroner last year, a difference in English money of 11s 3d per cwt. Cheese: The improved demand for Canadian cheese has caused an advance of fully 1s per cwt. this week, and cables from Montreal indicate a further advance in the c.i.f. price. On the spot "Choicest" white is selling at 57s to 58s per cwt., and for coloured 58s to 59s, and an occasional 60s.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week the supply numbered precisely the same as the preceding week, and, as is usually the case at this season of the year, the majority of the supply was drawn from the Midland Counties and Ireland. Trade throughout the week was of a slow and dragging nature, the tendency in regard to value being in favour of the buyer. The Irish arrivals on Monday consisted of 21 Dublin Shorthorns and 37 Waterfords, no store cattle being included; for this class of cattle salesmen had to accept 2d. less money to effect sales. Fat beasts on Thursday were quite unsaleable. For fat butchering cows and bulls throughout the week late currencies were difficult to maintain, trade on Thursday being practically at a standstill, owing to the marked absence of retail buyers and carcase butchers. At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade became firmer as the week advanced; nevertheless, rates remained about the same. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,597, as against 4,797 during the previous week. The supply consisted of 1,030 British and 3,567 Foreign (decrease 200). The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington was of an extremely dull and dragging nature on both market days, and, notwithstanding Thursday's supply being one of the smallest noted this year, trade was practically at a standstill, owing to the extremely slack demand of the retail buyers. On Monday the tendency in regard to value was a downward one, with the exception of Scotch descriptions, last week's quotations being well upheld for these.

At Deptford 266 Canadian ewes were consigned, rates for which were fairly steady. The total number of sheep and lambs penned was 6,476, as against 6,372 during the preceding week, consisting principally of British consignments. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. to 5s. 2d.; 10 stone ditto, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down Ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 8½ stone Canadian ditto, 4s. 4d. The calf trade, with a very small supply, was nominal. Pigs numbered 120, and met a slow but firm trade at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb.—BALDRY AND CO.

Trade in the West.

Supplies of milch beasts having come to hand somewhat in excess of the demand, a slight reaction in the trade has resulted, and prices are scarcely as good as they were, though the decline, which we only look upon as of a temporary character, can hardly be quoted at present more than from 10s. to 20s. a head—due to so many being anxious to realise whilst the market was so buoyant, and to this alone. From £17 to £20 is the best value now current for the most serviceable milchers, against £18 to £22 realised a week since. Secondary grades, too, are at the same time less saleable than they were. With barreners there is also a poor sale, though here and there a few good meaty bullocks are making from £13 to £14 apiece where sold singly; pairs are not bringing such a good return, £18 to about £23 or £24 being about the general range of values, rougher grades selling as low as from £14 to £17, the depression in this particular class of stock being undoubtedly the outcome of the poor price fat beasts are making.

The trade in fat bullocks is still very unsatisfactory, prices generally having receded 2d. per stone since our last report. This applies not only to the rougher grades, but equally so to bullocks of the choicer kinds, the very best quality Devons, small weights, only making 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per stone, and heavier beasts 4s. 4d.; whilst Shorthorns are selling at from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d., and occasionally 4s. 6d.; but fat cows are very sluggish at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 10d., very little realising more. Fat calves are still bringing high rates, well-finished lots selling up to £7 apiece down to £5 for smaller weights (or from 8½d. to 9d. per lb.), seconds selling from 7d. to 8d. Best wether mutton and maiden ewes sell fairly well up to 6s. per stone (or from 48s. to 57s. each); secondary grades 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d. for heavier sheep; and coarse ewes 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d., with a very sluggish sale for anything lacking quality. In pigs, porkers are in more demand than ever at prices ranging from 10s. 6d. to 11s., another 6d. being made occasionally for animals of exceptional finish, fat hogs also commanding a good sale at 9s. to 9s. 6d.; and, though heavier pigs find buyers at considerably lower rates, there is not such a keen enquiry by any means for this class of meat as there is for the smaller weights.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather less. For the best qualities previous prices were maintained, but secondary and third-rate kinds still meet a very bad trade at low prices. There were also fewer sheep on offer. Anything of a good class and adapted for shop purposes were easily sold. Ewes still selling at moderate prices. Fat calves and pigs just the turn cheaper. There was a much smaller supply of store sheep on offer, and generally of an indifferent class. Anything good sold at full prices. Rather fewer store cattle on offer, and the quality not quite so good as last week. A slow demand was experienced without change in value, and a portion of the rougher cattle were left over. Milch cows a good show, and the best class sold dear. Quotations: — Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s.; current, 31s. to 34s.; secondary, down to 28s.; mutton from 7d. to 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

The attendance both of home and export buyers at last Thursday's Dublin market was fairly large, but any good that might have come through this was more than discounted by a large increase of supplies in both departments, leaving trade as bad and inactive as ever. In the cattle market business opened with a little vigour, but the increase in the number of cattle soon told its tale, and buying fell into a cautious and tedious groove, buyers seeming afraid to offer at all. The early sales were the only ones which gave any satisfaction to sellers. Middling and inferior beasts were about as slack as they could be, and at a late hour large numbers were left over unsold. Both ox and heifer beef sold at from 48s. to 52s., and in a few cases up to 54s. per cwt.; good second quality beef, 45s. to 47s. 6d., and inferior from 42s. per cwt. There were 4,364 beasts on the market, an increase on the week of 615.

Trade for sheep was also poor, an increase of over 700 head making those on offer quite in excess of the requirements of the day. Home buyers appeared indifferent as to whether they bought or not, and the export buyers seemed to be of the same mind. But hough the tone of the market was weaker, there was no quotable decline in the value of mutton. Prime wether mutton sold at from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 5¾d. to 6½d.; and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb up. Large, heavy made from 44s to 55s. each; and small to medium ditto from 32s. to 42s. Veal was in increased supply, too, and this gave a weaker tone, but still choice veal sold readily at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; inferior veal did not bring over 5d per lb. Milch cows of good quality were in fair demand and firmer, freshly calved making fram £15 to £18. and tip-top springers going at from £19 to £21; small and inferior cows from £8 upwards. Store cattle without change for the better, but beasts of good breeding in forward condition were looked for at some of the store sales which took place on Thursday. A good many nice beasts were bought to ship for Norfolk, Cambridge, Leicester, and Warwickshire, and a few lots for Wales and Scotland. The graziers from the Counties Meath, Dublin, Wicklow, and Kildare wanted nice young cattle, but were not able to get all they required. Business was brisker, but no sign of a rise in price. The top price for Aberdeen-Angus and Hereford crosses would be about 27s. 6d per cwt. £13 a head was paid for some cross Shorthorns, suitable for stall-feeding. For the last couple of weeks trade in the Dublin pig market has been very good, and, doubtless it was the prospect of another brisk day which brought such a big supply in last Thursday. Trade proved tedious, however, as buyers were poorly represented, and in the absence of competition sellers had to give way from 2s. to 4s. per cwt., and even at this reduction it was hard to effect a clearance. Choice light pigs paid from 50s to 52s. per cwt.; heavy, from 46s. to 50s.; and inferior from 32s. up.

LONDON.

Islington. Thursday.—Beast supply compared with Thursday last, showed increase of 60 head, majority consisting of fat butchering cows and bulls, and very small consignment of prime quality cattle; for former trade ruled firm, last Monday's quotations being well maintained. Fat beasts, however, met absolutely no demand, and consequently unquotable. Top value, fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Sheep supply consisted entirely of Downs and half breds. For both wethers and ewes trade ruled dull, with downward tendency in value, though not sufficient to quote. No Scotch or Irish sheep shown. Best pens made, per 8lb, as follows: 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10 stone half breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. Calf trade not worth noting. Full supply of pigs, and trade slow but firm; best small breeds quoted 4s 6d per 8lb. Quotations, per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; pigs 2s 10d to 4s 6d. Total supply beasts 100, sheep 70, calves 10, pigs 70.

London (Central). Friday.—Good supplies were on offer, for which a fair demand prevailed at about late rates. Arrivals of beef included 80 tons Scotch, 220 Liverpool sides, 1,850 hindquarters, and 1,500 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,150 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; long sides, 3s 10d to 4s; English, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; American Deptford killed, 2s 9d to 2s 1d; Liverpool sides, 2s 8d to 3s; American refrigerated hind quarters (best), 3s 4d to 3s 6d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s. Mutton, Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 8d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 3d to 2s 8d. Lamb, New Zealand, 2s 8d to 3s. Veal, English and Dutch, 2s 8d to 3s. Pork, English, 4s 2d to 5s; Dutch, 4s to 4s 10d per 8lbs.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—Beef trade dull, but without quotable reduction in prices. Best steers an dheifers made 4s 2d to 4s 4d, and cows 3s 8d to 4s per stone. Mutton depressed. Downs, 5s 2d to 5s 6d; choice Kent wethers, up to 5s 4d; old sheep, 3s 8d to 4s. Veal about 5s, and roasting pigs from 4s 2d to 4s 6d per stone.

Basingstoke. Wednesday. At Raymond and Sons' sale-yard there was a fair attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 20 fat beasts, 61 calves, 555 fat sheep and lambs, 279 pigs and 114 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised: Fat beasts, from £12 5s to £18; fat calves, 60s to £5 10s; small, 20s to 50s; fat hogs, 60s to £5 2s 6d; fat porkers, 38s to 59s; small, 24s to 36s; stores, 10s to 26s; dairy cows, £8 10s to £20; best Down wethers and ewes, 48s to 53s; ten months' old ditto, 48s to 52s; small ditto, 38s to 45s; cross-bred wether Blackfaced and Cheviot, 40s to 45s; months' old ditto, 48s to 52s; best three months' old sucking lambs, 30s to 40s; rams, 45s to 54s. A short show of fat beasts included a few good two-year-old Shorthorn heifers and Devon steers, which were cleared at an advance on late rates; the remainder of the supply consisted of rough and half fat Devons and Shorthorns, which were unsaleable except at lower figures. The show of fat sheep included a good proportion of choice Down wethers and lambs, for which there was a good inquiry, and prices well kept up and a clearance generally made; small store lambs made up to 36s. With an average supply of dairy cows on offer, slightly lower prices had to be taken all round from previous markets. Store cattle continues a slow trade. Fat calves were cleared at less money. The pig trade, both for fat hogs and porkers, was very firm, highly satisfactory prices being realised. Store pigs also are inquired for. Ruling values:—Best fat beasts, 6½d to 6¾d; secondary ditto, 5¾d to 6d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d; best fat sheep, 8½d to 8¾d; secondary ditto, 7d to 7½d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 5½d to 6d per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 7¾d per lb; fat hogs, 9s to 10s; porkers, 10s 6d to 12s per score.

Berwick. Saturday. — Attendance of farmers and buyers poor, and trade slow. Calves, £5 to £6 10s; heifers, £7 10s; stirks, £8 to £10 10s; two-year-olds, £11 10s to £12 10s; three-year-olds, £13 to £14 10s; Shorthorn bulls, £12.

Birmingham. Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade slow. Beef, 4¼d to 6¼d (a few Herefords 6½d) per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 9d to 10s per score; porkets, 10s 6d to 11s 6d per score; sows, 8s 2d to 8s 4d per score.

Bristol. Thursday.—Beef plentiful, but demand limited, and trade quiet at last week's rates. Mutton offered in average quantity, but little business done, and prices of best qualities declined ¼d per lb. Pigs in greater number than recently, and whilst porkers remained at the high price of 11s per score, baconers advanced from 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Canterbury. Saturday.—An improved trade in Welsh and Irish bullocks, which are cheaper than in recent times. Yearlings are worth from £8 to £9; two-year-olds, from £11 to £12. Sheep in smaller supply; wether tegs, up to 42s; lambs, 22s to 26s.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	6
Under 10 sc. ...	...Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9	0
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	, 2⅝ in. ...	9	0
Under 12 sc.	,, 3 in. ...	8	6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Carlisle, Saturday.—In consequence of it being hiring Saturday, there was a very quiet market at the Sands. The supply was the smallest seen for many weeks past, and buyers were very scarce, trade ruling dull at £7 10s to £10 for small wintering heifers, and £10 10s to £13 10s for the best descriptions.

Chester, Thursday.—A pretty good show of all descripeions of horned stock. Trade was very slow, and numerous lots remained unsold, though prices closed about the same as last week. Quotations:—Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £15 to £19; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £9 to £15; stirks, £6 to £10.

Chichester. Wednesday.—The trade for sheep ruled slow at 1s to 2s less money. There were some very prime fat cattle, and they experienced a much better trade. A A large show of dairy cattle met a good selling trade, and rates were maintained. Quotations:—Prime Devon steers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; prime West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 6d to 5s; porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Stock at the market: Cattle 857, sheep 3,178, pigs 893, calves 166, and horses 19.

Chichester. Wednesday.—Messrs. Stride and Son's supplies consisted of about 2,000 fat and store Southdown and other sheep, and 300 fat, dairy, and store cattle. There was the usual large attendance of buyers and farmers present, but trade for sheep ruled slower at 1s to 2s per head less money. There were some very prime fat cattle for sale, and they experienced a much better trade, and late prices were well maintained. There was a large entry of store cattle, and rather more life in the trade.

Colchester, Saturday.—Both trade and supply were good. Grass beef sold at from 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; and pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster. Saturday.—Moderate supply of cattle and sheep. Cattle trade a shade better. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; young stock, £4 to £6. Small supply of sheep and lambs, and quiet trade. Breeding ewes, 42s to 48s; Lincoln lambs, 38s to 44s; Northcountry lambs, 28s to 36s each.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Both Messrs. Duke and Son's and also Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's sales were well supplied in most departments, except the sheep pens, which were only but scantily stocked. Trade generally ruled quiet and prices for some things were disappointing, notably for barreners, which even the best, are back considerably in value, from £18 to £22 or £23 being about the best price for those now coming out; poor class lots are even more difficult to cash. Milch beases are a little more saleable at from £16 to £20, which is the best price now ruling; plenty only making £11 to £14 or £15. Good quality fat steers and heifers a saleable trade from £15 to £20 5s (or 10s 6d to 11s per score for the best); fat cows, £12 to £14 (or 8s 6d to 9s 6d). Mutton trade still keeps slow, wedders to-day making 46s 6d to 51s (or 7½d per lb. and ewes 43s to 52s 6d (or 6½d to 7d).

Dublin. Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 4,364, increase 615; sheep, 6,262, increase 745; calves, 41, increase 12. Notwithstanding a substantial advance in the numbers exposed for sale, trade and prices showed practically no alteration. There was a well-sustained demand for the choicer descriptions; secondary and inferior sorts tedious to cash, but a fair clearance made. With more favourable weather sheep were in better request at last week's prices. Cattle, live weight (best), 27s 6d to 31s per cwt; secondary and rough sorts, 24s to 27s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7¼ per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND Co.

Edinburgh. Wednesday.—A slow trade for cattle, the quality being moderate, but a good trade for sheep. Coloured bullocks, £11 11s to £12 12s; horned, £13 10s, polled, £13 13s; half-bred hoggets, 32s; Cheviot dinmonts, 37s 6d; black-faced dinmonts, 32s; best Shorthorn cows to £24; crosses, £19 to £23; and Ayrshires, to £17 10s per head.

Exeter. Friday.—Smaller supply of beasts; rather better sale, and late prices well maintained. Maiden heifers and steers, 11s; cows, 10s, and in some cases rather more money; all cleared. Usual number of sheep, but quality not generally so good; all the best sold out at 8½d for small and 8d for large size; ewes, 6d to 6½d; keeping lambs for turnips, 32s to 38s; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow. Wednesday. There was a fair demand for sheep at fully late rates; best hoggs, 9d to 9½d; secondary, 8d to 8½d; best wethers, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7½d to 8d per lb; Prime cattle in request, but secondary slow owing to the glutted dead meat market; top Scotch, 62s; secondary, 56s to 58s; Irish, 56s per cwt. Dead meat dull; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 5½d; best Canadians, 4½d per lb.

Gloucester. Saturday.—Messrs. Burton, Knowles, and Co., report their sales as follows:—A large supply of cows and calves and in-calvers, the best of which sold readily at prices up to £23 2s 6d, £22 15s, £22. The trade was dull for second-class quality. A small supply of store cattle with very little demand.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Both the cattle and sheep trade were unsatisfactory. We had an over-supply of fat beasts, and with a dragging trade there was no recovery from last week's decline, the top price being 6½d. fat cows 5d. Half-fed beasts were in less demand. Store cattle were down. Sheep were not an over-supply, but were of all sorts, and the demand for even the best wethers was very slack, which was surprising so near Christmas. Choicest wethers made 7½d to 8d, fat ewes 6d. There were few store lambs, and they realised 8d per lb. Useful store lambs met with ready customers. The calf trade was slow at low quotations, about 6d per lb for fat calves, and rearing calves being cheaper. We had a much larger supply of pigs. Porks and nice quality bacons experienced a very good demand at 6d, and the store pig trade was also firmer.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—Messrs. Robert Bond and Sons report a short supply of fat cattle, which were mostly rape home-breds of medium weights; trade was keen for all top qualities up to 9s per stone; secondary sorts were slow at last week's prices. There was a large show of grazing cattle, and at the special sale 430 North country Shorthorns, Polled Scots, Red Polls, and Irish calves were penned; there was a large attendance of buyers and a fair demand at rather lower prices, but most of the lots changed hands. Shorthorn steers, two years old, £11 10s to £10 2s 6d, eighteen months £9 10s to £8 10s, sixteen to fourteen months £8 15s to £6 17s 6d, Westmorland calves £5 17s 6d to £5 10s. A grand lot of Polled Scots made from £10 15s to £9, Polled Irish £10 5s to £9 15s, young Red Polls £8 5s to £6 5s, Cumberland heifers, in calf, £10 10s. At the special sale of dairy stock 70 cows and heifers were penned; buyers were numerous, and all the best animals fresh calved or near commanded a substantial advance; half-bred Dutch cows, with calves by sides, £29 to £17 5s, Shorthorns to £22, Polled to £20, Shorthorn heifers to £20, young Dutch heifers to £10 5s. Fat sheep in moderate supply; trade brisk, last week's decline being recovered; the best hoggets realised from 58s to 53s. A large number of grazing sheep were penned, and these were in good demand at higher prices; Suffolk hoggets 40s to 33s, half-breds 45s to 37s. Fat and store swine were more numerous; trade was not so good, and values gave way slightly. Numbers at sales and market: 1,217 cattle, 876 sheep, 1,451 swine, and 111 horses.

Leicester. Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred stock. Trade ruled rather sluggish at fully 10s to 20s per head decline. Choice milch cows, £26 to £23; good lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; Shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £14; cross-bred Polled bullocks, £12 10s to £15; Welsh runts, £10 to £14; young stock, £5 to £; calves, 12s to 40s per head.

Lincoln. Friday.—About the usual supply of cattle. Yearlings, £8 to £10; two-year-olds, £12 to £15. A small consignment of sheep, with a fair demand. Lambs, 34s to 40s.

Lynn. Tuesday.—An average show of cattle for the time of year, this being well before the cattle fair. Stores met a slow trade £6 to £17 each. Fat beasts 7s, and a few choice up to 8s per stone. Scarcely any store sheep, those sold making 40s to 45s each. Few fat sheep 9s to 10s per stone. Store Lambs 32s to 40s each.

Manchester. Friday.—Beef: First class, 4¾d; second class, 7¼d to 4d; third class, 2¾d to 3¼d. Mutton, first class, Cheviots, Scotch, 7¾d; others, 7½d; second class, 6¾d to 6¾d; third class, 5½d to 5¾d. Veal: First class, 6¾d, second class, 5¾d to 6¼d; third class, 4¾d to 5d. Bacon pigs, First class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: First class, 7¼d; second class, 7d to 7¾d; third class, 6¾d to 6¾d.

Norwich. Saturday.—Stormy weather was not conducive to trade, rain fell heavily, and sales were not numerous. Fat beasts in average supply, and prices easier at 7s to 7s 9d per stone; prices for store animals, which were offered in large numbers, ranged from £5 to £16 per head; store sheep in smaller supply, prices being of a downward tendency; lambs made 30s to 40s per head, while fat sheep met with a brisker demand at 10s to 11s per stone; fat pigs, in limited supply, met with a steady demand at 7s to 7s 3d per stone.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Fair show of milch beasts, with a slower trade. Best milch cows, £15 to £20; in-calf heifers, £12 to £17. Small show of store beasts, with a dragging trade. Strong heifers and steers, £10 to £13; younger beasts, £6 to £9; calves, 25s to 50s. No sheep or pigs.

Preston. Wednesday.—The attendance was much below the average, and trade was very slow. There was an average supply of stock. Cows and bulls, 4d to 5½; heifers and bullocks, 5¼d to 6d; hoggs, 8¼d to 8¾d; lambs, 8d to 8¾d; ewes, 6d to 6¾d; tups, 5¾d to 6d; calves, 5¾d to 6¼d. Numbers at market: 240 cattle, 120 calves, and 1,459 sheep.

Shrewsbury. Tuesday.—Large supply of cattle. Usual number of sheep, calves and pigs. Trade good, and prices a shade better than last week. Quotations: Beef, 5¼d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 7d to 8¼d per lb; lamb, 6¾d to 7¾d per lb; perket pigs, 9s to 10s 3d per score; bacon pigs, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per score. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 1,009, sheep and lambs 699, calves 79 pigs 481.

Thame. Tuesday.—Fair attendance, with average supplies of all descriptions of stock. Best beef maintained late prices; secondary difficult to dispose of. Mutton continues in good demand. Veal, bacon, and pork all disposed of at late rates. Good weaning calves in request. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 73 fat beasts, 126 fat sheep, 145 fat and store pigs, and 119 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £16 to £19, fat heifers £15 to £17 17s 6d, fat wether sheep 49s to 58s 6d, fat ewes 40s to 53s 6d, fat calves £3 to £5, weaning cow calves 30s to 61s, bull calves 10s to 48s, bacon hogs £3 10s to £5 5s, porkers 28s to 45s, store pigs 14s to 23s.

Truro. Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk, attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £9 to £17 each; rearing calves, 15s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 8d per lb; ewes, 6½d to 6d; lambs, 7½d to 8d; pigs, 9s to 32s 6d each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7½d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks 351, calves 67, sheep 215, pigs 220 and horses 3.

Wolverhampton. Wednesday.—There were fewer animals penned, and business quiet. Quotations:—Beef, 5¼ to 6¼ per lb; mutton, 8d to 8¾d per lb; lamb, 8d to 8¾ per lb; veal, 7½d to 7¾d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score; porkets, 10s to 11s per score; sows, 7s to 8s per score.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Fair supply of stock, with trade brisk owing to an increased number of buyers. Best beef, 6s 9d to 7s 3½; secondary qualities, 6s 3½ to 6s 9d per stone; best Southdown wether and cross-bred Shearlings, 8½ to 9d; ewes, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb.

Yeovil. Friday.—Best quality cows and heifers with calves made from £16 to £18 10s; secondary, from £10 to £15; barreners, from £8 10s to £12; coming two-year-old heifers, £7 10s to £10; in-calf heifers, £10 to £12 10s; store steers, £9 10s to £10 7s 6d; horn ewes, 40s to 45s; horn wethers, 46s to 52s; Down ewes, 35s to 41s; Down wethers, 45s to 50s; cross-bred lambs, 32s 6d to 40s.

York. Thursday.—A very large show of English and Irish store cattle. The latter were chiefly strong old cattle, and the English young sirks from the North-West country. The depression in the store cattle trade continues, and there were fewer purchasers than at the last market. A good many sales were effected, but prices were chiefly in favour of buyers. For three-year-olds with plenty of flesh up to £14 was fetched, two-year-olds £9 to £11, and sirks £7 to £9. A small show of calving and milch cows, with a fairly brisk demand for the better class. Anything with quality made late rates, and in a few cases there was an advance of 5s to 10s per head. Secondary sorts moved off slowly at £14 to £17, while good animals made £20 to £22. A very good show for the time of year of all classes of sheep and lambs. Best twice-crossed Shearlings made up to 46s, Masham Shearlings 42s to 45s, best twice-crossed lambs up to 36s, others 28s to 32s, Masham lambs 21s to 25s, and a few North-country lambs 28s to 34s. There will be a lot of the smaller classes of sheep left on hand, while anything good was fairly easy to sell.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill. Monday.—Large supplies of cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 841 head being penned. They were all Canadians, and were delivered in fair condition. Not many buyers were present, and business throughout was very slow. Bullocks were plentiful, and for animals of handy weights and sizes prices ranged from 50s to 52s per cwt dead weight, while a small number of superior description made up to about 54s per cwt dead weight, at which figure a few were sold to weigh. Secondary, middling, and inferior qualities were very difficult to cash, quotations being given at from 48s to 49s per cwt. Bulls made a very poor trade at dead-weight quotations, ranging from 40s to 42s per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool. Friday.—Nitrate of soda is firm, but quiet at £10 15s to £11 per ton, according to quality. Large sales have been made of basic slag for forward deliveries, but as yet only a moderate quantity is moving into actual consumption, though inquiries are on the increase, especially for the higher tests; in addition to its aplication to grass lands it is suitable for autumn-sown wheat, etc.; values as below. Kainit is more freely offered, and values are about 1s per ton easier. Present values of feeding stuffs, linseed cakes especially, somewhat retard the consumption, yet holders are firm at the late advance. Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make in bags, £6 12s 6d to £6 15s; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), prime, in bags, £14 to £15; cottonseed cage, N.A. decorticated, good, ordinary, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; ditto English decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d; ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £7 to £ 2s 6d; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d; corn oil cake 10 to 15 per cent. oil prime, in bags, £6; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £6 2s 6d per ton. Linseed, fine hold feeding, in bags, £2 7s to £2 8s per quarter (416lbs); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding, prime, in barrels, 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; ditto, guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 13s; ditto, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2; finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 2s to £2 5s per ton, at depots inland.—H. JONES LANGAR AND Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull. Tuesday.—Linseed: Linseed since last report has continued firm, but at the close the tendency is again in buyers' favour. Red Plate afloat sold offers at 23s 3d, some price asking September-October and October-November, 23s 6d, November-December 23s, January-February 23s 3d, sellers Calcutta, November-December 23s 6d at 23s 3d. Petroleum also made 23s 3d prompt. Cake: A fair business done in Egyptian during the week at 22s 17s 6d spot all ex mill to E.L. ports in first half November shipment at 23s 15s to 23s 16s 3d, same prices being paid November-end November-January; to-day, however, the market has been very quiet, with sellers latter positions at £5 15s. Oilseed cakes. Linseed cakes: A quiet demand with a moderate supply; prices very firm with hardening tendency, foreign spot short cleared, and future arrivals on certain view discussed in Russia. Cotton cakes: Best were firm at late week's prices; Bombay 1s 3d per ton dearer, decorticated cake and meal spot cleared.—KINGSLEY MAYCOCK AND Co.

London. Thursday.—Linseed: With the exception of near, and which maintains its firmness owing to scarcity, the market is easier, owing to free offers of new crop closing steadier. Calcutta London Spot 23s, and afloat 38s 9d, October-November 38s 6d, November-December 38s 3d, April-June 36s 6d. Hull—Dull and buyers very difficult to find. La Plata spot 23s, passage 22s, October-November 37s 9d, December-January 36s 6d, and January-February 36s. Rapeseed: Quiet, inactive, both buyers and sellers show little disposition for business. Brown Cawnpore November-December 39s 6d. Ferozepore 39s 6d. Cottonseed: Egypt having declined, prices are lower here. London—Passage, new, £5 18s 9d; first half November £5 16s 3d, November-January £5 15s, business doing. Hull—Spot and passage £5 16s 3d, November-January £5 15s. Oil cakes.—Linseed cakes: Firm; London-made £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes: Firmer; London-made £4 17s 6d to £5.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane. Monday.—Linseed cake: The amount of business passing is not large, but there is a fairly good consumptive demand, and, with only small stocks and short supplies of foreign, values exhibit a further hardening tendency. Russian may still be bought at last week's prices. American quotations are unchanged. East India seed pures offer at £7 12s 6d ex steamer to arrive. London-made attract rather more attention and made last week's full value. Cotton cakes: Only a moderate quantity of Egyptian is available in warehouse, and for these holders are firm at an advance of 1s 3d per ton. English are also the turn dearer. Decorticated London-made sell freely at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal, with American "Open Hand" brand making £7 2s 6d. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal: Steamer parcels of white American are quoted at 2s 6d per ton more money, at which some business is reported; English is sparingly offered, and 1s 3d per ton dearer. Maize gluten meal is nominal at £5 per ton. Rice meal: The market is almost bare of stocks, and shippers remain firm at £4 16s 3d ex ship terms for steamer parcels to come along. Broken Rangoon rice is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are quiet but firm at £5 5s for whole, and £5 15s for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is without change at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	7 17 6 to	8 0 0
Russian, in bags	7 12 6 to	7 15 0
in mats	7 10 0 to	7 11 3
Round Trieste ..... (in bags) ex quay	7 17 6 to	8 0 0
American ..... (c.i.f.)	7 7 6 to	7 10
Calcuta to arrive	7 12 6	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 15 0 to	4 16 3
,, for shipment		
English	4 15 0 to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 7 6	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal	6 17 6	
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American	7 2 6	
,, Meal ,, ...		
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta		
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 16 3 to	5 17 9
American, Dec /Jan. ..... (c.i.f.)	5 10 0 to	5 12 6
American		
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	5 15 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice ..... ex ship	4 13 3	
Broken Rangoon Rice ..... ex docks	4 15 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 16s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

WET GRAINS.

London. Friday.—Wet Grains: There has been rather more pressure to sell, and the tendency, with mild weather and increased brewings, has been easy, and 1s less has been taken on the week, ranging from 16s 6d to 18s 6d, and 13s 3d to 14s 6d porter. Better demand for milk will speedily cause a strong advance. Wet distillers' grains still maintain their prices at 35s to 36s per ton. Pressed white distillery meal 38s 6d per ton. Dried grains: There is still a good demand, and as stocks are closed down an advance may be looked for before long. Prices are: Ale, 100s; mixed, 95s; porter, 92s 6d; and distillers' 115s per ton. Dried distillery meal, containing 45.80 per cent. of oil and albuminoids, 117s 6d per AND Co., 37 and 38 Mark Lane, E.C.
AND Co

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday.—Supplies were on a good scale, but a slow demand prevailed. Best Scots, 65s to 85s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s; Scotch, 55s to 65s; Dunbars, 80s per ton.

Spitalfields. Saturday.—Light supplies were to hand, but experienced slow support. Round Whites, 65s to 70s; British Queens, 75s to 85s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s; Up-to-dates, 55s to 70s; Scottish Up-to-dates, 95s; Queens, 60s per ton.

Devon Agricultural Society.

Colonel the Hon. C. Byng presided over the council of the Devon County Agricultural Association at Exeter on Friday. Major Tucker said the Finance Committee had invested £710 in the purchase of £800 Consols; they hely a deposit note for £195, so that they were drawing interest on £995 instead of £900, whilst they had also got £200 in the bank.

A letter was read from the Duke of Bedford accepting the presidency of the association for 1906, but stating that owing to the militia training he would not be able to attend the show at Tavistock. Mr. H. Drew reported that the Sites Committee had met the local committee at Tavistock, and inspected two sites. Either of them was exceedingly good. The committee selected the Crowndale site, where the Society previously had a show, it being more popular with the inhabitants of Tavistock. The Committee were unanimous in their recommendation, and he moved its adoption. Mr. Vosper seconded, and the recommendation was adopted.

The meeting considered the report of the committee suggesting alterations in the forms of tender, plans, specifications, etc., for the county shows. They recommended that in the form of requirements of the Society the liability of the local committee to provide a proper entrance and water supply should be more clearly stated; that in the refreshment contract a clause should be added that the contractor should send to the secretary, one month before the show, labelled samples of not less than quarter-pint each of all wines and spirits which he proposed to offer for sale at the show, and that he should sign an agreement to pay a penalty of £20 for any wines or spirits sold of inferior quality and quantity. With the view of effecting a considerable saving in the showyard works, the committee recommended the adoption of a lighter form of shedding and grand stand; also that the show be kept open on the first day of the show until 8 p.m., and that the admission to the show should never be less than 1s. Mr. H. Drew moved the reception of the report.

The council agreed to a suggestion by Major Tucker that the refreshment contractor should also send to the Society the prices to be charged. Mr. Moore-Stephens did not see why wines and spirits alone should be specified. It rather looked as if it was to be a drinking establishment. He suggested that the penalty should be extended to all kinds of refreshments. A great deal of complaint had been made as to the supply of refreshments, and it was invidious to point out that they only looked after wines and spirits. Mr. Perry said they might take what precautions they liked, but they might still, perhaps, be "had." Some little hole might be found in the net to creep out of. It was decided to extend the penalty to all kinds of refreshments. Mr. Bowden: Is it proposed to submit samples of chicken and such like? (Laughter.) The Chairman: Oh, no; it is only the penalty that applies to that.

Mr. Hallett took exception to a recommendation by the committee for raising certain entry fees for stock. Even if an exhibitor came off a winner, he did not do so with much in his pocket, and if he did not get a prize he was considerably out of pocket. In the course of an animated discussion it was suggested that if the fees were raised it would adversely affect the entries. Mr. Loveys proposed that members should pay half the amount of the fees paid by non-members, but this found no support. Mr. Rendell said the objects of members in joining the association should be not to see how cheap they could get their entries, but how far they could benefit the association by their subscriptions. Mr. Hallett complained that there was no exhibitor on the committee. They were all surveyors and land agents. Mr. Michelmore did not think that ought to be thrown in their teeth; they had done their very best in the interest of the Society. Mr. Drew said the committee tried first to look after the interests of the Society, and the interests of its members. The Chairman was convinced that the members of the committee had nothing but the interests of the association at heart. The entry fees as proposed were adopted, with the exception of a slight modification.

The new plans were approved, and Major Tucker said it was hoped to effect a saving of £100. Mr. Gibbings thought it would be detrimental to the show to do away with a sixpenny admission. He moved that that price be charged on the afternoon of the last day of the show. Major Tucker said the committee were guided in their recommendation by the experience of the crush which resulted at the Exeter show through the crowd which waited for the time for the sixpenny charge.

Mr. Gibbings' motion found no seconder.

Australian Industrial Openings.

Oats, Maize, and Barley.

In addition to wheat, the Commonwealth produces large quantities of oats, maize, and other cereals, for the cultivation of which the soil, climate, and other natural conditions are eminently favourable in many districts. Victoria leads in the production of oats, the area under cultivation raising from 175,944 acres, producing 3,299,889 bushels, in 1871, to 433,638 acres, producing 13,434,952 bushels, in 1903, or more than two-thirds the total output of the five other States, as follows:—Tasmania, 1,621,950 bushels; New South Wales, 1,252,156 bushels; South Australia, 902,936 bushels; Western Australia, 258,503 bushels; Queensland, 70,712 bushels; the total production being 17,541,216 bushels, of which only 170,273 bushels were exported beyond the Commonwealth. In the cooler districts oats are cultivated as a grain crop, and for hay in the warmer regions. Oaten hay is much in demand, selling readily at remunerative prices; and, as there is less expense and lighter labour attached to this form of cultivation, the system of growing oats for hay is consequently preferred by farmers in New South Wales and Queensland. Although the capabilities of the Commonwealth as an oat-growing country are enormous, the present total annual output is small compared with the average production in Europe or America, a fact showing the immense possibilities of the future.

The cultivation of maize is most extensively practised in New South Wales and Queensland. It is not only grown as a grain crop, but a small area is also sown for green food for cattle, chiefly on dairy farms. In 1871 the area under cultivation was 142,107 acres, producing 4,556,806 bushels. In 1903, it had become increased to 371,906 acres, producing 9,657,089 bushels, of which only 2,342 bushels were exported. Of the total area under cultivation, 226,834 acres, producing 6,836,740 bushels, were in New South Wales, chiefly in the northern coastal districts; and 133,099 acres, yielding 1,923,623 bushels, in Queensland. The quantity grown, being insufficient, by reason of drought, for local requirements, had to be supplemented by the importation of 1,346,702 bushels, of which 1,258,209 bushels came from the Argentine Republic. In 1904, the quantity imported had declined to 32,757 bushels, of which 28,422 bushels came from the New Hebrides. It is pointed out as being rather curious that the only State which imports maize to any extent is New South Wales, where it is principally grown. In the Commonwealth, this grain does not enter into consumption as an article of food as it does in other countries, and particularly in America, which produces and consumes nearly 80 per cent. of the whole maize crop of the world.

Barley cultivation is limited, the total area devoted to this crop in 1903 being 121,088 acres, producing 2,656,315 bushels, rendering necessary the importation of 731,494 bushels, chiefly from America and New Zealand. The average yield per acre is 21.9 bushels, Tasmania and Victoria furnishing higher averages than the other four States. Owing to the rapid progress of the brewing industry in Australia, increased attention is now being given to the cultivation of barley for malting purposes. Several of the larger malting companies are offering special inducements to farmers to cultivate the crop, and it is expected that the area devoted to it will show a considerable advance in the near future. In Queensland especially, increased attention is being given to the cultivation of barley for malting purposes, the area reaped in 1903 amounting to 22,881 acres, as compared with 430 acres in 1902, and 11,775 acres in 1901. The greater part of the crop was produced in the Darling Downs district, and bulk samples of the grain consigned to the London and San Francisco markets were most favourably commented upon. The minor grain crops are rye, millet, and sorghum, but there is, however, so little demand for these kinds of grain that their cultivation in Australia is very limited, although the suitability of soil and climate for the production of these, as of all other kinds of grain, having become an established fact, there can be no question that should a demand arise, the Commonwealth would be enabled to successfully compete with any of the grain-producing countries of the world.

The President of the Board of Agriculture has intimated to Mr. A. P. Gwynn, clerk to the Stanstead Rural Council, that he will receive a deputation from that body, which desires to point out the hardships inflicted upon farmers living on the borders of two counties by the terms of the Swine Fever Order. Mr. J. A. Pease, M.P., will introduce the deputation.

The King's Fat Stock.—As usual, the King will send all his fat stock on the Royal farms at Windsor to the Slough Christmas cattle show and sale, which this year will be held on Tuesday, December 12. His Majesty's consignment will consist of 282 head—namely, 32 Devon bullocks, 150 Hampshire Down and Southdown sheep, and 100 Berkshire bacon hogs and porkers.

Cruelty to a Cow.—A revolting case of cruelty to a cow was brought before the magistrates at Skipton on Saturday. The defendant was Robert Shuttleworth, of Kelbrook, a well-known Craven farmer. According to the evidence of Inspector Rigg, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, on October 23 a cow, in the last stage of consumption, and said to be nothing but skin and bone, fell down in the defendant's shippon. It was unable to rise, and the defendant by means of a horse and a chain, the latter fastened round the animal's horns, dragged it across a yard paved with cobble stones, over some asphalt, and along a field to the farmhouse, a distance of 100 yards. Taking a coal hammer, defendant struck the cow over the skull, inflicting several wounds which he believed were sufficient to cause death, but the next morning the cow was found breathing heavily and badly bruised. For the defence it was pleaded that the defendant had been guilty of nothing more than an error of judgment, believing the cow was dead after he had struck it with the hammer. The chairman of the Bench (Captain Preston) said he was afraid the class of men to which defendant belonged thought very lightly of the cruelty they inflicted upon animals. Though the defendant undoubtedly deserved to be sent to gaol, the magistrates had decided to fine him the maximum penalty of £5 and costs.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

BOROUGH OF PADDINGTON.
TO FORAGE CONTRACTORS.

THE COUNCIL of the Borough of Paddington are prepared to receive TENDERS for the supply of FODDER, BEDDING and CORN, for about 90 Horses, alternately for periods of Three, Six, and Twelve months.

Further particulars and printed forms of Tender may be obtained on application to Mr. E. B. B. Newton, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E., F.S.I., Borough Surveyor, Town Hall, Paddington, W., between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.) No Tender will be considered unless upon the official form.

Sealed Tenders must be sent in endorsed "Fodder and Bedding," or "Corn" respectively, directed to the undersigned, and delivered on or before Saturday, the 2nd December, 1905, after which day no Tender will be received.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order,
ARTHUR W. J. RUSSELL,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Paddington, W.
9th November, 1905.

NATIONAL POTATO SOCIETY.
GREAT SHOW in the HORTICULTURAL HALL, Vincent Square, Westminster, on THURSDAY and FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd and 24th. Magnificent Cups and other Prizes. Admission 1s. Members Free. Schedules, Guides to the Show, and all particulars post free from the hon. Secretary, WALTER P. WRIGHT, Postling, Hythe, Kent.

AGENTS Wanted by an old-established firm for the sale of their Linseed, Cotton Feeding Cakes, Manures and Seeds. For further particulars apply to JOSEPH ASHWORTH & SONS, Ltd., Oil Cake Mills, Fone and Manure Works, Frodsham Bridge.

KIRBY BEDON HERD of Pedigree Large White Pigs of prize-winning strain. Grand young Boars and Gelts for sale at moderate prices. Hardy constitution, size, and bone a speciality.—For particulars apply W. MITCHELL, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, nr. Norwich, 2m. from Trowse station, G.E.R.

STOCK TURKEYS FOR SALE.—Pure-bred American Bronze Cockerel's and Pullets from best strains; healthy, well-marked birds. For price apply to E. MOLYNEUX, Swanmore Park, Bishop's Waltham, Hants.

BLACKBURN AND DISTRICT FAT STOCK SHOW.
At BLACKBURN CATTLE MARKET,
DECEMBER 18th 1905.
Entries close December 14th.
JAS. LORD, Secretary,
Rev'dge Fold, Blackburn.

GROOMBRIDGE FAT STOCK, HOP, CORN, AND ROOT SHOW,
At GROOMBRIDGE,
DECEMBER 14th, 1905.
Entries close: Hops October 17th; all other classes November 28th.
CHAS. HOBSON, Secretary,
Broad St., Cuckfield, Sussex.

RYE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW,
DECEMBER 13th, 1905.
E. J. VIDLER, Secretary,
Rye, Sussex.

VALE OF AYLESBURY FAT STOCK SHOW,
At AYLESBURY,
DECEMBER 13th, 1905.
Entries close December 2nd, 1905.
F. J. BROWN, Secretary,
Aylesbury.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY.

POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW,
To be held at the
BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
Nov. 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th, 1905.

NATIONAL DOG SHOW,
To be held at
THE CURZON EXHIBITION HALL, BIRMINGHAM,
November 27th, 28th, and 29th, 1905.

The Company have arranged for Through Vans for the conveyance of Poultry and Pigeons, to be run to Birmingham (New Street Station), on Friday, November 24th.

FREDERICK HARRISON,
General Manager.

Live Stock Record.

WINTER FEEDING FOR BACONERS.

At the present period droves of pigs, which in the early autumn were in the fields "stubbling," as Rustics term it, after the corn sheaves had been taken away, and, later, living on grass and acorns, are taken into houses or yards to be fattened. The fruit of the oak will continue to fall for some time yet, so that the brood sows, with their autumn litters, may still be allowed to roam about the fields, where they can get a considerable portion of their food from acorns. In seasons when the latter are very abundant they are often stored for winter feeding. There can be no more suitable food for growing pigs, but if too many are given to fattening ones, hardness of flesh is the result. In olden times very few pigs were fattened without barley meal and skim milk; but owing to the magnitude of the direct milk-supply trade, the majority of dairy farmers within convenient distance of a railway station send the whole of their milk to London and other large centres of population. Even in the remote districts where there are butter-making dairies, more profitable use is found for the separated or skim milk in feeding small porkers, which always realise a higher price than baconers.

The latter can, however, be fed on rations without milk, in which the meal of barley, maize, or wheat, with root pulp or boiled roots, are the chief ingredients. Some people are scrupulously particular about boiling everything they give to fattening pigs, and no doubt these animals relish some things all the more for boiling or steaming. Potatoes are probably nicer than when given raw if cooked with barley meal and seasoned with salt. If maize or wheat be the corn allowed, there would perhaps be economy in boiling either whole to save the cost of grinding. At grist mills millers dislike grinding maize very much, and it makes an admirable hominy when boiled for mixing with cooked potatoes or raw swede-pulp. Swedes and turnips are very nice for porcine taste, if merely reduced to pulp and served with barley meal or some other richer ingredient. If it be deemed essential to comfort the swine-stomach on cold, frosty mornings, any corn-soup would serve the purpose, and pulped roots with meals or pollard could be given as the later-day rations. When swedes are boiled for pigs the odour is very offensive, and it must be mere fancy that pigs fatten any faster owing thereto. Going to needless expense and labour should certainly be avoided in this as well as in every other farming operation. Last year there was no profit whatever to be obtained in feeding pigs, either for bacon or even for porkers. But for several months past trade has been much better.

Many farmers fatten pigs that they may have a large quantity of rich farmyard dung; and there cannot be the slightest doubt that if styes are littered after the old plan, a moderate-sized, or even a comparatively small herd well littered daily soon make a large quantity. But chemical professors would tell the farmer that the excrements of the pigs would be likely to have better preservation for utility if unmixed with straw-litter. And it is very possible for fattening or any other pigs to have warm, comfortable beds of clean straw if the latter be thrown into a heap in one corner of the house. If this plan be adopted the pig or pigs occupying it will not soil the heap of litter, but always go to another part of the house to void urine and excrement. Of course, both can be preserved better by mixture with ashes or powdered earth than would have been the case with straw, owing to the inflammable nature of the latter. And the saving of straw may be a matter of importance to a great many.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

On the 10th inst. Mr. J. Jefferson, of Peel Hall, Chester, shipped from Liverpool a very good Berkshire boar and sow to South America.

I am informed that an exceptionally fine Large White Yorkshire boar, from the celebrated prize-winning herd of Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Walton Hall, Warrington, has just been sold at a high price to a customer in Schleswig-Holstein, and was shipped from Grimsby on Tuesday last. The superior merit of this boar fully sustains the well-known reputation of the Walton herd, and his new owner thus makes a valuable addition to his already large herd of swine.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., live stock exporters, Shrewsbury, shipped per ss. "Civic," of the White Star line, on account of Mr. J. B. Ketchen, fifty beautiful in-lamb Shropshire shearling ewes and one stud ram. Twenty-one of these hailed from the prize-winning flock of Mr. T. S. Minton, sired by such well-known rams as Sensational 11884, Montford Latitude 11,168, Montford Longitude 11,173, Hafodunos Col 11,773, and Montford Omega 11,882; two choice ewes from Sir Walter Corbet, sired by Reynold Baron 11,861; seventeen nice ewes from Mr. Nevett, sired by Newton Choice 11,523, Harrington Gentleman 11,092, Barr's John Bull 11,675, Fortune's Favourite 11,764, and Cardiff Royalist 11,002; also ten very smart ewes from Mr. Raywood, sired by Harley Newton 11,778, Harley Rose, 11,779, and Odstone Ringleader 11,192. These ewes were all in lamb to high-class sires specially selected by the foregoing breeders for use in their respective flocks. The shearling ram which accompanied them was a Montford-bred sheep, owning as his sire that well-known ram Montford Omega 11,882, from a ewe by Montford A. 10,006, and then to the 120-guinea Royal winner Phenomenon 8,680, bred by Mr. A. E. Mansell.

Messrs Garrett Bros., of Buenos Ayres, have advised Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co. that the ten Shorthorn heifers and one bull despatched to their order in July last have all successfully passed the tuberculine test, and left the quarantine station in good condition. The Shropshire rams, which only have to undergo a fifteen days' quarantine, also arrived at Messrs. Garrett's estancia, safely, and the whole shipment gives unqualified satisfaction.

At the annual meeting of the Renfrewshire Agricultural Society, held at Paisley on Thursday, the financial statement submitted showed the funds at the credit of the Society, exclusive of the M'Phedran of Craighet fund of £100, to be £809 2s. 5d., or an increase of £15 10s. 3d. on last year.

Notes and Jottings.

Milk selling is a business that brings quite a handful of worries to the farmer. The matter of getting his cows milked, the milk properly cooled, and the churns booked and delivered at the station in time to the early morning trains where such have to be caught is quite a business. Then there is the further trouble of keeping up the supply of milk at this time of year and for two or three months onwards, and lastly we may say, perhaps, though not least of the trouble is the annoyance of the analyst questioning the purity of the milk, and the unpleasantness of a magisterial or other inquiry which so often takes place.

Those who are engaged in the business will doubtless have noticed with some degree of satisfaction, that latterly several cases of the kind last mentioned have been dismisssd on the producers proving that the milk was as the cows had given it, though the percentage of fat was very low. So far, the farmer may be congratulated; but as far as the consumers are concerned, it is quite a question, especially where children are concerned, if they would not be wiser to pay a higher price for a better quality of milk. What possible amount of nourishment can there be for a child in, say, a quart of milk that contains but an atom over 2 per cent. butter fat?

The writer, once upon a time, possessed a cow of a certain breed that was troubled with poverty in her milk (this was before the days of the "Gerber Tester" and cream tubes) and as this cow's milk had not been noticed in quality, owing to her being a heavy milker, she was told off to provide new milk for a couple of calves to be fed from the pail. After a couple of weeks' keep upon this milk the calves shrank away so terribly that the milk of another cow had to be substituted, and on the milk from the former cow being set in a pan for creaming, with a view to ascertaining its quality, it was found to be so poor as literally to be creamless. Such milk, it is quite certain, is useless, so far as nourishment is concerned, it is quite certain.

A most remarkable account of butter production from a Guernsey cow is being published in the American papers, to which a few references may be interesting in these days of butter tests and percentages. The total quantities of udder produce recorded from this cow in the twelve months are as follows:—Milk 14,920 lb. 8 oz., the total of butter got 857.16 lb., average percentage 5.75. The total quantity of butter fat, according to the usual calculation of the addition of one-sixth, gives no less a total of commercial butter than 1,000.2 lb., which, for convenience sake, may be said to be 20 lb. butter per week for the year, or to be more exact, over 19 lb.

This cow, called Yellow Sunbeam, thus outdistances all other breeds on the other side of the Atlantic in the yield of her milk and butter. The cow was born in April, 1895, and was therefore nine years and six months old at the beginning of the test. She is described as a large cow, weighing nearly 1,200 lb., and of ideal dairy form, according to American theories: that is a large barrel, deep chest, broad across hips and loin, a fine neck, a clean-cut intelligent head, a rather spare form, still carrying plenty of flesh towards the end of the test, in August when the writer of the account saw her, and in no way indicating

the tremendous work she had been doing. The udder is described as being full of quality and milking away to nothing.

The year's record commenced on October 1, during which month her feed consisted of silage, hay, and 15 lb. of grain of various American classes called bran, gluten feed, oats, and oilmeal. The same feeding followed in November, and the variations in butter-fat was very slight, or milk either. In December the yield of milk decreased slightly from the previous yields, and the quantity of butter-fat increased in percentage, not, however, in the total as compared with October. In January silage was still used with lucerne hay (alfalfa), and 10 lb. roots per day were added to the feed, the corn rations being as before. During this month there was again a very slight reduction in the percentage and total of butter-fats and milk.

During February and March there was little variation either in feeding or produce; also April and May give no change worth mentioning. In June, however, pasture took the place of silage and roots, the pasture being mixed clover, and the grain ration consisted of 8 lb. daily. This change of feeding is rather remarkable in its results, as it increased the milk yield somewhat and reduced the butter percentage, as well as the total of butter-fat, rather considerably, giving the lowest total of butter-fat for the whole of the twelve months. July repaid the total of butter-fat by 14 lb., and August, owing probably to a little green clover being given, as well as a slightly increased grain ration, carried the butter-fat up to over 79 lb., the second best record of the year.

The tests were taken by different supervisors from the Wisconsin experiment stations, which should be a guarantee for their correctness. One note that the publisher of the article makes upon these results is very much worth a place in the brains of those who go in for butter and milk records. It runs thus:—"In the matter of economic production of milk and butter-fat there are three factors—viz., first, the man; second, the cow; third, the feed. If the man can succeed in bringing the cow and the feed together, proper proportions and quality of each, and then have the cow so handled that she and her attendants are in perfect harmony and accord, the great record is no longer a matter of conjecture, it is an assured fact from the beginning.

Another important point to which attention may be called in this important test is "The most important factor in the keeping of the cows, however, was the exceptionally fine clover pastures that were at their disposal. The conditions last summer in Northern Wisconsin, the home of the herd, were ideal in this respect. In this natural clover country crops of three or four tons for the first cutting are not uncommon, if the reports of local parties are not greatly exaggerated, and the second crop yield in favourable weather will be much as the first cut." It has always been maintained by the writer of these "Notes" that clover is one of, if not entirely, the most valuable plant for nourishment to all kinds of animals, that grows in our pastures.

Another point in the above notes that is well worthy of especial notice is that the professor puts the "man" first in the three necessary factors to the production of a great yield of milk and butter, the cow second, whilst the feed only takes a third place. This is simply a repetition of the story the writer heard very recently in one of the Christmas showyards, when one of the most successful attendants was asked by a feeder what he gave his animals to always insure such successes. The answer was very brief and simple, but unquestionably to the point:—"It isn't what you give 'em, it's how you give it 'em." There is very much more in these words, and also in putting the man first in the necessities in success, than there appears at first sight.

Alford Bull Fair.

The fifth annual bull fair at Alford, Lincolnshire, took place on Tuesday, and was the most successful yet held, the entries being numerous and trade good, whilst prices were better than ever, for no fewer than eighty-six bulls were sold at an average of 21½ gs. per head, as against fifty-six at 15½ gs. in 1901, fifty-six at 20 gs. in 1902, ninety-five at 16½ gs. in 1903, and 120 at 19 gs. each in 1904.

Mr. Peter Dunn, of Sigglesthorne, Hull, judged the bulls under fifteen months old; and Mr. John Evens, of Burton, Lincoln, judged the remainder of the bulls and the females and milkers. Class 7, open to the United Kingdom, for best Shorthorn bull not exceeding three years old, for which the £20 champion prize was offered by the townspeople of Alford was adjudicated upon by both of the above judges. Messrs. Chatterton's Stenigot Primate took the champion prize, and first prize in Class 2. He is a splendid bull, and won the first prize at Peterborough, second at the Royal Show, and third at the Grantham Show this year. In the sale ring he came in for keen competition, and was finally knocked down at 165 gs. to Mr. G. H. Kennedy, for Buenos Ayres. The reserve for the championship, Messrs. Dickinson's Bonaby Kinsman, was much admired by many; he took first prize in Class 1, and was subsequently sold to Mr. F. Scorer, Bracebridge, for 50 gs.

Mr. G. J. Brown's Tothby Virtuoso 3rd, which took second prize in Class 1, took first prize at the Lincolnshire Show; whilst Mr. E. H. Cartwright's Miss Calceby 3rd (1898), secured first prize in Class 4.

The second class as a whole were considered to constitute a great improvement on previous years. The first prize winner had the best spring in his ribs, with excellent top. The winner of the second prize had better hindquarters, but did not walk so well, and had gone off since the Lincolnshire Show. It was one of the principal conditions that all prize winners should be actually disposed of in the sale ring; and every entry must have been registered, or be eligible for entry in the L.H.R. or C.H.B. The following were the winners and the prices they realised:—

Class 1. Bulls not exceeding 15 months old: 1, Messrs. T. and W. Dickinson's Bonby Kinsman (50 gs); 2, Mr G. J. Brown's Tothby Virtuoso 3rd (34 gs); 3, Mr. H. C. Raithby; r., the Ormsby Agricultural Association; h.c., Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Son (21 gs).

Class 2.—Bulls exceeding 15 months: 1, Messrs. R. and R. Chatterton's Stenigot Primate (165 gs); 2, Messrs. Chatterton's Stenigot Gwynne (46 gs); r., Mr. T. Bett's Benniworth 38th (51 gs); h.c., Mr. J. Searby's Calceby Marvel (30 gs).

Class 3.—Bull calves not exceeding nine months: 1, Messrs. C. and R. Brooks (28 gs); 2, Mr. G. J. Brown's Tothby Valentine (25 gs); r., Messrs. Farrow.

Class 4.—Cows or heifers in milk, having produced a living calf in 1905, by a registered Shorthorn bull: 1, Mr. E. H. Cartwright's Miss Calceby 3rd; 2, Messrs. J. W. Farrow and Sons' Strubby Red Rose; r., Messrs. Farrow's Strubby Duchesse (28 gs).

Class 5.—Heifers not exceeding two years nine months: 1, Sir A. J. Fludyer's Thistleon Croft (35 gs); 2, Messrs. Farrow's Strubby Pride (40 gs); r., Mr. S. B. Carnley's Norbury Wisteria (22 gs).

Class 6. Cows or heifers in calf or in milk, possessing the best milking qualities: 1, Messrs. Farrow's Strubby Thickflesh (47 gs); r., Messrs. Farrow's Strubby Wideback.

Class 7.—Open to United Kingdom, for best Shorthorn bull, not exceeding three years old, champion prize £20, presented by townspeople of Alford: Messrs. R. and R. Chatterton; r., Messrs. Dickinson.

Proposed Farmers' Union for Notts.

A proposal is on foot for the establishment of a Farmers' Union for Notts, much on the same lines as that now in existence in Lincolnshire. The union is to be formed for the purpose of watching over and defending matters affecting farmers, and to secure legislation and amendments of existing Bills relating to taxation of agricultural land, railway rates in reference to agriculture, fires near railways, licensing vendors of foreign meat, or marking the meat, Pure Beer Bill, boundary fences, sale of milk, and sheep worrying and stray dogs, etc. As the subscription is fixed at the low rate of ½d. an acre, it is expected that a large number of members will be speedily obtained.

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

Date.	Stock.	Owner.	Place of Sale.
November 16	Hackney Horses	Messrs. Clark, Clappison and Cliff	Westlands, Patrington, near Hull, East Yorks.
21, 22 & 23	Hunters, Harness Horses, Hackneys, &c.	Various	North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
23	Fat Stock	Miss Alice de Rothschild..	Home Farm Waddesdon, Bucks.
24	Shire Horses	Sir Oswald Mosley and Mr. W. H. Kearns	Derby Repository:
24	Red Polled Cattle... ..	Mr. A. G. Smith	Drill Hall, Ipswich.
30	Farm Stock...	Mr. W. B. Ledger	The Isle Park Farm, near Shrewsbury.
30	Hunters, Harness Horses, Cobs and Ponies	Various	Crewe Horse Repository.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

Fifteen hundred guineas is a pretty stiff price to pay for a gelding, and especially if that gelding has reached the mature age, for a horse, of twelve. But the purchaser of Mrs. Hartley Batt's famous harness horse, Heathfield Squire, who, according to the rumour of the market place, has been sold to go to America for the season, is by no means likely to regret his bargain. Heathfield Squire was bred by the late Lord Londesborough, and was from the fine mare Ophelia, an Islington champion, and one of the finest movers and most beautifully balanced mares it was ever my lot to meet with.

Heathfield Squire's pedigree is worth a moment's consideration. His dam, Ophelia, was by Denmark 177, dam Jenny Bother 'em by Fireaway 249, grand dam by Sir Charles 768. Ophelia was closely in-bred to Sir Charles, for he was the sire of Denmark. The latter also had a double cross of Ramsdale's Performer 547 on the sire's side through Lund's Merry Legs 449, and another cross through the same source on the dam's side. It is also worth remembering that Sir Charles 768 was third in direct descent from Skyscraper on the sire's side and from the famous Filho da Puta on the dam's side. Friffitt's Fireaway 249, the sire of Jenny Bother 'em, was a grandson of Scotts Fireaway 223, who in his turn was a grandson of Ramsdale's Performer. Scotts Fireaway also was descended from Cockfighter by Overton and Palafox by Delpini, and it is quite possible that his grand dam was thoroughbred, or nearly so. So we see in the pedigree of Ophelia four crosses of Ramsdale's Performer and four crosses of the best thoroughbred blood of the day.

The sire of Heathfield Squire was Wreghitt's Wildfire 1224. He was by Cook's Phenomenon 584, who was by Bay President, a son of President Junior, who was by the thoroughbred Bay President; and other thoroughbred crosses in the pedigree of Phenomenon are Trip and Ponteland by Waxy. Beal's Sir Charles 768 likewise comes into the pedigree, so here we have other two crosses of Ramsdale's Performer. The dam of Wildfire was a famous mare, Polly Horsley, by Triffitt's Fireaway, whose pedigree has already been analysed. Wildfire's grand dam was by Ramsdale's Bay Phenomenon 898.

In one place in the Stud Book Ophelia's pedigree is given as by Denmark 177, or Danegelt 174, but if the latter is taken as her sire it gives another cross of Ramsdale's Performer in Heathfield Squire's pedigree. It will be noticed that this blood predominates greatly, and that Performer himself was fourth in direct descent from the famous thoroughbred Jalap. Thoroughbred blood also is very much in evidence in the pedigree of both Heathfield Squires, and it is pretty evident how he gets both his quality and action.

Heathfield Squire was originally known as Fortinbras, and under that name he took a few honours as a stallion. He, however, never came right to the front in good company till he was "added to the list" and began to make his appearance in single harness classes. He was coming on as Norbury Squire was beginning to go off, and he was a worthy successor of Mr. Carnley's famous single harness champion. The pair are perhaps the best single harness horses that have ever been seen in the ring, and it is not a little singular that Norbury Squire was full of thoroughbred blood as is Heathfield Squire, his dam having been a thoroughbred mare by Hermit. It is said that Heathfield Squire has won something like 700 prizes in his time, and I should think the estimate is not very far from being correct. It seems a pity such a fine harness horse should not have been kept entire, and perhaps if the plan of harness classes for stallions had prevailed he might have been kept entire. If he is lucky, he will win his share of prizes in the

country of his adoption, for he looked remarkably new the last time I saw him.

Of books about horses there is apparently no end at the present time, and Sir James Boucant's "The Arab, the Horse of the Future," and Professor Ridgeway's "Origin and Influence of the Thoroughbred Horse," have been quickly followed by the first divisional volume of Professor Axe's "The Horse, Its Treatment in Health and Disease." It is not my purpose to review this ambitious book in my present article, but as I have recently been writing about the Devonshire packhorse, it may perhaps interest my readers to have Professor Axe's views on this very valuable and, alas! nearly extinct breed.

Professor Axe is of opinion that, as I have pointed out on a previous occasion, the packhorse is descended from a combination of Eastern blood and the old English war horse, i.e., from the Barb and the old English breed of horses, which Professor Axe joins many other authorities in asserting, was not a cart horse or of cart-horse type at all, though it is quite possible that our modern Shire horse is descended from him. Professor Axe points out that, owing probably to the few hands into which the breed has fallen, and the consequent inbreeding, the modern pack horse has not the size and scope of his ancestors. The modern pack horse he describes as having a certain resemblance to the Hackney, being deep chested, with a big level back, well-sprung ribs, and powerful quarters. "But," says Professor Axe, "he differs very considerably from the Hackney in three important points, namely, head, shoulders, and action." The head is more blood-like than the Hackney's, the shoulders are better placed, and the action is of quite the opposite character to the Hackney's. Surefootedness is one of the qualities on which breeders of pack horses prided themselves; and that pack horses were by no means deficient in pace is proved by the fact cited by Professor Axe, that Cottager, a famous horse of the breed, standing 16 hands, not only won a steeplechase at Totnes in the middle of the last century—beating thoroughbreds and cocktails—but that his owner challenged the whole of the West Country to find a horse to trot four miles against him on the road, carrying 14 stone.

I have heard of Cottager's performance before, and I have no doubt that he was a very good horse. At the same time, I should like to have some particulars of the steeplechase he won and the company he met, and I shall be very much obliged to any of my West Country readers if they can obtain me the information I require. A steeplechase is sometimes won very flukily. I do not say this with any wish to depreciate the performance of Cottager, but merely as an unquestionable fact. Cottager's pedigree would also be appreciated by those who take an interest in horse-breeding.

I have heard of Cleveland Bays winning steeplechases, but in the cases which have come to my notice I have not heard the horses' names, nor do I remember where the steeplechases took place. I have, however, known of more than one Cleveland Bay that has been a really good hunter, able to gallop with the best of them and "keep there" all day, no matter how hard hounds ran. I remember hearing of one, bred by Willy Lofthouse, of Gunnergate, near Marton, in Cleveland, that made quite a name in Leicestershire. He was, I believe, by Baylock—a horse that Mr. Lofthouse bred—but of this I cannot be sure. I am, however, certain there was some Baylock blood in the horse; but there were several Baylocks. This was a fine hunting-like horse, full of quality and a rare mover. He was purchased by Mr. Robert Brunton, of Marton, who soon taught him "the way he should go," and he was sold by him to a famous South Country horse dealer for a good figure. After the bargain was concluded, the dealer asked his pedigree, and was told it. "Oh," said he, "that won't do at all, he must have two or three crosses of blood." The horse went into Leicestershire and did well. None of his brothers or sisters were of any use as hunters, and the only way in which I can account for his excellence was that it was a case of reversion to some of the thoroughbred blood which undoubtedly is to be found in the veins of all Cleveland Bays. And, similarly, the fine performances of Cottager in the middle of last century were also, in all probability, due to a similar reversion.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Horse Awards in Dispute.

At the Chelmsford County Court on Wednesday, his Honour Judge Tindal Atkinson gave judgment in the case affecting the Essex Agricultural Society, which was reported in these columns a week or two ago. It will be remembered that an action was brought by Mr. W. B. Tubbs, of Harley Street, London, against Mr. David Christy and Mr. F. W. Taylor (secretary), representing the Essex Agricultural Society, to recover £31, the value of certain prizes awarded the plaintiff at the show at Southend, in June of this year.

In giving judgment, his Honour said it appeared that the plaintiff purchased on May 25 a hackney mare in foal and a hackney stallion, and entered these two for the show on May 26, and the secretary of the society (Mr. Fred Taylor) allowed the entry to be made, although on the certificate of entry it was said that the last day of entry was Tuesday, May 16, but that late entries could be made on Tuesday, May 23, by the payment of additional fees. It having been admitted that the secretary had the authority of the council to accept the entry on the 26th, it must be taken that the application was made to the council of the society, and that it was accepted. The two horses were exhibited, and took prizes to the value of £30 and a medal.

A protest was entered against the plaintiff being entitled to receive the prizes, because it was said he had not complied with the bye-laws and rules. The bye-laws said that every animal to be eligible for competition must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor at the date fixed for the date of entry. It was admitted that the date fixed for the time of entry was May 16, and that there was an extension of the time until Tuesday, May 23, and it was admitted, on behalf of the plaintiff, that on neither of those dates were the horses the bona fide property of the exhibitor.

It was contended that, although the secretary allowed the entry to be made on May 26, and although the certificate said that late entries must be in by May 23, yet it was an act of grace towards the plaintiff, and that he must take that act of grace subject to the bye-laws, rules, and necessary qualifications—that was to say, that the horses should be the bona fide property of the plaintiff either on May 16 or May 23. His Honour, however, held that the plaintiff was entitled to the prizes, and gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs. As the case was an important one, if the defendants wished, execution would be stayed, in order to enable them to appeal.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding was held on the 6th inst. at 13, Hanover Square, W. There were present the Duke of Portland, K.G. (Master of the Horse), in the chair. The Duke of Portland moved that a resolution of condolence be sent to Lady Wilson on the death of Sir Jacob, this being the first meeting of the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding since his decease. Steps are being taken to fill the vacancy thus caused on the Commission. The percentage of foals left by the King's premium stallions for the 1904 season of service was read, and the average considered satisfactory. The number of mares served during the past season was also read, and in cases where the stallions had not served the required number of mares the premiums were dealt with in accordance with the rules and regulations. The premium list, with conditions for the Stallion Show for 1906, was arranged, and ordered to be printed, and to be presented to His Majesty and the Treasury for approval.

Mr. Akers-Douglas, addressing his constituents near Canterbury last week, said agriculturists looked for some reform of our fiscal system, considering that they were unduly handicapped by the conditions at present prevailing, which in his opinion were far too favourable to the foreigner. He did not conceal his desire to see a reform of the tariff system. He thought there could be very few true Englishmen who could say they were absolutely satisfied with the present position, and he believed there must be a general consensus of opinion among the agricultural community that in dealing with foreign countries over the renewal of treaties in future we should look after the country's interests more than had been done in the past.

In the "Badminton Magazine of Sports and Pastimes" for November, the Editor commences a new series of articles on "Sportsmen of Mark," the Hon. George Lambton, the well-known Newmarket trainer and brother of the Earl of Durham, being the first sportsman dealt with. The "Unwritten Laws of Sport" for the month is "Football," by G. B. Pollock Hodsoll, and another of the "Royal Homes of Sport" of Germany is described by the gracious permission of His Imperial Majesty the Kaiser. The paper on "Living for Sport on £156 per Annum," which appeared in the "Badminton" some months ago and attracted considerable attention, is continued by the author telling his readers "How and Where to Do It." Major Eustace Loder's "Eyrefield Lodge Stud" is described and illustrated by photographs by Miss Lilian E. Bland.

Notes and Jottings.

The report of the Council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society conveyed the welcome information that at last registered flock owners had secured just recognition by the Royal. In future all pure-bred sheep exhibited at the Royal Show—where the flock books have been established for five years, must be sheep either registered or eligible for record in their respective books.

Flock masters who are contemplating helping to make the sheep entry at the next show a record one will therefore bear this new condition of entry in mind. Fortunately the progress of registration has been so rapid of late that few, if any, of the leading flocks of the older breeds are still unregistered. Those owners who have not yet taken this essential step should do so at once The urgency of this being done is for the reason stated above, and also because the date is not far distant when registration will only be able to be secured by purchase of registered sheep.

The enormous impetus that registration has given to the export trade in sheep cannot be gainsaid. The Trade and Navigation Returns for the past month fully confirm this. In fact, the month that has just closed is almost, if not quite, a record one in this section, both for number exported and for the declared value.

The number of sheep exported in October last was 1,714 head, an increase of 142.13 per cent. as compared with the number exported in October, 1904, when, however, the average declared value worked out at £20 9s. 9d., as against £16 4s. 8d. for the past month. The diminution of the average of declared value is more than made up by the large increase in the number exported and also by the increase in the aggregate amount paid by the purchasers, which, taking the declared value as the basis, was just 90.76 per cent. more in October, 1905, than in the same month of 1904—the respective totals were £27,832 and £14,590.

The general satisfaction expressed by flock masters, other than the stud sheep breeder, with the results of the past season's feeding and breeding is gratifying. It is also a matter of satisfaction to find the home flock master is able to hold his own and secure a good return for his investment and labour despite increasing Colonial and Foreign supplies. Of course, the notable rise in the price of wool has been a considerable factor in making the profits from the flock larger during the past twelve months; but, in addition to this, in nearly every centre one has found a general consensus of opinion that mutton has sold well all through the year. A moment's thought will show why this is so, and also why it should continue to be so, namely, that whilst the lower qualities of home-fed mutton feel most keenly the competition from the imported article, those of the top grade feel it but little

That the large proportion of the imported mutton is of good quality no one can deny, but when this is compared with the primest home grown and fed there is a distinct and clear difference in favour of the latter. It is in this point that the home-fed mutton secures its preference, and so long as our home breeders and feeders are able to produce a quality so superior to the imported article there need be but little fear for any harm that may accrue from the imported supplies.

So far as regards our imported supplies during the past month, we find that the number of live sheep imported was the smallest on record for that month for many years, they numbered but 16,763 head, or 60.10 per cent. less than in October, 1904.

The mutton supplies, on the other hand, showed a very large increase indeed, amounting to 308,161 cwt., as against 240,904 cwt. for the corresponding month last year, an increase of 27.92 per cent. Australia and New Zealand were the principal sources from whence the increased supplies were obtained.

How rapidly Australasia is recovering from the disastrous effects of the drought is seen by the steady and large increase in its mutton sent to this country; for instance, in October, 1904, 9,700 cwt. were sent, and in last month 27,818 cwt., or nearly three times as much.

The renewed prosperity of the sheep industry in those colonies is a matter of interest to our stud ram breeders because there is every indication that, under the present conditions, a very much larger proportion of the sheep in that country will be kept with the dual object of both wool and mutton production, and this means a much larger demand for British stud rams of the mutton breed. The probability of this increased demand for stud sheep from these colonies renders it imperative that every effort should be made to secure a reduction of the period of quarantine on arrival there, and also a reduction in the official fees and expenses incurred, both previous to and after shipment.

From a table before us as we write, we find that the aggregate expenditure for live sheep and mutton during October, taking the declared value as the basis, has varied the last ten years from £445,462 in October, 1897, to £598,449 in the month just ended, a month in which we have received a larger amount for export stud sheep, on one hand, and expended more for the result of such exportations on the other—imported in the shape of live sheep and mutton from those countries to which these were sent.

Intending exhibitors of sheep at the Christmas shows must not forget that sheep are wanted at their best on the show day, and not before. Gentle exercise will be found most beneficial right up to the time to leave home. Pens of three need being well matched; have a uniform pen rather than a pen of two and one in order to secure a bit more weight. Another important point to be remembered, particularly in those breeds where excess of colouring still continues, is that no judge will take the same pains to thoroughly examine an entry when to do so he has to pull about a mass of wool smothered all over with preparations, many of which are far from being agreeable, either to touch or smell.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 4, 1905:-

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	39	7	164	250	3,083	5,035
								6,662
								6,899
	Outbreaks.	No.	12	6	19	45	692	1,065
								1,270
								1,446
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	12	17	31	38	725	1,192
								1,301
								1,217
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	28	46	43	41	1,793	2,330
								2,165
								1,787
	Outbreaks.	No.	16	27	27	24	1,042	1,330
								1,203
								994
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								190
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	20	5	17	1,162	1,300
								947
								892
	Outbreaks.	No.	20	20	5	13	830	852
								631
								666

Period.			
Week ended Nov. 4, 1905	1904	1903	1902
Corresponding week in ...	1904	1903	1902
Total for 44 weeks in 1905			
Corresponding period in	1904	1903	1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

General Booth and His Critics.—In the course of an address to a large gathering at Preston, General Booth dealt with the critics of the Army's emigration scheme, who claimed that the country was being depleted of its best labour. General Booth, in reply, asked what farmer with a large flock of sheep would hesitate to remove them to other pastures on his farm, when they had eaten one pasture bare and were dying and starving. How could any harm be done by removing starving labourers to another portion of our dominions where there was food and work in plenty?

FORTHCOMING SHOWS.

Norwich Fat Stock Show.

The twenty-ninth annual Exhibition of the Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Show Association opens on Thursday next, the 16th. A very large entry in all departments has been received, and live stock are coming from very long distances to compete for the honours of the first Christmas fat cattle show of the season. His Majesty the King (the patron of the Association) is honouring the show with several entries from Sandringham.

The following is a comparative statement of entries received each show since the commencement of the Association:—

Year.	Owner of Champion Beast.	Breed of Champion Beast.	Sex.	Age y.	m	w
1878	Thomas Bond	Shorthorn	Steer	4	6	0
1879	Robert Worthley	Hereford	Do.	5	2	0
1880	J. J. Colman	Shorthorn	Do.	4	3	0
1881	C. Stephenson	Cross-bred	Heifer	2	8	2
1882	Robert Worthley	Red Polled	Steer			
1883	C. Stephenson	Aberdeen Angus	Heifer	2	7	3
1884	Robert Worthley	Cross-bred	Steer	3	5	3
1885	Robert Loder	Do.	Do.	2	10	0
1886	John Cridlan	Shorthorn	Do.			
1887	Robert Wright	Do.	Do.	2	6	0
1888	J. J. Colman	Cross-bred	Heifer			
1889	J. J. Colman	Red Polled	Steer	3	10	0
1890	John Cridlan	Shorthorn	Do.	2	11	0
1891	H.M. Queen Vict.	Devon	Heifer	3	2	0
1892	J. J. Colman	Cross-bred	Steer	3	6	0
1893	C. Stephenson	Aberdeen Angus	Heifer	2	9	3
1894	H.M. Queen Vict.	Hereford	Steer	3	9	2
1898	J. J. Colman's Exrs.	Cross-bred	Heifer	2	8	0
1899	H.M. Queen Vict	Hereford	Steer	2	11	0
1900	W. E. Learner	Cross-bred	Heifer	2	8	0
1901	Mrs. L. H. Holland	Do.	Steer	3	9	0
1902	Miss A. de Rothschild	Do.	Do.	2	6	2
1903	R. W. Hudson	Do.	Heifer	2	10	33
1904	R. W. Hudson	Do.	Do.	2	10	

The winnings of the best beast in the show will amount to the handsome sum of £100, and it may perhaps interest our readers to give a description of the winners of the championship for the last ten years:—

Year.	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Roots, Grain, &c.	Poultry, Butter, &c.	Seeds men's Prizes.
1896	120	93	24	26	92	179
1897	111	114	24	33	111	216
1898	119	81	51	33	106	205
1899	123	93	24	35	151	167
1900	90	105	48	31	161	208
1901	113	97	*	42	145	207
1902	98	63	27	47	157	202
1903	120	84	36	43	158	221
1904	107	96	15	58	159	215
1905	122	96	33	61	164	219

* No show of Pigs in 1901, in consequence of Swine Fever Regulations.

It will be observed by the above that the cross-breds have won 12 times, Shorthorns 6, Herefords 4, Red Polled 3, Aberdeen-Angus 2, and Devons 1.

The prize list comprises 17 classes for cattle, and prizes of £10, £5, and £2 are offered in each, 6 classes for sheep, and prizes of £8, £4, and £2, 4 for pigs, with prizes of £5, £3, and £2. There are nearly 60 classes for roots, grain, dairy produce, dead poultry, etc. In addition to the class prizes very valuable champion and special prizes are offered:—

The Patron's prize of twenty guineas, presented by His Most Gracious Majesty the King, for the best beast in the show. To this the Society adds a sum so that the total winnings of the best beast amounts to £100. The President's prize of £20, presented by the President of the Association (Col. Henry T. S. Patteson, D.L., V.D.), for the best ox or steer in the show. A prize of £15 for the best cow or heifer in the show. The Members of Parliament's prize of £15, presented by the Members of Parliament for the county of Norfolk and the City of Norwich, for the best Red Polled beast in the show. A special prize of £15 (£10 of which is presented by Messrs. Barclay and Co., Limited), for the best beast bred and fed in Norfolk. Special prizes of £15 (£10 of which is presented by Sir R. P. Beauchamp, Bart.), £5 presented by the Chairman of the Council (Hugh G. Barclay, Esq.), for the best and next best beast exhibited by a Norfolk farmer, whose income is mainly derived from the cultivation of land. A special prize of £10 10s., presented by Mr. R. W. Hudson, for the best small beast. A silver challenge cup, presented by the "Eastern Daily Press," for the best beast in show, exhibited by a Norfolk farmer, and which has been bred by the exhibitor, to be won three years by the same person before becoming the property of the winner.

The special prizes in the sheep section include: A champion prize of £15 for the best pen of sheep. The Duke of Norfolk's prize of £5 for the best pen of lambs. Prize of £5 for the best pen of shearling wethers. A special prize of £5, presented by E. Mann, Esq., for the best pen of sheep, exhibited by a Norfolk farmer.

In the pig section, the Norwich and District Butchers' Association are offering a prize of £5 5s. for the best pen of three pigs, of any breed or age most suitable for the butcher, bred in Norfolk.

The following gentlemen have promised to judge in the various departments, viz.:—

Cattle.—Mr. William Wright, Scamblesby House, Horncastle; Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, Little Welnetham Hall, Bury St. Edmunds.

Sheep.—Hon. A. E. Parker, The Cottage, Doveridge, Derby; Mr. W. D. Little, Middleton Stoney, Bicester.

Butchers' Beasts and Pigs.—Mr. Fredk. Able, High Street, Lowestoft; Mr. P. M. Kett, Sprowston Road, Norwich.

Roots and Grain.—Mr. William Case, Tuttington Hall, Aylsham; Mr. Charles Waters, Postwick, Norwich.

The demand for stand space from exhibitors of implements, animal medicines, cattle foods, seedsmen and others, has greatly exceeded the accommodation available, and a large number of applicants have had to be refused space and their entry fees returned. Each year the demand for space increases more and more, and the Norwich Fat Cattle Show has now attained such popularity and usefulness that were the Agricultural Hall as large again the Executive would experience no difficulty in filling it. In fact, if the Agricultural Hall were larger, this would enable the Society to add fresh classes and widen the scope of operations. It is only the limited accommodation which prevents a larger show; as it is, the Council have had to consider at various times the question of "cutting the garment according to the cloth"—for instance, a few years back the Society's root and grain classes were open to all England, but as the entries were so large a difficulty was found in finding room to exhibit them, and the classes had to be confined to the county. Three or four years ago there was no restriction as to the number of cattle; an exhibitor could enter in each class, but this has now been restricted to not more than 2 entries in a class, in consequence of the limited accommodation.

"Show week" always brings a very large influx of visitors to the city of Norwich, and the Great Eastern and Midland and Great Northern Joint Railway Companies are running excursions and special trains at cheap fares, full particulars of which may be obtained at all railway stations. The show opens at 10 a.m. on Thursday (at which hour catalogues may be obtained), and the admission each day will be as follows:—Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2s. 6d.; from 2 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., 1s. All day Friday from 10 a.m. to 9.30 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m., 1s,

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association.

A meeting of the Council of the Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association was held in London on Monday, the President, Mr. A. F. T. Drake, being in the chair, when thirty-one new members were elected. The annual meeting was fixed for December 6 at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, and Messrs. J. Flower, C. Coles, and H. Lambert were appointed delegates to the National Sheep Breeders' Association, Mr. Flower to act as vice-president. The reports of the Editing and Finance Committees were received and unanimously adopted. It was resolved to continue the shepherds' prize competition as before.

An important resolution was passed, on the motion of Mr. Chalker, to the effect that on and after December 1, 1906, the bye-laws shall be so altered that no flock, unless composed entirely of registered sheep, shall be eligible for entry in the Flock Book.

A letter from the secretary of the Bath and West Society was considered, asking if this association would be willing to contribute prizes for two-shear rams, and on the motion of Mr. Lambert, seconded by Mr. White, it was resolved to give two prizes of £7 and £3, provided, as stated in the secretary's letter, that the Wilts and Gloucester Agricultural Societies provide prizes for ewe lambs.

An Annual Dinner for Members.

A representative meeting of members was held at Salisbury, on Tuesday, at which it was resolved to inaugurate an annual dinner for members and their agents in London on the Wednesday of the Smithfield week, December 6, invitations to which will be issued, and full information may be obtained of the hon. secretary, Mr. J. G. Kerr, Cholderton, Salisbury. From the attendance at this meeting and the numerous letters in its favour received by the President of the Association (Mr. A. F. T. Drake), the success of the dinner appears to be practically assured.

Preston Horse Fair.—Despite complaints of general trade depression, some good prices were realised at this fair on Wednesday, when a large number of well-bred Shires were placed under the hammer. Dealers were present from all parts of the North of England. Mr. R. Charnley gained the first prize in the heavy horse class, Mr. J. Turner being second; while in Hackneys Mr. J. Stuttard and Mr. E. Poole, respectively, gained premier honours. The prices realised ranged from £40 to £65.

THE ROYAL SHOW.

Enthusiastic Support from Derby—Sir Walter Gilbey on the "Ruinous Expenses of the Migratory System"—Mr. R. P. Cooper's Reply.

A meeting was held at Derby on Friday afternoon for the purpose of making local arrangements in connection with the visit of the Royal Agricultural Society to that town in June next, and also of inaugurating a fund to cover local expenses. The Duke of Devonshire presided, and there was a large and influential attendance, amongst those present being the Mayor of Derby (Alderman Ann), Lord Scarsdale, Lord Burton, Sir Alfred Haslam, M.P., Sir Thomas Roe, M.P., Sir Oswald Mosley, Sir Henry Bemrose, Sir A. Heywood, Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. J. Gretton, M.P., the ex-Mayor of Derby (Councillor Hart), Mr. G. H. Strutt (chairman of the Derbyshire County Council), Mr. John Pakeman (chairman of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society), the Hon. F. Strutt, Major-General Talbot Coke, Colonel Cavendish, Colonel Woodforde, Colonel Gascoyne, Major Peacock, etc.

Such a good attendance must have been gratifying to the conveners of the meeting, but they issued a very strong appeal, and it met with the desired success. The appeal, which was signed by the Duke of Devonshire, Lord Lieutenant of Derby; Reginald Chandos Pole, High Sheriff of Derbyshire; William Hart, Mayor of the Borough of Derby; G. Herbert Strutt, Chairman of the Derbyshire County Council; and John Pakeman, Chairman of the Committee of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, was as follows:—

"As you are doubtless aware, an invitation has been given to the Royal Agricultural Society to hold their annual show in Derby next year, and the Council of the Society have cordially accepted the invitation. The honour thus done to our town and county is great, and it is earnestly hoped that all classes of the community will unite in giving the Society a hearty welcome.

"The Midland Railway Company have placed at the Society's disposal at Osmaston Park in Derby an area of ground which it is understood will meet the requirements of the show, and being within a short distance from the principal railway station and on the line of the Corporation's electrical tramways is also most conveniently situated for the general public.

"In addition to the provision of the site other work has to be undertaken, and £2,000 in cash has to be paid to the Society towards the expenses of the meeting.

"The last time the Society visited Derby was in 1881, and on that occasion about £5,500 was raised for similar purposes. That show was in every way one of the best in the history of the Society.

"The fact that the show is to be held in their midst must be a matter of great interest to Derbyshire and the neighbouring counties, and the special benefits which the district will derive must be apparent.

"The work of the Society is so well known that it is hardly necessary for us to point out the great educational advantages which agriculturists and others must derive from such an exhibition.

"We hope, therefore, that you will endeavour to be present at the meeting, and will give the local effort your valuable patronage and hearty support, and thus assist in making the show that great success which in the national interest such an institution so well deserves.

Duke of Devonshire's Speech.

The Duke of Devonshire opened the meeting and made a most effective speech. He said the Royal Agricultural Society during the last sixty years had done splendid work for English agriculture. (Applause.) It had, by means of its annual exhibitions, led the way in the vast improvement which had been effected in agricultural stock, an improvement which had brought the cattle, horses, sheep, pigs, and poultry almost to the point of perfection. It had also been instrumental in bringing to the attention of practical agriculturists all those mechanical improvements in agricultural implements and machinery which had been produced during the last half-century, and it had in various other ways been instrumental in bringing to the agricultural community a knowledge of all that was most important in the discoveries which science had brought to bear upon the practical work of agriculture. But whilst the Royal Agricultural Society had achieved a great and undoubted success in its work it had unfortunately not succeeded in making its own financial position altogether satisfactory. The annual exhibitions of the society involved expenditure of a very large sum of money, and he was sorry to say that in many of the centres in England which had been visited comparatively small local interest had been excited, with the result that many of the shows had not proved financially successful.

The most disastrous and unfortunate experiment of all in which the society had engaged was the acquisition a few years ago of a site in the neighbourhood of London, where it was proposed that the annual exhibitions should be permanently held. For some reason which it was unnecessary to discuss, the vast population of London and the surrounding districts had shown themselves singularly indifferent to the attractions of an agricultural exhibition, and the two or three shows held at Park Royal had consequently proved to be altogether a financial failure. That was a very unsatisfactory state of things. But the Royal Agricultural Society was composed of Englishmen who did not admit that they were beaten, and did not intend to be beaten. (Applause.) They had looked their difficulties fairly in the face, and had resolved to effect drastic reductions in the expenditure of the society in its central offices and its staff, and they had resolved once more to try the experiment of holding their shows in certain centres where experience had proved that there was a fair expectation of the exhibitions being remunerative, or at all events that they would not be too heavy a burden on the funds.

He thought the council of the society were wise in accepting an invitation, which had been provisionally given them, to visit Derby next year. (Applause.) Twenty-five years ago the Royal Show was held at Derby, and the financial results were very satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) Derby ought to regard it as an honour that the town should be selected for next year's show, for he had no doubt the visit of the society would be not only to the advantage of the agriculturists in the county but the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood. They could not enjoy that honour and those advantages without making some payment for them. A large amount of expenditure would be involved, and in its present financial position the society could not run the proposed exhibition entirely as a matter of pure speculation. The Council were fairly entitled to think that in return for the great advantages which would be conferred upon the town and district by the exhibition the county should make some contribution in aid of the expenses. (Hear, hear.) Twenty-five years ago between £5,000 and £6,000 was raised. He hoped Derby and the neighbourhood had not become poorer since then; he was quite sure, from experience, the people were not less liberal.

An excellent start had been made by the offer of a suitable site for the show by the Midland Railway Company. In order to prepare that site for the exhibition considerable expense would be necessary, and the society also required £2,000 towards their expenses. He trusted there would be no difficulty in raising the money, for whether the show was a success, as he hoped it would be, or whether it was a comparative failure, as some had been, it would certainly attract a large number of people to the town to the advantage of the trade and the community. Not only that, but other towns in the neighbourhood, such as Sheffield, Leicester, Nottingham, and Burton, would receive a stimulus to their trade by the visit of the society to Derby, and he hoped, therefore, those districts would co-operate with Derbyshire in the endeavour to make the show a success. (Applause.)

£5,500 Wanted.

The Mayor of Derby then moved: "That the invitation of the Royal Agricultural Society of England to hold their next annual country meeting at Derby be heartily approved and confirmed, and that a cordial welcome be given to the society. That this meeting pledges itself to make every effort to promote the success of the show and to raise the funds necessary for defraying the local expenses." He said that a certain gentleman had offered to guarantee the society against any loss which might be sustained in connection with the show, but that did not apply to the local expenditure. The £5,500 raised twenty-five years ago was spent on local matters, and as much money would be required now. They had to give £2,000 to the society, and the other £3,000 or £4,000 would be required for levelling the ground and other incidental matters. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. G. H. Strutt seconded the resolution, saying the county had always taken an intelligent interest in agriculture, and he hoped every effort would be made to ensure the success of the exhibition. One feature of that exhibition would be a horticultural show, which would be an attraction to all classes of the people. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Oswald Mosley said he was always afraid the Royal shows would be a failure in London, where there were so many attractions. What with the shops, the theatres, the music halls, and all the rest, how could they expect country people visiting London to go to an agricultural show? (Laughter.) He pointed out that the Derbyshire people would have their local attractions at the show, and said it was the duty of all in the county to subscribe to the local fund, so that nothing might be wanted at Derby to ensure success. It was a national sorrow to think that such a fine old society as the Royal should be in financial difficultics, and he trusted that more of the agriculturists of the country would now become subscribers to its funds. (Applause.)

Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., Mr. John Pakeman, and Mr. R. Finney also supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

A Big Committee Appointed.

Mr. J. Oakes, Deputy-Chairman of the County Council, proposed that a committee representative of every district in the county should be appointed to collect subscriptions and make the arrangements for the show. He said that 168 gentlemen had already been selected, and they included the Duke of Devonshire as President, the Members of Parliament for the borough and county, and the Members of Parliament for the divisions adjoining the county. At the first meeting sub-committees would be formed so that they could begin work immediately. It was hoped that £5,500 would be raised in subscriptions as on the last occasion. (Applause.)

Mr. Thomas Roe, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was carried.

On the motion of Lord Scarsdale, seconded by Lord Burton, a vote of thanks was accorded the Duke of Devonshire for presiding.

In reply the Duke said he would do what his father did when the Royal Show came to Derby twenty-five years ago, namely, head the subscription list with £200. (Applause.)

The meeting then terminated.

Sir Walter Gilbey on the Migratory System.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—The recommendations of the Special Committee appointed to investigate the position of the Royal Agricultural Society of England have been adopted by the Council in their entirety; and, as the aim of these recommendations was to place the affairs of the Society on a sound financial footing, it is perhaps worth while looking into the situation with the view of discovering what measure of increased stability may be looked for under the new régime.

Park Royal is to be sold, and the migratory system, which had been abandoned because of its ruinous expense, is to be resumed. As those responsible for this decision appear to have overlooked the vitally important fact that the migratory system was given up because the resources of the Society could no longer meet the annually recurring expense, it will be well to set out a few figures (taken from the Society's Journal) showing the net outlay to the Society of the various migratory shows held in each of the ten years preceding the establishment of Park Royal:—1893 (Chester), £16,030; 1894 (Cambridge), £15,824; 1895 (Darlington), £15,959; 1896 (Leicester), £16,140; 1897 (Manchester), £23,479; 1898 (Birmingham), £21,165; 1899 (Maidstone), £19,131; 1900 (York), £19,548; 1901 (Cardiff), £19,316; 1902 (Carlisle), £18,258.

These figures of themselves would seem to furnish an argument sufficiently strong to convince anyone that the road to restored solvency does not lie through a return to the migratory show system; but they by no means represent the total outlay involved in the holding of such shows. Each Local Committee of the district in which the Royal Show has been held has had to raise a considerable sum—for contribution to the Society's funds, for local prizes, providing and preparing the showground, and the like.

During the last ten years of migratory shows the total amount thus raised in the districts was over £65,000. Adding the £184,850 shown above to be the net outlay in ten years to the Society itself, we arrive at a total of a quarter of a million sterling in ten years, or an average net outlay—in order that a Royal Show may be held—of £25,000 per annum. And this with an income from the subscriptions of members of only £6,000 a year!

How, in the face of these figures, is it possible to reconcile the policy of resuming the migratory system with the avowed object of restoring the Society's financial affairs to a condition of solvency?

Derby has been chosen as the scene of next year's show, and there is every reason to think

that in all probability it may be a success, as, thanks to the generosity of a private individual, the undertaking has been guaranteed against loss.

Thus the "Royal" is made secure for next year; but can we hope, is it reasonable to hope, that this National Society will have the good fortune to find in 1907 and future years guarantors who will, at their own cost, maintain the Royal Show in its representative character?

To assume that such guarantors will come forward is surely to go beyond the bounds of probability. To project an annual show on such a basis is to adopt a "hand to mouth" policy which cannot fail to bring about early disaster.—Yours faithfully,

WALTER GILBEY.

Elsenham Hall, Elsenham, Essex.
November 2, 1905.

Mr. R. P. Cooper's Reply to Sir Walter Gilbey.

Mr. R. P. Cooper, of Shenstone Court, Lichfield, the well-known stockbreeder, in the course of a letter to the *Birmingham Daily Post*, replies to the criticisms of Sir Walter Gilbey in the above letter. Mr. Cooper says:—At a time when the nation is watching with a keen interest the endeavour that is being made by the new council to put the society and its annual show on a sound financial basis, all just and useful criticism should be gratefully received by the council and be helpful. Sir Walter's do not come under this head, but are on the other hand misleading, and calculated to undermine the confidence that many now have, that the society will in future be successful. As he is a member of the council and was present at the meeting when next year's arrangements were unanimously approved of, why did he then remain silent, and why does he criticise in the press what he should in duty to the society have done at the meeting? If all members of the council took the course he has chosen to do, how could any business be transacted? It must be admitted by him that the new members of the council have, so far as they possibly could, studiously refrained from criticising what has been done in past years, and with this line of policy I am in entire sympathy, for such criticisms could not have been helpful to the society or brought back money that has been lost. The deductions he makes from the figures he quotes are entirely misleading, and it has not yet been proved that the migratory shows under judicious management necessitate "ruinous expense."

Up to the meeting held at Windsor, when the extravagant management of the Society began, so successful had been the migratory system that a large reserve fund had been amassed. That has all been spent, and the past three years' shows at Park Royal and every previous show held in or near London have resulted in such heavy losses that future shows must be migratory or given up altogether.

We must at least give Sir Walter and those who have worked with him credit for having carried on the Society in the best manner, according to their convictions. This being so, it cannot be expected that they can approve of the present policy, which is to put the Society and its shows on a sound financial basis. It would be inconsistent.

Surely the Council of the Society and the members will feel that Sir Walter's criticisms are the best indication they could possibly have that we are off the old disastrous lines upon which the Society has been running.

Sir Walter's concluding remarks are based on the certainty that next year's show at Derby will be a financial failure, and that future shows can only be held if a guarantor can be found each year. Whether Derby is to be a success or failure remains to be seen, but it cannot be a financial loss to the Society. Given fine weather, the show will, I believe, make large profits, but not so large as if the Society was free from contracts entered into prior to this year, as, for instance, the contract for supplying canvas for the shedding, upon which we could now save several hundreds of pounds if we were free.

But to remove all uncertainty I am willing to guarantee the Society from loss upon the shows over the next five years, taking one year with another, upon the following conditions:—

(1) That the shows are conducted upon the lines now laid down by the Council.

(2) That where no alterations have been made by the Council the old rules and regulations prevail, but where alterations are found necessary they be made as the Council of the Society thinks fit.

(3) That the supply of refreshments in the show ground be let by tender, and not given away as in recent years.

(4) That Sir Walter undertakes to pay any society or institution in this country, named by the Royal Agricultural Society, a sum equal to the profits, if any, made during those five years.

This will show what my convictions are, and I know that they are shared by others. We firmly believe the Society will be able to continue not for one year only, but for many, to carry out as fully as ever the good work it has done in the past.

Shire Horse Society.

Mr. J. P. Cross (president-elect) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of the Shire Horse Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, on the 31st ult.

Finance Committee.

Mr. W. Cecil Salt (vice-chairman) reported that the balance on the current account at the Society's bank was £638 11s. 9d., with £500 on deposit; arrears of subscriptions £239 8s., accounts for payment £840 0s. 7d. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Mr. J. T. C. Eadie (vice-chairman) submitted applications for seventy-one prefixes and four affixes, which the Committee recommended should be registered. These were:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Agardsley	William Harris
Arkesden	Charles Beadle.
Arleston	C. J. Exley.
Ashbeach	Berry Bros.
Ashmanhaugh	Herbert Mason.
Aughton	Thomas Woodcock.
Bankside (and affix)	George F. Ogle.
Bartestree	R. P. Haden Cope.
Benham	A. J. Bingham.
Bergholt	G. G. Bowcher.
Bescaby	David Ward.
Bircham	R. Mendham.
Blofield	William Harker.
Capponellan	James Delany.
Claydon	Mrs. H. J. Tomes.
Colney (and affix)	C. Morris.
Crickheath	Robert Williams.
Cutacre	James Morgan.
Cymric	William Rowlands.
Dagworth	J. A. Lankester.
Dedham	F. W. Cottee.
Edgeley	Brigham Carlton.
Faindon	Albert Lowe.
Farnhill	Frank E. Sligsby.
Fota	Lord Barrymore.
Gamston	John Swinglehurst.
Garton	Richard Hack.
Gelliniog	Thomas Jones.
Granville (and affix)	James Hay.
Grimsargh	John Turner.
Haddon	R. Purseglove.
Hawkeswell	R. S. Potter.
Hogsnaw	John B. Hughes.
Hollings	R. Lawrence.
King's Hill	Nathaniel Drackley.
Langstone	D. A. Thomas, M.P.
Londesborough	Walter B. Walmsley.
Londonderry	Thomas Middleton.
Londonthorpe	Albert Wadsley.
Malltraeth	C. F. Priestley.
Marcle	J. H. Walker.
Milwich	Martin and Son.
Moulsford	J. Lay.
Nostell	John Helliwell.
Poling	Thomas Dare.
Pytin-du	David Jones.
Radcliffe	J. H. Tilburn.
Rainworth	John J. L. Evans.
Ridware	Exors. of W. Done.
Rob	Capt. Oliver-Bellasis.
Rossington	George Pennington.
St Andrews	Herbert B. Whetstone.
Saltmarsh	J. G. Kirkbride.
Sawddle	John G. Harries.
Sedgeford	T. J. S. Brown.
Shillington	George Brown.
Shustoke	Walter King.
Slackfield (and affix)	John Hill.
Station	H. Clixby.
Stoneleigh	J. Davies.
Streethay	John Cartmail.
Swinfen	Col. Swinfen-Broun.
Theale	W. Cumber.
Thorns Green	John Wright.
Undy	B. Phillips.
Walesborough	W. B. Harris.
Whittington	W. J. Baskerville.
Willow Row	Charles Jones, jun.
Wincham	Arthur Platt.
Winchendon	F. Payne.
Wissington	A. J. Keeble.

They had to refer back one which, in their opinion, did not come within their definition of a prefix. They had decided to register in the next volume of the Stud Book the mare Flower, dam of Harold 3703, whose entry had been received for Volume 27. The meeting of the Committee for the revision of the Stud Book proofs for Volume 27 was fixed for November 14, at 9.30 a.m. The Committee recommended that no alteration should be made in the conditions of entry for Volume 29.

This report having been adopted, Mr. Edward Green gave notice that at the December meeting of the Council he would move that all mares having produce registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book should, in consequence, be eligible for registration and a number.

A letter was read from the Natural History Department of the British Museum intimating that the Director was anxious to add to the collection of domestic animals, which included statuettes of Persimmon and Zinfandel, a similar model of a champion Shire stallion. It was resolved that the Secretary should obtain some further information as to the size and cost, etc., of the proposed statuette, as with this information at their disposal some member of the Society might wish to take advantage of this opportunity to have a stallion modelled for presentation to the collection.

County Horse Shows.

Lord Hothfield (vice-chairman) presented a statement showing the numbers of gold and silver medals awarded at country shows and Cart Horse Parades during 1905. This indicated that thirty-nine gold medals had been awarded at thirty-two shows, the breeders receiving £150 in connection with this scheme. At 207 affiliated shows 218 silver medals had been awarded, the sum of £151 representing the breeders' prizes in this section.

At Cart Horse Parades the awards had been as follows:—London.—Thirty-five silver medals and nine premiums of £1. Provincial.—Fifty-three silver medals and nineteen premiums of £1.

The various schemes of gold and silver medals and premiums at the county and affiliated shows and at the London and Provincial Horse Parades were renewed on the same conditions.

London Spring Shows.

The date of the next London Spring Show would be February 27, 28, and March 1 and 2. The foaling qualifications of mares in classes 12, 13, and 14, introduced in 1905, would be retained at the coming show, while the suggestion by Mr. Farnsworth to allow the words "For sale privately" and for stallions "To let for the season," (to appear under the Catalogue entry) was favourably entertained, provided the cost of such addition be fixed at 5s. per entry. The Committee also fell in with a suggestion from Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck to re-arrange the classes to be offered for sale by auction, as they proposed that the sale of stallions should be restricted to the Thursday morning from 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., and that the sale of the mares and geldings should take place on the Friday.

The letter from the Royal Agricultural Hall Company, referred to the Committee by the Council, and relating to sawdust, forage, etc., blocking the gangways, and to other details connected with the show, had been very carefully considered, and they recommended that notice should be sent to all exhibitors that no sawdust or hay would be allowed to be brought into the Hall; that smoking in the Hall would be strictly prohibited after 6 p.m., the room provided for the grooms being available for this purpose, and that no groom would be re-admitted to the Hall after 12.30 a.m.

The Committee recommended no alteration in the schedule of prizes for stallions and mares, and they also recommended the retention of the classes for geldings, subject to the condition that, in the event of the total entry of the 1906 show exceeding the accommodation at the disposal of the Society, these classes should be cancelled. The consideration of further means of keeping the entry of the next show within the limit fixed by the Royal Agricultural Hall Company, viz., 700 horses, would be again considered and reported upon to the Council at their meeting in December.

On the presentation of this report, Mr. James Forshaw desired to submit a strong objection to that section prohibiting an exhibitor bringing in any sawdust, which the Royal Agricultural Hall Company undertook to provide at cost price. A great deal of sawdust would be required and of a special kind. Let them go on as before, each exhibitor bringing his own sawdust.

The Chairman explained that the matter was not in their hands. The letter came from the Royal Agricultural Hall Company as the result of representations from the London County Council, drawing attention to the large number of sacks, boxes, etc., which, being brought into the building by exhibitors, blocked the gangways, and they now requested steps to be taken by the Society to mitigate the evil.

Mr. E. Snow Fordham strongly supported Mr. Forshaw's protest. He thought that if the matter were properly put before the London County Council they would modify their ruling in the matter.

Lord Hothfield said that this matter was not the seeking of the Committee; action was forced upon them by the letter referred to in the report. The Hall Company proposed to supply the sawdust, which he understood would be fine white deal sawdust. The use of this by all exhibitors would put them all on an equality.

Mr. Lawton L. Moore foresaw many difficulties. How were they to gauge the necessary quantity? Each exhibitor knew his own requirements. Could not arrangements be made to stack the exhibitors' boxes, etc., in a reserved portion of the Hall away from the gangways? He would like to refer the question back to the Committee.

Mr. Edward Green urged that the men's boxes and sacks of corn were equally an obstruction, and yet these were absolutely necessary. Each groom now would have to fetch his sawdust from the central store, and this would entail confusion. Could not the Society, to relieve the gangways, set aside a number of boxes and stalls in which the boxes, etc., could be stored.

The Secretary explained that with their accom-

modation limited to 700 horses it was impossible to divert a single box or stall from the purpose of accommodating horses.

Mr. J. Sturley Nunn and Mr. James Forshaw thought that the Council could agree to exhibitors bringing in their sawdust, provided their bags and boxes were kept in the horse-boxes.

After some further discussion the report of the Committee as presented was adopted with eight dissentients.

Judges Selection Committee.

The Chairman reported that the Committee had met that morning, and from the list of nominations received from members of the Council they had drawn up a list of three gentlemen to whom they recommended invitations should be sent to officiate as judges at the 1906 Spring Show. This report was adopted.

Prizes at the Royal.

It was unanimously resolved to offer two gold medals, value ten guineas each with the accompanying Breeders' Prizes of £5, for the best Shire mare and the best Shire staillion respectively exhibited at the 1906 country meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

The Council then adjourned till Tuesday, December 5, 1905.

Highland.

A meeting of the directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday at Edinburgh, Mr. Alex. Gordon, of Newton, Aberdeenshire, presiding. On the motion of the chairman the meeting accorded the Earl of Mansfield a hearty vote of thanks for his services as chairman of the Society during the past year, and Dr. Wilson, of Carbeth, was unanimously chosen chairman for the ensuing year. It was reported by Mr. Macdonald, the secretary, that it was expected when the accounts were fully adjusted there would be a credit balance of about £1,200 on last year's show at Glasgow. The stewards, he also mentioned, had found very much less in the transfer of admission tickets going on than was the case a few years ago.

A letter was submitted from the Glasgow Agricultural Society asking for an allowance on account of the loss of rent sustained through the Highland Show being held in the show-ground at Scotstoun. The Shows Committee recommended that, in view of the arrangements with the Glasgow Society, it was not thought desirable or within their power to recommend that an additional sum should be paid. Mr. Alex. Cross, of Knockdon, in moving the adoption of this recommendation, said the arrangement was that there was to be no rent for the ground at Scotstoun. They were to pay the Glasgow Agricultural Society certain sums for the use of the showyard equipment. These sums were adjusted with due regard to the fact that nothing was asked in the name of rent; and were undoubtedly larger than they would have been had a rent been payable in addition. The business having been carried through on that footing, it did not appear that the directors would now be justified in making an additional payment for rent. The payments made reached the large sum of £450, and anyone who would take the trouble of looking into the details would see that all through the arrangements the Glasgow Society had been met not only fairly, but most liberally. As a matter of fact, it was found that this large payment to the Glasgow Society showyard was the most costly the Highland Society had ever to pay, with the single exception of the great show in Edinburgh in 1899. The recommendation was adopted.

Dr. Gillespie drew the attention of the Board to the increasing difficulty in finding sites for the shows of the Society in consequence of the very large dimensions of the implement department. No one wished to discourage the implement department in the slightest degree, but what he particularly wished to emphasise was the unnecessary duplication of the same implement. The difficulty of the Royal Agricultural Society of England had been the size of the showyards, and that difficulty had been aggravated by this same system of duplication of exhibits. He hoped some means would be devised that would be reasonable and fair to implement manufacturers, and in the interests of the Society and convenience to the public.

Special prizes for the Peebles Show next year were intimated as follows, and the donors thanked:—

There was submitted a letter from the County Clerk of Mid-Lothian intimating that his County Council had unanimously agreed to levy a voluntary assessment on owners of lands and heritages in aid of the funds of the Edinburgh Highland Show of 1907, and a letter from the County Clerk of West-Lothian intimating that his County Council did not see their way to impose a voluntary assessment in aid of the funds of the Edinburgh Show.

Sir Archibald Buchan Hepburn also intimated that the County Council of East-Lothian had resolved unanimously to impose a voluntary rate. He expressed the hope that West-Lothian would yet see its way to join with the other two counties. (Applause.)

The Committee on the subject of overdressing of barley reported through the secretary that buyers of barley for malting had discovered a marked improvement in the barley on the whole. Very much less damage had been done in the dressing. The Committee was not quite sure that this improvement was due to the attention that had been paid to the subject this year, or to the goodness of the season giving a crop of barley that did not require to be closely dressed. Samples, however, had been shown where as much deterioration as 4s. a quarter had been caused by inattention. The Committee did not propose to conduct any trials, but to watch over the matter, and report again. Mr. Ferguson thought the fact of barley deteriorating 4s. by overdressing showed gross mismanagement. The report was adopted.

Shorthorn Society.

Meetings of the Committees and Council were held at the Society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 31st ult.—Mr. E. W. Stanyforth (President) in the chair.

The President, in reporting the deaths of Col. Sir Robert Gunter, Bart., M.P., and Mr. Philo L. Mills, past presidents of the Society, said that death had dealt heavily with the Society during the last few months. He moved that letters of condolence and sympathy be sent to the families of Sir Robert Gunter and Mr. Mills. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Editing Committee.

Lord Moreton reported that the Committee had examined and passed the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the Council, viz., Australia 8, South Africa 6, South America, 276, Canada 5, France 5, Germany 6, New Zealand 1, Russia 1, Spain 1, U.S.A. 1; total 310.

The Committee recommended the registration of the following names:—

Name.	Owne.
Billing	... A. Britten.
Derwent	... W. Snowball.

Applications having been made for the Society's prizes for 1906 by the Highland, etc., Agricultural Society and the Bath and West of England, etc., Agricultural Society, owing to the early publications of their prize-sheets, the Committee recommended that two champion prizes of £25 each be offered at the Highland Agricultural Society's Show as last year, and a champion prize of £10 for the best Shorthorn bull at the Bath and West, etc., Agricultural Society's Show, also as last year, and that a complete list of the prizes recommended by the Committee for 1906 would be presented at the next meeting.

This report was adopted.

On the motion of the President a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to Mr. A. S. Gibson, Ruddington, for the very interesting communication which he had addressed to the Council with reference to his visit to the Argentine to judge the Shorthorn cattle at the Palermo Show of the Rural Sociedad Argentina.

Conference on the Tuberculin Test.

A letter was read from the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society with reference to the conditions applying to the application of the tuberculin test to cattle exported from this country. At the present time animals are tested in this country before shipment and again after quarantine abroad, and it was desired to have the final test in the exporting country. It was therefore suggested that a conference of breed societies should be held with this object, and that the Shorthorn Society would be the proper authority to take the initiative in convening the meeting.

Mr. R. Stratton thought it was a very proper subject to take up, as its adoption would facilitate business. Some arrangement, he thought, might be possible by which, under the care of a representative of Argentina and the Board of Agriculture, such final test might be made in this country.

The suggestion of a conference was a good one, as there were other matters which would be well discussed. He moved:—"That this Society is favourable to the suggested conference, and will call a meeting of the various cattle societies."

Mr. Victor C. W. Cavendish seconded the motion.

After some discussion Mr. B. St. John Ackers moved, and Mr. C. H. Jolliffe seconded, the following amendment:—"That this Council is favourably disposed towards a conference, but does not wish at the present moment to take the initiative in calling together the other breed societies."

On being put to the meeting the amendment was declared carried and adopted.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for December 5, 1905.

Dairy Shorthorn Association.

At the first Council meeting, held on the 1st, inst., Mr. C. R. W. Adeane occupied the chair.

The rules and bye laws of the Association, as drawn up by the Committee appointed for that purpose, were approved of, subject to a few alterations; and the following conditions, applying to prizes to be given by the Association, were unanimously agreed to, viz.:—

All cows and heifers competing in any class in which this Association offers all or part of the prize money shall be clean milked out to the satisfaction of the stewards at 6 p.m. on the evening previous to the show.

On the first morning of the show all cows and heifers are to be milked in the ring in the presence of the judge, who shall also see each animal's milk weighed; and any animal that does not yield up to the following standard when milked in the ring shall not be awarded a prize.

STANDARD.	If she has Calved within Three Calendar Months of the First Day of the Show.	If she has Calved more than Three Calendar Months before the First Day of the show.
Cows, 4 years and upwards, not less than	25 lbs. of Milk.	20 lbs. of Milk
Cows, 3 years old and under 4, not less than	20 ,, ,, ,,	15 ,, ,, ,,
Heifers, under 3 years old, not less than	15 ,, ,, ,,	10 ,, ,, ,,

Judges, in awarding prizes, are also to pay great regard to the size, shape, and general appearance of the udder, both before and after milking, as the prizes are only intended for animals suitable for dairy purposes.

And it was also agreed that a list of gentlemen who the Council consider qualified to act as judges of Dairy Shorthorns be printed and sent to all agricultural societies, who must agree to select one of these gentlemen to judge any classes to which "The Dairy Shorthorn (Coates' Herd Book) Association" contribute prize money.

Mr. F. N. Webb, of Babraham, Cambridge, who has been acting as honorary secretary, consented to undertake the duties of secretary for a time, and all applications for membership of the Association should be sent to him at the above address.

Polo and Riding Pony Society.

Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart. (President) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of this Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on 2nd inst.

Editing Committee.

Mr. C. Howard Taylor (Chairman) informed the Council that the entries received for the 1905 Supplement numbered 42 colts and 44 fillies. Five entries of mares lodged for Volume 9 of the Stud Book had been presented for their consideration; three had been accepted, one referred to a member of the Society for inspection, and the fifth held over for further inquiry.

The convener of the Dartmoor section, Mr. T. H. Ormston Pease, in forwarding the reconstitution of that Committee, had informed them that at its meeting on September 23, the Dartmoor Committee had decided to restrict the height for mares to 13 hands, leaving the stallions at 13h. 2 in. as before.

Show Arrangements.

Sir Gilbert Greenall (Chairman) reported that the dates of the 1906 Show would be March 16 and 17. The schedule of prizes and programme of arrangements adopted by the Council at their meeting on July 6 had been submitted to the Committee, who recommended the acceptance with thanks of the following donations, viz.:—From Sir Gilbert Greenall (the President), the prizes (£25) in the class for stallions not exceeding 14 h. 2 in.; from Mr. C. Howard Taylor, the prizes (£10) in the class for polo-bred riding ponies.

Mr. Everard R. Calthrop, with a view to prevent the cancellation of the class for Eastern sires, had intimated his willingness to contribute towards the prizes of this class, and the Committee suggested that he should offer a silver cup, or organise a class for the best Eastern stallion or colt, registered or entered in the Polo and Riding Pony Stud Book, to be judged by a gentleman specially conversant with Arab horses. Further, they recommended the inclusion of two classes for Shetland ponies, stallions, and brood mares, towards which the Society would be prepared to contribute the two first prizes of £5, if the Shetland Pony Society or Shetland breeders contributed the remainder of the prizes. The definition of brood mares, viz., "a mare in foal, or having produced a foal in 1906," to apply to the Shetland pony brood mares. The proposal to transfer the prizes for Mountain and Moorland pony brood mares to the district shows had met with general acceptance; but the Committee were anxious that a note should be added to the prize list in Classes 6 and 7 for mares not exceeding 12 h. 2 in. and

13h. 2 in. respectively—that these classes were specially provided in the London Show for mares of these breeds, in addition to the prizes which the Committee proposed should be offered locally for each recognised breed.

Taking into account the prizes offered by the President and Mr. Howard Taylor, and the class for Eastern sires suggested by Mr. Everard Calthrop, the total amount of prizes to be offered at the 1906 Spring Show would amount to £480.

Shows in 1906.

It was again resolved to continue the schemes of silver and bronze medals in 1906, and to offer the Royal Agricultural Society of England two gold medals for award at their 1906 meeting, viz., for the best polo pony stallion, and for the best polo pony brood mare or filly, respectively.

Smithfield Club.

A meeting of the Council was held at 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 1st inst.—the Right Hon. Lord Tredegar, President, in the chair.

The noble chairman announced with deep regret the death of Mr. Clare Sewell Read, a Vice-President of the Club and a member of forty-two years' standing.

Selection Committee.

Mr. C. W. Tindall presented the report of the Committee recommending the twenty-two names to be submitted to the members for election therefrom of eleven names to serve on the Council in place of the eleven gentlemen who retire by rotation at the end of the current year, and who are not eligible for re-election until the expiration of one year.

This report was adopted.

Implement Committee.

Mr. J. Harold Howard (Chairman) reported that the Committee had considered the applications for space in the implement department at the forthcoming show, and had allotted the same.

This report was adopted.

Carcase Committee.

Mr. W. Haydon (Chairman) presented the report of the Committee recommending the acceptance of estimates for the work in connection with the carcase competition at the forthcoming show, which was adopted.

Mr. Samuel Kidner submitted the report of the stewards recommending that Mr. Cary Coles and Mr. Reynard G. Adams be appointed assistant stewards to assist on the judging day at the forthcoming show, which was adopted.

Railway Rates.

A circular letter from the Board of Agriculture with reference to the desirability of holding local conferences between agriculturists and representatives of railway companies in cases of differences was read.

Mr. W. Coggan mentioned the cost of the carriage of sheep from Scotland by boat and by rail, and compared them with the charges by the railway companies for conveyance of sheep from Yorkshire. These were detrimental to the agricultural interest. He thought the Club should interest itself in the delivery of meat at the market. The meat conveyed by the L. and S.W. Railway arrived, as a rule, three or four hours late, after the trade of the market was over, and this was a serious loss to the agriculturist.

Mr. G. Adams mentioned the rough usage of his milk churns on the G.W. Railway; they often arrived with the loss of the lids, and handles knocked off, and he could get no redress from the company.

Mr. Garrett Taylor suggested that they should form a committee and ask for an interview with the President of the Board of Agriculture, and state their grievances, and he moved that a committee be formed for this purpose.

This was seconded by Mr. C. W. Tindall, and the Stock Prize and the Carcase Committees with Mr. W. Coggan were appointed a committee to collect evidence to be submitted to the President of the Board of Agriculture by a small deputation.

The next meeting of the Council was fixed for Tuesday, December 5, 1905.

Lincolnshire Longwool Sheep.

At the last meeting of the Council of the Lincoln Longwool Sheepbreeders' Association the secretary laid before the Council 25 new applications received since the last meeting, and inspectors were appointed to see the several flocks referred to and report on November 24.

Upon the proposal of Mr. Pears, it was decided that from and after December 31, 1905, no sheep shall be accepted for the Lincoln flock book which has not been bred by a member and which does not bear the registered flock number of a member of the Association.

It was also agreed that no member be allowed to bring Lincoln ewes that have been put to a ram other than a registered Lincoln for the purpose of lambing on the same farm as that upon which his registered Lincoln flock be kept.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Bucks Chamber.

At the last meeting of the Buckinghamshire Chamber of Agriculture, Captain J. W. Smith-Neill moved "That this Chamber views with great regret the apparent inability of the present Government to carry through any Bill really beneficial to agriculture, and calls upon the Central Chamber to take such action as will bring pressure to bear on all members representing agricultural constituencies to ensure more attention being given to the requests of their constituents and especially to the passing of the 'Butter' Bill." One or two thought that the motion should be confined to the passing of the Butter Bill, in view of the renewal of the Agricultural Rates Grant.—Mr. Weston said it was a subject he had frequently brought before the Central Chamber, and he now seconded the motion as it stood. Mr. Landon and Mr. Prosser supported it, and it was carried unanimously, with an addition proposed by Sir Edmund Verney, that the opinions of the members for the county and the candidates aspiring to that honour should be solicited and published on the question, so that the farmers might know who to support at the coming election.

Canterbury Farmers' Club.

A short discussion in regard to the estimates of the hop crop, and also of the acreage, took place at the last meeting of this club, and in the course of it Mr. Hammond said he believed that the estimated yield of 659,000 cwt. was much too large. Mr. A. Collard said if the planters did not fill up the forms sent to them, they could not blame the Board of Agriculture if any errors occurred. A communication was received from the Central Chamber in reference to the question of weighbridges at stations. The members unanimously decided to recommend that weighbridges should be placed at various stations now unprovided with them, and that a standard charge of a penny per ton should be made.

Cheshire Chamber.

The Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture discussed the subject of the damage done to farmers' crops by birds. Mr. Thomas Parton said rooks invaded the young turnip and mangold crops, and did fearful havoc. Mr. Stokes (Runcorn) said that enormous damage was done to the wheat crop by sparrows. They used to offer a reward of so much per dozen for the heads of sparrows; but that was not done now. One farmer advocated the extermination of rooks and sparrows throughout the country. Several gentlemen expressed a doubt whether rooks were so destructive as they were described; but nobody had a word to say in favour of the sparrow. Eventually a resolution was passed in favour of the extermination of sparrows, and landowners who are owners of rookeries are to be asked to largely reduce the number of rooks on account of the increasing damage which farmers suffer from their depredations.

Cleveland Chamber.

At the annual meeting of the Cleveland Chamber of Agriculture held at Guisborough, Mr. Herbert Samuel, M.P., was elected president for the ensuing year. A discussion took place on the subject of wild birds, and as usual there was a considerable difference of opinion as to which birds were the farmers enemies or friends. Then followed a discussion on the Redistribution of Seats Bill, and a resolution to the effect thot no measure of redistribution would be satisfactory which reduced the representation of agricultural constituencies was carried unanimously, and copies of it ordered to be sent to the Central Chamber of Agriculture and to the Member for Cleveland. Finally a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Lord de Lisle for the way in which he had presided over their meetings during the past year.

East Kent.

In the report presented at the annual meeting of the East Kent Agricultural Society the Council stated that next year they hoped to increase their offer of medals, as they considered it good policy to encourage agricultural implement makers to exhibit. The report was adopted on the motion of Sir George Collard, who said that in increasing the number of medals for the implement exhibitors he believed the Society was going on the right lines. A letter was received from the Ashford Chamber of Commerce inquiring upon what terms the Society would be prepared to hold their show at Ashford next year. After some discussion, it was decided that the Society could do no better than ask the same terms when they went to Ashford on a previous occasion, and a sub-committee was appointed to meet a committee of the Ashford Chamber to discuss the matter.

East Sussex Farmers.

A credit balance of £6 7s. 5d. was the financial result of the year's working as shown by the balance-sheet presented at the annual meeting of the East Sussex Farmers' Club, whilst the year altogether was a most successful one to the Club. Votes of thanks were accorded the officers, the Chairman referring especially to the ability and zeal with which Mr. Lintott had carried on the duties as Secretary. Mr. W. F. Ingram was re-elected Chairman; Mr. Albert Wadman was elected to the vice-chair; and Mr. Walter Lintott was asked to continue as Secretary and Treasurer.

Leicestershire Chamber.

At the meeting of the members of this Chamber of Agriculture, held on the 4th inst., it was agreed to support a resolution sent to the Central Chamber by the Liverpool District Farmers' Club urging upon Parliament the necessity of relieving agricultural land of all rates connected with the Education Acts. The Chairman, Mr. W. Glover, reported upon the meetings of the Agricultural Federation at Darlington that he attended as a delegate. The objects of the Federation were, he said, to urge farmers to take a greater interest in their calling. It was suggested farmers should have a representative in Parliament. If they wanted to bring people back to the land they must make the land profitable, and have a representative in Parliament to look after agriculturists. Mr. Glover was thanked for his report.

Mayfield Farmers' Club.

At the annual meeting of this club Mr. J. B. Powell was again unanimously elected president, Mr. F. Piper as vice-president, and Mr. Rufus T. Lade as hon. secretary and treasurer. A strong committee was also elected. It was decided to hold the usual annual dinner on January 17 next, and also that during the present session lectures should be arranged (if possible). From the agenda of the Central Chamber, for meeting to be held on the 31st inst., two items were dealt with—viz., "Birds and Agriculture" and "Rural Building Bye-laws Committees' Report," and the following resolutions were passed thereon: "That the Mayfield Farmers' Club are of opinion that the depredations of birds are the cause of serious loss to growers of various products of the soil, and that an inquiry and report should be made as to what means should be adopted to effectually prevent such losses as may be possible"; "That the Mayfield Farmers' Club have resolved to support an amendment of the present rural building bye-laws so as to enable those desirous of obtaining cottages to do so at a reasonable cost, due regard being exercised as to the necessities for such cottages." A letter and copy resolution passed by the Canterbury Farmers' Club and East Kent Chamber of Agriculture strongly upholding Mr. Chamberlain's policy and to do their utmost to protect the British hop industry was read, and the meeting also favoured this resolution.

Newcastle Shire Horse.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Newcastle and District Shire Horse Society, held at Newcastle-under-Lyme, recorded that financially the Society was gradually making headway, and with the continued liberal support of the honorary members might in a few years be placed on a sound basis, and able to extend its operations. The Society commenced its year's working with a credit balance of £69, and closed with a balance in hand of £102. The report was adopted, and the officers re-elected as follows:—President, the Duke of Sutherland; Chairman, Mr. R. C. Trigger; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Q. Lamb; Secretary, Mr. E. W. Jones. A considerable list of offers of horses for next season was read, and a selection committee appointed to visit several studs and make a recommendation to the committee.

Staffordshire Chamber.

The effect of birds on agriculture was one topic of discussion at the meeting of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture. Mr. R. G. Patterson, who opened the discussion, said that certain birds did a great deal more harm than good from the farmer's point of view, and he classed rooks, wood pigeons, sparrows, and larks as being the greatest nuisance. The outcome of the discussion was that the secretary was directed to write to landowners and other persons asking them to be good enough to keep the rookeries they maintained within reasonable limits. The law of trespass as it at present exists was also discussed. Mr. Lamb, who introduced the question, said that while it was admitted that a great deal of damage was done on farms by trespassers, there was no remedy unless the amount of the damage was

proved, and that, at times, was a very difficult matter. Unless such products of the soil as mushrooms and watercress were specially cultivated, the trespassers under the existing law, had as much right to them as the occupier of the farm. Moreover, the stock on the farm was not sufficiently protected, and he argued that there ought to be better and more frequent police supervision. A motion was passed to the effect that it was most urgent that the law of trespass should be altered so that the owners and occupiers of agricultural land should have the sole right to all the products of the soil both natural and artificial, and also adequate protection for their stock and crops.

Totnes Union.

The Council, in their report, presented at the annual meeting of the Totnes Union Chamber of Agriculture, held on Tuesday, stated that they had considered the question of co-operation for the purchase and sale of agricultural commodities, and whilst fully recognising that organised co-operation among farmers would be of great benefit to the industry, they considered it outside the province of the Chamber to promote a society for trading purposes. In July last the Council strongly protested against the Government's Redistribution proposals, pointing out that if they were carried such agricultural counties as Devon would not be properly represented. The Central Chamber had adopted a resolution similar to that passed by the Council of the Local Chamber. The Council were pleased to announce that the Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, had expressed his willingness to address a meeting of agriculturists in Devon early in the coming year, and the Secretary had put forward the claim of Totnes for the place of meeting. Many new members had joined during the past year. At the annual meeting Mr. G. Hutchings was thanked for his presidency during the past twelve months, and Mr. M. Henry Hill was unanimously elected to occupy the position during the ensuing year.

Worcestershire Chamber.

A letter from the Board of Agriculture impressing upon the chamber the value of periodical conferences between agriculturists and representatives of railway companies upon the question of carrying rates for agricultural produce, was read at the last meeting of the Worcester Chamber of Agriculture. The Board invited information of cases where farmers experienced difficulty in transmitting produce or excessive freightage. The Canterbury Farmers' Club invited support for their protest against the increasing importation of foreign hops, duty free, which threatened the English growers with ruin. The chamber approved the proposal to tax imported hops. The Liverpool District Farmers' Club urged the chamber to press upon the Government the necessity for relieving agricultural land of all rates in connection with the Education Act, and it was decided to support the Liverpool Club's proposal. A recommendation to the Central Chamber urged the necessity for the amendment and consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Acts, and a resolution was passed with special reference to the failure of the Government to pass the Pure Butter Bill, urging the Central Chamber to bring pressure to bear upon members of Parliament representing agricultural constituencies to ensure more attention being given to the requests of their constituents.

Worcestershire Farmers.

A resolution protesting against the recent prosecution of parents for the absence of their children from school during the hop-picking, and asking the County Councils of Worcestershire and Staffordshire to arrange that the holidays in districts from which hop-pickers are drawn should begin on September 1 instead of August 1, was passed unanimously at a meeting of the Worcestershire Farmers' Association. The Education question was also considered, and a resolution passed condemning the working of the Education Act, which cast upon the rates of agricultural districts a large portion of the burden of the cost of education in urban districts.

Kendal Horse and Cattle Fairs.—The opinion has been expressed in recent years that the old-fashioned country cattle fairs are dying away. Such is not the case at Kendal, judging from the very large show of stock on the occasion of the annual Martinmas cattle fair on Thursday. There was an excellent attendance of farmers and cattle dealers. Bullocks were forward in large numbers, and there was a fairly good show of stock cows. Quotations were as follows:—Geld cattle £8 to £14, strong bullocks £9 to £12, stirks £6 to £8 10s., calves £2 10s. to £5 each. At the annual horse fair there was a large gathering, and a fairly good trade. Good heavy horses sold from £25 to £50, light horses £20 to £40, unbroken animals £15 to £20, foals and good young stock from £5 to £15.

By Lupulin.

Beer and Hops.

A lengthy discussion was carried on a short time ago in the columns of one of our leading daily newspapers on the causes of the dwindling in the consumption of beer. It originated in an article headed "A Plea for the Hop Grower," which was speedily followed by numerous and voluminous letters, each of which contained arguments that satisfactorily explained to the several writers the reasons why we are, as a people, drinking less of the liquid which has for generations been accepted as our national beverage. Some of the arguments were wise and true, and some were foolish and misleading. Nearly all were more or less speculative, therefore I will not attempt to handle them, or to touch upon mere matters of opinion, in referring to a subject which seriously affects the English hop-growing industry The facts and figures with which I propose to deal are culled from official reports, and may be accepted as correct indications of the trend of affairs. I will leave my readers to draw their own inferences or conclusions therefrom, only premising that I consider them of sufficient practical importance to be worthy of their careful consideration.

For the present purpose I have taken the four years from 1900-1 to 1903-4 inclusive. The first fact that faces us is that the production in the United Kingdom of beer of standard gravity has been lowered during this period from 37,217,880 to 36,054,657 barrels, a reduction in four years of no less than 1,163,223 barrels. The number of licensed brewers is also reduced from 5,968 to 5,353, and the number of licensed victuallers and sellers of beer from 145,861 to 144,548. At the date of the last return there were therefore 1,828 fewer persons or firms engaged in this business than when the census was taken four years earlier.

These traders are marshalled in two classes, viz., those who manufacture beer from barley-malt and hops alone, and those who, in addition to these simple ingredients, use rice, maize, etc., sugar, glucose, and saccharine, with some substitutes for hops. The pure beer brewers at present number 2,414, and the substitute or mixture brewers 2,939. The average consumption by the pure beer men seems to be nearly 2½ bushels of malt and 2¾ lb. of hops per barrel, whereas the others only give their clients less than 1½ bushels of malt and about 1¾ lb. of hops the balance of necessary saccharine being supplied by about 9 lb. of sugar or glucose, etc. The point that is most interesting to us is clear. In proportion as substitutes for barley-malt are used, the quantity of hops is reduced. The pure beer brewers are manifestly the best supporters of our industry, and should, therefore, be recognised and supported.

But another stiking fact arises out of this investigation. The reduction of the output of beer has reduced the total annual demand by brewers for our produce from 654,636 cwt., which is the return for 1900-1, to 601,597 cwt., at which it stands in the latest official record. We have thus lost in four years the outlet for 53,039 cwt. This is not only due to the smaller output of beer, but to the lowering of the average consumption per barrel, which has, on the whole, been lessened from nearly 2 lb. to 1.87 lb. The mixture brewers are actually responsible for the whole of this barrel loss, as the returns from the pure beer breweries, which have also suffered with respect to total production, have rather raised than lowered their average barrel consumption.

These are the main points to which I desire to direct the attention of English hop-growers. Whatever may be the causes, the effects, as far as we are concerned, are evident. The consumption of hops is decreasing in the United Kingdom. The reduction is apparently not due to any sudden collapse, nor does it seem to be affected by variations in value, but it has been gradual and steady, and is therefore the more expressive. Hops will certainly be wanted as long as beer is recognised as a necessary part of the sustenance of the people, but unless we can secure legislation similar to the three-centuries-old Bavarian law, we must be prepared, I fear, for still further limitation. It appears to be an opportune moment, when our planters are wincing under the results of an abnormally heavy crop, for us to look at our prospects calmly, and make such arrangements with regard to the future as may best fit the circumstances. I have no desire to pose as a pessimist, but I have learnt that "facts are stubborn things," and it appears to be foolish to proclaim "peace when there is no peace." Therefore, I trust that my object in thus speaking of things that must, I know, be somewhat unpleasant to my friends, may be estimated at its honest value, and that favourable consequences may follow.

Imports and Exports.

The Board of Trade returns for October show that we have received from the U.S.A. 1,221 cwt. of hops, and 12,944 cwt. from other countries. The total imports for the month, 14,165 cwt., compare very favourably with the corresponding month of 1904, in which we imported no less than 65,530 cwt. Our exports during October last were 4,433 cwt. of English and 579 cwt. of foreign hops, so that the balance against our market is reduced to 9,153 cwt., as compared with 62,912 cwt. in October last year. The figures for the first two months of the hop year are for 1905:—Imports 18,871 cwt., exports 6,236 cwt., balance 12,635 cwt.; and for the previous season, imports 93,647 cwt., exports 3,365 cwt., balance 90,282 cwt.

These results abundantly demonstrate to what extent our trade with foreign countries is influenced by the English crop. Last year our yield was short, and our market prices were high, therefore foreign shippers were induced to send large quantities into our open ports, our shipments to the colonies and elsewhere being correspondingly small. This season we have grown quite sufficient to supply our home requirements for the year, and foreign supplies are not needed. The panic created by the reports of the world's crop has unfortunately induced our growers to sell their produce at abnormally low rates; therefore our market is practically closed to our competitors, with the result that the difference in our foreign trade between the first two months of the seasons of this year and last is seen in the great net reduction of 77, 47 cwt. We are certainly thus far keeping foreign competition at arm's length, and shall doubtless continue to do so as long as the currency for our own produce remains at such an unsatisfactory level. But English growers are paying dearly for their independence, and it is, I think, open to question whether a more moderate English output would not on the whole provide our industry with better financial results, even though the unwelcome accompaniment of enlarged imports became inevitable. The ultimate settlement of our future is undoubtedly closely associated with our fiscal policy. I know there are some shrewd planters who are content to "let well alone." They have made money out of hop growing, and are satisfied with the results of the present position. But are not these good men exceptions to the general rule? Is their experience applicable to the industry at large? Looking at the general course of events, I think it must be admitted that this section of English agriculture has not made profitable progress during the past decade. It his certainly progressed in methods of production and manufacture, and this fact partially explains the narrowing of our hop acreage. But if we could sum up the total issue, I am convinced that no satisfactory profit has accrued to the general body of our planters. Therefore it appears essential for the preservation of this industry, so valuable to us from a national point of view, that serious consideration should be given to the fiscal aspect of the case, and the need for legislative protection.

English Jersey Cattle Society.

A Council meeting of this Society was held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, on the 30th ult., Mr. Arkwright in the chair.

Mr. Ernest Mathews, on behalf of the General Purposes Committee, reported that they had examined the statement of funds; the balance at the bank amounted to £210 0s. 6d.

Printed proofs of the Butter Test Reports for the year 1905 were laid on the table.

Attention having been called to the heavy task of judging single-handed at shows where Jersey entries are numerous, a communication was directed to be sent to the secretaries of shows where, in the opinion of the Society, it was desirable that two judges should be appointed.

The question of the award of medals and prize-money for the year 1905 was discussed, several new suggestions being brought forward. It was agreed generally to enhance the value of the prizes offered for butter tests at the various shows, subject to certain modifications.

Finally, as this subject was one that required further thought and discussion, it was resolved to hold a special meeting of the Council to consider the proposition, and other suggestions connected therewith, on Monday, December 4.

Table Poultry.

Poultry for the table is one branch which has interested many, and will do even more largely in the near future, for we are convinced that there is much to be accomplished yet, and this branch has not been fully taken up in the way we should like to see it worked. We hear much about foreign competition, and the many advocates of keeping at home the sums now sent out of the country to the industrious foreigner know very little of the subject about which they write.

First of all, we are more than ever convinced that to do this would be a great injustice to the many thousands who would not be able to indulge in poultry as an article of food at all, if they were compelled to pay the price for their fowls which English producers are obliged to charge in order to make it remunerative to them to rear their birds, and why we should have any desire to interfere with the foreigner; we have yet to learn when the demand for home-reared fowls is not even catered for—leaving out of the question altogether the adequate supplying of this demand.

When we, as English poultry farmers and keepers, are able to fill this demand well, then will be the time to consider whether it will be advisable to enter into competition with the foreigner. We have recently spent some considerable time with some of the principal fatteners, and it has given us much pleasure to compare notes with those who cater for the wealthy in our cities, and we have been able to compare results with those obtained in former years, and we are glad to be able to record that prices are not only well maintained, but that the supply is still entirely inadequate to the demand.

The fattening industry has made rapid strides during the last four or five years, and we are glad to be able to speak of the great improvement in the quality of the birds. At one time, not so very long ago either, numbers of yellow-legged birds were found in the fattening coops, but these are disappearing, and their places are taken by good white-legged birds with the accompanying white skin, which is so much in request amongst poulterers and those who handle the finished article.

There are very few poultry breeders in Sussex who go in for pure fowls altogether—but after going round the yards of those who bred the fowls, and through the fattening pens of those who "fleshen" the birds for the London markets, we have no hesitation in saying that two-thirds of the male birds used in producing them are pure Buff and White Orpingtons. We found the larger number in the Heathfield district, and a good many in the surrounding places. We found, on inquiry from the hucksters, that the rearers have been so satisfied with the increased prices they had received for the Orpington crossed birds that they have determined to continue to breed them.

In a number of cases we were sorry to find that the cottagers and farmers have been making the mistake so many have made before, to their own loss—having found their birds do well they have inbred them, mating the cock from which they have bred one year with the pullets reared, thus breeding from father and daughter; and in many cases where this inbreeding has been carried on for several years there was marked deterioration in the progeny. To breed strong, vigorous chickens, which are easy to rear, it is absolutely necessary to mate totally unrelated stock. It is not economical to avoid the expenses of the introduction of fresh blood.

In Sussex there are more birds fattened than in any county, and poultry rearing for the fatteners is very general amongst those who live in East Kent and all parts of Sussex. This leads to the circulation of a good deal of money in these counties by this industry; for, after they are reared, the hucksters find employment in collecting them, then the fatteners in fattening, the pickers and stubbers are kept busy, and this is not all, for their are many millers' waggons which are engaged in carting the foods to those who rear and fatten.

Readers may be inclined to ask whether the farmers produce the grain to feed their fowls. Most of them have grass, but those who grow corn do not produce nearly enough for the needs of their feathered flocks, so that it is necessary to buy. Recently we asked the fatteners whether they could obtain birds for fattening all the year round, and they told us unfortunately not. In February, March, and April they will give from 3s. 6d. to 4s. each for birds weighing 1¾ lb. to 2¼ lb. each, because at that period of the year they are not able to get nearly enough chickens to fatten to supply the demand.

The smaller fatteners are, in many cases, producing a better class of bird than the larger ones, which can easily be explained, as they rear a good many birds themselves and pick up some good ones, and only fatten as many as they can with the help of the members of their own family, with, in a few cases, the assistance of a couple of young girls. These fatteners get in the early season from 5s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. each for their birds, and during September and October from 2s. 6d. to 4s. each, when everybody has birds to sell.

We consider there is a good opening for this industry to be taken up in many parts of the country, as the demand is so much in excess of the supply. Producers should aim at getting birds when the prices are highest, and this can be easily done by careful management and selection of stock. We may say that the Sussex people generally have good stock hens, and they save over some of the early pullets for breeding from—but these are frequently not as good layers as might be found. They do not select them on their merits as layers, but for their frame and flesh. Were they to study the laying qualities more, they would produce many more chickens in the year. Where the matter has received careful consideration they are never without eggs and early chickens, which are so particularly valuable to the fatteners.

It must be remembered that it requires a great deal of care to select birds which are good layers and table birds. At one time it was believed—and we still find that there are some who adhere to the belief—that those who reared table birds had only to consider the frame of their stock birds; and provided that they had long breast bones with plenty of firm flesh on, and this with a good white skin, success in rearing chickens for the table was assured.

Undoubtedly these qualities should be sought in birds from which table fowls are required to breed, because they are essential points in the produce, but many have found to their sorrow that they are insufficient to secure sure success, because in order that table birds may be really profitable it is imperative that they be ready for sale just when the prices are the most remunerative on account of being higher than in the season.

In order that the young birds may be ready in time for the sale of good-class table poultry, which is required in London when the season is on, it is necessary to hatch the chickens in December, January, and February, and it is, of course, an impossibility to do this unless the eggs are forthcoming for incubation, and as everyone who keeps poultry knows, eggs cannot be produced unless the fowls are in full lay, and only those birds which are bred from very carefully selected laying strains can be be relied on to lay well in the months mentioned, so that it will be easily seen, even by those who have not had experience in the production of table poultry, that the study of laying qualities is necessary when table birds are wanted, in order that the eggs may be produced at the time when they are most profitable, on account of the purpose for which they are required—viz., hatching.

We have many times in the past seen those who have put down a flock of birds for the production of table poultry in great trouble on account of their being unable to get either eggs for hatching or broody hens to sit on eggs which it would have been possible for them to have bought, could they but have obtained the hens for sitting purposes. In order that our readers who cater for the table-poultry markets may not be in a similarly unhappy position during the coming winter, we take this opportunity of emphasising the necessity for the selection of really good laying hens and pullets, combining also the points necessary to breed table birds of the required quality for their stock pens for the coming season.

The days when these subjects could be ignored have passed, and it has become absolutely necessary, in order that the best possible results may be obtained, to take the greatest care to obtain birds which will give their owner eggs when most required.

We take this opportunity of stating that it is not possible to get really good results from fowls which are kept for utility purposes, unless the greatest care is taken to breed from those fowls which are really good layers and from those alone. We cannot imagine a more trying position for poultry keepers than to have spent capital in procuring an apparently good stock of fowls, with the object of breeding and rearing a number of chickens for the early markets, and then when the sitting season arrives to be without eggs, and, as the weeks pass, to be under the conviction that the time lost cannot be regained.

In order that any branch of poultry keeping may be made a success, no matter whether the fowls are kept merely for egg production for the home or for sale, or for table purposes, or good-class birds are bred, or exhibition fowls are kept, it is absolutely necessary that the right class of stock be obtained first of all, and then, when this has been done, that they receive exactly the right treatment to get the best possible results from them.

Many good birds are spoilt by the wrong treatment, and the successful poultry keeper, no matter whether he is only keeping fowls for the production of eggs for his own house, or for the purpose of hatching and rearing table birds, or for better class fowls which are well up to the requirements of the standard, requires to know the best methods for the treatment of his fowls for that individual purpose.

The question of breeds is one which must now be considered. The progeny from the first cross between Buff Orpington hens mated with Dorking cockerels are very fine table birds indeed. We consider them second to none, and have seen some good specimens of this cross exhibited in the table poultry classes at some of our leading exhibitions, and we have every confidence in recommending the cross to those who want large table birds of excellent quality.

We do not advise anyone who is thinking of going in for Dorking cocks to produce the cross, to buy their birds unless they are from really hardy strains, as, unfortunately, there are a good many people who breed Dorkings who are not careful to introduce fresh blood into their birds each season, and, as a result of in-breeding, the progeny deteriorates very much, and lose that stamina which is so essential to growth and development, and which tells when the birds are mated early in the season.

We still find it necessary to emphasise in these columns that it is not always safe to be content with obtaining the breed one sees recommended for any particular purpose, because the strain is of even more importance. As it is very generally known, Leghorns are very good layers taken as a whole, but there are some very bad layers to be found among them, so much so that a great many people have given them up in disgust, when they have been unfortunate enough to get birds from one of these bad-laying strains.

Selection tells in breeding, and when eggs are set from fowls, in a haphazard fashion, without any regard being paid to the utilitarian qualities of the birds, it frequently happens that the worst layers are propagated. There are a good many people who are breeding fowls for sale, to those who rear for the markets as well as for laying purposes, and those who are conscientious, sacrifice hens which are poor layers rather than circulate stock from such birds, as they only cause annoyance and loss to those who are unfortunate enough to get any of them. Those who want to produce hardy, useful stock should not purchase their cockerels from exhibition-bred birds, as these are bred with a view to the production of the most perfect specimens of standard type without any regard being paid to their useful qualities.

It will thus be seen that they are not likely to be profitable to the utility poultry keeper, as it is a well-known fact that at the present time many of the exhibition bird strains are very much inbred in order to get uniformity and symmetry in shape and colour, and as a result of this the "culls" (or mis-marked birds) which frequently find their way to the yards of small poultry keepers, who are endeavouring to make their poultry pay, have poor constitutions, and are a great loss and disappointment to their owners.

It is a much better plan for those who want their poultry to pay (and who does not?) to buy their birds from those who have made a special study of the utility qualities of their birds in order that they may get the best possible results from their purchase.

"PAYING POULTRY"
is the book you need if you would make your poultry keeping a success.
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The news of the very sudden death of Mr. Samuel Green, of Hadley Farm, Ombersley, near Droitwich, which took place at Wychbold, near Droitwich, on Thursday night, was received with great regret in Worcestershire agricultural circles. Mr. Green was a well-known and widely-respected agriculturist, and was also a prize winner at most of the agricultural shows in the Midlands; whilst his land invariably competed with success at the local farmers' club competitions.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal,

and

Live Stock Record.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England desire to enlarge the field of competition for the Secretaryship of the Society. They therefore invite applications without age limit. Candidates for the appointment are requested to apply to the Offices of the Society, at 13, Hanover Square, W., for the necessary printed form, without which no application will be considered. Salary £600 per annum. The form of application must be filled up and returned (addressed to "The President, Royal Agricultural Society of England, 13, Hanover Square, London, W.") not later than Wednesday, November 29th, 1905. Candidates who have already applied need make no further application. Personal canvassing of any Member of the Council of the Society will be deemed a disqualification.

13th November, 1905.

THE BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW.

The Fifty-seventh Great Annual Exhibition will be held in BINGLEY HALL, Birmingham, on SATURDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th, 1905.

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AUCTIONEERS, AGENTS, &c.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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WANTED, AGENTS for the SALE of NATURAL Ammoniacal and Phosphatic GUANOS and high-class Chemical Manures. All analyses and dry condition guaranteed.—Apply to DANIEL DE PASS & CO., 1, Fenchurch Buildings, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.

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RAILWAY ANNOUNCEMENT.

MIDLAND RAILWAY.

GREAT EXHIBITION of POULTRY, &c., at BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM, NOV. 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, & 30th, 1905.

Exhibitors of Poultry and Cage Birds at this Show are informed that the Midland Railway Company make every arrangement for the convenient and careful transit of exhibits to and from the Show.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF SPORTING AND OTHER DOGS, CURZON HALL, BIRMINGHAM, NOV. 27th, 28th, and 29th.

Exhibitors at this Show are informed that the Midland Railway Company will afford facilities for the expeditious, safe, and convenient transit of all animals consigned by their route.

The rates for the conveyance of Dogs can be obtained at the various stations, or on application to the District Superintendent, Derby, or of the Superintent of the Line, Derby.

Arrangements will also be made for the return of the traffic in through vans direct from Birmingham at the close of each Show.

Exhibitors are requested to clearly address all cases, &c, containing exhibits "per Midland Railway," and to also insert this on the return portion of the address.

The Midland Company's representatives at Birmingham (New Street Station) and at each Show will give every information to exhibitors as to the return journey.

GREAT CATTLE SHOW, BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM, NOVEMBER 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th.

Specially constructed vans for the conveyance of prize cattle by passenger train can be supplied for conveying Cattle to and from this Show on application being made to the Stations, Mr. Mitchell, District Superintendent, Derby, or to Mr. J. Elliott, Superintendent of the Line, Derby.

JOHN MATHIESON,
General Manager

Derby, November, 1905.

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Of all kinds, for health and condition, should now be fed upon

GEORGE SMITH'S

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Meat Dog Biscuits

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Hound Meal.

Each **16s.** per cwt. at any station in England for Cash.

Send your orders direct to

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DOG AND POULTRY FOOD FACTORY,

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New Descriptive list of Dog, Poultry and Game Foods, with numerous testimonials, post free.

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To the Public.

Scotch Tweeds mean value, and Colquhoun's Ladies and Gentlemen's Scotch Tweeds, Knitting Yarns, Blankets, &c., mean perfection of value. Their wear is magnificent. All goods are made in my own Mills under my own supervision, and nothing is sold as wool that is not pure wool. Any length at Mill price and carriage paid. Self-measurement forms sent, and Suits made up if desired.
400 Patterns, post free. Write for them.

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What do you do with your wool? Do you make the most of it? One thing is quite certain. You cannot do better than send it to my Mills and have it made into woollen cloth, blankets, or other goods. I have 400 patterns to select from, and pay carriage on wool sent to me for manufacture. Write for booklet, which tells you all you want to know, and receive patterns, so that you may say what you want made and the patterns you prefer.

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A Pain or a Strain made Right again

When your horse is in pain through a wound or a strain you won't find anything to equal **Pond's Remedy.** It is safe, sure, and speedy. It checks hemorrhage, contracts the skin, heals it, destroys germs absolutely, and purifies the severest wound.

Good for Cattle Dogs and all Domestic Animals.

Pint Bottles, 2/-; Quart Bottles, 3/6; Gallon Bottles, 10/6.

Pamphlet free from—
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Single Barrel **EJECTORS** as above, in 12, 16 or 20-bore. Fine steel barrels, English proof. Specially bored for close and hard shooting, **21/-** each.

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AND

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Made Specially for Fattening Purposes.

We have made this claim for 12 years, and each year it has been more thoroughly established and confirmed by thousands of farmers.

YOU MAY DOUBT, but test it for yourself as others have done; you will make money by the experiment—we will gain a customer.

It is guaranteed by analysis and practical feeding tests.

We make one cake do one thing well. One cake for all purposes means waste and inefficiency.

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"I was a great believer in Linseed until I proved that your Fattening Cake is much superior; as a test, I fed one lot of Steers exclusively on your Cake, and another lot on English Linseed (weight for weight), and I was very much surprised to find that the result gave a much greater weight of beef in favour of the Fattening Cake. I can thoroughly recommend your Cake to every farmer as the best (including Linseed) that can be used. Please send me two more tons, ex contract, at your earliest."

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Our manufactures include Fattening, Rearing, Dairy, and Universal Cakes & Meals, Cotton Cakes, Soluble Calf Meal, &c.

We invite Inspection of Samples exhibited at the London (Smithfield), Scottish National, Dublin, Birmingham, and Leeds Fat Stock Shows.

For particulars apply to Local Agents, or to
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VAPORITE kills in this way. Scatter it on the ground at ploughing time. An insect suffocating gas is formed. This gets into the earth. **VAPORITE** kills all ground insects, and makes your land rich and fertile. It's money in your pocket when you put Vaporite on your land. Send us a postcard. Our booklet on **VAPORITE** is interesting.

Ask for Booklet No. 13a
56 lbs., **6/6**; 112 lbs., **10/-**; **£9** per ton.

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By Royal Warrant Manufacturers of Agricultural and Horticultural Machinery to His Majesty King Edward VII.

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For General Purposes, Small Holdings, and of "Triplex" Type.
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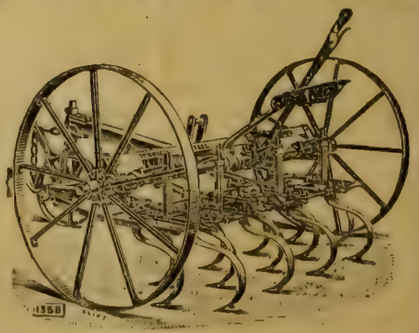

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Cambridgeshire.—No. 21, Messrs. R. T. Morris & Son, Oakington.
Essex.—No. 10, Mr. Wm. Nisbet, Bendysh Hall, Radwinter.
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All the samples will be on view at the Smithfield Club Fat Cattle Show at the Firm's Stand, No. 8 9, December 4th to 8th.

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THE
"BIBBY" CAKE *v.* LINSEED CAKE.

In out-of-the-way districts, amongst farmers who perhaps do not often see the Agricultural papers, there are some few feeders who still fatten bullocks and other cattle on Linseed Cake.

To all such we venture to suggest that the present high price of Linseed Cake affords an opportunity for putting the "**BIBBY**" **CAKE** to a competitive test.

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But this is not all; we maintain that cattle can be fatted more expeditiously on "**BIBBY**" **CAKE**, which effects a saving of both time and other keep.

But let us waive the latter point, for the money saving alone is well worth the feeder's attention.

We supply the whole Cakes, or in the form of Cakettes, as may be desired.

We also supply our famous **DAIRY CAKE** in Cakettes, Whole Cake or Meal, and we believe better value for Dairy Cows is not to be obtained than we are now giving in our well-known **DAIRY CAKE**, **CAKETTES**, and **MEAL**.

BIBBY'S QUARTERLY.

The new number of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY, edited by our Mr. JOSEPH BIBBY, is now out, and can be had during this month at all Smith's Bookstalls, price 1/-.

There be those who say that BIBBY'S QUARTERLY is the best periodical which comes into the farmhouse, but there be also gainsayers who affirm that if it dealt more with live stock, and less with high ethics, it would be more acceptable to the average farmer; and we are rather of that opinion ourselves, but the Editor tells us that he edits BIBBY'S QUARTERLY to please himself, and we have to leave it at that; should, however, any reader of BIBBY'S QUARTERLY make a purchase at Smith's Bookstall, and is afterwards doubtful that he has got his shilling's worth, we undertake to make matters straight with him if he apprise us of his dissatisfaction within the present month.

J. BIBBY & SONS, EXCHANGE CHAMBERS, **Liverpool.**

REFRIGERATING AND ICE-MAKING MACHINERY.

H. J. WEST & Co., Ltd.,
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LION MOLASSES FEED

The Best and Cheapest - - Sugar Feed on the market.

ANALYSIS:
Oil, 2 per cent.; Albuminoids, 15 per cent. Carbo-Hydrates, 48 per cent.

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GRIMSDALE & SONS, Limited,
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Established over 100 Years.

FOREST TREES,

For Profit, Ornament, and Game Cover.

THOMAS KENNEDY & CO.,
High St., DUMFRIES, N.B.

HARDY SCOTCH GROWN

Before contracting for this season, ask us for
SAMPLES AND QUOTATIONS.

Wonderlyk 'Warble' Preventitive. If the Warble Lumps have appeared in your stock, dress the affected part with our Preventitive at once. This will prevent further damage and save you money. In any case apply a dressing now, and another in April to prevent any further trouble. Full directions for use are sent with each gall. drum. Price **4/6** per gall. delivered free. One drum will suffice for a large herd.—Sole Proprs., **Ralph Rigby & Co.** Mfg. Chemists, **Walsall.**

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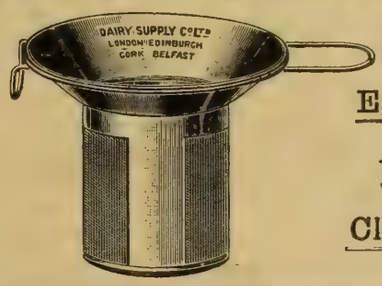

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"TWENCEN PATTERN."
10 in., 13s. (as above).

Other Patterns: "Excelsior," "Ordinary" "Oval," "Round, with Legs," &c. Price List Free.

DAIRY SUPPLY Co. Ltd. Museum Street, London, W.C.

CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD

for the fourth time, 1896, 1900, 1903, 1905, Brewers' Exhibition, Agricultural Hall, London.

The Championship of the World has again been awarded to Barley grown with Joseph Fison & Co.'s Extra Quality Barley Fertilizer, by Mr. C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Norfolk. For full particulars of autumn Fertilizers for Wheat, Oats, Barley, Beans, and Grass, write to—

JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD.,

Chemical Fertilizer Manufacturers to H.M. the King, IPSWICH.

Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal.
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

NOVEMBER 20, 1905.

NOXIOUS NEIGHBOURS.

Given the existence of a nuisance on adjoining land, it is sometimes a nice question whether the remedy lies against the owner or the occupier of the land on which the nuisance exists, or whether it may be pursued against both of them. Broadly speaking, the owner of real property is not responsible for a nuisance committed and continued thereon by the tenant in possession, unless the nuisance existed at the time of the letting, or the owner is himself a party to it. He is not liable for subsequent nuisances which did not originate with himself, and which he can not prevent.

The latter proposition has been carried a long way by a case which has been described by one of the judges as a decision of "excessive refinement." The owner of what was originally a greenhouse converted it into a house and shop, with chimneys on a level with his neighbour's first-floor windows, and let it to a tenant from week to week, who proceeded to light fires in the ordinary course. When the wind was in a particular direction the smoke was driven into the neighbour's drawing room. After the lapse of several weeks, during which the owner took no steps to determine the weekly tenancy, the aggrieved neighbour commenced an action against him to restrain the nuisance. But the former occupier of the premises had used coke, and so caused no smoke which could be injurious; and, it being quite possible for the tenant to occupy the shop without making fires, and quite optional on his part to make them or not, or to make

them with certain times excepted so as not to annoy his neighbour, or in such a manner as not to cause any quantity of smoke which could be deemed a nuisance, the Court thought it was impossible to say that the tenant was in any sense the servant or agent of his landlord in doing the acts complained of. The utmost that could be imputed to the landlord was that he enabled the tenant to make fires if he pleased, and the fact that he refrained from terminating the tenancy when he might have done so did not make him a party to the nuisance which was being carried on by the tenant. But a judge of wider views, commenting subsequently on the decision, remarked that the building was built for a coffee-shop, and a chimney was erected over the fireplace in the shop, and he should have thought that the building, with the fireplace and chimney, was let for the purpose of its being used in the ordinary way, and for burning ordinary fuel in it.

In another case, however, the owner of a field let it to a tenant for the purpose of being worked as a lime quarry, and authorised the quarrying of stone and the erection of lime-kilns in the field. The ordinary way of getting the limestone was by means of blasting, and the tenant, with the consent and authority of the owner, opened a limestone quarry, and erected limekilns in which he burnt the limestone. The smoke and vapours arising from the kiln spread over adjoining land, and injured the herbage and lessened the value of it, and, in the process of blasting, quantities of dirt and stone were thrown on to the adjoining land, endangering the safety of those employed there. The occupier of the adjoining land brought an action against both the owner and the occupier of the quarry. There never was any doubt as to the liability of the tenant, but the landlord demurred on the ground that he was not liable for the acts of his tenant, and quoted the case of the smoking chimneys as an authority in his favour.

But the Court did not hesitate to distinguish the cases, and whilst they treated the earlier decision with due respect, they held that it did not apply to the facts disclosed in the case before them. There could be no doubt that where a person authorised and required another to commit a nuisance he was liable for that nuisance, and if the authority be given in the shape of a lease he was not the less liable. If the injury complained of arose from the natural and necessary consequence of carrying out the very purpose and object for which the field was let, the landlord was undoubtedly liable.

Seasonable Topics.

Whether a labourer's cottage for £150 is possible is a question which for some time past has been occupying the minds of landowners; and while some contend that the scheme is feasible, others are disposed to take an opposite view. There are one or two points, however, in connection with this matter, worthy of consideration, which may have been overlooked. The prime idea of building a cottage for £150 seems to be that of the revenue from it paying interest on capital. It is obvious that if a large sum is spent on building a labourer's cottage, the rent which the tenant can afford to pay is not sufficient to pay interest on the capital outlayed. But should the erection of labourers' cottages be looked upon, purely and simply, as a financial investment, without taking other things into consideration? Let us remember that labourers' cottages are part of the stock-in-trade of the agricultural industry, and just as essential as barns and cowsheds; and farms, therefore, should be expected to pay part of the interest on the capital spent on the erection of labourers' cottages. No one puts up a hay-barn and expects it to pay 5 per cent. directly on the outlay, though it does it indirectly, and cottages, being just as necessary as hay-barns, they should be treated in the same light. Again, is the cheap cottage really the cheapest in the end? Many people have suffered through the shortcomings of the jerry-builders, who may thrive in suburbia, but we do not want him in the country. It is not only a question of what a cottage costs, but the time it will stand, and everyone knows that good work is lasting work. There are hundreds of cottages to-day which have stood for generations, and are as sound now as ever they were. These bear tribute to the value of good work at the beginning, and if a cottage costs, say, £150 to erect, and a repairer is everlastingly hanging about the place afterwards, we fail to see the economy of so-called cheap cottages. As a matter of fact, very cheap things are often the dearest in the end, and cottages are no exception.

Cheap Labourers' Cottages.

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The person, by the way, who seems to be the least interested in the cheap cottage movement is the person who will have to live in the structure—i.e., the labourer himself. Our friend Hodge likes a comfortable house to live in, just the same as other people, and he appreciates respectable sanitary arrangements when he can get them; but he does not need anything elaborate, and troubles himself not one jot about building bye-laws, regulation air space, and all the rest of it. Hodge likes a cottage with thick walls, because it is warmer, and he is aware that a lot of air space means additional firing to keep it heated, and fuel is an item to be considered. Moreover, the labourer cannot afford to pay much rent. We know people who have taken suburban ideas into the country with the idea of raising Hodge to a sense of the kind of house he ought to live in, but they have found that he could by no means afford to pay the rent that it was necessary to ask for them, so, instead of benefitting the labouring fraternity they became convenient retiring-places for town tradesmen. It is urged that many labourers' cottages are unfit for human habitation. Alas! it is too true, but they must not all be condemned because they look a little old-fashioned outside, for in country cottages, having thick walls, but failing in matters of air space, a race of men is reared which for vigour and sturdy physique will compare very favourably with the rising generation of suburbia, which is brought up under the shadow of stringent building bye-laws.

From Hodge's Point of View.

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Sad, indeed, is the condition of the hedges and ditches in rural Britain to-day. Many of the former have ceased to be fences in the accepted sense of the word, and scores of the latter no longer play the part of waterways. The whole story is one of continued inattention and neglect. When the strain of bad times was first felt, and what is commonly known as agricultural depression asserted itself, the things that could most readily be neglected felt the pinch first, and hedges were amongst them. One farmer let his fences go down, another followed, and walked in his footsteps, and in this way the whole story of neglect is made up. From a game-preserver's point of view it may be all very well to have fields divided by thickets which bear the name of hedges, but what a lot of wasted land the farmer has to pay rent for! It may be urged that great, over-grown thorn hedges act as a shelter, and make little meadows warm. Just so, but would they not perform this duty just as well if they were close and tall, instead of being yards through, thin, and rambling? No one realises the importance of shelter more than the Kentish hop-grower, and round many of the gardens there are hedges as tall as the hop poles, but through systematic clipping they are impenetrable, though their thickness is little more than that of a stone wall. As a matter of fact, hedges on a farm should be treated somewhat in the light of a crop. That is to say, they should be cultivated and looked after, and be trained, when young, in the way they are to go. If more attention had been paid to this in the past many of the thickets we see to-day would be hedges in the true sense of the word, and farmers would have less need for patching and mending, and continually worrying their landlords for fencing material.

Hedges and Ditches.

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Potato growers are in a bit of a quandary just now over the low price the cosmopolitan tuber is fetching. Shall they sell or shall they hold? are the questions under consideration. In view of the ravages of disease this year sound potatoes ought to sell well; but doubtless many people, afraid lest the disease should spread amongst the stored tubers, have rushed their stocks into the market, and the inevitable glut is the result. That prices will be better later on is a natural deduction, but, in the meantime, we have to ask what the foreigner is doing. If imports of foreign potatoes remain on a small scale, doubtless higher quotations will be seen in due course; but the foreigner is fairly wide awake, and is perhaps only waiting to see some improvement in the price before he rushes his potatoes into the market. We agree with the wisdom of growers in holding their potatoes during the present overdone state of the market, but if the foreigner is playing the same game, and has got his stuff all ready for when the price goes up, it is possible that things will not turn out so well as we hope they will.

The Potato Trade.

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The dull, damp, month is true to its reputation this year, for low-lying districts are getting fogs, and rain has fallen copiously in most places since November came in. It is amusing how intensely human people are over matters of weather. The other day we found a hill farmer rejoicing over the rain; he wanted more and more of it, because his well is empty and of late he has suffered through the water famine. Different was the story told the same day by a man who farms in a vale on a land that is retentive, and where water is plentiful. He agreed that we had had a long dry time, but he thought that rain enough had fallen to last for a bit, and he wished the weather would take up fine again, as he had some more wheat to get in, and it is quite impossible to get on to his land for some days after rain. We could not help thinking what a good thing it is that farmers, above all men, do not have the ordering of the weather or the country would soon be in an open state of revolution or civil war. Fortunately the clerk of the weather has a happy knack of serving every one in turn.

November.

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Recent heavy rains have had the effect of saturating manure heaps in farm yards and other places, with the result that it is now a common sight to see streams of rich brown liquor trickling away from the above heaps, and passing on to strengthen the roots of the docks and nettles in the adjoining ditches. In this liquor we have the very essence of plant food and its waste is a loss to the farmer. The scientist would say that the manure should be kept under cover to prevent any loss of plant food, which is an excellent idea in theory, but comparatively few farmers have got the means of keeping their manure under cover, and many of them have difficulty in persuading the landlord to do necessary repairs, to say nothing of providing facilities for the above purpose. We certainly agree, however, that every farmstead should have a sewage tank for storing the drainings from cowsheds, stables, and dung-heaps; but scores of places are without this accommodation, and liquid manure of the best quality goes to waste. Liquid manure tanks fill up quickly at this time of the year, but there need be no trouble in knowing what to do with the contents, for its virtues will not be lost if it is merely poured on the grass in the meadows. There is an orchard attached to most farmhouses, and in too many cases the fruit trees are simply pining for manure to support and strengthen them. The trees are at rest now and growth is dormant; but that matters not, and if liquid manure is poured over the roots plant food will be supplied to the ground that the roots will take advantage of in due course. There is no excuse for waste of liquid manure on a farm where tank and chain pump are provided, but where this accommodation is not at hand it is often possible, by a system of gutters and a pool, to conserve a valuable product and prevent it going to waste. Experience teaches us that it is worth all the trouble, and the men who are the most successful in these days are those who let nothing go to waste that can possibly be avoided.

A Wasted Product.

The Farmers' Dinner.

The President of the Board of Agriculture, the Right Hon. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., has accepted an invitation to be present at the agricultural dinner which, under the auspices of the Farmers' Club and the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture, will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant on December 5, during the Smithfield Club Show week. Lord Derby will preside, and it is expected that a good number of M.P.'s and others interested in agriculture will be present.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

The very language which Mr. Balfour employed at Newcastle, at the annual Conservative Conference, means, of course that the Election cannot be long delayed. The phrases, "may be very close," "can in no case be long deferred," and "may be imminent," preclude any suggestion of serious delay. When, however, will it take place? I see that the assertion is made that Mr. Chamberlain has himself fixed the middle of February for the appeal. I cannot credit this. Mr. Chamberlain is one of the most astute and sagacious electioneerers in this country; and such a suggestion on his part would mean that he refuses to attribute to the official Conservative leaders the slightest strategic ability. It is no secret now that the last registration, more particularly in the southern counties, the Midlands, and East Anglia, went badly against the Conservatives. I have heard one distinguished Conservative electioneerer declare that a fight on the new register would mean a loss of half a score of additional seats by the party. Why should the Conservative leaders penalise themselves in this fashion when by expediting the election by a couple of months they can avert the penalty? It may be urged that to fight an election on an exhausted register is an act of political chicane. Frankly, this assurance does not much affect me. In love and war the rivals have the inherent right to each make his dispositions in his own interest. To neglect this would be a defiance of the friendship of the gods. I do not believe that the Conservative organisers will neglect the undeniable advantage which they possess in being able to fix the date of the fight. My view is, therefore, that Mr. Balfour's phrases mean that we are to have the fight almost immediately. 'Twould not indeed, surprise me to learn on the morrow of the publication of my article that the country is in possession of Mr. Balfour's manifesto. What will he have to offer the farmers? How will he explain the unsympathy of his past?

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Undeniably one part of Mr. Balfour's criticism of the Liberal reticence in explanation of their policy is more than justified. Who can tell what the Liberal purpose is in regard to the land? Of course, we often hear such fine resounding platitudes as that "the landless man must be brought to the man-less land." We are often told that "it is a crime that the land is not made to yield its natural fertility." The ecstatic assurance is given us that the Liberal party will remove "the shackles that render so much of our soil fallow and barren." The more enthusiastic of the Radicals tell us, too, that the land is meant for the sustenance of the people—"for the sustenance of peasants rather than the growth of pheasants." Other politicians of the same school inform us that the Radicals will see that "this land of ours is made something more than a hunting-field for the luxurious wealthy." All this is very fine, and has a sweet sound to the ear of sympathetic audiences; but we have a right to demand that it should be translated into prose, and that we should be informed as to its actual meaning. Some time ago, at a meeting of the Land LawReform Association, SirHenryCampbell-Bannerman certainly outlined the details of a Liberal land programme. Few men have repeated that programme since—few men have given it more than a lay acquiescence. Oh, my dear sirs, it was ambitious enough. As a fact, that was its fault. It was so ambitious as to be impossible. The Kalends would have arrived ere it could be realised. Since that exposition on the part of C. B., we have been vouchsafed nothing but dithyrambic denunciations of existing conditions and ecstatic prophecies of what Liberalism would accomplish. This and nothing more. Yes, Mr. Balfour was justified in his reflections. Why doesn't Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman frankly adopt the purpose embodied in Mr. Channing's two Bills? This purpose is both practical and realisable. It may not be feather-headed enough for certain audiences; but the quality of sanity is sometimes as valuable a political asset as adjectival impossibility.

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Well, the *Daily Mail* is a Job's comforter to its friends. It is an enthusiastic Chamberlainite. In its leading articles it is eternally pronouncing maledictions against the Tory politicians who will not go the whole hog of the Sage of Birmingham. The fate 't prophecies for them is something more than defeat—it is eclipse. Their future will be not Paradise, but Gehenna. In its epitomised predictions of the probable result of the General Election a very different tale is told. It is the possibility of a rise in the price of food which is therein declared to be an assured factor in winning Liberal victories. Rural constituences, held hitherto to be impregnable—constituencies like that of Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, the chief Conservative Whip—are declared to be very shaky in their allegiance because of this fear. What is more—and this I take to be the evidence of the awakening of the agrarian conscience to the possibilities of a grim danger being invoked by the new economy—antagonism to the principle of preference is held in more than one instance to be an advantage to the Conservative candidate. The prospect of an increased competition under the most favoured conditions on the part of a rival enjoying advantages in regard to rent, rates, transit, and fertility, which are withheld from the British farmer, is not — in this contemplative hour of the movement, in which the imagination is not so inflamed by a natural patriotic emotion—so alluring as it once was. I do not associate authority with these electoral prognostications, but the *Mail's* assurance that they are the result of definite inquiries by men of electoral prescience attach a significance to them which it would be folly to disregard. At all events, these are not altogether a consolation to the out-and-out whole-and-whole-hoggers.

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Undeniably, Mr. Austen Chamberlain has adopted the frank and manly course in freely stating that "he does not think a small tax on foreign corn would give any substantial benefit to the British farmer." Of course, Mr. Austen Chamberlain does not in this accept the reflection, so often advanced in this column, that the taxable area would be so restricted—that is, if the colonial anticipation of practically usurping the British markets were realised—that the influence of the tax would be really infinitesimal. Mr. Chamberlain's contention is that the tax would have so small an effect in heightening prices that no direct benefit to the farmer would follow. Of course, the sequel to this contention is that for a direct advantage to be secured for the farmer the tax would have to be much higher. I deny that. Even then, with the vastly increased preferenced Canadian competition, this result would accrue. However, the point is, as to whether any of the authorised exponents of the Chamberlain faith will agree that the two shilling tax, which is now suggested as the maximum infliction to be placed upon foreign corn, should be regarded as but the basis of the real, final tax. Will Mr. Chamberlain say this when he addresses his Canterbury meeting? The right hon. gentleman will not say this, for he knows full well that such an admission would revive the suspicion he has wisely and properly done so much to allay that a small tax upon corn would have any effect upon that sacro-sanct meal, the poor man's breakfast. Logic, then, reduces us to this conclusion—Mr. Austen Chamberlain declares that the small tax on corn, officially advised, will not be any direct benefit to the farmer; and no authoritative Chamberlainite dare officially advise that that tax should be increased. And this logical deduction is really in the nature of a warning.

Why not a federation of agricultural reform organisations? This question was put to me by the Conservative representative of a southern constituency, who, sorely disturbed at the last ten years' Parliamentary neglect of agriculture, is anxious that some organised power should be brought into existence which may affect the Parliamentary mind. This politician believes that the existence of a number of detached reform bodies, each of which might have an independent programme, though moved by the one common purpose, would mean the defeat of the anxiety animating the movement. It would be, for instance, so easy to play off one organisation against the other, and to utilise each individual programme as a justification for delay. We have in existence already a southern and a northern organisation. The Darlington platform does not go so far as the Callington platform. It is not so affirmative in its economic ambitions. Here in this divergence is the justification of the statesmen's policy of indifference. "Come to me," they have thus accepted statement of grievances and desires, an opportunity of saying, "with a generally and I will consider your claims. While you yourselves are unable to concentrate upon a common scheme of reform I am impotent." And with the existence of a separate Midland and a separate East Anglian organisation—and both are promised us—this contention would have a ten-fold significance. Yes, what we need is a federated body. As a fact, it is a necessity of the situation, born of the emboldened reformative spirit now prevalent in agricultural areas.

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What has become of the Welsh land-reform movement? Well, I can prophesy that you will hear little of it in the coming General Election. Anxious to discover without direct interrogation the attitude of the Welsh Members in reference to this matter, I put several suggestive questions at the end of the session to the Welsh legislators as to the electoral programme of the party. Many sympathised with Sir A. Thomas's resolve to make Disestablishment the supreme issue in the Principality; all were united in the determination to give reform of the Education Act a grave part in the campaign; most were for a reform of the Licensing Act; and a few declared their resolve to more definitely advocate Home Rule for Wales. One or two mentioned the land question and spoke of the desirability of calling into existence land courts for the fixing of fair rents, but this was only in an academic, unemotionel fashion. As a fact, there is none of that pulsating enthusiasm belonging to this proposal that was associated with it in the days of Tom Ellis. No lineal descendant of the Parnell of Wales has made his appearance. Perhaps this is partially due to the fact that the proposal never really touched the heart of the most serious of the English land-reformers. Not even Mr. Channing himself or Mr. George Lambert has made it a part of their programme or their Bills. Evidently regarding such a purpose as out of harmony with the Saxon temperament, they have not cared to advocate it. It was different in Tom Ellis's day. Fascinated by the glamour of the idea, the sympathy of the English Radicals was really the nutriment of the propaganda. The idea has lost that glamour; hence the supply of nutriment has ceased. No, in the coming fight in Wales, the land question will play but a very modest part. 'Twill not have even an echo of the electoral moment it possessed twenty years ago.

A case of anthrax was certified at White Hall, Little Bodworth, the residence of Mr. J. H. Stock, M.P., on Thursday. The animal attacked was a dairy cow of good breed, and it was found dead in the stall. Six other cows which were in the same building have been placed in quarantine. Sporadic outbreaks of the disease are causing anxiety in Cheshire.

As a sequel to the poisoning of five Shire horses, worth £600, the property of Mr. Robert Crowe, a farmer, of Reighton Manor, a waggoner in his employment was at Filey, on Friday, fined £3 and costs. The defendant, contrary to orders, but no doubt with the object of making the horses have glossy skins, gave them a quantity of wheat intended to be used for seed purposes, with which arsenic had been mixed. Mr. Crowe said he was convinced that the man did not know that the wheat was poisoned, and remarked that the prosecution was really brought by the Bridlington Agricultural Society as a warning to other farm servants against the most dangerous practice of feeding horses with wheat.

Devon Apple Growers and the Cider Industry.

In connection with the Devon County Education Committee, prominent agriculturists from Devonshire, interested in cider making and fruit growing, on Wednesday paid a visit to the National Fruit and Cider Institute at Long Ashton, near Bristol. Most of the visitors left Exeter at 10.15, whilst a few from North Devon joined the main body at Taunton. Arriving at Bristol shortly after twelve, the party were driven to Long Ashton, a village some four and a half miles away on the Somerset side. The drive, though a pleasant one, was made in a cold November wind, and the members of the party were not sorry when, at one o'clock, they arrived at their destination. Here they were cordially welcomed by Professor F. J. Lloyd, F.S.C., F.I.C., analytical chemist to the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society, and a director of the Cider Institute; Mr. B. T. Barker, resident director; and Mr. A. E. Brooke-Hunt, one of the governors nominated by the Board of Agriculture, who showed them round the premises and explained in detail the interesting and valuable work which is being carried on.

The visitors were first of all shown over the adjoining land by Mr. Brooke-Hunt, who explained the work being done. A large field, rather more than four acres in extent, has been planted as an orchard, and here some valuable experiments are in progress. Two systems of apple-tree rearing are being tried, viz., the Hereford and the Somerset systems. Under the former a tree, grafted with the particular variety of apple desired, is planted straight away (the disadvantage being that the particular variety used may not necessarily make a good standard tree). The Somerset system is one whereby a stock worked at the bottom with a variety which is known to make a good standard is planted, and when the head is sufficiently grown, grafted with the cider variety desired. The disadvantage in this case is a loss of some time at the beginning. In all, some 200 trees have been put in, comprising from eighteen to twenty distinct varieties.

Experiments are also being made to ascertain the most profitable amount of ground round the stems to be left bare for the first six or eight years, it being an undoubted fact that the trees grow better in arable than in grass land. Some three or four different ways of fencing against stock are also to be seen. In the adjoining field a nursery plantation has been established, in which experiments in the raising of various kinds of stocks, including a number of pear stocks, for the production of perry pears, are being conducted.

These stocks, it was explained, were being worked with a selection of the best known varieties, and it is hoped in time to raise a large quantity of carefully selected stock, absolutely true to name, which may be available as grafts for nurserymen and farmers throughout the district. It is also hoped, by comparison and experiments, eventually to be able to give farmers valuable advice as to the selections to be made to suit the soil in their own particular districts. In the same field there is also a fruit plantation, where experiments in the most profitable manner of fruit growing are to be seen.

The deputation afterwards witnessed the process of cider-making, which was of very great interest. The latest machinery for pressing the apples into pulp and extracting the juice is employed at the institute, and the visitors closely watched the demonstration given. The whole of the machinery is driven by a steam engine. The apples are shovelled into the crusher from a loft above, and, after being reduced to pulp, are conveyed by means of a shoot to the table below. Here the pulp is wrapped up ready for crushing in the adjoining press, and the juice is carried by an ingenious contrivance of wooden aqueducts to specially provided pits. It is pumped to an upper story, where it goes through the first stage of fermentation, and it is afterwards most carefully filtered and tested before being finally placed in casks for ripening. Professor Lloyd fully explained the filtering and testing process, and was able to give the deputation several valuable hints with reference to the manufacture of the cider.

The impression made on the minds of the majority of the deputation appeared to be a very favourable one, and it was felt that the visit could not but be productive of much good.

In a comment on the visit, the *Western Morning News* said: "The visit of prominent Devon agriculturists interested in cider-making to the National Fruit and Cider Institute at Long Ashton, near Bristol, under the auspices of the Devon County Education Committee, should stimulate an intelligent interest in an occupation for which Devonshire has always enjoyed a distinguished name. It is not sufficient in these days to try to exist upon the ashes of a past reputation. We have enterprising competitors abroad, who invade our home markets with considerable success, and will do so even more completely in the future if our home producers do not "wake up" and bestir themselves in defence of their interests.

Far too many orchards in Devon are full of trees which are, commercially speaking, wasters, and not only is it necessary to weed out old and unprofitable trees, but also to plant new ones of the best and most prolific varieties, and then, when the crop has been carefully garnered in, to manufacture the cider in such a manner as to suit the popular taste of the day. Where these operations are carried out in a skilful and business-like manner there is no reason to complain of the public reception of the product.

The old-fashioned, sleepy way of doing things can no longer, however, be profitably persisted in, and hence the labours of the National Institute may be of the highest value in experimenting and indicating the true path of improvement. All who visited Long Ashton were deeply impressed with the admirable work that is being done by the experts connected with it, and we trust that all Devonshire farmers who are interested in fruit-growing and cider-making will from time to time make opportunity to visit the institute and reap the benefits of the researches and experiments carried on there. The result could not fail to be a great enhancement of the reputation of Devon as a cider county.

Gates Leading to Railway Lines.

Companies' Liability Question.

The question of the liability of railway companies for the repair of gates in the fences bordering on their lines, came before Sir Shereton Baker, at the Boston County Court, on Monday, when John Todd, farmer and valuer, of Kirkby Green, sought to recover from the Great Northern Railway Company £80 for the loss of a Shire colt, killed on defendants' railway, on which it had strayed through a gate in a fence bordering the line.

For the plaintiff it was contended that the gate sagged at one end, and did not swing clear. The horse was fastened in the field securely in the afternoon of May 29, and a little later was found dead on the adjoining railway line. Mr. Page, of Lincoln, for the plaintiff, quoted Section 68 of the Railway Clauses Consolidation Act, which provides that railway companies should make and maintain sufficient fences and gates, with a view to preventing trespass by cattle.

Evidence was given to show that the gate was locked by the plaintiff when the horse was left in the field.

Mr. B. Watson, barrister-at-law, for the defendants, submitted that if the owners of land adjoining the line were not satisfied that the gates were sufficient, they could go to the justices and force the railway company to make sufficient gates, or could themselves make the gates, and charge the railway company with the expense; but if they failed to do it within five years of the company opening the line, they were absolutely without any recompense.

His Honour said that was not the case. The Section quoted by Mr. Page said that the company should make and maintain for all times.

Evidence was given on behalf of the company to show that the gate was in a proper state of repair.

His Honour, in giving judgment, said the case was a very curious one, and he had not had one like it before him in that court. He found that the company had done their duty, and that the applicant ought to have built another fence of his own. He found for the defendants, with costs.

Changes in the Value of Land.

In the course of his inaugural address, at a meeting of the Surveyors' Institution, on Monday, Mr. Charles Bidwell (president) dealt with the changes which had taken place in connection with landed property since the sixties. He quoted Inland Revenue statistics to show that the annual value of land has decreased 50 per cent. from 1875 to 1894, and 54 per cent. from 1875 to 1904. The gross amount of income arising out of the ownership of land, he said, has decreased on an average by nearly 7 per cent. during the last ten years, the greatest decreases occurring in Norfolk, Kent, Suffolk, and Essex, which range from 15.5 to 20 per cent.; whilst farmers' profits have decreased in England 8.2 per cent. and in Scotland 6.7 per cent. The chief factor in these decreases is the reduced value of all agricultural produce. In his opinion, however, bottom has now been touched; landowners and farmers are rapidly adapting themselves to the changed condition of affairs; and, in place of the old-fashioned lease, with its restrictive clauses, tenants are now given yearly agreements, with fairly liberal covenants.

The slight upward tendency since 1900 in the value of the tithe rent charge is another indication that agricultural depression is decreasing. The Agricultural Holdings (England) Acts, 1883 and 1900, have worked beneficially in the interests of both the owner and the occupier, and, he thought, are sufficiently comprehensive if properly administered. But, he noted, as weak points in their administration, the want of uniformity and system in the allowance for unexhausted improvements, and the too frequent absence in tenant right valuations of due consideration in respect of claims for dilapidations and deterioration.

He suggested that the Board of Agriculture should lay down a scale of compensation for unexhausted improvements, and appoint an official arbitrator for each county. In many parts of Norfolk and Suffolk there were large tracts of heath and light land which would not pay to farm, and had, therefore, gone out of cultivation. These had become the chief source of income for shootings, realising 4s. and 5s. per acre, and with the advent of the motor many of these places were accessible now, and they were taken up by syndicates. He favoured the "growing" of partridges and other game crops in districts where the soil is too poor to make wheat growing remunerative. Game crops would prove a way out of the landowner's difficulties.

A very serious question affecting the value of landed estates is

The Increase in Imperial and Local Taxation.

The Finance Act has been successful from the financier's point of view, but the death duties have in many cases had a crippling effect upon estates. The increase in local taxation has been extraordinary, and the present system of valuation and assessment is most unequal and unsatisfactory. He trusted the time is not distant when the whole question of assessing real estate, for both Imperial and local taxation, will be dealt with by Parliament on the lines of the majority Report of the Royal Commission on Local Taxation. With regard to the cost of roads, Mr. Bidwell suggested that a system should be initiated whereby the owners of motor cars and motor bicycles should be made to contribute some quota towards the cost of maintaining main roads and bridges.

As to rural schools, the boys and girls should be taught what would interest them in their after life work, and thus check the exodus to the towns. Children should be employed at the time when labour was most needed on the farm; what the country needed was not so much a cheap class of cottage as cheap money to erect decent cottages, and the Small Holdings Committee of the Government would deal with this aspect of the question in their report.

The National Granaries Question.

At the Conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations, held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, last week, Mr. W. E. Riley (North-West Suffolk) moved the following resolution:—

"Inasmuch as the rapid decline in the growth of wheat in the United Kingdom during the last thirty years, together with the meagre stocks of foodstuffs generally held by merchants and traders in this country, have become a source of danger which, may at any moment develop into an appalling national calamity, this conference urges upon the Government the imperative necessity of introducing such measures during the next Parliamentary Session, as shall lead to a large augmentation of the wheat stocks normally held and thereby insure the nation against panic and famine prices in the event of a sudden stoppage of the supplies of sea-borne grain and flour."

He said that, thirty years ago, this country had 180 days' food supply for its 31 millions of inhabitants. Last year it grew only 70 days' food supply for its 42 millions of inhabitants. When they came to this year, the last supplementary estimates showed a slight spurt in the crop of wheat, and the result was that during the two months of September and October, because of the additional English wheat thrown on the market, the farmers were compelled to take 10 per cent. less for their wheat than in the previous year. We could not look for any considerable increase of wheat in the coming year.

His proposal was that they should guarantee to every man, woman, and child in this country twelve months' food supply in advance, which should be the common property of every person, rich and poor.

The question came: What would be the cost? And where was the money to come from? He suggested that the Government should proceed to erect fifty national granaries—("No")—each capable of storing 500,000 quarters of wheat. This would give a total storage of 25,000,000 quarters; and this, with the 7 million quarters which we produced in our own land, would give us the supply we needed—30,000,000 to 32,000,000 quarters. What would it cost? Fifty granaries at £80,000 each would cost £4,000,000. Wheat, at 35s. a quarter, 25,000,000 quarters, would cost £37,500,000. This gave a grand total of £41,500,000. The annual cost, interest on the granaries at 3 per cent., would be £120,000, the interest on the wheat purchased would be, at 3 per cent., £1,250,000. Depreciation on the buildings, at 1½ per cent., would be £60,000; stores and coal would be £15,000; and salaries would be £25,000. The total annual charge would be £1,470,000; and this would guarantee to every man, woman, and child food supply for twelve months.

Where was the money to come from? Fortunately, they had a tax all ready to hand—the Corn Tax, which was wantonly and recklessly abandoned three years ago. This would give them ample means. He hoped it would have the support of the leonine fiscal reformer and the free food lambkin. He proposed that the granaries should be stocked half with Colonial wheat and half with English wheat. Every year 6,000,000 of this should be released automatically, in the months of May and June, throwing the English wheat in the market, at a time when many of our mills had to be stopped for want of English wheat to grind. The granaries should be refilled, after the harvest, with English and Colonial wheat.

A discussion followed, and on being put to the vote, the resolution was lost by 39 votes to 28, several representatives refraining from voting.

Messrs. Webb and Sons' Root Competition.

The awards in the annual competition for the valuable prizes offered by Messrs. Webb and Sons, the King's seedsmen, Wordsley, Stourbridge, for root crops grown from their seeds, and with the aid of their special manure, have just been made by the judges, viz.:—Mr. W. H. Hickman, Red Hall, Broom, Stourbridge; Mr. Thos. Amphlett, Brookhampton, Worcester; Mr. H. Wilson, Gatacre Park, Bridgnorth; and the following is a copy of their awards. The quantity sown was five acres unless otherwise stated.

District 1.—Salop, Stafford, Montgomery, Warwick, and Leicester—Swede: 1, Mr. J. S. Billington, Balterley Hall, Crewe (46 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre); 2, Mr. S. B. Foxley, Chatcull, Eccleshall, Staffs (41 tons 7 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre); 3, Mr. A. E. Chadderton, Upper Heamies, Eccleshall (38 tons 11 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre). Mangold (three acres): Mr. S. B. Foxley, Chatcull, Eccleshall, Staffs (63 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre).

District 2.—Hereford, Monmouth, Brecon, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, and Pembroke—Swede: 1, Exors. of the late Mr. P. Price, Howick Farm, Chepstow (34 tons 1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. per acre); 2, Mr. David Jenkins, Flemingstone Court, Cowbridge (33 tons 15 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre). Mangold (two acres): Mr. J. J. Corbishley, Eccleswall Court, Ross (63 tons 15 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre).

District 3.—Oxon, Berks, Bucks, Wilts, Hants, Surrey, Worcester, and Gloucester—Swede: 1, Mr. W. L. Anson, Iverley, Stourbridge (35 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre); 2, Mr. H. W. Scilgoe, The Grounds, Adderbury, Banbury (28 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre). Mangold (three acres): Mr. Alfred Brown, Wimpson Farm, Southampton (70 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre).

District 4.—Gloucestershire—Mangold (two acres): Mr. J. M. Scott, Crooke's Farm, Newent (25 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre.

District 5. Yorkshire, Swede: 1, Mr. Fred Scott, Stockton-on-Forest, York (22 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre); 2, Mr. T. Inman Earle, Kirkbridge, Aldboro', Darlington (21 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre). Mangold (three acres): Mr. C. M. Wormald, Cawood Castle, Selby (63 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre).

District 6.—Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridge—Swede: Mr. S. Smith, Villa Farm, Thurne, Great Yarmouth (30 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre). Mangold (three acres): Mr. J. E. Moxon, North Fen, Ely, Cambs (62 tons 18 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. per acre).

District 7.—Bedford, Cornwall, Cumberland, Cheshire, Derby, Devon, Dorset, Durham, Essex, Herts, Huntingdon, Kent, Lancaster, Lincoln, Middlesex, Northumberland, Notts, Northampton, Rutland, Somerset, Sussex, Westmorland, Cardigan, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, and Radnor—Swede: 1, Mr. S. S. Raingill, The Grange, Ringway, Altrincham (49 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre); 2, Mr. Thomas Parton, Weston Hall, Crewe (43 tons 15 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre). Mangold (two acres): Mr. T. E. Griffith, Gallt y Beren, Pwllheli (64 tons 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. per acre).

District 8.—Roxburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Edinburgh, and Linlithgow—Swede: 1, Mr. John Meikle, Groughfoot, Linlithgow (46 tons 7 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre); 2, Mr. Robt. Henderson, Craigie, Cramond Bridge (38 tons 4 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. per acre).

District 9.—Perthshire—Swede: 1, Mr. R. W. G. Cameron, Drumbarnie, Gask, Auchterarder (39 tons 12 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb. per acre); 2, Messrs. J. and D. Morton, North Muirton, Perth (39 tons 5 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. per acre).

District 10.—Forfar, Fife, and Kinross — Swede: 1, Mr. William Arnot, jun., Ballinshoe, Kirriemuir (41 tons 7 cwt. 0 qr. 24 lb. per acre); 2, Messrs. J. and W. Meiklem, Begg, Kirkcaldy (35 tons 2 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre.

District 11.—Aberdeen, Banff, Kincardine, Inverness, Moray, and Elgin — Swede: Mr. Peter Stuart, Longhill lock, Alves, Morayshire (40 tons 2 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. per acre).

District 12.—Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, and Wigton — Swede: Mr. Alexander Allan, High Balcrays, Whithorn (47 tons 18 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. per acre).

District 13. Stirling, Dumbarton, and Clackmannan — Swede: Mr. Jas. Todd, Blackdub, Bridge of Allan (34 tons 13 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. per acre).

District 14.—Ayrshire—Swede (three acres): Mr. J. K. Murdoch, Burnton, Dalrymple (40 tons 1 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb. per acre).

District 15.—Lanarkshire—Yellow turnips: Mr. D. B. Easter Happrew, Stobo (33 tons 17 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. per acre).

District 16.—Lanarkshire—Yelow turnips: Mr. D. B. Fate, Wester Tofts, Douglas (41 tons 10 cwt. per acre).

Martinmas Hirings.

Carlisle.

The Martinmas hirings of farm servants for the half-year ending Whitsuntide next were held at Carlisle, in front of the Town Hall, on the 11th inst., in dull and unpleasant weather. There was a large gathering of all classes of male servants, but farmers requiring them were not so numerous. Owing to farm work being very forward, many farmers are able to do with less labour until Candlemas, and this enabled them to stand out against high wages. Generally speaking, to obtain places, men and boys had to be content with less money, and the hirings were very slow.

Whilst farmers had paid up to £18 for the half-year to experienced men who were continuing in their employment, the highest wages obtained at the hirings by the best men present ranged from £14 to £16; second-class men obtaining £12 and £13; strong youths £9 to £11; and boys £5 to £8, according to age and experience. Female servants were scarce, and commanded good wages, experienced women obtaining £10 to £12, and more in exceptional cases; whilst less experienced women were hired at about £8 and £9, and girls at from £5 upwards. The wages include board and lodgings in the farmhouses

Cockermouth.

The Martinmas Hiring Fair at Cockermouth is the principal fair for agricultural labour in West Cumberland, and at that held on Monday there was an average attendance of both masters and servants. The hiring, however, was slow, and wages, as at the Whitsuntide fair, showed a drooping tendency. Experienced men obtained from £15 to £17; ploughmen from £12 to £15; strong lads from £9 to £12; and boys from £3 to £9, according to age and ability, board and lodging being included. Girls stood out for their terms, and generally got them, being hired at from £8 10s. to £11, and younger girls from £4 to £8 10s.

Doncaster.

At the annual statutes for the hiring of farm servants held at Doncaster on Wednesday, there was a very small attendance of farmers and servants, and very little hiring took place, whilst wages were no different from last year, and were as follows:—Young lads £7 to £12, second lads £15 to £18, waggoners £20 to £24, head men £25 to £27. The hiring of females was almost nil.

Driffield.

The annual hirings at Driffield took place on Monday, when, unfortunately, rain fell continuously, but there was a large attendance of farm servants of both sexes. Employers, however, were not so numerous, and engagements were not eagerly entered into on account of work on the land having been pushed forward through the early harvest. It was only among known men that hiring took place, and in many cases rather less money was reported as being given. The run of wages was as follows:—

Foremen, £24 to £30 per year; shepherds, £24 to £28; beastmen, £16 to £23; waggoners, £18 to £24; third lads, £12 to £17; young lads, £7 to £12. Female servants did not avail themselves much of the Corn Exchange, preferring the registry offices. They held out for full late wages. Cooks, £20 to £22; housemaids and generals, £16 to £18; kitchen girls, £12 to £16; nursemaids, £10 to £12; and young girls, £8 to £10 per annum.

Durham.

Wretched weather was associated with the first of the November hirings at Durham on the 11th inst., but there was a good attendance of servants. Engagements were reported not to be so numerous as usual, and while lads received up to £7 and £8 for the winter half-year, girls were paid from £4 10s. to £5.

Hexham.

The weather was also very disagreeable for Hexham Hiring Fair on the 11th inst., rain falling with slight intermission until late in the afternoon, but, notwithstanding that, there was a good attendance of both masters and servants. There was a plentiful supply of good men, perhaps more so than for some years past, and servants were hired at reduced rates, the reduction varying from 10s. to 30s. Men were engaged at from £12 to £14 and £15, and in some exceptional cases good known men received £16 for the half-year. Young lads got from £5 to £9. There was a brisk demand for lads who were able to do milking, and those able to milk would get a little extra wage. Experienced women got from £9 to £12, and girls £5 to £8.

Penrith.

The hirings at Penrith on Tuesday were regarded as the slowest for many years past. There was a good attendance of servants, who were more reasonable than in recent years, but the masters were not present in any great number, while those who needed assistance were inclined to dictate their own terms. Best men and lads proved most in request, but even they had in the majority of cases to accept from 10s. to £1 less for the half-year than the figures which prevailed last Martinmas. Female servants were more plentiful than usual. Wages generally paid: Head men, £15 to £16 16s.; strong men, £14 to £16; youths, £10 to £12; boys, £6 to £9 10s.; experienced women (farmhouse), £12 to £14; useful women, £9 10s. to £11 10s.; and girls, £6 to £8 10s.

Stockton.

A large number of servants attended at the Stockton hirings, which took place on Wednesday, when wages were slightly lower. Foremen obtained £15 for the half-year, ploughmen £12, lads £5 to £8, women £6 10s., and girls £4 10s.

Teesdale.

The first of the Teesdale statutory hirings for the Martinmas term were held at Barnard Castle on Wednesday, when there was a fair attendance of masters and servants, despite the fact that the day was cold, the surrounding hills being thickly covered with snow. There was a slight fall in wages, and the engagements made were not very numerous. Married men, with such perquisites as a cottage, garden, potatoes, milk, and coal leading, asked up to £30; good managing men up to £25; good ploughmen and horsemen ranged from £18 to £20; second hands, £14 to £16; while farm lads asked a graduated scale of 18s. for every year of their age for twelve months. Female servants were comparatively scarce. Head girls, £20; second, £16; cooks for towns, £20; general servants, £13 to £15, with board and lodgings.

Thirsk.

The first important Martinmas Hiring Fair in the North Riding was held at Thirsk on Monday, and, in spite of the unpropitious weather, the Market Place was crowded. In consequence of the forward state of farm operations, wages may be quoted for male agricultural servants from £1 to £2 for the twelvemonths lower than last Martinmas. Hinds, with cottage, garden, etc., obtained up to £30; good managing farm men, £25; first plough and horsemen, £18 10s. to £20; second hands, £14 to £16. Farmhouse female servants obtained advanced wages, head girls obtaining £20; second girls, £16 10s.; cooks, to £20; general servants, £13 to £15 for the year.

Ulverton.

There was quite a surplus of hands at the hiring fair for farm servants at Ulverston on Thursday. Work is well advanced on the farms, and a contributing cause is the slackness of work at the mines and quarries, so that a further reduction in wages of about £1 for the ensuing half-year was experienced all round. Head men obtained £18 to £19; first-class men, £16 to £17; second class, £14 to £15; third class, £12 to £13; boys, £5 to £8; dairymaids, £14 to £15; first-class women, £12 to £13; second class, £10 to £11; third class, £8 to £9; girls, £5 to £6.

Wigton.

There was a large attendance at the Wigton Hiring Fair on Tuesday. With a surfeit of servants seeking situations and a comparatively moderate company of employers, wages were brought down appreciably for male servants, and even the hiring of women and girls was slower than usual. Men, best class, secured up to £16 for the half-year; second class, £10 to £12; youths, £8 to £10; and boys, from £4 upwards; experienced women, to £13; second class, £8 to £10; and younger girls, from £6, the latter being most sought after.

Plea for the Owl.—With the object of preventing the total extinction of owls in the Eastern Counties, Lord Lilford a short time ago liberated on his Cambridgeshire estate some fifty specimens of the *strix passerina* variety, which appear to have bred sucessfully. A number of the birds have, however, lately been killed, and his Lordship has issued an appeal to farmers to protect the birds, which, so far from doing them any harm, are really the farmers' friends, and are of great use in keeping down sparrows, mice, etc.

NORTHERN NOTES.

Martinmas Day—the Feast of St. Martin, old reckoning—is close at hand, and on Thursday evening the contracts between masters and their yearly servants on the farms in the North determines by effluxion of time, and the servants take their annual holiday from November 25 to December 1. During this week they follow their own devices, seek new engagements, and spend the wages just received. It is a week of noise, and sometimes of riot, although less so than in the good old times.

A few years ago farmers and their servants all attended some one or more of the statutory hiring fairs or "mops" institutions which had their origin in the very paternal labour laws enacted in the Middle Ages and engagements were made for the ensuing year. These "hirings" were held from ten to twenty days before Martinmas Day, and the greater part of the contracts for the ensuing year were made before the completion of the current year. At some of the principal hiring fairs upwards of 1,000 masters and servants would meet, and business concluded about noon, when the masters returned to their farms and the servants devoted the afternoon to amusement and dissipation.

These contracts were merely verbal, but were understood to be binding after the hiring-penny or fastening penny, or "fest," had been given and received, and no bargain was ever concluded without the "fest" being given. Some time in the earlier seventies farm servants began to learn that these verbal contracts were not binding, and were not enforceable because of the Statute of Frauds, which enacted that "no action shall be brought upon any contract which is not to be performed within one year from the making thereof, unless the agreement on which such shall be brought, or some memorandum or note thereof, shall be in writing and signed by the party to be charged therewith, or some other person by him thereunto lawfully authorised." Hence a mere verbal agreement, made on the 22nd day of November in any year, for service from the 1st of December following to the 23rd day of November in the ensuing year, was not enforceable; because, although it was only a contract for fifty-one weeks' service, that service would not terminate until a little more than a year from the day on which the contract was made. It became quite usual for a servant to make a contract for the following year and then, if he found an opportunity, to enter into another engagement with a third party on more favourable terms, returning to the farmer who first engaged him the fastening penny previously given.

This caused annoyance and trouble, especially when the return of the fastening penny, and consequent notice of annulment of the contract, was not made until the last of the local hiring fairs was over; but later on some farm servants came to the conclusion that it would be wiser not to return the fastening penny, nor even to inform the farmer who had given it of their intention not to observe the contract. A few years ago one large farmer engaged his usual staff of yearly servants, and expected his arrangements were satisfactory, but to his great disgust eight of them never entered upon their service, and only one of the eight returned his "fest"—the other seven never troubled to inform the farmer that they declined to fulfil the contracts they had made with him.

An attempt was made to cope with the difficulty by procuring "hiring-books," books containing memoranda of hiring or simple forms of contract, with counterfoils, the intention being that a contract in duplicate should be signed by both parties, and the duplicate given to the servant. But the farm servants would have none of it, and farmers who produced hiring books were hooted and taunted with being slave drivers, while servants who were known to sign such agreements were taunted with having given themselves to slavery.

Some farmers accordingly ceased to frequent hiring fairs, and engaged their servants privately or at hiring fairs held during Martinmas week, and such contracts were binding, although verbal, because they were to be performed within a year from the day on which they were made. There were but few who did this, although from time to time efforts were made to secure concerted action in the matter.

During the last two or three years the subject has engaged the attention of farmers' clubs in those localities where yearly servants have been especially prone to repudiate their engagements, and as farm work is particularly forward this year farmers in those districts have avoided the pre-Martinmas hirings, and will not enter into verbal contracts until after the 23rd inst.

Old customs die hard, but, although the servants will doubtless still claim the "hiring-day," and will attend in force at the old places of resort, there is good reason to think that next year farmers in other districts where it is customary to engage servants by the year, will abstain from attending the pre-Martinmas hirings, and a few years hence these riotous and demoralising institutions may perhaps fall entirely into desuetude.

November 18, 1905. M. Y.

Gold Cup Fertiliser Competition.

For several years now Messrs. W. Colchester and Co., of Ipswich, have offered a handsome gold cup, of the value of £20, for the best sample of barley grown by the special manure known as "The Gold Cup Barley Fertiliser," and the fortunate exhibitor adjudged to have the best sample becomes the possessor of the coveted trophy forthwith. In addition, silver medals and diplomas are offered. No previous winner of the gold cup can compete again until after a lapse of three years, but he may compete for the medals and diplomas every year. Of course, the competition is open only to the users of the Gold Cup Barley Fertiliser (Griffin Brand), every ton entitling the purchaser to enter one sample of barley grown with the aid of this manure. The fertiliser, however, may be used with or without farmyard manure, as circumstances may require, but an essential condition would naturally be that no form of chemical manure, other than Messrs. Colchester and Co.'s manufacture, should be used in the growth of the sample.

Messrs. William Colchester have been encouraged to continue this competition by a gratifying increase in the number of the competitions, each year samples coming, too, from a wider area, and this year—the eighth of the series—the entries were again on a large scale the counties from which samples were sent including Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, and other more distant places, as well as from Suffolk, Essex, Norfolk, and Cambridgeshire, the varied character of the samples serving to add to the importance and interest of the collection, an object-lesson being afforded from the specimens grown under different conditions and from the same fertiliser.

Mr. T. S. Damant, of the Ipswich Malting Company, and Mr. Frank Flinn, Bishop Stortford (chairman of the Board of Jurors, Malting Barley Section, Brewers' Exhibition, London) again acted as judges, and after a careful examination of the samples, awarded the gold cup to Mr. William Nisbit, Bendysh Hall, Radwinter, Essex, whose barley was bright and regular, with an exceptionally fine skin, grown upon a clayey soil after barley. The reserve went to Mr. G. Smith, South Weston, Oxon, and was a very good second, but it was not quite so clean as the winning lot, grown on a gravel and chalk soil after oats. The silver medals and diplomas were awarded as follows:—

Buckinghamshire, Mr. J. H. R. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp; Cambridgeshire, Messrs. R. T. Morris and Son, Oakington; Essex, Mr. William Nisbit, Bendysh Hall, Radwinter; Hampshire, Mr. H. H. Myers, M.P., per Mr. E. H. Molyneux, Swammore House Farm, Bishops Waltham; Kent, Mr. H. S. Bass, St. Nicholas, Birchington; Norfolk, Mr. E. W. Cooke, Sutton Stalham; Northants, Mr. J. House, Kingscliffe, Wansford; Oxfordshire, Mr. G. Smith, South Weston; Suffolk (East), Mr. W. D. Pratt, Well Farm, Witnesham; and Suffolk (West), Mr. F. Isom, Kingsbury, Cornard.

The quality of the exhibits was, on the whole, very good, though the season can hardly be described as being a good one, many of the samples having unripe kernels, though, on the other hand, there were some very fine. Suffolk contributions were decidedly below the average, the best counties being Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Kent, and Essex, there being some fine consignments from the latter county.

The Royal Agricultural Society.

SIR,—Doubtless many of your readers will have been much struck with the complete dissimilarity in tone of the two letters on the Royal Agricultural Society of England which have recently appeared in your columns, the first from the pen of Sir Walter Gilbey, the second written by Mr. John J. Cridlan. The former relates more particularly to the past, and reads more like the touching and pathetic of a fond parent whose hopes and aspirations concerning a favourite child have not materialised, whilst the latter breathes that spirit of determination and firm belief in the justice of his cause which is certain to result sooner or later in victory—a victory, too, which will be won without serious loss to anyone save those who, for reasons which are not on the surface, object to the removal of an injustice.

For the life of me, I fail to see who is one penny the worse for the change to the first of December instead of the first of January as to the date from which the age of Polled Angus exhibited at the Royal Shows shall in future be reckoned.

For some forty or fifty years the breeders of this particular breed of stock are said to have considered the first day of the last month of the year as the commencement of another breeding year. The reasons for this course of procedure may be good, or they may be bad, but that is not now the question. The point now to be considered is, would the Council of the Royal be acting unjustly to the exhibitors of other breeds of cattle if they assented to the prayer of the breeders of Polled Angus cattle? No one can for one moment seriously contend that such a result would follow. Most fortunately there is not offered for competition at the Royal Shows one of those bones of contention, champion cattle prizes, whilst as to the assertion that an undue advantage would rest with the exhibitors of Polled Angus cattle since some of the cattle might be some three or four weeks older than some of those of other breeds of cattle in the various classes, or, in other words, that the buying public would be unable to compare the merits of a bull one year and six months old with a second bull of a year six months and three weeks old.

Again, we are to be asked to consider that the councils or committees of all the other agricultural societies have gone wrong, and that the Council of the Royal are alone sensible on this question. Time will prove that very shortly, or I mistake the signs of the times, but I need not labour this point; it will suffice if I ask why it should be proper to allow the breeders of Dorset horned sheep to reckon the age of their sheep from the first of November the previous year, and to refuse to allow the breeders of Polled Angus to reckon the age of their cattle from the first of December? I had hoped that common sense had asserted itself sufficiently and that the future action of the members of councils of the reformed Royal was to be consonant with sound business principles.

I am inclined to think that Sir Walter Gilbey will at an early date, if he has not already, consider that his action in pouring cold water on to the efforts of the Council of which he is still an honoured members is in marked contrast to the promptitude and business energy, if not prescience, which he displayed when he warmly embraced the suggestions of Mr. Frederic Street that a society should be formed to register the breeding of heavy draught horses, alias Shires, and also that a parade of draught horses should be established each spring in London. The memory of both these gentlemen will always be associated with the successful outcome of these ideas.

Please excuse the abnormal length of this letter, because I have not for a long time asked you to allow me to air my views. The evenings, too, are now long, and time is plenty, as they say in Norfolk.

SAUNDERS SPENCER.

Holywell Manor, St. Ives, Hunts.

November 11, 1905.

All Sorts and Conditions of Eggs.

SIR,—Prices asked for genuine new-laid eggs at this season, which will increase considerably later in the present month, indicate that we have entered upon the scarce period of the year for this important article of food. It is not too much to say that the supply is but a very

small moiety of the demand. Traders on all sides find the greatest difficulty in meeting but a part of the requirements of their customers, and consumers have to put up with inferior quality, or, as is generally the case in households where the value of a first-class egg is understood, dispense with boiled eggs altogether. In spite of the increasing number of depots of the National Poultry Organisation Society, and of other sources of supply, the deficiency becomes annually more evident, owing to growing consumption. That a measure of attention has been given to this question is indisputable, as shown by the demand for the leaflet published by this society on "Winter Egg Production" (No. IV.), embodying the methods conducive to increase of supplies (which leaflet will be sent to applicants on receipt of stamped and addressed envelope), and by the stimulation of production in some districts. From the poultry-keeper's standpoint, no encouragement should be needed, as the returns obtainable for eggs from October to January is twice and often three times as great as from March to June, and the hens cost no more to keep, whether they are in lay or not. But the result cannot be achieved without forethought, and systematic preparation, as indicated in the leaflet just mentioned.

The prime factor in determination of value in eggs at all seasons of the year is their freshness, which, so far as traders and consumers are concerned, can only be secured by an expeditious system of marketing. It is here where home methods break down, due to the prevalence of the practice throughout the greater part of the country of taking eggs into the local market once a week. Under such conditions they pass the first stage of their progress to the breakfast tables when they no longer deserve the term of "new-laid," and when they cannot command the best prices. Where producers and consumers are near together, as in residential or manufacturing districts, these remarks do not apply; but in the agricultural counties, more or less distant from the great centres of population, prices are low by reason of want of a system in accordance with modern requirements. The work of awakening the minds of farmers and others to the importance of organisation for marketing their supplies is very difficult, as they are so wedded to their antiquated methods. But the proved results wherever trade in rural centres has been thus organised has meant increased returns to producers, due to improvement in quality. It is in this way we can hope to most successfully stimulate the poultry industry of this country.

At the present season, the question is frequently asked, whether eggs may not be preserved in the cheaper periods of the year, and kept until they are scarce. That this can be accomplished is within the knowledge and experience of many of your readers. The greater part of the supplies now received from abroad, more especially from distant countries, such as Italy, Austro-Hungary, the Balkan States, and Russia, are preserved or "pickled," as it is called. In many cases, these can easily be discerned by roughness and dulness of shell, and by the shell cracking when they are boiled. But for these supplies, eggs would be unattainable in the great majority of households for three or four months of the year, and the prices for the few obtainable would be prohibitive. They would be like certain species of fruit, worth their weight in silver. It should be recognised that preserved eggs ought not to be employed for table purposes; but used as cookers, in which direction they meet a real need. No preserved egg is fit for anything else. Apart from all questions as to methods adopted, which may be learnt from a leaflet issued by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries (No. 83), one of the determining factors is that they shall be preserved as speedily as possible after they are laid, whilst in absolutely fresh condition, which is impossible unless the process is carried out near to the point of production. It is here where foreign countries fail, as the supplies are collected over wide areas, sent to given centres to be pickled, and, consequently, they are not fresh. Hence, they cannot possibly emerge as anything but of third or fourth quality. As an indication of the extent of this trade, last autumn I visited an establishment in Southern Hungary, where there were upwards of five and a half million eggs contained in thirty-eight cement tanks filled with the preserving fluid, and specially built underground for that purpose. The great bulk of these were ultimately placed upon the London market. In order to protect the consumer against any attempt to sell preserved or stale eggs as new-laids, we have adopted a trade-mark known as the "Rose Brand"—to be used only on guaranteed fresh eggs of home production. Many of the best traders welcome such a sign mark: but there are others who refuse to sell the N.P.O.S. egg because when supplies are short, they cannot substitute foreign. English preserved eggs should always be of finer quality than foreign; but no English is equal to the fresh product. In America, vast quantities of eggs are kept in cold storage. For reasons which it would take too long to enumerate, these are unsatisfactory, as they rapidly deteriorate when taken out of the cool chambers, and must be consumed immediately.

Until home production in the winter season more nearly approaches the requirements of our markets, it is desirable that consumers should require and be willing to pay for new-laid eggs for the table, and ensure that they are not accepting preserved, which should be used for cooking purposes.—I am, yours faithfully,

EDWARD BROWN, Secretary.

National Poultry Organisation Society,
12, Hanover Square, London, W.

Prospects in Suffolk (Ipswich).

SIR,—Everything is nice and forward, the beet all off, and most of the land ploughed ready to put the spring corn in when the time arrives. The beet crop is the largest I have ever known, but turnips are very poor in most parts, so no doubt we shall soon make a start on the beet, which, I fear, very few have sufficient stock to eat up what they have grown this year.

Pigs and sheep continue to sell well.

Crops in Essex (North-West).

SIR,—We have had a most favourable autumn for all farming operations, and are well forward with our winter work. The beans and wheat appear to be a good plant where sown early. The rains of the past fortnight have been welcome, as water in our ponds was becoming scarce. We have lifted a good crop of mangolds, which are mostly now in clamp, the swede crop not promising quite so well. Potatoes have suffered from disease, although a heavy crop.

Threshings have been proceeding briskly, wheat rising fairly well, though barleys have been disappointing in many places, the samples coming out unevenly, with some unripe corns, and consequently the value depreciated.

Stock have been very healthy, sheep and lambs doing well, and we have been able to buy our store beasts at a reasonable figure; though fattening beasts, even when bought well, show a very poor return, as we are in everything, as producers, entirely swamped by foreign competition.

Swine fever restrictions are extremely vexatious, and add still further to the many difficulties with which we, as agriculturists, have to contend. The Board of Agriculture maintain that by these restrictions swine fever is decreasing, but there is no doubt that the red-tape methods they employ tend to prevent the stock-keeper from reporting outbreaks; and we have yet to learn what swine fever is, and it is a great question whether the vast sums spent on this disease are not an unnecessary burden on the already over-burdened taxpayer.

A. W. R. B.

November 17, 1905.

Crop Prospects in Westmeath (Ireland).

SIR,—The past summer and autumn have been chiefly remarkable for, in this country, the very small rainfall.

This has been the cause of the very low average yield of both old and new meadows, though farmers benefited by the hot and dry weather in the small amount of labour which was necessary to save the hay, and its superior quality when saved—though, in apparent contradiction to the small yield, the price of hay is unusually low.

Oats, the staple corn crop in this district, is below the average, both in the yield of straw and grain. The quality of the latter is small and bad, and in many cases of little or no value—partly the result of the drenching it received when in the stooks, as much of the grain sprouted in spite of the farmers' constant attention.

Potatoes are an abundant crop, the tubers being of excellent size and quality; the prices for same have seldom been as low as at present.

Turnips and mangels are very scarce. This is caused by the drought at the time of sowing; though, where farmers used artificial manure to force a start, the crops are far above average, as much as 44 tons per acre being recorded. The redeeming feature of the past year from a grazier's point of view has been the excellent profits from sheep; both fat and store lambs have brought prices unheard of in past years.

The grazier has had a disastrous year; cattle did not thrive until too late, owing to the scarcity of feed on pastures, and eventually, in many cases, had to be sold half fat at prices little more than their cost last spring.

Pastures were bare all this summer; there was a fine growth after the autumn rains, and there is now an abundant stock of grass for winter consumption.

In comparison with the very low price of beef, store cattle are still far too dear, their scarcity being partly the cause, and, with no prospects of a rise in the price of beef, graziers are not looking forward to next year with many hopes of being able to recoup themselves for the present year's almost general and heavy losses.

November 16, 1905. R. R.

Crops in East Dorset.

SIR,—The past season has been too dry to suit farmers in this district; water has been a great trouble, and there are not many roots for the sheep. The crop of corn varied very much. Wheat a good crop and good quality, with plenty of straw. Barley not much grown; average crop and quality. Oats very bad. Wheat sowing is nearly finished and gone in remarkably well. Farm work much forwarder than usual, the most we have to complain of is the low price we have to take for corn and meat, except store sheep and best quality mutton. Beef is a disappointment to the grazier; many of them kept the whole summer for no profit. Store beasts are plentiful and a drug in the market. Hay is plentiful and good, worth very little in the market; and we may say the same of straw. I say it is mainly through the motor taking the place of the horse, and fed with oil instead of oats, hay, and straw.

November 18, 1905. EAST DORSET.

FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS.

FOREIGN.—Rainy weather prevailed in the earlier part of the week, with a rise in the temperature. Agricultural work was, however, pushed forward, and threshing becoming greater in bulk, provincial markets were afforded an opportunity of recouping their stocks. Sowings both in the North and East have been completed, and seeds are stated to be germinating satisfactorily. Generally speaking, the situation for crops is considered better than at this time last year.

HUNGARY.—Changeable weather, alternating between sunshine and rain, with mild temperature, has had a favourable effect upon field work, which is reported to have made good progress, and by recent advices was approaching a finish. Heavy rains which previously fell had made the roads very heavy, and consequently arrivals of home-grown cereals were on the decline.

ITALY.—Recent rains throughout this country interrupted sowings, but proved beneficial, or at least favourable, to the germination of the cereals already in the ground, and also materially assisted in the work of preparation in the fields.

MOROCCO.—The winter season has begun well, and after a prolonged drought there has been a week's rainfall of between five and six inches. The result has been to start all the farmers at work ploughing.

CANADA.—Frost has put in an appearance early this season, and, according to advices from Winnipeg recently, in Manitoba and Saskatshewan the ground was frozen. Consequently but little fall ploughing has been got through. Last year ploughing was not stopped until about a fortnight later, and it is affirmed that such early frost will prevent so large an increase in acreage as would otherwise have been the case. Hard spring wheat is of fine quality this year, and appears likely to fulfil expectations of a yield of 90,000,000 bushels, compared with 55,000,000 last year. The elevator capacity and transportation facilities will, it is stated, have to be considerably enlarged in the near future.

UNITED STATES.—The *Cincinnati Price Current* of yesterday says there is little new development in information as to the crops. The wheat crop remains in an excellent position, and the disappointment as to the maize yield continues.

INDIA.—The Viceroy's telegram, dated November 13, gives grain prospects as follows:—At Madras they are satisfactory, and in Bombay, although rain is still urgently needed in parts throughout the Presidency, the prospects are not considered serious. There had been no rain for a week in the United Provinces, where it was badly required for the standing crops and spring sowings. The situation was as last reported in Rajputana, except that, owing to famine and distress, relief arrangements were being made. The crops in Central India are in want of rain, but elsewhere the prospects were fair or good.

AUSTRALIA.—Although our special correspondent at Sydney wrote, under date October 10, that rain was urgently needed over a large portion of the State, subsequent cable advices showed that good general rains had fallen, and record wheat crops were probable. Advices recently received show the season's wheat exports of the Commonwealth up to date as 29,500,000 bushels, as against 36,117,000 bushels at the corresponding period last year.—*Dornbusch* (November 17).

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane. Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance of buyers, and a steady feeling was apparent as a rule, though business proceeded rather quietly. English wheat, in light supply, was very steadily held. Whites, delivered up, range from 31s to 34s; and reds, 30s to 33s per quarter. Imported wheat steady. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 34s 6d ex ship; Australian, ex store, 34s 6d; and Russian, as a sample, 32s to 35s 6d per quarter. Flour market underwent no appreciable change from Monday. No 1 town households, 27s delivered in; country patents, 25s to 27s; Iron Duke, 25s 6d ex store. Grinding barley steady; Azoff quoted 20s 3d to 20s 6d ex quay. Imported oats quiet, but fully supported in value; 38lb Russian, 16s 6d to 17s ex quay, as to sample. Maize firm.

Mark Lane. Friday.—The market here a passive aspect all day, but, considering conditions, every section maintested a good tone, while the price list has been little altered since Monday last. Attendance moderate. English wheat continues in small compass, threshings just now being rendered backward through intermittent periods of damp and wet weather. Town millers begin to adopt reserve, the present high limits imposed being above their views. Delivered up whites, 31s to 34s; reds at 30s to 33s per qr. 504lb. Eastern Counties continue better favoured than southern districts. Reds in the former are readily saleable at 30s 6d to 31s; but in Surrey and Sussex buyers are not bothcoming at asking prices, 30s being usually named to sample. Imported descriptions are in some cases rather firmer since Monday, apart from shortage. American flour retains its value, while remaining in narrow compass on spot, and fresh arrivals, as they come up, are wanted; a good deal already sold. Town households, No. 1, 27s per sack delivered in Country flour continues very firmly held; Hungarian best, 32s 9d to 33s. Whole meal, first quality, 23s, and No 2 21s per ton. Of feeding stuffs, Russian oats 3d dearer, while influenced by America. Trade inactive, with holders indifferent; 38's are not offered below 16s 9d to 17s ex quay, subject to sample. Grinding barley maintained. English malting quiet, unaltered, and cheap types continue wanted chiefly qualities between 26s to 28s. Maize 3d dearer on the week.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday.—Wheat slow of sale, at a reduction of 1s; oats a little dearer; beans and maize cheaper. Wheat, 27s to 30s; malting barley, 27s to 30s; oats, 17s to 21s; Mazagan beans, 28s to 29s; tick beans, 30s to 32s; peas, 29s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 23s to 24s; maize, 27s to 28s per quarter. Flour: Whites, 31s; seconds, 28s; sealing, 26s per sack.

Banbury. Thursday. Wheat, red (new), 28s to 29s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 30s to 31s; ditto (old), 33s to 34s; oats, 17s to 21s; peas, 27s to 30s per quarter.

Berwick. Saturday. Owing to the continuous wet weather threshing operations have been interfered with, and supplies of grain were small. Barley and wheat firm at late rates. Oats dull sale. Wheat, 27s to 29s. Barley, 24s to 28s. Oats, 19s to 20s.

Birmingham. Thursday.—There was about an average attendance, but business generally was rather quiet. Foreign wheats met with rather a poor inquiry at last week's prices. English wheats a fair supply, and made from 30s to 31s per quarter (496lb) delivered Birmingham. Plate maize was 3d lower, flat being unchanged. Grinding barley was unaltered in value. English oats and beans at last week's prices.

Bristol. Tuesday.—There was a fair attendance on our market to-day. English wheat in moderate supply, making fully late rates. Foreign wheats unaltered. Maize, barley, and oats are also unchanged in values. Flour slow to sell, prices remaining firm. GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's. Wednesday. The supply of wheat is smaller, and the late bad weather for threshing has affected the condition of some of the samples offered. In spite of this, prices are fairly maintained at 28s to 30s 6d. Barley supply below average; demand not brisk, but trade on the whole steady at 27s to 32s per quarter for ordinary to useful malting runs. Maize about steady at 26s 6d per quarter. Other feeding corns, oil cakes, and milling stuffs all very firm at fully last week's prices.

Brighton. Thursday. Quiet trade and small attendance. New white wheat, 29s to 31s; new red ditto, 28s to 30s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 24s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Cambridge. Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been firmer, with less offering. Spring corn in fair supply. At this market there was a smaller supply of wheat; trade firm. Red wheat, 29s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb. Beans rather dearer. Oats unchanged. Barley in less supply, and prices quite as dear.

Canterbury. Saturday.—The demand for seed wheat is nearly over for milling; values are firm, 64lb. samples are worth 31s 6d and 65lb. 32s. delivered. Barley in improved demand, at from 28s to 31s. Oats firm, 39lb. black malting 19s, and some fine 46lb. white 23s.

Carlisle. Saturday.—Small supply of oats in our market to-day. Good demand at full prices. 16s 6d to 19s 6d per 312lbs. THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester. Saturday.—The values of all descriptions of grain were fully maintained, the finest samples of oats being 1d per bushel dearer. Indian corn, notwithstanding smaller shipments, barely maintained last week's prices. Quotations: Wheat, 4s 4d to 4s 7d per 75lb; barley (grinding), 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb; beans (old), 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb; oats (new), 2s 3d to 2s 7d; ditto (old), 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46lb; Indian corn (old), 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240lb; River Plate (new), 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Colchester. Saturday. Unsettled weather has prevented threshing this week, and the market was scantily supplied with grain to-day. Wheat firm, at fully last week's prices. Barley in demand, and some qualities sold at a slight advance. Beans, strong trade. Oats from Essex. WILLIS AND SON, LTD.

Chicester. Wednesday.—Small quantity on offer, but sold at following prices. Within attendance. New white wheat, 28s to 31s; new red ditto, 29s to 30s; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s 6d; oats, English, 17s to 19s; peas, 27s to 29s; beans, 31s to 33s; maize, 25s to 26s.

Coventry. Friday. Wheat in moderate supply, and sold about last week's figures. Wheat, old, 11s to 11s 6d per 496lb; new, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 496lb.; barley 27s to 30s per 448lb.; oats, old, 23s to 24s per 312lbs.; new 19s to 20s per 256lb.; beans, old, 12s 6d to 13s per 496lb.; new 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 496lb; peas, 12s 6d to 14s per 496lb.

Dorchester. Friday. Wheat in small supply and quiet in demand last week's rates. Spring corn unchanged. New white wheat, 30s to 31s; red, 29s to 31s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; beans, old, 35s to 38s; new, 30s to 31s; oats, old, 23s to 24s; new, 19s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday.—We had a very small supply of corn. The condition of wheat was excellent, all the best lots making last week's prices. Barley was of very poor quality, without any alteration. Oats in good demand, and best quality were easily sold at a slight advance. The following were the quotations:—New wheat, 14s 6d to 16s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 28s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster. Saturday. Small attendance of buyers and market rather quiet. Meagre supply of English wheat, which was firm at last week's prices. Foreign wheat slow at late rates. Good demand for fine barley; secondary and inferior sorts neglected. All feeding stuffs unchanged, with a moderate demand.

Dorchester. Saturday. Owing to a heavy fall of snow in the early morning, which was in some places from four to six inches deep, there was only a limited attendance at the corn market, which was still further lessened by the annual great harvener sale at the agricultural repository. Samples also came sparingly to hand, but in the face of a restricted inquiry the offer proved quite equal to the demand. Home-grown wheat met a firm sale at fully late rates, but foreign was a much quieter sale. Both malting and grinding barley ruled firm, the only change to note being that secondary maltings were rather easier. Oats brought full prices. Feeding stuffs generally strong consequent on the inclemency of the weather.

Dublin. Friday.—Wheat, 17s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; malt, 18s 6d to 20s; oats, 10s 3d to 15s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter. Friday.—Fairly good attendance; trade slow. English wheat firm and unchanged. English barley showed a tendency for higher prices; grinding barley and maize firm. Best quality oats 6d dearer. Flour strong at last week's prices. English wheat, 3s 9d; English barley, 3s 3d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; flour, 23s to 24s.

Glasgow Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance. Wheat and flour firmer, but with little business passing. Maize and corn unchanged. Barley a quiet trade, and unaltered on the week. Oats steady, but without change. Beans and pease 3d per boll dearer respectively since last Wednesday. Bran and thirds firmer, but not quotably altered in value. Oatmeal quiet. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow. Friday. Wheat unchanged, and demand quiet. Flour also slow of sale, and previous prices are quoted. Mixed American maize continues scarce and in small demand, and holders again ask 15s per 280lb.; Plate steady at 14s 6d. Beans, barley, and oats are quoted as formerly; sales are moderate.

Gloucester. Saturday.—A fair attendance, but business was very dull. English wheat was in moderate supply and unchanged in value. Foreign wheat was also without alteration. Barley nominally unaltered. Maize 3d. cheaper. Oats firm.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — An average attendance. Wheat was in fair supply, and a slow trade prevailed, the quotations being slightly down on the week. Business in barley was also quiet, though prices were maintained. White oats showed an advance of 6d per qr. Beans and blue peas unaltered.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Moderate attendance. A quiet tone pervaded generally. English wheats were practically lower. Barleys very difficult to move. English oats remain very firm at last week's figures. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 7d per 62lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56lb; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb; new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d per 65 1 3lb; new, 3s 8d to 3s 10 1 per 65 1 3lb; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65 1 3 lb.

Ipswich. Tuesday.—Wheat was in short supply; good samples were worth about last week's prices, but the condition of some others was affected by the late foggy weather, and for these samples rather lower prices were accepted. Reds or whites, 30s to 31s per quarter, delivered. Barley: Smaller supply, and the average quality of samples rather lower; demand for useful malting qualities remains steady, at 27s to 32s per quarter; not so many fine parcels offering. Feeding corns all very firm, at fully last week's prices. Feeding stuffs also firm.

Leeds. Tuesday.—Conflicting influences keep the trade in a state of tension, the upshot no being distinctly firm. The shipments this week are liberal, the Continent continuing the chief recipient. Fresh business, especially from Russia, is almost impossible, shippers' limits being prohibitive, and nobody caring to buy with the "strike" clause. Foreign wheat is unchanged on the week, but home-grown can be bought 6d cheaper, and the demand is limited. Malting barley quiet. Maize, beans, and oats unchanged.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds. Friday.—English and foreign wheats were rather lower than on Tuesday, except American, which was the turn dearer. There was no change in beans, peas, oats, barley, maize, and flour, all of which were firmly held.

Leicester. Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with fair supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade steady. Red wheats, 29s to 30s; white wheats, 30s to 32s per 35 st. Barley, 25s to 28s per 32 st. Beans, 34s to 36s per 38 st. Fine oats, 19s to 22s per 25 st.

Lincoln. Friday. Very good attendance, but a moderate show of English wheat, which met with a ready sale at the prices of last week. Oats and beans fully as dear as a week ago. Common barley lower, but best qualities firm at unaltered rates.

Liverpool. Friday.—Wheat: There has been a good attendance at to-day's market, and wheat meets a better inquiry generally, and holders are firm at an occasional 1d advance from last Tuesday. Flour: A fair inquiry for foreign at about late currencies. The price for Liverpool mill flour having been somewhat irregular of late, the minimum limit for the bakers' grade has now been fixed at 24s; demand quiet. Maize: Mixed is steady at 1d decline, but there is a moderate trade passing. Plate is in better demand at last market day's currencies. European grades quiet, unchanged. Barley: Malting steady. Feeding in fair request at unchanged quotations. Beans steady but quiet, with no alteration. Peas still very firmly held owing to great scarcity; demand quiet. Oats firm for English, but little doing. Foreign quiet, without quotable change. Oatmeal firm, occasionally the turn dearer, with few offers; demand slow. Oilcake: A fair trade at late rates for all makes. SEGAR AND TENNICLIFFE.

Maidstone, Thursday.—Moderate attendance at the Corn Exchange to-day. The wheat trade steady at last week's rates. Barley: Business quiet, and a slightly drooping tendency. Oats firm. Beans and peas cost more than recently. Maize rather easier. Other grain no change.

Manchester. Thursday. On English wheat, notwithstanding the comparatively small quantity offered, there was a reduction of 6d per quarter. Foreign was unchanged. Flour quiet, and Indian corn unchanged. Barley was in buyes' favour. Oats generally scarce at unchanged rates, and thirds met with a good demand.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat 6d per quarter less money on the week. Barley repeated previous prices. Oats and beans unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 29s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 28s to 31s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — A slow demand for wheats, at barely late rates. Maize steady and unchanged in value, oats favouring buyers. Peas and beans steady at last week's prices. Barley unaltered.—JOSEPH FOLLARD AND CO.

Norwich. Saturday. There was no alteration in the wheat trade of our market to-day, business ruling firm, with a small supply. Barley was in moderate supply at about last week's quotations. Foggy weather has prevailed during the week, with night frosts. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per quarter, weight 63lbs. per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending November 4, 1905: Wheat, 1,940—28s 10½d.; barley, 1,689—24s 5½d.—J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Wheat in good supply; fair trade at about 6d. decline. Barley, fine samples inquired for, and made full rates. Common sorts neglected. Oats but few offering, and full rates maintained.—ROBERT HUDDLE.

Oxford. Saturday.—The attendance was fair, and a moderate amount of business was done at about the recent level of prices. English wheat was offered in fair quantities and buyers operated moderately at former rates. Feeding stuffs were in limited request at late values.

Peterborough. Saturday. Wheat in small supply; trade steady at last week's prices. Barley firm and fully as dear, not much offering. Oats made last week's extreme figures.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston. Saturday.—To day's market was moderately attended. Farmers' wheat and other grain unchanged from a week ago, with little business passing. Flour, Indian meals and offals unaltered. Quotations:—Wheat, white, per windle of 220lb, 12s 9d to 13s 6d; ditto red, 12s 6d to 13s; oats, new, white, per bushel, 2s 9d to 2s 10d; bran, 10s 6d to 11s; beans, per windle, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading. Saturday.—There was an average attendance and rather better supply, whilst there was a noticeable improvement in trade. Wheat fetched 29s 6d to 31s 6d; malting barley sold at 27s 6d to 32s; and grinding barley, 24s 6d to 26s; fair quality oats changed hands at 19s 6d to 21s; and poorer quality realised 17s to 18s 6d.

Retford. Saturday.—Moderate supply of wheat, and a fair business was transacted, without quotable change in prices, which remained at 28s to 29s 6d per qr. Trade for malting barley was only dull; the best qualities on offer realised 26s 6d to 28s; secondary sorts, 24s 6d to 26s; and grinding, 24s to 24s 6d per qr. No at maize on offer; round Plate maize was worth 26s to 26s 6d. English beans, 17s to 18s; and white oats, 19s to 20s per qr.

Ripon, Thursay.—A good attendance and a quiet trade. Prices:—New wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; foreign wheat, 33s to 35s 6d; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting barley, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; round maize, 26s to 26s 6d; flat maize, 25s 6d to to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 225lb; oats, old white 15s to 16s, new 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb; barley, 14s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford, Friday. — A very large attendance of farmers and dealers. Trade was busily carried on, purchasers taking the opportunity of the concessions offered by holders. Wheats were 1s down on the week, at 34s to 39s per qr.; malting barley, 30s to 31s; ditto grinding, 22s 6d to 24s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 29s to 31s per qr.

Sunderland. Saturday.—Small show of grain. Wheat steady at late rates. Barley and oats unchanged in value. Arrivals nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 31s to 31s 6d; new red ditto, 32s 6d to 31s; barley, 27s to 32s; grinding ditto, 19s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 20s; rye, 23s to 24s; peas, 31s to 35s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 48s to 56s; maize, 24s to 28s.

Warwick. Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, which sells at fully last week's prices. Few samples of barley on offer; good qualities in rather better demand. Oats and beans scarce and rather dearer. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Winchester. Saturday.—English week quoted at last week's prices, and a very limited supply. Foreign a shade dearer. Barley and oats unaltered. Maize 3d. easier. Flour, a quiet trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO.

Wisbech. Saturday.—A limited supply of grain at market. Wheat ruled firm at the full prices of last week. Reds, 30s to 30s 6d. Oats in demand at 18s to 20s. Barley, 24s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop. Wednesday.—Good attendance, and fair show of grain with prices varying very little from late rates. White wheat, 28s to 30s 6d; red ditto, 26s 6d to 28s; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 27s per quarter.

Yeovil. Friday.—For home-grown wheat last week's values were scarcely maintained; foreign firm and unchanged. Oats, 31s per qr dearer. Barley quiet and unchanged. English wheat of best quality sold at from 31s 6d to 32s per qr; secondary, 28s to 30s 6d; foreign, 33s 6d to 35s 6d; mating barley, 31s to 33s; feeding, 21s to 23s 3d; foreign, 21s to 21s 6d; oats, black, 12s to 20s; white, 17s to 20s; Irish black, 17s to 17s 9d; beans, 32s 6d to 32s; maize, 24s 6d to 26s; rye, 22s to 24s; rape, 46s to 49s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. A good trade passing in flour, fine making from 25s to 28s 6d per sack, and extra fine 27s to 27s 6d. Meals and malting offals favoured sellers.

York. Saturday.—Farmers are offering very little wheat, partly owing to the unsettled weather. Good dry samples still steadily at last week's prices; white, 32s to 31s; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per qr of 35 st. Malting barley slow and in average quantity; best 27s to 29s, good 25s to 27s, feeding 23s to 25s per qr of 32 st. Oats scarce and dear; white Tartary 17s to 18s, black 18s to 19s, white Garton 19s to 20s per qr of 24 st.; rye, 22s; beans, 30s to 33s per qr. of 36 st.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg. Saturday. Weather seasonable. The improved feeling reported last week has given way to a quiet tone, the brisk inland demand for forward delivery having a little subsided, and prices in general are the term in buyers' favour; prompt delivery remain till in good demand. Transactions in wheat were restricted to a few local requirements, but as offers are not pressing prices are not materially altered. Fine red German is held at 3/8s 6d to 3/8s per 56/4lb. f.o.b.; American Hard Winter, No. 2, at 31s 9d; 80 Ko. River Plate, at 32s to 32s 6d per

480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet; 9 15 20 South Russian is offering at 27s 9d to 28s per 180lb. c.i.f. Stocks of malting barley in the growing districts are much reduced, and good quality is firm in value; fine very scarce. Good Bohemian is held at 34s 6d to 35s 6d; Odenbruch and Silesian, at 29s to 33s; Danish, at 29s to 30s per 448lb. Feeding barley on the spot maintains its value; 20s 3d to 20s 6d per 400lb. being paid for 60-61 Ko South Russian; 46lb. American is held at 19s 3d to 19s 6d per 400lb. American mixed maize quiet at 25s.; River Plate, 24s 6d per 480lb.—JOHN TAYLOCK.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association reports a very great scarcity of Indian wheat. For cargoes on passage it is only able to quote White Calcutta at 33s. 6d. per 492 lb. and Choice White Kurrachee at 33s. for the like weight. Sorts not now obtainable are Red Calcutta, Red Kurrachee, and also the sorts from Delhi and Bombay, as well as Central Indian wheat, such as Atbara and Jubbulpore. Either there is (what we do not at all believe) a strong "corner" for holding back Indian wheat, or else the holders of this grain, whether on hand or on passage, are in a very favourable position.

After five very dull days wheat cargoes (other than Indian) closed firm, and for Russian and Argentine 3d. more money was paid on Saturday. Sales included Walla Walla at 33s. per 500 lb., Russian Winter at 34s. 3d. per 492 lb., Hard Taganrog at 31s. 3d. per 492 lb., Australian at 33s. per 480 lb., and Argentine at 31s. 3d. per 480 lb. Sales of maize cargoes have been difficult owing to the high prices asked, but four cargoes of Argentine on passage have found buyers at 24s. per 480 lb., and two cargoes of American for December shipment have been placed at 22s. Other cargo sales of the week included Azoff barley at 20s. 3d. per 400 lb., White Clipped American oats at 16s. 9d. per 320 lb., and Egyptian cottonseed at £5 15s. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were 1 wheat (Melbourne), 1 maize (Rosario), 1 linseed (Parana)—Total 3.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call for the week were 1 wheat (Belfast).

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 297 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 11 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 52 linseed—Total 394.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 277 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 37 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 11 maize, 6 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 40 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—Total 395.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to November 18, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	48,044¼	27	2	182,212¾	25	10	17,125¼	17	0
1901	63,150¾	27	1	155,268¼	26	10	20,612	18	7
1902	49,736¾	24	11	191,293¼	25	6	23,930¾	17	2
1903	50,771¼	26	9	142,891¾	24	3	29,260¾	15	10
1904	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,799¾	16	0

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 18, 1905:—

Wheat	1,678,400 cwts.
Wheat-flour	407,200 ,,
Barley	665,700 ,,
Oats	386,500 ,,
Maize	254,400 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,046,300	2,577,400	1,748,790	1,655,700
Wheat-flour	321,300	568,400	329,798	487,400
Barley	472,100	1,022,900	1,353,256	681,000
Oats	402,700	516,400	403,525	273,800
Maize	426,900	676,000	480,619	694,300

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	10
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	5
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	0

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31	9 per qr.	28	8 per qr.	18	7 per qr.
1891	37	1 ,,	28	2 ,,	20	0 ,,
1892	30	4 ,,	26	2 ,,	19	11 ,,
1893	26	4 ,,	25	6 ,,	18	9 ,,
1894	22	10 ,,	24	6 ,,	17	1 ,,
1895	23	1 ,,	21	11 ,,	14	6 ,,
1896	26	2 ,,	22	11 ,,	14	9 ,,
1897	30	2 ,,	23	6 ,,	16	11 ,,
1898	34	0 ,,	27	2 ,,	18	5 ,,
1899	25	8 ,,	25	7 ,,	17	0 ,,
1900	26	11 ,,	25	9 ,,	17	9 ,,
1901	26	9 ,,	25	3 ,,	18	5 ,,
1902	28	0 ,,	25	8 ,,	20	2 ,,
1903	26	9 ,,	22	11 ,,	17	2 ,,
1904	28	4 ,,	22	4 ,,	16	4 ,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,787,000
Barley	,,	478,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	680,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 20	0	(per sack)	27	0
,, 13	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
October 11	,, 23	0	,,	25	0
November 3	,, 30	0	,,	27	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 19	41,025½	30	2	178,529½	24	5	31,299⅜	16	0
,, 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809⅜	24	6	35,831⅛	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257¼	24	4	36,635½	16	2
,, 17	44,745⅜	30	4	130,563¼	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336¾	30	3	99,997⅛	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817¼	24	8	18,106¼	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662½	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,436⅜	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅛	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,827⅜	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957⅛	16	10
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,418⅜	25	2	24,398½	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,113⅜	24	11	20,279⅜	16	10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104¼	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	25,600	30	8	2,963	24	10	12,937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003¼	24	8	8,803⅞	18	5
,, 27	21,598⅜	30	11	761¼	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,934	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247¼	24	0	6,115⅛	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,394⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031⅜	18	10
July 1	9,579½	31	0	289¾	23	2	3,483½	19	7
,, 8	7,8.4½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,532½	19	6
,, 15	4,884¼	32	3	31½	23	10	1,962½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	82¼	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691¼	32	3	241	23	11	3,065⅞	19	3
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	571¼	22	0	4,344½	18	4
,, 12	8,184¼	30	5	648½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,758½	23	4	13,656½	16	4
,, 26	88,026¼	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090½	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888½	23	4	20,622⅜	15	11
,, 16	83,183½	26	11	36,985⅜	23	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475½	23	10	30,717½	15	11
,, 30	104,984⅜	26	9	123,125½	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1
Oct. 7	89,579⅜	26	9	147,579⅜	24	9	31,19.½	16	3
,, 14	85,449½	26	11	192,014	24	10	28,364½	16	6
,, 21	90,548⅜	27	1	221,530	25	0	24,037⅜	16	7
,, 28	86,116⅜	27	4	257,367½	24	11	24,860	16	8
Nov. 4	80,380½	27	10	231,869½	24	9	28,424½	17	1
,, 11	78,276½	28	3	209,709	24	10	28,366⅜	17	4
,, 18	87,001⅜	28	7	209,520½	24	6	32,382	17	8

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 14, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	4,289	3	6,393	6	9	1	9	10
Barley	3,506	6	4,475	19	6	1	4	11
Oats	3,027	6	2,823	9	4	0	18	8

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement Showing the Quantities sold and Average Prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended November 18, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 15th and 16th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	87,001¼	qrs.	28s. 7d.
Barley	209,520¼	qrs.	24s. 6d.
Oats	32,382	qrs.	17s. 8d.

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 8 to 15, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	2,043	41,726	43,769
Barley	5,200	16,939	22,139
Malt	21,205		21,205
Oats	1,100	19,200	20,300
Rye	100	600	700
Beans	1,235	677	1,912
Peas	542	447	989
Maize	...	16,552	16,552
Tares	30	...	30
Linseed	...	1,686	1,686
Rapeseed	...	3,423	3,423
Dari	...	3,000	3,000
Lentils	...	3,000	3,000
Millet	...	6,000	6,000
Flour sacks	31,102	20,853	52,255
Riceflour	...	3,000	3,000
Oatmeal	...	325	325
Barleymeal	...	112	112

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Evesham: Is 2d to 1s 2½d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. North Tawton: 1s 3d. Penistone: 1s 3d. Penzance: 11½d to 1s 4d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per 24 oz roll. Scarborough: 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 3d to 1s 9d per 24 oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d and 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 3d to 1s 9d per 24 oz. roll. Redruth: 1s 4d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 0½d to 1s 2d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d.; Stokesley: 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 3d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS.

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Brigg: 8. Devizes: 7 and 8. Driffield: 9 and 10. Evesham: 10d to 1s 0½d per dozen. Kidderminster: 7. Penzance: 1s 6d to 9d per dozen. North Tawton: 7. Penistone: 8 and 9. Plymouth: 6. Ripon: 6 and 7. Scarborough: 6. Wetherby: 6.

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 and 6. Ashburton: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per dozen. Barnstaple: 8 to 10. Camelford: 9. Chester: 6. Crewe: 6. Congleton: 6and 7. Dartmouth: 1s 8d per dozen. Derby: 6. Helmsley: 7. Knutsford: 6 and 7. Leyburn: 7. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Lostwithiel: 8. Macclesfield: 6. Nantwich: 6 and 7. Northwich: 6. Otley: 6 and 7. Redruth: 1s 4d per dozen. Runcorn: 6 and 7. St. Austell: 9. Stamford: 6 to 8. Stockport: 5 and 6. Tavistock: 6 and 7. Totnes: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 and 7. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 8. Carlisle: 5. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 6 and 8. Lancaster: 5 and 6. Malton: 6 to 8. Pontefract: 7 and 8. Retford: 2s 10d to 3s per score. Richmond (Yorks): 6 and 7. Shrewsbury: 6 and 7. Skipton: 7 and 8. Stokesley: 6 and 7. Whitby: 6 and 8. Worcester: 6. York: 6.

CHEESE.

Newport. Wednesday.—A good supply and a fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 48s to 57s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 52s to 61s; truckles, 56s to 63s; Derbys, 52s to 68s; and Cheddars, 58s to 66s.

Glasgow. Wednesday.—Arrivals were liberal. There was not much trade passing. Holders did not give way, as they believe that values will keep firm for some time. Cheddar, 58s to 62s; Dunlops, 56s to 60s.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Good supplies, but only a moderate demand. Prices: Ducks, 2s to 3s; geese, 5s to 6s; Surrey fowls, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s; Russian fowls 1s 9d; blackgame, 1s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d; woodcock, 1s 9d to 2s; quails, 3d to 1s 3d; snipe, 6d to 9d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 2s 9d to 3s; leverets, 1s 9d to 2s; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 8d to 11d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 6s to 7s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 3s 6d; young grouse, 4s; old, 3s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 6d per brace.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—The supplies on offer were equal to the demand, business being rather poor. Quotations of English produce are as follows:—Apples, 8s to 12s per bushel; peaches, 5s to 12s 6d per dozen; grapes, 8d to 4s; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 4s 6d; celery, 6s to 12s 6d per dozen reils; artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s; Brussels sprouts, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per half-sieve; cucumber, 2s to 4s 6d; endive, 9d to 3d per dozen; cauliflowers, 5s 6d to 9s; cabbages, 2s 9d to 4s per tally; onions, 5s to 6s per cwt.; turnips, 3s to 3s; potatoes, 1s 5d to 2s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; radishes, 5d to 1s; carrots, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; horseradish, 8s to 11s 6d per dozen bundles; turnip-tops, 9d to 1s 3d per bushel; parsnips, 2s to 3s per bag; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12lb.; potatoes, 60s to 80s per ton.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The weather has not favoured farm work, but sowings have been by no means stopped, and market deliveries have been up to a full average, a fact which argues that the threshings are going on steadily on the actual farms. The good demand for straw is some mitigation of low prices for wheat. Even barley straw moves off with less difficulty than usual. We hear of a good area being sown with winter oats.

Early-sown wheat in France is up and looking much better than farmers had anticipated. The weather in France since September has been cold, and it was feared that the wheat had suffered. It seems, however, to have germinated satisfactorily, and has made quite a good start. Heavy rains in Austria-Hungary have made local roads impassable in so many cases that market deliveries of new crops have been much reduced.

Winter has now set in all over Canada and the American North-West. The wheat yield this season is put at 10 to 15 per cent. beyond that of 1904, run by the most cautious of the Canadian journals. The final official estimate of the U.S. wheat crop is 683,311,000 bushels, of which 424,400,000 is winter and 258,911,0000 bushels spring wheat. The crop works out at almost exactly 14½ bushels to the acre, or 1½ bushels per acre above the average. The Russian Government, on the 17th, published an estimate of the winter wheat crop in that empire, but the greater proportion of Russia's production is of spring wheat, the severe climate limiting the possibilities of winter wheat growing. The winter wheat are thus returned:—

	Quarters.
1905	27,400,000
1904	25,690,000
1903	24,970,000

The Board of Trade inquiries—results of which were published on the 17th inst.—show conclusively that English wheat and flour are not now cheap by reason of foreign competition, but that foreign wheat and flour, when introduced into England, are kept down in price by the heavy deliveries of English produce. This is what we have been saying for two months past, but there are always a good many people who like Government confirmation of their journals. Here, then, are the Board of Trade figures, reduced to the common denomination of the ton:—

CEREAL YEAR, 1905-6.

Per Ton.	September.	October.
English wheat	125s. 5d.	126s. 3d.
Foreign wheat	142s. 6d.	144s. 7d.
English flour	195s. 10d.	200s. 0d.
Foreign flour	199s. 0d.	206s. 8d.

The English farmer is selling his wheat at least 18s. 4d. per ton too low, the English miller, largely coerced by the English farmer in this respect, is selling his flour 6s. 8d. per ton too low. But it will be seen that the miller is making much the most effective stand.

Despite an advance in flour of from 3s. 2d. to 6s. 8d. per ton on the month, bread has declined an amount equal to 32s. per ton at Bristol and the Potteries, and is dearer nowhere. Bread was held in September for too high price in proportion. At Ipswich and Cardiff it is still too high, and is also unduly dear in both Scotland and Ireland.

English wheat now averages 30s. 3d. at Reading and a few other Thames Valley markets. In Kent 29s. 8d. is averaged at Canterbury, but in Sussex prices are not so good, 27s. 10d. at Chichester being a disappointing value. Cambridge with 28s. 8d. quoted, and Norwich with 28s. 5d., show prices to be fairly well maintained in East Anglia. Salisbury's 28s. 5d. is a fair price for a Western market.

English barley is now fetching over 27s. at Canterbury, Chichester, and several other places in the Home Counties, but it is down to 22s. 7d. in Yorkshire, and 25s. is not exceeded at Cambridge, Lincoln, Norwich, Nottingham, or Peterborough.

English oats are dearer on the week at several country Exchanges of the first rank. At Canterbury 18s. 4d. is averaged, at Reading 18s. 11d., and 18s. 4d. is paid at Salisbury, a proverbially cheap market. The lowest markets for oats seem to be Ipswich (17s. 1d.), Norwich (17s. 3d.), and Peterborough (17s. 1d.). The East Anglian grower should hold more firmly. In the North value is unsettled.

English rapeseed shows good quality this year, and 54s. is paid for fine new Black, 416 lb. to the quarter, 55s. where the weight is 424 lb. Ordinary Brown or Reddish rapeseed makes 48s. per qr. English Winter beans are now in request at 32s. per qr., and should fetch more, foreign competition being for the moment all but extinct. Peas make 35s. for good new Dun, and 35s. is the country price for new Maples.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been large, and prices have been sadly reduced as a consequence of pressure of new grain on sale.

	Per Qr.
This season, 966,000 quarters, at	27s. 2d.
Last season, 522,000 quarters, at	30s. 2d.

The sales of British barley at the statute markets have been rather larger than in the same period of last season. The price has been somewhat lower, but this is more to be attributed to discoloration and scarcity of mellow samples than to depreciation in the value of fine, bright barley. The latter is in more request than ever.

	Per Qr.
This season, 1,507,000 quarters, at	24s. 4d.
Last season, 1,473,000 quarters, at	25s. 2d.

The sales of British oats have been small, and the price has been enhanced by the comparative scarcity.

	Per Qr.
This season, 307,000 quarters, at	16s. 5d.
Last season, 395,000 quarters, at	15s. 11d.

Imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 364,000 quarters; a full supply.
Flour, 103,250 sacks; a small supply.
Barley, 129,000 quarters; an average importation.
Oats, 48,000 quarters; an extremely small supply.
Maize, 128,000 quarters; much less than usual.
Linseed, 12,000 quarters; a small arrival.

French prices show a rise of 7d. per quarter on the month for wheat at country markets, but only 1d. advance in Paris. Apparently, the urban demand for bread is weak. France is prosperous, and the working classes who are earning good wages in Paris probably are eating more meat. The price of barley in France has fallen 2d. in the country, but is stationary in Paris. Oats in France are 2d. up in the country, and 7d. dearer in the capital. The advancing tendency in oats is a result of colder weather. Latest averages in France are 38s. 7d. for wheat, 23s. 10d. for barley, and 20s. 2d. for oats.

German prices show a slight advance on the month for wheat at Berlin, but a substantial decline at the great rural centres, of which Breslau is taken as a type, somewhat as one might take Norwich or Ipswich, if we did not have our Government returns of 190 statute markets. This difference between Berlin and country parts is still more marked in the meat and provision trades, and would seem to indicate that Germany by no means escapes those freight and transit difficulties which are the bane of English rural districts. The price of barley in Germany has advanced 1s. 3d. per quarter on the month, there is no dearth of fine bright malting samples, and, at the same time, demand from brewers is larger than ever. Oats in Germany are 4d. up on the month. German average latest returns are in English money and weights: Wheat 35s. 1d. per qr.; barley 25s. per qr.; and oats 19s. 2d. per qr.

Supplies of wheat on passage show an increase on the week, but they are still very much smaller than usual:—

	Quarters.
Californian	180,000
American	380,000
Russian	376,000
Indian	226,000
Argentine	400,000
Australasian	50,000
Various	50,000
Total	1,662,000

Supplies of flour on passage have fallen to 288,000 sacks.

Of spring corn, expectations are as follows:—

Qrs.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.
American	250,000	100,000	300,000
Argentine	—	15,000	305,000
Russian	250,000	165,000	5,000
Various	50,000	10,000	3,000
Total	550,000	290,000	608,000

Shipments last week were more liberal from America than they had been for a long time. Totals were: Wheat 326,000 qr.; barley 50,000 qr.; oats 132,000 qr.; maize 102,000 qr.; and flour 136,000 sacks. Argentina sent off 177,000 qr. of wheat, 261,000 qr. of maize, and 89,000 qr. of linseed.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 20.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	47 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	42 to 46
Calcutta	38 to 39
Argentine	37 to 38
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	40 to 41

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	6/0 to 6/3
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	40 to 41
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	35 to 37

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	41 to 43

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb. s. s.
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 20.

FIRST REPORT.

English wheat to-day commanded full prices, both for white and red sorts. Fine types from Manitoba were in request by reason of their strength. Prices ranged from 32s. 9d. to 34s. 9d. Argentine and New Zealand sorts favoured holders, 34s. and 32s. respectively being paid for good samples. No Bombay or Calcutta wheat was on offer off stand, but Kurrachee was obtainable at about 32s. 6d. per quarter. Russian wheat was a little firmer, but this branch of trade just now varies daily with the political telegrams. English barley was steadier, with rather more purchasing, both on the part of brewers and on that of buyers of feeding barley. Russian sorts were in fair request at 20s. to 20s. 6d. per qr. Persian barley was 6d. dearer on the week. Indian dun peas are 1s. dearer on the week. Oats have again rallied, and to-day prices were in sellers' favour for sound American and Russian. Beans were 1s. dearer for the chief foreign sorts, all of them being scarce, and some hardly obtainable at all. English rapeseed advanced 2s. per qr. on the week. English rye was rather dearer, 23s. to 24s. being paid. Maize on spot was dear, and buyers showed reserve. The high price asked for linseed cake was a feature of the market; about eight guineas per ton being paid for the finest. Cottonseed cake was firm in sympathy, but not always quotably dearer.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	31	— 33
Red	,,	29	— 32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 33
Brewing	,,	27	— 31
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	18	— 20
Crystallized	,,	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	21	— 22
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	18	— 19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	40	— 42
Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
Tick	,,	36	— 38
Winter (Old)	,,	35	— 36
,, (New)	,,	33	— 34
Spring	,,	34	— 35
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	60	— 70
New Unpicked ,,	,,	45	— 55
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	31	— 32
Maple (Old)	,,	34	— 36
,, (New)	,,	33	— 34
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	52	— 56
Brown	,,	48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.:		
Manitoba No. 1	34/9	— 35
,, ,, 2	33/9	— 34
,, ,, 3	32 9	— 33
American Red Winter	34	— 35
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	34	— 34/6
Australian	34/6	— 35
New Zealand	31	— 32/3
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	none	
Calcutta	none	
Kurrachee	32	— 33
Turkish	31	— 32
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	28	— 30
Califor'n (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
(400 lb.)	24	— 26
,, Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
(400 lb.)	20	— 22
,, Russian (400 lb.)	20	—20/6
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
American (400 lb.)	20	—20/6
Persian (400 lb.)	19	—19/3
Crushed (304 lb.)	16 6	—17
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
New Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 23
Australian (320 lb.)	16 6	—17
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	19 6	—20
Libau (320 lb.)	19 6	—20
,, (304 lb.)	16/9	—17
Argentine (304 lb.)	16/9	—17
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
American (320 lb)	17 6	—18
,, (304 lb)	16 3	—1

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	26	— 27
Turkish	25	— 26
American	25	—25/6
Argentine	25	—25, 3
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	34	— 36
Konigsberg	33	— 35
Egyptian	34	— 36
Syrian	35	— 37
New Zealand	35	— 36
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	—5/3
Portuguese	5/0	—5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	— 14
Canadian	41	— 43
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	28	— 29
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 18
Burmese	7	—
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	25	— 26
Persian	21	— 23
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER FIRMER THAN IT OPENED.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 20.

LONDON FLOUR.

Household flour today receded 3d. per sack and carried with it, in its decline, Town Whites, No. 2 Households, and the two grades of home meal. Country flour was in good retail request and maintained the currencies of the 13th. Russian and Argentine flour samples have been getting scarcer every market since October; at last the whole supply seems exhausted so that quotations are no longer possible. There were no changes today in the price of American flour of good bakers' quality. For cheap feeding flour known as "Red Dog," the improved demand of an approaching winter led to 6d. per sack more money being obtainable. The market for bran and pollard middlings and barley meal appeared to be hardening. There is a steady increase in the supply of flour from the Canadian and Manitoba mills. Fine patents made 28s. per sack, and are quoted 27s. 6d. cost, freight, and insurance for December shipment.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	26/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/0 ,,
No. 2	,,	22/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25/0 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	23/0 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21/6 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 27
Fine Roller whites	,,	24	— 25
Ordy Roller ,,	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28	— 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	27	— 28
,, Second Bakers'	,,	26	— 27
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, Bakers'	,,	27	— 28
Californian	,,	27	— 28
Canadian	,,	27	— 28
Russian	,,	none	
Hungarian, 0	,,	31	— 31
,, 1	,,	30	— 32
,, 2	,,	29	— 31
,, 3	,,	28	— 29
French, Corbeil	,,	25	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	24	— 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22	— 23
Australian	,,	28	— 29
Argentine, Fancy	,,	none	

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13/6	—14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 16
Rice Meal	,,	10	— 11
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	7s. 3d.	Nov. delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Dec. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 0d.	Dec. delivery.
,,	4s. 1d.	Jan. ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	May ,,

Prices to-day were unchanged from Saturday. The American telegram was rather a weakening influence, but futures were not offered at any quotable reduction here.

HOPS

Canterbury. Saturday.—A good trade continues, and prices have advanced several shillings for the best qualities, large lots being sold at an average of 65s per cwt. for which hitherto only 52s has been offered.

London. Monday. — W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report: There is a continued demand for all classes of English hops, and the market is being cleared.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—Bran continues in good demand; prices unchanged, but firm. Flour.—The tone of the market has been quiet, buyers holding aloof and purchasing only for immediate requirements; prices, upon the whole, rather easier.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour.—Demand keeps pretty fair, and prices are steady. Grain. Indian corn continues scarce, but, of course, the high price makes the demand very small. Plate maize is dull at 14s. 6d. Scotch oats are offered more freely, and the poorer qualities are cheaper. Indian grains have all been actively traded in at advancing prices. Beans firm, both for foreign and English. Oilcake scarce. Oatmeal steady. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and thirds very scarce. MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been quiet but steady, and last week's prices are fully maintained.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Arrivals of wheat and flour are moderate. Trade is firm, and prices of last Monday are fully supported. Maize and barley unchanged. Oats 3d. per quarter dearer.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Milling Offals.—There is no change to record in the trade for Offals, which remains very firm, with prices against buyers.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Though trade is not as good as it should be at this period, demand has been fair, and with an advancing linseed market, coupled with the Continent purchasing Americans from the U.K., prices are firm and advancing. Undecorticated cotton cake: Compared with other feeding stuffs these must be relatively very good value at so low a figure. Trade good and values inclined to advance. Linseed: Buyers have been purchasing very freely, especially for feeding purposes, and market is strong and advancing.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8 — 2	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay		
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7 10	0
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7 10	0
Russian Oil Cake	,, ex quay	7 12	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7 0	0
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	7 0	0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4 18	9
Egyptian ,, ,,	,, (in bags) ex quay	4 16	3 to 4 17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5 2	6
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 8	0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 1	0 to 2 2 0
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs. sacks included	ex warehouse	2 1	0 to 2 5 6
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2 3	0
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.			
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London		
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,,			
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC. 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

There were no particular changes in cargoes this morning. The market is fairly confident for all futures. All Indian cargoes may be called decidedly firm. Argentine linseed cargoes and cargoes of Egyptian cottonseed are perhaps a little weaker from Saturday.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Odessa Ghirka, 32s 9d per 492lb., prompt shipment; No. 1 Manitoba, 32s 9d per 480lb., on passage; No. 3 Manitoba, 32s 3d per 480lb., on passage; Red Walla, 32s 6d per 500lb., December shipment.

BARLEY.—Kustendje, 20s 9d per 400lb., prompt shipment; Odessa, 19s 9d per 400lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—American, 16s 6d per 320lb., prompt shipment.

PEAS.—White Indian, 28s 9d per 504lb., May shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 21s 3d per 480lb., January shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 40s 3d per 410lb., on passage; Libau, 37s 9d per 416lb., prompt shipment; Argentine, 38s per 416lb., arrived; Bombay, 41s 9d per 416lb., on passage; Bombay, 39s 6d per 416lb., April shipment.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 38s 9d per 416lb., February shipment; Yellow Guzerat, 43s 6d per 416lb., December shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Calcutta, 42s per 377lb., December shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 15s per 2,240lb., December shipment; Bombay, £4 18s 9d per 2,240lb., on passage.

LOCUST BEANS.—Portuguese, £5 per 2,240lb., prompt shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London. Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,592 bales, and from foreign ports 11,659 bales. There was a very steady bacon market last week, and, in view of shorter supplies, Danish was advanced 1s to 2s, and Irish fat stout 6s to 2s. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 60s to 64s up to 66s; Danish, 56s to 60s up to 66s; Canadian, 54s to 58s up to 60s. Butter: The butter market was steady: French, 98s to 112s; Danish, 124s to 125s; Russian, 94s to 106s; Argentine, 110s to 114s; American, 82s to 106s; Irish, 100s to 115s; Canadian, 100s to 110s; Australian, 96s to 114s. Lard: The lard market was steady: Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 52s to 58s; American, 38s 6d to 38s 9d.

SEEDS

London. Monday.—There is a fair trade passing in clovers and grasses at firm prices all round. New English reds are coming out extremely slowly; prices consequently not yet fixed.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Nov. 20, 1905. British.	Total. Nov. 21, 1904.	Monday,
Beasts	1,190	1,190	1,069
Sheep and Lambs	6,490	6,490	6,920
Calves	10	10	5
Pigs	—	—	39
Milch Cows	60	60	30

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d ... 3s 8d	3s 9d ... 4s 6d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d ... 4s 8d	4s 8d ... 5s 10d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 38; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,050; Devon, 35; Ireland, 67.

We note to-day an increase of 320 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last. The majority of the supply, as usual at this season of the year, was drawn from the Eastern Counties and Ireland, the latter supply consisting of 35 Waterfords and 12 Dublins, trade for anything choice, ruling firmer, late rates being well upheld. Trade for both prime and second quality English cattle was firmer, the tendency in regard to value being an upward one. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in larger numbers and met a firm trade at an advance of 2d. per 8 lbs. in value. A clearance will be effected to-day.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 21, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish	3s 8d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat Cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

ex 4s 6d

ex 3s 8d

There was an increase of 1,090 in the number of sheep offered for sale to-day, compared with Monday last. For both wethers and ewes, trade was of a slow but firm nature, late currencies being well upheld. Scotch sheep met with a slight upward tendency in value, although not quotably so. Irish sheep showed a falling off in regard to numbers; nevertheless, late rates governed all transactions. The supply included 200 Scotch, 1,000 Irish, and 978 from the Eastern Counties. A clearance is not expected to be made in this part of the market.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 21, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d	3s 10d to 4s 0d

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on the market.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 626; sheep, 399; pigs, 403. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s to 7s. Fat and store cattle, fair trade; fat and store sheep and pigs, good demand; milch cows, short supply, prices £15 to £22.

London (Central), Monday. — Fair supplies. Slow demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; American, 2s 9d to 3s 4d. Mutton: Scotch tegs, and wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 6d; New Zealand lamb, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; veal, 3s to 4s; pork, 4s 2d to 5s per 8lb.

FOREIGN

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 1,060. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 90 head, and consisted of 375 from the United States and 685 from Canada. Trade was of a fairly steady nature; besides the above 300 more Canadians were withheld for Wednesday. Best States were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d; seconds, 3s 10d to 4s; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; seconds, 3s 7d per 8lb. (offal given in). On Saturday 1,020 beasts from the United States and 150 from Canada were offered for sale, and with a firm and steady trade made from 4s to 4s 2d for the former; seconds, 3s 9d; Canadians, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; seconds, 3s 6d.

Liverpool, Monday.—There were a few more cattle in market to-day; demand rather better, but prices unchanged. Sheep supply also larger, trade slow; finished handyweights made about top quotations; strong and rough sorts against sellers. Beef, 5¾ to 4¾d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market—1,405 cattle and 5,658 sheep. Christmas market will be held Monday, December 11.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Fertilisers are only in moderate demand for autumn deliveries, and values are unchanged. Feeding stuffs are in quiet consumptive request at late rates. Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 12s 6d to £6 15s; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 12s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed) linseed., prime, in bags £14 to £15; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good ordinary, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; ditto English decorticated, prime, in bags, £7 7s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d; ditto (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags £7 to £7 2s 6d; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £6; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £6 2s 6d—per ton. Linseed, fine boiled feeding, in bags, £2 7s to £2 8s per quarter (416lb); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 4½d to 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; ditto, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 13s; ditto prime quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2; ditto finest quality, guaranteed, 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 2s to £2 3s—per ton, at depots inland.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

In reviewing the past week's cattle trade, we notice at Islington a rather smaller supply, the majority, as usual at this season being drawn from the Midland, Home, and Western counties. Irish were in shorter numbers, and consisted entirely of Waterford cattle. Trade on the first market day of the week, though slow, was fairly steady in regard to value; salesmen both asking and obtaining late currencies. On Thursday a small consignment of Shorthorns and Runts—viz., fifteen, were offered for sale, but met with absolutely no inquiry. On Monday, fat butchering cows and bulls were slow of sale, rates favouring the buyer to the extent of 2d. per 8 lb.; on Thursday the demand was steadier at late rates.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade throughout the week was of a firm and steady nature, with an advance of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. in value. The supply consisted of shipments from the United States and Canada. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,010, as against 4,597 during the preceding week, consisting of 950 British (decrease 80), and 3,060 foreign (decrease 507). The latter comprised 2,623 States and 437 Canadians. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d; 90 stone fat cows,, 3s 4d. ex 3s. 6d.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.

The sheep trade at Islington, with a considerable decrease in the supply, opened on Monday briskly, but, owing to the heavy downpour of rain, fell off later in the day; the tendency, however, in regard to value was an upward one. Irish sheep met a firm trade at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. Scotch also shared in the generally better trade, middling quality were very little sought after. On Thursday, owing to the marked absence of retail buyers, trade was practically at a standstill; no decline in value, however, can be recorded. The total number penned at both markets was 5,410, as against 6,476 during the previous week, consisting of 5,410 British (decrease 800). No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 4s. to 4s. 2d.

Calves numbered five; trade nominal.

Pigs 40; trade slow, but firm; all cleared. Best beasts were quoted at from 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

Trade still continues very unsatisfactory all round, with no immediate prospect, as far as we can gather, of any great improvement. This cannot be ascribed to excessive supplies, which during the week have kept within moderate bounds, but arises no doubt from more remote causes, one of the chief being the general scarcity of money, which is having its effect not only on store things, but equally alike on butchers' stock. The only branch in which stores are commanding anything like attention is in milch beasts, which are steadily recovering from the depression which for a while seriously affected sales of this particular class of stock, which, as recently as a month since, declined to a very low ebb, without even then attracting buyers, though at the time we opined that this depression would only prove of a temporary character; and we are glad to find that the opinion we then expressed is being justified by the steadily improving prices milch beasts are now making, they having again crept up to £20 or £21 apiece, but this, we think, does not yet represent the limit, though evn now it takes an exceptionally good milcher to bring £21, there being any number of ordinarily good heifers, as well as cows, that can be acquired from £16 to £18 or £19. In barreners the depression is as acute as ever, and, where a few good, fresh-conditioned graziers are selling here and there at from £24 to £28 apiece, there are any number of plainer animals offering from £16 to £22 without attracting buyers. This is anything but encouraging, seeing that the barrener season may be said to have begun, one of the most extensive sales of the kind having been held at Dorchester on Saturday. But with beef down to such a disappointing level, no extraordinary high prices were anticipated by sellers to begin with, though it is hoped that an improvement may result as the season advances. This, however, will depend very largely upon whether beef in any way recovers or not, which is a very doubtful matter in the opinion of many. The closing sales of sheep for the present season continue to exhibit the satisfactory features to which we have previously referred, one of the most striking of which is that the inquiry continues as good as ever, and that many of the culls are making quite as much money as the bettermost drafts realised earlier in the season, draft ewes at this late period making 45s. to 48s. 6d. apiece; grazing ewes, 30s. to 38s.; chilver lambs, 32s. to 41s.; wether lambs, 35s. to 49s. 6d.; and mixed lambs, 29s. to 45s. 6d. And there is a quick sale for the sheep on the terms quoted.

In butchering stock, the best fat bullocks are holding their price very well, the best steers and heifers bringing from £15 to £21 10s. each (or about 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score for well-finished lots); cows and secondary qualities are difficult to sell at less money from 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. being the best price for this class of meat, purveyors being indifferent purchasers at the price. Calves are, from scarcity, keeping fairly firm, though we hardly consider even the best as dear as they were, it being only occasionally as much as 8½d. per lb. is made for ripe vealers, 8¼d. to 8d. being a more average quotation for prime qualities. Sheep, too, are not making the money they were, if we except a few picked lots of wethers of special quality and weight—which in some instances bring 8d. per lb., if not over. From 7½d. to 8d. is a more average figure for good, useful weights; but coarse sheep are much neglected, and plenty can be bought at 6d. to 6½d., it being a very good ewe that makes 7d. The sheet-anchor of the stock-owner, just for the time, is the small-weight porker, which commands more attention, and at a better price than almost anything else, from 10s. 6d. to 11s. per score being regularly made, and 10s. is a common figure; baconers selling at 9s. to 9s. 6d., and heavier weights, with a greatly restricted inquiry, not more than 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been rather smaller, but the general quality better. A slightly improved demand has been experienced for the best qualities, and, on an average, higher prices obtained. Secondary descriptions still continue to make very low prices. A very small supply of fat cows, and they made more money. There was a full supply of sheep, and a much larger proportion of the best quality on offer. These met a satisfactory demand, and previous week's prices easily obtained. Ewes scarcer, and 1s. a head dearer. Calves in average numbers, but the general quality not nearly so good. The best class sold dear. A smaller supply of fat pigs met a decidedly better trade. This being "Hallow Fair" week there have been large numbers of store cattle offered. The increased supply, combined with the exceedingly bad weather, caused trade to rule slow throughout, with the exception of the best class of cattle, which, owing to the bad grazing season, were shown in much smaller numbers than in past years. Notwithstanding the large supply, a wonderfully good clearance was effected, with the exception of poor-conditioned two-year-old cattle. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store sheep, and anything of a good class got readily and well sold. Milch cows of the best class made more money. Top price of cattle per live cwt., 38s.; current, 35s. 6d. to 37s.; Irish to 33s. Mutton, 7d. to fully 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

They say, "It is a long lane that has no turning," and apparently the "turning" came to the "long lane" of bad markets that Dublin has had on Thursday last; but whether it is only a temporary improvement or not remains to be seen. The very bad wet weather of Tuesday and Wednesday last week was probably the cause of there being such a big shrinkage in the supplies of both cattle and sheep, the former numbering only 3,654, or 710 of a decrease, and the latter 5,446 or 816 less on the week. The attendance of buyers was good, particularly of exporters, who were much more in evidence than for some weeks past. For some months, business in Dublin Market had not so healthy a tone as it had last Thursday. Trade opened well in the morning, and continued so till the close of the day, when very little was left unsold, and without the higgling which has been the rule of late. Prime cattle sold very freely, and for rough and inferior beasts there was decidedly improved buying. Best ox and heifer beef made from 48s. to 52s. 6d., and extra good lots up to 54s. per cwt.; second quality beef, from 45s. to 47s.; and inferior do. from 42s. to 44s. per cwt. It was calculated that prime beef, suitable for the English and Scotch markets, had advanced fully 10s. per head, ruling from 28s. to 30s. per cwt. live weights, while 1s. more might be got for very choice stall-feds. Medium-weight heifers of good finish were much looked for. The mutton market shared with the beef market in the improved trade. There was little or no change in the value of heavy sheep; but light-weight mountain wethers were in great deand. The inquiry for sheep for the London market was much more active, chiefly on account of the shortage in the supply of live foreign sheep during the week. Coarse sheep were prastically unchanged, and did not clear. Best wether mutton was worth from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 5½d. to 6½d; and inferior sheep from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Large, heavy hoggets, suitable for the London and South of England markets, made from 44s. to 56s. each, and small to medium hoggets from 32s. to 42s. Prime veal in good demand at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; but rough calves a slow trade at from 5d. per lb. upwards. Store cattle in the market were in small supply, most being entered in the large sales being held during to-day outside. For the best milch cows there was a good inquiry, prime springers and freshly-calved cows fetching from £17 to £21. In the pig market supplies were small in the early hours and the attendance of exporters large, resulting in a brisk competition which sent prices up about 3s. per cwt. over last day; but as the day wore on a good many lots came in, and prices went down to about the old level. Choice light-weight pigs sold at from 50s. up to 54s. per cwt. for very choice lots, coarse pigs from 36s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Supply of beasts, compared with last Thursday, showed a decrease of 20 head, majority consisting of fat butchering cows and bulls, which met slow but steady trade, with upward tendency in value, but not sufficient to quote. Fifteen prime quality beasts offered, but met absolutely no demand, consequently rates are unquotable. Top prices, fat cows, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 8d to 3s 2d per 8lb. Increase of 30 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and half breds, trade for which was practically at a standstill, though no quotabe decline in value can be noted. Best pens made per 8lb as follows: 8 stone Downs, 5s 10d; 9 stone ditto, 5s 8d; 10 stone ditto, 5s 6d; 10 stone half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. Calf trade not worth noting. Pig trade slow, but steady, at late rates, best breeds being quoted at 4s 6d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 8d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 6d. Total supply: Beasts, 80; sheep, 100; calves, 6; pigs, 40; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Supplies were on a heavy scale, but a quiet demand again prevailed, at about late prices. Arrivals of beef included 70 tons Scotch, 360 Liverpool sides, 3,800 hindquarters, and 2,000 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,000 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations:—Beef: Scotch shortsides, 4s to 4s 4d; longsides, 3s 10d to 4s; English, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; American Deptford-killed, 3s to 3s 4d; Liverpool sides, 2s 9d to 3s 1d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 3d to 3s 6d; forequarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; raucher hindquarters, 2s to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 9d to 2s; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 6d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s. Mutton: Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; ewes, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s to 3s 6d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s to 4s. Pork: English, 4s 2d to 5s; Dutch, 4s 2d to 4s 8d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef dull, at last week's rates, best making 4s 2d to 4s 4d per stone, and cows 3s 8d to 4s. Small half-bred and Down mutton made 5s 2d to 6s; neat Kent, 5s to 5s 8d; large wethers, 4s 6d to 5s; and barrens, 3s 8d to 4s per stone. Veal cheaper, nothing reaching 5s per stone. Pork still dear, roasters making up to 4s 8d.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a very good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 45 fat beasts, 69 calves, 402 fat sheep and lambs, 93 head of dairy and store cattle, 292 fat and store pigs, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat beasts, Shorthorn steers up to £19 10s, two-year-old heifers £15 5s, cows £13 10s, bulls £15 5s, Devon steers, three-year-old, up to £25 15s, two-year-old up to £20; the three prime Devon steers from W. Cory, Esq., made £21 10s, £24 10s, and £25 15s; fat calves 70s to £5, small 20s to 50s, fat hogs 65s to 87s 6d, porkers 38s to 55s, small 26s to 35s, store pigs 8s to 18s 6d, Down wethers and young ewes made from 48s to 56s, Ten months' old ditto at 50s to 56s, small 40s to 48s, sucking lambs 28s to 37s 6d, cross-bred Cheviot sucking lambs 28s, old ewes 30s to 38s, old rams 38s to 48s, Down ram lambs 40s to 60s. Good quality small finished fat beasts met a good inquiry, and were cleared at full prices; half-fat and inferior beasts were difficult to realise upon at low prices. The show of fat sheep and fat lambs consisted chiefly of choice quality Downs, for which there was a brisk demand both from local and distant buyers, the fancy lots making an advance, with a satisfactory clearance. A short entry of milch cows, which sold well, with an advance on last week's; store cattle a dull trade. Fat calves were cleared at late rates. Fat hogs and porkers met a brisk sale, and were easily cleared at late quotations. Fat sows also are in demand, and store pigs meet a steady sale. Ruling values:—Prime Devon beasts, 6½d to 7d; Shorthorn ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5d per lb; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; secondary ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior sheep, 6½ to 6¾ per lb; fat calves, 6½d to 8d per lb; fat hogs, 9s 6d to 10s 6d; porkers, 10s 6d to 12s 6d per score; fat sows, 7s 6 to 8s 6d.

Berwick, Saturday.—A total of 793 beasts, and many were in superior condition. Attendance of farmers and buyers fair, and trade good. Calves, £4 17s 6d to £6 5s; stirks, £7 10s to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £11 5s to £14; three year olds, £13 5s to £16; Shorthorn bulls, £8 to £13.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 4½d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb; bacon pigs, 8s 9d per score; porkets, 11s 6d to 11s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 3d per score; sows, 8d to 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday. Beef, which was in fair supply,

was in limited demand, and trade dull at late rates for best quality and an advance of 1s per cwt. for secondary. Sheep were fairly numerous, but business slow at current rates for all grades except ewes, which realised 1s per lb more. Pigs were more plentiful, and porkers declined 3d per score.

Canterbury. Saturday.—Halfbred tegs were selling at 42s, and old ewes from 33s to 40s. Bullock trade slackening off, yearlings making from £8 to £9; two year old heifers, £11 to £12; and cows and calves, £14 to £19 10s.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under	9 6
Under 10 sc. ...	...Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	9 0
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	8 6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Carlisle. Saturday.—The supply on the Sands consisted of 150 head, all of which were wintering cattle. Buyers were few, and a very slow trade resulted at £7 10s to £10 10s, and up to £14 for heifers; Polled bullocks made £7 10s to £10 10s.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were good, and the attendance of buyers fair, but business was slow and disappointing to sellers. As a result, prices were somewhat irregular except for the choicest lots, which maintained their values. Milch cows realised £18 to £22, calvers £14 to £19; heifers, £9 to £14; barrens, £10 to £13; and stirks, £6 to £10.

Colchester. Saturday. Grass beef sold at from 4s 4d to 4s 6d; mutton, from 5s 6d to 6s; and pork, 9s to 9s 6d. There was a want of mutton, but otherwise the supply was good, as also was the trade.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Very large supply of cattle, but only a moderate attendance, and trade rather limited. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £16; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9; young stores, £6 to £8 each. Small show of sheep and little doing. Hoggs, 38s to 44s each.

Dorchester. Saturday.—Today was a very busy time at the cattle market, this being Messrs. T. Ensor and Sons' annual county barreners sale. In proof of the extensive character of the sale we may state that there were over 300 head of barreners stalled, to say nothing of the usual supplies of other cattle. In spite of the heavy snowstorm, which somewhat interfered with business, there was a very large attendance, including many outside buyers from all the adjacent shires, especially from Somerset and Devon. There had been serious misgivings of a poor trade, but these were conclusively belated, as all the best things in the way of graziers met with an exceptionally brisk demand, and mediums also sold very well; in fact the huge entry, with one or two previous selections, was effectively cleared. Devons made £18 to £24 per pair; Herefords, £22 to £28; shorthorns, £28 to £31 10s; and others from £16 to £25. Milch beasts sold more freely at from £15 to £20 5s each; and in-calvers from £9 to £12 15s. Fat beasts sold steadily, choice grades bringing full late rates, £16 to £20 10s.; fat cows a quicker trade. Very little doing in mutton, which is making late rates.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 3,654, decrease 710; sheep, 5,446, decrease 816; calves, 30, decrease 11. More animation in the demand for cattle, but prices still continue at the lower levels, reached during the last few markets. Choice qualities scarce, and were briskly competed for; secondary and inferior sorts made an early clearance. The sheep trade also presented a healthier tone all round, with prices on a firmer basis. Cattle, live weight (best), 27s 6d to 31s per cwt.; secondary and rough sorts, 24s to 27s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS, AND CO.

Edinburgh. Wednesday.—There was a moderate show of store sheep, which met a good trade at former rates; Cheviot ewes, 22s to 28s; Cheviot dinmonts, 25s to 29s; black-faced dinmonts, 22s to 30s each. Cattle met a slow trade; Polled bullocks, £14; horned to £13 5s; stirks, £8 10s; Shorthorn cows to £26; Ayrshires to £19; crosses to £24 each.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beasts; good quality and brisk demand. Best steers and maiden heifers, 11s; cows, 10s to 10s 6d. All the best were cleared. Smaller supply of sheep; indifferent quality, and slow demand. Hogs, 8½d; wethers, 8d; lambs, 32s to 36s; many unsold; ewes, 6d; calves, 7½d.

Glasgow, Wednesday. — Prime cattle in request; others hard to sell; prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 63s; secondary, 56s to 58s; top Irish, 55s per cwt.; top hoggs, 9d to 9¼d; top wethers, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 5½d to 7d per lb. Dead meat met a quiet sale, but values were steady; best Scotch beef, 6d; best States, 4¾d; best Canadian, 4½d; best hoggs, 7¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Bruton, Knowles and Co., report their sales as follows: 90 cows and calves, with improved trade, the highest prices being £22 10s, £21 15s, and £21 5s. A shorter supply of store cattle, with practically no demand.

Hereford. Wednesday.—Beef trade showed no recovery over the month; supply large and sales none too brisk. Bullock and maiden heifer, 6d to 6½d per lb. top price; fat cows, 4½d to 5d per lb. A large supply of store cattle, which met with a slow trade, although there was more inquiry for useful strong cattle for Northamptonshire and Leicestershire. There was a slight improvement in the sheep trade, the supply being of a better class than of late. Fat wethers, yearling ewes, and fat lambs made up to 8d per lb., fat ewes, 6d to 6½d per lb. There were not so many store lambs, but there was a fair demand for them. Calves in small supply, fat ones 6d to 7d per lb.; small rearing calves slow. Pigs in good demand; porks and bacons up to 6d per lb., and stores remaining firm.

Ipswich. Tuesday. Messrs. Robert Bird and Sons report a large supply of yarded cattle, but the season for grass-grazed cattle is nearly over, and numbers are falling off considerably. All well-finished yard cattle of medium weights sold freely from 8s 9d to 8s 3d per stone; other descriptions were slow at from 8s to 7s 6d. A large show of grazing cattle. At the special sale over 500 were entered, including heavy consignments of North-country Shorthorns of choice quality, Polled Scots, Highland Scots, and Irish. There was a large attendance of buyers and a fair selling trade at the low rates which have been current the last few weeks. Polled two year-olds to £12 5s; Shorthorns, 12 months old, £12 2s 6d to £8 10s; 16 months, £8 5s to £7; Westmorland calves, £6 7s 6d to £5 17s 6d; Polled Scots, £9 10s; Highlanders, £5 7s 6d to £7 7s 6d. Cows and heifers were well represented; the best calved animals were in good demand, but secondary sorts were dull and cheaper. Cows to £23 15s, heifers to £21. Fat sheep were scarce and dearer; half-bred hoggets to 52s, Suffolks to 55s. Grazing sheep met a good trade, one lot of two-score Suffolk hoggets making 51s to 43s 6d. Fat and store swine in strong demand, values quite firm. Number at sales and market: 1,253 cattle, 1,267 sheep, 1,372 swine.

Leicester. Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred stock for the season. Buyers were well represented, and trade ruled steady at very low rates for store stock. Milch cows of choice quality were scarce, and made £20 to £24; good lots, £17 10s to £19; secondary, £15 to £16; Polled bullocks, £13 to £15; Irish Shorthorns, £11 to £13; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12; young stock, £4 to £7; and calves, 15s to 40s each.

Lincoln. Friday.—At the Store Stock Market there was a large show of beasts, which sold at £8 to £10 for yearlings, £12 to £16 for two-year-olds, and £10 to £12 for drape ewes. Trade was slow. The sheep pens were not well filled, but those shown met with a quick sale, hoggs making 38s to 43s.

Lynn, Tuesday. Rather larger show of fat beasts, trade slow, 7s to 8s per stone. Average show of stores, this being fair day. Trade slow; £6 to £17 each. Short show of fat sheep made late rates, 9s to 10s per stone. Very few stores, 40s to 45s each. No lambs.

Manchester. Friday. Beef: Firsts, 4¾d; seconds, 3¾d to 4¼d; thirds, 2¾d to 3¼d. Mutton: Firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 7¼d, and others, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6¼d; thirds, 5d to 5½d. Veal: Firsts, 6¾d; seconds, 5¼d to 6¼d; thirds, 4¾d to 5¼d. Bacon pigs: Firsts, 5¾d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: Firsts, 7¼d; seconds, 6¾d to 7d; thirds, 6¼ to 6¾d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Business transacted in dense fog. Fat beasts, which were in good supply, met a fair trade, prices averaging 7s 6d to 7s 9d per stone. Trade slow for store animals, which, considering the late period of the year, were penned in large numbers, and prices ranged from £6 to £17 per head. Short supply of store sheep, for which there was a fair demand, hoggets making 35s to 46s per head; best descriptions of fat sheep realised 10s to 10s 6d per stone. Ready demand for fat pigs at 7s to 7s 3d per stone; supply limited.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Trade in milch beasts was slow, best realised £18 to £20; in-calf heifers to £18; strong heifers and steers, £10 to £14; young beasts, from £6 to £9.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was an all-round improvement in trade and a good supply of cattle. Cows and bulls made 5¼d; bullocks, 5d to 5¾d; country heifers, 6¼; hoggs, 8¼d to 8¾d; tups, 5¼d to 6d; ewes, 6d to 7d; lambs, 8¼d to 8¾d. The show of sheep was rather less than usual, but there was an improved demand.

Retford, Saturday.—First-class milch beasts in good demand, but scarce, and worth £18 to £20; secondary sorts, £14 to £16; steers and heifers, £12 to £13; yearlings, £5 to £7; and calves, 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade better. Best animals, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade better, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep scarce, trade better; best, 5s 10d to 6s; middlings, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. No store beasts offered. Pig trade unchanged.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supply of store, but smaller of fat cattle. Moderate attendance of buyers, and prices were well maintained. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 7d per lb.; mutton, 7¼d to 9¼d per lb.; veal, 8d to 9¾d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 8s 9d to 10s per score. Cows with calves up to £24 17s 6d.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a capital attendance of buyers from all parts. Beef was a decidedly better trade; choice quality sells readily at advanced prices; secondary quality moved off rather better, but half-fat beasts were unsaleable. Sheep continue scarce, and are easily disposed of, late rates being maintained. Veal and pork maintains late high prices. Bacon hogs slightly lower; store pigs in request. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 72 fat beasts, 84 fat sheep, 141 fat and weaning calves. Fat oxen made from £15 to £20 2s 6d, fat heifers £15 to £20 5s, fat wethers 55s to 60s, fat ewes 40s to 50s, fat calves £3 to £4 10s, weaning cow calves 25s to 60s, bull calves 10s to 50s, bacon hogs £3 10s to £5 porkers, 26s to 55s, store pigs, small 10s to 18s, large 26s to 40s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk, attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 5s to 5s 6d per cwt; barreners, 40s to 45s per cwt; store bullocks, 20s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £17 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 7½d to 8¼d; pigs, 8s 6d to 35s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 5d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcases, 4½d to 5¼d. Number in cattle market: Bullocks, 290; calves, 43; sheep, 227; pigs, 147.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Moderate supply all round; fair trade for best. Quotations: Beef, 5½d to 6¾d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8¼d per lb.; veal, 6¼d to 7¾d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Short supply of stock, with beef up a trifle. Best beef, 7s to 7s 6d; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 7s per stone; best Southdown wethers and crossbreds, 7¾d to 8¼d; ewes, 5¼d to 6¾d per lb.

Yeovil, Friay.—Cows with calves made from £14 10s to £16 for secondary, and £17 10s to £21 for best; heifers with calves, £15 to £19 10s; incalvers, £13 10s to £15 10s; barreners, £10 5s to £14 10s; yearlings, £5 5s to £7 10s; steers, £8 10s to £10 10s; ewes, 34s 6d to 40s; wethers, 35s to 42s; lambs, 30s to 33s.

WET GRAINS.

London. Saturday.—Wet grains: There has been no particular change during the week, and prices range from 16s 6d to 18s ale, and 13s 3d to 14s 6d porter per ton. Wet distillers' grains still maintain their price at 33s to 32s 6d per ton. Pressed white distillers' meal, 32s 6d per ton. Dried grains: There is still a good demand, and, as all factories are closed down, an advance may be looked for before long. Prices are:—Ale, 100s; mixed, 95s; porter, 92s 6d; and distillers', 115s per ton. Dried distillery meal, containing 45.80 per cent. of oil and albuminoids, 117s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO. 37 and 38, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

Halifax. Saturday.—The position of the wool market is generally firm and unchanged. English and home-grown wools command a ready sale, with prices in some cases slightly improved.

London. Saturday.—English per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces, S Dn. Hogs, £14 to £14 10s; halfbred hoggs, £12 10s to £13 10s; wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 10s to £13; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 to £12 10s. Colonial—per lb.: Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W. Scoured, aver., 1s 2¼d to 1s 2½d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s.; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9½d.; N.Z. Scoured average, 1s 0¾d. to 1s 10d.; greasy aver., 10¾d to 11½d.; Cape, scoured super, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½; Natal—Scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8¼d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Urs.: Vic. good to super, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; coarse, 11d to 1s.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: Linseed has ruled quiet, with an easier tendency throughout the week. River Plate is offered at 27s 6d spot and up to November-December; new crop, January-February, sold at 26s 6d to 26s 9d. Cottonseed: There has not been much doing during the past week, the market for Egyptian remaining quiet, on spot, occasional sales of old crop made at £5 13s 9d, and new at £5 16s 3d, passage done at £5 15s, and £5 14s 9d accepted November, also December-January, whereof offers to-day, value £5 16s. Linseed cakes: A quiet demand, but prices keep firm, with no undue pressure to sell in view of the present poor crushing margin. Russians are practically cleared spot, while, to arrive supplies remain very uncertain. Cotton cakes: Deliveries good, but fresh sales are not, at the moment, numerous. Prices very firm. KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: The market has been strong this week owing to the absence of sellers from India, and unfavourable crops reports from the Argentine. Calcutta London, spot, none; afloat, 46s. October-November 39s 9d, November-December 38s 6d, April-June 37s 6d. Hull: Firm but inactive. La Plata spot 38s, passage 38s 3d, October-November 38s 3d December-January 37s 6d and January-February 37. Rapeseed very firm, as India has not been offering lately. Brown Cawnpore November-December 40s. Ferozepore November-December 40s. Cottonseed has had a small decline both in Egypt and here. London, passage £5 16s 3d; November-January £5 13s 9d; Hull, spot and passage, £5 13s 9d; November-January, £5 11s 3d. Oil cakes.—Linseed cakes: Firm. London made £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes firm. London made £4 17s 6d to £5. —THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: There is a continued upward movement in prices, regardless of the very small demand, but with seed fully 4s per qr dearer English crushers are compelled to raise their limits, while on the other hand the Continent is still absorbing all foreign descriptions. Russians may be bought at last week's prices. American are obtainable without alteration in value. East India seed pures unchanged, London-made, being in small production, command extreme value of 5s per ton more money. Cotton cakes: Egyptian are scarce on spot and holders remain firm at 1s 3d per ton more, but in November-April positions there are sellers at rather less money. English move off steadily at a rise of 2s 6d per ton. Decorticated attract considerable attention, being exceptionally good value at £6 17s 6d for cake and meal and £5 5s for special digestive meal. Rape cakes: Nothing offering. Maize germ meal: A steamer parcel of white American shortly due offers at £5 17s 6d ex ship, while English makes maintain their prices of £5 17s 6d to £6. Maize gluten meal remains nominal at £6. Rice meal: Landed lots of Rangoon are available at £5 to £5 2s 6d, but some steamer parcels for arrival in second hands are quoted at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d ex ship terms. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are fully as dear at £5 5s per ton for whole and £5 15s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is without change at £10 15s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
Russian, in bags	7 13 9	to 7 15 0
in mats	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
Round Trieste ..... (in bags) ex quay		
American ..... ex quay	7 10 0	
Calcuta to arrive	7 12 6	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 16 3	to 4 17 6
,, for shipment		
English	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal	6 17 6	
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American		
,, Meal ,, ...		
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta		
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 17 6	to 6 0 0
American, Dec./Jan. ..... ex ship	5 17 6	
American		
Maize Gluten Meal ..... June/Dec.	6 0 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice ..... ex ship	4 13 3	to 4 17 6
Rangoon ..... ex docks	5 0 0	to 5 2 6
Broken Rangoon Rice ..... ex docks	4 15 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 15 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 5 0	
Kibbled	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations:—Hay, £3 10s to £3 12s 6d per ton; clover, £3 17s 6d per ton; straw, 2s 4½d to 2s 5d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 80s to 90s per ton; straw, wheat, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed, 80s to 85s per ton; oat, 50s to 60s per ton; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 3¾d to 4¼d; over, 5¼d to 6d; straw, wheat, 3¾d; oat, 3¾d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Fair supplies met a continued quiet demand at late rates. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 75s; good ditto, 65s to 72s; inferior ditto, 45s to 60s; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 27s to 36s per load.

POTATOES.

Borough. Saturday.—A good supply was to hand, but trade ruled slow. Best Scots, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Scotch, 60s to 70s; Dunbars (grey seed), 90s to 95s per ton.

Goole. Wednesday.—Fairly good attendance, but very little business being. Plenty of potatoes on offer. No alteration in prices. In the retail market potatoes are still selling at 4d to 5d per stone.

Spitalfields. Saturday. — Supplies of English and Scotch are heavier, and met a very quiet sale. Royal Kidneys, 60s to 65s; British Queens, 55s to 65s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s; Up-to-Dates, 65s to 70s; Scotch Dates, 65s to 70s; Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

Midland Notes.

Winter is upon us again; to-day one has seen just an occasional flake of snow, and the temperatures at night are very low. The change is an agreeable one, for the damp air and sodden ground have been chilling and depressing, and the flocks have suffered discomfort from wet fleeces for many days together. Let us hope this sharper and more bracing atmosphere will stimulate the markets, as it does man and beast; they need it badly enough.

Another familiar figure will be missing from the Birmingham Cattle Show this year that of Sir Henry Wiggin, whose funeral took place yesterday. The owner of Metchley Grange was not generally associated with agricultural pursuits, but he had been a useful member of the Birmingham Agricultural Exhibition Society's Council ever since 1853, and in 1893 he was its president. For many years he spent all the time he could spare from business and Parliament on the Lea End Farm, near Alvechurch, which he farmed as a hobby; and he helped to set on foot the Midland Farmers' Club, which was afterwards absorbed into the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture.

The site of next year's Warwickshire Show still remains undecided, the one thing that seems certain being that the fixture will not be held at Rugby. The local Association has never recovered its financial position since it gave all its funds to the County Association on the occasion of the visit of ten years ago; and, while local opinion is averse from an abandonment of the Rugby Show another year, until it has made up its lost ground, a clashing of two fixtures would be still more unfortunate. Rugby, however, is the only town in the county with an agricultural show of its own, so that the County Society need fear no such difficulty in any quarter.

Co-operation in one way or another is so common in the county and round about that Mr. Yerburgh, M.P., had an easy task yesterday to persuade the agriculturists of the Tewkesbury district to adopt the principles of combined effort in buying and selling. Mr. Yerburgh had a specially cordial greeting as a distinguished relative of Canon Yerburgh, the vicar, who is known and respected by all in the quiet and ancient little riverside town, and his way was made clear for him by the Earl of Coventry, whose assistance in such a movement is an assurance of success. Lord Coventry carried his hearers with him in his complaint of the effects on agriculture of "a superabundance of red tape and a multiplication of local authorities and officials with increasing salaries." No doubt, as he says, the affairs of the country were administered quite as well thirty years ago, and at far less cost; but having installed all our officials and taught them to rely on one another, how are we to the simpler practice of our fathers? To show the way would be to earn the gratitude of every rural ratepayer.

Staffordshire adds its tale to the growing list of County Council complaints anent the cost of motoring. In Staffordshire, the Roads and Bridges Committee reports, there are 602 miles of rural highways, and 601 of them are so constructed as to be liable to injury by heavy motor traffic. The repair of 8½ miles which were badly damaged cost £1,350, of which only £695 could be recovered from those who owned the locomotives, the rest, of course, coming mostly from the pockets of Staffordshire farmers; and, considering their much greater number, and the manner in which the pneumatic tyres act on the binding of macadamised roads in wet weather, it seems not unlikely that more injury is caused to the surface of thoroughfares by the ordinary cars of every-day use than by those which are legally recognised as heavy.

The sugar bounties are gone, but the benefit to farmers which was prophesied for their abolition is not yet in sight, for beet sugar manufacturing enterprise hangs fire. The indefatigable Mr. Sigmund Stein, of Liverpool, has been at Kidderminster this week to urge the venture upon the Local Chamber of Commerce, and a resolution in favour of a local sugar factory being built was passed, though £60,000 was named by Mr. Stein as the sum necessary to start one on a sufficiently large scale to be profitable. The Midlands can grow the roots well enough, as Lord Denbigh's experiments at Newnham Paddox show, and the report of the Kidderminster Committee, which is to consider and report on the question of putting up a factory, will be awaited with interest.

November 16, 1905.

Sheep and Cattle Feeding Experiments.

A report has been issued by the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture on sheep and cattle feeding experiments conducted in 1904-1905 under the superintendence of Mr. W. Bruce, the senior lecturer in the county work department of the college.

Sheep Feeding Experiments.

These experiments were carried out on the farm of Mungoswells, near Drem (Mr. Riddell), during the winter 1904-05 for the purpose of re-testing the results obtained in an experiment which was conducted the previous winter at Pathead, Cockburnspath. In the first experiment 228, and in the second 132, sheep were divided into six lots. The sheep used in both cases were "half bred" hoggets. The chief objects of these experiments were to discover the most profitable feeding-stuff to use along with hay and turnips for sheep feeding, and to test whether their use effected any saving of turnips. The second experiment had practically in every respect confirmed the first. Bombay cotton cake at £4 6s. 8d. per ton in the first experiment and £4 12s. 6d. in the second had turned out the most profitable feeding stuff. A striking feature in both years had been the quality of the mutton produced by this cake. Excepting lot one, it secured the highest price in the London market. Similarly, linseed cake at £7 6s. 8d. and £7 9s. 7d. came next to Bombay cotton cake. This feeding stuff had given the greatest increase in both years, but not at the least cost per unit. A mixture of equal parts of Bombay cotton cake and dried distillery grains had in both years been a successful feeding stuff. But, nevertheless, the substitution of dried grains at £5 1s. 8d. for Bombay cotton cake in the first experiment reduced the profit as compared with the Bombay cotton cake itself. The same happened this year with dried grains at £5 7s. 1d. At current prices this popular feeding stuff seemed to be dearer than either Bombay cotton cake or Linseed cake. A mixture of equal parts of decorticated cotton cake and dried grains had in both years done indifferently, and taken only the fourth place. The monetary difference between this mixture and Bombay cotton cake had amounted to about £1 per acre of turnips consumed. In the first experiment a mixture of wheat, cotton cake, and seed, blended to imitate the composition of linseed cake, did so badly that it was not continued. In the second experiment Egyptian cotton cake was used instead. This cake, at £5 4s. 7d. per ton, had been the least profitable of the feeding stuffs tested in the experiment. The difference between it and Bombay cotton cake at £4 12s. 6d. was £1 6s. on a consumption of 15 cwt. of each feeding stuff along with about 13 tons of turnips. Liveweight increase being produced by the Bombay cotton cake at £1 3s. 1d. per cwt., against £1 6s. 7d. by the Egyptian. The superiority of the Bombay cotton-cake over the Egyptian cotton-cake had been upheld by a contemporary cattle-feeding experiment. In all cases comparison of the lots which received concentrated feeding stuffs with the one fed on turnips and hay alone showed a profit on their use The use of concentrated feeding stuffs had effected no saving in the consumption of turnips. In fact, it seemed to have stimulated the appetites of the sheep for more turnips in some cases. These experiments showed that in the winter feeding of half-bred hoggets liveweight increase per cwt. could be produced for a gross outlay of about £1 12s. for food, or, when manurial residue was deducted, £1 5s.

This calculation allowed 10s. per ton for turnips and £3 10s. for hay. These and other contemporary experiments conducted by the College showed that sheep feeding in both years had left a much better rent for turnips than cattle feeding. If a comparison might be instituted between the two experiments, it seemed a doubtful policy to force on sheep of this class by increasing the allowance of concentrated feeding stuff much beyond ¾ lb. per day. But, of course, with the present demand, for light sheep the feeding should commence sufficiently early, and be controlled so as to have the sheep fat before they were too heavy. Finally, it might be observed that a mixture of two or more feeding stuffs was likely to do better than one. In the meantime a mixture of Bombay cotton cake and linseed cake seemed eminently suitable as a concentrated food for the winter feeding of hoggets. At the commencement the Bombay cotton cake should either predominate or be used alone, but later a gradual change should be made to a mixture of equal parts of both feeding stuffs. The results obtained last winter with another lot of about 200 sheep fed experimentally, under the auspices of the College, supported this conclusion. These experiments indicated that this would be true generally so long as Bombay cotton cake could be bought at less or even the same price per unit as dried grains, decorticated cotton cake, and Egyptian cotton cake. Linseed cake seemed to be worth about 1½d. more per unit than Bombay cotton cake. In these conclusions a careful endeavour had been made to turn experimental results to useful account without unduly straining them. The amount of helpful data that could be derived from other sources was limited, as few experiments in the feeding of farm stock had been conducted in this country, and fewer still on the scale to inspire confidence. Those dealt with in this report were by far the largest known to them. But it was hoped that they were only forerunners of a long series of experiments providing data that would be valuable for the guidance of the practice of feeding.

Cattle Feeding Experiment.

This experiment was carried out at Pitskelly, near Carnoustie, during the winter 1904-05, for the purpose of testing the relative merits of Bombay cotton-cake, Egyptian cotton-cake, and decorticated cotton cake by feeding equal weights of them to lots of eight two-year-old Irish cattle. It was conducted during winter, when the cattle were receiving turnips and straw ad libitum. The cattle were about 9¾ cwt. at the commencement of the experiment. They cost £15, or 30s. 6d. per live cwt. During the twenty weeks it lasted they increased fully 2½ cwt., at a net cost of £2 2s. 6d. per cwt with decorticated cotton-cake, £2 0s. 9½d. with Egyptian cotton-cake, and £1 18s 6d. with Bombay cotton-cake. At the termination of the experiment the cattle were fat, and realised 34s. per live cwt. These results showed that with this class of cattle it took fully £2 per cwt. to produce liveweight increase, and that at the present range of prices store cattle were too dear. In order to have a reasonable profit the feeder would require to buy his store cattle at about 5s. less per cwt. than he sold them at when fat. Bombay cotton-cake had turned out more effective per unit than Egyptian cotton-cake. This result was corroborated by the results of the contemporary sheep-feeding experiment conducted at Mungoswells. These experiments showed that for feeding cattle and sheep Egyptian cotton-cake was not worth more per ton than Bombay cotton-cake. Bombay cotton-cake had been found a cheap, safe, and suitable food for starting the winter feeding of two-year-old bullocks which were receiving a liberal ration of turnips. About 6 lb. per head per day, however, was probably about the maximum quantity it was advisable to use. When the feed of concentrated food rose above this quantity the Bombay cotton-cake should be supplemented by a food containing more oil—e.g., linseed-cake. The experience of feeding-stuffs purchased for them in the ordinary way for these experiments and those of the previous year, indicated that there was considerable variation in the quality of the samples on the market, and that purchasers should pay far greater attention to their composition than they commonly did when purchasing them. A comparison of the results of the experiments conducted during the past two years in the feeding of cattle and sheep showed that sheep feeding had paid much better than cattle-feeding. Last year the sheep left £1 14s. more than the cattle per acre of 20 tons of turnips, and in the previous year the difference was considerably greater than this.

A scheme for providing Skipton with public slaughter-houses has been approved by the Urban Council. The site adopted is in the Dockyard, which is well adapted for the purpose. In all six new slaughter-houses are to be erected at an estimated cost of £3,000. It is proposed to provide for three only at present.

ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

VALE OF AYLESBURY FAT STOCK SHOW, AT AYLESBURY, DECEMBER 13th, 1905. Entries close December 2nd, 1905. F. J. BROWN, Secretary, Aylesbury.

BLACKBURN AND DISTRICT FAT STOCK SHOW, AT BLACKBURN CATTLE MARKET, DECEMBER 18th, 1905. Entries close December 14th. JAS. LORD, Secretary, Revidge Fold, Blackburn.

ALL INTERESTED in POTATO growing should not fail to pay a visit to A. J. SOLE'S Stand at the National Potato Society's Exhibition at the Horticultural Hall, on NOVEMBER 23rd and 24th.

STRATTON, RICHARD, The Duffryn, Newport, England. Large Herd combining milk with flesh.

THE SHEEPCOTE HEREFORDS, property of Peter Coats: Established 1900. This herd has, in 1904, won more first and champion prizes than any other in England. Headed by those celebrated bulls Holmer, Emdale, and Page-Protector. Young stock on sale. Inspection invited. Apply, J. K. HYSLOP, Estate Office, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire.

Live Stock Record.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS FAT CATTLE SHOW.

Our Christmas fat stock shows are heralds of the festival and holiday season observed in the closing week of the year. Norwich is the first, coming in the middle of November, but a truthful harbinger, nevertheless, of the good cheer and carousals to be enjoyed six weeks later. The show is twenty-nine years old, and has swelled to dimensions so large that the City of Norwich has no building of sufficient size for its accommodation. Owing to the numerous visitors, who invariably flock thither, there is great anxiety to get stands, a considerable number of applicants for which, like Noah's dove, could get no resting place for the soles of their feet last week, and their entry fees for exhibits had to be returned.

Cattle to the number of 122 were entered, an over-average count said to have been only twice exceeded, but the excess consisted of Redpolls, Irish and local animals. Shorthorns were few, although of considerable merit, and the same may be said of the Aberdeen-Angus cattle. The Herefords and Devons, which, in former years, have been known to be among the best, were missing; but cross-breds were to the fore quite as much as ever, and, in fact, gave chief merit to the bovine display. Mr. E. T. Learner won the champion prize with a Shorthorn-Aberdeen-Angus heifer, bred by Mr. John Ross, and Mr. Hudson's Danesfield Midnight, of the same cross, was best steer or ox. Both these, as well as H.M. the King's first-prize Shorthorn steer, were highly appreciated as yearlings at Smithfield Show last year, and will be sure to be high in the prize lists of Birmingham and Smithfield, if, as is most likely, they appear in these future competitions. The latter, which was reserve for the best steer or ox premium, is noteworthy for his wealth of flesh and heavy weight, being nearly a ton. Indeed, he scaled 15 cwt. 1 qr. at rather under twenty-two months old when he won second prize at Islington. Since the establishment of the show, cross-breds have won the champion prize thirteen times, Shorthorns six, Herefords four, Redpolls three, Aberdeen-Angus twice, and Devons once.

Sheep appear to have been a remarkably good collection, and we may certainly expect to see most of the winning pens again. H.M. the King won the championship with Southdown wethers. Mr. Herbert Smith's Suffolk wethers made, however, close competition, and the cross-breds of Mr. T. Rush, and the Hampshires of Sir T. F. Buxton, were deemed high in merit. Likewise, Mr. Rush has once more brought out some magnificent lambs of the Oxford-Hampshire cross, which won the special prize for best lambs exhibited, Sir T. F. Buxton's Hampshires being reserve. H.M. the King won another first prize for Southdown lambs.

Norwich, like Birmingham, in addition to cattle, sheep, and pigs, has departments for live and dead poultry, and also for corn and roots. Fat turkeys and geese bring to the minds of visitors anticipations of Christmas quite as much probably as over-fed, obese beasts, sheep, or swine. The inclusion of roots and corn has always imparted a pleasing, educational variety to both exhibitions, and the same character may be given to those features of the Norwich Show which are purely original in association with a Christmas fat stock show, namely, dairy-products and seedsmen's prize classes. That this excites great interest appears certain, as there were 164 entries of the former, and 219 of the latter.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The fifty-seventh Birmingham Cattle and Poultry Show will be held in Bingley Hall, Birmingham, on November 25, 27, 28, 29, and 30. The entries compare with those of the last five years as follows:—

	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Cattle ...	176	170	180	211	201	198
Sheep ...	56	58	62	51	58	61
Pigs ...	54	70	54	74	53	70
Corn ...	62	83	67	58	70	67
Roots ...	141	117	118	120	123	111
Potatoes ...	80	89	66	55	79	71
Poultry ...	2,635	2,839	2,998	2,695	2,690	2,624
Eggs ...	36	42	50	36	20	30
Pigeons ...	1,017	1,094	1,092	1,047	1,086	1,052
	4,157	4,562	4,687	4,347	4,392	4,324

His Majesty the King is the largest exhibitor of cattle, showing Herefords, Shorthorns, and Devons from the Royal Farms, Windsor, and four pens of Southdowns will be sent from Sandringham. The challenge prizes, value £105 each, given by Messrs. Elkington and Co., Mr. J. Thorley, and Messrs. Webb and Sons, will again be competed for. There are also two £50 challenge cups, the gift of the proprietor of the *Birmingham Daily Post* and Mr. J. J. Cridlan respectively. In the sheep section there is the Cooper challenge cup, and the one offered for pigs is provided by the hotel and innkeepers of Birmingham. The Board of Agriculture have passed a special order which will again allow swine to be exhibited. There will be the usual good show of corn, roots, and potatoes, and the large number of attractive stands, implements, etc.

The annual show of the Smithfield Club will be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on December 4 to 8 inclusive, the president for the year being Lord Tredegar who also filled this position twenty-five years ago. The interest in the show is universal, breeders and exhibitors throughout the United Kingdom vying with each other for the valuable prizes offered by the Club, but more especially for the possession of the magnificent challenge cups presented by His Majesty the King, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and H.R.H. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein. The total value of the prizes offered is £4,153, which is allotted to the various sections as follows: — Cattle, 2,060; sheep, 1,185; pigs, £490; carcase competition, £296; and table poultry, £122.

As it is possible for the champion beast to win £260 and the King's Challenge Cup, the best pen of sheep £110 and the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup, and the best pen of pigs £70 and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup, it is natural that the finest animals in the United Kingdom should compete, including the champion animals from Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Norwich.

The entries for the general section of the Show exceed those of last year, the numbers being 301 head of cattle, 163 pens of sheep, and 107 pens of pigs; a total of 507 entries comparing with 550 last year. In the carcase competition the entries number 24 cattle, 60 sheep, and 57 pigs, and the table poultry section 187 entries. The carcases and table poultry will be sold by auction on the Thursday of the Show. In addition to the magnificent collection of live stock, a great portion of the Hall and all the galleries is set apart for the exhibition of engines and agricultural machinery of every kind and of the newest type with fine displays of seeds, etc., and collections of feeding stuffs, all of the greatest possible interest to agriculturists and others.

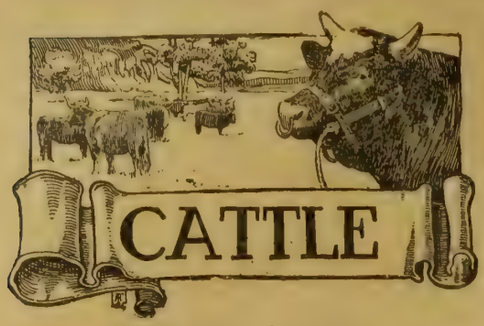
The twentieth peripatetic show of the German Society of Agriculture will be held at Berlin on June 21 to 26, 1906, and will be known as the Berlin-Schöneberg Show. Entries for the show will close on February 28, for horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and goats. The various sections will comprise horses for breeding purposes and draught horses, cattle of various breeds, sheep, and pigs. Section II. for agricultural produce, seeds of all kinds (potato culture), corn, fodder, brewers' barley, potatoes, hops, flax, hemp, hay, manure, etc., scientific representations of land culture, experimental stations, societies, etc. Section III.: Agricultural implements and machinery together with test competitions of machinery.

The members of the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Association were asked if it was thought desirable that the Warwickshire County Agricultural Society should hold their show at Rugby next year, and, at a meeting held last week, they came to the conclusion that it was not desirable. It was pointed out that Rugby was the only town in the county that held an agricultural show of its own, and that ten years ago, when the county show was held at Rugby, the local society gave all its available funds up to the county society, and that it had never recovered itself financially since. It was further decided that in the event of the county show being held at Rugby next season the association would not hand over any of its funds.

At a meeting of the council of the Leicester Sheep-breeders' Association, held at Driffield on Thursday, a letter from Sir Ernest Clarke, secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, was read, enclosing the recommendation of the stock prizes committee, as affecting Leicester sheep at the Derby Show of 1906. Prizes are to be offered of £10, £5, and £3 each in four classes, namely:—For shearling ram, three-lamb ram, three shearling ewes, and three ewe lambs. A resolution was passed thanking the R.A.S.E. for this classification.

The council of the Wirral and Birkenhead Agricultural Society have resolved to hold the society's next show at Bebington on Wednesday and Thursday, July 18 and 19, 1906.

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., Live Stock Exporters, Shrewsbury, have recently shipped to New York, per the White Star line, a choice consignment of Shropshires and Dorsets to the order of Mr. F. S. Pearson. The Dorsets included the Royal winning ram Court No. 19 (1594), bred by Mr. James Attrill, winner of 1st and champion at the Royal Isle of Wight Show, 1904; also 2nd at R.A.S.E., 1904, 1st at Royal Counties' Show, 1905, and 2nd at Park Royal, 1905, and successfully used by his breeder this season. The Dorset ewes comprised a choice selection of shearling ewes from the prize-winning flock of Mr. F. J. Merson, including the two best ewes in the 2nd prize pen at Park Royal. In Shropshires, Mr. Pearson was equally fortunate in securing a beautiful bevy of shearling ewes from Sir Walter Corbet's prize-winning flock, sired by Montford Lucerne 11174, Thorpe Reynold 11921, Reynold President 11573, and Reynold Baron 11861. All these ewes were breeding to Sir Walter's rams of this season. The famous Shawardine flock (Mr. Alfred Tanner's) supplied a typical ram in a son of King's Knight 11483 (a son of the 175-guinea Diamond King 9442, twice 1st R.A.S.E.) from a ewe by Diamond King 9442. It will be observed this ram has blood of Diamond King through his sire and sire of dam, and, therefore, should prove a most impressive one.



Notes and Jottings.

From an approximate estimate of the number of cattle in the United States, a vast increase appears to have taken place during the last few years. A live stock census is not yet established there, as with us, but the figures are based upon carefully compiled statistics, and show that on June 30 last the approximate number of cattle in the United States was 84,563,277. Just upon one-fourth of these are estimated as being milch cattle, the remainder coming under the general classification of "other cattle." It is said that the receipts of cattle in the principal Western markets indicate an enormous increase in production everywhere. In the year 1900 the country was estimated to contain 59,438,758 cattle, of which 18,112,707 were supposed to be milch cattle.

It is stated that in these States, since so much territory was converted from ranches into farms, its cattle output has quadrupled, and the same changes are taking place generally in other parts. Production has exceeded consumption, as indicated by glutted cattle markets everywhere, and if this phenomenal development is to continue a wider outlet must be secured. Seeing that general trade on the other side the Atlantic is reported to be most satisfactory, it would appear that the above statement, so far as production exceeding consumption is concerned, is quite correct, and that the glutted markets, with lower prices, are not the result of bad trade and lower wages earned by the working classes. The attempt to obtain access to German markets for States beef therefore appears quite opportune.

Though at present there is an enormous area of land in the United Kingdom that is not producing half as much meat, or even other food, for our population, as it is capable of doing, still, there is every probability that as time goes on the production of beef, especially, in these islands will yearly become less. The vast reduction in the area of land for farming purposes that takes place every year through the increase of building, both of dwellings and factories, as well as the enormous extent taken away each year for new railways and other purposes, cannot possibly be without considerable effect upon the quantity of land used for farming purposes; and an important point, too, in this respect, is that a large portion of the increased area taken for building railways, etc., is taken from our most productive land.

In addition to the above circumstances, there is also a much greater tendency to go in for other branches of farming, rather than beef production. The great increase in dairying for supplying our large towns and cities with milk has done away with beef production on hundreds of farms. Sheep, too, now that wool is realising better prices, as well as mutton selling dear, will have more attention paid to their breeding; so that, all things considered, there seems likely to be somewhat of a decline in the quantity of beef produced in our own country as time goes on. That England will always be a great beef-eating country there is little doubt, and that a supply will be provided from somewhere is also pretty certain, but whether foreign countries will be able to breed, feed, and ship beef to this country at lower prices than are now prevailing remains to be seen.

One or two very successful sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle appear to have taken place in the States recently, quite showing that this breed is beginning once more to look up on the other side of the Atlantic. At one of these sales over 400 dols. was reached in two instances, whilst 300 dols. and over were given in a number of instances, and scarcely any low prices ruled, the average for thirty-seven head at the above sale being 205 dols. This is encouraging, though the figures do not compare well with the averages of some Shorthorn sales; still, the average of some 40 gs. per head need not be complained of, and proves that interest is being taken in the breed. The season for these cattle to make their mark with the public is now coming on, and will be in full swing for the next few weeks.

Lincoln Red Shorthorns appear to have made very sure though not rapid or great progress in the way of prices during the last five years, if we are to take the results of the Alford Bull Fair last week as our guide. The number of bulls sold in 1901 was fifty-six, at an average of 15¼ gs. In 1902 the same number averaged 20 gs. each, 1903-4 increased the number sold to 95 and 120 respectively, the average upon these occasions being 16½ gs. and 19 gs., whilst this year 88 bulls reached the fairly respectable average of 24 gs. Lincoln Reds at present suffer from want of uniformity in quality. Their classes at the shows contain invariably two or three animals of what may be called extra quality and symmetry, and, in the case of the females, with milk also. Lower down the classes, coarseness and want of symmetry and milk prevail; high averages will not rule till there are more good ones.

The new Dairy Shorthorn Society has now made known something of what is to be expected from one of these animals if she is to become eligible for prizes offered by the society. The conditions under which the cows are to be tested, however, are a little vague. The cows are to be milked out clean to the satisfaction of the stewards at 6 p.m. on the evening prior to the judging, and on the first morning of the show are to be milked out in the ring in the presence of the judge, who shall see each animal's milk weighed. The standard to which the cows have to attain in order to be eligible for prizes is a very stiff one. If the cow has calved within three calendar months of the first day of the show she must yield not less than 25 lb. milk. Cows for this standard must be four years old and upwards.

There is one item omitted that makes a great deal of difference to things, and certainly ought to be included in the conditions, namely, at what time the following morning this judging and milking in the ring is to take place. It will make a vast difference whether the milking that is to decide the award of these prizes takes place punctually at 9 a.m., or whether it is dallied off; as is usually the case, till ten or half-past. The scale should be adjusted to so many pounds of milk per hour, or some such regulation. The quantity of milk (25 lb.), if allowed to run till 10 a.m. or later, does not give an excessive yield, and would be very fair to expect, otherwise, at first sight, it would appear that the quantity looks too great if the animals are to be milked at nine or earlier.

A very necessary and important paragraph follows, namely, that the judges in awarding the prizes are to pay great attention to the size, shape, and general appearance of the udder both before and after milking. This is very important, as a well-shaped udder is half the battle in a milking cow, either for selling or retaining in the dairy to milk and for breeding. Another paragraph, however, would appear to be necessary in these instructions, that some attention or points should be allowed for the cow, otherwise the thing drifts into the breeding of a milking machine only—a policy that would be ruinous alike to the Shorthorn and her owner, as, if a man is to make a living profit, he cannot afford to sacrifice a single point. And milk only from any animal is but a one-sided production, achieved in most cases at a loss.

The Hereford as a milker is causing a good deal of writing and discussion just latterly, and has been noticed, also, in these notes upon one or two previous occasions. Mr. J. S. White, whose herd has been referred to on account of its milking tendency, mentions that three parts of his herd are descended from a famous cow purchased from Mr. J. Judge, that yielded no less than seven gallons of milk per day. The Judges have for years been possessed of, and exhibited, some marvellous Herefords as regards aptitude to produce beef, but I have never noticed any great show of milk with these. This circumstance points to the fact that milk may be cultivated in them, as there is no doubt the cow that gave this great yield was of the same strains, more of less, as the animals above referred to as beef-producers.

Herefords crossed with Shorthorns have, in the writer's experience, been proved to be, in many instances quite exceptional milk and butter cows, the fat in their constitution doubtless assisting in the yield of butter. There is one thing, however, usually noticeable in these beef herds of cattle when taken for, and fed for, milking purposes, namely that it is not often that they are especially persistent milkers, their period of lactation usually being somewhat brief. On this account they have many times proved very profitable for cheese-making purposes, being easily and cheaply kept during the resting period, which most frequently runs from the end of November or beginning of December to the following March. Their calves, too, make very valuable feeders, the steers especially.

Herefords appear to well hold their own amongst other breeds for export purposes, and also at home in the ordinary course of things. The best steers for grazing purposes have been making quite remunerative prices, and it is also noticed that at a sale of pedigree stock of this breed in the States, a list consisting of fifty-seven head of the breed produced an average of £43 per head. £280 was reached in one instance, and over £100 in two others. These prices must be looked upon as highly satisfactory for stock bred on the other side of the Atlantic, and prove both that the demand is good, as well as that the Hereford is well retaining his character in that country of his adoption.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

At the fair held at Killarney, Co. Kerry, on Monday there was an average supply of cattle, which met a fair demand at the following prices:—Calves, second class, £3 12s. 6d. to £4 5s.; third class, £2 15s. to £3 5s.; yearlings, second class, £6 to £6 15s.; third class, £4 to £5 10s.; two-year-olds, second class, £7 2s. 6d. to £8 10s.; third class, £4 10s. to £6 10s.; springers, second class, £11 to £12; third class, £7 10s. to £9 10s.

Blessington fair, Co. Wicklow, held on Monday, was an average sized one, and a good many buyers were present, but demand was slow at very low prices, and a clearance was not effected. Prices:—Calves, first class, £4; yearlings, first class, £9 5s.; second class, £6 10s. to £7 7s. 6d.; two-year-olds, second class, £7 15s. to £10; springers, second class, £15 5s.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 11, 1905:—

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Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

It is a curious thing, and one well worth the attention of horse owners, that horses which are prone to mischief and vice—which may be regarded as an advanced form of mischief—have chiefly had their bad habits taught them by their attendants. There is not a more reprehensible practice than petting or teasing horses, and both are indulged in to a great extent by those who should know better. It is not a little strange, too, that though most people will agree in theory about these bad practices, they seem to have an idea, when it comes to practice, that the horses they have are something exceptional, and will not learn the bad habits they take such pains to inculcate.

One remarkable instance of how bad habits can be taught was that of a Cæsarean mare. Her dam had been an especial favourite, and in her forlorn condition she became everyone's pet. A quieter, better-disposed foal it would be impossible to find. Foalhood over, she would come to anyone she saw for the sugar or apple she was so partial to, and for the petting which she had come to look for as her right. But the days of liberty came to an end, and she was introduced to the serious business of life. She took to the saddle kindly enough, but she was more adapted for harness. Harness, however, she would not have at any price. Neither kindness nor coercion were of any avail, and after she had kicked herself clear of the traces three or four times she was not persevered with. Had she not accidentally shown that she was a remarkably fine jumper, and, though slow, still a serviceable hunter, probably she would have been tried again. But her breaker, a fine horseman and a very intelligent man, always insisted that she would never have been to trust, and he blamed the petting, of which she got such an undue share, for the vagaries of her temper. For though she developed into a steady, trustworthy hunter, and taught several aspirants to fame to ride to hounds, she was a "fiend" in the stable, and the sight of a brush made her kick before she was touched with it.

Another very remarkable instance was with a child's pony. The pony was purchased young—as a foal, indeed—and was, of course, a children's pet. Frequently when it was a yearling, a two-year-old, and a three-year-old, and before it was broken in, foolish nursemaids or nursery governesses would put a child on its back and lead it about halterless, and loud were the praises sung of the pony's quietness. But when the pony was broken in there was another tale to tell, and of all the stupid, perverse tempered brutes it ever was my lot to handle it was, I think, the very worst. It was conquered eventually, of course, but it was never what it would have been had it not been for the course of teasing and petting—an ideal children's pony.

A frequent source of mischievousness in horses, and it should not be lost sight of that light-heartedness which ends in a vigorous round of bucking is, for all practical purposes, the same as vice, though it is more easily eradicated—is due in a great measure to injudicious treatment on the part of grooms. A horse is easily taught a trick, and it is unfair to punish a horse for what he has been taught to do. A groom, probably to show off his own horsemanship or want of it—teases the horse into kicking. He is prepared for the kicking, and no harm is done. But a stranger involuntarily makes the same signal as the ignorant groom has done, with the result that the horse starts buck-jumping, and his rider, not being on the look out for it, may very easily be put down. Let this happen once, and the moment the horse is over-fresh he will resume his antics, probably with the same result.

The most extraordinary horse for bucking I ever came across was an Irish chaser. He was a big, upstanding horse with immense shoulders and very powerful back, and a finer hunter or pleasanter ride, when he was in the humour, I never sat on. Whenever a stranger got on him he always laid his ears back and arched his back, and then woe to his rider if he did what most men would do under such circumstances—i.e., instinctively take hold of his head and sit tight. The old horse would go on quietly for a short distance till all suspicion of mischief was lulled to rest. And then, all at once, and without the slightest warning, would come a series of "bucks" so full of energy that if the first did not send the rider into the next parish the second did. Yet, curiously enough, if the rider left the reins alone and did not attempt to sit tight, if he trusted the old horse's honour, as it were, he would give a little squeal and jump about six inches from the ground, and then walk on as sedately as any one could wish.

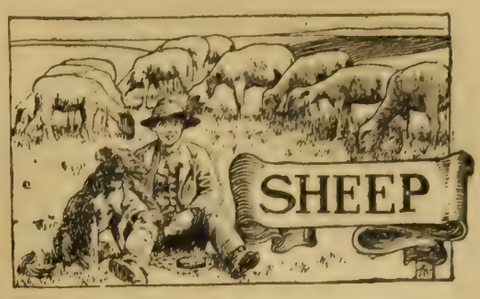
Another very constant source of trouble is too much corn and too little work. Horses that are hard fed must be hard worked. A very fresh horse begins to play; he feels a little chilly, perhaps, or the delight of being out without a lot of clothing on is quite sufficient to set him off. His rider is not prepared for it, and perhaps gives a tug at the bridle which he would not do under other circumstances, and a battle royal begins, or the horse gets the best of it on the first occasion. Whichever it may be, one thing is certain, and that is that he never forgets it, and the next time he is a little above himself there is sure to be a repetition of the circumstances.

I once had rather a narrow escape from a bad accident because of this indiscriminate feeding. I bought a horse who was a hard puller, and though he certainly took hold, I thought there was no difficulty about holding him. I rode him hunting, and he carried me well enough. But he had a fortnight's rest and then I rode him again. He was simply unrideable; ran away with me and fell. Luckily there was no wire in front of us, for it was absolutely as impossible to steer him as it was to pull him up. I thought so much of the horse and thought him such a good one that I would have tried him again, but the man from whom I bought him persuaded me not to do so. Some months afterwards I saw him again. He was not "so fair to look upon" as when I had him, but he was easy enough to ride. "You kept him too well when he was not hard worked," said my friend, "that is the secret. As soon as he misses his turn, or is likely to miss his turn for any reason I always reduce his corn." This is a course it is almost impossible to make grooms adopt. They like to see their charges looking well and fresh, but they do not discriminate between a horse being fresh and too fresh. Many, at any rate, of the bad falls I have had and seen have been from riding a too fresh horse.

I was pleased to see a letter in Monday's "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" in which attention was drawn to a matter which is too frequently ignored by local authorities, and that is that horse-drawn waggons, etc., are at a great disadvantage in streets where trams are laid. The trams not only take up a great deal of the road, but they take up the best of the road, and horses have to draw huge rollevs and waggons on the sides of the roads, where the draught is considerably heavier than it is in the middle of the road. Small wonder then that the driver should, when an opportunity presents itself, try to avail himself of the few minutes when the tram road is clear. There is not the slightest doubt that trams are driven at a much greater speed than is necessary, or than is consistent with safety; and the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph's" correspondent has done well to draw attention to the disadvantages under which horse traffic labours in towns. The trouble is increasing, of that there is not the least doubt, and it is high time that something was done to make horse traffic safer than it is.

THE LOOKER-ON.

At Manchester Assizes, on Monday, John Towers, a carter, was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude for arson. Prisoner was alleged to have set fire to no fewer than five haystacks in the Bury district, and the total damage caused by the fires was estimated at £1,100.



Notes and Jottings.

The satisfactory prices being made of mutton at the present time show how well the home-grown article is appreciated. Were it not so, with the huge quantity imported, prices must have fallen to a far lower level. A reference to last week's notes will show how large the imported mutton supplies have been during the past few weeks, and, despite this, there has been no material decline in the prices realised for home-grown mutton. Were it not for the imported supplies one cannot well estimate what the range of prices would be for mutton. To put the matter briefly, it is evident that the increased consumption keeps a fairly even pace with the larger supplies. All facts point to one conclusion—i.e., that the public taste for mutton has grown enormously during the past ten or twenty years. It is true that the home supplies are not so large as they were, but even making full allowance for this, the available quantity for consumption was never larger than at the present time.

A point worthy of consideration is, what will the result be in the future, because unless something unforeseen occurs, there is every prospect that the imported supplies will be still larger in the future? It is hardly to be expected that the increase of consumption will keep pace with the increased supply in the future, and there appears but one likely result—namely, a lower range of value for that class of mutton that meets with the keen competition of the imported article.

Admitting this, the object before our home breeder and feeder is to produce mutton of that quality, etc., that ranks above the imported article. There is no question that this in most instances can be done; but will it? is the question.

Leaving out of consideration those flocks that are generally looked upon as stud flocks, and some few of the best of these flocks, which are not generally considered ram breeding flocks, what does one find, taking the country as a whole?

In more cases than not the so-called flocks consist of collections of sheep, of all shapes and sizes, with little or no general type or character, and having neither uniformity nor symmetry of carcase. These kinds of flocks are those from whence comes the largest proportion of our home-grown mutton, and hence to any one who is practically acquainted with the carcase of mutton there is no need for surprise at the gradually increasing demand for the higher class of imported mutton.

Without doubt, unless our general flockmaster takes far more care in the selection and mating of his flocks the preference the home-fed mutton now enjoys will soon be very much reduced.

To maintain preference for home bred and fed mutton our home breeders must produce symmetrical and neat carcases. There must be no unshapely nor narrow-chested sheep kept for breeding, for like produces like. What does it matter how ill-shaped a sheep may be its flesh cannot be any the worse. Quite so! But its carcase will neither sell as readily nor give the same satisfaction as one of good shape, and in a well, not to say over, supplied market, it is extraordinary how great a difference in value such small

Forthcoming Live Stock Sales.

DATE.	STOCK.	OWNER.	PLACE OF SALE.
November 21, 22 & 23	Hunters, Harness Horses, Hackneys, &c.	Various	North Wales Repository, Wrexham.
23	Fat Stock	Miss Alice de Rothschild...	Home Farm Waddesdon, Bucks.
24	Shire Horses	Sir Oswald Mosley and Mr. H. W. Kearns	Derby Repository.
24	Red Polled Cattle... ...	Mr. A. J. Smith	Drill Hall, Ipswich.
30	Farm Stock...	Mr. W. B. Ledger	The Isle Park Farm, near Shrewsbury.
Nov. 30 & December, 1	Hunters, Harness Horses, Cobs and Ponies	Various	Crewe Horse Repository.

details make. Some of my readers may ask why write so much upon this subject?

The reply is because no subject has greater or more direct interest to the flockmasters as a whole than a ready market at full prices for all mutton sent there. Further, when an alteration is required, there is no better way to bring it into effect than by some indirect means at first to draw attention to it. Many who will read these notes will probably at first put them lightly aside; but more than one will return to them again, and, probably, more than once, to find out the reason why particular stress is being laid upon the fact that a larger proportion of our ordinary flocks are badly matched, uneven, unshapely, and not uniform.

It may be urged that it is too late to alter this, for the present season, quite so; but it is not too late for the next. Let all who own flocks of the character mentioned above, if they have any spare moments, just go carefully through their flocks, and draw them into separate lots, putting those nearest alike together; a few such examples as this will bring home more clearly than any other means how woefully below the standard they should be are many of the flocks of this country.

Having to attend flock inspections on behalf of one of our breed societies, and to visit and inspect many other flocks in the course of every year, for either the purpose of purchase or report for the Press, has afforded opportunity to the writer to see flocks of many breeds situated in nearly every section of the country. The experience thus gained fully confirms the views mentioned in the foregoing paragraphs.

The store stock markets and sheep fairs also afford excellent opportunities to test the conclusions arrived at. Take any one of the larger sheep fairs, and go carefully through the lots offered for sale, the difference that will be observed between the several lots, not to mention individual sheep in the same pen, will still further emphasise the great need there is at the present time for the exercise of far more care in every direction of flock management. To put it shortly, what is wanted is far more of the master's interest and personal attention than the flocks generally secure.

A fine lot of rams have this week been despatched from Mr. Arthur Finn's flock at Westhoke, Lydd, Kent, by Mr. W. W. Chapman for a client in the Falkland Islands.

The reports of sheep sales in the Argentine have been most meagre this season, and only a very few of the results secured at the auction sales held in that country have appeared in the Argentine Press.

Last week's mail brings over but one sheep sale report, namely, one held in Buenos Ayres, of thirty-five Lincoln Long-wooled rams shipped to that country by Mr. J. E. Casswell, of Laughton, Folkingham. These rams realised an average of £27 2s. 6d., with prices that ranged from £76 2s. 2d. to £21 17s. 6d.

Concerning Essex and Sheep.*

It is far more difficult than it was a few years ago to find a new subject of direct usefulness to discuss with farmers, as they have so much awakened their interest in farming, whether it is in the mere businesslike management of the farm, or in the application of what a few years since was called theory. However, they read more; and the agricultural Press has much advanced; and their views have broadened, and their prejudices have lessened. Moreover, times and conditions are always changing, and the cocksureness of yesterday may seem possible of less certainty to-day. Moreover, the best effect of a lecture is in giving rise to thought; and a discussion, though antagonistic, is most helpful. It is for these reasons that I have chosen the homely and ancient topic of sheep, to-day especially, as I think there is no section of farming so interesting and none in which we can continue to learn more; none which through bad times has better kept its balance-sheet on the right side.

Essex men, and men who have left Essex to farm in other counties, have expressed to me their fears that there is a great danger of a declining market for oats, hay, and straw, with more difficulty in obtaining stable manure, through the withdrawal of horses from London and other places by the substitution of mechanical motive power. This, of course will also affect breeding. If there is to be the exclusion of the use of motors that many predict it cannot fail to have some effect on Essex, and another product must be developed. It is natural and right for a county so near London to cater as much as possible for special markets, but special markets have narrow limits and are easily overdone. It seems to be the special mission of many whose agricultural experience is not great to urge poultry-keeping as a sort of sheet anchor to farming; but while poultry may be a useful adjunct to the farm, outside Sussex few make much of a living from it. It is said that Rome was saved by geese, but I am quite sure that England and English farming will never be saved by old hens.

It is not an original idea to urge more sheep, but it is a sound one. The better price for wool has made us recognise the fact that the world has a very short stock of sheep, Mr. Gooddall brought the fact home to you last year, and when we know that ewes readily fetch 24s. a head in New Zealand, in the place of a very few shillings a few years since, we cannot but recognise that here in England, with the best breeds, the best climate, the best sheep management, the greatest freedom from and control of diseases, and the best market on the spot, however narrow other branches of English farming may have become, there is great scope the greatest there has been for a long period—for the development of sheep, and Essex is by no mens full of sheep. Stock Essex with sheep and it will not materially lower the price of mutton; therefore if changes must be made the position is not by any means a hopeless one.

In Ireland the excuse for anything one does not want to do is always the climate. In Essex there is a tendency to put it down to the land, the heavy land, and it is to the heavy land to which I am mostly going to direct my remarks. The lighter soils have their remedy, and the whole requires no physician. I will tackle the heavy land problem, because it is regarded as the most difficult and hopeless, and it will also give you better scope in the discussion which I hope will take place, of giving one from outside the county a bit of a roasting for tackling the Essex clays. If we can get warmth outh of cold Essex clay, we may do some good—of course, I mean its soil, not its occupiers.

Sheep on clay or heavy soils are not popular; I contend not so popular as they should be. I think, however, that much of this arises from failure to fatten sheep on roots or arable land in winter, which I certainly do not advocate, but would leave it to the lighter soils. There is no mutton so cheaply made as summer mutton, and where there is a reasonable extent of pasture it is quite easy to keep a ewe flock. I am not throwing this out as an unproved theory, as I have done it on the poor wet clays of Sussex, and w Southdown sheep, which might ordinarily be regarded as the least likely to be successful in such conditions, and the Sussex clays are quite as bad as the Essex.

Ideas formed of the suitability of sheep on heavy land date back generally to the days of four and five course rotations, in which corn predominated, and where any extensive system of sheep farming, and especially summer sheep farming on arable land outside the clover land was and is practically an impossibility. Nor can it be done with a mere patchwork makeshift of these rotations. If sheep are to form a more important section of the farm, then the working and cropping of the farm must be more adapted to sheep.

We have to remember that all improvement of sheep has gone with improvement of farming; in fact, the two have never been independent since systematic improvement of sheep started some 150 years ago, and turnip culture was instituted; then clover, mangels, and catch cropping gave additional assistance. The main improvement in sheep has been made within the past century, and some twenty years ago a well-known sheep breeder, himself then well over eighty, recounted to me his experience of sheep in Beds. He could remember when the native heath sheep was mainly kept. This gave way to the Leicester; the Leicester to improved Leicester; this was largely crossed with Cotswold; then the Oxford pushed them aside; the Oxford was then crossed with the Hampshire. "Oh, there," he said, "my son has just started a pure-bred Hampshire flock." I may say that the pure Hampshire soon broke away from its type, and his son had to be content with the Oxford-Hampshire crosses, as the soil would not carry the pure breed; in fact, like all soils on the oolite, a dash of Cotswold was necessary. This old gentleman's experience dated from the wheat, bean, fallow system, which gave way to the four course, and to the break up of the four course, permitting more catch cropping. Such an experience can never occur again in the history of sheep breeding. During these years many crops, such as mangels, kohl rabi, crimson clover (T. I.), were brought into cultivation, and made it possible to carry a higher type of sheep—that is one with great powers of early maturity, and it must not be forgotten that early maturity and catch-cropping absolutely go hand in hand.

There is far too general idea that catch-cropping is only adapted to the lighter lands, but this is a mistake. It is a residual curse of those rigid rotations which were compulsory up to within the last twenty years. Rigid rotations were required at one time when there was little chance of getting additional fertilisers, and when produce fetched high prices, but that time is passed, so far as they are concerned one little hears of them outside agricultural text books. A farmer who cannot farm without a strict rotation is not going to farm long in these days. He has to work his business well enough to adapt circumstances to his ends.

I am not, therefore, going to suggest a rotation which is to fit everybody, as no two persons are exactly similarly placed—a rotation is like a ready-made suit, will fit very few.

It will depend, of course, much on the proportion of arable to grass, capital available, and the nature of the sheep to be kept. There are a few points which may generally be found desirable: (1) Ample catch-cropping; (2) an extensive area of mangels; (3) a ewe flock, as fattening animals are wasteful and ewes scavenge profitably; (4) ample spring food for lambs; (5) a good summer and early autumn food; (6) on heavy land a double root crop, that is the land in roots for two years, so as to render dead fallows less necessary; (7) single-feed crops to allow bastard fallows.

There are various ways in which these can be secured, as, for instance, take land after wheat, in quantity according to needs.

Wheat (first portion).—Rye fed in spring followed by cabbages or kale drilled.

Second portion.—Trifolium followed by turnips autumn fed.—

Third portion.—Tares, followed by kale maur planted, failing which mustard.

Fourth portion.—Mangels, swedes, kohl rabi on the lighter land, kale or rape drilled.

Fifth portion.—The foulest land dead fallowed; if season dry enough to effect full influence of fallowing six week turnips or mustard may follow.

The same might follow any other corn crop, but as Italian rye grass comes very early, and is excellent for young lambs, it is well to put in a quantity as a first run over for lambs: to run a hay crop and then lie bastard fallowed. Space is desirable for two or three acres of winter barley, as it is such an excellent corrective in case of scour in lambs.

The above, in proportion to needs, while taking mangels as the sheet anchor in the food supply to last through spring and June, will supply food in the following order:—March: feed rape, or turnip tops, kale; April: rye, Italian rye grass; May: trifolium; May onwards: seeds (clovers, etc.); June: tares; July: kale, early cabbages; August: late cabbages, rape; September: turnips; October: mustard; November: swedes; December: kohl rabi; February, March, onwards: mangels; these, with pasture and clover leys to turn on in very wet times, will tide the sheep along.

In respect to using the land twice for a root crop, it is best to keep the turnip and cabbage land alternating with the mangel land, and to alternate the land fed off with that from which the crop is carted off.

Apart from the dead fallow, there is ordinarily not enough work done on heavy land in summer, when tillage is much more effective. It is the frequent corn cropping and absence of summer work which makes dead fallowing necessary so much more often. On light land, which does not want opening so much vastly more work is done in summer time. Heavy land farming, most unsuitably generally throws the work on the land in the wet season, so that the subsoil is pounded in a wet condition, requiring dead fallows to correct it.

It may be urged that there is difficulty in getting a plant in summer time. So there is on all land, and on the chalk soils, where most catch-cropping is done, there are difficulties; but it must be borne in mind that heavy land produces much heavier crops than those light soils, so that compensation is got there.

(To be continued).

* A Market Day Lecture recently read by Mr. W. J. Malden at Colchester

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best Farm Account Books are "WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK," with Preface by Clare Sewell Read; 72nd edition; 6s.; larger size, 7s. 6d. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOKS, 3s. 6d.; JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., post free. List of Game and Dairy Account Books, post free, of Jarrold and Sons, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

The Leicester Sheep Breeders' Association.

At a meeting of the Council of the Leicester Sheep-Breeders' Association, held in Driffield, Yorks, on Thursday, Mr. E. F. Jordan presided. Messrs. James Snarry and James T. Barnby, of Eddlethorpe Grange, Malton, were elected to membership. A list of the prizes proposed to be offered at the Derby meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society was received from Mr. Ernest Clarke, the secretary, and the classification was gratefully accepted and a resolution of thanks passed.

NORWICH FAT STOCK SHOW.

The annual show of this society was held on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week, under favourable conditions as regards weather, which was cold and seasonable—quite in accordance with ideals for the best condition of Christmas fat stock. The general quality of the animals was highly satisfactory throughout, the majority being good weights and well finished. As regards breeding, a very large portion of the cattle at this show have always been cross-breds of one kind or other with a number of capital Irish bullocks, and the present occasion emphasises the state of things very considerably, as, apart from the native breed of Red Polls, there were very few pure breds. The overwhelming demand that has been experienced for two, at least, of the leading breeds (Shorthorns and Herefords) for export as well as for home breeding, has naturally had a great effect upon these breeds, as no breeder would think of sacrificing a bull calf for a fat stock show that was likely to grow into hundreds of pounds for breeding purposes; neither would females be consigned to such a fate unless they had proved sterile, therefore it was not surprising that the pure-bred classes, as far as the breeds above mentioned were concerned, were very light. The class for various pure breeds of bullocks consisted mainly of Angus, one Hereford being shown and two Devons, which were not, for the reasons above stated, of extra show class, though good beef. The weights of the adult animals gave cause for much satisfaction, for though one often hears the cry that small joints are needed most, purchasers when in the market invariably run after the big cattle, knowing that they get more money, and also that a small beast fattened to excess is pretty certain to cut up wastefully fat to a much greater extent than the large one. Judging at this show was once more left too late in the day to be pleasing, at least, to visitors, as finishing the championships by gaslight is not to be commended; yet this had to be done last Thursday, otherwise the judges went through their duties agreeably, apparently, and with, for the most part, general satisfaction.

The Champion Beast at the Norwich Fat Stock Show.

Our Illustration above is of the Crossbred Cow, "Luxury," a black and white, by a Shorthorn out of an Aberdeen Angus—Shorthorn Dam," bred by Mr. J. Ross, Meikle Tarrel, Fearn, Ross-shire, and exhibited at the Norwich Fat Stock Show last week by Mr. E. T. Learner, Burgh, Aylsham. "Luxury" was first in the Class for cows of any breed other than Shorthorn and Red Polled (including cross and mixed) that has produced at least one live calf, or heifer of any breed not exceeding 4 years old; was awarded the Special Prize for the best cow or heifer in the Show, a Special for the best beast in the Show exhibited by Norfolk Farmers whose incomes are mainly derived from the cultivation of land, and finally the Championship of the Show. "Luxury's" age last week was given as 2 years 8 months 3 weeks, and her weight 14 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb., her average daily gain thus being 1·59 lb.

Cattle.

The county breed Red Polls, as it should be, take precedence in the catalogue, and these made a more favourable impression than for several years past. The weights of them were not big for such a breed, but very few of them were over fed, and there is generally in them a little weakness or lack of flesh behind the shoulder, which was the case this year. Steers under two years old came before the judges first, and were a very neat and well brought out lot. Sir Walter Corbet had the best of these, bred and fed in his herd in Shropshire, and sired by Rattler, a beautiful steer at both ends as well as the middle, ripe, and pulling up the beam at 11 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. at a year and ten months; this steer was eventually awarded reserve as best of his breed. Lord Amherst had a very pretty steer in the second place of a year and seven months old, and good in quality. The Hon. A. E. Fellowes had also a weighty steer placed third.

Steers above one and under two years were four in number, and were not as good as the juniors, proportionately. The Hon. A. E. Fellowes had the best of them, weighing just over 13 cwt.; Mr. John Hammond and Sir Walter Corbet followed. Females of this breed mustered some seven very good entries, both of fair weights and good in their feeding. The judges selected Mr. R. P. Cooper's Ashlyn's Gravel for the first place, a very neatly shaped heifer with good beef, and pulling up the beam at 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. at two years and nine months; she was also accounted champion of this breed, though many ring-siders would have preferred the reserve (the steer) for that honour. Sir Walter Corbet also had a very good heifer of greater weight and good at both ends, that must have been very close to her companion, and secured the second prize. The Hon. A. E. Fellowes had also a remarkably ripe heifer in the class.

Shorthorn steers above two and under three years were next judged, and, as intimated, above, were very short in numbers, only two animals competing. H.M. the King's white steer, by Carlyle, that won in the juniors last year was easily first, he has grown and laid on flesh wonderfully, and handle well. His fore-end and top, too, are most satisfactory, at the stern, however, he loses ground; his weight now is just under a ton. Mr. T. B. Earles' Coral Prince was the other bullock, and a very useful one, too. Female Shorthorns, like the steers, were only two in number. Mr. Earl this time easily led with Rockfield Lady 6th, a Northern-bred heifer scaling 15 cwt. 0 qr. 24 lb., and very good in her symmetry, style, and quality all round. Captain J. P. Meade owned the other heifer, a good commercial one.

Steers of any other pure breed consisted of four Angus, two Devons, and a Hereford. The Angus, however, were decidedly the best of these—indeed, two of them or three of them were quite able representatives of their breed. Mr. E. P. Alexander, from Wilts, obtained first with a very sensible steer weighing 17 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb., shapely, and handling well; he was bred in the North, and is a likely steer to give the buyer satisfaction as well as the seller. Mr. T. B. Earl was second with another lengthy, well finished, and level bullock of Mr. Bridge's breeding, and Sir F. E. S. Adair had a remarkably ripe and heavy bullock, that stood next.

In the junior mixed class of steers, Mr. R. W. Hudson was accorded first honour for a blue grey of deep, massive, and level proportions, and, like all the entries from this feeder, capitally brought out; his weight, 14 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.; breed, Angus and Shorthorn cross. H. M. the King came next with a younger beast of pure Shorthorn blood of very good symmetry and quality, that looks like doing better another year. Mr. Steward and Sir F. E. Adair had also very good animals in this class. Cross or mixed steers above two and under three years were a famous class, and brought out the champion ox or steer in the show. This was Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Midnight, an Angus and Shorthorn cross bred by exhibitor, and pulling up the beam at 16 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb., a wonderful-backed steer, wide, and fed to the turn, covered evenly with the best of roasting beef, and showing well. Mr. T. B. Earle followed with another of similar cross, that has done well since last year, now scaling 16 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb., and is well filled along his roasting parts and good in his symmetry. Mr. Alexander and Sir F. E. Adair had also very good bullocks.

The entries of this section were, perhaps, if anything, the best class in the hall, and one or two quite worthy of substantial honours had to be content with very little. Mr. E. T. Learner's Luxury headed the class. She was first in the junior heifer class at Smithfield last year, and reserve for the cross-bred cup. She is now remarkably symmetrical, has a capital top, and is light of offal. Her weight is 14—0—14, which represents but a very small gain on the year, she being quite of the early maturity type that seldom grow so much after two years. It must be very gratifying to Norfolk that the championship of the show, as well as of the females, and one or two other great honours also fell to this heifer. A very close second was found in Mr. J. Thomson's English-bred Angus, that scaled 15—1—6 at a month younger than the first prize one, and is very good in her quality, well finished, and with very even top and bottom line. Mr. E. Mann had also a very fine heifer standing next, and another of first-rate finish h.c. Mr. T. H. Bainbridge also furnished a topper for the second place. Altogether this was a hot class. The classes for cattle bred or fed in Norfolk contained more beasts of first-class breeding and quality than they have done upon several occasions. In the young steer class Mr. R. Matlock was first with a very neat Shorthorn of a year and six months; H.M. the King following with two white steers, both sired by Traveller and pulling up the beam at about 12—2—0, and very level and useful. In older steers, Mr. E. T. Learner was well at the front with a good Angus, ripe and heavy for age, as well as shapely. Very good beasts were also shown by Mr. Groom and Mr. Hargrave that carried off the other money. The Norfolk cow or heifer class was also good, the chief feature being the variable breeds in it. Mr. Hargrave was first with a very fine quality black and white; Mr. T. A. Barton and H.M. the King carried off the remaining money.

Small cattle were of the usual mixed description, but not without one or two of the most sensational cattle in the hall. Mr. R. W. Hudson claimed the first prize and also the championship of the class without any dispute with a little animal of beauty and quality in Danesfield Little Jap, a Dexter and Angus cross, pulling up the beam at 8—2—20 at a year and ten months; she is very ripe, too. Mr. B. de Bertodans was also capitally represented, and carried off second and third for heifers, and first for steers, which were not quite as good a class as the females. Irish cattle were, as far as beef is concerned, a very good class. Mr. C. H. May had the best of these in a very deep, capital, rent-paying class of bullock of Shorthorn, or mostly so, blood, and scaling 19—1—0. Messrs. Fordman, Le Nene, Learner, and Murrell also showed in the prize ring two or three very level Angus and Hereford crosses were shown in these.

The butchers' class was almost on a par with

previous years, containing mostly crosses, Shorthorns, and one or two of mostly or all Angus blood. The first prize was given to Mr. E. C. Groom for a beast of the latter type, well fed, and weighing 17—1—25. Mr. Ben Stimpson obtained the other prize for a very neat one of similar blood, but very much lighter in weight, being but 13—0—10

Sheep.

The sheep section was remarkably well filled, both in numbers and quality, the space for exhibiting the animals, however, is too limited to allow for seeing them to the best advantage. In South Downs, H.M. the King was well to the front, taking first and the championship of the section with a fine level pair of wethers that weighed 5—3—6, and also first for a very good quality pen of lambs that balanced 4—0—9. The Earl of Ellesmere, Mr. C. R. W. Adeane, and Sir Thomas Gooch also exhibited very good pens of this breed and shared the honours.

Mr. H. E. Smith was the only exhibitor of Suffolk wethers, and was awarded first prize for a very good pen that weighed 6—3—24.

Wethers of other breeds were headed by a fine pen of Mr. Rush's crossbreds pulling up 7—1—1; second and third prizes going to Hampshire Down wethers shown by Mr. T. F. Buxton and Sir W. J. Pearce; weight of the second prize pen 7—0—8. Mr. T. F. Buxton also secured first and third prizes for lambs of other breeds with his Hampshires, the best pen of which were 5—2—7, and then divided for the second place by a pen of fine Suffolk lambs of Mr. H. C. Smith of 4—0—22, all of them very ripe. The most enchanting lambs, however, were a pen of Mr. Thomas Hush's Hampshire and Oxford crosses that reached just 6—0—0. These were also awarded the champion prize for best pens of lambs; a second pen from the same flock were also very good; as were also a pen of Suffolk and Hampshire crosses shown by Mr. C. W. H. Cozens-Hardy.

Pigs.

The display of these was very limited in numbers, but quality was quite up to any previous year. Mr. A. Brown and Earl Cadogan divided the Berkshire prizes, and Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Reeves the prizes for pure bred White pigs. Mr. Brown had also a pen of very good cross breds, and Mr. K. M. Clark a pen of Large Blacks that were first and second in the mixed class. The best butchers' pigs being Mr. H. Reeve's Large White Yorkshires and a pen of crossbreds of Mr. Webster's.

Roots and Grain.

The show of roots was a comparatively small one, but in keeping with a fairly good season, the quality of the exhibits was for the most part excellent. This was, perhaps, more apparent with the mangold, there being specimens remarkable for size and solidity. Corn invariably forms, for some reason, a small display at an exhibition of this kind. Mr. William Mitchell, Kirby Bedon, took the premier place in red wheat, second honours going to Mr. G. W. Roe, Uphall, Garboldisham, for a bushel which ran the first prize very close. Naturally the greatest interest was concentrated in the barley section, Norfolk having this year achieved the honour of sending the champion sample to the great Brewers' Exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Hall. Mr. C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Harleston, sent a bushel of the barley which secured the national honour on that occasion, and as may be imagined, this sack, which was awarded first prize on this occasion, commanded a good deal of attention, the sample being freely handled, criticised, and admired, a grand specimen of Webb's Kinver Chevallier, grown with Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co.'s fertiliser. Next to it, and taking a second honour, was a sample of Archer's barley, sent by Mr. W. Mitchell, Kirby Bedon, and this, too, came in for a good heal of admiration.

Judges.

CATTLE: Mr. William Wright, Scamblesby House, Horncastle; Mr. J. Sturley Nunn, Little Welnetham Hall, Bury St. Edmund's.

SHEEP: Hon. A. E. Parker, The Cottage, Doveridge, Derby; Mr. W. D. Little, Middleton Stoney, Bicester.

BUTCHERS' BEASTS AND PIGS: Mr. Frederick Able, High Street, Lowestoft; Mr. P. M. Kett, Sprowston Road, Norwich.

ROOTS AND GRAIN: Mr. William Case, Tuttington Hall, Aylsham; Mr. Charles Waters, Postwick, Norwich.

CHAMPION AND SPECIAL PRIZES.

CATTLE.

The Patron's Prize for the best beast in the show: Mr. E. T. Learner (cross-bred); r., Mr. R. W. Hudson (cross-bred).

The best ox or steer in the show: Mr. R. W. Hudson (cross-bred); r., Mr. E. P. Alexander (Aberdeen Angus).

The best cow or heifer in the show: Mr. E. T. Learner (cross-bred); r., Mr. R. W. Hudson (cross-bred).

The Members' Prize for the best Red Polled beast in the show: Mr. R. P. Cooper; r., Sir Walter Corbet.

The best beast in the show bred and fed in Norfolk: Mr. Edward Mann (cross-bed); r., Mr. A. C. Hargrave.

The best beast in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer: Mr. E. T. Learner (cross-bred).

The second best in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer: Mr. A. C. Hargrave.

A prize of ten guineas for the best beast in the small cattle classes (13 and 14): Mr. R. W. Hudson (cross-bred); r., Mr. B. de Bertodano (cross-bred).

A Silver Challenge Cup for the best beast in the show exhibited by a Norfolk farmer: Mr. T. A. Barton (cross-berd); r., Mr. R. Mattocks (Shorthorn).

SHEEP.

The Champion Prize for the best pen of sheep in the show: H.M. the King (Southdown wethers); r., Mr. Herbert E. Smith (Suffolk wethers).

The best pen of lambs in the show: Mr. Thomas Rush (Oxford-Hampshire); r., Mr. T. F. Buxton (Hampshire Downs).

The best pen of Shearling wethers in the show: H.M. the King (Southdowns); r., Mr. Herbert E. Smith (Suffolks).

The best pen of sheep, exhibited by a Norfolk farmer: Captain A. B. Feilden, Baconsthorpe, Holt (Suffolk lambs).

Prize List.

Class 1.—Steer of Red Polled breed, not exceeding two years old: 1, Sir Walter Corbet, Acton Reynald, Shrewsbury; 2 Lord Amherst of Hackney, Didlington Hall; 3, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., Honingham Hall, Norfolk (Honingham Allen); r., Richard P. Cooper, Ashlyns, Berkhamsted (Ashlyns Gem); c., C. E. Simpson, Old Buckenham, Attleborough.

Class 2.—Steer of the Red Polled breed, above two years, and not exceeding three years old: 1, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes M.P. (Augustus 9261); 2, John Hammond (Davyson 254th); r., Sir Walter Corbet; c., R. J. Thurman, Ipswich.

Class 3.—Cow of the Red Polled breed, that has produced at least one live calf; or heifer, not exceeding four years old: 1, Richard P. Cooper (Ashlyns Gravel); 2, Sir Walter Corbet, Bart. (Acton Coral); 3, Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P. (Amoret); r., John Hammond (Davy 272nd); h.c., John Hammond (Davy 269th).

Class 4. Steer of the Shorthorn breed, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, H.M. the King; 2, T. B. Earle, Aldbro', Darlington (Coral Prince).

Class 5.—Cow of the Shorthorn breed that has produced at least one live calf; or heifer of the Shortorn breed not exceeding four years old: 1, T. B. Earle (Rockfield Lady VI.); 2, Captain J. P. Meade, Earsam Hall, Bungay (Belle).

Class 6.—Steer of any pure breed, other than Shorthorn and Red Polled, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, E. P. Alexander (Aberdeen Angus, Holt Boy); 2, T. B. Earle (Aberdeen Angus, Drax); 3, Sir Frederick E. S. Adair, Flixton Hall, Bungay (Polled Angus, Lord Ruthven); r., R. W. Hudson, Marlow, Bucks (Aberdeen Angus, Danesfield Cumbrian); c., R. Silcock and Sons, Poulton-le-Fylde (Hereford, Bodvean Lad).

Class 7. Steer of any breed (including cross or mixed breed, but excluding Red Polled), not exceeding two years old: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Blue Boy); 2, H.M. the King; 3, F. J. Steward, Brigstock, Thrapston (Brigstock Prie); r., Sir Frederick E. S. Adair (Charlie); h.c., Sir Frederick Adair.

Class 8.—Cross or mixed breed steer, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Midnight); 2, T. B. Earle (Macdonald); 3, E. P. Alexander (Gay Lad); r., Sir Frederick E. S. Adair.

Class 9.—Cow of any breed, other than Shorthorn and Red Polled (including cross and mixed), that has produced at least one live calf; or heifer of any breed, not exceeding four years old: 1, E. T. Learner (Luxury); 2, R. J. Thurman (Aberdeen Angus); 3, Edward Mann; r., Thomas H. Bainbridge, Felton, Northumberland (Aberdeen Angus); h.c., Edward Mann.

Class 10.—Steer of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, not exceeding two years old: 1, Robert Mattocks, The Green, Burlingham; 2, H.M. the King; r., Robert Mattocks.

Class 11.—Steer of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, above two years and not exceeding three years old: 1, E. T. Learner; 2, E. H. Evans Lombe, Thickthorn, Hethersett; 3, Arthur H. Hargrave, Hemblington, Norfolk; r., Thomas Allday Barton, Watton; h.c., John E. Groom, Stiffkey, Norfolk.

Class 12.—Cow of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, that has produced at least one live calf; or heifer of any breed, bred and fed in Norfolk, not exceeding four years old: 1, Arthur C. Hargrave; 2, Thomas Allday Barton, Watton; 3, H.M. the King; r., the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P.; c., L. Rodwell, East Rudham, King's Lynn.

Class 13.—Steer, above 18 months and not exceeding three years old, nor exceeding 10 cwt. live weight: 1, B. de Bertodano, Malmesbury, Wilts; 2, Rev. F. Jickling, Smallborough Hall, Norwich; 3, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.; r., H.M. the King.

Class 14.—Heifer, above 18 months, and not exceeding three years old, nor exceeding 9 cwt. live weight: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Little Jap); 2, B. de Bertodano; 3, B. de Bertodano; r., Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart.

Class 15.—Irish bred ox or steer, not exceeding three years old: 1, E. T. Learner; 2, E. and L. Goodman, Dundalk, Ireland; 3, E. G. H. Murrell; r., E. and L. Goodman.

Class 16.—Irish-bred ox or steer, above three years old: 1, C. H. May, Grenton, Bridgewater; 2, W. Le Neve, Tunstead Hall, Norwich; 3, E. and L. Goodman; h.c., Godfrey W. Weston, Hemblington, Norwich.

Class 17. For the best butcher's beast of any breed or age, grazed in Norfolk, which has been the property of the exhibitor for not les sthan six months: 1, E. G. Groom, Manor House, Congham, King's Lynn; 2, B. Stimpson, Bixley, Norwich; r., W. W. Cook, The Abbey, St. Faith's; h.c., Thos. Cook, Hobland House, Great Yarmouth.

SHEEP.

Class 19.—Pen of three Southdown wethers, under 23 months old: 1, H.M. the King; 2, Earl of Ellesmere.

Class 20.—Pen of three Suffolk Black faced wethers, under 23 months old: Herbert E. Smith, Walton.

Class 21.—Pen of three wethers, other than Southdowns and Suffolks, under 23 months old: 1, Thomas Rush, Saffron Walden; 2, T. F. Buxton, Ware (Hampshire Down); 3, Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Berks (Hampshire Down); r., T. F. Buxton (Hampshire Down).

Class 22. Pen of three Southdown lambs, lambed in the year 1895; 1, H.M. the King; 2, Earl of Ellesmere; 3, C. W. R. Adeane, Babraham Hall, Cambridge; r., C. H. Berners, Woolverstone Park, near Ipswich; h.c., C. W. R. Adeane.

Class 23. Pen of three pure bred Short woolled lambs, other than Southdown, lambed in the year 1905: 1, T. F. Buxton (Hampshire Down); 2, Herbert E. Smith; 3, T. F. Buxton (Hampshire Down); r., Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Hungerford, Berks (Hampshire Down); h.c., Captain A. B. Feilden, Baconsthorpe, Holt, Suffolk; M. G. Hale, Claydon; c., Captain A. B. Feilden.

Class 24.—Pen of three cross-bred lambs, lambed in the year 1905: 1, T. Rush; 2, T. Rush; r., Clement W. H. Cozens-Hardy, Cley Hall; c., Cement W. H Cozens-Hardy.

PIGS.

Class 25. Pn of three Berkshire pigs, above six months and not exceeding 12 months old: 1, A. Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton; 2, Earl Cadogan, K.G.

Class 26. Pen of three pure bred White pigs, above six months and not exceeding 12 months old: 1, W. Mitchell, Kirby Bedon, Trowse; 2, Messrs. H. Reeves, Stalham, Norwich; r. and h.c., A. Brown; c., W. Mitchell.

Class 27. Pen of three pigs other than Berkshires or Whites, including cross and mixed breeds, above six months and not exceeding 12 months old: 1, A. Brown; 2, K. M. Clark, Sudbourne Hall, Orford, Suffolk; r., A. Brown.

Class 28.—The best pen of three pigs of any breed or age most suitable for the butcher, bred in Norfolk: 1, Messrs. H. Reeves; r., Mr. W. H. Webster, Eaton, Norwich.

ROOTS AND GRAIN.

Class 30.—Six long mangolds, drawn from a field of not less than five acres: 1, C. Dewar, Great Massingham Abbey, King's Lynn; 2, J. C. Wiley, Little Plumstead, Norwich.

Class 31.—Six globe tankard, or intermediate mangolds, drawn from a field of not less than five acres: 1, J. Love, Walcot, Stalham; 2, C. W. Waters, Stokesby, Great Yarmouth; r., C. W. Waters; c., G. J. Baly, Attleborough; and A. J. Cubitt, Slowley Old Hall, Norwich.

Class 32.—Six swede turnips, drawn from a field of not less than five acres: 1, Captain A. B. Feilden; 2, W. Case, Tuttington, Aylsham, R.S.O.; r., A. J. Cubitt.

Class 33. One bushel of red wheat, a sample from not less than 15 quarters: 1, W. Mitchell; 2, G. W. Roe, Uphall, Garboldisham; r., F. Nash, Hassingham; c., C. W. H. Cozens-Hardy and W. H. Cooper.

Class 34.—One bushel of barley, a sample from not less than 15 quarters: 1, C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Harleston; 2, W. Mitchell; 3, J. Gooderham; r., C. W. H. Cozens-Hardy.

Class 35.—One bushel of white oats, a sample from not less than 15 quarters: 1, J. Gooderham; r., W. H. Cooper.

Class 36.—One bushel of black oats, a sample fro mnot less than 15 quarters: 1, C. G. Miles, Alburgh, Harleston; r., W. Mitchell.

SEEDSMEN'S PRIZES.

Class 66.—For the best six roots, Daniels' Coronation globe mangel, to be drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, J. M. Outlaw, Pulham Market; 2, E. H. Evans-Lombe, Thickthorn, Hethersett, Norwich; 3, C. Long, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth; 4, W. Hales, Bunwell, Attleborough; r., J. Sparrow, Church Farm, Bawburgh.

Class 67.—For the best six roots, Daniels' Gatepost mangel, to be drawn from a crop of not less than four acres: 1, F. S. Nash, Aldeby; 2, D. Harrison, Acle; 3, G. W. Roe, Uphall, Garboldisham; 4, E. Gladden, Ingham Hall Farm, Stalham; r., H. Reeve, Bridge Farm, Yaxham.

Class 68.—For the best six roots, Daniels' Golden Tankard mangel, to be drawn from a crop of not less than four acres: 1, J. Sparrow, Bawburgh; 2, C. Long, Bradwell; Great Yarmouth; 3, H. Rackham, Corton; 4, W. E. Sawyer, Catfield; r., G. W. Roe, Uphall, Garboldisham.

Class 69.—For the best six roots, Daniels' Norfolk Giant purple top swede, to be drawn from a crop of not less than four acres: 1, W. B. Mickleburgh, Aldeby; 2, J. Hewitt, Great Ormesby; 3, A. Stimpson, Arminghall; 4, H. Reeve, Yaxham; r., W. E. Sawyer, Catfield.

Class 70.—For the best six roots, Daniels' improved purple top swede, to be drawn from a crop of not less than four acres: 1, E. Gladden, Ingham Hall; 2, E. T. Learner, Burgh; 3, W. B. Mickleburgh, Aldeby; 4, F. Nash, Hassingham; r., J. Mendham, Raveningham.

Class 71.—For the best six roots, Daniels' Norfolk Green Round or White Turnip, to be drawn from a crop of not less than two acres: 1, W. E. Sawyer, Catfield; 2, G. Derisley, Stratton Strawless; 3, F. Nash, Hassingham; 4, H. M. Upcher, Sheringham; r., A. Stimpson, Arminghall.

Class 74.—For the best six bulbs of Golden Tankard mangold, supplied by Mr. G. Townsend: 1, C. W. Waters, Herringby Hall; 2, John Mendham; h.c., A. F. Knights, Stokesby, and J. F. Savory, Blickling.

Class 75.—For the best six bulbs of Globe mangel supplied by Mr. G. Townsend: 1, F. S. Nash, Aldeby; 2, C. W. Waters, Herringby Hall; h.c., R. King, Great Plumstead, and H. Kent, Swaffham Prior.

Class 76.—For the best six bulbs of Gatepost Yellow Intermediate mangel supplied by Mr. G. Townsend: 1, F. S. Nash, Aldeby; 2, A. Wright, Caistor; h.c., J. F. Savory, Blickling; c., A. F. Knights, Stokesby.

Class 77.—For the best six bulbs of Defiance or Monarch swede supplied by Mr. G. Townsend: 1, P. Case, Banningham Hall; 2, R. Harris, Sculthorpe; r., Lord Marcus Beresford, Newmarket; h.c., R. King, Stoke Holy Cross, and J. F. Savory, Blickling.

Class 78.—For the best six bulbs of Green Globe, White Globe, or Purple-top Mammoth, supplied by Mr. G. Townsend: 1, S. Wright, Moulton; c., G. Weston, Hemblington.

Class 79.—For the best six bulbs of Kohl Rabi supplied by Mr. G. Townsend: 1, Earl of Derby, Newmarket; 2, W. Case, Tuttington; h.c., R. King, Stoke Holy Cross.

Class 80.—For the best six specimens of Webb's swede, any one variety, drawn from a crop of not less than three acres: 1, J. Love, Walcot, Stalham; 2, E. T. Learner, Burgh, Aylsham; r., W. Le Neve, Tunstead Hall, Norwich.

Class 81.—For the best six specimens of Webb's mangold, any one variety, drawn from a crop of not less than three acres: 1, R. Mattock, The Green, Burlingham; 2, Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton; r., E. H. Evans-Lombe, Thickthorn, Hethersett, Norwich; h.c., J. Love.

Class 82.—For the best nine specimens of mangold, any one of J. K. King and Son's pedigree varieties: 1, Spear and Villacott, East Hall, Rainham; 2, E. H. Evans-Lombe; r., E. Stacey Spencer, Bentfield, Bury, Stanstead, Essex; h.c., A. Hewett, Home Farm, Ramsay, Harwich; c., R. R. Kidman, South Walsham.

Class 83.—For the best nine specimens of swede, any one of J. K. King and Son's pedigree varieties: 1, W. Le Neve, Norwich; 2, J. Gooderham; r., W. B. Mickleburgh, Aldeby; c., F. Neave, Scottow.

Judges for Birmingham.

Cattle.—Herefords, Devons, Welsh, Kerries, and extra stock.—John Chick, Compton Valence, Dorchester; A. P. Turner, The Leen, Pembridge, Herefordshire. Shorthorns, Scots, and Crosses.—H. Lindsay, Deanbank House, Glamis; R. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln. Butchers' Prizes Cattle.—E. A. Lewis, Hockley Hill, Birmingham; David Rose, jun., Hamstead Road, Birmingham; S. C. Willis, City Meat Market, Birmingham.

Sheep. Cary Coles, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury; G. F. Hempson, Good Hall, Ardleigh; T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

Pigs. J. Watts, Fairgreen, Chipping Norton.

Oxon. Butchers' Prizes—Pigs.—John P. Flood, Bordesley Street, Birmingham; John Morgan, Digbeth, Birmingham.

Corn.—J. E. Mitchell, Cape Hill, Smethwick, Birmingham; Norman H. Todd, Blythewood, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Roots.—J. Keen, Hill Top, Longdon, Rugeley; L. Willdey, Dunton, Minworth, Birmingham.

Potatoes.—A. E. Drewett Canwell Gardens, Sutton Coldfield; W. Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton.

SOCIETIES.

Royal Lancashire.

A meeting of the Council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday at the Manchester Town Hall. Mr. John White, of Warrington, presided.

The Secretary (Mr. G. Bohane) laid before the Council a statement of the receipts and expenditure for the Liverpool show. The total of the receipts was £12,408. The total expenditure was £11,150, leaving a balance of profit of £1,558. The announcement of this balance was received with applause.

The Chairman, in explaining how the large balance arose, referred to the fact that at Liverpool, for the first time, the showyard had been fitted up by the society's own staff instead of by contract. He moved a vote of thanks to the Works Committee and the secretary (Mr. G. Bohane) for the efficient and economical way in which they had carried out this work. He said he thought the Council would agree with him when he said that there never had been a more finely arranged or more substantially erected showyard than that in which the Liverpool show was held. It was not only a better showyard than they had had before, but it had cost less. It had cost £2,025, whereas if it had been done according to scheduled prices it would have cost £3,195. Therefore, there had been an actual saving of £1,100. This was not all. The showyard was considerably larger than that which they had in Liverpool in 1889 (there were 300 more lineal feet of shedding), yet the expense was £1,600 less than that of the 1889 show. (Applause.)

A desperate attempt had recently been made on the part of the Royal Agricultural Society to capture the secretary of the Lancashire Society. He and other members of the society had brought all the influence they could to bear upon Mr. Bohane in order to induce him to remain. Fortunately they had succeeded in retaining his services.

Mr. W. W. B. Hulton seconded the resolution. It was supported by Mr. William Harrison and carried. Mr. R. Webster and Mr. Windham E. Hale responded on behalf of the Works Committee.

The Council decided to recognise the services of the ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool (Mr. John Lea) in connection with the show by conferring upon him an honorary vice-president life membership of the society. A similar honour was conferred upon the Rev. L. C. Wood, of Singleton.

It was decided to invite Mr. Herbert L. Storey to accept the office of president of the society for the ensuing year. The secretary stated that the general balance in favour of the society stood at about £12,000.

The Council adopted a draft prepared by the secretary as their annual report. Besides recording the facts stated above, it stated that 143 new members have been enrolled during the year, and that 79 have been lost through death and other causes. The total membership is now 1,372.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Co-operation at Tewkesbury.

A meeting of farmers and landowners was held at Tewkesbury, on Wednesday afternoon, in support of the principles of co-operation as applied to agriculture, and with the object of forming a society for Tewkesbury and the district. The Earl of Coventry presided, and he was supported by Sir R. B. Martin, Bart., M.P., Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P. (President of the Agricultural Organisation Society), etc. The Earl of Coventry said he knew it was rather a difficult matter to get farmers to co-operate for the reason that they were a somewhat fleeting population, and it was not easy for them to keep in touch, but if the farmers would combine and support agricultural organisations they would be able to obtain their implements, cake, and other things used on the farm upon better terms, and would also have an association to watch over their interests. In taking fat stock to market he understood farmers could not get more than sixpence per pound, whilst the price of meat remained as much as ever. The farmer, therefore, got a bad bargain, and probably the purchaser would get as much profit from the animals purchased in three days as the farmer got in three years. If they would co-operate they would do their best to assist each other, and obtain better prices in the market. His Lordship, referring to the condition of land, said that the country was suffering from a superabundance of red tape and a multiplication of local authorities and officials counting increased salaries. All this came upon the rates, and he wished they could return to the practice of thirty years ago, when the affairs of the country were administered quite as well and at far less cost than at the present time. Mr. Yerburgh then delivered a lengthy address upon the advantages of co-operation, and at the conclusion it was unanimously resolved that it was desirable that the farmers of the district should co-operate in their own interest, and a committee was formed.

Woodbridge Horse.

A committee meeting in connection with the Woodbridge Horse Show Society was held at Woodbridge on Thursday, when the prize list for next year's show—to be held on Easter Monday—was considered and revised. It was decided to eliminate class 5, for group of Suffolk yearlings, to reduce the prizes in class 6, for three-year-old Suffolk stallions, to £7 and £3, and increase the prizes in class 9, yearling Suffolk cart stallions, to £3 and £2. Classes 11 and 12 (two and three years old Shire stallions) were amalgamated. Class 13, for draught mares, other than Suffolk, was altered to four-year-old and upwards, and class 14 to include two and three-year-olds. The two classes for tradesmen's turnouts, within a radius of six miles of Woodbridge, were struck out. An extra class was added for high jump for hunters. Bye-law 9 it was decided should stand, but in classes where there are only two or three entries, the stewards should draw the judges' special attention to the bye-law, that no second prize should be awarded unless of special merit. These changes were necessitated by the Society's lack of funds.

Rye Farmers' Club.

The opening meeting for the present session of the Rye Farmers' Club took place on Wednesday, Mr. J. Wadman presiding. A letter was read from the Canterbury Farmers' Club advocating an import duty on hops, and this is to be considered at the next meeting. The Dorset Joint Agricultural Committee invited the Club's support to resolutions urging the passage of the Damage to Crops Bill and the Sale of Butter Bill, and such support was accorded. Mr. Matthews, Secretary of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, gave an address on "Local Taxation and the cost of administering the Education Act," advocating that the cost of education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer. He also urged the formation of emergency committees in connection with farmers' clubs. A resolution was carried expressing the opinion that the cost of main roads, police, and elementary education should be borne by the Imperial Exchequer, a copy to be sent to the Premier.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Dixon's Law of the Farm." Sixth edition. Stevens and Sons, Limited. Price 26s. The appearance of a new edition of this well-known work, edited by Mr. A. J. Spencer, the author of "Spencer's Agricultural Holdings Acts," and late Assistant Commissioner to the Royal Commission on Agricultural Depression, will be welcome to the landlord, the tenant farmer, the landagent, and members of the legal profession concerned in agricultural or rural questions. Mr. Spencer has introduced marginal notes summarising the text, which will facilitate reference, and he has more fully dealt with the subjects of highways and rates and taxes than in former editions. The chapter on the Agricultural Holdings Act has been re-written, owing to the passing of the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act, 1895, and the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900. In many other respects the law has been brought up to date. We confess we should like to have seen more space allotted to the question of sewers and drains and water supply, subjects of considerable interest at the present moment in rural England—but this is a matter, after all, for the discretion of the learned Editor. Nothing but praise can be given for the chapters on Trespass, Game, and Sporting Rights Husbandry Covenants and Customs, and Compensation for Improvements under the Agricultural Holdings Acts. The index is excellent. We can thoroughly recommend this new edition, and it ought to find a place in every country gentleman's and landagent's library.

Mr. J. Murray, of 50A, Albemarle Street, London, W., has just issued (price 10s. 6d. net.) "The Book of the Rothamstead Experiments," by Professor A. D. Hall, M.A., Director of the Rothamstead Experimental Station, and, as may be imagined, it deals with that celebrated place and the numerous experiments which have been carried on there during the past sixty years. Professor Hall must have had a most laborious task in compiling this work, but we think it will be generally agreed that he has done it well. The information given is, naturally, not altogether new, but in the new form it should be of great service to the teacher or student of agricultural chemistry, for whom the book is primarily intended, but it will also appeal to every man concerned in the management of the land whether farmer or market gardener, landowner or agent who wishes to learn something of the processes going on in the growing crop and in the soil. Professor Hall makes matters quite plain to the non technical reader, and gives a number of diagrams and simplified tables, so that the persons just enumerated will have little difficulty in understanding what they are reading.

"The Game of British Columbia" is the title of Bulletin No. 17, issued by the Government of the Province mentioned, and it differs from many other bulletins in that it is interesting from beginning to end, and is most profusely and excellently illustrated. The animals and birds which are hunted for sport in British Columbia are numerous and widely distributed over a vast extent of country presenting many opportunities of, as well as many obstacles to, success. The big game, such as grizzly bear, mountain sheep, and caribou, are only found in the mountain fastnesses or the more inaccessible parts of the Province, and, therefore, their pursuit is not to be undertaken lightly. As, however, the difficulties and dangers incident to this life form the principal zest for true sport, British Columbia as a country is, and ought to be, a very attractive field for sportsmen. The Bulletin, it may be added, contains a check-list giving the more familiar birds and mammals. This has been prepared by Mr. F. Kermode, Curator of the Provincial Museum, and it gives the habitat of all the game animals. There is another important feature of the Bulletin, and that is a full list of the British Columbian Game Laws. Those interested in the subject can obtain a copy of the Bulletin, and other particulars, from the Agent-General for British Columbia, namely, Mr. J. H. Turner, Salisbury House, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.

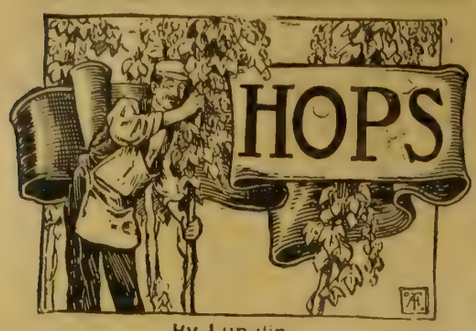
Some practical hints on the cultivation and management of cottage gardens, written from actual experience, are given by Colonel the Hon. R. Stapleton-Cotton, in a pamphlet of some sixty pages, which has been issued by Messrs. Cornish Brothers, Limited, Birmingham. Its object is to promote the love of gardening and to help those whose lack of knowledge on the subject has prevented them from doing justice to their gardens. Its price is only 4d., so that it should have a very large sale and accomplish its object. The proceeds of the sales, it may be added, will be handed over to the Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire towards the foundation of a scholarship at the Harper-Adams College for the benefit of the sons of bonâ-fide agricultural labourers or other working men receiving ordinary daily wages in the United Kingdom.

As the majority of our readers are doubtless aware, the first International Millers' Congress was held in Paris during October, and, as a souvenir of such an important event, Mr. G. G. S. Broomhall has issued a nicely got-up booklet, in which are set forth details of the Congress, an interesting illustrated article on the "Evolution of the Flour Mill," and particulars of the various Millers' National Associations, showing their origin, development, and history, whilst photographs of their chief members accompany the letterpress. The souvenir is a worthy one of such an interesting event as the Congress proved.

During the past week we have received No. 2 (dated May 24) and No. 3 (November 4) of the "Journal of Agricultural Science," issued by the Cambridge University Press. This journal has a distinguished list of editors, and the subjects dealt with cover a fairly wide area, but they are far too technical for the average farmer, and thus only appeal to the student and teacher; whilst, again, the price is high—5s. net.

From Messrs. Thomas Kennedy and Co., of Dumfries, has come to hand a catalogue of forest, fruit, and ornamental trees, shrubs, roses, etc., for 1905. It is a somewhat unpretentious list in get-up, but gives particulars of a choice lot of the plants named, from which can be selected stocks to meet the requirements of the large or small garden, etc.

Rugby Horse Fair.—There are not wanting evidences that the great Rugby Horse Fair will soon be an institution of the past, for both the supply of stock and attendance of buyers and others at the fair held last week was meagre in the extreme.



By Lupulin.

Trade Notes.

England.

An important volume of business is continuously passing through the hands of the Borough traders, with the result that the main bulk of the new crop has been transferred, and most of the yearlings have now found buyers. The market is consequently getting into a condition of comparative bareness, choice and bright hops being especially scarce, and the lower qualities are commanding attention and being more freely taken. The earlier atmosphere of depression seems to be at last dispelled, and replaced by a brighter outlook. Firmness is the general characteristic of the present position, and better prices have been realised this week for all descriptions. The disappointing feature of recent transactions is the low figures bid and accepted for the excellent yearlings that were held in the expectation that they would of necessity be of better value than the best new hops. It appears that the changes in our various systems of brewing enable brewers to be less dependent than in former times upon yearlings for the lining of their beers. Thus they have been neglected in favour of the bounteous supply of the 1905 growth, until holders consented to let them go at such rates as buyers were willing to give. Heavy losses have therefore been suffered, and the sanguine hopes indulged in nine months ago are sadly cancelled.

America.

From recent information furnished by my correspondents on the other side I learn that considerable business is being transacted in choice hops at 11½ to 12½ cents, and that good prime qualities can be bought from growers at 9 to 10 cents, lower grades being neglected. As growers are generally anxious to sell, it is not anticipated that even the present low prices will be maintained. It is reported that an enormous quantity of hops has yet to be sold, and as brewers and short sellers are well aware of this fact, they will naturally take advantage of the position, and regulate their buying accordingly, without the slightest regard to the interests of growers. As with us, the holders of 1904 hops are compelled by the force of circumstances to submit to heavy losses, as they are only able to realise about 9 cents for hops which were confidently held in the summer for 30 cents.

Germany.

Although the general condition of affairs on the Nuremburg hop market has not materially altered during the past fortnight, the calm that has prevailed has brought about a tendency towards lower quotations. For choice coloury qualities there is a steady demand, accompanied by a fairly firm tone, but for all medium and inferior sorts prices are somewhat reduced. There is very little support given to the market by the export trade, which goes very slowly, and supplies being in excess of rates, stocks are increasing, so that the outlook is hardly suggestive of any early improvement in general values. Ordinary market hops can be bought from 25s. to 45s., Hallertans from 40s. to 78s., Wurtemburgs from 38s. to 75s., Badens from 55s. to 80s., Spalts from 68s. to 88s., and other sorts in proportion. The arrivals at Nuremburg by rail during September and October were 156,812 cwt., in addition to the supplies sent in by road, while the railway outgoings in the same period were only 73,962 cwt.

It will be remembered that at the close of the Franco-German war, in 1871, the Provinces of Alsace and Lorraine were annexed by Germany. The consequences of this change of nationality are singularly manifest in a reduction in the consumption of wine, and a corresponding increase in the production and consumption of beer. In 1872 these provinces produced 812,454 hectolitres of beer, and imported from Germany 51,808 hectolitres. In 1904 the figures were 1,221,690 hectolitres produced and 335,123 imported. Apparently, as the people think, so they drink, and it seems to be good proof that the Alsatians are well satisfied with the alteration in their government.

Belgium.

The previously reported improvement in the values of hops was checked slightly about a fortnight ago by a temporary falling off in demand. Recovery has, however, taken place, and, with more active business, the market has become distinctly firmer in tone, and prices have further advanced. Contracts made for delivery in November, which were unprovided for, doubtless explain the present upward movement in some degree, as the local brewery demand is only moderate. But the present position and prospects are satisfactory to sellers, as Alosts are realising 50 to 55 francs, and Pops 35 to 40 francs. These figures show improved values since the opening of the season to the extent of nearly double.

MONDAY MORNING. The tendency towards continued firmness in the Belgian hop markets has been checked during the past day or two, owing to the reduced demand from local brewers, and the calmness prevailing in other Continental centres. Quotations are slightly lowered, but there are indications that recovery of previous values will take place shortly.

British Possessions beyond the Seas

AND THEIR

London Representatives.

NOVA SCOTIA APPLES.

An Exhibition of NOVA SCOTIA APPLES, selected and forwarded by the Nova Scotia Government is now on view in the Canadian Court at the Crystal Palace.

Specimens may be loaned for exhibition at local Shows upon application to MR. JOHN HOWARD, Agent-General for Nova Scotia, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Nov. 11, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	11,733	11,657	Wheat ...	2,372,400	1,558,700
Sheep.....	6,711	757	Flour	193,800	259,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ..	709,900	429,400
Horses ...	232	361	Oats	219,200	129,700
			Peas	47,815	55,750
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	15 8 0	38,990
Beef	108,580	105,8 0	Maize ...	824,800	547,400
Mutton...	99,687	49,827	Apples ...	178,308	134,611
Pork	15,219	11,460	Apricots		
Bacon ...	104,746	97,388	&Peaches	2	—
Beef, salt	3,605	3,836		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	20,305	26,639	Bananas	84,481	103,812
Pork, salt	4,447	2,623		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	14,915	12,282	Cherries	—	—
			Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	15,740	12,235	Goosebr's	—	—
Butter ...	69,989	72,528	Grapes ..	£9,276	38 7 7
M'rg'rine	18,571	19,280	Lemons...	26,302	3,700
Cheese ...	45,682	69,599	Oranges	66,523	51,783
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	—	—	Pears.....	13,069	11,695
			Plums ...	483	—
			Oth'r Fr't	693	5,159
				Tons	Tons.
			Hay	1,949	2,900
Milk, Cream	169	94	Straw ...	1,678	476
			MossLitt'r	—	1,812
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	15,549	22,691	Hops	18,366	4,164
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	69	138	Locust Beans	11,490	700
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	152,738	271,854
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt. Hund.	Potatoes	45,447	29,813
Eggs	339,226	485,004	Tomatoes	10,340	6,662
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£6,368	£4,102
	£10,343	£8,030		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	1,357	6,013
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd by canning ..	6,348	3,704
Rabbits...	11,793	3,153			
Lard	45,899	46,369			

Royal Isle of Wight Agricultural Society.

The first general meeting of the above Society since its reconstitution was held at Newport, Isle of Wight, on the 1st inst., under the presidency of Mr. A. H. Wykeham. The report of the Committee, who had drawn up rules and taken other steps to ensure the more successful working of the Society in future, was presented and adopted. It is proposed that in addition to holding exhibitions there shall be quarterly meetings for the discussion of subjects interesting to agriculturists. The Committee reported that Lord Alverstone had consented to act as the first President of the Society, and many landowners and others had promised their valued support as vice-presidents. Captain H. Collingwood Bertram was elected Secretary in place of Major Henry J. Way, who, on retirement, has been made a life member, and will be presented with an address in recognition of his zealous services since the formation of the Society in 1882.

Milk and the Standard.

An interesting lecture with the above title was given by Professor F. J. Lloyd, F.C.S., F.I.C., at a meeting of the North Somerset Agricultural Society, at Nailsea, on Tuesday. At the outset Professor Lloyd said they all knew that milk was liable to very considerable fluctuations in its composition, as they knew that the morning's milk was not so rich as that given in the evening. He then proceeded to describe the construction of the organ in which the cow's milk was secreted—the udder. Milk, he proved, was not a liquid of a constant composition, and he would try to explain why it varied. Though milk was said to be a secretion, it was quite distinct from all other secretions of the body; and the udder also had the property of excretion, as could be seen in the different taints of herbage often found in it. Milk was not merely a secretion of a liquid, but a growth of material. If that fact were realised it would help to explain the vagaries and fluctuations in its composition. The production of serum would influence the quality of the milk and the natural breaking down of certain cells of the udder, which varied in the quantity of fat and solids it yielded.

What was important was the question of the quality of the milk, and that depended entirely upon the production of the cells. Those cells were built up by the blood, and the blood must have sufficient and proper food for the purpose; but it must be remembered that even when an animal was receiving a maximum amount of suitable food there was a limit to its capacity for production. He ventured to state, from long experience, that in many cases, perhaps in the majority of cases, the cows were not obtaining the maximum quantity of food, and that was why, if the food was increased, there was generally an improvement in the quality of the milk.

He went on to explain the changes in the composition which took place—the normal and abnormal changes. With regard to breed and individuality, it was well known that individual cows possessed varying degrees of facility for making milk, and different breeds produced not only milk of different composition, but of absolutely different character, and the art of breeding depended on the study of the quantity and quality of the milk of every cow in the herd. As to the abnormal fluctuations, those which were not regular and which were not natural were the most important.

Proceeding, Professor Lloyd referred to the difference in the character of the milk first taken from the cow when the milking commenced, and towards the finish of the milking. If the milk were an ordinary secretion of liquid, it would be of the same composition from start to finish; but, as they knew, whilst the first few drops contained scarcely any fat, the last two minutes would produce milk with perhaps 8 per cent., though the whole milking would average only 3 to 3½ per cent. The fact of that variation in the composition of milk was one which not only must they themselves realise, but a fact they must make every milker realise, because the composition of the milk they sold depended enormously whether the milker brought away those "strippings" so rich in milk fat, or whether it was neglected, in the hurry to catch the town train.

Early Milking Advocated.

He firmly believed that the poor quality of the milk sent to town often resulted from the milkers failing to get up sufficiently early to do their work thoroughly; and that that question was a serious one they often found to their cost, when prosecutions took place. This might lead them to think of the introduction of the milking machine; but from his personal observation he knew it quite failed to get the best results, because it did not help to bring away the fat globules from the cells, besides which it caused a physiological danger in blocking the growth of the milk-producing cells. The variation in the quality of the morning's and evening's milk, apart from the lapse of time between the milkings, was easy to explain, in that,

because of the fall of the temperature during the night, the material carried by the blood, instead of going to produce milk, was being used to maintain the warmth of the animal's body.

As to the question of the time between the milkings, it must be remembered that the longer the periods, the secretion being made more rapidly than the fat, so it was being gradually diluted, and the milk becoming poorer. This was a great difficulty to the farmers, and he could not see how they were to avoid prosecution at intervals until, as was suggested at the Dairy Conference in Paris, a cheap form of refrigerator was discovered whereby the farmer might keep his milk and sell only from the mixture of the two daily milkings together. He believed that if farmers would combine to sell only one milking the traders in town would soon find some way to meet the changed conditions.

Reducing the Variations in Milk.

It was impossible to account for all the variations in the quantity and quality of the milk, apart from the change of herbage with the season; but there were some points that might be regarded as tending towards reducing them. There was the question of temperature, which, kept regular and not too high, was very important in the production of both the best quality and largest quantity of milk; whilst excitement, caused by dogs, flies, or the noise at a show, influenced a cow very adversely. This year, he said, had been a very exceptional season in affecting the composition of milk; he knew no season in his experience when there had been so much poor milk, and this under apparently normal conditions.

He could not pretend to account for it, but that it was true was shown in cases where 35 cows sent for exhibition at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show and the British Dairy Show gave milk with less than three per cent. of fat. But, generally speaking, there was no real reason for having less than three per cent. of fat, and he advised them not to attempt to get the legal limit reduced, for it would be as bad for themselves in the end as for the general public. Nevertheless, he was of opinion, and had always been of the opinion, that it was very hard indeed that a farmer should be prosecuted for fraud if the milk he sold suddenly dropped below the standard 3 per cent. of fat and 8¼ per cent. of solids, as frequently happened in the spring.

He had, in fact, known of cases where prosecution was made when he had himself watched the milking, and could testify that the milk was sent from the farm exactly as it came from the cow. The law, however, was that an analyst was justified in assuming that there was 10 per cent. of added water, or that the fat had been extracted from it, if it did not come up to the limit, unless the contrary could be proved, and this was, generally speaking, most difficult.

He had appealed to the House of Commons about the injustice it was to farmers, but without success; but, as he believed that a remedy was only to be got by pegging away, he was going to try to induce them to move in the matter, as the British Dairy Farmers' Association had already done, by drawing the attention of the Board of Trade to it in the form of a resolution, which had been acknowledged, with a request for fresh information on the subject, and suggestions for remedying the grievance. A committee had been formed to consider his views and the views of others submitted to it, and they trusted every farmer would move and insist upon the matter being put upon a better basis.

Dutch Butter with 19 per cent. of Foreign Fat.

Mr. F. Wilmot Nicholls, trading as Nicholls Brothers, of 10, Colonial House, Tooley Street, was summoned at the Mansion House on Tuesday by his Majesty's Customs for an infringement of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899, in having imported Dutch butter containing 19 per cent. of foreign fat, the packages of which were not conspicuously marked with the name and description indicating that the butter had been so treated.

A certificate was put in from Dr. Thorpe, the Customs' analyst, stating that the cases of butter were described as "Guaranteed Pure Creamery Butter (Dutch Produce)," and, on analysis, was found to contain not less than 19 per cent. of foreign fat. Mr. Daldy said the butter in question arrived in London in July, per the steamship "Batavier V.," from Rotterdam. It had been consigned by the Netherlands Butter Union to Messrs. Guyster and Sons, to whom Mr. Nicholls acted as broker. The consignment weighed 33 cwts., and was invoiced at from 94s. to 96s. per cwt. The price of really pure Dutch butter at that time was from 105s. to 114s. It was alleged that the butter had been treated with what was called "a neutral blending," which was a fat prepared in such a way and in such proportions that the compound could not be distinguished from butter without the most intricate analysis.

The defendant, on being summoned, wrote a letter to His Majesty's Customs, stating that he was a butter broker and not an importer, and that in this instance he was simply acting on behalf of the Netherlands Butter Union to collect the money from Messrs. Guyster, the real importers. He was a perfectly innocent agent, had not touched the butter, and had never had any control over it. He had since severed his connection with the Netherlands Butter Union. There was, counsel for the prosecution said, a distinction between creamery butter and factory butter. The creamery butter was produced straight from milk taken from the cow, whereas factory butter was treated in a different way.

Mr. Moresby White admitted that the defendant was an "importer" within the meaning of the Act. His client was simply a forwarding agent in the matter, and had no knowledge of, or control over, the butter. He had dealt with the Butter Union before, and never had any complaint of the goods sent by them. The butter in this case was warranted by the senders as pure, and not containing more than 16 per cent. of moisture. If there had been a contravention of the Act, the shippers and consigners would have obtained any profit, but the innocent agent must pay any penalty. He submitted a nominal fine would suffice.

Sir Alfred Newton said that it was necessary the public should be protected from this kind of adulteration. He imposed a fine of £20 and £10 10s. costs.

Whitchurch Cheese Show.

If any signs were needed to show that the cheese industry is increasing enormously each year it has been found in the success which has attended the recent shows at Chester and Nantwich, and again last week at a rival county show —namely, that of the Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association, held in the Market Hall, Whitchurch, on Tuesday and Wednesday. The show has year by year increased in popularity and success, but without doubt last week's exhibition was the best of the lot in every respect. The entries, which numbered in the cheese classes alone 450, constituted a record, and of the dairies entered, only five failed to put in an appearance. Class 1, which contained sixty-six dairies, was one of huge proportions. It was made of no fewer than 800 cheese, and there were other classes—notably the two open classes, each having an entry of sixty-five and eighty-nine respectively—which contained a tremendous weight of cheese. All the cheese shown was, of course, not of the choice quality of the winning dairies; and again the changeable weather conditions recently experienced had affected the quality of many cheeses.

The honour again went to Cheshire of providing the championship dairy. The judges had to choose between the dairy of Mr. John Dutton, Swanley, Nantwich, and that of his son-in-law, Mr. Denson, of Poulton, the winner of the championship prize at Nantwich. Both were represented by twelve coloured cheeses, which were of first-rate flavour and quality, but finally by a majority the judges declared in favour of Mr. Dutton's dairy. Mrs. Mosford, of Tattenhall, a lady whose name has been associated with previous successes, was awarded the premier prize for a fine lot of cheese in Class 2, and another Cheshire exhibitor, Mr. George Walley, of Bickerton, also a noted maker, received the second prize.

In the class in which farmers with occupations not exceeding eighty acres competed Mr. John Williams, of Hollins Green, came into prominence by winning with a capital dairy. The second prize for a nice lot of cheese shown in this class was won by Mr. John Craddock, of Malpas.

Following up his success at Nantwich, Mr. Jones, of Aldersey, Chester, took first prize with a handsome lot of twelve white cheese shown in the open class. History thus again repeated itself in the coincidence afforded by the triumphs recorded by the noted Dutton family, Mr. Jones, like Mr. Denson, being a son-in-law of Mr. John Dutton. Next to Mr. Jones's fine dairy, which was ultimately awarded championship honours for the best dairy of white cheese in the show, was the dairy of Mr. John Hobson, of Audlem, who won further distinction for himself by carrying off the second prize, and by winning the premier prize in the smaller class with a lot of cheese which were of excellent make and flavour. In this class also Mr. James Blake, of Calveley, figured as the winner of the second prize. It is worthy of mention that all the principal prizes in this class, with the exception of the sixth, went to Cheshire makers.

In addition to the second prize which was awarded to him in the class in which his father-in-law won the cup, Mr. Denson, of Chester, with a superb dairy of four coloured cheese in the open class, secured the first prize, beating a good dairy shown by Mr. W. H. Burgess, of Norbury. In the classes in which Captain Etheiston, by the gift of handsome prizes, encourages competition amongst farmers who have not within a certain period won prizes, Mr. C. H. Arrowsmith, of Adderley, and Mr. G. E. Sheen, of Brindley, and Mr. W. H. Buckley, of Malpas, and Mr. George Fitton, of Broomhall, were respectively winners of the first and second prizes. In the latter class seventeen dairies received prizes and cards, and twenty-seven were entered.

There was a splendid show of butter made up ordinarily and in fancy samples. The judges spoke very highly of the quality, and they distributed a great number of cards in each of the five classes, nearly every exhibit obtaining mention.

The Fair.

Mr. T. Nunnerley, secretary of the Whitchurch Dairy Farmers' Association, reports as follows on the prices obtained at the cheese fair and show on Wednesday:—The pitch was a very heavy one, 92 tons, which totalled, with the 100 tons in the show, 192 tons, this tonnage constituting a record weight of show and fair cheese. The demand both in the show and fair for first class dairies was exceptionally good, and the prices realised were very satisfactory to sellers, and a shade in advance of previous quotations. The champion prize dairy in the show realised 120s. per cwt., and the principal prize dairies from 80s. to 90s. The highest grades in the fair made from 69s. to 75s., and medium and lower qualities from 60s to 68s.

Cheese from the Bath and West School.

The fourth draft (over 73 cwt.) of this year's cheese made during the months of July and August at the Cheese School carried on at Glendale Farm, Wedmore, by the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society for the Somerset County Council has just been sold to Messrs. Hill Brothers, of Evercreech, at 68s. per cwt. of 112 lb. The 8,658 gallons of milk made 8,624 lb. of green cheese, which, when sold at an average age of 13 weeks weighed 8,218 lb., showing a shrinkage of about 4¾ per cent. The following particulars with regard to its manufacture will be of interest to cheesemakers:—Temperature at which milk was renneted, 84 deg.; temperatur of first and second scalds, 88 deg. and 93 deg.; acidity of milk when renneted, .18; acidity of whey at close of second scald, .15; acidity of whey when vatted (July), .80; acidity of whey when vatted (August), .85; average time when vatted, 3 p.m. The quantity of whey butter made from each 100 gallons of whey was ½ lb., and the average temperature of cheese room 66 deg. The school, which has been well attended by students, closed for instruction in Cheddar cheesemaking on October 31, but remains open for the teaching of Caerphilly cheesemaking till the end of this month. On November 5, ninety-two gallons of milk made 121 lbs of Caerphilly cheese.

Lancaster Cheese Fair.

The Lancaster November Cheese Fair was held on Tuesday, when the pitch showed a decline of 16 dairies and 286 cheeses, the market comprising 57 dairies and 1,006 cheeses. The lots were of good quality, and sales were effected at 2s. 6d. per cwt. in advance of the last fair. Quotations:—Common 60s. to 62s. 6d., medium 63s. to 65s., best 67s. to 70s., with a few exceptional dairies up to 72s. and 72s. 6d.

At a meeting of the Royal Statistical Society held in London last week under the presidency of Lord George Hamilton, the Guy medal (in silver) was presented to Mr. R. Henry Rew, of the Board of Agriculture, for his work in connection with the preparation of the reports of the special committee appointed by the Society to investigate the production and consumption of meat and milk in the United Kingdom and for his paper entitled "Observations on production of meat and dairy produces."

Co-operative Dairying in Scotland.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society, 10, North St. David Street, Edinburgh, a Special Dairy Committee was appointed to investigate into co-operative dairying with a view to consider and draw up a scheme of co-operative dairying in Scotland. The Special Committee has been elected with a view to secure representation as far as possible, and it will hold its meetings at Glasgow. Among others nominated to act are Sir Hugh Shaw Stewart, of Ardgowan, Bart.; Mr. Allan Barns Graham, junr., Craigallian; Dr. David Wilson, of Carbeth, D.Sc.; Mr. Montgomerie Neilson, Barcaple; Mr. A. J. Campbell Colquhoun, Carscadden House; Mr. John Speir, Newton; Mr. Charles Douglas, M.P.,; Mr. James Dunlop, Fenwick; Mr. W. Harling Turner; Dr. Shirra Gibb, etc.

Seasonable Advice.

The weather is now somewhat trying for those last year's birds which have not their full plumage, as they feel the occasional cold nights, and unless fed on stimulating food and provided with comfortable covered runs, they stand moping about, and look very miserable indeed. During November the birds require feeding well, and undoubtedly the best breakfast for them is made of two-thirds biscuit meal and one-third good middlings, during the week at least, and the other two mornings the birds may have middlings or barley meal and house scraps.

The feeding of the birds is now an important matter, as so much depends on how the birds are fed as to the results obtained from them. There are many good laying fowls which are not treated in the right manner, and are therefore not as they otherwise would be. During the cold weather the hot breakfast is of great help to the fowls, as after the long night they have been on the perch they are very hungry and require a nourishing feed. This is specially comforting to them when it is hot.

Poultry-keepers on a small scale generally utilise the house scraps for their fowls, but these are not used to the best advantage when they are thrown to the birds during the day. The better way is to keep a bowl specially for the house scraps, and, as these accumulate, they should be placed in the bowl and kept until the following morning, when the contents of the bowl should be transferred to an old iron saucepan, which should be kept for the purpose of boiling up the house scraps. Sufficient water to cover these should then be poured over, and the whole brought gently to the boil.

When there are any pieces of bacon rind or anything that is likely to cause a stoppage internally they should not be allowed to eat the same; it is a good plan to cut these into smaller pieces before they are boiled up. As soon as the mixture has boiled it should be poured into the mixing bowl, and sufficient middlings and barley meal added to make it nice and crumbly.

Small poultry-keepers can profitably use their house scraps in this manner, but where there is a larger number of fowls kept, some substitute for the nourishing house scraps should be provided, as to produce eggs when the weather is severe, really nutritious food is required. Fowls require sufficient food to sustain them, and a surplus over this to provide nourishment for the egg organs.

The best method of using biscuit meal to advantage is to scald it over night by pouring boiling water over it in a pail or basin, covering the meal well with water, and then placing a linen cloth over the top of the pail to keep the steam in. If the cloth is folded several times the whole of the steam will be kept in, and the meal will swell to about twice its bulk when dry. Then next morning some more boiling water should be poured in and the middlings added, and the whole well stirred to make a crumbly, appetising meal for the birds.

At this time of the year scraps of meat and fat should be added to the fowls' breakfast, and the pieces of bread and scraps of vegetables should be boiled up for the fowls at midday. We have been asked whether it pays to feed fowls thus well in the winter months, and we have no hesitation in saying that it pays well, as many more eggs are produced by fowls thus well fed than will pay for the additional cost of the food, and these extra eggs are all profit, and in addition to the eggs the condition of the birds improves, and they are not made fat internally, as this food nourishes the birds and helps the production of eggs—but does not make fat.

It is time for fowls which are required to breed table poultry to be mated now, and birds for the production of exhibition stock should also be mated during this month. These remarks refer more particularly to the heavier breeds, as Leghorns, Minorcas, and Wyandottes are frequently not mated until February, and then produce good birds for the autumn shows. Care should be taken to provide the stock birds with plenty of ventilation in their houses, and not on any account to overcrowd them. It is most essential to the well-being of the birds that overcrowding be avoided.

Those who keep birds merely for laying and breeding table fowls frequently prefer to breed from cross-bred pullets, as they are so hardy, and when bred from good laying strains, so prolific; and these birds, when mated with cockerels of pure breeds suitable for the purpose for which they are required, answer quite as well as the pure breeds, and the cost of the stock is lessened. During November and December the pullets and hens which are to be kept for breeding purposes should be sorted out from those which are to be sold, and suitable male birds purchased for them.

It is advisable to mate ducks now, in order to secure early eggs and ducklings when prices are the highest. It is a great mistake to put this off until after Christmas, as in purchasing now there is a good opportunity for the birds to get nicely settled down before eggs are required.

Turkey rearers usually purchase a stock cock each season, and where it is possible to make room for the birds before Christmas, it is a good plan to purchase them, as they are to be bought at lower prices then. Those who rear a large flock of turkeys for sale for stock purposes are glad to sell off some of their oldest birds to give the younger ones a better chance of development, and frequently sell at a much lower price than they otherwise would, in order that they may have a less number to run on.

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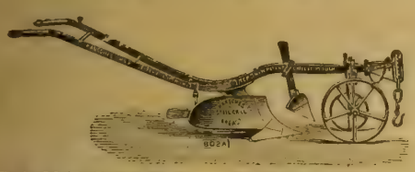

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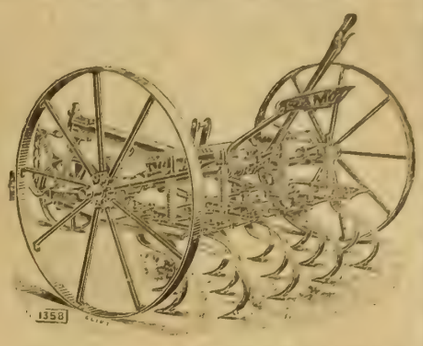

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NOVEMBER 27, 1905.

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ROOT HARVESTING.

The last crops of the year to be harvested are the roots, and most farmers have clamped a tolerably satisfactory quantity of mangels, but, according to general reports, the swedes, many of them are at the present period engaged in clamping, yield anything but bountiful returns, so far as a large portion of the southern half of the kingdom is concerned. We are almost always compelled to make a broad distinction between the state of things North and South in regard to swedes, so well adapted as they are to the climate of Scotland and that portion of England bordering thereon, and extending even to Yorkshire and the valley of the Trent, but too often the reverse to that portion of the kingdom, where the crop has to be put in at least a month later, where the young plants are so often carried off by fly, and, after they are secured, have to encounter the serious risk of suffering from mildew. This has, unfortunately, been their fate in a great many districts this year, as our reports from farmers have sufficiently made apparent, and, considering how late many of the common turnips were put in, apprehensions may be entertained whether in too many cases the root crop in its entirety will prove sufficient for the requirements of many Southern flockowners during the ensuing winter.

Of course, much will depend on what its character proves to be. The winter of 1904-5 was remarkably mild, characterised by only slight frosts and scarcely any snow south of Yorkshire. In the event of a similar one being experienced, most farmers, by economy and good management in spending, will have a sufficiency without suffering anything akin to famine. But we may possibly have a winter of great severity, such as has often occurred, and for which everybody has the need to be prepared for in the proverbially uncertain climate of the British Isles. If this should happen, root-pulpers will have to be extensively made use of, together with straw chaff, for the pulp to be intermixed with to make the supply last over the length of time required. Straw chaff, if damped and placed in heaps to ferment, engenders a grateful flavour to make it more acceptable to the palates of all stock than otherwise it would be. And not only so, but the fermentation often half cooks the straw and causes it to be far more digestible and wholesome.

There have been winters when owners of large flocks have been compelled to resort to straw-chaff feeding very much, and that too, without any roots worthy of consideration. Either corn or saccharine soups had to be thrown over the chaff, or other auxiliary feeding stuffs to be given along with it. Straw, in such seasons, becomes too valuable a stock-fod to be employed for littering cattle and horses.

We had so many frosts last month that fears may be entertained whether all the mangels were lifted and harvested with sufficient caution to ensure their good-keeping perfectly. Old-experienced growers are well aware how liable mangels are to suffer if handled not only during slight frosts but too soon after them. Not often have we been visited with so many frosts in October as we had last month. Some were so slight that many farmers, in the midst of their mangel-lifting, may have utterly disregarded them. Just here is the point where danger creeps in, for if they left any which had been lifted over night exposed to such slight frosts and handled then in the mornings succeeding, their skins would be almost sure to turn black, and put into clamps they would speedily perish and affect other roots placed with them. And not only these, but mangels lifted too early in the morning, after a slight frost in the night had happened, would not be exempt from sustaining injury by handling.

Too many have suffered by want of caution in these respects not to be aware that mangel-lifting ought invariably to take place in perfectly open weather. The slight frosts might

work little harm perhaps if liftings were delayed in the mornings succeeding them until the mangels were perfectly free of their influence; but it would be perhaps wiser to stay proceedings altogether until a change of wind brought warmer although damper, influences. Strange to state, however severe a succession of night frosts may be, if the crop is allowed to remain uninterefered with until a change of weather ensues, the roots can then be lifted and harvested in good condition for keeping. Either the covering of the leaves protected them from frost, or subsequently are able to throw off any injurious influences received. At any rate, there have been many cases recorded of fields of mangels having been exposed to a series of severe November frosts and having afterwards been secured in damp, rainy weather perfectly sound, and in a state which caused them to keep satisfactorily.

Seasonable Topics.

Birds as Friends and Foes.

The bird question is a more or less evergreen one where farmers are concerned, and of late animated discussions have taken place at Chamber of Agriculture and other meetings as to the usefulness or otherwise of such birds as rooks, wood pigeons, sparrows, starlings, and larks. In our opinion this is a matter which should be looked at with a perfectly open mind. There are cranks, on the one hand, who protest that birds do no serious damage, but these well-meaning individuals are not farmers, and their arguments are consequently not weighty. There are farmers, on the other hand, who are so incensed at the losses they have sustained that they refuse to admit that there is anything beneficial in bird life. Extreme views in either direction are wrong, and the whole question is whether or not the good done by certain birds compensates for the evil. We can hardly think this is so in some cases, but in others we feel sure that it is. There is our perky friend, or rather enemy, the sparrow, for instance; everybody's hand is against him, and yet he thrives and multiplies. Exterminate him! There is no fear of that, for he is far too tenacious, and in protection of our own we must persecute so far as to keep him and his family within reasonable limits. In common with the rest of our fellows, we have suffered through the misdeeds of rooks, but in other ways we know that rooks are useful, and if people who possess rookeries would only feed their sporting appetites with more shooting at the proper season, there would be fewer complaints made against rooks. We hold no brief for the wood pigeon, particularly the foreigner which visits our shores at harvest time in quest of plunder; but the good and bad points of starlings and larks are open to discussion. Our knowledge of what the former bird can do in a cherry orchard prompts us to describe him as no friend of the fruit-grower, at any rate, when cherries are ripe, but we do not consider him to be a sore thorn in the side of the ordinary farmer. Speaking of birds generally, we must protect, but we need not persecute, and keeping injurious birds within reasonable limits is a different thing to indiscriminate slaughter.

* * *

Boy Labour.

A writer in the MARK LANE EXPRESS recently complained that he was paying men to do boys' work, and, owing to the education system at present in vogue, boys are kept at school until they are of no use for work. This is a serious charge to bring against the authorities who administer education, but we must admit that there is room for complaint. Red tape is perhaps responsible, and the want of greater discrimination between the requirements of town and rural districts. We are in favour of every lad, no matter what his station, being equipped with a sound elementary education, but at what age he should be allowed to leave school is largely a question of circumstances. Even in these days the income of an agricultural labourer is not princely, and it is hard on him to have to keep a strong, hungry lad at school until he reaches a certain age or passes a certain standard, when the lad could be bringing some grist to the family mill by scaring birds or leading horses, and, at the same time, he would be helping the farmer. But what about the lad's education? some may ask. Our idea is to connect up day with evening schools at which lads could continue their educations, and they would be better employed in this way during the winter evenings than running the roads or helping to hold up street corners which need no support. We fear, on the other hand, that some people would like to go back to the old days when children commenced work at a ridiculously early age, and were brought up as mere drudges and slaves. It is wrong to make children assume the responsibilities of men, and to keep mere boys everlastingly grinding at work either on a farm or anywhere else, is a means of stunting their intellects, dulling their brains, and making them mere human working machines instead of intellectual men, such as we want, both on farms and in workshops. When they are old enough and big enough, let lads do such work as comes within the range of their capabilities, and while we sympathise with any employer who has to pay men to do boys' work, we, on the other hand, set our face against paying boys to do men's work.

* * *

The Importation of Diseased Cattle.

In a recent speech the President of the Board of Agriculture referred to the action taken by successive Presidents of the Board to stop the importation of diseased cattle, and he deplored the fact that men who would probably hold office in a new Government had openly stated that this question ought to be amended. Surely the strong line taken by the Board of Agriculture in this matter is deserving of commendation, and there can be no doubt about the results when we learn that cattle disease is now practically extinct in this country, and that swine fever has gone down 59 per cent. in the first nine months of this year compared to last. In the way of human beings we are not so particular, and aliens of more or less doubtful character are allowed free entry into this country, with results not altogether satisfactory to the inhabitants; but in the case of cattle, it is eminently desirable that nothing should be allowed to land that is not free from any infectious disease. To be practically free from cattle disease is worth a great deal, and no efforts should be relaxed in order to keep so.

* * *

The Carrier's Van.

The carrier's van, which rumbles its way through the village street, and along the country roads, on its daily journeys to town, is one of the oldest of our rural institutions, and the carrier himself is still a most useful individual, in spite of railways, parcels post, and motor traction. More than once the carrier's occupation has been threatened, but he seems to go on much about the same as he always did. When railways were first started it was urged that the carrier's occupation was doomed, but it has not happened so, for though he may carry less passengers where the iron horse competes with him, his parcel business from the stations has increased. We have ugly-looking, but useful, motor 'busses rattling along the roads and connecting up places that are not yet attached to the railway chain. The big smart-looking motor dashes past the old time worn carrier's van, and seems to jeer at the latter as it goes by; but will the motor drive the carrier off the road? We doubt it, and at any rate the time will not be yet, for the carrier's van is sure, if slow, and, like the sailing ship, which floats while there is a spar left, in comparison to the iron steamer, which goes down quickly and wholesale, the carrier's van has a knack of reaching its destination either by hook or by crook. The carrier, too, as a rule, is a good type of a countryman, a jovial, obliging fellow, who does not consider his trouble, and never thinks a commission too small. The class of merchandise he carries is of a varied character, and if the old carrier's van could speak what a tale of changes it would have to tell. The lines of these conveyances, which are to be seen drawn up in the market places of certain towns day by day shows that the carrier's business still flourishes, and though motor traction may be the thing of the future, the old world carrier's van will take some running off the road.

* * *

The Law of Trespass.

Very peculiar and somewhat antiquated is the law of trespass. If a man grows mushrooms or watercress as crops any person who takes them can be prosecuted for stealing, but if mushrooms spring up in one's field of their own accord, as they invariably do, or there is a stream running through the farm in which watercress grows naturally, it appears that a trespasser has as much right to help himself to these products as the occupier of the farm. This is strange logic, but there are many strange things connected with the laws of the land, and the question of trespass recently occupied the attention of the Staffordshire Chamber of Agriculture. A resolution was passed to the effect that the law of trespass should be altered, but if all the resolutions passed by Chambers of Agriculture went any further a special House of Parliament would be required to deal with them. Not that we are out of sympathy with the resolution, for we know that farmers suffer a good deal through trespassing, and the means of redress are not very efficient, but considering what little Parliament has done for agriculture of late, and the demands that are made as to what should be done, there is not much prospect of a Trespass Bill being introduced in the near future.

* * *

Imported Insect Pests.

Every man who grows apples, be he farmer, fruitgrower, or gardener, is acquainted with the grub of the codlin moth, which bores its way into the fruit and causes the latter to fall prematurely. This is one of the most common and injurious of insect pests, and Professor Theobald, of Wye College, who is an expert on these matters, when speaking at a fruit conference not long ago, held out little hopes of eradicating the pest, so long as millions of the grubs were imported to this country every year in foreign apples. Probably a good many people have never thought of this, but it does seem like adding insult to injury that home growers not only have to compete with fruit that is brought over at rates lower than we can get here, but they also have to put up with the insect pests that are sent over as well. At present the British grower has no jurisdiction, but if he cannot supply apples enough to supply the million it is quite certain that this country produces as many insect pests as can be dealt with, and we want no importations of this kind.

MILLING.

The Modern Plansifter.

Trade in flour has been rather quiet during the past fortnight. Bakers are steadily taking deliveries of old contracts, but there has been very little booking ahead. Prices are nominally unchanged, and a good baker's grade varies from 23s. to 24s. 6d., according to the locality. All kinds of offals have been selling well, the demand having increased with the advent of colder weather. Bran and pollards are in especial request, and, in fact, some millers cannot supply the demand fast enough.

Home-grown wheat has been in moderate supply at late rates, although some very fine samples have made as much as 31s. per 504 lb. Such wheats had a full endosperm, and were clear-skinned and strong for English sorts. Damp weather always affects condition to some extent, but millers have had little to complain of in that direction, as samples are getting now more mature.

There is now a good selection of foreign wheats in British markets from which to make a choice, and they range in value from something like 29s. to 34s. per quarter. The cheapest wheat, perhaps, is common soft Red Winter, but this year it is so

Full of Garlic

that many millers are leaving it alone, as it is such a difficult impurity to remove when the wheat is new. No. 2 Red Winter is a better quality, but this season there is really no "hard" wheat of this sort to be bought. All of it has a certain amount of softness, owing to climatic conditions during growth and ripening. The dearest wheat on British markets is Australian, which is making as much as 33s. to 34s. 6d. per 480 lb. Good Manitoba can be obtained from 32s. 6d. to 33s. 6d., a wheat which is quite equal to Duluth. Choice White Bombay is making nearly as much as Manitoba, as it helps to give a fine colour to the flour, as well as being on the strong side. Other wheats which can now be obtained are Plate, South Russian, Red Walla, White Canadian, and New Zealand. Canadian White of the best quality forms a good substitute for English, as it is colourly and of sweet flavour. The Plates are always useful in the grist, provided they are bought with care. Some of the best parcels are making as much as 33s. per 480 lb., but this price will not permit of a large quantity being put in the mixture unless very superior grades of flour are required. On the whole, it must be admitted that foreign wheats are dear. It is very easy, with the raw material at hand, to make a very superior grist and excellent flours, but the difficulty is, as so many millers find out in these days of reckless competition and cutting of prices, to make a profit at the same time.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

"And where," I asked an eminent Liberal organiser, "will you secure the greater part of this majority of 130 which you anticipate as the result of the General Election?" "Of course," replied he, "you must understand that in that 130 I enclose the Irish Nationalists. Well," he proceeded, "the greater part of this majority will be secured in the counties. The towns have not been so responsive to our agitation. We do not find the same relentless antagonism there to the new economy as we do in the villages. As a fact, in the towns there is a growing belief that to hit back at the foreigner who taxes British products is something in the nature of patriotism; and there is a further conviction that the policy of a protective tax may after all result in greater employment. In the villages, however, the fear of a dearer loaf has all the palsying effect of a scooped-turnip-and-white-sheet spectre lowering upon the labourer from behind the churchyard wall. No, frankly, I do not think that the belief that Canadian competition may mean in the end the usurpation of the British markets, and the ousting from them of the British-growers will be a serious influence. It may be so, of course, but that is not the opinion at the Liberal headquarters. They, there, believe that the fear that the raising of the price of the necessities of the labourer's cot tage will be the real influence."

"And where do you think you will chiefly gain?" I queried.

"Well," said he, "we shall win many seats in the South. We shall capture constituencies in the East and the West. The Midlands will, despite the influence of Mr. Chamberlain, yield their crop of victories. And the more rural districts of the North will add to the tale. As a fact, our successes will be confined to no specific area. It will be national in its character. Note the figure—130. That is, we shall have a majority of over 50, exclusive of the Irish Nationalist vote." As this organiser and I parted, I reflected what would happen under the circumstances if the Irish Nationalist vote were given on a crucial question to the Conservatives. The life of a Liberal Government with only an inclusive majority of 130 will be the life of the toad under the harrow.

• • •

The Bristol speech—the most effective in the oratorical sense that Mr. Chamberlain has delivered of recent years—contains two points of significance to the agricultural interest—two points, I mean, which may be said to be subordinate to its main purpose. In the first place, he deliberately invoked the general community to resist any increase of the suggested tax on corn beyond two shillings a quarter. "I appeal," said the statesman, "to the industrial classes of this country. If I can persuade them to adopt the two shilling tax, of which I am speaking, it will rest with them whether that tax shall ever be increased in the future. For my purpose, two shillings is enough, and that is all that I ask." This explicit avowal—followed by the distinct declaration that any statesman who requested more than two shillings should be deliberately made to prove his case—places the attitude of Mr. Chamberlain beyond all doubt. And let us not forget this two shillings is devised in the interest, not of the British farmer, but in the interest of the colonist. That it may operate to the advantage of the British farmer is an arguable point. For the moment, we have to consider the design of the statesman. Let me quote:—"I think," said he, "if the tax of two shillings upon foreign corn—not upon colonial corn, if that tax worked thus—that the utmost effect that could be possibly expected from it, that this added a farthing to the cost of the quartern loaf, corn that would be very well purchased with the increased trade which you would get from the colonies in consequence." In other words, we should encourage the colonies to supply us with corn, in order that in return the colonies might resort here for their manufactures.

"What is happening is that, in the last few years," proceeded the orator, "is that in the last few years, foreigners are increasing their exports to the colonies more rapidly than we are. You can keep this trade if you will grasp the hands which are still held out to you." Whose hand is to be held out? Will it be the great industrialists of the towns? No. The reciprocal market to be provided for the colonist is to be the market which should be occupied under a fair scheme of protection by the British farmer. It is not assumed by Mr. Chamberlain, or any of his lieutenants, that there will be competition with any branch of British industry. Not a single member of the Tariff Reform Commission anticipates there would be. For the life of me, I cannot see how the new economy can in any way be described as friendly to the rural interest. The colonist is to seek England for his necessities, which can never be agricultural or horticultural, in exchange for the British agricultural market being yielded up to him. Where, in all frankness, can the British farmer possibly come in?

• • •

Lord Carrington's suggestion that landlords should establish relief works on their estates at this juncture—even utilising the provisions of the Settled Land Act in order to secure money for the purpose—is judicious. This policy will not prove to be a panacea; it will not prove to be even an anodyne. It will not seriously affect the out-of-works of our cities and towns. What it might do is to prevent that drifting towards those cities and towns which it is believed has again set in. There were many cautious men who feared that one of the sequels of the Queen's Unemployed Fund would be the attraction of large numbers into the greater centres of our life. The popular view is that the money raised, as a result of Her Majesty's generous impulse, will be distributed to the advantage of the town victims of the wave of unemployment. The untutored mind has conjured up a vision of a ceaseless flow of limitless charity for the urban out-o'-work. The owner of that untutored mind will be anxious to share in this bounty. Lord Carrington's scheme may, at least, serve to operate upon the more responsible section of those too-susceptible persons, upon those, for instance, who have domestic ties attaching them to the villages. Of course, such a policy would entail a personal effort and an expense upon the landlords. Lord Carrington holds that it is a better plan even than subscribing to the Queen's Fund, and he is appropriating the sum he intended for the fund to this purpose. Such a plan, if generally followed, might counteract the too-romantic and delusive vision to which I have alluded as to what may happen in the towns.

• • •

One of the wholesome facts of the economic situation is that even the most strenuous Radicals are shedding themselves of what I will describe as feather-headism in regard to the land question. There was a debate at the National Liberal Club on Monday, the subject of which may be said to have been labour and farm colonies as a means of alleviating the pitiable tragedy of the unemployed question. Introduced by Mr. Will Crooks, M.P., the discussion was characterised, generally speaking, by a sanity, a moderation, and a cautiousness of suggestion which indicated an excellent sense of responsibility. Generally, the idea seemed to be—this was certainly Mr. Will Crooks' suggestion—that farm or labour colonies, though immediately designed, like afforestation and the cultivation of waste lands, to provide work for the unemployed, should be regarded as final providers of rural areas with trained labour. One division and divergence there was during the debate. An excited debater, possessing an impetuous flow of incoherence, and who evidently knew as little about agrarian economics as of the true inwardness of the Nicæan Council, heatedly avowed that the only solution of the dire question is the dispossession of "the thievish landlords." The meeting, however, refused to share the vision which possessed his inflamed imagination, and refused too, to see to the immediate removal of the larrikins and of the flotsam and jetsam of our cities to the rural areas, and, of course, to the possession of farmsteads, anything but a pantomimic remedy and a pantaloon delusion. As a fact, your most vehement land reformer is now aware that the rural labourer is really one of the most skilled of artisans. Agriculture, horticulture, a little of pharmacy, something of chemistry, and not a little of meteorology, all come within his ken. To dump unemployed ignorance, however muscular, on a farm, would be a folly. It is well, this new spirit of Radicalism, admirably well. The old spirit made for nothingness, or, at least, conspired to repel all practical economists and real reformers. The new spirit will make for reform. We may yet see called into being a fount whence will be diffused an adequate supply of labour to the land. The idea of Mr. Crooks is not the establishment of the colonies the immigrants to which should be permitted to live a life of valueless labour. His idea is the creation of colonies where the practical training of men for the rural life should proceed under disciplined conditions.

• • •

I have been asked—by a correspondent in the Midlands—whether Mr. Chamberlain has ever specifically promised to impose upon foreign fruits (my correspondent directly indicates French plums) in order that the fruit markets may be confined to the English growers. I cannot remember that he has done anything of the kind. If a preference be given to the colonial fruit-growers it would mean that our markets would be resorted to more increasingly by the Canadian fruit-growers. As a fact, the Canadian officials are possessed by the anticipation, and are preparing to take advantage of the opportunity which they believe would await them under the new economy.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Nov. 18, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,782	13,193	Wheat ...	2,046,300	1,678,400
Sheep.....	5,937	853	Flour	321,300	407,200
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	472,500	665,700
Horses ...	168	643	Oats	402,700	386,500
			Peas	89,760	28,760
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	25,390	64,440
Beef	73,854	107,929	Maize ...	446,900	254,400
Mutton...	46,453	119,719	Apples ...	161,205	150,473
Pork	16,183	13,758	Apricots		
Bacon ...	98,176	89,994	&Peaches	—	—
Beef, salt	3,866	2,189		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	19,513	26,234	Bananas	72,739	41,200
Pork, salt	3,644	1,810		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,906	13,548	Cherries	—	—
			Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	19,445	13,285	Goosebr's	—	—
Butter ...	69,760	60,951	Grapes ..	24,478	20,547
M'rg'rine	17,102	19,238	Lemons...	20,530	15,465
Cheese ...	60,900	42,391	Oranges	98,642	93,159
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Pears.....	8,981	15,973
			Plums ...	—	—
			Oth'r Fr't	3,757	2,150
drums.	—	15	Hay	Tons	Tons.
Milk,			Straw ...	294	2,146
Cream	45	107	MossLitt'r	1,615	1,604
				—	1,454
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	18,287	19,344	Hops	18,865	4,577
Milk pr's'v'd, other			Locust Beans	16,670	10,375
				Bush.	Bush.
kinds ...	8	177	Onions ...	155,192	265,123
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	33,310	33,217
Eggs	546,337	303,859	Tomatoes	13,275	10,303
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £25,099	Value. £10,456	Veg'bles	£5,220	£3,865
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	2,702	14,658
Rabbits...	27,401	29,682	Pres'v'd by canning ..	9,607	10,785
Lard	49,224	28,078			

Thirsk Hirings.—The Martinmas term, which expired on Thursday, saw in the Thirsk district a reduction in wages in male servants to those which were obtained in November of 1904, and, taken all round, they would average £1 to £2 less for the twelve months. Head farm house girls obtained £21; second class girls, £16, and good general servants, £17 and £18 for the year.

NORTHERN NOTES.

Ever and anon proposals to amend the Agricultural Holdings Acts are mooted, but the nature of the desired amendments is not often put clearly forward. Compensation to a quitting tenant for what is known as continuous, good and clean farming during his tenancy is sometimes mentioned, and is certainly desirable, but the great difficulty is to estimate the compensation. Practically it means that a particular standard must be fixed, and compensation given to the outgoer for farming in excess of that standard, or to the landlord for any farming below that standard. But what is the standard to be, and how is it to be defined? If it is to be applicable on all soils, in all climates, and in all districts, it may be safely declared that the man has yet to be found who can formulate the definition in practical terms. And when the standard has been defined, the method of measuring the compensation remains to be ascertained. For the moment it will be much better to consolidate the Agricultural Holdings Acts (England and Scotland), 1883, the Removal Terms (Scotland) Act, 1886, the Allotments and Cottage Gardens Compensation for Crops Act, 1887, the Tenants' Compensation Act, 1890, the Market Gardeners' Compensation (England) Act, 1895, the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act (Scotland), 1897, and the Agricultural Holdings Act, 1900.

The provisions of these statutes are anything but consistent with each other, but in codification the inconsistencies will be removed, and afterwards any amendments desired can be effected with much greater facility. When the Act of 1900 was first introduced into the House of Commons its sponsor promised that its adoption would be properly followed by a Consolidating Act, but five years have elapsed without the slightest sign of that promise being fulfilled, although a Bill to effect such consolidation would meet with little opposition in Parliament.

The fact is legislation by reference has so long been the order of the day, and so many inconsistent enactments have been placed on the Statute Book that consolidation is becoming a most difficult matter. The problems arising out of these inconsistencies have blocked our Law Courts, and are a source of great profit to the gentlemen of the Long Robe. The legal interest is very strongly represented in Parliament, and is far too wideawake to promote legislation which will deprive it of work, and it is just as ready to oppose Consolidating Acts as it is to oppose the Registration of Land. But the public, who have to foot the Bill, find the Land Tax Acts, the Income Tax Acts, the Public Health Acts, the Highways Acts, and the Local Government Acts veritable Chinese puzzles—a bewildering maze.

Sixty years ago, Consolidation Acts were numerous, and it is a pity that some strong minister could not be found who would compel Parliament to devote two or three sessions to consolidation work instead of spending time over those fads and foibles of extremists, which no sensible man is ever inclined to countenance.

It is generally admitted that there is usually some foundation of truth in all the old saws that have come down to us from our forefathers, and there is no doubt in the accuracy of one that is very much in point at this moment: "At Martinmas, wheat should show up green the full length of the drills." For this implies that the plants have made a good start in life, and that their roots are finding their way downwards, and so will escape injury from any but keen and prolonged early frosts. Light frosts have been pretty much in evidence recently, but so far have been productive of good rather than harm, in that they have caused some plants, which are inclined to "spindle up," to curl more closely to the ground.

The question of the particular dressing to be used for seed wheat has been again freely discussed. Sulphate of copper has hitherto been the most popular dressing, but its efficacy is now being questioned. The standard usually adopted was one pound of sulphate, dissolved in from two to two and a half gallons of water, to six bushels of wheat. It is now contended in some quarters that such a dressing is too weak, and one pound of sulphate must be used for four bushels of wheat, and that when so used the germinating power of the grain is affected. The proof of the pudding lies, however, in the eating, and not a sign of smut or bunt has ever been seen in wheat on certain farms (now in mind) where wheat has been dressed with the standard solution for three generations. It may be granted that the dressing would be insufficient if the seed were very badly smutted, but the farmer who knowingly sowed smutted seed no matter what dressing he used—would richly merit any loss he sustained through smut in the crop. Formaline seems to be coming into favour as a dressing against smut and bunt, and is certainly a great improvement on some of the old specifics. In some places arsenic is still used, but it is less efficient than sulphate of copper and is far more dangerous.

Readers may remember the reference in these columns a fortnight ago to a case where a Yorkshire farmer had five horses killed by arseniated wheat, which had been prepared for drilling, and which a farm servant had given to the horses. Proceedings were taken against the servant for giving wheat to horses contrary to orders, but as his master gave him a good character and expressed the opinion that the servant was not aware that the wheat had been dressed, the mitigated penalty of £3 was imposed.

One is bound to conclude that such an essentially dangerous substance should not be used for dressing wheat, more especially as other materials, not in themselves deleterious or more expensive, prove at least equally effective in the prevention of smut. There is, however, reason to believe that some farmers make use of arsenic for other reasons than the prevention of smut. It is well known that arsenically dressed wheat is poisonous, and that if it does not actually kill the birds that feed upon it, it affects them so seriously that they soon learn to avoid fields sown with such wheat. It is an offence against the Poisoned Grain Prohibition Act of 1863 to place poisoned grain in or on any land, and so a farmer may not place grain prepared for the purpose on the land so as to kill rooks or other birds; but the Act excepts from its operation seed dressed in any way bona-fide for agricultural use only and sown for seed. So some farmers dress wheat with arsenic, so that they may avert smut and at the same time keep off birds without bringing themselves within the meshes of the law. It is admittedly a dangerous practice, and very severe illness has been sometimes caused to the men who handle the poisoned wheat.

M. Y.

November 24, 1905.

The Testing of Milk Samples.

The Board of Agriculture has lately pointed out in one of its leaflets that, although in most cases the milk given by cows exceeds in butter-fat and other milk solids the percentage specified in the "Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901," still, occasionally, the milk given by a cow may not contain those percentages (3 per cent. of butter-fat and 8.5 per cent. of other milk solids).

The Gloucestershire County Council accordingly urges upon farmers, dairymen, and all other cow-keepers in the county the importance of keeping themselves acquainted with the variations in the quality of the milk yielded by their cows, and to this end arrangements have been made with the Agricultural Sub-Committee whereby the percentage of butter-fat in any sample of milk can be determined at the County Council Dairy School, Gloucester, for a fee of sixpence. Full particulars of these arrangements, together with instructions as to taking and forwarding samples, have recently been published, and can be obtained on application.

The attention thus directed to the subject of milk testing invests with peculiar interest the milk records that have been kept in Gloucestershire for the last six years, viz., in the dairy department of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester. In order to render the instruction and experience of the students as comprehensive as possible, the College dairy includes representatives of the chief dairy breeds in the Kingdom, and the following are the records of the various breeds from January, 1899, to December, 1904:—

BREED.	Number of Cows.	Days in Milk.	Total Milk in lbs.	Daily average in lbs. per cow.	Average percentage of Cream per cow. *	Average percentage of Butter-fat per cow. *
Shorthorn ...	21	5,701	132,105½	23·17	10·20	3·51
Ayrshire ...	11	2,871	75,992	26·46	8·50	3·33
Red Poll ...	9	1,932	42,150	21·26	9·04	3·48
Jersey	8	2,214	43,123¼	19·20	16·30	4·64
Guernsey ...	7	1,779	26,126½	14·68	13.90	5·33
Dexter Kerry	7	1,794	24,350	13·57	10·00	3·60

* Note.—The percentages of cream and butter-fat tests here noted are those taken from morning's milk only.

The live and dead stock, consisting of twenty valuable Shire horses, twelve brood mares, two fillies, stallion, the well-known herd of pure-bred Middle White pigs, etc., belonging to Mr. C. Sheppard Marsh, is to be sold by Messrs. J. R. Eve and Son on Thursday next, the 30th inst., at Little Offley, Herts. All the Shire horses are entered being eligible for the Stud Book, and include some prize-winners of Hitchin Conqueror and Harold blood. Catalogues can be obtained of the auctioneers, 2, St. Paul's Square, Bedford, and Hitchin

Midland Notes.

"Cattle show weather" is as much a by word in Birmingham as "festival weather" at Worcester, but whereas the Severn-side city feels itself aggrieved if a few showers should happen to fall during its fashionable music-meeting, Birmingham looks forward to rain, or sleet and mud, and general discomfort through the great Bingley Hall show week as a matter of course. One can remember many shows which have been favoured with bright, crisp, and perfect wintry weather, but the week has a bad name, and a bad name is apt to stick. At the time of writing it looks as if it might be justified this year, for the frost seems to be at an end, the barometer is falling, and the forecasts are unpromising. But there is time for amendment before the popular days of the show are reached.

Now that the frost is gone, its effects upon the land are good to see. That unique property of water, its power to expand with irrisistible force as it congeals, must always make it a finer disintegrator of the soil than anything devised by human ingenuity, and to-day one sees how it has broken up hard clods to powder, and done more to ease and expedite the work of plough and harrow than could be achieved by any other agency. If only the market outlook were equally cheerful, there would be little to complain of; but, alas! it is not so. Beef is selling poorly in all markets, and graziers have to part with beasts at hardly more than they gave for them in spring.

On the other hand, stores have come down also, and as beef can surely hardly go any lower, they ought to pay satisfactorily for wintering—that is, if they are thrifty beasts and economically fed. One cannot speak with so much confidence as to sheep, for lambs are still very dear to buy. As a general rule, there seems to be no scarcity either of hay and straw, or roots, but the demands upon the fodder produced at home will be increased by the dearness of oil cakes just now.

Out of evil, we know, good may spring. The split at the Countess of Warwick's Agricultural College, which led to the departure of the warden (Miss Edith Bradley) and others from Studley Castle seems to be a case in point, for it has cleared the way for a new development of the work—the establishment of a women's co-operative agricultural settlement on a large scale. Lady Warwick's scheme has shown that horticulture, the lighter branches of agriculture, poultry and bee-keeping, fruit growing and preserving offer promising openings for properly trained women of the right stamp who must perforce do something to maintain themselves, and now Miss Bradley and her associates offer an opportunity to old pupils and others to put their training and experience to the test.

There are details in the scheme—the "band of local charwomen properly organised" to wit—which rather lend themselves to ridicule, but one cannot but wish the newly-formed Mercia Agricultural Association success in its enterprise. As it is reckoned that the Association, whose headquarters are at Bredon's Norton, near Tewkesbury, will need anything from £10,000 to £20,000, according to the price of the estate, to make a start, it will be seen that the scheme is ambitious, and one foresees some difficulty in raising the money, even though influential friends are supporting the movement. Perhaps at the beginning a part of the land might be leased by the Association for a term of years, and sub-let to members.

November 24, 1905.

Transactions in Store Stock.

Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Fethard, co. Tipperary, November 21.—Large fair: good demand for cattle with quality and condition suitable for shipping, but small and backward animals sold slowly, and a good number went home unsold. Small supply of springers, for which there was fair demand. Calves, 2nd class, £3 10s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £8 5s. to £9 5s., 2nd class, £5 15s. to £7 10s.; two-years-old, 1st class, £11 10s. to £13, 2nd class, £9 to £11 5s.; three-years-old, 2nd class, £13.

Collooney, co. Sligo, November 21.—Large fair of nice young cattle; good demand for those suitable for Scottish and North of England shippers, and a large number sold. Calves, 1st class, £3 10s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class, £7 to £8 10s., 2nd class, £5 10s. to £6 5s.; two-years-old, 1st class, £10 10s. to £11 5s., 2nd class, £8 to £9, 3rd class, £6 to £7 2s. 6d.; three-years-old, 2nd class, £10 5s. to £12; springers, 1st class, £15 to £17, 2nd class, £11 to £13 5s.

Railway Platelayers and Cottages.

SIR,—Why should it not be more obligatory on our railway companies to build houses along their lines for their employees—to wit, the platelayers, who keep them in running order? These useful men mostly live where they can procure a home, and having a superior wage to the country labourer, they engage the best cottages. Provided the railways built for their men, other workers could be provided for, and most of the companies could issue stock at a premium to do so. I commend this to shareholders at coming meetings. The same remark apply to our counties and the rural police.—Yours obediently,

November 22. YEOMAN.

Kent: District, Romney Marsh—Bountiful Grass.

SIR,—The district of Romney Marsh has been favoured this year with a very bountiful supply of grass—indeed, more than most graziers could cope with. The growth of lucerne came late, and it was impossible to take advantage of it, owing to the high prices of lean stock. Sheep and lambs, however, did well, and have sold satisfactorily. A good crop of wool was grown, and returned better prices. It will, however, require several years, at the present range of values, to make up the serious losses tenants have suffered in recent bad seasons.

The wheat crop is not heavy, and its low price and the cheapness of straw make a very bad return for the arable farmer. Oats are generally light, and the potato crop in many cases a complete failure. The recent heavy rains, although needed, have in many cases made it impossible to put in wheat this autumn.

November 24, 1905.

The Season in East Suffolk.

SIR,—The season on the whole has been very favourable for autumn work, and most farmers are getting very close up with plough. It is many years since land ploughed up so light and tender on our heavy soils, and it will probably be found that more wheat than usual has been planted, owing partly to the easy seed-bed provided, and the dissatisfaction felt at the price of barley. Farmers feel that they are obliged to take considerably less than value considering the quality of barleys this year, and many refuse to sell any at less than 28s., using it rather for feeding purposes. It was hardly to be supposed after the way the brewers succeeded in bearing the barley market last year that they would not adopt the same tactics.

Fortunately, the Burton buyers have found our barleys to their liking, and have been taking some thousands of quarters out of the district, and although even their prices compare very unfavourably with those of a year or two back, it has naturally hardened the trade for commoner sorts, and we have heard maltsters complain that they could not get sufficient for their requirements at prices to meet the conditions imposed upon them.

Stall-fed beef, mutton, and pork have all been selling well, and will probably prove to have given a fair return for their food. It is noticeable how quality is increasingly considered, and how important a factor it is in the price realised in all kinds of stock. Twenty years ago the supply of beef on Ipswich Market in the autumn consisted almost entirely of grass-fed beasts from the shires and marshes, with only an occasional stall-fed beast of inferior quality. Now there are always a good number of ripe home-grazed beasts to be found, the best commanding almost fancy prices.

November 24, 1905. G. S.

The Season in Cornwall.

SIR,—The past season has been a very fair one, on the whole, in this district. Corn crops were very good, and the mangolds an excellent crop; turnips, of which there are not so many grown as formerly, have mildewed badly during the autumn. Potatoes turned out well, Up-to-Dates still maintain their superiority here for the main crop, and Reading Giants for the early crop.

Wheat, which averaged 40 bushels per acre here, was the best yield of the cereals, and is selling fairly well. Malting barley is also selling well, but is not so much grown on account of the poorness of the straw. Beef has found the worst market this year, many prime bullocks selling as low as 52s. per cwt. Feeders of beef, in spite of being able to buy stores cheap, have dropped money. Mutton has been selling at fair prices, but has fallen considerably lately. Wool has gone up, and sellers anticipate a further rise after Christmas. Horses are very plentiful and cheap; in fact, there seems to be no demand for them. Labour is much more plentiful than for several years.

The weather now is very cold, and there is every prospect of a hard winter, if the aurora borealis is a sign of one, as no one has seen it so plainly before as on Wednesday night, the whole sky being like a sheet of flame; but, with plenty of rough grass and roots and hay, I do not think we have much fear of running short of keep for the cattle through the winter.

The work on the farm, thanks to the lovely fine weather we have been having, is in a very forward state. Wheat is coming up looking well, in spite of the feeds the rooks have had. There are a great deal too many of these birds in these parts, they have become a great pest all the year round. J. P. M.

November 18, 1905.

Crops and Markets in Mid Staffs.

SIR,—Until the beginning of this week the weather has been mild and the grass land fresh and green. We have had since several days of fog, with sharp frosts at night. Again the fog and frost have disappeared, and there is a likelihood of a fall of rain. Autumn-sown wheat has been slow in making an appearance above ground, and the first start of germination has been greatly injured by rooks and jackdaws, so that the plant will be very deficient.

The generally poor crop of swedes has apparently brought about a flat demand for draft cows at our autumn fairs, and the glut of second and third qualities of beef—both imported and of home origin—has been almost unprecedented.

So far, the graziers have done very badly, and it remains to be proved whether there will come a revival in the demand at the Christmas sales, which will begin early in December.

As there is considerable activity in the coal and iron trades of the Midland counties, the expectation of a rise in price of beef seems to have a reasonable foundation. Good milking cows are in demand, at a price which seems to be high in comparison with store cattle and with fat beasts of all qualities.

In short, all descriptions of dairy produce will make a better return for the season than either fat cattle or young stock of the last two years' raising. J. C. S.

November 22, 1905.

Nottinghamshire Prospects.

SIR,—The weather has been of a seasonable character for Martinmas, and, on the whole, farm work is well forward before the changing of servants. However, there are not nearly so many Martinmas servants as there used to be some twenty or thirty years ago. Carting roots—of which there are some record crops this year—is about completed; many mangels and common turnips have reached large dimensions. Ploughing has been executed under favourable conditions, and wheat sowing has been finished some little time on the heavy clays. Early pieces are looking extremely well; the same may be said of winter tares and beans. Potatoes are now practically all stored, but the crop, as a rule, does not seem to have been a very remunerative or satisfactory one for the grower, not because disease is rampant, but owing to the poor yield and out-turn. The country side begins to have a wintry aspect; the pastures still afford some keep and look greener since the rainfall, although the sharp frosts robbed them a little of their freshness; in fact, the herbage has changed colour. The early frosts are said to be an omen of an open time to follow, so we shall see if the old adage obtains—that if the ice bear a duck before Martinmas there will be nothing but "muck and splash" after. Some say—that is, wise sages—that where the wind is on Martinmas eve it will generally prevail for some time, so it was in the south-west, hence they would have us expect some nice, mild open weather, which will be extremely welcomed by the farmers in North Notts, for the hay-stacks are of a "dwarfed" nature.

Farmers have had to resort to foddering during the spell of harsh weather, and some had taken up their "fresh" meated beasts, so as to keep them warm and try to hinder them from "running off"—i.e., getting lean. Cattle are reported to be healthy and sheep in good request. The latter have sold wonderfully well this back end, lambs especially; in fact, this has helped many a struggling farmer out of his financial difficulty.

As most are aware, now is the rent audit time, and farmers have to get prepared for the ordeal, and then there are Christmas bills and incidental charges, all of which have to be met at this season of the year. Thrashing has proceeded briskly, and there are some good yields, six quarters of wheat, barley, and oats being not uncommon. However, some samples of barley are "steely," coming out unevenly, with many discoloured and unripe corns, and in consequence the samples are less saleable and the value depreciated. The question of the incidence of taxation still holds the field, and a deal of discussion arises concerning the high rates, especially the education rate, comes in for severe criticism, and nothing more yet.

Tariff reform claims a deal of attention by the farmers. Many are going to vote for Mr. Chamberlain's scheme when they get a chance, so they say, for they are like a chameleon many of them. Something will have to be done, for there are many farm labourers out of work already, with more to follow, in North Notts.

November 23, 1905. AGRESTIC.

"PAYING POULTRY"
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POULTRY.

The Utility Poultry Club's Show at Plymouth Exhibition.

The Utility Poultry Club is holding its show this year in connection with the Plymouth Exhibition, which is being held in the Drill Hall from November 15 to December 6.

Poultry appliances which will be on view during the show were judged on the 15th inst. An interesting classification had been provided, but entries were not very strong in some of the classes, most makers finding Plymouth somewhat remote. The houses on wheels were not so strong a class as that for houses not necessarily movable. In the former class H. Hebditch won the silver medal and E. C. Walton and Co. the bronze; in the latter class, E. Tripe and Co. were awarded the gold medal, F. Atwell Millar the silver medal, and E. C. Walton and Co. the bronze. For foster-mothers the gold medal went to Mr. F. A. Millar, the silver to the J. M. D. Appliance Co., and the bronze to R. E. Collings. In the coop with run class, E. C. Walton and Co. won the silver medal and the J. M. D. Co. the bronze. Trap nests were a strong class, there being eleven entries. The gold medal and special was awarded to W. F. Snell, the silver to Charles Parsons, and the bronze to J. Brown and Son. W. F. Snell and E. Tripe and Co. respectively carried off the silver and bronze medals for drinking fountains. In the egg box classes the Street and District Collecting Depot won the silver medal, Robinson's Patents the bronze in the Large Box classes; W. F. Snell and Robinson's Patents secured the medals in the Parcel Post Box class. In the class for any new invention most useful to poultry-keepers, the premier award went to a capital contrivance for moving portable houses shown by A. Jellicoe, of Warwick House, Theale; J. Dobbie took second prize for an automatic fountain and feeder; while in the classes for useful appliances above and under £1 the premier award in each case went to A. Neaverson for chicken houses.

The exhibition of table poultry, both alive and dead, and eggs takes place from November 29 to December 1, when some fine birds will be shown. During this week a large part of the exhibition will be devoted exclusively to the club's show. Messrs. G. A. Palmer, T. R. Robinson, W. F. Snell, and C. E. J. Walkey are giving lectures, and Mr. F. Browning will demonstrate in trussing, shaping, packing, and cramming throughout that week.

The Cow at Fault.—At Teddington Police-court on Monday a dairyman named Jones was summoned for selling milk deficient in fat to the extent of 18 per cent. An officer went to the defendant's premises and obtained a sample of milk "direct from the cow." When the milk was analysed it was found to be deficient to the extent named. The chairman asked what the explanation was, and the inspector said the deficiency might have been caused by the cow not being "stripped" at the time of milking. A sister of the defendant said that was so. Only sufficient milk to supply the officer was drawn from the cow. The defendant was ordered to pay the costs.

By Lupulin.

Are We Making the Best of Our Produce?

The past season will doubtless be memorable for some years to come as marking a record in the history of English hop-growing. The average weight per acre is so much in excess of any previous experience that it is hardly likely to be equalled for at least another decade, and it is more than probable that a still longer period will elapse before Nature will again be so bountiful in our plantations. One result of this superabundance is seen in the excessive proportion of inferior qualities found in the 1905 growth. This is not altogether due to the natural failure of the plant in the perfecting and enrichment of the fruit, as the consequence of its extreme efforts to put forth a heavy crop, although cause and effect are doubtless in this respect very closely connected. But there is another most important reason to be given for depreciation of quality, suggesting the query at the head of this article. In all previous years of heavy cropping many of our growers have been unable to deal efficiently with the call upon their kilns, which are generally of too limited extent for more than a normal yield. This difficulty was most acutely felt during the last season; although several of the more important planters have, by fixing steam-driven fans and installing hot-air apparatus, enlarged their facilities for handling big quantities in a given time. The great majority of growers, however, remain as they were, with their old kilns, their open fires, and their ancient and somewhat risky habits. To them pressure means haste, involving, in most cases, either slack drying by want of time or scorching by excessive heat. It is admitted that a very large number of pockets of hops, spoiled by one or other of these causes, have been put on the market this year. A certain quantity of such damaged produce is always present, but this season the proportion much exceeds the average. The recent range of prices proves the necessity of closer attention to this most important section of the industry, for while well-managed hops have realised 55s. to 70s., thousands of hundredweights of those not "made the best of," have been sold at 25s. to 35s. The growers who overload the market with such inferior samples not only suffer in their own pockets, but create a general tone of depression which burdens the whole of the trade.

Experience clearly teaches that the answer to my query must be generally negative. There is clearly a demand for much improvement in our present usual system of curing our hops, and there is certainly ample scope for it. "But," says the average planter, "while I agree with you in the main, how am I to meet the case? Fans and hot-air drying are all very well, but I cannot afford the necessary outlay." There is reason in this objection. The excellent systems of Davidson's "Sirocco," Jones Brothers, and Clemens Horst, recently described in this column, have been proved to be most effective in avoiding the failures noted, and in producing perfectly cured hops, but the initial outlay is too heavy for the majority of our people. I have therefore been expecting to hear of some device possessing the advantages of the more elaborate arrangements, but applicable to existing kilns, and with moderate cost. My thoughts have been directed to a more effective form of the old-fashioned and discarded "cockle," which was certainly free from some of the risks of the open furnace, although its faulty construction was otherwise evident. Comparing the effects of the heat rays emanating directly from an open fire with those of a diffused current of air heated by contact with pipes or other closed reservoirs of heat, it may be shortly stated that in the first case the substance operated upon is more or less toasted or "fired," and in the other it is merely dried by the removal of its redundant moisture. In Belgium some years ago, a State Commission condemned the drying of hops by the "feu nu" or naked fire. Throughout Germany, Bohemia, and America the closed fire system is in use. It therefore appears desirable that if English growers are to keep abreast of their competitors they should seriously consider this view of the matter, and if they can see their way to the necessary alteration, they should not hesitate to adopt them. That such an adaptation is practicable was demonstrated by some experiments made last September at the farm of Mr. W. L. Pritchett, of Prior's Court, Ledbury, where a modified arrangement of Joyce's well-known Reek Dissipator was erected. The furnace being entirely closed, none of the products of combustion are carried through the hops, but they are directed through a series of large tubes discharging outwards of the kiln. One current of air is conducted through the hollow bars of the furnace fire, and issues above the hop hair, warming the upper chamber, preventing reek, and creating draught. Another current is directed into a chamber heated by the furnace tubes, with which it comes in contact, and, being raised in temperature as desired, passes through the load of green hops, drying them evenly, and rendering both "coddling" and scorching practically impossible. The system is absolutely automatic, the temperature can be maintained with certainty and with a minimum of attention at a uniform point for any desired period, and it is quite clear that all risks of the communication of arsenical fumes from the fuel are certainly avoided. I need not now give further details of this patented invention, but it appears to me that it includes all that is necessary to accomplish the desired results and to obviate the evils previously referred to, while it possesses the marked advantage of adaptability to all kilns as they stand, without any important or prohibitive outlay. I honestly believe that if this, or some similar system, were universally adopted, the quality standard of our English hops would be generally raised, better prices would be realised, the financial results of our hop-growing would be materially enhanced, and the answer to my inquiry would no longer be negative.

Should any of my readers desire further information concerning this system, I shall be happy to put them in communication with the inventor.

BARLEY AND MALT.

Barley at the Brewers, Exhibition.

Messrs. Dale and Reynolds, managing directors of the Brewers' Exhibition and Market, have been good enough to communicate to us the following letter, which they have received from Mr. Frank Flinn, of Bishop Stortford, the chairman of the barley judges:—

"In submitting to you the final list of awards in the barley competition at the Brewers' twenty-seventh annual Exhibition at the Agricultural Hall in October 1905, your barley judges wish to call your attention to the very satisfactory number of entries in all classes, and the predominating quantity of fine samples, and not, as is so often the case, that there are about a dozen samples from one particular district which stand considerably higher than anything else, but a large quantity of very good barleys had to be brought forward for the chief prizes. You will notice the best barleys in classes 1 and 2 embrace several counties—viz., the champion, Norfolk; 2nd in class 1, Lincoln; 3rd in class 1, Hunts; v.h.c. in class 1, Oxford; h.c. in class 1, Suffolk; 1st in class 2, Salop; 2nd in class 2, Herefordshire; 3rd in class 2, Middlesex; which we think is very satisfactory, as showing the interest taken in the Exhibition and the care in trying to grow good barley.

"Although the thrashing of the samples exhibited shows some improvement upon years gone by, we consider there is much to be desired in that direction, and we might mention that several samples would have taken a much higher place in the awards had it not been for the fact that the ends of the grain were damaged and the skin broken, through improper thrashing. Too much attention cannot be given to this important subject, because we know that barleys are very often damaged to such an extent as to render them pratically unfit for malting purposes, and in other cases are reduced in value by several shillings per quarter.

"We are pleased to hear that you intend to offer in next year's show additional prizes for the best-thrashed barleys in classes 1 and 2, to go to the man who drives the engine and the man who feeds the thrasher—viz., 1st prize, £1 1s. to the engine driver, and £1 1s. to the thrasher feeder; 2nd prize, 10s. 6d. to the engine driver, and 10s. 6d. to the thrasher feeder; as we look upon it as a stroke in the right direction, and we feel sure that it will be appreciated very much by the competitors.

"It was gratifying to see that although there were only a few entries from our Colonies, they were of a very good quality and condition.

"A very interesting item in this year's show was that the exhibitor who took the champion prize has been a keen competitor for 10 years and has at last been awarded the premier honours."

The National Potato Show.

The second exhibition of the National Potato Society was held in the Horticultural Hall, Westminster, on Thursday and Friday last, when there was a large and representative gathering of potato raisers and growers. Last year, it will be recollected, the fixture took place at the Crystal Palace, but this year's venue certainly scores on the point of accessibility. There was plenty of staging last week of good potatoes which showed no trace of any disease. Perhaps the most interesting exhibit comes from Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of the Royal Nurseries, Reading. It is not an ordinary display, but represents many of the species of potato which this famous firm have used, or will do so, to infuse new blood into the race. There are wild potatoes from over the seas, and many curious forms which the French chef would convert into tasteful and attractive dishes. The Small White Fir is a strange little tuber, even picturesque, and the Congo is a dusky form which we can imagine fit food for the dwellers in the far-off forests.

Amongst other distinguished exhibitors whose displays were not for competition must be noted Mr. A. Findlay, of Auchtermuchty, N.B. It was this grower who first raised the "Eldorado," a modest-looking vegetable, though veritably the root of many fortunes, and practically the origin of the recent boom. Mr. George Massey, another non-competitive exhibitor at the exhibition, himself a great grower, paid eighteen months ago the record price of £1,400 for 14 lb. weight of these, selling again 1 lb. for £250 sterling, and a single specimen for fifty guineas. When it is remembered the potato is infinitely reproductive, the magic attraction of such figures will be readily understood. Northern Star, another of Mr. Findlay's discoveries, created a great sensation by its disease-resisting properties when it first rose above the agricultural horizon, and though it has cheapened since then, Mr. Findlay says, "of all the varieties I have sent out, no one of them so nearly approaches my ideal potato as this."

The following firms also exhibited potatoes which were not entered for competition:—J. Bettinson, Parkfield, Outwell, Wisbech; J. W. Boyce, Welney, Wisbech; Bradley Brothers, Bardney, Lincs.; C. W. Breadmore, 120, High Street, Winchester; Wm. Coleman, Culverden Down, Tunbridge Wells; F. G. Crampton, Gate House, Sissinghurst, Kent; Daniels Brothers, Limited, Royal Arcade, Norwich; W. Davie and Co., Market Street, Haddington, N.B.; Wm. Deal, Brooklands, Kelvedon, Essex; W. Dennis and Sons, Kirton, Lincs.; Alex. Dickson and Sons, 55, Royal Avenue, Belfast; Dobbie and Co., Rothesay, N.B., and Mark's Tey, Essex; Fidler and Sons, Reading; James Gardiner, Perth, N.B.; R. W. Green, Wisbech; Hogg and Robertson, Mary Street, Dublin; W. W. Johnson and Sons, Limited, Boston; James Kerr, Dumfries, N.B.; Peter Kerr, Leith Walk Station, Edinburgh; A. Lighton, jun., The Nurseries, Kirton, Lincs.; G. Massey and Sons, 17, Market Place, Spalding; A. W. Pepper, Bridge Farm, Downham; F. Pickering, Pinehurst, Woodhall Spa; R. W. Pinney, Coleshill, Birmingham; Isaac Poad and Sons, Walmgate, York; T. A. Scarlett, Market Street, Edinburgh; Henry Scott, Warminster, Wilts; Arthur J. Sole, Cowgate, Peterborough; R. Sydenham, Tenby Street, Birmingham; S. M. Thomson, 7, Warrender Park Crescent, Edinburgh; J. F. Williamson, Summer Hill, Mallow, Ireland; David Wilson, East Linton, N.B.

Coming to the competitive classes, the principal award was a sterling silver challenge cup, value £50, to the exhibitor who shall grow and stage the best collection of twelve distinct varieties, nine tubers of each, selected from the list named below. All to be raised from tubers obtained direct from either Messrs. James Carter and Co. or from Mr. Archibald Findlay, Esq., in the spring of 1905. The winner was Mr. Ben Ashton, who exhibited magnificent tubers of the following varieties:—Mr. Ambrose, Advancer, Empire, Royal Kidney, Evergood, Northern Star, Goodfellow, Ruby Queen, Monarch, Klondyke, Empress Queen, and Snowball.

A silver challenge cup of the value of £10 10s., presented by Sir John T. D. Llewelyn, Bart., for the best exhibit in the show, was won by the well-known Scotch firm, Messrs. Dobbie, of Rothesay. The great Scotch variety, the Factor,

was splendidly shown, and this is a potato which is relished on the table. A silver cup, presented by Mr. J. Deal, for the best yield of twelve roots, went to that expert grower, Mr. J. Gemmell, who also won Mr. Scarlett's gold medal.

In addition to the above awards, gold medals were allotted to Dobbie and Co., G. Massey and Sons, Webb and Sons, Daniels Bros., and Sutton and Sons. Silver medals were won by T. A. Scarlett, W. W. Johnson, W. Deal, Dennis and Sons, Hy. Scott, J. Kerr, Hogg and Robertson, Pead and Son, R. W. Green, W. Davie and Co., J. F. Williamson, Fidler and Son, and F. G. Crampton.

Can British Agriculture be Resuscitated?

Before the Leicestershire Chamber of Agriculture meeting on Saturday, November 18, Mr. P. F. Astill, Cossington, Leicester, read an excellent paper on the above subject. He reviewed the products or gross returns of an ordinary farm, and asked his hearers to note the salient change brought about by the fall of prices and its effect on the nation. The farm to be considered should consist of 200 acres—100 grass and the other 100 arable land. The grass should be half feeding and half store pasture, and the arable should be half light enough to fold sheep upon, a sandy loam, and the rest a heavier, a clay loam; such a farm as could be let in Leicestershire at 32s. per acre. In estimating the stock it would carry and the crops it would grow, he wished to treat the grass as if it were independent of the plough, and vice versa. On the 50 acres of store land there would be a flock of 40 ewes, which might be expected to rear from 50 to 60 lambs. With the ewes could be grazed 20 head of young stock and the four farm horses. On the feeding land could be grazed 40 beasts and 20 sheep. What would be the return? He estimated, from a detailed calculation, that the income would be £348, and the expenditure £271 16s. 6d., leaving a net profit of £76 4s., or 15s. 3d. per acre. The crops on the arable land would be barley, clover, oats, wheat, and roots, a five year rotation. The root crop was the difficult one to value, as it was only reached by the increase value of the stock wintered.

What amount of stock could be kept and what profit could be made? The roots grown would be mangolds, turnips, and cabbage. He found that an acre of straw with roots and cotton cake would winter a bullock. The 40 acres of barley and oat straw would keep 40 bullocks, which could be expected to increase in value £3 per head. This increase could be equally divided between straw, roots, and cake. Sixty lambs could be fed on the turnips on the light land, paying, with a generous allowance of cake, £1 per head. Part of the clover would be consumed by the horses; the rest by stall-fed cattle. He would not go into what could be realised by consuming the clover, but would place it at its recognised worth of 50s. per ton, and add £20 to the root crop for roots consumed by the stock eating the clover. The wheat straw would be required for thatching. The total receipts (of which Mr. Astill gave a full and detailed statement covering each item) he estimated would be £707 10s., and the total expenses £649 16s., leaving a net profit of £57 14s., or 11s. 6d. per acre. The two great differences to be observed between the grass and arable cultivation were a double gross return from, and four times the amount of wages paid on, the arable. They had noted that there was a profit of 15s. 3d. on the grass, and 11s. 6d. on the arable per acre, and when they took into consideration the amount of trouble in management and dependence on the weather on the plough land compared to the pasture, was it surprising that more than 100,000 acres went out of cultivation annually? It was the heavier fall in the price of the produce of the arable land that had caused the great change. The effect of that change had been to drive many thousands of the labourers into the towns, and make England as a nation more dependent than was really necessary on imports of the absolute necessities of life.

Though that great depression had continued for a generation, they had received practically no State help. He could not help thinking it was because the average elector believed that agriculturists had no better grounds for their demands than a wish that their lives should be made less strenuous at the expense of the electors. If they were to measure the loss caused by the change from arable to pasture land, they must refer to the agricultural returns. They were first collected in 1866, but the Board of Agriculture considered that the figures of 1867 more accurate for comparison. During the nine years following that date the cultivated area of Great Britain increased nearly two million acres, owng to agriculture being very profitable. That brought them to the high-water mark of British agricultural success. In 1876 there was approximately 17½ millions of acres of grass and 18 millions of arable land. In 1886, though the cultivated area had increased by another million acres, the arable land had decreased by a million. Supposing the reclaimed area to be half grass and half arable, this gave an annual decrease of 150,000 acres of arable land. This was the effect of the first fall of prices.

The returns of 1896 (ten years later), which included the year when wheat fell to £1 a quarter, showed a further loss of 1,220,000 acres of arable land. From 1896 to 1902, with a slight recovery, at least in the price of wheat, they got a reduced annual loss of arable land—viz., 40,000 acres. This brought them to the last three years, with a loss greater than ever—viz., 172,367 in 1903, 189,530 in 1904, and 133,216 this year. He had shown at the outset that it was easier to gain a profit on the grass than on the arable land. Why need they regret? As farmers they need not regret. That was the nation's loss and the labourer's loss, not the farmer's. That conversion of three million acres was an annual loss of £10,000,000 to £12,000,000 value of produce to the nation. It meant a loss of £4,500,000 in wages to the labourer, and £1,500,000 in wages to the artisan. It meant a displacement of more than 100,000 labourers and 23,000 artisans. If they looked at the value of the produce of the arable land they would see what a small increase in the price per quarter would make the arable land more profitable than the pasture. It was the annual loss of 165,000 acres of arable land which it should be their first effort to remedy. This meant an annual displacement of 5,625 labourers in Great Britain alone, numbering with their families 28,000 people, annually driven into the towns. Was it surprising that they heard so much of want of employment and poverty in their great cities?

They were confronted with politicians who were always crying "Back to the land," but who were determined to withhold those conditions which alone could make the land support a greater number. They did not see on the Continent the rural depopulation that we saw in this country. The case of Germany had been cited by Mr. Haldane as similar to ours, but Germany's loss of rural population during the past 20 years was only 3 per cent., whilst ours was 26 per cent. Moreover, Germany had not lost an acre of cultivated land. Could British agriculture be resuscitated? Yes. There might be many methods of assisting this good work—reduction of rates on the land, security of tenure, land purchase, small holdings, co-operation, and other useful measures. But what was fundamental, was a better price for the produce of the arable land. It was because he was profoundly convinced that much good could be realised at no cost to the nation that he was proud to be a humble follower of the great protagonist of fiscal reform.

Rural Houisng.

"Such conditions prevail in the cottages in some parts of rural England as to make decency impossible and morality a miracle." Such was the emphatic remark of Sir Walter Foster, M.P., at the annual meeting of the Rural Housing and Sanitation Association, held last week under the presidency of Sir John Gorst, at the Westminster Palace Hotel. Painful illustrations of the truth of his denunciation were given in the pages of the annual report submitted for adoption.

For instance, the inspector relates of one cottage:—Roof defective; no through ventilation. Top floor room occupied by father and mother, boy of thirteen, and four other children, ages twelve, ten, eight, and five. Three sons occupy a ground floor bedroom, ages twenty-two, twenty, and sixteen. So that there are ten persons in the three rooms. Tenants would like more room if it could be got. In a second:—Top floor room occupied by father and mother, boy of thirteen, and three girls of eleven, seven, and four years respectively. The room has no through ventilation. Tenant would like more room.

The association has, however, in several instances, been able to bring about reforms by its appeals to owners and to the sanitary authorities. An interesting speech followed from Mr. C. Fairfax Cholmeley, who rather deprecated the idea that cottages could not be built to pay. He gave an account of his own work in building cottages at a cost of £150 apiece at Brandesby in Yorkshire.

ESTIMATED PRODUCE OF CROPS IN 1905.

Last week the Board of Agriculture issued the following Preliminary Statement showing the Estimated Total Produce and Yield per Acre of the Principal Crops in Great Britain in the Year 1905, with Comparisons for 1904, and the Average Yield per Acre of the ten Years 1895-1904. As regards the Produce of Hops for 1905, it is pointed out that a Preliminary Statement was issued on October 9th, and this showed a total estimated produce of 695,943 cwts, being an estimated yield per acre of 14·21 cwts.

CROPS.		Estimated Total Produce.		Acreage.		Average Estimated Yield per Acre.		Average of the ten years.
		1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1895-1904.
		Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
WHEAT	England	55,669,890	34,535,897	1,704,281	1,302,404	32·66	26·52	30·53
	Wales	1,167,228	890,800	43,891	35,062	26·59	25·41	25·02
	Scotland	2,065,381	1,453,549	48,638	37,722	42·46	38·53	37·72
	Great Britain ...	58,902,499	36,880,246	1,796,810	1,375,188	32·78	26·82	30·56
BARLEY ...	England	47,288,182	47,028 421	1,410,287	1,543,579	33·53	30·47	32·58
	Wales	2,817,436	2,983,409	91,243	96,341	30·88	30·97	30·23
	Scotland	8,004,446	7,181,237	212,134	200,764	37·73	35·77	35·79
	Great Britain ...	58,110,064	57,193,067	1,713,664	1,840,684	33·91	31·07	32·82
OATS	England	74,116,954	84,078,623	1 880,475	2,059 961	39·41	40·82	40·71
	Wales	7,042,126	7,426,363	207,929	212,240	33·87	34·99	33·16
	Scotland	35,277,807	35,902,862	962,972	980,739	36·65	36·61	36·43
	Great Britain ...	116,436,887	127,407,848	3,051,376	3,252,940	38·16	39·17	38·81
BEANS	England	7,806,620	5,435,859	243,002	240,339	32·13	22·61	27·39
	Wales	30,292	29,851	1,179	1,230	25·89	24·27	24·69
	Scotland	364,818	363,079	9,923	10,515	36·76	34·53	33·08
	Great Britain ...	8,201,730	5,827,789	254,095	252,084	32·28	23·12	27·66
PEAS	England	4,403,110	4,406,000	171,110	170,997	25·73	25·77	26·36
	Wales	19,265	19 728	938	913	20·54	21·61	20·05
	Scotland	17,108	15,375	630	575	27·16	26·74	25·54
	Great Britain ...	4,439,483	4,441,103	172,678	172,485	25·71	25·75	26·30
		Tons.	Tons.			Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
POTATOES ...	England	2,619,276	2,462,613	434,773	402,760	6·02	6·11	5·84
	Wales	163,889	143,964	29,435	29,714	5·57	4·84	5·36
	Scotland	979,541	981,677	144,265	137,735	6·79	7·13	5·90
	Great Britain ...	3,762,706	3,588,254	608,473	570,209	6·18	6·29	5·83
TURNIPS and SWEDES ...	England	13,965,669	14,240,944	1,083,640	1,091,344	12·83	13·05	11·91
	Wales	771,119	1,000,805	60,327	61,039	12·78	16·40	14·81
	Scotland	7,162,794	7,794,380	445,313	451,721	16·08	17·25	15·11
	Great Britain ...	21,840,582	23,036,129	1,589,280	1,604,104	13·74	14·36	12·88
MANGOLD ...	England	8,002,318	7,252,440	391,712	385,646	20·43	18·81	18·39
	Wales	165,833	180,615	10,022	10,212	16·55	17·69	16·17
	Scotland	45,109	48,347	2,382	2,969	18·94	16·28	17·26
	Great Britain ...	8,213,260	7,481,402	404,116	398,827	20·32	18·76	18·32
						Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
HAY from Clover, Sainfoin, &c. ...	England	2,213,712	3,542,597	1 569,430	1,693,490	28·50	29·04	28·79
	Wales	232,655	252,612	192,170	203,039	24·21	24·88	23·78
	Scotland	666,985	701,854	427,636	421,366	31·19	33·31	31·79
	Great Britain ...	3,143,352	3,497,063	2,189,286	2,322,895	28·72	30·11	28·89
HAY from Permanent Grass ...	England	4,395,414	5,140,332	4,033,908	4,116,855	21·79	24·97	23·61
	Wales	482,649	511,248	506,270	502,756	19·07	20·34	18·39
	Scotland	209,908	224,116	147,534	114,939	28·46	30·93	28·86
	Great Britain ...	5,087,971	5,875,696	4,687,712	4,764,550	21·71	24·66	23·23

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane. Wednesday. — General firmness continued, most cereals being reservedly held, and a moderate number of buyers attended. English wheat in moderate supply is firm. Imported wheat was held for fully recent prices. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 34s 6d to 34s 9d ex ship; Australian, ex store, 34s to 34s 6d; Russian, as to sample, 32s to 34s 6d; La Plata, 30s to 33s per quarter. Flour steady at late level. No. 1 town households, delivered in; Iron Duke, 21s 6d ex store. Grinding barley weaker. Azoff, 20s 1½d ex quay. English malting barley generally quiet, but steady. Oats quiet; 34lb Russian, 19s 6d to 16s 9d ex quay. Maize firm; American mixed, 25s 6d; and La Plata, 25s to 25s 3d landed. Beans and peas well maintained.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Steady tone, but buyers were listless, and the close was quiet, with quotations generally at last day's level. English wheat quiet; foreign grades steadily held. No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted at 34s 9d, Australian at 35s, and New Zealand at 31s. Maize attracts but little attention; mixed American landed offered at 25s 3d, ex ship at 25s, and La Plata at 25s and 24s 9d. Flour quiet; Iron Duke held for 22s 6d. Barley steady at dust rates; Odessa-Nicolaieff 20s and American 19s 3d asked. Oats quiet at 16s 6d to 16s 9d for 38lb. Russian. Beans held for 1s advance; English quoted at 35s; peas slow of sale.

COUNTRY.

Ashford. Tuesday. Wheat at late rates, best samples making up to 30s per quarter. English barley was in good demand, and holders were firm, but there was no advance in prices beyond the 32s last quoted. Mazagan beans made 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; oats, 17s to 21s; foreign grinding barley, 23s to 24s; and maize, 27s to 28s per quarter. Flour unchanged, at 31s per sack for whites, 28s seconds, and 26s sealing.

Banbury. Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 28s to 29s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans, new, 29s to 30s; ditto, old, 33s to 34s; oats, 17s to 21s; ditto old, 20s to 24s; peas, 27s to 30s per quarter.

Berwick. Saturday.—Average attendance, with limited supplies of grain. Barley firmer, and met with a ready sale at fully late rates. Oats dull. Wheat, 27s to 30s; barley, 25s to 29s; oats, 18s to 20s 6d.

Birmingham. Thursday. About the usual attendance, but trade moves very slowly. English wheat makes from 28s to 30s per quarter (496lb) delivered Birmingham. Oats very firm and make from 18s 6d per quarter (312lb) and upwards delivered Birmingham. Very little doing in foreign wheats, which are easy at last week's prices. Plate maize is 3d lower, and flat 6d. Grinding barley is unchanged at 21s per 400lb Sharpness. English beans 12s 3d to 12s 6d per bag (196lb) delivered.

Brighton. Thursday. Quiet trade at last week's prices. Small attendance. New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 30s to 31s; barley, 29s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s.

Bristol. Thursday.—Trading during the past week has been quiet on the whole. English wheat to-day in moderate supply at late rates. Foreign wheat 3d lower on the week. Maize 3d lower. Barley and oats unaltered. Flour unchanged.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's Wednesday.—Wheat: Supply below average; trade steady, at last week's prices; reds or whites, 29s 6d to 30s; rivetts, 28s to 29s per quarter. Barley: Supply again small; no change in prices, but there is a steady tone in the trade at 28s to 32s for malting runs, with grinding sorts and screenings firm at 24s 6d to 25s per quarter. Oats and beans in short supply, with a firm trade at fully last week's prices. Other feeding corns firm. Linseed cakes 2s 6d per ton dearer.

Cambridge, Saturday.—During the week the wheat trade has been without any fresh feature; supplies continue but moderate, and condition not so good as a month ago. There was a fair supply of wheat, for which farmers succeeded in making late rates although trade was slow. Red wheat 29s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley in moderate supply, and prices quite steady. Beans in sellers' favour. Oats dull, turn cheaper.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A firm trade in wheat, at from 28s to 32s per qr.; oats in short supply, spring corn making from 18s to 21s; malting barley a steady trade at from 28s to 31s; grinding qualities 23s to 25s per qr.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Largest supply of oats shown in our market to-day this season. Good demand at last week's prices; 18s to 19s 6d per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat with the poor demand, was quiet 2d per bushel lower, and Indian corn was 3d per sack lower. English oats being less freely offered maintained late prices. Offals firmer. Quotations: Wheat, white and red, 4s 4d to 4s 7d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, 6d, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 7d; ditto, old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; Indian corn, 13s 6d to 13s 9d per 240lb.; River Plate, new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Attendance good, trade fair. New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 21s 6d; oats, English, 17s to 21s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—The supply of wheat was moderate to-day, and the market was dull and prices rather easier. Barley steadier. Beans a firm trade at the usual advance. Oats 1s per quarter cheaper.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A moderate attendance, and the supply of wheat being fairly liberal, trade was quiet. Barley was quiet, with small demands. Peas and beans firm, with the turn in buyers' favour. Quotations: Old wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 196lb; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 196lb; barley, 27s to 32s per 448lb.; old oats 23s to 25s per 352lb.; new oats, 19s to 22s per 352lb.; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; new beans, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 196lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby Friday. Wheat continued in small supply, and very quiet at last week's prices. Spring corn unchanged. New white wheat, 30s to 31s; red wheat, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; old beans, 33s to 34s; new beans, 30s to 31s; old oats, 23s to 24s; new oats, 19s to 20s.

Devizes. Thursday. There was a small supply of oats. There was no alteration in the value of any description. The following were the quotations: New wheat, 14s 6d to 16s; secondary, 15s to 14s; best barley, [illegible]; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old [illegible] 24s to 25s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting [illegible] to 30s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to [illegible] extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Market well attended. Very small show of English wheat, but trade fairly steady at about last week's prices. Top value, 11s 6d per load. Foreign wheat slow, and last week's prices were barely maintained. Large supply of barley, and rather difficult to dispose of at last week's rates. Oats were firm. Beans and maize made fully late rates. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Very small market, both as to supply and attendance; samples came to hand in rather poor condition, and a very quiet trade resulted throughout. Wheat about maintained values for both English and foreign, and the same may be said of flour. Barley, steady trade for both grinding and malting descriptions. Oats inactive and less firmly held, but no decline in values to note. Maize steady. Beans and peas unchanged.

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; oats, 10s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter. Friday.—Trade somewhat dull. English wheat firm at last week's prices; foreign rather easier. English barley rather dearer. Flour unchanged. Maize 3d cheaper. Oats firmer. English wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; English barley, 3s 3d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow. Friday. — The market is, if anything, steadier for wheat, the American advices being somewhat better. The business passing is, however, of the poorest character. Flour moves slowly at nominally late prices. Mixed American maize extremely scarce, and held for full prices, viz., 15s 6d per 280lb.; Plate dull at 14s 6d. Calcutta peas and feeding beans remain firm. Other articles steady but quiet.

Gloucester. Saturday. The market was inactive. English wheat was in fair supply, and prices the turn easier. Foreign was 3d cheaper, and maize and barley showed similar declines. Oats 3d dearer.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham. Saturday.—There was a fair supply of wheat, which made 29s to 30s per quarter. Barley was well represented, and a much better demand prevailed, the quotations being 26s to 32s per quarter. Oats were plentifully shown, but trade was slower, the sales effected showing a decrease of 6d per quarter, 19s to 21s. Beans averaged 32s per quarter, an advance of 6d on the week. Peas ranged from 36s to 46s per quarter.

Hereford. Wednesday. The attendance was moderate, and trade generally quiet. English wheats displayed a slightly easier feeling. Barleys quotably unchanged. Oats firm. Beans dull. Wholesale quotations:—Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 7d per 62lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56lb; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb.; new oats, 2s 2d to 2s 6d per 40lb; old beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65 1-3lb; new beans, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 65 1-3lb; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 55½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat: With an average supply the trade was firm at last week's prices, good reds or whites being worth about 31s per 504lb. Barley: Supply distinctly short for the time of the year, with no pressure to sell, and prices if anything the turn better, useful malting runs being in steady demand at 28s to 32s per quarter; grinding sorts very firm at 24s 6d to 25s 6d per quarter. Oats: In very moderate supply, and firm, at 20s to 21s 6d, with old corn at 22s 6d to 23s 6d per quarter. Maize unchanged, at 25s 6d to 26s per quarter. Beans, peas, and other feeding corns all firm on the week, as also oil cakes and milling offals.

Leeds. Friday.—There was very little demand for English wheat, and in a few cases 6d lower was accepted. Foreign met with a slow sale at slightly lower prices. No change in barley. Oats declined 6d. Other feeding stuffs unaltered.

Leicester. Saturday.—Fair attendance of buyers and dealers, with good supply of home-grown wheats. Trade steady. Red wheats, 29s to 30s per 36 stones; white wheats, 30s to 32s per 36 stones. Good barleys were in request, but many samples were faulty and rough. Prices ranged from 25s to 29s per 32 stones. Beans in better demand at 34s to 36s per 38 stones; fine oats, 20s to 23s per 26 stones.

Lincoln. Friday.—Moderate show of English wheat, which sold freely at last week's prices. All classes of barley firm at late rates. Oats and beans firm and unaltered.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and foreign wheat were unchanged on the week, with only a moderate demand. Flour was 6d lower. Indian corn ruled about 1d lower for mixed American, but Plate was unchanged. Oats were on the easy side, and barley was very quiet, in buyers' favour. Peas and beans unchanged. Bran and thirds in fair demand and unchanged.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was a better supply of wheat on offer at our market to-day, with a dull trade at late rates. Barley was in better supply, the trade ruling firm for all useful lots. Frosty weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per quarter, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending November 11, 1905:—Wheat, 4,285, 28s 11d; barley, 20,614, 24s 7d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Northampton. Saturday.—Better attendance; small show. Wheat at last week's prices; barley trade slow; oats and beans firm. New wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 18s to 20s; new black, 18s to 19s; new beans, 28s to 30s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Nottingham. Saturday.—Wheat in fair supply; last week's rates supported. Barley less offering, and values maintained. Oats and beans small show and firm in price.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Newark, Wednesday.—There was a firm trade in wheat at previous prices. Barley steady at full prices. Oats unchanged in value. Beans 6d per quarter dearer. Wheat, 29s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 29s to 31s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. Saturday.—A quiet demand for wheat of all descriptions, and prices of last week were barely maintained. Maize quiet and in buyers' favour. A fair demand for oats, and prices of last Saturday were maintained. Barley steady, unchanged in prices. Beans and peas unaltered.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Oxford. Saturday.—The attendance was small, and trade ruled dull. English wheats were freely offered at former quotations, but only a limited business was done. The supply of barley was on a smaller scale, and holders were steady at about late rates.

Peterborough. Saturday. — There has only been a moderate supply of wheat and a quiet trade at about same prices as last week. Barley held firmly, but the demand was not active. Oats sold at late rates.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston. Saturday.—During the week trading has been smaller, and prices easier for grain. There was a fair attendance, and prices showed little, if any, change for local wheat and oats. The latter are offering more freely, and prices are rather easier. Flour, 6d per sack lower. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, 13s to 13s 6d per windle of 36lb; ditto, red, 12s 9d to 13s; oats, new, 2s 9d to 2s 10d per bushel; beans, 16s to 16s 6d per windle; bran, 10s 6d to 11s.

Reading, Saturday.—The market was very well attended and some fairly satisfactory business was transacted. Wheat made from 27s 6d to 31s 6d per qr., and barley ranged from 24s to 32s. Oats were in fair request from 16s to 21s 6d, but inquiries for beans and peas were not numerous, and trade in consequence rather on the dull side; what were sold, however, changed hands at current rates.

Retford. Saturday. The wheat trade was firm, and there was a fair amount of business transacted, but quotations were not materially changed at 29s to 29s 6d per quarter. Not much alterations in value of malting barley, the chief demand being for really choice qualities, which were difficult to meet with. There were some useful lots on offer, and currencies generally ranged from 24s 6d to 28s 6d; grinding barley, 24s 6d; new English beans, 31s to 31s 6d; old ditto, 38s; black oats, 18s to 19s; white ditto, 20s to 20s 6d; maize, 26s; rye, 22s; tares, 45s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday.—Quiet trade. Samples consist chiefly of malting barley. No quotable alteration in prices. New wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; wheat (foreign), 33s to 36s 6d; barley (grinding), 23s to 24s; barley (malting), 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; maize (round), 26s to 26s 6d; maize (flat), 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Quotations:—Wheat, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 225lb.; old white oats, 15s to 16s; new oats, 11s 6d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 15s 6d to 14s per 240lb.; barley, 14s to 19s per 280lb.

Stamford. Friday. Large attendance and good trade. Quotations: Wheats, 29s to 30s; barleys, 25s to 28s, and up to 31s for malting; oats, old, 19s to 21s; new oats, 22s to 24s; beans firm at late rates; peas, 40s to 50s; maize, 23s 6d ex port.

Sunderland. Saturday.—Moderate supply of wheat, which sold at about last week's prices. Little doing in spring corn. Arrivals:—Coastwise: Barley, 374 quarters; foreign nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday. — New white wheat, 32s 6d to 33s; new red ditto, 32s to 32s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 25s to 26s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 44s to 52s; maize, 26s to 30s.

Warwick. Saturday.—Fair supply of wheat, which sells at about last week's prices. Good samples of barley in good demand, and make rather more money. Feeding stuffs unchanged. Oats and beans very scarce and dearer.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat held at fully last week's prices. Foreign unaltered. Barley and maize unchanged. Oats occasionally 3d advance. Flour a fair demand at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A short supply of grain. Wheat firm at late rates; reds, 30s to 30s 6d. Oats dearer from scarcity; 18s to 21s. Other articles unchanged.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance and moderate show of grain. Slow trade for barley, and last week's prices practically unaltered. White wheat, 28s to 30s; red wheat, 26s 6d to 28s; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 17s 6d; maize, 25s to 27s 6d per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—Best quality home-grown wheat made from 31s 3d to 31s 9d per qr.; secondary, 28s 6d to 30s; foreign, 33s 6d to 35s 6d; malting barley, 31s to 35s; feeding, 21s 6d to 23s 3d; foreign, 21s to 21s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 38s; maize, 24s 3d to 25s 9d; rye, 22s to 23s 9d; oats, black, 18s to 20s; white, 17s to 20s; Irish, black, 17s to 17s 9d; rape, 46s to 49s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Fair inquiry for flour, which was selling at 6d per sack less money, fine making from 24s 6d to 25s, and extra fine 26s 6d to 27s. Milling offals and meals in good request at unchanged rates.

York. Saturday.—Only a small market, owing to the hirings, and little wheat was on offer, and trade was slow at last week's prices. Fine white, 30s to 31s; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per quarter of 36 stones. Barley quiet, fine 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; ordinary, 23s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats rather slow, and very few on offer; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black 18s to 19s; white Garton 19s to 20s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 22s to 22s 6d; beans, 30s to 33s per quarter of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—We had some snow and frost, but since yesterday the weather is again mild. The autumn-sown crops in general are lacking in appearance. Reports about the yield of the potato crop vary, but even where a good quantity was carried, there are complaints about rot. Market rather quiet, with drooping prices, but there is no general depression and the least impulse from abroad is likely to cause a rally. The imports since November 1 amounted to 27,904 tons wheat, 3,266 tons rye, 31,251 tons barley, 41,065 tons maize, 11,285 tons bran. Fine Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is selling at 33s to 34s per 504lb. f.o.b.; American hard winter No. 2 is held at 31s 6d; 75-76 Ko Danubian at 30s 9d; 80 Ko River Plate at 32s 6d; 75 Ko Entre Rios at 30s 9d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Rye quiet; 9 15-20 Odessa afloat is offering at 27s 6d to 29s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. There is a good demand for malting barley, considerable quantities of Danish being sold at 31s to 32s; Chilian at 27s to 31s 6d per 448lb.; Austrian and Hungarian is scarce, stocks in those countries being nearly exhausted. Good Bohemian is held at 34s 6d to 36s 6d; Silesian and Oderbruch at 29s to 33s 6d; 60-61 Ko South Russian barley afloat is offering at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; American feeding at 18s 6d to 18s 9d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize on the spot is selling at 24s to 24s 6d; January shipment 21s 3d; River Plate afloat 24s; May-June 21s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

Paris, Wednesday.—At the Bourse de Commerce the tendency was very undecided throughout the day; however, fairly numerous offers from holders of surplus stock caused prices to fluctuate, and the market closed with a fall of from 10c to 15c for flour and 10c for wheat. Rye: Nothing doing, but prices remain firm. Oats quiet, at practically late prices. At the weekly spot market the cold weather has caused business in home-grown wheat to revive, and the demand for flour and offals is also better. The market is firm, and, as millers have to pay high prices for good wheat, the price of flour also tends to stiffen. The market closed with a rise of 25c for French wheat, whilst foreign sorts remained neglected. In consumption marks flour bakers still abstain from purchasing, preferring to wait till threshings become more important, when they hope to buy at cheaper prices. Due to the dearness of the raw material, business in rye flour continues to drag, but prices remain unchanged.—*Dornbusch.*

HOPS

Worcester. Saturday. The scarcity of hops now on offer has caused a somewhat stronger feeling on the market, and holders ask more money or are inclined to wait further developments. Sales made are at advanced prices.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association quote White Calcutta wheat at 33s. 6d., Soft Red Calcutta at 32s., and Choice White Kurrachee at 33s. 3d.: all per 492 lb. for cargoes on passage. No quotations are available for Bombay or Delhi wheat, or for Red Kurrachee.

Other wheat cargoes are steady. The following sales have occurred:—Russian Azima 34s. 6d. per 492 lb. for best, and 31s. 6d. for common; Odessa Ghuka, 32s. 6d.; Roumanian, 31s. 9d. per 504 lb. for fine, 31s. per 492 lb. for ordinary. Australian 33s. per 480 lb. for new crop February shipment; Rosario, 30s. 9d. per 492 lb. for January shipment; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s. 6d. per 480 lb. for prompt shipment.

There was a cargo of Argentine maize sold on Friday for May shipment, a very long future. The price paid was 21s. 6d. per 480 lb. The week's sales of American have included two cargoes for December shipment at 22s:, and two for January shipment at 21s. 6d.

Barley cargoes have been slow of sale; 21s. 6d. is the lowest price accepted for Californian. Azoff is quoted 20s. 9d. per 400 lb. for first spring shipment.

For oats there is less demand. A cargo was sold on Saturday for 15s. 2d. per 304 lb. American prompt shipment, and hay is below previous lowest price accepted.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at Ports-of-Call for the week were nil.

The sailings of grain and seed-laden vessels from Ports-of-Call for the week were 1 maize (Waterford), 1 linseed (Bristol).

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 297 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and oats, 1 wheat and linseed, 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 11 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 52 linseed—total 394.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 278 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 37 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 11 maize, 6 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 41 linseed, and 1 canaryseed—total 397.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to November 25, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1900	48 700¼	27 9	164,624	25 9	18,157¼	17 2
1901	60,323¾	27 1	193,434¾	26 9	22,419¼	18 9
1902	58,575¾	25 6	217,167¾	24 11	31,073¾	17 0
1903	55,276¾	26 6	201,959¼	23 11	23,851	15 11
1904	41 259¾	30 5	77,909¾	24 4	34,774	16 1

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, November 25, 1905:—

Wheat	1,552 800	cwts.
Wheat-flour	350,800	,,
Barley	595,300	,,
Oats	238,700	,,
Maize	501,600	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	2,111,900	1,676,200	1,490,755	1,769,000
Wheat-flour	397,700	406 700	379,304	6 3,400
Barley	107,600	522,200	731,627	260 0 0
Oats	287,800	583,800	260,662	325,500
Maize	4 59,800	1,178,200	862,298	622,600

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	26 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.		Barley. s. d.		Oats. s. d.	
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	26 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,
1902	28 0	,,	25 8	,,	20 2	,,
1903	26 9	,,	22 11	,,	17 2	,,
1904	28 4	,,	22 4	,,	16 4	,,

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 5
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 10
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16 0

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,, ...	478,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,, ...	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,, ...	611,000	583,000	800,000
Flour	sacks ...	654,000	630,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs. ...	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,, ...	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,, ...	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,, ...	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks ...	254,000	264,000	164,000

MONTHLY AVERAGES. (190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 6	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10	27 1	24 11	16 6
November	30 4	24 7	16 0			
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.*)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb.	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1
April	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6
July	30 0	29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0
August	29 3	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6
Sept.	31 0	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6	26 8	25 9	31 0
Oct.	31 0	31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6
Nov.		32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3
Dec.		31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.		30 1	31 1	28 5	27 8	26 6	26 2	35 0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(*Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.*)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25	24 9	24 0	23 0	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 0	23 1½	25 0
July	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6
Sept.	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct.	25 3	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov.		26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6½

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.	
September 1	(per sack)	30 0	(per sack)	27 0
,, 13	,,	23 0	,,	26 0
October 11	,,	23 0	,,	25 0
November 3	,,	30 0	,,	27 0

(No change since last date given.)

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 21, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	5,465	4	8,127	14	4	1	9	9
Barley	1,403	7	1,739	15	7	1	4	9
Oats	1,197	0	1,127	11	5	0	18	10

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Nov. 26	41,359⅜	30	5	177,969½	24	4	34,774	16	1
Dec. 3	45,942⅜	30	4	166,809¼	24	6	35,331¼	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257¼	24	4	36,635¼	16	2
,, 17	44,745¾	30	4	130,568¼	24	4	36,999¾	16	2
,, 24	33,336¾	30	3	99,997¾	24	7	28,916¾	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,317¼	24	8	18,196¾	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	28,757⅜	30	1	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,617½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,753⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,469¼	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869¼	30	6	89,495¾	25	1	41,092¼	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,317¼	25	0	41,486¾	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,[illegible]	16	8
,, 18	44,405½	30	5	51,753¼	25	2	36,645¾	16	9
,, 25	42,105⅞	30	10	39,599¼	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477¼	25	2	30,957⅜	16	10
,, 11	38,118⅞	30	9	23,448¾	25	2	24,399¾	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,142¾	24	11	20,279¼	16	10
,, 25	32,371¾	30	9	17,425¾	25	2	18,910¾	17	0
April 1	26,938	30	9	11,239⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,000	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,059	17	6
,, 22	29,984¼	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871½	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,186¼	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,188⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578¼	18	0
,, 13	25,000	30	8	2,003	24	10	12,937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003¼	24	8	8,893⅞	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761¼	24	4	9,017⅜	18	3
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,085¼	31	4	247¼	24	0	6,115¼	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171¼	26	0	3,892⅜	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅛	31	7	145¾	23	9	3,981⅞	18	10
July 1	9,579⅜	31	0	259⅜	23	2	3,445¾	19	7
,, 8	7,854⅜	32	1	373¼	22	11	2,592¼	19	6
,, 15	4,884⅛	32	3	31¼	23	10	1,982⅜	19	7
,, 22	6,558¼	32	2	52⅜	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691⅛	32	3	24¼	23	11	3,065⅜	19	3
Aug. 5	5,002⅜	31	11	371⅜	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184¼	30	5	548¾	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715⅛	28	5	1,758¼	23	4	13,656⅜	16	4
,, 26	88,000⅜	27	1	6,461½	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090¼	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888⅜	23	4	20,022⅜	15	11
,, 16	89,185⅛	26	11	36 986⅜	23	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475¼	23	10	30,715¼	15	11
,, 30	104,984⅜	26	9	123,125¼	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1
Oct. 7	89,679⅛	26	9	147,570⅜	24	9	31,190¼	16	3
,, 14	85,449⅞	26	11	192,044	24	10	23,364¼	16	6
,, 21	99,548⅜	27	1	224,530	25	0	24,035½	16	7
,, 28	86,116⅜	27	4	267,307⅛	24	11	23,869	16	8
Nov. 4	80,360⅝	27	10	231,869½	24	9	28,42[illegible]	17	1
,, 11	78,276⅝	28	3	209,599	24	10	25,316⅜	17	4
,, 18	87,001⅛	28	7	209,520⅛	24	6	32,382	17	8
,, 25	77,168⅛	28	5	197,662⅛	24	6	25,433⅜	17	9

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended November 25, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	77,168½ qrs.	28s.	5d.
Barley	197,662⅛ qrs.	24s.	0d.
Oats	25,423⅜ qrs.	17s.	9d.

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 15 to 22, 1905, inclusive.

	British	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs.	3,102	55,177	58,279
Barley	2,000	19,000	22,000
Malt	17,954	...	17,954
Oats	1,700	61,000	62,800
Beans	1,194	3,945	5,139
Peas	685	5,000	5,685
Maize	...	1,549	1,549
Tares	39	...	39
Linseed	...	4,000	4,000
Rapeseed	100	120	220
Cottonseed	...	9,400	9,400
Canaryseed	...	830	830
Flour sack	27,893	24,552	52,450
Ryeflour	...	2,000	2,000
Ricelflour	...	2,500	2,500
Ricemeal	...	12,000	12,000

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda continues firm at £10 15s to £11 per ton. A fair amount of sales have taken place in kainit and basic slag, but so far the deliveries for home consumption have not been equal to previous autumns, and the demand as regards basic slag is chiefly for the highest grades; values are as annexed. The colder weather of the past week has imparted more firmness to the market for oil cakes, etc., but the consumptive demand continues a disappointing one, and lacks that activity usual at this period. Small sales of Peruvian cotton cake ex quay have been made at £7 5s. per ton. Fattening cake, prime, Liverpool make, in bags £6 12s 6d to £6 15s; feeding or dairy cake, prime, Liverpool make, in bags, £6 5s to £6 7s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 25 per cent., pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; East India bone meal, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime, 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, in bags, £8 7s 6d; linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 7s 6d to £8 15s; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), in bags, £14 to £15; Cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good ordinary, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7; cottonseed cake, English decorticated, prime (scarce), in bags, £7 1s 6d to £7 17s 6d; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 12s 6d to £4 17s 6d; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £5 17s 6d to £6; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £6 to £6 2s 6d per ton; linseed,, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 7s to £2 8s per qr. (416 lb.); cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gal.; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags £1 11s to £1 13s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 46 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags £2 2s to £2 5s per ton (at depots .....).

—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The Government estimate published on Saturday puts the yield of wheat in Great Britain at 32.78 bushels per acre, which is 2.22 bushels above the average, but about a bushel less than the usual trade estimates for this season. The barley crop is put at 33.91 bushels to the acre, which is 1.09 bushel above the average, and is an estimate that many brewers will call optimistic. The bulk of inferior barley, however, remains to be proved by sales in 1906, for the deliveries since September 1 have mainly been of the brewing and malting grades. Oats, according to the Board of Agriculture, have yielded 38.16 bushels, or about half a bushel below the average. The yield in Scotland has exceeded the mean, so that the deficiency in England is reduced to a moderate figure for Great Britain as a whole. Beans are put at 32.28 bushels, or over 4 bushels above the average. This is a very optimistic estimate, and deliveries since harvest have not been heavy. Of peas the crop is officially put at 25.71 bushels to the acre, a very modest view.

The total yields for Great Britain are as follows:—

Wheat	58,902,499 bushels.
Barley	58,110,064 bushels.
Oats	116,436,887 bushels.
Beans	8,201,730 bushels.
Peas	4,439,483 bushels.

In Argentine a spell of frost unusually late in the season has gravely affected wheat prospects in the extreme South, while locusts are invading the more tropical provinces, and, as usual, tax the authorities' powers of destruction. The decline of 6d. per qr. in grain freights since Michaelmas makes the market for immediate futures weak, but the crop news warrants firmer holding of wheat for January and February shipment. The Australian colonies are now expected to have between them 6,000,000 qr. of wheat available for exportation, and another million may be available later on, from New Zealand and Tasmania. The want of labour has compelled the abandonment of maize growing over large areas in Queensland, and for the same reason the enormous acreage of possible wheat land in West Australia remains undeveloped. Cape Colony only expects a small wheat crop in January, and will have to buy half a million qr. of wheat from other countries.

The average price of English wheat has crept up during November from 27s. to 28s. 7d., and is now only 1s. 7d. lower from a year ago. The sales of twelve completed weeks at the statute markets have been as follows:—

This season 1,053,000 qrs. at 27s. 3d. per qr.
Last season 563,000 qrs. at 30s. 2d. per qr.

The sales of barley have been larger this season than last, but not nearly to the same extent as wheat. Prices last week differed a penny only between the two years, but on the twelve completed weeks since harvest a difference of 9d. is revealed. Returns are:—

This season 1,716,000 qrs. at 24s. 4d. per qr.
Last season 1,652,000 qrs. at 25s. 1d. per qr.

The sales of oats are increasing, but thus far have been a good deal less than last year.

Last season 339,000 qrs. at 16s. 6d. per qr.
Last season 426,000 qrs. at 15s. 11d. per qr.

It will be perceived that the more moderate supply to market has had the good effect of securing 7d. net advance in the price.

Imports last week were as follows:—

Wheat, 392,000 qrs.; a good supply.
Flour, 163,000 sacks; a fair supply.
Barley, 137,000 qrs.; over an average.
Oats, 143,000 qrs.; a full supply.
Maize, 66,000 qrs.; barely a third of expectations.

Since harvest, twelve completed weeks' imports have been:—

Wheat, 4,810,000 qrs.; less than last year.
Flour, 1,409,000 sacks; a fair supply.
Barley, 2,244,000 qrs.; a large supply.
Oats, 1,187,000 qrs.; less than usual.
Maize, 2,537,000 qrs.; rather short arrivals.

Sales of British wheat in London during the past week have been unusually good for the time of year, and argue that millers appreciate the excellent quality of 1905 grain. Of barley and oats the sales have been up to a November average. The price of wheat in London has picked up to 29s. 9d. per 480 lb., or 31s. 3d. per 504 lb., but barley remains depressed in price. Oats are at a reasonable quotation.

Supplies of wheat on passage show a very great change from a week ago. The changes in the items, however, are not without interest.

	This Week. Qrs.		Last Week. Qrs.
Californian	245,000	..	180,000
American	320,000	..	380,000
Russian	280,000	..	376,000
Indian	276,000	..	226,000
Argentine	430,000	..	400,000
Australasian	40,000	..	50,000
Various	30,000	..	50,000
Total	1,621,000	..	1,662,000

These figures reveal at a glance the increasing and decreasing items of supply. Of flour the total on passage is only 284,000 sacks.

Of barley the quantity on passage is as follows:—

American and Californian	240,000 qrs.
Russian and Roumanian	245,000 qrs.
Asia Minor and Persia	85,000 qrs.
Total	570,000 qrs.

Of oats 250,000 qr., and of maize 640,000 qr. are on passage. The quantity of rice on passage has risen from 23,000 to 31,000 tons, and of linseed has advanced from 180,000 to 184,000 qr.

Shipments last week were rather liberal from America, the chief items being 196,000 qr. of wheat, 180,000 qr. of barley, 162,000 qr. of oats, 96,000 qr. of maize, and 143,000 sacks of flour. Argentine's exports are surprisingly large for the closing weeks of the season. Actual figures were wheat 170,000 qr., maize 286,500 qr., and linseed 64,000 qr.

Russia sent off remarkably large quantities of grain—viz., 499,000 qr. of wheat, 330,000 qr. of barley, 390,000 qr. of oats, and 2,000 qr. of maize. Roumania added 347,000 qr. of wheat and 116,000 qr. of barley. After December 1, maize will be allowed to be exported from Roumania.

India shipped 27,000 qr. and Australasia 3,000 qr. of wheat, while 10,000 tons of cottonseed were exported by Egypt, and the shipments of barley from Asia Minor amounted to 12,000 qr.

The World's Wheat Crops.

On Friday evening *Beerbohm's Shipping List* published its annual estimate of the world's wheat crops. The following are the totals:—

1905	407,700,000 qrs.
1904	395,900,000 qrs.
1903	408,495,000 qrs.
1902	397,400,000 qrs.
1901	370,770,000 qrs.

Anything over four hundred millions represents a decidedly good year.

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Devizes: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Driffield: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Evesham: 1s 2½d to 1s 4d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. North Tawton: 1s 2d. Peniston: 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Ripon: 1s 8d to 1s 11d per 24 oz roll. Wellington: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Wetherby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

Friday.—Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Barnstaple: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 3d. Crewe: 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 1d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Derby: 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s 2d. Knutsford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 1s 10d to 2s per 24oz. roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 11d per 24oz. roll. Redruth: 1s 5d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Totnes: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 1½d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 6d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Shrewsbury: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d; Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 3d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.)

Friday.—Altrincham: 5 and 6. Ashburton: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per dozen. Camelford: 8. Chester: 6. Crewe: 6. Congleton: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 9d to 2s per dozen. Derby: 6. Helmsley: 7. Knutsford: 6 and 7. Leyburn: 7. Lincoln: 7. Lostwithiel: 12. Macclesfield: 5 and 6. Nantwich: 6. Northwich: 6. Otley: 5and 6. Redruth: 1s 8d per dozen. Runcorn: 6 and 7. St. Austell: 6. Stamford: 6 to 8. Stockport: 5 and 6. Tavistock: 6. Totnes: 1s 10d to 1s 11d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 5 and 6. Berwick: 1s 7d to 1s 9d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 7. Carlisle: 5. Doncaster: 6 and 7. Grantham: 7. Howden: 6 and 7. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Malton: 8 and 9. Pontefract: 7. Retford: 2s 10d to 3s per score. Richmond (Yorks): 6. Shrewsbury: 6. Skipton: 6 and 7. Stokesley:

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 27.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	42 to 43
Morocco	47 to 48
American	40 to 41
Dutch	42 to 46
Calcutta	39 to 40
Argentine	38 to 39
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	40 to 41

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	6/0 to 6/3
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Dutch	48 to 52
Cawnpore Yellow	37 to 38
,, Brown	35 to 36
Calcutta ,,	35 to 36
Gujerat	40 to 41
Ferozepore	35 to 36
Roumanian	35 to 37

POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	
Indian	41 to 43

SUNFLOWERSEED. per 418 lb.	
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 27.

FIRST REPORT.

English wheat to-day sold well in retail; both white and red sorts moved off without delay at previous full terms. Foreign was quiet; millers complain of a comparatively restricted choice of types. Russian does not quite give so much satisfaction as last season; Indian is scarcely obtainable, and Argentine of the old crop is decidedly a small supply. Barley was dearer for Californian and firm for 448-lb. English. The market was also a little dearer for Roumanian. On the other hand Russian was a trifle lower on the week, and American fell 6d. per qr. Oats are against sellers, the competition of America and Russia inducing 6d. fall on the week in some instances, though not in all. Round maize was not offered, but yellow and flat types competed at 25s. level. Beans and peas were still tending to rise in price, but oilseeds were the turn in buyers' favour. Rice was firm; the new Burmese crop was quoted 7s. 3d. per cwt. for January shipment. There was a good demand for sugar in Mincing Lane. Rice and sugar increasingly bear on the corn trade, nor can any leading operator in feeding stuffs afford to ignore them.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

			s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.		31	— 33
Red	,,		29	— 32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)		26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,		31	— 37
Brewing	,,		26	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)		23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)		20	— 21
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)		34	— 36
Brown	,,		27	— 29
Black	,,		28	— 30
Crystallized	,,		31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,		22	— 23
New Black Winter	,,		18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,		18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,		18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,		18	— 19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)		17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)		23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)		40	— 42
Pigeon	,,		43	— 45
Tick	,,		36	— 38
Winter (Old)	,,		35	— 36
,, (New)	,,		33	— 34
Spring	,,		34	— 35
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,		62	— 72
New Unpicked ,,	,,		46	— 56
Partridge	,,		44	— 46
Dun	,,		32	— 33
Maple (Old)	,,		35	— 37
,, (New)	,,		34	— 36
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,		72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,		56	— 64
(Winter)	,,		48	— 56
(Spring)	,,		52	— 61
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)		28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)		52	— 56
Brown	,,		48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.:		
Manitoba No. 1	34/3	— 35
,, ,, 2	33/9	— 34
,, ,, 3	32/9	— 33
Am'can Red Winter	34	— 36
,, Hard Winter	33	— 34
Argentine	34	— 34/6
Australian	34/6	— 35
New Zealand	31	— 32/3
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	none	
Calcutta	none	
Kurrachee	32	— 33
Turkish	31	— 32
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	— 33
Brewing	28	— 30
Califor'n (448 lb.)	28	— 29
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 20/6
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	23	— 24
American (400 lb.)	19/9	— 20
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 19/3
Crushed (304 lb.)	16/6	— 17
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	21	— 22
Australian (320 lb.)	16/6	— 17
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	19/6	— 20
Libau (320 lb.)	19/6	— 20
,, (304 lb.)	16/9	— 17
Argentine (304 lb.)	16/9	— 17
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	— 17/6
American (320 lb.)	17	— 17/6
,, (304 lb.)	16	— 16/6

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	none	
Turkish	none	
American	25	— 25/6
Argentine	25	— 25/3
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	34	— 36
Konigsberg	33	— 35
Egyptian	34	— 35
Syrian	35	— 37
New Zealand	35	— 36
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	61	— 65
Canadian	50	— 54
Burmese	30	— 40
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	— 5/3
Portuguese	5/0	— 5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	41	— 43
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	23	— 29
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	26	— 28
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	14	— 20
Indian	13	— 18
Burmese	7	— 8
"Feeding"	6	— 7
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	25	— 26
Persian	21	— 23
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	— 38
Swedish (Gores)	64	— 74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET WAS RATHER LACKING IN CONFIDENCE, AND HOLDERS WERE MORE DISPOSED TO MEET BUYERS THAN AT THE OPENING.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, November 27

LONDON FLOUR.

London makes were the turn in favour of buyers, both Whites and Households being occasionally parted with at 3d. decline on the week. Country flour, with large supplies, was difficult to maintain at the full rates of the 20th, but there were few firms actually accepting any less money. American flour on spot was unchanged; fine patents for December shipment were offered at 26s. 3d. c.f.i. There was some Australian offering at 24s. 3d., and some good Hungarian at 31s 6d., but neither Russian or Argentine types are any longer in evidence. Bran, pollard, and middlings were a firm trade, and a tendency to higher prices only needed a week of cold weather to become a definite advance.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 net
Town Whites	,,	24/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/0 ,,
No. 2	,,	22/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25/0 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	23/0 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21/6 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 27
Fine Roller whites	,,	24	— 25
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	22	— 23
Best Stone made	,,	21	— 22

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	29	— 30
,, Second Patents	,,	28	— 29
,, First Bakers'	,,	23	—22,6
,, Second Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Milwaukee Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
Californian	,,	27	— 28
Canadian	,,	27	— 28
Hungarian, 0	,,	31	— 31
,, 1	,,	30	— 32
,, 2	,,	29	— 31
,, 3	,,	28	— 29
French, Corbeil	,,	25	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	24	— 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22	— 23
Australian	,,	25	— 25

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13	— 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14	— 15
,, Cones	,,	18	— 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12	— 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15	— 19
Rice Meal	,,	10	— 16
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	18	— 21

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 11d.	Dec. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	3s. 5d.	Jan. delivery.
,,	4s. 4d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	May ,,

Wheat speculation to-day showed diversity of view. For December delivery 6s. 10d. was taken, but 6s. 11d. was made for March. For May, however, 6s 9d. was quoted. Maize was cheaper for remote futures; 4s. 3d. accepted for May.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese are liberal, but as holders were asking firmer prices business was rather checked. Cheddars are quoted 58s to 63s; Dunlops, 56s to 61s per cwt.

Newport, Wednesday.—A supply of about ten tons, and a brisk demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 53s to 58s per cwt; fancy dairies, 59s to 62s; truckles, 50s to 53s; Derbys, 58s to 62s; Cheddars, 60s to 63s.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—A fair trade has developed in clovers and grasses at firm to rising prices. The new English reds are coming out more freely, but both qualities and prices are various. The bulk of the samples shown so far appear very ordinary quality.—JOHN PICARD AND Co.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—The demand for bran not quite so active, but no change to report in prices.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour. Trade generally dull; buyers still holding aloof from purchasing; prices nominally unchanged. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour. Winter wheat flours are unchanged, but Springs are in buyers' favour. Grain.—American Indian corn is practically finished on spot, so that near at hand parcels bring good prices. Plate maize is dull at 14s. 6d. Oats, pease, and beans are steady. Gram, grey pease, peayin, and other Indian grains are all in good demand at advancing prices. Oilcake firm. Oatmeal 6d. per sack dearer. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and Thirds continue to be wanted at full prices.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—Trade to day has been very quiet and prices are about 3d. lower on the week.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

We have moderate supplies of wheat, and the demand is slow, prices being 3d. and 6d. per qr. lower. Flour, prices are maintained. Maize, a slow sale at late prices. Barley and oats unchanged.—COVENTRY AND SHEPPARD.

Milling Offals remain scarce and firm at last week's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND Co.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade is much better, and London made have advanced 2s 6d per ton on the week. Americans are again attracting buyers owing to the comparative low figure now asked. Cotton cake: This being one of the cheapest feeds on the market meets with a ready sale.—Linseed: In very good demand and a strong market.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay			
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	10	0
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	10	0
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	12	6 to 8 5 0
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	6	17	6
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	6	17	6 to 7 0 0
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	17	6
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	17	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5	2	6
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	8	0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	1	0 to 2 2 0
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs.	sacks included ex warehouse	2	1	0 to 2 6 0
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	3	0
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.				
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London			
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)				
Bombay ,, ,, ,,				
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.				

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC. 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat and maize cargoes are to-day neglected, and oats are offered at a slight decline. Barley is steady for grinding and firm for fine types. Linseed cargoes are 6d. cheaper on the week. Cottonseed dull but steady.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Blue Stem, 33s 3d per 500lb., January shipment; White Calcutta, 33s 9d per 492lb., nearly due; No. 2 Manitoba, 32s per 480lb., January shipment; Santa Fé, 3s per 488lb., January shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480lb., on passage; American, 23s 3d per 480lb., on passage.

BARLEY.—Kustendje, 20s 9d per 416lb., December shipment; Californian, 28s 6d per 448lb., December shipment (fine); Californian, 27s 6d per 448lb., December shipment (ordinary); Syrian, 24s 6d per 448lb., December shipment.

OATS.—Libau, 16s 3d per 304lb., on passage; South Russian, 16s 6d per 304lb., prompt shipment.

BEANS.—New Zealand, 34s per 504lb., prompt shipment.

PEAS.—White Indian, 31s 3d per 504lb., prompt shipment; White Indian, 29s 6d per 504lb., May shipment; Green Indian, 25s 6d per 504lb., on passage; Green Indian, 24s per 504lb., May shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 39s 6d per 410lb., on passage; Argentine, 37s per 416lb., February shipment.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 39s per 416lb., April shipment; Jamba, 34s 3d per 416lb., January shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 12s 6d per 2,240lb., January shipment; Bombay, £4 15s per 2,240lb., December shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,278 bales, and from foreign ports 10,440 bales. The bacon market continued steady, with fat selections of Irish 1s to 2s dearer; however, the Canadian market was not quite so strong, and sellers more ready to meet buyers at a slight reduction. Quotations ranged:—Irish, 61s to 64s up to 66s; Danish, 56s to 64s up to 66s; Canadian, 55s to 57s up to 60s. Butter: The Butter market was steady, and a good trade passing in all Colonials, but Danish was rather slower at 1s to 2s less money:—French, 100s to 116s; Danish, 120s to 123s; Russian, 96s to 108s; Argentine, 112s to 114s; American, 86s to 106s; Irish, 102s to 105s; Canadian, 106s to 108s; Australian, 100s to 116s. Lard: Lard was a steady market: Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 52s to 60s; American, 37 3d to 38s 6d.

HOPS

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The demand continues for English hops, which are still offering at prices below the cost of production. Stocks are now in a very small compass, and values are consequently hardening all round.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

Monday, Nov. 27, 1905. Monday,

	Mon., Nov. 27, 1905. British.	Total	Mon., Nov. 28, 1904
Beasts	1,180	1,180	1,650
Sheep and lambs	5,900	5,900	7,750
Calves	10	10	
Milch cows	50	50	60

Quotations per 8lb (sinking the offal)

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 0d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22.

British arrivals include as follows:—Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 95; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 1,018; Devon, 25; Ireland, 42.

We note to-day a decrease of ten head, compared with Monday last, for both prime and second quality beasts. Trade opened and continued throughout the day of a slow and dragging nature; nevertheless, late currencies were maintained for choice quality cattle. Irish descriptions were exceedingly slow of sale at a decline of 2d per 8lb. in value. The arrivals from this country consisted entirely of Waterfords. No store cattle being offered for sale. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a limited inquiry by both town and country buyers, rates favouring them to the extent of from 1d to 2d per 8lb. The prospects of a clearance being made is very doubtful. The following are top quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Nov. 28, 1904.
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Hereford	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Norfolks	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 0d ex 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d ex 4s 0d
Irish	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was a decrease of 500 in the number of sheep and lambs penned, compared with the corresponding day last week. Trade for both wethers and ewes was a disappointing one, rates ruling in favour of the buyer, but not sufficient to quote any lower prices. On the other hand, Irish and Scotch descriptions were quoted 2d lower; this is partly due to the bad trade experienced at the dead meat market. There is little prospect of a clearance being effected even at a further reduction. Undermentioned quotations are at per 8lb (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	Nov. 28, 1904.
7½ to 8st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d..5s 10d to 6s 0d
9st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d..5s 8d to 5s 10d
10st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d..5s 4d to 5s 6d
10st Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d..5s 2d to 5s 4d
10st Down ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d..3s 10d to 4s 0d
11st Half-bred ditto	3s 8d to 3s 10d..3s 8d to 3s 10d

Trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on offer.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 670. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 390 head, and consisted entirely of shipments from the United States. Trade was of a firmer and steadier nature, at an advance in value of 1d per 8lbs. Besides the above, 550 more were withheld for Wednesday. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 1d; seconds, 3s 8d to 3s 9d per 8lbs. (sinking the offal). On Saturday 1,996 beasts from the United States and 304 Canadians were offered for sale, and met with a slow trade at from 3s 6d to 4s for the former, and from 3s 4d to 3s 8d for the latter. Besides the above 500 more Canadians were withheld for to-day.

London (Central), Monday.—Fair supplies. Trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 3s 6d to 4s 2d; English, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; American, 2s 8d to 3s 2d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 4d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; lamb, New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; veal, 3s to 4s; pork, 4s to 4s 8d per 8lbs.

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle smaller than last week, demand fair and prices a shade better. A considerable decrease in the number of sheep on offer; notwithstanding this, trade was very slow; finished handy weights hardly maintained late quotations; strong and rough sorts lower. Beef, 5¾d to 4½d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market, 1,314 cattle and 3,756 sheep.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A dull demand met a fair supply. Prices: Pheasants, 3s to 4s; young grouse, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 3s; young partridges, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 1s 6d per brace; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 5d; geese, 5s to 6s; Surrey fowls 2s 6d to 3s 2d; Essex fowls, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 9d; Irish fowls, 1s 6d to 2s; Russian fowls, 1s 8d; wild ducks, 1s 9d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 3d; snipe, 6d to 10d; quails, 9d to 1s 6; black game, 1s 6d; feathered pigeons, 8d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 1d; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 8d to 11d; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen.

Scottish Chamber of Agriculture.—A meeting of directors will be held within No. 5, Saint Andrew Square, on Thursday, the 30th inst. (second day of Fat Stock Show), at 2 p.m.

Mr. Samuel Rowland, a well-known farmer and dealer, was suddenly charged by a vicious boar at the Dorchester cattle market on Wednesday afternoon. He was knocked down and his foot was bitten through, whilst the animal had to be beaten off by the bystanders. Mr. Rowland was taken to the hospital, and the boar was shot.

Addressing a large meeting at Clapham Junction on Saturday night, Mr. John Burns, M.P., said he was against labour colonies, for what would be the use of taking, say, a watchmaker or optician to dig gravel on Salisbury Plain in the hope that he might get a few tomatoes grown? Farm colonies were only doss-houses, in which good men were brought down to the level of tramps and wastrels, and eventually became chargeable to the parish.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(Written Specially for the "Mark Lane Express.")

Trade in London.

In reviewing the week's trade at both the English and Foreign Market, namely, Islington and Deptford, trade opened on the first market day of the week at the former of a decidedly firmer and steadier nature, rates ruling in favour of the seller, though barely sufficient to enable us to quote higher rates; the supplies were heavier than on the previous week, due to larger arrivals from the Midland Counties and Ireland; these latter consisted of 12 Dublins and 55 Waterfords; this class of cattle also ruled steady, anything choice finding ready buyers. Fat butchering cows and bulls met with a firm and steady inquiry from both town and country buyers at an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. in value; these rates were upheld also on Thursday with a somewhat slower trade; a few fat beasts were held back in the market, lairs having met with no demand.

At Deptford on Monday and Saturday trade was of a fairly steady nature at about late values. On Wednesday no market was held owing to the non-arrival of steamers, these being delayed by the recent fogs. The total number penned at both markets was 4,690, as against 4,010 during the previous week, consisting of 1,330 British (increase 380) and 3,360 foreign (increase 300); these latter comprised 1,996 from the United States and 304 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8 lb. (sinking the offal): 80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; 90 stone States, 4s. to 4s. 2d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 9d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.

The sheep trade at Islington on Monday for all descriptions of English Downs and Halfbreds was of a slow but firm nature, late rates being well maintained; the same remark also applies to Scotch descriptions. Irish met with a fairly steady enquiry, but showed a marked falling off in regard to numbers. On Thursday trade was practically at a standstill owing to the marked absence of buyers and the inclement weather; the tendency in regard to value was a downward one, though not quotably so. The total number penned at both markets was 6,490, as against 5,410 during the previous week, consisting entirely of British consignments. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone ewes, 3s. 10d to 4s.

Calves numbered 20; trade nominal.

Pigs 20; trade slow, best small breeds quoted at 4s. 6d. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

The inclement weather we are experiencing is seriously accentuating the prevailing dulness in all kinds of store stock, more especially ordinary kinds, and anything coming under the category of "rough," for which there is practically little or no sale, except at abnormally low prices, at which stockowners do not care to part unless absolutely obliged to do so. Good fresh conditioned young bullocks, well on the way towards beef, being readily gauged up by graziers at from £12 to £17 apiece (which is almost as much as some will realise when finished off), plainer kinds selling from £7 to £11, which, as stock is now selling, is by no means a bad price. With the fair at Andover and that at Martinstown—the trade in the latter being fairly brisk for best drafts of old sheep—the sales of store sheep for the present season may be said to have come practically to an end, the few now changing hands being disposed of through private medium, and although we can give no reliable quotations, we heard on all hands that sheep are keeping very dear, and fully maintaining outside values.

The trade in fat beasts, as well as sheep, continues excessively dull, with a steady decline in value for everything but the very choicest grades of either. The top price now ruling for the choicest Devons is from 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d. per stone; good medium qualities, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; seconds, 3s. 8d. to 4s.; with fat cows a very dragging sale at 3s. 2d. to 3s. 6d. Calves continue to hold their own, but 8½d. per lb. is now the best price ruling. The best qualities in mutton choice Downs and halfbreds sell very fairly at 5s. 6d to 5s. 10d.; heavier weights making 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; young ewes, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; coarse heavy sheep, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; the latter attracting but little attention anywhere. Pigs, small weights, continue to maintain their supremacy on the market, all the lighter grades finding a very quick sale at from 10s. 9d. to 11s. 6d. per score; and hogs, 9s. to 10s.; heavy pigs at their value, which range, according to quality, from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been rather larger, and the general quality considerably better. A good demand has been experienced, and while the best cattle made previous prices, secondary made more money. A large supply of fat cows, and they met a trade similar to last week. Fat sheep in full supply, and the general quality also improved. A steady trade has been got, and previous prices well maintained. Fat calves a full show and slightly cheaper, but fat pigs made the highest prices of the season. A moderate supply of store sheep, and generally of a very indifferent class. Anything good got easily and well sold. There was a fair supply of store cattle, but these met a very quiet dragging trade, and a considerable number of those on offer were left unsold. Milch cows of the best class made previous prices, but others were cheaper. Quotations: Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s. 6d.; current, 35s. to 37s.; Irish, 30s. to 35s.; mutton, 7d. to fully 9d. per lb.—John Swan and Sons, Limited.

Trade in Ireland.

There was a large increase in the number of cattle at last Dublin's Thursday market, fully making up for the deficiency of supplies on the previous market day. There was a good attendance of cross channel buyers on the look-out for Christmas beef, so the larger supply did not affect business, and, in fact, prices were higher for tip-top qualities, as there was an improved inquiry for best cattle, which was only checked by the large cargoes of beef at present on their way to Liverpool and other English ports. Really well-finished beef was scarce, and there appears to be a likelihood of values hardening up a bit; but for inferior cattle (of which the market was mainly made up last Thursday) there was no improvement, and a very slow trade was done. The best qualities of beef were worth from 30s. to 31s. per cwt. live weight, but other sorts of good cattle sold at from 25s. per cwt. upwards. The dead-weight prices showed an improvement, best beef selling at from 48s. to 52s. per cwt., while some extra finished lots made up to 56s.; good second-class beef from 45s. to 47s., and inferior from 42s. to 44s. per cwt. The number of cattle was 4,271.

Sheep were in increased supply, there being nearly 500 more than the previous week. The demand was steady for good, well-meated sheep, and hoggets of nice quality received more attention; but, generally speaking, the market was quieter all round than the last day, owing to a very small export demand.

Prime wether mutton sold at from 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; ewe, 5¾d. to 6½d.; and rough sheep from 5d. to 5½d. per lb. Large fat hoggets made from 42s. to 55s., and small to medium ditto from 32s. to 42s. each. There was a small show of veal. Choice calves were worth from 7d. to 8d. per lb., other sorts from 5d. to 6d. Milch cows were a smaller market, but really first-class cows were scarce. In the pig market business was again active, English buyers being in good attendance, and purchasing liberally. An early clearance was effected at firm prices. Choice light-weight pigs made from 50s. to 52s., and in some cases for extra choice, 54s. per cwt.; inferior pigs made from 32s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply, compared with Thursday last, showed an increase of 60 head, and consisted entirely of fat butchering cows and bulls and rough cattle, for which trade, although slow, was firm in value, late currencies governing all sales. Top value, fat cows, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 3d per 8lb. Sheep supply consisted entirely of Downs and half-breds, no Scotch or Irish being offered. Trade was dull and dragging, with downward tendency in value, though barely sufficient to quote it so, chiefly due to marked absence of buyers and very inclement weather, and clearance considered more than doubtful. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows: 8st Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10st ditto, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s. Calf trade not worth noting. Pig trade slow but steady; best small breeds quoted 4s 6d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb, sinking the offal: Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 8d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 6d. Total supply: Beasts, 140; sheep, 90; calves, 10; pigs, 20; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Supplies were on a heavy scale, for which a slow demand existed, at lower values. Beef arrivals included 80 tons Scotch, 220 Liverpool-sides, 2,500 hindquarters, and 1,700 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,300 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef: Scotch short sides 3s 10d to 4s 2d, long sides 3s 8d to 3s 10d, English 3s to 3s 2d, American (Deptford killed) 3s to 3s 2d, Liverpool sides 2s 8d to 3s, American refrigerated hindquarters (best) 3s 4d to 3s 6d, forequarters 2s 4d to 2s 8d, New Zealand hindquarters 2s 2d to 2s 4d, forequarters 1s 9d to 1s 10, River Plate hindquarters 1s 10d to 2s, forequarters 1s 8d to 1s 9d, Argentine chilled hindquarters 2s to 2s 4d, forequarters 1s 10d to 2s. Mutton: Scotch tegs 4s 4d to 4s 8d, wethers 4s to 4s 8d, ewes 3s 4d to 3s 6d, English wethers 4s to 4s 4d, ewes 3s to 3s 4d, New Zealand 2s 4d to 2s 8. Veal: English and Dutch 3s to 4s. Pork: English 4s to 4s 8d, Dutch 4s to 4s 6d per 8 lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef sold slowly, the best up to 4s 6d per stone, and cows to 4s. Mutton rather sharper trade; Downs up to 6s and Kents up to 5s 8d. Veal 2d dearer, best making 5s. Pork still very dear; roasters made 4s 2d to 4s 8d, and large hogs 3s 8d to 4s stone.

Berwick, Saturday.—A much smaller show of cattle—319 less than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers was small, and trade slow. Calves, £4 10s to £5 10s; stirks, £7 15s to £10 5s; two-year olds, £10 to £11 10s; three-year-olds, £12 to £13; shorthorn bulls, £11 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Bullock beef, 5½d to 6½d per lb; cow and bull beef, 5½d to 5½ per lb; mutton, 7d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 8d tot 9s 10d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; porkets, 11s to 11s 8d per score; sows, 8s to 8s 2d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was in fair supply, but demand limited, and, with a slow trade, prices of secondary quality fell from 53s to 52s per cwt. Sheep were not so numerous as usual, and business was quiet, ewes advancing from 6d per lb to 6½d. Pigs were in short supply, and last week's values maintained.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A fair offering of bullocks, but the store beast trade is nearly over. Two-year-old heifers were selling up to £13.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail with in 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	2½ in. and under	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in.	9	6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	9	0
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8	6

C. and T. Harris and Co., Ltd.

Carlisle, Saturday.—There were almost 300 Irish store cattle exposed on the Sands. The attendance of buyers showed a distinct improvement on late weeks, and trade was also brisker. Quotations:—Wintering heifers, £7 10s to £13; others for finishing or ffpurposes, to £14 10s; horned bullocks, £9 10s to £10 10s; and polled bullocks, £7 10s to £9.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a large company of buyers, and both fat and store sheep met a steady selling trade at last market's rates. There was a large entry of fat cattle, and trade for good quality, handy-sized beasts was better, but half-fat cattle and cows met a dragging trade. Quotations: Prime Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 8d; prime Southdown sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; prime West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; porkers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Cattle 947, sheep, 2,463, pigs 717, calves 152, horses 22; total stock, 4,301.

Chester, Thursday.—With an average supply of stock and a fair attendance of buyers the best lots maintained their values, and a good trade was done, but inferior cattle were difficult to realise, and prices were irregular. Quotations:—Milch cows, £18 to £22; calvers, £14 to £19; heifers, £9 to £14; barrens, £10 to £13; stirks, £6 to £10.

Colchester, Saturday.—Trade was good, and although there is still a shortage of mutton, beef and pork were in fair supply. Beef, 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 6s to 6s 4d per stone; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Good supply of cattle, chiefly stores, and a fair attendance of buyers. Moderate trade, and late prices firm. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £8 to £10; young stores, £5 to £7 each. Very small supply of sheep and few inquiries. Prices from 36s to 40s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Heavy supplies of stock at the cattle market at both Messrs. Duke and Son's as well as Messrs. Symonds and Sampson's auctions, the former having a special sale of barreners, at which some very good bullocks were stalled. Trade was about the same for most things, except barreners, which undoubtedly found a better market at from £22 to £26 apiece, and from £12 to £19 10s for plainer kinds. Milch beasts also in more request, the best making £17 to £19 10s, and others £11 10s. to £15; store bulls, £7 10 to £10 10s. Some very choice steers and heifers were on offer, and these found a fairly active sale at from £16 10s to £22 for the best grades, and others from £12 to £14, there being a slight revival in sales. Mutton sold at about late values, but inquiry was slow.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 4,471, increase 617; sheep, 5,944, increase 498; calves, 27, decrease 3. A better inquiry for choice cattle at slightly improved prices. Rough cattle formed a very large portion of the exhibits. Demand for these was slightly better, but quotations remain unchanged. Sheep trade without alteration. Cattle, live weight (best), 27s to 30s per cwt; exceptional for Angus cross-breds, 32s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5¾d to 7½d per lb.—Ganly, Sons, and Co.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Store cattle met an exceedingly slow trade; polled bullocks to £13 10s, horned to £12 10s, and stirks to £9. Cow trade not so brisk; Shorthorns to £25, crosses to £21, and Ayrshires to £16 10s per head. Sheep met a good trade; half-bred ewes to 38s, half-bred hoggets to 33s, crosses to 33s, and black-faced Dinmonts to 31s each.

Exeter, Friday.—Large supply of beasts, but only best quality in demand. Steers and maiden heifers found a ready sale at 11s per score. There was a poor sale for cows, 9s to 10s per score. The supply of mutton was of an indifferent character, principally small lambs. Few best quality hogs and wethers, 7½d to 8d per lb; ewes, 6d. Demand for lambs for turnips, 32s to 38s each. Calves, 7½d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Demand was fair for cattle and sheep, and prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 63s; secondary, 56s to 58s; top Irish, 55s per cwt; best hoggs, 9d to 9½d; best wethers, 8d to 8¾d; best ewes, 7d per lb. Dead meat in better request, as supplies are smaller; best Scotch beef, 6d; best Canadians, 4¾d; best hoggs, 7¾d; best wethers, 6¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows: 80 cows and calves with good trade, the highest prices being £22, £21 15s, £21 5s. Upwards of 200 store cattle, with a slight improvement in trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—Beef not being an over supply, there was a slight improvement in the demand, especially for best quality bullock and heifer, at 6¼d to 6½d per lb. Fat cows met with a slow trade and no improvement at 5½d per lb. top price. There was a very moderate supply of sheep for the time of the year. Best wethers and ewe tegs, which were very few, reached 8d per lb., fat ewes 6d to 6¾d per lb. Butchers' lambs, which were few, also made 8d per lb. Store lambs were in good demand. A few good veal calves had a slightly

improved trade at 7d per lb. Small rearing calves sold well. Pigs were a rather small supply. Nice quality porks and bacons made 6d per lb. Big store pigs were selling well, but weaned pigs experienced a very slow trade. Store cattle a dragging trade at lower prices.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full consignments of home-bred bullocks. Buyers were moderately represented, and trade ruled unequal. Choice milch cows were scarce, and in active demand at £26 to £24; good useful lots, £17 to £19; secondary, £14 to £16; shorthorn cattle £12 to £15; Irish stock, £11 to £13 10s; Welsh cattle, £9 to £12; calves, 15s to 40s per head.

Lincoln, Friday. Good consignment of horned stock, and a slow trade was experienced. Yearlings £8 to £10, two-year olds £12 to £16, drapes £10 to £12. Sheep were in small numbers, and the demand was fair. Heggs made 38s. to 43s. each.

Lynn, Tuesday.—Smaller show of fat beasts; trade firm; 7s to 8s per stone. Stores smaller show; trade slow; £6 to £14 each. Fat sheep small show, 9s to 10s per stone. Scarcely any store sheep, 40s to 45s; few store lambs, 35s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: Firsts 4¾d; seconds 4¼d, thirds 2¾d to 3¼d. Mutton: Firsts (Scotch) 7¼d, and others 7d, seconds 6d to 6¼d; thirds 5d to 5½d. Veal: Firsts 6¼d, seconds 5¾d to 6¼d, thirds 4¾d to 5¼. Bacon pigs: Firsts 5¾d, seconds 4¾d to 5¼d, thirds 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: Firsts 6¾d, seconds 6¼d to 6¾d, thirds 5¾d to 6d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Slight falling off in trade for fat beasts, 7s 6d per stone being the top price; less store animals offered and values maintained, prices ranging from £6 to £16 per head. Short supply of store sheep and demand quiet, keeping hoggets fetching 30s to 45s per head; fair trade for fat sheep, which were in good supply, prices averaging 10s. to 10s 6d per stone. Ready demand for fat and store pigs, which were sparsely penned, former making 7s to 7s 6d per stone and latter 36s to 58s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a fair show of milch beasts, with trade slower; best milch cows realised £18 to £21 10s; and in-calf heifers, £13 to £17. A small show of store beasts, with very few inquiries; strong heifers and steers made £9 to £13, and younger beasts £6 to £9. Calves, 25s to 45s. There were only a few lambs on offer, and no pigs.

Preston, Wednesday.—As the result of a much larger supply of cattle prices ruled rather higher than a week ago. There was not a very large show of sheep, and a rather slow trade was experienced. Cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; heifers and bullocks, 5½d to 6d; choice country heifers, 6¼d; hoggs, 8¼d to 8¾d; tups, 5¼d to 6d; ewes, 6d to 7d; and lambs, 8¼d to 8¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. Store stock was not very plentiful, and there was only a small muster of farmers and dealers. Milch cows, £16 to £18.

Romford, Wednesday.—Short supply of fat beasts, better trade for best animals, at 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s stone. Calves scarce, trade better, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in average supply, trade better; best, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Pig trade unchanged.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies. Beef trade not so good as last week. Pork trade brisk. Sheep and calf trade moderate. Quotations:—Beef, 5¾d to 6¾d per lb; mutton, 8d to 9¾d per lb; veal, 7¼d to 8¾d per lb; porket pigs, 10s to 11s per score; bacon pigs, 9s 3 dto 10s per score.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk, attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £10 to £16; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5¾d to 6d; lambs, 7¼d to 8d; pigs, 8s 6d to 42s each; beef, 6d to 8d per lb; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon (uncured), 6d to 7¼d; ditto (cured), 7d to 9d; pork (carcases), 4½d to 5¼d. Numbers in cattle market: Bullocks, 244; calves, 62; sheep, 313; pigs, 242.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Trade for beasts slow, and fair for sheep. Fair supply all round. Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb (a few at 6¾d); mutton, 6d to 8¾d per lb; veal, 6¼d to 7¼ per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Much better supply of stock than of late, with trade brisk. Mutton was up quite ½d per lb. Best Southdown wethers and cross-bred yearlings, 8d to 9d; choice hoggs, to 9¾d per lb.; best beef, 7s to 7s 3d; secondary qualities, 6s 3d to 6s 9d per stone.

Yeovil, Friday.—Cows and heifers of best quality, with calves, sold at from £16 10s to £19; secondary ditto, from £10 15s to £15 10s; in-calf heifers, £9 15s to £12 5s; barreners, £9 5s to £10 15s; coming two-year-old heifers, £8 to £9 10s; store steers, £9 to £10 5s. Down ewes, 31s to 40s; Down wethers, 42s 6d to 50s; horn ewes, 33s to 47s 6d; horn wethers, 44s to 51s; cross-bred lambs, 32s to 37s 6d.

York, Thursday.—About 3,500 store cattle were penned, the English being in smaller supply, but there was a large entry of Irish beasts of strong sorts. There were probably fewer customers than at the previous market, and the depression which has marked the autumnal trade continued. The reduction in prices was scarcely appreciable, however, late rates being maintained. A few lots of the best three-year-old bullocks, full of flesh, made up to £16, but a lot of other useful cattle changed hands at £11 to £12 10s. A few south country buyers were present in search of English stirks, and purchased a few lots, prices ranging from £7 to £9 each. There was an average supply of calving and milch cows, with a satisfactory demand for the best sorts; secondary sorts were difficult to sell. Several very good cows made £20 to £22, second-rate cows £14 to £17 each. There was a light show of all classes of sheep, especially shearlings, and the total number would not exceed 1,450. Shearlings made 40s to 46s, best twice-crossed lambs to 40s, other twice-crossed lambs 30s to 36s. Masham lambs 22s to 27s. A few good half-Down lambs were on offer, and sold up to 44s. Trade, on the whole, was somewhat slow, though anything good was easy to sell.

WET GRAINS.

London, Friday.—Wet Grains.—Owing to the recent spell of frosty weather brewings were very much curtailed, with the result that prices firmed up to 18s 6d to 20s (ale) and 14s 6d to 16s (porter) per ton. Should cold weather prevail heavy prices may be looked for, with little probability of any reduction should the weather be milder. Wet distillers' grains are without change at from 30s to 32s 6d per ton. Pressed white distillery meal, 32s 6d to 35s per ton. Dried grains.—There is still a good demand, and as all factories are closed, prices are advanced on the week: ale, 102s 6d; mixed, 97s 6d; porter, 95s; and distillers, 115s per ton. Dried distillery meal, containing 45.80 per cent. of oil and albuminoids, 117s 6d per ton. This article will appreciate in value owing to advance in the price of rice meal and decorticated cotton seed meal. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday.—The supplies of Canadian butter are virtually over for the season, as the stocks in Canada will be mainly required for consumption at home. Values have advanced in Montreal, and this will have the effect of still further checking exports. Prices here are virtually unchanged on the week. The demand for Australian butter continues good and the market remains firm. The arrivals during the week have been 7,393 cwt. against 12,592 last year, and the shipments are 21,222 cwt., against 27,220 twelve months since. New Zealand arrivals during the week have been 6,159 cwt. against nothing for the corresponding week in 1904. "Choicest" brands of Australian are selling at 112s. per cwt., with an occasional 114s. for some special factory. "Choicest" New Zealand brands find buyers at 114s to 115s, with an occasional 116s. "Finest" grades of both kinds are selling at 4s to 6s per cwt. less than the above figures. Unsalted Australian and New Zealand is making 1s per cwt. more than salted. The market in Copenhagen is reported dull, and there is a fall of 2s 3d per cwt. in the official quotation; which, however, remains at 101 kroner against 93 kroner last year. French butter is 4s per cwt. dearer, but Russian and Argentine remain the same as last week's figures. Cheese.—There has been a good demand for Canadian this week, although there has not been sufficient briskness to warrant any further advance in prices, which consequently remain unchanged.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £3 5s to £3 10s per ton; clover, £3 17s 6d to £4 per ton; straw, 2s 6d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 80s. to 90s. a ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; oat straw, 50s to 60s; peat moss litter, 35s to 40.

Manchester, Friday:—Hay, 4½d to 5d; clover, 4½d to 6d; wheat straws, 3½d to 3¾d.; oat ditto, 3¼d to 3¾d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were large, but demand continued quiet. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially-picked hay, 72s 6d; good ditto, 60s to 70s; inferior ditto, 45s to 57s 6d; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 25s to 34s per load.

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Several purchases have been made at from 12d to 12½d for Kent fleeces, 8d for lamb wool, and from 4d to 5d per lb for locks.

Halifax, Saturday.—Demand has improved for home-grown wools, with quotations up to or above the recent level. Thus, Lincoln hogs, which may be taken as a standard, are now up to about 1s 1¾d; North hogs, 1s 2d; selected Irish, 1s 1¼d; and picked Shropshires, 1s 1¾d. Wether wools are stationary; Lincolns, 1s 0¼d. Irish barely 1s 0¾d.; Scotch, 1s 1d; and Shropshire, 1s 1¼d. Merinos have improved, and cross-breds are firm.

London, Saturday.—English, per pk. of 240 lb. Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13 10s; half-bred wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 10s to £13; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto., £12 to £12 10s;. Colonial per lb.—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured, average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy, average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; New South Wales, second average, 1 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d, to 1s; South Australian, greasy average, 9d to 9½d; New Zealand, scoured average, 1s 2½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10¾d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10¾d; greasy average, 7½ to 8¾d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8¾d to 9½; crossbreds (grs.), Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand, medium, 1s 0¾d to 1s 1½d; New Zealand, coarse, 11d to 1s.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Fair supplies were to hand, but a quiet demand was experienced. Best silts, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Scotch, 60s to 70s; Dunbar, grey soil, 80s to 90s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Large attendance, but prices have not changed. King Edwards and Dates being the best potatoes. These are selling at 57s 6d per ton. A large quantity of Evergoods are being shipped off to America at £2 per ton. In the retail market potatoes are 4d to 6d per stone.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire Warps, 7s to 9s; Sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire Kidneys, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per load; Irish, 3s per cwt.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been heavy, for which trade has been slow, with prices for all samples in buyers' favour. The following are this day's quotations:—Scotch Up-to-dates, 55s to 65s; ditto British Queens, 55s to 65s; Lincoln Evergoods, 55s to 60s; ditto Up-to-dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 50s to 57s 6d; ditto British Queens, 50s to 55s; ditto Evergoods, 50s to 55s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Supplies of both English and Scotch are heavier, and met a very slow sale. Royal kidney's 60s to 65s; British Queens, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 55s to 60s; Up-to-dates, 65s to 70s; Scotch dates, 60s to 65s; Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

York, Saturday.—Farmers only offered very few potatoes, and there was no change in either prices or the character of the trade. Samples made 40s, and Warps 45s to 50s per ton.

Irish Live Weight Quotation.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for week ending Oct. 3, 1905.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average Live weight.	Average price per head.	Average price per cwt.
		c. qr. lb	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
4	Bullocks (prime) ...	11 0 7	17 0 0	1 10 9
2	,, ,, ...	9 3 0	15 0 0	1 10 9
1	,, ,, ...	8 3 14	3 10 0	1 10 5
1	,, ,, ...	10 1 0	15 10 0	1 10 3
1	,, ,, ...	8 3 0	13 5 0	1 10 3
1	,, ,, ...	10 1 21	15 15 0	1 10 2
1	,, (very good) ...	9 0 7	13 7 6	1 9 6
2	,, ,, ...	9 1 14	13 12 6	1 9 1
1	,, ,, ...	8 2 14	12 10 0	1 9 0
1	,, ,, ...	10 0 21	14 15 0	1 8 11
2	,, ,, ...	11 1 7	16 2 6	1 8 6
1	Cow (prime) ...	12 1 14	16 15 0	1 7 1

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 75 qrs. from Harlingen and 9,836 qrs. from St Petersburg; total, 9,936 qrs. The shipments for the week ending November 17, were: Calcutta to Continent, 6,000; Bombay to Continent, 9,000; Plate, orders and other U.K., 20,000; Continent, 22,500; total, 51,000. Linseed has improved in value about 6d to 9d per qr. on the week. River Plate: Spot has sold up to 3os 6d, October-November and November-December made 30s 3d to 30s 4½d; new crop, January-February, 29s 6d, but none done. Baltic sorts have sold at 30s 3d to 30s 6d per 8cqs and Libau and Riga to 31s 6d to St. Petersburg. Cake need. The market has been dull all the week and lower prices accepted all round; Egyptian, on spot, 25s 1½ 6d, whole; cakes, passage, and to January, a fair business done thereat yesterday, at close November and December-January offers at £5 11s 3d. Bombay, for three months' shipment, sold at £4 18s 9d to £4 17s 3d, and December at £4 17s to £4 16s 3d, and still sellers at the lower price. Oilseed cakes. Linseed cakes: A firmer feeling, and at present prices Hull is the cheapest market in the country; foreign continue very scarce. Cotton cakes: Deliveries are fairly good and inclined to improve, but they are mostly on contract, fresh sale being new at the moment. The colder weather is expected to improve things.—KEIGHLEY MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed: The market is quiet, and very little desire shown for business either by buyers or sellers. Calcutta-London, spot 40s 3d, afloat 42s 3d, October-November 40s, November-December 39s 6d, April-June 38s. Hull: Dull; La Plata spot 30s, passage 32s, October-November 30s, December-January 30s 9d, and January-February 30s 9d. Rapeseed still firmly held, but buyers less in evidence. Brown Cawnpore November-December 41s. Fine-zepore, November-December 41s. Cotton seed has been steady, with a fair business passing. London: Passage £5 15s, November-January £5 13s 9d. Hull: Spot and passage £5 12s 6d, November-January £5 12s 6d sellers. Oil cakes.—Linseed cakes: Firm. London made £7 17s 6d to £8. Cotton cakes firm; London made £4 17s 6d to £5.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: The trade is exceptionally quiet for the time of year, but with only moderate supplies of foreign and several of the home mill's shut down, there is no anxiety to sell, and consequently values are well maintained. Russian continue to come along slowly, and quotations are firm at £27 11s 3d to £7 12s 6d in mats, and £7 15s to £7 17 6d in bags. American are still obtainable at £7 10s to £7 12s 6d ex quay. Fair Indian seed parcels may be bought at £7 15s to arrive. London made, being in small production, command full prices of £8 2s 6d to £8 5s per ton. Cotton cakes: The market is almost bare of stocks of Egyptian, but for early arrival there are sellers at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d, while for forward delivery rather less money would be accepted. English meet an improved inquiry at £4 17s 6d to £4 18s 9d, and Bombays at £4 10s. Decorticated London made remain best value, being procurable at the low figure of £6 17s 6d for cake, £7 for meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal: A steamer parcel of white American shortly due is quoted at £5 17s 6d free to trucks, while English makes are only sparingly offered at £5 17s 6d to £5 18s 9d. Maize gluten meal is in good request, and manufacturers to-day ask £6 per ton, both in spot and forward positions. Rice meal: In spite of some fairly heavy shipments of Rangoon, prices rule firm at £4 17s 6d to £4 18s 9d ex ship terms, while parcels in warehouse make £5 2s 6d to £5 5s. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is cheaply offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans maintain their value at £5 10s for whole and £5 15s for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is, if anything, the turn dearer at £10 10s per ton ex quay.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made ..... ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 0
Russian, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
in mats.....	7 11 3	to 7 12 6
Round Trieste..... (in bags) ex quay		
American..... ex quay	7 10 0	to 7 12 6
Calcuta to arrive.....	7 15 9	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 16 3	to 4 17 6
,, for shipment.....		
English.....	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
,, ,, ,, Meal.....	7 0 0	
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
Decorticated Cake, American.....		
,, Meal ,, ...		
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta		
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 17 6	to 5 18 9
American, Dec./Jan..... ex ship	5 17 6	
American		
Maize Gluten Meal..... June/Dec.	6 0 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice ..... ex ship	4 17 6	to 4 18 9
Rangoon ..... ex docks	5 2 6	to 5 5 0
Broken Rangoon Rice ..... ex docks	4 15 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 10 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled.....	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A steady demand prevailed for a fairly good supply of fruit and greenstuffs. Quotations of English produce: Grapes, 2s 6d to 4s per lb; cranberries, 12s to 15s per case; apples, 1s to 12s per bushel; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 5s per box; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; sprue, 8s to 10s per dozen bunches; horseradish, 8s 6d to 12s per bundle; celery, 6s to 12s per dozen rolls; onions 4s 6d to 6s per cwt; endive, 1s to 1s 6d; cucumbers, 3s to 5s per dozen; Brussels sprouts, 9d to 1s; artichokes, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per half sieve; parsnips, 2s to 2s 6d per bag; cabbages, 3s 6d to 5s; cauliflowers, 3s to 9s per tally; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12 lb; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 2s to 2s 6d; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d per dozen bunches; potatoes, 65s to 85s per ton.

SOCIETIES.

Essex.

A meeting of the Council of the Essex Agricultural Society was held in London in Wednesday, Mr. William Rome, President, occupying the chair.

With regard to next year's show, the Secretary (Mr. F. W. Taylor) said there was to be a meeting at Brentwood that night, to consider the question of inviting the society to hold their show there, and the matter would be definitely settled. Lord Petre, however, had absolutely declined to accept the post of President. He thought the name of Mr. J. H. Horton would be suggested as President. Mr. J. H. Landon, who would act as local secretary, thought he would be able to raise £400 locally.

Mr. T. Usborne moved that the salary of the Secretary be increased to £150 a year, mentioning that this was the salary their late Secretary, Mr. F. Whitmore, received. When Mr. Taylor was first appointed, it was understood that his salary was only preliminary, and that if his work met with the approval of the Council it would be increased. There was no doubt the Council had approved of the manner in which the Secretary had done his work. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. E. Ridley seconded the resolution, observing that all those who had had the honour of being President knew that a deep debt of gratitude was owing their Secretary. It was only his energy and tact that enabled them to carry out their work so smoothly and successfully.

Other members spoke in high terms of the Secretary's work, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Taylor, who had been out of the room when this matter was being discussed, was then called in, and the Chairman informed him that the Committee had unanimously passed this resolution.

The Secretary, in thanking the Council, mentioned that the work had much increased of late.

A report was received from the Sub-Committee appointed to consider the question of field trials for 1906. This will be found dealt with in our Implement Supplement.

A statement was presented, giving the financial position of the society on October 31, 1905. The receipts were as follows:—Balance at bank, £183 14s.; subscriptions, £811 8s.; special prizes, donations, and grants, £661 5s. 6d.; entry and shedding fees, £546 2s. 2d.; horse boxes, £52 10s.; gate receipts, £1,000 4s.; grand-stand receipts, £203 3s.; refreshment premium, £30; luncheon receipts, £32 12s. 6d.; Suffolk Sheep Society, £5; sale of timber, etc., £50 10s.; dividend on Consols (four quarters), £22 10s. 4d.; miscellaneous, £4 6s. 3d.; total, £3,603 5s. 9d. The payments totalled £3,160 8s. 5d., thus showing a balance to the good on the year's working of £259 3s. 4d.

Mr. Ridley said the balance-sheet showed they were not wrong, after all, in altering the entrance fees.

Several members thought that the result of the Southend Show was very satisfactory, and Mr. J. H. Horton remarked, if Brentwood did invite the society to hold its next year's show there, they would take the matter in hand with their whole heart and soul.

An Invitation to Brentwood.

The Brentwood Local Committee held a meeting on Wednesday night, and unanimously resolved to invite the society to hold its show at Brentwood next year. It was also resolved to ask the Council to invite Mr. John Henry Horton, J.P., C.C., of Mascallo, Brentwood, to become president. Mr. Frank Landon, the local secretary, announced that £218 had already been promised. He thought they would easily get the amount necessary, and that a suitable site for the show would be available. The show was last held at Brentwood ten years ago.

Suffolk Agricultural Association.

Next Year's Show.

The annual meeting of the Suffolk Agricultural Association was held at Halesworth, on the 17th inst. Mr. E. C. Ransome presiding.

At the Committee meeting held previously, an invitation for next year's show, to be held at Ipswich, was received from the Mayor (Mr. Bunnell H. Burton), who wrote that at the meeting of the Town Council it was unanimously resolved a cordial invitation be sent to the Suffolk Agricultural Association, to hold the summer exhibition in Christchurch Park, in 1906. The Council resolved that the Association should have exclusive use of the Park for three days. The Mayor added that at present he had not had the opportunity of approaching his fellow townsmen upon the subject of the contribution which the town would make to the prize fund, but he felt confident he might promise a good sum towards such a fund. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend the members of the annual meeting to accept the invitation.

The Chairman, in bringing this recommendation to the notice of the meeting, said previous exhibitions at Ipswich had always been a success, and he had no doubt, should it be decided to hold the 1906 show in that town, another good show would result.

The recommendation received the general approval of the meeting.

Mr. Alfred Smith, proposing that Mr. E. G. Pretyman be chosen as President, said after mentioning that gentleman's name, it was unnecessary to say anything further.

This motion having been accepted, Mr. H. S. R. Sherwood said it behoved him to express sincere thanks to the Earl of Stradbroke for the great interest he had taken in the recent show. They would not have had so successful an exhibition but for his lordship's efforts. (Applause.)

Mr. J. R. Grimsey said the Earl and Countess displayed a very kindly interest in anything appertaining to the welfare of Halesworth and the neighbourhood, and nothing was too small to command their attention. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

Mr. P. M. Browne afterwards introducing another, extending thanks to the people of Halesworth for the hearty support given to the Association. Every member of the Committee endeavoured to make the show a success. He expected a loss of £200, but the hope he expressed at the show that they should have a profit of at least £1 had been realised, for the balance on the right side was 30s.

Mr. Stanford said he was delighted to find the work of those who were associated with him had been appreciated.

On the motion of Mr. P. M. Browne, it was agreed that the show should be held on Thursday and Friday in the first week of June, the dates being June 7 and 8.

The balance-sheet showed the expenditure to be £2,786 3s. 7d., leaving a banance of £1 10s. 11d. on the Halesworth show.

The Prize Committee was elected as under:—Messrs. Alfred Smith, Cordy, S. Wolton, S. R. Sherwood, P. M. Browne, F. Paine, W. Toller, F. H. Jennings, H. Cross, Herman Biddell Fred Smith, E. C. Ransome, and W. Wilson.

Mr. Robert Bond, answering Mr. Alfred Smith, said he hoped to obtain ten acres of land for field trials adjoining the Avenue Meadow, at the top of Christchurch Park.

The Chairman said, in a letter the retiring President raised the question of the desirability of the annual meetings all being held at Ipswich, and he though such a course would be desirable, seeing that Ipswich was easy of access from all parts of the county.

Mr. P. M. Browne agreed, and moved a resolution to that effect; after being seconded by Mr. S. R. Sherwood, it was adopted. The latter said he was pleased to find it was acceptable to the West Suffolk members.

Mr. Alfred Smith, in proposing the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Ransome for having presided, made very feeling allusion to the loss sustained by his father's death, but, at the same time, expressed gratitude at his son being ready to follow in his footsteps, and take an active interest in their work.

Mr. Ransome said he was pleased, as was his father, to do something for agriculture, and for the Suffolk Agricultural Association. (Applause.)

Peterborough.

The annual meeting of the Peterborough Agricultural Society was held on Wednesday, the chairman, Mr. W. G. Moore, presiding, when an interesting report from the Council was presented. In the course of this it was stated that the annual summer show was favoured with splendid weather on all the three days, but, as with nearly all the shows this year, a falling off had to be noted in the money taken at the gates and stands, a result which is generally attributed to the bad times, and the consequent shortness of money with the classes generally patronising shows of stock.

The statement of accounts, submitted by Mr. E. Swallow, the auditor, showed that the total receipts for the year had been £3,475 4s. 7d., as against £3,848 17s. 10d. in 1904, a decrease of £373 13s. 3d., and expenditure £3,589 2s. 9d., as against £3,718 12s. 4d. in the previous year, or £129 9s. 7d. less. The excess of payments over receipts was £113 18s. 2d. New timber, however, cost £78 10s. 6d. Allowing for subscriptions written off as bad, and with the good ones to come in, the net loss on the year was £88 4s. 2d., as against a profit of £151 17s. 6d. in 1904. The Society, however, has a good balance at the bank, its total assets amounting to £1,350.

On the motion of Mr. Gresswell, seconded by Mr. Smith, the report and accounts were adopted.

The Chairman said he was requested by the Council to ask Mr. Leonard Brassey, of Apethorpe Hall, to take the office of President, and, in reply, Mr. Weigall had written that Mr. Brassey would have much pleasure in accepting the office for the coming year. (Applause.)

Mr. Brassey had hoped to be at that meeting, but at the last moment he had written to say that he could not come and that he had asked Mr. Weigall to attend on his behalf.

The resolution that Mr. Brassey be President was carried unanimously.

Mr. Weigall expressed Mr. Brassey's great regret that he was unable to be present and his keen sense of appreciation of the honour the Society had done him in asking him to be President for the coming year. The Council of the Society might rest perfectly assured that in anything Mr. Brassey could do to make the show of 1906 a success, they had only to command him. There was an old saying that "nothing succeeds like success," and, if that was true, the future of the Peterborough Agricultural Society must be a very happy one. Mr. Brassey would subscribe £50 to the show, and desired to leave himself entirely in the hands of the Council, with just the broad reservation that he would like to see half of it in classes that were open and the other half in classes confined to tenant farmers within the usual radius, but he did not lay that down as a hard and fast rule.

Other officers were re-elected, including the Secretary, Mr. Lille, whose valuable services to the Society are warmly appreciated by the members.

The schedule was revised, but no alterations of importance were made.

British Possessions

beyond the Seas

AND THEIR

London Representatives.

NOVA SCOTIA APPLES.

An Exhibition of NOVA SCOTIA APPLES, selected and forwarded by the Nova Scotia Government is now on view in the Canadian Court at the Crystal Palace.

Specimens may be loaned for exhibition at local Shows upon application to MR. JOHN HOWARD, Agent General for Nova Scotia, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Liskeard.

At a meeting of the Liskeard and District Agricultural Association the Secretary (Mr. W. H. Rule) stated that the receipts from the show held on July 12 amounted to £485, against £492 at the previous show, but the balance to the good from the exhibition was £26 13s. 7d., compared with £21 19s. 6d. on the previous occasion. The profit balance of the association was now £126 5s. 6d., in addition to which there was unsold timber valued at £25. The annual dinner and meeting of the association were arranged to be held on the first cattle market day next year.

Taunton Farmers.

Some interesting discussions on current agricultural questions took place at the last meeting of the Taunton and West Somerset Farmers' Club. Among the matters dealt with was the neglect of local authorities to adequately enforce the Sale of Food and Drugs Act and other Acts to prevent adulteration, and it was agreed "That it is desirable that the police or inspectors of food and drugs be empowered to obtain foods and drugs from purchasers direct, under proper safeguards, and have the same analysed." A communication was read from the Liverpool District Farmers' Club to the effect that agricultural lands should be relieved of all rates in connection with the Education Act. Mr. S. Kidner said that agriculturists looked forward to having the whole question of rating dealt with when the next Parliament came in, whichever side might be placed in power, and the Central chamber therefore decided that this resolution should lie on the table. He proposed, and it was carried, that the club should adopt the same course. Another resolution passed was to the effect "That the agricultural land of this country, being raw material, should be free from assessment for the purposes of local rates, but that the houses and buildings should be assessed at their full value as the manufactory of the farm." The Central Chamber of Agriculture wrote asking for information as to weighbridges at railway stations, and desiring that the club should obtain evidence from members regarding the stations in this locality at which weighbridges were required. This request was complied with. Other subjects considered by the club were the law of trespass, birds and agriculture, and the amendment and consolidation of the Agricultural Holdings Act.

Live Stock Record.

THE BIRMINGHAM CHRISTMAS FAT STOCK SHOW.

The show which opened in Bingley Hall last Saturday, and which will be open to the public this week until Thursday night, is quite up to the average in numbers of live stock, the entries being 98 of cattle (or three less than those of last year), sheep 61 pens against 58 (or three more), and pigs 70 instead of 53, which gives the considerable increase of 17 pens. H.M. the King is, as usual, a large exhibitor, both of cattle and sheep. As is tolerably well known, there are herds of the Shorthorn, Hereford, and Devon breeds at the Royal Windsor farms, all of which are strongly represented and the tale of their Victories is really remarkable as will be gathered from our report which appears in another column. The cattle section of this show is noted for three things. First, the strong entry of Herefords, especially steers under two years; secondly, the very considerable number in the two classes of original character open to all breeds for best butchers' bullocks; and thirdly, the valuable challenge cups which the leading animals may win. For a considerable length of time—almost from the first establishment of the show—the Elkington £100-cup for the best beast exhibited has been awarded, but in recent years Messrs. Webb and Sons and Messrs. Joseph Thorley and Co. have offered £100-cups also, and since last year £50 challenge cups have been announced to be given by the *Birmingham Daily Post* and by Mr. J. J. Cridlan. H.M. the King sends four pens of wethers and lambs from his famous Sandringham Southdown flock, the sheep which won at Norwich being among them. The Shropshire, Hampshire, and Oxfordshire breeds, as usual, make grand displays. As was the case last year, a challenge cup for sheep, called after its donor, Mr. Coo er, was awarded on Saturday, and likewise a cup for the best pen of pigs, the gift of the hotelkeepers of Birmingham.

The exhibition of poultry at this show is always a very large one, the entries for the one now being held being 2,664, besides 1,052 of pigeons. One of the compartments of Bingley Hall is entirely appropriated to these birds. Then there are the samples of corn and exhibits of roots and potatoes in the gallery overlooking the fat stock, which are always such a great attraction. These are not quite so numerous as last year, when the entries were considerably over the average. They are now of corn 67, roots 111, potatoes 71, the total entries, all stock and produce included, being 4,324, against 4,392 last year.

Not only the people of Birmingham, but the inhabitants of a widely surrounding district, are justly proud of this show, as the large attendances sufficiently prove. For poultry it is to the Midland what the Crystal Palace one is to the Southern and Home Counties. The mangels and swedes have always brought out remarkable specimens, and the present exhibition is by no means deficient in them, or in the superb symmetrical shape and high quality of potatoes, carrots, etc. But in clashing with the Edinburgh Show, the bovine department would have been much larger; but those who visited the show on Saturday found the live stock generally quite numerous enough for the accommodation at Bingley Hall which it was generally agreed that the quality was better than usual.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Mark Lane Express was the first to introduce illustrations of live stock into the Agricultural Press, and that it still leads the way in this direction was strikingly shown last week, for it was the only one of the agricultural journals issued on Monday to have photographs of prize winners at the Norwich Fat Stock Show, held on the previous Thursday and Friday.

Mr. James W. Lord, of Church House, Northam, Sussex, had sent two young pedigree Sussex bulls to South Africa, which, he has just heard, had arrived safely at Durban, and were much admired.

The entire herd of Shorthorn cattle, belonging to Mr. W. E. Balston, is, in consequence of the owner's ill-health, to be dispersed by auction on Thursday, December 7, at Bardon, Potter's Bar, Herts, Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. The herd is a choice one of first-class breeding, well known herds in Scotland and England having been drawn upon, and the animals to be offered will be found in healthy breeding condition.

A sum of £450, in addition to numerous specials, is offered for the fifty-fifth annual exhibition of the West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Show, to be held on December 13 and 14, and there is every likelihood of the show being another success, for the exhibition is growing in popularity each year, and now attracts the best stock from various parts of the country.

I am informed that another Large White Yorkshire in-pig gilt has just been sold for a long price from the well-known prize-winning herd belonging to Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., of Walton Hall, Warrington. This animal was personally selected from the Walton herd by Mr. A. O. T. Bennett, of Gately Hall, on behalf of a client in Germany, and was shipped from Grimsby to Hamburg on Tuesday last.

The principal feature of the prize schedule of next year's Hackney Show, which has just been issued by the Hackney Horse Society from its office at 12, Hanover Square, W., is the very considerable increase in the harness section of the show. Classes are provided for single harness horses between the limits of under 13 hands and over 16 hands, each class rising in height by 2 in., the only condition being that each horse shall be by a registered hackney or pony sire. The schedule now provides classes for stallions, mares, and geldings of every age, and height, both in hand and in harness, and as horses may be exhibited in more than one class, the amount of prize money to be won is considerable.

The total of cash prizes and challenge cups offered is £1,685, as compared with £1,460 at the last show. Among the most practical of the innovations are the prizes of £55 for the sire of the three best harness horses, and £65 to the best pony stallion in harness; also a pony produce group on the same lines as that for hackneys. As the best single harness horse can win £60, and some of the most successful harness horses have been exported this season, leaving the field open to new comers, a record entry is anticipated. The last show was distinctive by reason of the large number of foreign buyers in attendance, and steps will be taken to make the details of the show widely known to all the principal horsemen abroad. Entries close on January 15, and with late fee on January 22, and application to the secretary for prize schedules, forms, or other particulars, will receive immediate attention.

In consequence of the Staffordshire, also the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society having selected July 18 and 19 for their 1906 show prior to Wirral and Birkenhead Society arranging for the same dates, the last-named society has now decided to hold its show a week later than previously announced, viz., on Wednesday and Thursday, July 25 and 26.

The annual general meeting of the National Sheep-breeders' Association will take place (by kind permission of the Smithfield Club) in the Prince's Saloon, situated at the end of the Arcade Gallery, on Tuesday, December 5, at 3 p.m.

A very typical large-bred gilt was despatched from Mr. Dewhirst's Rycroft Herd of pedigree pigs per Messrs. Wilsons' steamship to Stettin, on Friday, to the order of an old customer.

Messrs. J. Thornton and Co. announce that on March 21 next they will disperse by auction the entire herd of pure-bred Red Polled cattle belonging to Mr. J. Hammond, of Bale, Norfolk, the reason being the advanced years of the owner. Mr. Hammond has been a breeder of Red Polled cattle for the past half-century, and has been a most successful exhibitor at our principal shows, so that his herd is well known all over the country, and its dispersal will be regretted by breeders generally. The sale of such a fine herd will, however, afford an excellent opportunity for obtaining first-class cattle fit for any herd in the country.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Nov. 18, 1905:—

Period				Anthrax. Animals Attacked.	Anthrax. Outbreaks.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Animals Attacked.	Foot-and-Mouth Disease. Outbreaks.	Glanders (including Farcy). Animals Attacked.	Glanders (including Farcy). Outbreaks.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	Rabies. Cases Confirmed. Dogs.	Sheep-Scab. Outbreaks Reported.	Swine Fever. Outbreaks.	Swine Fever. Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.
				No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Week ended Nov. 18, 1905				16	15	...	...	24	14	...	...	15	9	34
Corresponding week in	...	...	1904	27	22	...	...	41	24	...	...	16	14	141
	...	...	1903	24	16	...	...	32	24	...	...	44	20	105
	...	...	1902	29	21	...	...	43	25	...	...	36	48	235
Total for 46 weeks in 1905	...	...	...	1,183	853	...	...	1,365	1,084	...	...	759	715	3,208
Corresponding period in	...	...	1904	1,349	893	...	...	2,398	1,373	...	...	1,164	1,113	5,961
	...	...	1903	902	683	...	...	2,237	1,310	...	...	1,383	1,318	6,960
	...	...	1902	937	600	...	1	1,863	1,088	11	12	1,378	1,595	7,346

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

On Thursday, November 23, the Right Hon. F. J. S. Foljambe's rent audit was held at the Reindeer Inn, Sturton-en-le-Steeple. Mr. C. W. Lister-Kaye attended to receive the rents. Subsequently about sixty of the tenantry sat down to dinner, and a convivial evening was spent in toast and song.

Shifnal Annual Fair, the origin of which dates back to the fourteenth century, was held in the main thoroughfare at Shifnal on Wednesday. The supply of both cattle and horses was less than has ever been known at any previous fair; there was a falling off in the attendance, and money was scarce. In-calf cows brought from £10 to £20 each, heifers £6 to £10, and barrens £8 to £10.

BIRMINGHAM CATTLE SHOW.

A Fine Exhibition.—His Majesty Wins Championship with Hereford Steer.—Shorthorn Heifer Reserve.—Mr. Flower's Champion Hampshires.

Birmingham Fat Stock Show opened on Saturda in the Bingley Hall in fine and seasonable weather. The first day of the show is always confined to the judging and is purely of a business character, with the result that the awards are quickly and satisfactorily run through. The public benefit under this arrangement as the show opens complete this morning and will not close until Thursday next. The present exhibition is the fifty seventh held in Bingley Hall, and past traditions are worthily maintained, the show being an excellent one in every respect. The feature of the show is the success which has attended His Majesty the King's stock from Windsor, his Hereford steer and Shorthorn heifer having swept the board of the Challenge Cups.

The Championships.

The many, many champion honors to be competed for at Bingley Hall are naturally the great sensation in the judging department, and this year quite as much interest was evinced as usual, though from the early morning, it was generally conceded that one or other of the magnificent animals from the Royal herd would be the champion of the yard. The shorthorn heifer Madeleine was singled out by a great many, especially the advocates of the shorthorn; whilst those of independent tastes, as well as the admirers of the white faces, were equally sanguine that the magnificent breed cup Hereford steer would acquire the coveted fame. In this there was no disappointment, and the award was received without a dissentient voice. Rarely has a better Hereford been seen in Bingley Hall. It is a great honor to the Royal herd and its management, that the reserve, as well as the championship should be won, this honor being conferred on the shorthorn heifer Madeleine.

As these animals were both bred by H.M. the King, a long list of champion honors have to be recorded to them. The Breeders' Champion Prize being followed by the Elkington Challenge Cup, the Thorley Challenge Cup, and the Webb Challenge Cup, each of a hundred guineas value; the Challenge Cup given by the proprietors of the "Birmingham Daily Post" to the exhibitor of the best animal under two years old, was carried off by Mr. R. W. Hudson's first prize cross-bred heifer, the reserve being the same exhibitor's first prize Angus steer. The heaviest beast in the show was a shorthorn of Mr. H. D. Dennis', scaling 20 cwts. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

Herefords.

As usual the Herefords occupied the premier position in the catalogue, and it may be added that in the Midlands the people prefer the prime carcases of the "white faces" almost to any other type of cattle except perhaps the shorthorn. It is therefore not surprising that a good show of Herefords can usually be found at the show, and the evenness of merit and keenness of the competition is gathered from the fact that of the twenty-five exhibits no fewer than twenty-two are noticed by the judges. The presence of the King's champion adds distinction to the section, but apart from that the collection is an excellent one. The best class is for yearling steers, some of the youngsters being so good that they ought to be trained another year. There are a dozen entries, and the whole have received commendation from the judges. Mr. J. Edwards owns the best in Lemco, a level and handsome beast, weighing nearly 14 cwt. at five weeks under the age limit. Mr. R. Phipps is second and third with a pair of fine steers well fleshed, firm to the touch, and of ripe quality. The best Hereford female is the Hon. F. G. Wynn's Bodveau Primrose, a wide, compact animal, true to type, and of the choicest quality. The King comes second, and the Earl of Coventry is third with a useful butcher's beast nearly 4 cwt. heavier than the winner.

Shorthorns.

The display of the world famous red, white and roans at Birmingham is one that our Country as well as our Shorthorn breeders may be justly proud, seldom, if ever, has there been a better show of this breed, and it may safely be said that the junior steer class and the heifer class have never been excelled. The older class of steers is not so outstanding in merit. The great features of the young steer in heifer classes are their extreme quality and beautiful symmetry, combined with good weights which are a sure indication of good flesh.

The judges had quite a difficult task in dealing with each of these classes, and several animals were dismissed from the ring without honours that many a time would have been considered good enough for the prizes.

Steers exceeding two and not exceeding three years' old were the first section to be adjudicated upon. There were eight entries of these, mostly thoroughly ripe, well finished animals, with slope and first-class flesh, in one or two instances there might, from a breeder's point of view, be a little want of style, which probably accounted for such animals having been cast aged during a period of such unprecedented demand for breeding purposes. The first steer was bred and exhibited by Sir John Swinburne sired by Lord St Clair, out of a Waterloo cow, a red in color and scaling 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. whilst just under the age limit is satisfactory though not excessive, he is covered with a capital coat of hair ripe and handling well, with a good rib, and he walks out well. The second steer was bred and fattened in the Royal herd at Windsor and so was the third prize one. The former is a white by Royal Duke out of Maid of Denmark 4th, and in size is none too big, as he scales but 15 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs. and is pretty close up to the age limit, in quality, however, he quite excels, his roasting parts are well covered, hind quarters very level and well filled, he stands on short legs and in breed character is quite sweet. The third steer is a son of Silver Plate, and though considerably younger than the first and second prize ones he scales much the heaviest, being 17 cwt. 3 qrs 7 lbs. In general appearance he is not very striking, but in brief he is good, and will doubtless prove a good butcher's animal. Sir Oswald Mosley obtained the reserve card for a very ripe steer by Beauty's Pride, and a second was accorded Mr. T. B. Caile for a good thick fleshed steer.

Steers not exceeding two years old had no less than fourteen representatives, mostly good roans in colour, and making up a beautiful class. The first thing for the judges to do here was to dismiss the weaker portion of the class, and some very fine steers were sent empty away. The leading honour here was very closely contested between a red and white steer of H.M. the King's by Royal Duke, bred at Windsor, and a roan steer of Captain Townshend's, bred in the north by Mr. Finlay Munro, and sired by Maxwell. In weight there is but ten pounds difference, the lightest steer being 13 cwt., 3 qrs., 12 lbs., and the heavier 10 lbs. more. The Royal steer stands very squarely on his legs, with correct bottom line and a level good back; he also handles well, and is good in his roasting beef from a breeder's point of view. He is just a little plain about the head, the northern bred steer is a roan with capital coat and quality, as well as very perfect symmetry, and he is lengthy and shows nice character. After careful inspection the two animals were placed in the above order. The third prize was awarded to a red and white of Mr. James McWilliam, sired by Mafeking, a sappy good fleshed steer, and in weight only eight pounds lighter than the winner. Lord Tredegar was given the reserve for a red steer by Union Jack, and quite one of the best steers in the class, his outline, character, and flesh are very satisfactory, and his weight three pounds heavier than the first-prize steer. A very good steer of Lord Calthorpe's was h.c., and c. cards were also allotted to two very neat steers shown by Sir John Swinburne and Miss Alice de Rothschild. Coming to the female class, some half-score of beautiful heifers were standing in line, several of them very good roans in colour, mostly covered with excellent coats of hair, and in symmetry and breeding, altogether a beautiful lot.

The Royal herd once more triumphed, a roan by Silver Plate, out of Moss Rose, being the selected heifer. Madeleine, as she is called, is very symmetrical, with a wide and very level back, fine loin, frame well covered and handling well too; she also possesses a pleasing sweetness of character that helped her much, and her weight, 17cwt. 1qr. 15lb., is quite astounding, proving that her flesh must be very dense and void of blubber. Another very good heifer of somewhat similar appearance followed. This was Mr. T. B. Earle's Rockfield Lady 5th, bred by Mr. Finlay Munro and sired by Maxwell. She too is very good in her symmetry, and well filled in her roasting parts. Her quality too cannot be complained of; in weight, however, she suffers considerably, not quite reaching 15cwt. The third heifer in this capital class was Miss A. de Rothschild's Waddesdon Butterfly, bred by exhibitor and sired by Sheldrake. She has been a winner in the best company on several occasions during the summer, and must be classed altogether as a grand heifer and a close follower of her more favoured opponents. She scales 15 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb., and her outline, well covered top and firm handling are altogether most satisfactory. The reserve card fell to Sir Oswald Mosley's Lofty of Rolleston, a heifer that upon many occasions would easily have headed the class. She is full of good flesh, level, and a heifer of the right character all round. Lord Tredegar was h.c. for a famous heifer in Lady Langibby, a roan by Prince Alto, of good symmetry, and breeding and a c card was also bestowed upon Tulip 20th, from the same herd. As His Majesty's herd had secured two out of the three first prizes it would have been rather hard if the Shorthorn breed Cup had not gone to Windsor, and so Madeleine was the favoured recipient of this great distinction, the reserve going to Mr. T. B. Earle's second prize heifer.

Devons.

This year the Devons were not quite up to their usual merit as regards quality, and were small in numbers. In the class for steers exceeding 2 and not exceeding 3 years old there were only two entries. Here the first prize went to a steer bred and fed by His Majesty the King, that was served by Quintock Bridegroom out of dam Lovely 5th. It was a grand broadside animal with a splendid sirloin and rare back, its ribs were well sprung and heavily coated, this steer was subsequently awarded the £20 as being the best Devon. Second to it was Lord Rosebery's steer, bred by Mr. R. J. Stranges, South Molton, Devon. It made a grand pile of beef, well fed and firm though a trifle uneven.

The class for steers not exceeding 2 years old made a larger entry, there being a quartette. Here Viscount Portman, Bryanstead, Blandford, was to the fore with a very mellow even kindly one that had done well. It was good over the back and loin, but did not quite finish at perfection's point. Second prize went to a smart steer bred by Mr. John Thorne, North Molton. Togo has still a future before it, as though it was scarcely forward enough to head its class this year, it has a grand sound walk and plenty of vigour to grow for another year. The reserve went to the Hon. Claud B. Portman with Farewell, a steer that was a trifle hard to the touch and a bit uneven. The remaining steer in the class was from His Majesty the King's herd, and must evidently have been sent as a travelling companion to some of the other exhibits. Four entries comprised the class for Devon cows or heifers, and here the King was much better represented by Dewdrop, that was placed at the head at once by reason of her merits; she is a deep mellow heifer that turns the scale at a weight that deceives the eye, and with a sirloin that would delight an epicure, she has just reached her highest point and can hardly be expected to display herself better than she did at Birmingham, and though she was outweighted she was scarcely outclassed from being the best instead of the reserve best Devon; the second prize went to Lord Calthorpe's Miss Lyddon 7th, which has had a somewhat adventurous career. Bred by Mr. R. W. C. Everest, at Spaxton, Bridgwater, Somerset, she was sold at his sale and purchased by Colonel Walter Burwood, she won several breeding prizes last year at the Somerset, Devon and other shows. This year she was again sold by auction at Colonel Walters, sale and purchased by Lord Calthorpe. She is "very nice heifer still, with a good back, but has scarcely kept her form so well on to the ends The reserve went to Viscount Portman's Fossie, sired by Model, with a good dose of the Whitstone character obtained through its dam Whitstone Fancy. It was very well fed, firm and good, but it failed somewhat across the back, and this caused it to be reserve instead of second.

Aberdeen Angus.

This famous beef breed has for the past few years suffered somewhat at the Birmingham shows by comparison with the display it made at a prior date. Doubtless some of the cause in this decline may be fairly attributed to the institution of the Edinburgh Fat Stock Show; at any rate, the classes have of late shown less of outstanding merit as regards their quality, whilst numerically they have also fallen off. This year, though there are several remarkably good beasts, there was little approaching championship form, Mr. R. W. Hudson had, as usual, consigned one or two admirably finished beasts, with shape and quality, too, and that inveterate breeder and fancier of the "Bonnie Blacks," Mr. J. J. Cridlan, was also well in evidence with first class beef. The judging of these, however, was a much less formidable task than assigning the honors to the shorthorns.

The first class again to come before the judges was that for steers over two and not exceeding three years old, of which five animals were catalogued. Mr. J. J. Cridlan was given supremacy here pretty readily. In Black Prince, by Junic, bred by Sir James Duke, was a steer that stood well in the money last year in London. He has gone on remarkably well since that time, and though he does not pull up the beam any too well,

being but 16cwt. 1qr. 16lbs., still he is a couple of months under the age limit of his class, which should have some allowance made for it. He has covered himself wonderfully with flesh, his roasting parts being admirably filled, and he stands on very short legs, being fed nearly down to the ground; his handling, too, is altogether first rate. The second prize was dealt out to Mr. T. B. Earle, for Drax, by Equerry of Ballindalloch, bred by Mr. J. H. Bridges, at Horley, in Surrey, he is put under the three years, and was fourth in his class in London last year. He has opened out and grown capitally, and also laid on flesh well, though he does not touch quite 16cwt.; his outline is correct, and he is altogether a good steer. Mr. R. W. Hudson was reserved for Danesfield Cambrian, half brother to the second prize steer, and bred in the Danesfield herd. He is well brought out, handling properly, and covered with a wealth of the best of flesh. No other honours were dispensed.

Steers under two years old had but six representatives; these, however, included one or two remarkably nice steers, the best of which was Mr. R. W. Hudson Donesfield's Negro by Kilgraston, bred by his owner, and at a year and ten months pulling up the beam at 12cwt. 0qr. 24 lbs., In symmetry he is about as perfect as it would be possible to have a steer, top and bottom line are both level, and in his breeding and style he is very pleasing, whilst as regards beef he handles first-rate and is filled to the full in all his roasting parts. The second prize was awarded to Mr. J. J. Cridlan's The Black Knight, by Elate, a capitally bred steer and very level in his outline: in beef, too, he handles well, and his weight is a little over that of the winner at a year and nine months old. Mrs. Macpherson obtained the reserve card in the class for a steer by Ellamere, very small, but level in his outline and good quality. A second entry from this herd was also c., and a second entry of Mr. Cridlan's h.c. There were only four entries of cows or heifers of this breed, the best of which was shown by Mr. T. H. Bainbridge and bred by Mr. Archibald White, sired by Melville Castle; this was Neat Nellie, a very level cow and neat and good in her quality for her age, 6 years 10 months; her weight is 15cwt. 3qrs. 7lbs. A very choice second was found in Captain Townshend's Ovina V., bred by Mr. Conachie, and a particularly symmetrical and beautiful heifer, standing close to the ground, handling well, and showing good breed type; she is just a little on the small side, and scales but 14cwt. 1q. 1lb. Mr. J. J. Cridlan was given the reserve card for Mariella by Eimes, a thick fleshed and very useful specimen, and an h.c. was also given to Mr. McIntyre for a neat and good heifer.

The breed cup of this section was pretty readily dealt out to Mr. R. W. Hudson for his first prize junior steer to which Mr. Cridlan's older steer was second.

Galloways.

This breed were not by any means a large display as there were but two entries of each sex, the quality, however, was satisfactory in the weight of the first prize steer, very good, 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 17 lbs., as just under three, this was shown by Mr. J. Pattinson, and is a straight and good quality steer. The Earl of Durham owned the second prize, one also of very good quality for West End purposes, The two heifers were shown, by Mr. Alfred Palmer and Sir John Swinburne, and were placed as named, in symmetry and quality both are satisfactory, but their weights are a little on the light side.

Welsh.

The Black breed of the Principality comes out well at Birmingham. In the class for two-year-old steers, there are 8 exhibits; those are honoured with commendations which had no higher awards, so that the judges appreciated highly this class. The first prize steer of Mr. R. M. Greaves called Twich is very shapely and of high quality. His under line is very straight, his top well covered, and he is altogether a handsome one such as is seldom seen. The second winner exhibited by the Coed Coch Trustees is rather more weighty, scaling at just under 3 years old, 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 27 lb. Mr. R Roberts gets reserve with Glanrafon Boy, lengthy in form and almost as heavy as the second prize one but the weightiest in the class is Mr. Roberts' Larn Boy, his scaling being 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lb. Mr. Wynne's exhibit is likewise 2 lb. over 18 cwt. Seven steers under 2 years compete and also make an excellent class. The first winner in which is Mr. R. Hughes, whose steer carries nice form with chaste flesh lining. He has also a second of like character, which is hc. Mr. R M. Greaves wins second prize with Towyn, which has very straight upper and nether lines, a shapely form well covered. Mr. R. Roberts gets third prize and reserve with animals of the right stamp of good quality and nicely fleshed. This very good class was hc. entire. There were only three heifers in the other class, but very nice ones indeed. Mr. Greaves came to the front with a very symmetrical one, showing rare quality. Mr. R. Hughes' Queen, the second winner, carried an excellent top, and her form has good covering. Waen, belonging to Mr. Greaves, gets Reserve, and is also very shapely with a compactness of a ve itable dumpling character.

Cross-bred Animals.

There is again a large and good entry in this section, several first-class animals standing in the ranks, and many of them as butchers' beasts must be considered quite first rate; in shape, too, they are very good, though as regards champion honours the section this year must decidedly take second place to the pure breeds. Steers above two and not exceeding three years were represented by nine entries, of which Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Midnight Champion steer at Norwich, and still in excellent form, was an excellent first; he scales 16 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. Mr. Peter Dunn followed for second place with another Angus cross of good outline and well finished, and the third prize fell to the Earl of Durham for a heavier bullock than either of the preceding and of similar breeding. Other good ones were Mr. Eiles' reserve and a very nice hc. steer of Sir John Swinburne. Steers of this section not exceeding two years old were a large class, twelve animals being catalogued, and the general quality could not be found fault with. Mr. Charles Emmerson had the best of these in a northern bred shorthorn Angus cross, very small, being but 11 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. at a year and nine months, but his outline and flesh are very pleasing. The Earl of Durham came in second with a much heavier steer of the same cross, and good in symmetry. Captain Townshend was also well represented with a blue-grey of better weight and good shape, and Mr. Hudson's reserve was heaviest of the four and extra good beef; he scales 14 cwt. 2 qr 15 lb. Sir Oswald Morley also takes an hc. for a Galloway and shorthorn cross with quality. Heifers over two and under three years old contained a number of capitally finished beasts. Mr. E. T. Learner's Luxury, that recently championed the entire show at Norwich, was quickly drawn out and held the first place to the finish, the Earl of Durham following with a Galloway and shorthorn cross just half a cwt. heavier and of excellent symmetry and feeding. Mr. Peter Dunn was reserved with another cross of Galloway and shorthorn taking the latter colour, and capitally brought out. Sir John Swinburne and Mr. C. E Morris also obtained minor cards for very useful heifers. The junior section of these was proportionately quite as well represented as the older portion. Mr. R W. Hudson stood at the front with one of the most perfect heifers in the hall of Angus and Dexter cross, taking the type of the former breed and pulling up the beam at 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 5 lbs., a second entry from the same herd also came in second and a very sweet heifer of Miss A. de Rothschild was reserved.

The breed cup of this section was accorded Mr R W. Hudson's first prize steer in the over two years' class, Danesfield Midnight.

Kerrys or Dexters.

The Steer Class for these kindred breeds has five entries. Mr. R. W. Hudson is at the front of it with his tolerably well-known Danesfield Jim of stylish character and chaste quality. Mr. de Bertodano La Mancha Kite, the second winner, has a very handsome appearance likewise. He is red and white in colour, and has not been fed quite so much as the first winner. The Duchess of Newcastle's Hardwick Jack, which gets the Reserve, scales more than either, but devoid of coarseness. The two heifers which appears are Mr. Hudson's Danesfield Jilt and Mr. De Bertodano's Cowbridge Little Nell, both of which display well, and are an honour to the Dexter breed.

Butchers' Prizes.

There were 33 head of these in the two classes. The first of those exceeding 13 cwt., and the other for the remainder, not rich in that limit. In the former are to be found some of the heaviest beasts in the show. Sir W. Corbett, for instance, showed a Red Poll Ox, which weighs 20 cwt.. 2 qrs., 2 lbs., and Mr. H. G. Dennis, of Ruabon, a Shorthorn, 9 lo. heavier. There is also a third in the class over a ton. Mr. E. P. Alexander's cross-bred 20 cwt., 1 qr., 8 lb. This exhibitor's dark grey, nothing like so heavy, obtained second prize, the one put above him for the first premium being Mr. A. B. Dryburg's Aberdeen-Angus from Staffordshire which scales 2lb. over 18 cwt. and stands low to ground, not the most symmetrical beast in the show, but one no doubt attractive to the eyes of butchers. They give three prizes, and the other winner is Mr. Lionel Phillips, who brings from Hants an Aberdeen shorthorn displaying the grey colour with indications of very little waste beef. The reserve is also a blue grey belonging to Mr. W. H. Parsons, Brandon Wood, Coventry. A two-year-old Welsh steer which was a very firm handler was h. c. In the class of less weight the Aberdeen-Angus-Dexter crossbred, La Mancha Dado of Mr. De Bertodano was selected by the knights of the cleaver for their first winner, just the kind of high quality animal with plenty of lean flesh would be approved by them Mr. H. C. Stephens's Highland-Galloway cross, a young cow called Grand Duchess was their selection for second winner, the third being Mr. Hudson's Danesfield's Red Ruby, an Aberdeen-Angus shorthorn which displayed very fully the Poll character. Several others had barren honours.

Extra Stock.

There was an extra stock class for either sex, but only two males appeared, and Mr. Alexander's grey cross-bred being under 3 years, would appear to have been wrongly entered. Mr. C. E. Morris's red-and-white, which received second prize, had a very broad level top, with plenty of substance, and scaled 18cwt. 12lb. The female class had a nice cross-bred heifer belonging to Mr. E. P. Alexander, which was first, Mr Charles Bell bringing from Cheshire a 3-year-old Shorthorn to win second prize, and Mrs. Holland, of Wharton Grange, Salop, getting reserve with one of the Hereford Aberdeen Angus cross.

Below we give our usual table showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning animals:—

Breed and Owner.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
HEREFORDS.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
1 H.M. the King	1,003	2,028	2·02
2 Mr. P. Coats (Sheepcote Wonder)	98.	1,816	1·84
3 Earl of Coventry (Virtuoso)	992	2,120	2·14
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. J. Edwards (Lemc.)	686	1,562	2·27
2 Mr. R Phipps (Beefsteak)	689	1,564	2·25
3 Mr. R. Phipps (Sirloin)	668	1,607	2·40
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1 Mr. E. Caddick (Nora)	985	1,419	1·44
2 H.M. the King (Sophia)	1,033	1,623	1·57
3 Earl of Coventry (Golden Fairy)	1,025	1,936	1·88
SHORTHORNS.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1 Sir J. Swinburne	1,085	1,897	1·74
2 H.M. the King	1,070	1,743	1·62
3 H.M. the King	988	1,995	2·01
(Steers not exceeding 2 years).			
1 H.M. the King	712	1,552	2·17
2 Capt. H. L. Townshend (Cicero)	716	1,562	2·18
3 Mr. J. McWilliam	654	1,544	2·22
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1. H.M. the King (Madeleine)	1,061	1,947	1·82
2. Mr. T. B. Earle (Rockfield Lady 5th)	1,062	1,673	1·58
3. Miss A. de Rothschild (Waddesdon Butterfly)	1,014	1,713	1·69
DEVONS.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1. H.M. the King	1,003	1,671	1·66
2. Earl of Rosebery (Nelson)	976	1,822	1·86
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1. Viscount Portman (Reggie)	703	1,272	1·80
2. Earl of Rosebery (Togo)	658	1,206	1·83
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1. H.M. the King (Dewdrop)	1,040	1,466	1·41
2 Lord Calthorpe (Miss Lyddon 7th)	1,030	1,312	1·27
ABERDEEN ANGUS.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1 Mr. J. J. Cridlan (Black Prince)	1,028	1,836	1·78
2 Mr. T. B. Earle (Drax)	1,081	1,785	1·65
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Negro)	671	1,368	2·03
2 Mr. J. J. Cridlan (The Black Knight)	642	1,389	2·16
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1 Mr. T. H. Bainbridge (Neat Nellie)	2,493	1,771	0·71
2 Capt. Townshend (Ovina 5th)	1,051	1,597	1·51
GALLOWAY.			
(Steers not exceeding 4 years.)			
1 Mr. J. Pattinson	1,081	1 865	1·72
2 Earl of Durham (Hairy)	1,047	1,568	1·49
COWS OR HEIFERS			
1 Mr. A. Palmer (Meg)	1,074	1,468	1·39
2 Sir J. Swinburne	1,047	1,403	1·34
WEST HIGHLAND.			
(Oxen or Steers of any age.)			
1 Sir J. Swinburne (Ben)	1,642	1,821	1·23
2 Earl of Durham (Tom)	1,581	1,973	1·24
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1 Mr. H. C. Stephens	1,337	1,445	1·08
2 Mr. H. C. Stephens	2,093	1,525	0·72
WELSH.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. M. Greaves (Twich)	1,047	1,809	1·78
2 The Coed Coch Trustees (Garlley)	1,054	2,015	1·85
(Steers not exceeding 2 years),			
1 Mr. R. Hughes	719	1,681	2·33
2 Mr. R. M. Greaves (Towyn)	721	1,616	2·24
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1 Mr. R. M. Greaves (Waen)	1,084	1,939	1·78
2 Mr. R. Hughes (Queen)	1,017	1,590	1·56
CROSSBRED.			
(Steers over 2 and under 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Midnight)	1,075	1,854	1·72
2 Mr. P. Dunn (Weaver)	1,028	1,833	1·78
3 Earl of Durham (Johnnie)	1,040	1,889	1·81
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. C. Emmerson	662	1,335	2·00
2 Earl of Durham (Mathew)	647	1,413	2·18
3 Capt. H. L. Townshend (Jardy)	669	1 500	2·14
(Heifers over 2 and under 3 years)			
1 Mr. E. T. Learner (Luxury)	1,010	1,572	1·55
2 Earl of Durham (Rose)	978	1,638	1·67
(Heifers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Honey Bee)	700	1,433	2·04
2 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Ruby Lass II.)	723	1,487	2·05
3 Miss A. de Rothschild (Waddesdon Primrose)	683	1,408	2·06
KERRYS OR DEXTERS.			
(Steers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. W. B. Greenfield (Tom Thumb)	791	738	0·93
2 Mr. B. de Bertodano (La Mancha Kite)	817	826	1·01
COWS OR HEIFERS.			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jilt)	1,044	1,005	0·96
2 Mr. B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Little Nell)	851	913	1·19

SHEEP

In the peculiar arrangements of Birmingham the wethers are all penned together, and the lambs of the different breeds together, instead of the sections being according to breed. The wethers were judged first, and in the class for Southdowns His Majesty the King had a similar triumph to Norwich in winning both first and second premiums, to which the Earl of Ellesmere's pen was placed reserve. Seldom, if ever, have three more beautiful pens appeared at a Birmingham show. The Shropshire wethers were a splendid collection, the two pens of the executors of the late P. L. Mills having nice matching character and proving good handlers. Mr. R. P. Cooper's reserve pen was the heaviest in the class, 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 22 lb. Next came the Oxfordshires, and Mr. James T. Hobbs won with a grand pen which pulled down the scales to 2 cwt. 1 qr. Miss Alice de Rothschild obtained the second premium with fine, upstanding lengthy sheep, not of the substance of the Maiseyhampton ones. Nor were Mr. James Horlick's third prize ones so weighty, although both pens for the matter of that were sufficiently fat. The other pen, which belonged to Mr. John Hazel Stoke, Lyne, Oxon, received reserve, they scaled 7 cwt, 3 qrs. Hampshire wethers occupied 6 pens, and the judges, after awarding the two prizes to Mr. James Flower and Mr. T. F. Buxton, and giving also reserve to the latter, awarded h.c.'s. to other pens belonging to Sir W. G. Pearce and Mr. Flower, and commended the remaining one. Seldom has such an even collection of high quality competed together. Cross-bred fat wethers, were the last class of the section, in which Mr. Rush came to the front with his Norwich winners, Mr. Norman Hague following with his Oxford Shropshires. The former scaled 7 cwt., 2 qr., 11 lb., the latter, 7 cwt, 1 qr., 15 lb.

Lambs of nearly all the breeds were of extremely high merit. Seven pens of Southdowns had been entered, but Mr. Adeane's two pens did not turn up, and the competition was restricted to the King's two pens and those of Mr. C. H. Berners, the Earl of Ellesmere, and the Duke of Devonshire. The King's chief pen was 2 lb. over 4 cwt., and this was the heaviest in the class. There were seven pens of Shropshires, Capt. Townshend's being selected for a front, which was not the heaviest, this being the second prize one bred by the late P. L. Mills, the third pen being from the same flock, and only 2 lb. less weight. Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., won Reserve, and two pens sent by Lady de Rothschild were c. The Oxfordshire lambs, of which there were 6 pens, came out exceedingly well. The pen of Mr. W. H. Lovell, Stanwick Manor, Wellingboro', weight 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 27 lbs, and at this great weight were also very good otherwise, so that first prize was awarded them. The second pen of Mr. H. W. Stilgoe was noteworthy for good shape and quality rather than substance, and for those characteristics obtained second prize, the third going to Mr. James Horlick for a pen, the scaling of which was 5 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs. Mr. J. G. Hobbs, who had also a nice pen obtained Reserve. In the Hampshire class which had no fewer than nine entries, only one fell under 5 cwt., the weightiest being 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 5 lb. This was the second prize one of Mr. A. C. Hall, Great Rollright, Chipping Norton. First prize was worthily awarded to Mr. James Flower, whose lambs were of beautiful character, scaling 5 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. Mr. T. F. Buxton had two very nice pens of even matching character, which were third and h.c.; Mr. H. C. Stephens getting reserve. The cross-breds, which had six pens, were headed by that of Mr. T. Rush, which won the special prize at Norwich. The pen scaled 5 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. Those of Mr. H. C. Stephens, which won the second and third premiums, were of the Shropshire-Hampshire cross, and of exceedingly nice character, one of the pens scaling 27 lb. over 5 cwt.

The mangels were of stupendous size, and some also were exceedingly weighty, while others, on being sounded, seemed hollow. The first class in this department is always what is termed Proctor and Ryland's Prize, the lots competing for it having to be of two kinds of mangels, shown along with swedes. Mr. John Percy, Oswaldkirk, won the first prize, as also did he the two silver cups given by Messrs. Webb and Sons for the best sample of their Mammouth Long Red and the best of their Yellow varieties, either Globe Intermediate or Tankard. Mr. Thomas Penn, Worminghall, Oxon, came reserve to Mr. Perry in these three classes. In the Open Class for Long Mangels, Mr. Lefeuvre brought from the Island of Jersey the first winner grown from Carter's seeds. Mr. John Perry, before mentioned, was second with Webbs. In the Open Class comprehending other varieties of mangels, Mr. Thomas Penn had the honour of being first with Webb's Globe kind and Mr. John Perry won the second premium with the same variety; three or four other lots in the Class getting notice, among which were good roots grown by Lady Wantage of Sutton's Golden Tankard Mr. J. Perry got another first prize for kohl rabi grown from Webb's seeds and he also won the second prize, the green and purple varieties being both shown. The reserve was of Sutton's variety shown by the Walthamstow District Council.

The silver cup for the best specimens of Webb's Imperial swedes brought only a single exhibit but Mr. John Perry's roots which won it were very good In the Open Class which had twenty entries, Messrs. Shaw and Clay, Watnall, Notts, won with grand specimens grown from Webb's seeds, Mr. J. H. Wilkinson of the neighbourhood of Birkenhead, winning the second premium with very fine, shapely roots with a variety not mentioned. Two other exhibits which were H.c. were those of Mr. Wm. Bone from Scotland and Mr. John Perry, both being of Webb's varieties. The Duke of Portland carried all before him in the classes for white fleshed and yellow-fleshed turnips, and they were of Sutton's celebrated varieties. They could scarcely have been of more symmetrical shape in an ideal pictorial representation of what a turnip ought to be. The Earl of Dartmouth, as well as Mr. John Perry, won barren honours with Webb's varieties, which also very shapely and of high merit.

In the two classes for carrots and in that for ox cabbage, the Duke of Portland was quite as successful as in those for common turnips. He appears credited with all the prizes. His white Belgian carrots were very large yet of good quality, and his long red ones were very tapering and shapely with beautiful skins. His Grace grows cabbages of a kind called Barron's, of immense size and weight, but those at Birmingham are very sound-hearted. Two other good lots of cabbages which were h.c. were those grown by Mr. John Perry from Webb's seeds, and those of Mr. O. Roberts of Sutton's. Potatoes were in a large number of classes but had not so many competitors as usual, Mr. D. A. Wells from Warwickshire, and Mr. Stephen T. Parker from Lancashire, Mr. Benjamin Parker also from Lancashire and Mr. Francis Williams of Thornbury, Glasgow, were the winners in the first four classes which were for 12, 6 and 4 varieties of distinct kinds respectively. In the class of 4 varieties suitable for field culture, The Duke of Portland competed and carried off first prize, the second being won by Mr. Francis Williams. In the class for a single variety of the Long or Kidney shape, the Duke was again first exhibiting his new *Shirwood* specimen, which is of very beautiful shape extremely uniform, with a nice delicate skin. It is stated to be of nice edible quality and ought to be one of the most highly appreciated potatoes of the future. Mr. Wills who was second came first in the class for single round varieties, Mr. Benjamin Parker getting the second premium. For the most handsome dish of any variety, the Duke of Portland was first and also for the best new variety not yet in commerae. Of course the latter was the celebrated *Shirwood* above referred to.

Pigs.

The pig classes were well filled with pigs that are tending towards the everyday requirements of the English provision trade that is the fining down of coarse shoulders and the substitution of flesh for fat, and this was most noticeable throughout all the classes. The Berkshires were very fine indeed in the class for twos not exceeding nine months old. Mr. Beryfield was first with a few of superb quality, they had nice backs, good loins, and well let down hams, this pew was somewhat closely run by Mr. J. A. Ricker's pair that was nearly equal in all respects except size. Mr. Alfred Brown was reserve with a pair scarcely so well finished as their breeder usually exhibits them. There was a rather larger class for Berkshires exceeding nine and under twelve months old. Lord Calthorpe here drew to the fore with a pair that were as straight along the back as though moulded, carried their heads well, and could also more freely dispute the amount of weight they carried on their small amount of bone. Second prize went to Mr. Arthur Hiscock with a nice quality pair, but smaller; Mr. Alfred Brown was placed third with pigs that were not quite so symmetrical forward, the reserve going to Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield, whose pigs did not quite show themselves to advantage before the eye of the judge. Tamworths had a most decided look up as regards quality, and new blood is evidently winning its way. In the younger class first prize went to an excellent pen. These pigs had length, with capital loins, considerable depth, but they draped somewhat hastily at the end. The second prize also went to a very similar pair, also sent by Mr. Thomas Mathers, out of the heart of the Tamworth country. The reserve went to Mr. Robert Ibbotson with pigs that would command the attention of a butcher anywhere.

In the older class the competition was even keener, and the Tamworth men rejoiced greatly at the pig championship, which honsists of the Hotel and Inkeeper's Challenge Cup, falling to this breed. The fortunate winner was Mr. Robert Ibbotson, who sent a pair of the real colour. They were very long and deep in the chhice meat, had rare hams, and were full of quality, both from a breeders as well as a feeders point of view, and this pen was supported by another pen from the same yard that secured the second prize. The reserve card was given to Mr. W. H. Mitchell's pair, that though they had excellent coats were not really so good beneath them as were the others, and it was nearly a question whether the judge might not have placed Mr. H. R. Stock's highly commended den up into reserve position, especially so when viewed in the pens.

Produce Classes.

The exhibits of corn, roots, and potatoes were all alike of great merit in the Birmingham competition of Saturday. Barley had 10 exhibits, and the first prize sample of Mr. James Poulton, from Herefordshire, of Garton's Standwell variety was a very prime malting one, as were the two exhibits of Mr. Wm H Hill, Claverley, Wolverhampton, and Mr. F. Horne, Salter's Hall, Bobbington, Stourbridge, the second and reserve ones, both of which were of Webb's Kinver Chevalier kind.

There were two large classes of White and Red Wheat. Mr. F. A. Horwood, White Waltham, Maidenhead, was first for White with Carter's Rough Chaff, Mr. F. Folley, Bledlow, Prince's Risboro', getting second prize with Webb's and Mr. W. Avery, farming in the same parish, was h.c., also with Webb's. The reserve sample of Mr. J. H. R. Horwood, Drayton Beauchamp, was, however, of Carter's Standup. There were no fewer than fifteen exhibits of Red Wheat, and Mr. F. A. Smith, East Hendred, Berks, was first with one of Webb's varieties. Among the others that were noticed were two of a sort termed Squarehead's Master, shown by Mr. John Smith, Lea Marston, Birmingham, and Mr. W. Mitchell, Kirby Bedon, Norfolk.

The Oats were divided into two classes for White and Black. Mr. H. J. Daine, Huyton, Liverpool, had first for White Oats with Garton's Abundance, Mr. Thomas Frith, Rainhill, getting second prize with the same variety, and Mr. J. Horne being reserve with one of Webb's varieties. Mr. Thos. Frith came to the front for Black Oats with Garton's Excelsior. Mr. T. C. Lindsay exhibiting the second sample, a sort not stated from Ayrshire. Mr. J. H. R. Horwood received reserve for Carters. The Beans and Peas were very even matching in their samples. The first prize and reserve one for Beans of Mr. D. H. Wells and Mr. J. L. Brooks were of Webb's Tick variety. Mr. Jas. Collings also won second prize with a Tick sample. For Peas, Mr. F. A. Horwood won both prizes, the first with Blue, and the second with White ones.

JUDGES.

HEREFORDS, DEVONS, WELSH KERRIES, AND EXTRA STOCK.—John Chick, Compton Valence, Dorchester; A. P. Turner, The Leen, Pembridge, Herefordshire.

SHORTHORNS, SCOTS, AND CROSSES.—H. Lindsay, Deanbank House, Glamis; R. Wright, Nocton Heath, Lincoln.

BUTCHERS' PRIZES—CATTLE.—E. A. Lewis, Hockley Hill, Birmingham; David Rose, Junior, Hamstead Road, Birmingham; S. C. Willis, City Meat Market, Birmingham.

SHEEP.—CARY COLES, Manor House, Winterbourne Stoke, Salisbury; G. F. Hempson, Good Hall, Ardleigh; T. S. Minton, Montford, Shrewsbury.

PIGS.—Colonel F. A. Walker-Jones, Manor House, Burton, Westmoreland. Butchers' Prizes—Pigs.—John P. Flood, Bordesley Street, Birmingham; John Morgan, Digbeth, Birmingham.

CORN.—J. E. Mitchell, Cape Hill, Smethwick, Birmingham; Norman H. Todd, Blythewood, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

ROOTS.—J. Keen, Hill Top, Longdon, Rugeley; L. Willdey, Dunton, Minworth, Birmingham.

POTATOES.—A. E. Drewett, Canwell Gardens, Sutton Coldfield; W. Halliday, Patshull Gardens, Wolverhampton.

Champion and Special Prizes.

PIGS.

The Breeders' Champion Prize.—A Silver Cup or £25 is offered as a champion prize for the best animal in Classes 1 to 25: H.M. the King (Hereford Steer); r., (Shorthorn heifer Madeline).

The Elkington Challenge Cup.—A Silver Challenge Cup, value one hundred guineas, to the exhibitor of the best animal in Classes 1 to 25, to be won three years by the same person before becoming the property of the winner: H.M. the King (as above).

The Thorley Challenge Cup, value 100 guineas, for the best animal in Classes 1 to 25: H.M. the King as above.

The Webb Challenge, value 100 guineas, for the best animal in Classes 1 to 25, bred by exhibitor: H.M. the King (as above).

The "Birmingham Daily Post" Challenge Cup, value £50, to the exhibitor of the best animal, not exceeding two years old, in the Hereford, Shorthorn, Devon, Scotch, Welsh, Crossbred, and Kerry Classes: Mr. R. W. Hudson (crossbred heifer Danesfield Honey Bee); r., ditto (Aberdeen Angus steer Danesfield Negro).

The Maisemore Park Challenge Cup.—A Silver Challenge Cup, value £50, for the best Aberdeen Angus animal in Classes 10, 11, and 12: Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Negro).

An extra prize of a Silver Cup, value ten guineas, is offered for the heaviest beast in the show: H. D. Dennis (weight 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.).

An extra prize of £50 (in addition to the class prize) is offered for the best Hereford in Classes 1 to 3: H.M. the King (Class 1.); r., Hon. F. G. Wynn (Bodvean Primrose, Class 3).

An extra prize of £50 (in addition to the class prize) is offered for the best Shorthorn in Classes 4 to 6: H.M. the King (Madeline); r., Mr. T. B. Earle (Rockfreed Lady 5th).

An extra prize of £20 (in addition to the class prize) is offered for the best Devon in Classes 7 to 9; H.M. the King (Class 7); r., ditto (Class 9).

An extra prize of £50 (in addition to the class prize)

is offered for the best Scot in Classes 10 to 16 inclusive: Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Negro); r., Mr. J. J. Cridlan (The Black Knight).

An extra prize of £10 is offered for the best animal in Classes 17 to 19: Mr. R. W. Greaves (Welsh steer Twitch); r., Mr. R. Hughes (Welsh steer, Class 18).

An extra prize of £30 (in addition to the class prize) is offered for the best Crossbred in Classes 20 to 23 inclusive: Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Midnight); r., Mr. E. T. Learner (Luxury).

An extra prize of Five Guineas for the heaviest beast in Class 26: Mr. H. D. Dennis (20 cwt. 2 qrs., 11 lbs.).

SHEEP.

The Cooper Challenge Cup, value 25 guineas, for the best pen of sheep in Classes 30 to 39: Mr. James Flower (Hampshire Lambs); r., H.M. the King (Southdown wethers).

An extra prize of a Silver Cup, value five guineas, is offered for the best pen of Oxford-shires in Classes 32 or 37: Mr. W. H. Lovell; r., ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

An extra prize of two guineas for the heaviest pen of lambs in Classes 35 to 39: Mr. W. H. Lovell (5 cwt. 3 qrs. 27 lbs.).

PIGS.

A Silver Challenge Cup, value 20 guineas, for the best pen of pigs in Classes 40 to 48: Mr. R. Ibbotson (Tamworths), Class 45); r., Mr. A. Hiscock, junior (Large Whites, Class 46).

Class Prizes.

HEREFORDS.

Class 1.—Hereford steers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, His Majesty the King, Windsor; 2, Peter Coats, Sheepcote, Clifford, Herefordshire (Sheepcote Wonder); 3, Earl of Coventry, Croome Court, Worcester (Virtuoso); r., Peter Coats (Sheepcote Monarch); h.c., W. H. Cooke, Stanford Bridge, Worcester (Ruler); c., W. H. Cooke (Wilton 4th).

Class 2.—Hereford steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, James Edwards, Court House, Pembridge (Lemco); 2, Richard Phipps, Buckenhill, Bromyard (Beefsteak); 3, Richard Phipps (Sirloin); r., W. H. Evans, Pembridge, R.S.O.; h.c., Earl of Coventry (Bright Day), A. E. Hughes, Wintercott, Leominster (Prelate), and His Majesty the King; c., Earl of Coventry, Croome Court, Worcester (Golden King and Gold Coin), G. D. Faber, M.P., Rush Court, Walingford, Hon. F. G. Wynn, Bodvean Hall, Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire (Bodvean Hero and Bodvean Rufus).

Class 3.—Hereford cows or heifers: 1, Hon. F. G. Wynn (Bodvean Primrose); 2, His Majesty the King (Sophia); 3, Earl of Coventry (Golden Fairy); r., Edward Caddick, Edgbaston, Birmingham (Nora).

SHORTHORNS.

Class 4.—Shorthorn steers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, Sir John Swinburne, Bart., Capheaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; 2 and 3, His Majesty the King; r., Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart., Rolleston Hall, Burton-on-Trent; h.c., T. B. Earle, Aldbro' Hall, Darlington (Coral Prince).

Class 5.—Shorthorn steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, His Majesty the King; 2, Captain H. L. Townshend, Caldecote Hall, Nuneaton (Cicero); 3, James McWilliam, Stoneytown, Mulben, N.B.; r., Lord Tredegar, Tredegar Park, Newport, Mon. (Prize Boy II.); h.c., Lord Calthorpe, Elvetham Park, Winchfield; c., Sir John Swinburne and Miss Alice de Rothschild, Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury (Waddesdon White Orchid).

Class 6.—Shorthorn cows or heifers: 1, His Majesty the King (Madeleine); 2, T. B. Earle (Rockfield Lady 5th); 3, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Waddesdon Butterfly); r., Sir Oswald Mosley (Lofty of Rolleston); h.c., Lord Tredegar (Lady Llangibby); c., Lord Tredegar (Tulip 20th).

DEVONS.

Class 7.—Devon steers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, His Majesty the King; 2, Earl of Rosebery, Mentmore, Leighton Buzzard (Nelson).

Class 8.—Devon steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Viscount Portman, Bryanston, Blandford (Reggie); 2, Earl of Rosebery (Togo); r., Hon. Claud B. Portman, Child-Okeford Manor, Blandford, Dorset (Farewell).

Class 9.—Devon cows or heifers: 1, His Majesty the King (Dewdrop); 2, Lord Calthorpe (Miss Lyddon 7th); r., Viscount Portman (Fessie).

PURE SCOTCH BREEDS.

Class 10.—Pure-bred Polled Aberdeen-Angus steers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, J. J. Cridlan (Black Prince); 2, T. B. Earle (Drax); r., R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Cumbrian).

Class 11.—Pure-bred Polled Aberdeen-Angus steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Negro); 2, J. J. Cridlan (The Black Knight); r., Mrs. Macpherson (Norman of Wyrley); h.c., J. J. Cridlan (Ruy Blas); c., Mrs. Macpherson (Punch of Wyrley).

Class 12.—Pure-bred Polled Aberdeen-Angus cows or heifers: 1, T. H. Bainbridge, Eshott Hall, Felton, Northumberland (Neat Nellie); 2, Captain H. L. Townshend, Caldecote Hall, Nuneaton (Ovina 5th); r., J. J. Cridlan (Mariella); h.c., John McIntyre, Theakston Hall, Bedale, Yorks (Pride 7th of Theakston 36618).

Class 13.—Galloway steers, not exceeding four years old: 1, Jonathan Pattinson; 2, Earl of Durham, Lambton Castle, Fence Houses (Harry).

Class 14.—Galloway cows or heifers: 1, Alfred Palmer, Wokefield Park, Mortimer, Berks (Meg); 2, Sir John Swinburne.

Class 15.—Pure-bred West Highland oxen or steers, of any age: 1, Sir John Swinburne (Ben); 2, Earl of Durham (Tom).

Class 16.—Pure-bred West Highland cows or heifers: 1 and 2, H. C. Stephens, Cholderton, Salisbury.

WELSH.

Class 17.—Welsh steers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc (Twich); 2, The Coed Coch Trustees, Llawes-y-Coed Farm, Abergele (Garlley); r., Robert Roberts, Bronygadair, Portmadoc (Glaurafon Boy); h.c., Robert Roberts (Larn Boy); c., R. M. Greaves, Wern, Portmadoc and Hon. F. G. Wynn (Prince William).

Class 18.—Welsh steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Robert Hughes; 2, R. M. Greaves (Towyn); r., Robert Roberts (Cymro); h.c., Hon. F. G. Wynn (Prince of Belan), Robert Hughes (Will), and R. M. Greaves (Twin).

Class 19.—Welsh cows or heifers: 1, R. M. Greaves; 2, Robert Hughes (Queen); r., R. M. Greaves (Waen).

CROSS-BRED ANIMALS.

Class 20.—Cross-bred steers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Midnight); 2, Peter Dunn, Pasture House, Sigglesthorne, Hull (Weaver); 3, Earl of Durham (Johnnie); r., T. B. Earle (Macdonald); h.c., Sir John Swinburne (Joe); c., Miss Alice de Rothschild (Waddesdon Boy Blue).

Class 21.—Cross-bred steers, not exceeding two years old: 1, Charles Emmerson, East Layton, Darlington; 2, Earl of Durham (Mathew); 3, Captain H. L. Townshend (Jardy); r., R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Blue Boy); h.c., Sir Oswald Mosley; c., C. F. Reginael, Porters Park, Shenley, Herts (Erehwon).

Class 22.—Cross-bred heifers, exceeding two and not exceeding three years old: 1, E. T. Learner, Burgh, Aylsham, Norfolk (Luxury); 2, Earl of Durham (Rose); r., Peter Dunn (Pretty Polly); h.c., Sir John Swinburne; c., Charles E. Morris, Wood Eaton Manor, Stafford (Wood Eaton Pigmy and Wood Eaton Pere (2).

Class 23.—Cross-bred heifers, not exceeding two years old: 1 and 2, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Honey Bee and Danesfield Ruby Lass II.); 3, Miss Alice de Rothschild (Waddesdon Primrose); h.c., Thomas Irman Earle, Kirkbridge Aldbro', Darlington.

KERRIES OR DEXTERS.

Class 24. Kerry or Dexter steers, not exceeding three years old: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jim); 2, B. de Bertodano, Cowbridge House, Malmesbury (La Mancha Kite); r., Duchess of Newcastle (Hardwick Jack).

Class 25.—Kerry or Dexter cows or heifers: 1, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jilt); 2, B. de Bertodano (Cowbridge Little Nell).

Class 26. For the best butchers' beast, of any breed or age, exceeding 13 cwt.: 1, Andrew B. Drybrugh, Lovedale, Stafford; 2, E. P. Alexander, Glen-yr-Afon, Holt, Wilts; 3, Lionel Phillips, Tylney Hall, Hook, Hants; r., William Henry Parsons; h.c., Charles E. Morris; c., William Henry Parsons, Brandon Wood, Coventry.

Class 27. For the best butchers' beast, of any breed or age, not exceeding 13 cwt.: 1, B. de Bertodano; 2, Duke of Sutherland; 3, R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Red Ruby); r., J. H. Hartill; h.c., G. D. Smith, Stronsham Court, Worcester (Surprise); c., B. de Bertodano and Sir Reginald Hardy, Dunstall Hall, Burton-on-Trent (Ruby).

EXTRA STOCK, NOT QUALIFIED TO COMPETE IN CLASSES 1 TO 25.

Class 28.—Oxen or Steers, not exceeding four years old: 1, E. P. Alexander; 2, Charles E. Morris.

Class 29.—Cows or heifers, not previously exhibited at the Birmingham Fat Cattle Show: 1, E. P. Alexander; 2, Charles Bell, Norley Hall, Norley; r., Mrs. L. H. Holland, Warton Grange, Newport, Salop.

SHEEP.

WETHER CLASSES.

Class 30.—Three fat Southdown wethers, not exceeding 23 months old: 1, Exors. of the late P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham; 2, Exors. of the late P. L. Mills; 3, A. S. Berry, Church Farm, Wattington, Lichfield; r., R. P. Cooper, Shenstone Court, Lichfield; h.c., Captain H. L. Townshend.

Class 31.—Three fat Shropshire wethers, not exceeding 23 months old: 1 and 2, Exors. of the late P. L. Mills; r., R. P. Cooper; h.c., Captain H. L. Townshend.

Class 32.—Three fat Oxfordshire wethers, not exceeding 23 months old: 1, James T. Hobbs, Maisey Hampton, Fairford, Glos.; 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild; 3, James Horlick, Cowley Manor, near Cheltenham; r., John Hazell, Stoke Lyne, Bicester, Oxon.

Class 33.—Three fat wethers, Hampshire and other Downs, not exceeding 23 months old: 1, James Flower, Chilmark, Salisbury; 2, T. F. Buxton, Waters Place, Ware, Herts; r., T. F. Buxton; h.c., Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., Chilton Lodge, Hungerford, Berks, and James Flower; c., Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart.

Class 34.—Three fat Cross-bred wethers, not exceeding 23 months old: 1, T. Rush, Mitchells, Saffron Walden; 2, Norman Hague, Lillington, Leamington; r., Edward Price, Heath House, Oaken, Wolverhampton.

LAMB CLASSES.

Class 35.—Three fat Southdown wether lambs, lambed in 1905: 1 and 2, H.M. the King; 3, Earl of Ellesmere; r., Duke of Devonshire; h.c., C. H. Berners, Woolverstone Park, Ipswich.

Class 36.—Three fat Shropshire wethers lambs, lambed in 1905: 1, R. P. Cooper; 2, Exors. of the late P. L. Mills, Ruddington Hall, Nottingham; r., Victor C. W. Cavendish, M.P., Holker Hall, Cark-in-Cartmel; h.c., Captain H. L. Townshend; c., Lady de Rothschild, Aston Clinton, Tring (2).

Class 37.—Three fat Oxfordshire wether lambs, lambed in 1905: 1, W. H. Lovell; 2, H. W. Stilgoe, The Grounds, Adderbury, near Banbury; 3, James Horlick; r., James T. Hobbs.

Class 38.—Three fat wether lambs, Hampshire and other Downs, lambed in 1905: 1, James Flower; 2, Sir W. G. Pearce; 3, T. F. Buxton; r., H. C. Stephens; h.c., A. C. Hall, T. F. Buxton, and Sir W. G. Pearce; c., J. G. Williams, Pendley Manor, Tring.

Class 39.—Three fat Cross-bred wether lambs, lambed in 1905: 1, H. C. Stephens; 2, H. C. Stephens; 3, T. Rush; r., William Canning, Debden, Barford, Warwick; c., William Canning and Enoch Bostock.

PIGS.

BERKSHIRES.

Class 40.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Nathaniel Benjafield, Shorts Green Farm, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset; 2, J. A. Fricker, Burton Mere, Wilts; r., Alfred Brown, Hill Farm, Southampton.

TAMWORTHS.

Class 41.—Two fat pigs not exceeding nine months old: 1, Thomas Wathes, Flanders Hall, Hurley, Atherstone; 2, Thomas Wathes; r., Robert Ibbotson, Knowle.

LARGE WHITE BREED.

Class 42.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 2, Alfred Brown; 3, Alfred Hughes, Packwood Grange, Knowle; r., Philip Baker, Mount Cottage Farm, Monkspath, Shirley, near Birmingham.

MIDDLE WHITE OR SMALL WHITE BREEDS.

Class 43.—Two fat pigs, not exceeding nine months old: 1, J. A. Fricker, Burton Mere, Wilts; 2, Nathaniel Benjafield; r., T. Simpson Jay, Warren Farm, Wimbledon.

BERKSHIRES.

Class 44. Two fat pigs, exceeding nine months old and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Lord Calthorpe; 2, Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 3, Alfred Brown; r., Nathaniel Benjafield.

TAMWORTHS.

Class 45.—Two fat pigs, exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1 and 2, Robert Ibbotson; r., W. H. Mitchell; h.c., H. R. Stock, Shelfield Square Farm, Alcester.

LARGE WHITE BREED.

Class 46.—Two fat pigs, exceeding nine months and not exceeding twelve months old.—1, Arthur Hiscock, jun.; 2, John Riddell, Timberley, Castle Bromwich; 3, Alfred Hughes; r., Samuel Green, Hadley Farm, Ombersley, near Droitwich.

MIDDLE WHITE OR SMALL WHITE BREEDS.

Class 47.—Two fat pigs, exceeding nine and not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Samuel Green; 2, Alfred Brown; 3, J. A. Fricker; r., Samuel Green; h.c., W. Midwinter, Highfields, Erdington, near Birmingham.

ANY OTHER PURE BREEDS OR CROSS-BRED.

Class 48. Two fat pigs, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, Kenneth M. Clark, Sudbourne Hall, Orford, Suffolk; 2 and 3, Alfred Brown; r., The Executors of the late P. L. Mills; h.c., J. A. Fricker; h.c., Samuel Green.

THE BUTCHERS' PRIZES.

Class 49. Two fat pigs, not exceeding twelve months old: 1, W. Midwinter; 2, Arthur Hiscock, jun.; r., Alfred Brown.

CORN.

Class 1.—Barley: 1, James Poulton, Strangford Farm, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire (Garton's Standwell); 2, Wm. H. Hill, Claverley, Wolverhampton (Kinver Chevalier); r., F. Horne, Salters Hall, Bobbington, Stourbridge (Webb's); h.c., W. Dyer, Sheibourne House, Edwardstone, Colchester (Webb's); c., T. W. Purser, Tan House, Colnbrook, Slough (Webb's).

Class 2.—White wheat: 1, F. A. Horwood, Bury Court Farm, White Waltham, Maidenhead (Carter's Rough Chaff); 2, F. J. Folley, Westfield Farm, Bledlow, Princes Risborough (Webb's); r., J. H. R. Horwood, Manor Farm Drayton Beauchamp, Tring (Carter's Standup); h.c., W. Avery, Brewhouse Farm, Bledlow, Princes Risborough (Webb's).

Class 3.—Red wheat: 1, F. A. Smith, The Home Farm, East Hendred, Steventon, Berks (Webb's); 2, F. A. Smith (Webb's Standard); r., W. Mitchell, The Vale, Kirby Bedon, Trowse, Norwich (Squarehead's Master); h.c., John Smith, Lea Marston, Birmingham (Squarehead's Master).

Class 4.—White oats: 1, H. S. Daine, Woolfall Hall, Huyton, near Liverpool (Garton's Abundance); 2, Thomas Frith, Rainhill (Garton's Abundance); r., F. Horne, Salters Hall, Bobbington, Stourbridge (Webb's).

Class 5.—Black oats: 1, Thomas Frith, Rainhill (Garton's Excelsior); 2, Thomas C. Lindsay, Aikenbrae, Monkton, Ayrshire; r., J. H. R. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring (Carter's).

Class 6.—Beans: 1, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire (Webb's Tick); 2, James Collins, Bales Farm, Normandy, Guildford (Tick); r., J. L. Brookes, Manor Farm, Uckington, Cheltenham (Webb's).

Class 7.—Peas: 1, F. A. Horwood, Bury Court, White Waltham, Maidenhead (Blue); 2, F. A. Horwood (White); r., J. H. R. Horwood, Manor Farm, Drayton Beauchamp, Tring (White).

ROOTS.

Class 1.—Proctor and Ryland's Prize, for the best collection of three following varieties—viz., Long Mangold Wurzel, Globe Mangold Wurzel, and Swedes—six roots of each to be shown for this prize alone: 1, John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's); r., Thomas Penn, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon (Webb's).

Class 2.—Webb and Sons' Prize for the best six specimens of the Mammoth Long Red Mangold (new and improved selection): 1, John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York; r., L. J. Smith, The Scarr, Newent, Gloucester (Webb's).

Class 3.—Webb and Sons' Prize for the best six specimens of one of the following varieties of Mangolds—namely, New Champion Yellow Globe, Yellow Intermediate, or Yellowfleshed Tankard: 1, John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's New Champion Yellow Globe); r., L. J. Smith, The Scarr, Newent, Gloucester (Webb's).

Class 4.—Long Mangold Wurzel: 2, Thomas Penn, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon (Webb's); r., Philip Le Feuvre, Morville House, Trodez, St. Owens, Jersey (Carter's); h.c., John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's).

Class 5.—Globe and Intermediate Varieties of Mangold Wurzel: 1, Thomas Penn, Worminghall, Thame, Oxon (Webb's Globe); 2, John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's Yellow Globe); r., Philip Le Feuvre, Morville House, Trodez, St. Owens, Jersey (Carter's Yellow Intermediate); h.c., John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's Yellow Intermediate); c., L. J. Smith, The Scarr, Newent, Glos. (Carter's Golden Tankard); J. L. Brookes, Manor Farm, Uckington, Cheltenham (Webb's).

Class 6.—Kohl Rabi.—1 and 2, John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's Green); r., Walthamstow Urban District Council, Walthamstow (Sutton's).

Class 7.—Swedes.—Messrs. Webb's and Sons' Prize for the best six specimens of the Imperial Swede: 1, John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's).

Class 8.—Swedes of any variety: 1, Shaw and Clay, Hall Farm, Watnall, Notts (Webb's); 2, J. H. Wilkinson, Poplar Farm, Saughall Massie, Birkenhead; r., John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's Arctic); h.c., William Bone, Shalloch Park, Girvan, N.B. (Webb's); c., Shaw and Clay, Hall Farm, Watnall, Notts (Webb's).

Class 9.—Common Turnips, White Flesh: 1, W. Watts, Sheep Court, Bonvilstone, Cardiff (Sutton's Green Globe); 2, Duke of Portland, Welbeck Abbey, Worksop (Sutton's); r., John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's); h.c., Earl of Dartmouth, Patshull, Wolverhampton (Webb's Green Globe); c., John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's).

Class 10.—Common Turnips, Yellow Flesh: 1 and 2, Duke of Portland, Welbeck Abbey, Worksop (Sutton's); r., W. Pringle, Temple Farm, Gorebridge, N.B. (Webb's); c., Earl of Dartmouth, Patshull, Wolverhampton (Webb's Invincible).

Class 11.—Carrots, White Belgian: 1, 2, and r., Duke of Portland.

Class 12.—Carrots, any other variety: 1, 2, and r., Duke of Portland; c., Thomas Penn, Wormingham, Thame, Oxon (Webb's Red).

Class 13.—Ox Cabbage: 1 and 2, Duke of Portland; r., John Perry, The Grange, Oswaldkirk, York (Webb's); c., O. Roberts, Willington Lodge, Tarporley (Sutton's).

POTATOES.

Class 14.—Twelve varieties, distinct: 1 and 2, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire; 3, Benjamin Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster.

Class 15.—Six varieties, distinct: 1, Stephen T. Parker, 15, Ashforth Road, Scotforth, Lancaster; 2 and 3, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Class 16.—Four varieties, distinct, two white and two coloured: 1, Francis Williams, High Street, Thornbury, R.S.O., Glos.; 2, Stephen T. Parker, 15, Ashford Road, Scotforth, Lancaster; 3, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Class 17.—Four varieties, distinct, most suitable for field or farm culture: 1, Duke of Portland; 2 and 3, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Class 18. Two varieties, distinct, long or kidney shaped: 1, Duke of Portland; 2, Benjamin Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster; 3, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Class 19.—Two varieties, distinct, round: 1 and 2, Duke of Portland; 3, Francis Williams, High Street, Thornbury, R.S.O., Glos.

Class 20.—One variety, long or kidney shaped: 1, Duke of Portland; 2, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Class 21.—One variety, round: 1, Benjamin Parker; 2, Stephen T. Parker, Scotforth, Lancaster.

Class 22.—The most handsome dish, any variety: 1, Duke of Portland; 2, D. H. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire.

Class 23.—The best new variety, not yet offered in commerce: 1, H. D. Wells, Tysoe, Kineton, Warwickshire; 2, Francis Williams, High Street, Thornbury, R.S.O., Glos.

Lord Tredegar's.

The annual show held at Newport, Monmouth, and promoted by Lord Tredegar, is always an interesting event, and so it proved last week. It has been annually organised by his lordship for a very long period and intended primarily for the advancement of agriculture and stock breeding in the district, but entries are now attracted from a very wide area, and the show is getting to big dimensions. There were nearly 1,800 entries, and though in some classes there was a falling off, yet in others the entries showed an increase on last year; whilst the quality of the animals shown was fully up to the standard maintained at these annual exhibitions, many of the winners having distinguished themselves at the Royal, the Bath and West, and other well-known shows. The judges were as follows:—Shorthorns, Messrs. J. A. Preece, Thrapston, and T. H. Hutchinson, Catterick; Herefords, Messrs. T. S. Minton, Shrewsbury, and Francis Evans, Bredwardine; without regard to breed, Messrs. T. H. Hutchinson, Catterick, and Francis Evans, Bredwardine; cattle championships and referee, Mr. Samuel Kidner, Milverton, Somerset; sheep (short wool) and pigs, Messrs. Samuel Kidner, Milverton, Somerset, and T. R. Hulbert, Evesham; mountain sheep, Mr. W. S. Miller, Forest Lodge, Brecon. The Shorthorns were, generally speaking, probably the best collection that has ever been seen at Newport, the only fault being that, after treatment for show purposes during the whole of the summer, some of the animals were a little too fat. Mr. Richard Stratton, the well-known Monmouthshire agriculturist, took the honours for the best old bull with that noted animal Great Mogul, which was a winner at the Bath and West and the Hereford and Worcester Shows, and also at the Royal. He has a remarkably fine head and legs, is of good length, and walks very well. The second, Elevetham Monarch, belonging to Lord Calthorpe, is a fine massive bull with plenty of bone, and this was by no means the first time he had taken a card. The whole class was a good one, and the work of the judges was far from being a sinecure. Great Mogul was also reserve champion, but on previous occasions he has taken the premier honour.

The bull calves were strong in number and quality, and the winner of the blue ribbon was Bapton Viceroy, belonging to that well-known breeder Mr. J. Deane Willis, of Codford, Wilts. He is an animal of fine proportions, and will doubtless make a great name during the next few years. Alastair the Second, the property of the Earl of Powis, is also a grand specimen of the breed, and it was a hard task to judge between him and Bapton Viceroy. Mr. Deane Willis also carried off the championship plate for the best male animal in the show with Bapton Viceroy. White Heather, also belonging to Mr. Willis, was first in the milking cow class, and also won the female championship prize. This is the third time in succession she has won the latter distinction at this show. Lord Tredegar had the best two-year-old heifer in Lady Llangibby, and the prize for the best yearling went to Mr. Fred. Phillips.

Although the Herefords were beaten in the champion classes, the entries included some of the best-known show animals, and the section altogether was exceptionally strong. Endale, belonging to Mr. Peter Coats, beat all opposition in the old bull class, being an easy winner. Captain Heygate added to his long list of successes with Cameronian in the yearling class. Mr. Rees Keene's Rugby, which has won at all the big shows, was once more the best bull calf shown. Mr. Coats also carried off the honours in the cow class with Dolly. The calves were an exceptionally strong lot, and the heifer shown by Mr. W. Thomas, of Sully, Barry, is a very promising youngster. Steers, of any breed, were a very fine lot, and the pair shown by Lord Tredegar were good enough for any company.

In the sheep classes Hampshires were mostly the winners. Mr. J. Matthews, Winterbourne, Bristol, showed the best ram lamb, the best three ewe lambs, and the best three fat wether lambs. Pigs were a good all-round sample. Walton Trader and Walton Baroness 14th took honours for Mr. C. D. Phillips, of Newport, in the white breed classes; and the successful exhibitors in the black breed section were Mr. J. Jefferson, Peel Hall, Chester, and Mr. J. G. Talfourd Inman, Highmoor Hall, Henley-on-Thames. There was a very fine poultry exhibit, which included several of the cup winners at the recent Crystal Palace Show.

The horse section was a very good one, and a marked improvement on that seen here a few years ago. In the heavy classes some magnificent animals were shown, and altogether the section was the finest ever seen at this show. In the light horse section, although some excellent animals were shown, the quality generally was not up to expectations. The chief prizes in the cart horse classes went to Sir P. A. Muntz, of Dunsmore, and Sir A. Henderson, M.P., of Faringdon, Berks. Dewstow Pioneer was a good winner in the county class, beating Mr. H. O. Fisher's Lockinge Great Heart by a good number of points. The Dunsmore blood was to the fore in the two-year-old class and the yearling class, but in the cart mare class Sir A. Henderson's Ivy Fashion, a well-known winner, added yet one more to her long list of successes. Quality, a Royal and Bath and West winner, took honours for the Dunsmore Stud in the two-year-old cart filly class; but in the yearling class, Sir P. A. Muntz had to stand second to Sir A. Henderson's Buscot Phantasy, a ruling which has been observed through the kingdom this season. In the local classes there were also some very fine exhibits. In the light classes the results at Weston, Abergavenny, and Monmouth were generally upheld; but it was noticeable that on this occasion Balmoral, belonging to Colonel the Hon. F. C. Morgan, M.P., was not ticketed.

The judging of the heavy and light-weight matured hunters took place in the usual manner on the first day of the show over the course mapped out for them on Lord Tredegar's stud farm at Coedkernew, where the ground was in very good form. There was a large company present, and the proceedings were witnessed with considerable interest although there were but few incidents to carse much excitement. The jumps were pretty stiff, and included water, timber, ordinary and double fences, and banks, but the majority of the animals did well.

Chichester.

The feature of the fat stock show held at Chichester last week was the high-class quality of the stock, and, though the numbers were not quite up to some previous years, it can be safely asserted that the display was the best ever seen here. The cattle entries showed the greatest falling off in numbers, this being due to the show clashing with that at Horsham, but, as already stated, the quality was excellent. The honour of taking the champion prize for the best beast fell to Mr. R. L. Batchelor, of Greatham, Pulborough, who obtained the distinction with an Aberdeen-Angus heifer, two years eleven months and two weeks old, bred by the exhibitor—a beautifully shaped animal, which was fifteen to twenty stone heavier than it looked, even in the eyes of an expert. The sheep numbered only one pen short of last year, and the quality was unusually high. For the fourth year in succession the Duke of Richmond and Gordon was awarded the special prize for the best pen in the show—a pen of three fat wether sheep about 21 months old, which reached the height of perfection.

The show of lambs was a fairly large one, and here, too, the competition was very keen and of high order. Mrs. Montefiore, of Crawley, secured the premier awards for both kinds of wether lambs, with splendid pens. There were rather more pigs than last year, but all the prizes in this section went to Mr. W. M. Christy, of Watergate, who made a clean sweep of the board. An increase was also to be noted in the roots, a feature of which were the very large yellow globe and golden tankard mangold wurzel. The poultry and corn classes were also well maintained, although the entries for the former numbered rather fewer than last year.

Chippenham.

The seventieth annual show at Chippenham took place in the Market Yard last week. The number of entries showed a slight falling off compared with last year, but the numbers in the cattle classes were above the average. The classes for young stock were unusually well represented, and included Bapton Viceroy, for which Mr. Willis the previous day refused 1,000 gs. There was practically no competition in the sheep classes; and the pig classes, with the exception of that for pairs of bacon pigs, were weak. There were, however, some very promising young animals shown in the horse classes.

Ripon Martinmas Fair was held on Thursday, when there was a large show of bullocks and stirks, as well as heifers and calving cows, but very little trade was done, buyers being scarce, and there being an unwillingness to do business at prices quoted. Two-year-old bullocks, £9; one-and-a-half-years ditto, £7; stirks, £5 10s.; heifers according to age and quality, £7 to £10; calving and milking cows, £16 to £19.

Louth Fair was held on Thursday, and was well attended. There was only a small supply of store stock, which met a slow trade. Drapes, £10 to £13; young drapes, £14; dairy cows, £18 to £24; heifers, £17 to £18; and two-year-old steers, £14. Messrs. Dickinson, Riggall, and Davy sold by auction 20 steer calves for Mr. H. Whitworth, Oxcombe, which averaged £7 7s., the top price being £8 5s., a yearling bull making 15¾ guineas. Shearling sheep made up to 54 shillings in Messrs. J. Taylor and Son's auction, hoggs realising up to 48s., other hoggs averaging about 45s. Some good lambs were sold by Mr. J. Farrow, Strubby, at 44s. 6d. each. A slow trade was experienced in the horse fair, cart colts making 13 guineas to 18¾ guineas.

Derby and the Royal Show.

The first meeting of the committee recently appointed to supervise the local arrangements for the Royal Show at Derby in June next, took place at the Guildhall, Derby on Wednesday. The Duke of Devonshire presided, and there was a large attendance.

The Mayor proposed that a fund for defraying the expenses for which the committee was responsible be opened; that the various banks be asked to receive subscriptions; and that a circular letter be issued in the names of the Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire, the High Sheriff of Derbyshire, the Mayor of Derby, the Chairman of the County Council, and the Chairman of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, inviting contributions to the fund. It was quite necessary that the committee should raise not less than £5,500. They had gone into the matter very carefully, and did not see how they could do with less than that amount. He had much pleasure in announcing that up to the present £1,800 had been promised to the committee. (Applause.)

Alderman Oakes seconded the proposition.

The Town Clerk read a letter from Sir Oswald Mosley, in which he said he would subscribe £100 towards the local fund, and at the turn of the year would give a £50 donation to the Royal Agricultural Society, in addition to an annual subscription of £25. He hoped that all farmers would subscribe their guineas annually, and that everyone else would subscribe as much as they possibly could to the Royal Society.

The Duke of Devonshire said he would like to ask one or two questions. The resolution referred to a circular which was to be signed by the Mayor, himself, and other gentlemen, inviting contributions to the fund. He presumed that the circular would be drawn up by one of the sub-committees they were about to elect. He thought it was necessary that the terms of that circular should be carefully considered, and that it should contain as much information as possible as to the reasons which made the raising of that sum necessary. He was bound to say that since the meeting they held at the Albert Hall he had heard a good many expressions of opinion that there would be very considerable difficulty in raising the sum, and he did not think it was quite understood at present why so considerable an amount was required. Everybody knew, he believed, that the Royal Society required a contribution, and they had also been told that the site had been provided, and that it was very suitable for the show, but he did not think it was quite understood in what way so considerable a sum, in addition to the direct contribution to the society, was required, and he thought it would be desirable that as full information as possible should be given in order to assist in raising the necessary subscriptions.

Alderman Oakes thought it was important that the items should be put down, but as a general idea of the case with those shows he believed he was right in saying that at the last county show—at Carlisle—the expenses amounted to over £5,500; he almost thought they were £5,900.

Mr. Pakeman said that the remaining £3,500 which it was expected would be required, would be expended in levelling the site, in taking water on to the site, in providing for certain classes which were not in the schedule of the Royal Show, and in providing for local classes; and it was expected that these would absorb the difference between the cash which was to be handed over to the Royal Society and the sum which they hoped to raise.

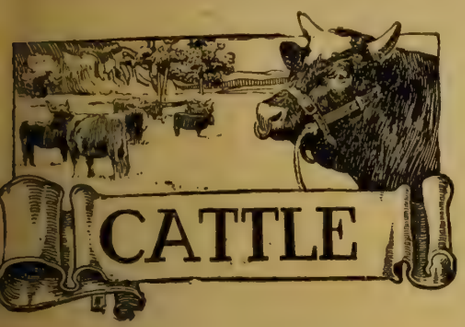
The Duke said a statement had been placed in his hands showing roughly the items, and he thought it very desirable that these matters should be included in the circular.

The resolution was carried.

On the motion of Mr. Salt, seconded by Sir Thomas Roe, the Mayor of Derby was appointed treasurer of the fund. Various sub-committees were also elected, and the Town Clerk of Derby (Mr. G. T. Lee) and the secretary of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society (Mr. S. Burton) were appointed joint secretaries to the committee.

Cockermouth Second Martinmas Hiring Fair was held on Monday, when there was a large attendance of male agricultural servants, many of whom failed to obtain engagements, as the hirings were decidedly slow. There were few experienced men in the market. Ploughmen obtained £10 to £12; strong lads, £7 to £10; and younger lads, £3 to £7. There were few girls seeking places, and these were readily hired at the previous hiring's figures.

The main hirings for farm servants at Darlington took place on Monday, when there was a full supply of men, and, except for the most experienced, wages scarcely came up to last year. Best men and foremen received £27 to £30; secondary, £22 to £24; ploughmen, £16 to £19; strong lads, £12 to £14; and younger lads, £7 to £9 for one year. Female servants were scarce, the best obtaining £18 to £20; secondary, £14 to £16; younger servants, £12 to £14; young girls, £8 to £9 each.



Notes and Jottings.

Since my last notes were penned, two very important shows have taken place—the fat stock show under the auspices of the Norfolk and Norwich Christmas Association, and the very old-established breeding and fat stock show under the patronage and main support of that great friend to agriculturists Lord Tredegar, at Newport, Monmouthshire. At the former show the fat cattle were fully up to average; indeed, better than at many preceding shows. Some remarkably good cross-bred, Irish, and Angus cattle were included in the various classes. The classes confined to animals bred and fed in Norfolk, too, were filled by a number of really choice animals.

This latter is a very important statement to be able to make, as it evidently is the outcome of greater attention being paid to home breeding rather than to be always dependent upon purchased stock. The results at this show would appear to be in favour of the home-bred animals, and this may have a wholesome effect upon the future By comparison, the best purchased stock exhibited at Norwich, and fed in the county, could not by any possible means leave as satisfactory results as those bred at home, the former having had to be purchased to begin with at such extravagant figures, and the gain in weight being very insignificant, the champion heifer, for instance, having gained less than 3 cwt. during a year's expensive feeding.

At Lord Tredegar's show some excellent fat stock were exhibited, but the great feature here was the beautiful classes of Shorthorn and Hereford breeding cattle, which were, after the few weeks' rest since the summer shows, brought out in fine condition, the winter coats upon both breeds adding so much to their appearance, and proving in a great measure that the majority at least of the animals were in the best of health. The Hereford young stock were especially rich in coat and flesh, as well as very good in symmetry, the cows and heifers in the older classes being very even in their flesh compared with a few years ago. It was very satisfactory, too, to learn from breeders that the export demand for these white faces continues very brisk.

Good though the Hereford classes were, the Shorthorns quite eclipsed them, as both the championships open to the two breeds were secured by the red white and roan, and, what is more remarkable, these coveted honours fell to exhibits from the same herd, Mr. J. Deane Willis's, the female championship falling once more to that remarkable cow White Heather, and the male championship to Bapton Viceroy, a red youngster under a year old of the most perfect proportions, covered with a grand coat, handling well, and possessing a style and character that are difficult to improve upon, or even to imagine improvement upon. Whether it is altogether as it should be that the champion prize for a bull should be allotted to so young an animal is questionable.

The problem of profitably exhibiting cattle must surely have been well solved in the results of these two animals from one herd; White Heather it is true was not bred at Bapton Manor, but was what may be termed an essay purchase, and her show-yard career has been certainly, one would think, unprecedented, as the prizes won at this show bring her total up to £1,000, or over. With regard to the bull calf Bapton Viceroy, things are quite as favourable, an offer to purchase this youngster at 1,000 guineas having been made. Seeing the continued drain upon our Shorthorns, it speaks volumes for our herds of this breed that such specimens as these are to be found, and proves the wisdom of our breeders in sticking to their best breeders.

It is gratifying this time to find that the trade for beef at the Metropolitan Market last week was of a more animated character, and that in many cases an advance of 2d. per 8 lb. took place. It is quite probable, too, that this better state of trade will continue. The season, both in the North as well as other parts, has not been altogether favourable to the finishing of cattle, and, as we have before mentioned in these notes, it is quite probable that ripe, good weights will not be too plentiful for the Christmas trade. As a mark of the want of better finishing, or of a deficiency in the season, butchers complain very much of the want of suet in the cattle, so many killing badly.

Supplies continue very heavy in the Chicago Market, the total number marketed in six days during the past week in this month being 97,373 head. At that market the same complaint exists that the supply of finished cattle is not equal to the demand, whilst that of what we describe here as half-meated is quite in excess of demand, feeders being anxious to clear out as many animals as possible before winter. The advance in the price of corn is said to be very potent in its effect in this respect. Many of these unfinished cattle, both in America and also in our home markets, are due to hard feeding through bad or indifferent breeding. With well-bred stock it is much easier to make a satisfactory finish, and in a season of scarcity of feed the trouble with hard feeders is much more pronounced.

Experiments at the University of Wisconsin have been carried out with regard to discovering the cost of producing a hundred pounds gain in live weight upon animals of various ages. These figures are rather interesting, and may also be turned to profitable account. These experiments, it is said, point out very definitely that it is most profitable to fatten cattle whilst they are still young. The older the animal the more food is required to produce a given gain. Some other stations also have proved similar results. It requires (so these experiments go to prove) about one half as much grain to produce 100 lb. of gain on calves as on two-year-olds. At the Ottawa experiment station the proportion of profit in producing a 1,000 lb. live weight in cattle of different ages was as follows: Calves, 31, yearlings 27, two-year-olds 19.10, and three-year-olds 12.80; these figures are in dollars

Such experiments as those noted above are very valuable as regards the information they give, but it must be borne in mind that the matter of food is not the only expense in producing live weight; the expenses of preparing and giving the food to the stock have all to be reckoned with. Then it must be remembered, too, that in the ordinary course of farming there is almost all the year round an immense amount of food to be consumed that is not calculated for feeding, and cannot at any reasonable expense be made productive of great results in the way of increasing live weight; and such food, when early maturity is the main thing considered upon the farm, is too frequently wasted, whereas, if some young stock were kept on for longer feeding, though they grew but slowly, it would be at such a minimum of cost that they would be found quite profitable.

The Irish store cattle trade, from the quotations obtainable, appears latterly to have gone from bad to worse, complaints on this score being loud and frequent. It does not appear to have been a good year in the sister Isle all round with cattle. Stores in the spring were very dear over there, and the dry season was not in favour of extra growth, and the comparatively bad trade for beef has added to other difficulties. The short hay and root crops in many parts of England, too, have caused a slack demand for feeders, which becomes more pronounced the nearer we get to winter. The stuff that people buy with, too, is not over plentiful, either in agricultural or commercial circles, just now, and this is not without some slight adverse effect upon prices. The opening of the new year will probably bring with it brighter times.

It is quite possible that our cross-Channel friends in the Emerald Isle have paid too much attention to crossing latterly, and so have but one string to their bow, as the cross-bred females are of but little value as milkers, or, at least, are not as popular as the Shorthorn; and upon large farms where a great number of females are reared, if they are of the Shorthorn blood, they will usually make a good price for taking on for dairy purposes. This happens most frequently when the store trade for feeding purposes is slow. The same causes that operate against feeders cause a dearth of milk, and so there is a good demand for Shorthorns in calf, when barren ones, half meated and of Scotch and Shorthorn cross, can scarcely be converted into cash.

Sale of Miss Rothschild's Fat Stock

The annual sale of Miss Alice de Rothschild's fat stock took place on Thursday at Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury, and, despite the wretched weather, there was a very large attendance of buyers, and the sale was a great success. Messrs. Bond and Burrows (Thame) were the auctioneers, and close upon 200 sheep, all in prime condition, and 90 Polled Aberdeen-Angus oxen and Shorthorn heifers were sold during the afternoon. The bulk of the stock remains in the Vale of Aylesbury, but several of the choicest lots were bought for the London market. Oxford Down ewes sold readily at an average of £16 16s. a pen, while prime wether tegs were cheap at an average of 42s. a head. The cattle were a particularly good lot, and competition for them was exceedingly keen. They averaged from £20 to £30 a head, and were good value at this time of the year.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

That the breeding of Clydesdale horses is making satisfactory progress in South America is evident from the fact that a home-bred one not only won in his class at Palermo, Buenos Aires, but likewise took the championships, and was disposed of by auction for the useful price of 4,000 dollars, or £334. This was Mr. Charles Bell's three-year-old stallion, Rincon Sidney, and it should be added that this is a record price for a Clydesdale bred in South America. There is no need, however, for English and Scottish Clydesdale breeders to fear that they will encounter any serious opposition from breeders in Buenos Aires. South America and other countries will be able to take, and will indeed require, our stallions and mares as they have always done, for the tendency in most countries to which our island acts as a stud farm is for our breeds to lose both size and substance and character in a very few generations unless recourse is frequently had to our native strains. Indeed, it would appear as if the more successful an English or Scottish breed is in a foreign country the better it is for English or Scottish breeders, and the better market there is for their stock.

Professor Ridgeway, speaking of the Clydesdale horse, says that he is derived from the same source, and is practically of the same breed as the Shire. I am afraid this will rouse the ire of some of my Scottish friends, but it is nevertheless a fact which there is no gainsaying. The history of both breeds shows distinctly that their size and power is due in a great measure—if not entirely—to horses imported from Flanders. Nor is this all. In the early years of what I may, perhaps, call the Clydesdale movement, and in the years immediately preceding the formation of the Clydesdale Horse Society, there was a large importation of the heavy type of Shire mares into the valley of the Clyde. Lincolnshire, indeed, was thoroughly exploited by Scottish dealers, and the best customers for weighty mares at the Lincolnshire fairs were Mr. David Riddell and his confrères.

It is unnecessary to enter into particulars of the facts which led to the formation of the Select Clydesdale Horse Society of Scotland, a society which was formed some six or seven years after the formation of the Clydesdale Horse Society of Great Britain and Ireland, which latter society was formed in 1877. The late Mr. Lawrence Drew took a leading part in the formation of the society, and Mr. David Riddell and other breeders of eminence gave it hearty support. So far as I know, the society only published two volumes of a stud book—at any rate, that is all I have—and after Mr. Drew's death it languished, and eventually was dissolved.

At the time it was in being, however, it excited a considerable amount of attention. Able writers upheld the contention which has since received the support of Prof. Ridgeway, that the Clydesdale and Shire horse were identical, that they had been developed on different lines, and that the best possible cart horse was the the produce of a cross between the two. This being as they maintained, fully established, they urged an amalgamation of the two societies. It was, however, scarcely likely that this would take place. There were too many conflicting interests, and the two societies had been esta-

blished too long to admit of any amalgamation. So though the controversialists had the best of the argument, their efforts had no immediate practical result.

That they had had a practical result, however, will, I think, be admitted by those who remember what the Clydesdale and Shire horse were like twenty years ago. The Clydesdale had the best of legs and feet, but was light on the back, deficient in back ribs, and unless his immediate ancestors contained a large proportion of English blood, which was generally the case in horses that came to the front, he was wanting in size. Nowadays the Clydesdale has to a very great extent lost that weak back and light middle which the critics used to find fault with, whilst the hard, flinty bone, big, well-shaped feet and silky feather are maintained.

It used to be the boast of the Clydesdale men that sidebones were practically unknown amongst the breed. They were, at any rate, plentiful enough amongst the Shire horses, and in the early days of the Shire Horse Society's shows there were plenty of northern breeders who scoffed at the coarse feather, rough bone, sidebones, and moderate fat of the Shire. But now we have altered all that. The coarse, curly "hair" has developed into feather of silky texture, the bone is of the flinty texture, which is so desirable a quality, the feet are well shaped, with the quality of the horn tough, and a greasy legged Shire is now as unknown as at one time he was common.

It is not a little curious, when one comes to think of it, how the two breeds have, as it were, "approached" each other in characteristics during the last twenty years, and how the results, which it was at one time wished to bring about by a mixture of the two breeds, have resulted from judicious breeding on Stud Book lines, and judicious management. For there is no doubt that a great deal of the improvement of the Shire horse's feet and legs is due to a more natural treatment of the individual and to the doing away with that system of forcing, which, injurious enough to any breed, must have been much more hurtful to a heavy carcased and somewhat gross horse like the Shire.

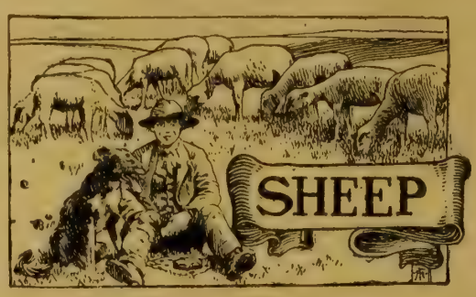
The Select Book of the Select Clydesdale Society of Scotland is now practically an unknown volume, but it is interesting to dip into its pages occasionally. The first directors were Mr. Lawrence Drew, chairman; Mr. David Riddell, Mr. Peter Brown, Bishopston, Renfrewshire; Mr. Thomas Muirhead, Townhill, Dunfermline; Mr. Thomas Brown, Skellyton, Larkhall; Mr. James Smellie, Stravenhouse, Carluke; and Mr. John White, Nether Craigends, Renfrewshire; and amongst the three hundred and odd members were some of the most eminent breeders in Scotland and the North of England. There can be no doubt that the society sustained a severe blow by the death of Mr. Lawrence Drew, and had that gentleman lived a few years longer there is little doubt but what we should have heard more of the Select Clydesdale Society if he had lived a few years.

I have pointed out already that the work of improving Clydesdale and Shire horses has been well done, on the lines laid down by their respective breed societies, and it is quite likely that had there been anything approaching the present state of things in existence twenty years ago we should never have heard of the Select Clydesdale Society. But that society did much good in tracing the history of some of those horses whose names appear in the pedigrees of famous stallions in the Foundation Volume of the Clydesdale Horse Society's Stud Book. For instance, there is Tintock, a pure bred English horse, and was purchased in Cambridgeshire by Mr. Alexander Galbraith, of Croy, Cunningham, Killearn. Tintock travelled the Strathendrick district, and was famous as the sire of good mares. The great stallion, Lord Salisbury, 1205, was of a Tintock mare, and other good mares by him, Auchinbroig Darling, the dam of Mr. Martin's Damsel and Diana Vernon, Mr. McNabb's Princess, and that great mare Keir Fanny.

Another famous Clydesdale stallion that had an English origin was Lord Lyon, his dam having been purchased in Derbyshire; then Emperor, a great winner in Scotland and a great sire, was an English horse that was bought in Cambridgeshire by Mr. Andrew Johnston, of Aberdeenshire. His most notable son was probably Lord Clyde, the sire of Old Times, from whom many notable Clydesdales are descended. Another striking instance of an English horse that made a mark in the Clydesdale Stud Book, is that of Mr. Robert O. Watson's Champion. He was bred by Mr. Neville Melbourne, Lakehouse, Fillingham, Lincolnshire, and was by Napoleon—Bud by John Bull. He won as a foal at Lincoln, as a yearling at the County Show at Brigg, and won as a two-year-old against all ages at Whitby, the prize being £100. Then he went to Scotland, where, as a three-year-old, he won at Haddington and Aberdeen. Next year he took second prize at the Northern Agricultural Society's Show, and in 1874 he was second at the same society's spring show, the second prize on that occasion amounting to £40. He was also second at the same society's summer show in the same year. He was foaled in 1869, and in colour was a dark chestnut

If proof were wanted that the Clydesdale and Shire are of the same origin, it is to be found in the fact that the greatest stallion in the Clydesdale Stud Book, the horse of all others who has made the greatest mark as a Clydesdale sire during the early years of the Clydesdale Horse Society, and a horse of all others to which breeders love to trace their stock, was a crossbred horse on both sides. This was Mr. Lawrence Drew's famous Prince of Wales, whose sire, General, was by Sir Walter Scott, from a grey English mare, and whose dam, Darling, was by Samson, alias Logan's Twin, from an English grey mare. It is also important to notice that the dams of five of his most famous sires were English—viz., Prince of Altyre, Hawkhead, Lord Douglas, St. Lawrence, and Prince of Avondale, all of them Glasgow Premium winners, a fact in itself which is sufficient to stamp their quality.

THE LOOKER ON.



Notes and Jottings.

Experimental feeding in connection with sheep is, one is pleased to note, receiving more attention nowadays. Quite recently there have been made public the results of two sets of these experiments—one conducted on the Mongoswell's Experimental Farm of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture, and the other at the Cumberland and Westmorland County Council Farm School. There is no need to offer much comment on either of these two valuable reports, further than to say that were such reports published from each district of the country, sheep feeders would certainly have before them a mass of most valuable information, the proper application of which would both save them loss and add materially to the profit that ought in every case to be realised from feeding sheep.

Another source from whence good information could be obtained in relation to the feeding of sheep is Smithfield Show. Under its present system of dual classification, i.e., one for competition alive and the other for competition in the carcase, Smithfield Show affords a unique source from which this kind of information should be obtained.

There are, of course, difficulties to be overcome, but these ought not to be insurmountable, in obtaining the needful information which ought in each case to be provided by the feeder of each entry, i.e., food given and the quantity of each kind, method of feeding and general treatment of the animal during the course of preparation, with its live weight at the commencement of the preparation and at regular intervals afterwards. The different object for which the two sections are being prepared would, of course, cause a wide difference in the length of time the animals were under preparation, and probably also in regard to quantity of food consumed. This would give additional value to such reports, because in the main it would show where the supposed profitable feeding ration ended and that for the admittedly unprofitable one for the show animal began.

Records of this character have been often attempted, but, so far as my knowledge is, none have ever been properly tabulated and published. It will probably be found that some feeders have a great idea that it would mean divulging a trade secret to disclose how they fed their showyard charges. This point may have some bearing upon the question, but not a vital one, because it could easily be got over by making it a condition of entry that this information should be supplied. Asking a very successful shepherd how he had fed a certain pen of particularly fine sheep, the reply came, brief and short, "upon the best of everything I could get for them." In this instance it was evident that the "best of everything" had been successful. Others would like to have known of what this was composed, and if the whole of the benefit that ought to be got from our fat stock exhibitions, such information should be given.

Far and away too many feeders—and, I am afraid, breeders also—run away with the idea that the object they show for is to secure notoriety and reputation for their own sheep and flock; but this is not the object at all, no matter who may be the owner or the feeder. The first and most important object for which every entry at a fat or breeding stock show is made for is to exhibit to the public, both at home or from the Colonies and abroad, the particular qualities and merits of the breed represented by the entry, and also at the same time to afford any who may so desire it opportunity to compare these points with others of a similar character in other breeds.

There is another manner in which the Smithfield carcase show ought to be, and could be, made of infinitely more value to flockmasters than it is at the present time. It is this: that the expert butcher judges should give a written report upon the individual carcases they award prizes to, and state distinctly and clearly what are the principal reasons that decided them in giving preference to the carcases that won the different awards.

It will probably be urged against this suggestion that it is an unusual one and that the judges in the other section of the show do not give their reasons for giving preference to either this or that animal. This is so, but then the two exhibitions are not at all comparable, because in the case of live sheep, nearly all, or, at any rate, most of the reasons given would be such that could not well be settled until the animal was slaughtered; but in the other section there can be urged no real objection, and further, as it was one of the strongest arguments put forward by the butchers when they succeeded in addition of this carcase section to the show, that the great object in view was to show the feeder the kind of carcase most in request. Therefore, in asking, on behalf of the feeders, that the butcher expert judges should put the reasons for their awards in writing, we are only carrying the great argument used to secure these excellent classes to its logical conclusion—namely, theat the feeders may be informed of the carcases most in demand for the London market.

South Country markets give a decided preference for mutton of the Down breeds, except in Kent and part of Sussex and Dorsetshire; in London Down breeds are given decided preference, and yet, despite these facts, that great colony of ours, New Zealand, whose mutton and lamb has secured for itself so high a reputation in our market, gives a decided preference for sheep of the White-faced breeds. Border-Leicesters, Leicesters, Kent or Romney Marsh, and Lincoln sheep are all largely represented in that colony, and certainly form a large proportion of the English breeds kept in that colony.

Quite recently Mr. W. O. Rennie, of Canterbury, New Zealand, has secured from Mr. D. Hume, of Barrelwell, Brechin, a valuable selection of stud sheep—a ram and two yearling ewes. It will be of interest to note that Mr. D. Hume sent his Highland Show champion ram last year to New Zealand, and another order this year is indicative that satisfaction has been given, or otherwise no second lot would have been wanted from the same flock again this season. Hitherto the flockmasters of New Zealand have been content to run one Flock Book operative for the whole colony, in which all the different English breeds have been represented. The Kent or Romney Marsh sheep-breeders have now found themselves strong enough to run a society of their own. The first volume of their Flock Book has recently came to hand, and it is a matter of gratification to find that the principal rules of this society are counterpart with those that have led to the successful career of the parent association for this breed at home.

The agenda for the National Sheep-Breeders' Council meeting in December has been issued, and the more important subject for consideration is doubtless the selection of the subject for discussion at the next International Conference, which will be held in June next. Owing to the alteration of the place of the Royal Show next year the conference will, we understand, take place at Derby on the day preceding the opening of the Royal Show in that town.

The value of these annual conferences of sheep-breeders during the past six years is generally admitted. In fact, the papers that have been read on diseases of sheep at the last two conferences by Professor Cave have been in request from all over the world, and wherever these excellent papers have been sent they have met with thorough approval and been greatly appreciated.

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ESTABLISHED 1832.

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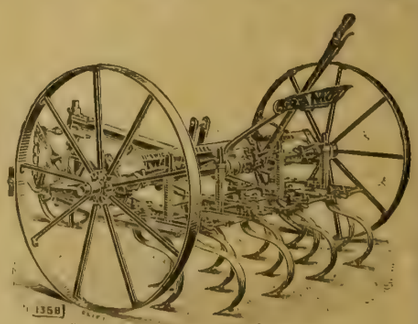

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SMITHFIELD SHOWS: ANCIENT AND MODERN.

This is Smithfield Show week, the very fact of which turns all our thoughts to Christmas roasts and other associations with the coming festival. The Islington Royal Agricultural Hall will have a magnetic attraction to-day for those of our nobility and country gentry who follow the Royal lead in bringing farm animals to the highest perfection. Thither will flock leading chiefs of the grazing fraternity from all parts of the kingdom, the Scottish disciples of the great M'Combie, the English followers of Ellman, Fisher Hobbs, the Overmans, Bennetts, Popes, and a number too large to be mentioned, who welcomed the annual gatherings of the Club in its early history and during the exhibition days at Baker Street, until in 1862 the present building it now inhabits at Islington was entered upon for the first time.

The Smithfield Club has gone through immense changes; probably no institution in existence has been metamorphised more. Formed in an age when steers were bred for the yoke, and not to be fed for beef until they had fullled several years of field service, the Smithfield classes were for much older animals than appear there now. Some of the oxen of the earlier shows were truly gigantic. In the minutes of the first show the dimensions and weight of a Hereford bullock are stated to have been 7 ft. high, and to have girthed 12 ft. 4 in.; while of Mr. Westcar's first winner it is stated that the bullock measured 8 ft. 11 in. long, and was of the weight of nearly 300 stone. Not until 1868 did the Club institute weighing the cattle alive; but the following year a cross-bred five year-

seven months ox scaled 27 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb., and a Shorthorn four years six months one 26 cwt. 8 lb. As fewer yokes of oxen appeared in British fields, the Club by degrees adapted itself to the times by curtailing the age limits of the senior classes, and throwing the portals of admission open to younger steers.

Just thirty years ago did the Club institute lamb classes. Extremely difficult to youthful agriculturists is the comprehension of what the woolly display could have been like previous to 1875. That there were numerous monstrosities of wasteful tallow is very certain, especially as ewe classes were instituted in 1870. The classes for yearling steers were not established until 1880, five years after that of the lamb classes. We have not to go far back for the time of the present arrangement of the cattle classes of the principal breeds. In the early times of the Show, and, indeed, for a long course of years, it was deemed right and proper to offer prizes for cows, but not for heifers. Then in its mid-history there were classes for both, of many of the breeds; but now we have for some time abolished cows, but cherished the exhibition of heifers.

This is in conformity to what has become one of the chiefest aims of the institution—the promotion of early maturity. So far as the educational objects of the show are concerned, there are object-lessons both to show the sort of animals best adapted to arrive at greatest perfection in substance and quality combined, and those which will develop the heaviest and best carcases at the earliest age. The carcase classes are serviceable by displaying the kinds that have tendencies to combine lean flesh with fat while fattening.

Seasonable Topics.

The Business of Farming.

We think that every one who is engaged in agriculture will agree that farming is an occupation in which a man may spend a lifetime, and at the end of it be able to say in all sincerity that he has still got a good deal to learn. Yet in spite of this fact it is surprising how many people there are engaged in other occupations, who will glibly tell you what the farmer ought to do to make his business pay better. We take it that if one of the farming fraternity went into a draper's shop and began to tell the draper what he ought to do, he would be promptly ordered out, and told to mind his own business, and yet the self same draper may be one of those highly educated individuals who discuss agriculture, point to the causes of depression, and show where the farmer is all wrong in the way he conducts his business. In fact, it seems to be a privilege of every man in the street to discuss the farmer's way, and more often than not the latter is set down as a perfect ignoramus who has golden opportunities offered to him, but has not common sense enough to take advantage of them. Poor deluded advisers! Would it not be wiser of them to turn their attention to matters nearer home, and leave the farmer to look after himself? It is not to be wondered if the latter gets a little out of patience sometimes when his methods are criticised, and he is told what he ought to do by a man who does not know one end of a plough from the other. It is extraordinary that every one should know just exactly what the farmer ought to do to make his business more profitable, and cope with foreign competition, better than the poor farmer himself who has been in the business all his life, and is thoroughly acquainted with the ins and outs of it. We do not find that the farmer is averse to instruction, provided the adviser is a practical farmer himself, but he does resent being the pupil of every man in the street, and in this he has our sympathy.

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Farmers as Workers.

One of the hackneyed cries of the man in the street, in the tramcar, and in the railway train, when discussing the shortcomings of agriculturists, is that the farmer of to-day does not work like his grandfather did, and his daughter, instead of being content to turn the handle of the churn or scour the milkpans, prefers to spend her time in playing the piano. What moonshine it all is, to be sure, and one would think that farmers generally ought to be nothing more than mere labourers. But let us look into the matter a little. Here is a man on a moderate-sized farm in which he may have invested some five or six thousand pounds in stock, implements, etc. Now if that amount were invested in some gilt-edged security it would bring in sufficient to keep the man in reasonable comfort and allow sufficient to buy a piano for his daughter, but because the farmer prefers to invest his money in agriculture, the man in the street suggests that he should be a drudge himself, and his daughter likewise. Take a shopkeeper, for instance, with a business in which he has five or six thousand pounds invested; he does not carry out parcels, neither does his daughter scrub the shop floor. But in the old days, argues the man in the street, even the well-to-do farmer used to work harder than he does now, and his wife and daughters used to make the butter and cheese with their own hands. Quite so! And in the old days the shopkeeper used to be contented to live in the town street over his place of business, but now he must have a lock-up shop, and dwell in a smart villa in the suburbs, so after all it is merely a question of change in habits and customs. The small farmer must work with his own hands if he is to pay rent and keep solvent, and very often he works harder than many men who earn a good deal more, but if a man has as much money in a farm as would keep him in comfort if invested at 4 per cent., it is a pity if the place will not provide his daughter with a piano and keep him without doing labourer's work.

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Would it Pay to Grow Onions?

We have a newspaper report before us giving an account of the wreck of the ill-fated "Hilda," a short time ago, in the channel. It is stated that amongst the passengers were some eighty Breton onion sellers, who had been in this country disposing of their wares, and were on their way back to their homes, when most of them perished along with the unfortunate vessel. The report further states that these Breton peasants were in possession of an average sum of about £48 each, which they had received for the sale of their onions. If this is multiplied by eighty it represents a sum of nearly £4,000, and, fortunately for themselves, all the onion sellers who come to this country every year from the other side of the Channel were not on board the "Hilda." It may readily be seen, however, from the above figures that the Breton onion men take a considerable sum of money from this country every year, and yet so far as we know onions can be grown in England just as well as they can in Brittany. Yet the fact remains that but a small proportion of the onions consumed in this country are grown at home. They come mostly from Spain, Egypt, and the North of France. It is argued that onions do not pay to grow in England, which is strange, considering that the Breton peasants not only grow their onions, but they ship them across the Channel, pay their own travelling expenses, and hawk the bulbs from door to door. We grant it that the Breton onion sellers do not put up at first-class hotels, but they have to live, and their expenses must be considerable. Further, it is not likely that they would continue their traffic unless there was some profit at the end of it. We grant that onions would not pay if given the same treatment as mangold-wurzel, but if liberally cultivated a very heavy weight of bulbs can be obtained from an acre of land, and if the return is put at, say, 5s. per cwt. the amount would be considerable. At any rate, if Breton-grown onions can be profitably sold in England it is strange if they would not pay to grow at home to a greater extent than what they are.

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The National Potato Show.

The promoters of the National Potato Society have every reason to congratulate themselves on the success of the second exhibition, which took place at the Royal Horticultural Hall, on November 23 and 24. The big hall on the above dates was filled with potatoes from end to end, and potato men were very much in evidence. In comparison with the first show last year the competitive classes were well filled, and some excellent tubers were staged. Most of the large trade growers were represented, but evidence that the potato boom is a thing of the past, was given in the fact that glass cases protecting precious tubers were conspicuous by their absence. On one stand we observed several novelties covered with wire guards, but the tubers were mostly unprotected, and the numbers of Eldorado there were exhibited showed how largely the sensation of the last show has been increased in the meantime. Several of the trade exhibits were large and imposing, but we question the educational value of getting so many varieties together, as on one or two of the stands we noticed varieties which are generally admitted to be now worn out, and are never recommended on account of their predisposition to disease. Surely it serves no useful purpose to exhibit potatoes of this class, and goodness knows there are sufficient varieties in cultivation without them. We see no good reason for exhibiting a potato that the exhibitor would not recommend any one to grow, and it would be infinitely better to let the worn out varieties drop out in favour of others of more recent introduction. On the whole, however, a finer display of potatoes has not been seen together of late years, if at all, so the society can congratulate itself so far. In looking through a show of this kind, however, one cannot help observing what a marked similarity there is between many of the so-called distinct varieties, which appear to differ only in name. About the time of the boom new potatoes were simply rushed on to the market, and now things have quietened down a little the National Society might usefully employ its time in doing some weeding out.

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Eggs and Bacon.

The man who enjoys a fresh egg along with his morning rasher has the privilege of paying 2d. or more for it just now, and while he chafes under this treatment, the poultry-keeper is racking his brains to find out how to make his hens lay more eggs at the above price. We do not go so far as to say that all the eggs at 2d. each even are absolutely fresh, for eggs are scarce, and the disturbance in Russia is giving us a cause. In the ordinary course large quantities are imported from the land of the Czar, but the supply is reduced, as the people who collect them, and the carriers who take them to the stations are engaged instead in political troubles. Eggs are dear and so is the rasher, because bacon of the best kinds is scarce, on account of the fact that pig-breeding has not been in a flourishing condition of late. Probably most of our readers cure their own bacon and produce their own eggs, and if so they will not feel the pinch, and those who have these commodities to sell are amongst the fortunate, but the townsman who cannot conceive the possibilities of a breakfast without eggs and bacon is hard hit just now.

Lincolnshire Chamber.

The Lincoln Chamber of Agriculture, at their last meeting, discussed certain subjects brought before the Central Chamber. The first concerned the law of trespass, and the meeting adopted a resolution passed by the Brigg branch stating that the present law is very inadequate, as it permits no procedure to be effective unless damage is proved. With regard to the enforcing of the Food and Drugs Act, the Boston branch's resolution that the use of the Act ought to be extended was carried. Lord Roberts's address to the London Chamber of Commerce on Imperial defence was discussed, and the Chamber agreed to the latter part of a Grimsby resolution advocating grants to school cadet corps.

Cheshire Chamber.

At a meeting of the Cheshire Chamber of Agriculture on Monday, several farmers complained of the great amount of damage done by trespassers in pursuit of mushrooms and other natural growths of marketable value, and expressed the opinion that the law should be so altered that trespassers might be prosecuted even though farmers are not able to prove actual damage to land or crops. After some discussion, a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that it is desirable, in the interests of occupiers of land, that the Board of Agriculture should undertake to inquire into the existing law of trespass, and to promote a bill that shall protect land occupiers from loss caused by searchers after natural growths of a marketable kind.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

One of the reasons which have induced in Mr. Balfour a desire to resign rather than to dissolve—a desire, that is, to persuade the Liberals to form an ad interim Ministry before an appeal to the country—is the fact that the agents of the Party were convinced that it would be to their advantage to postpone the General Election. I admit that the renewed Home Rule controversy, and the certainty that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has not renounced his old fidelity to that faith, may have some effect in inducing the Unionist Free Traders to pause ere enthusiastically giving their whole-hearted allegiance to the Radical candidates; but, frankly, I do not believe it will have any serious dispiriting or demoralising influence on the general rank and file of Liberalism. That rank and file is forgetful of much in its exuberant preoccupation with anti-Protectionism, anti-Chinese labour, and anti-Education Act. However, there is no doubt that there is a good deal of leeway to be made up by the Conservatives in the constituencies, and more particularly in the counties. If this be made up, the Conservative organisers believe they will stand an infinitely better chance. Whether the Conservative candidates have in the past allowed themselves to be too sensitive to the electoral ill-omens I will not say; but it is certain that a great effort is being made to throw off the depression which had possessed them. Sir Alexander Acland-Hood, the chief Conservative Whip, has set a fine example in this direction in the West Somersetshire division—he has followed his own picturesque advice to enter the electoral lists with "tails up," and the result has, I am assured, been entirely to his satisfaction. After all, the rural labourers—and it is, I repeat, in the counties where the ill-omens have had their most repellent appearance—are very human; and they are not likely to fight too warmly for a candidate who lachrymosely prophesies his own licking.

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A Liberal organiser assures me that one of the influences which are likely to operate to the advantage of the Conservative candidates is the great comparatively recent increase in local rates. If not a particularly subtle, it is at least a particularly valuable argument to point out that the local rates now, as compared with what they were when the Tories came into power ten years ago, have increased by so much per cent. The deduction is, of course, inevitably always the same. The point could be hitched on to an arraignment of the general expenditure of the Government, which, according to the Liberal publicists, means something like £1 10s. per head for every man, woman, and child of the population, as compared with what it was under the last Liberal Government. We have an illustration in the New Forest by-election of how astutely this point is being utilised. There, our old friend, Mr. James Judd—the Liberals are never tired of playing Mr. James Judd as "the Liberal farmer" in the Southern constituencies—has unceasingly pointed out that the rates in his particular parish have gone up from 2s. 3d. to 4s. 10d. since the passing of the Agricultural Rating Act. I do not opine from this (I have not seen any full report of Mr. Judd's speeches) that he has been lisping the old assertion that the financial advantage derivable from the Rating Act has been diverted into the pockets of the landlords. I assume, rather, that he is contending that there have been a variety of other rate-increasing causes, and in particular the Education Act (all, of course, due to the Government), which have unfortunately more than counter-balanced any benefit received under the Rating Act, and which should more than suffice to eliminate from the rural breast any gratitude felt for that measure.

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That the Education Act has resulted in an increase of the rates, though not generally in anything like the degree indicated by Mr. Judd's figures, is undeniable. I suppose this retaliatory argument is all fair enough. If the Conservatives claim credit for having conferred a rating advantage, they must inevitably accept the responsibility for any rating disadvantage which may have, accidentally or intentionally, resulted from their action. The retaliatory argument is, indeed, under the circumstances, a natural sequel. All the same, this should not prevent the Conservative organisers seeking to checkmate it.

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I think Lord Rosebery may in one sense be grateful for the fact that his anti-Home Rule declaration in Cornwall has served to dwarf his declarations in regard to land reform and small holdings. There has long been a belief prevalent in Radical circles that on the question of land reform Lord Rosebery is hopelessly out of touch with the Liberal Party. The caustic assertion has been sometimes made that the land-reform faiths which possess him would have been thought too modestly moderate a couple of generations ago. Certainly, if all that Lord Rosebery proposes are a series of small holding experiments on Crown lands, he is behind the disciplined thought of a considerable element of Conservativism on this question. And is the establishment of small holdings the be-all and end-all of the agrarian question? Have the tenant farmers no claim for Parliamentary consideration and attention? Is the whole general problem of land tenure so satisfactory that it needs no examination and reform? Has the State done all it should by way of paterfamilian generosity and sympathy, and wise, stimulating investment in recalling the old class of yeomen to the land? Is the State to pass heedlessly by the new influences born in the villages in favour of a wiser system of benevolent State intervention in the interests of improved culture? Not a word had Lord Rosebery to say on these grave issues. It may almost be assumed that they had never intruded themselves upon his vision. Beyond this, too, was he right in assuming that the establishment of small holdings could not themselves be undertaken by landlords, because of the improbability of the immediate expenditure being recouped? Most assuredly, this is not the experience of his friend, Lord Carrington, or of the owners of the small-holding colonies which exist in at least three parts of England.

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Lord Rosebery was possibly right in another sense, to speak hesitatingly on this matter. If his Bodmin speech reflect his final and formal views on the land question, those views are so entirely out-of-date as to be, I repeat, decades behind the proposals of Conservatives like Sir John Dorington and Sir John Kennaway—views expressed in the Bill (which they backed) of Mr. Jesse Collings. These distinguished Conservatives ask that the State should play a part in the interest of improved culture and for the benefit of the cultivator. They have in this advanced far beyond the infantile, prefatory stage of Lord Rosebery. His lordship has come very late to the study of this question. His friends on the Land Law Reform Association ought to supply him with some of their literature. This should, for instance, include Mr. Channing's two Bills (his Small Holdings Bill and his Agricultural Holdings Bill), and they should, if possible, supplement this with a copy of Mr. Jesse Collings's Land Purchase Bill. I do not know Lord Rosebery's actual position in our politics—nobody does—but if he be still a Liberal leader he should see to it that he does not lag behind that old-fashioned Conservatism which is possessed by a sentient comprehension of practical and prescient facts.

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Of course, there are few who will not agree with Mr. John Burns in rebuking the wild anticipations which are being associated with the idea of farm colonies. "What," asked the Boanerges of Battersea, "would be the use of taking, say, a watchmaker or optician from Camberwell to dig gravel on Salisbury Plain in the hope that he might grow a few tomatoes?" And there is truth behind the purpose of this cynical interrogation. To listen to certain of the philanthropists, whose philanthropy consists solely in the State putting its hands into its pocket—sometimes, by the way, to enrich themselves, for they would not object to a well-paid berth under the scheme—and dumping the human gargoyles and physical adornments of our street-corners down upon waste land, you would be justified in imagining that poverty would, hey presto! be at once banished, and the halcyon day have arrived. The statecraft of these fellows is revealed in the belief that anybody, excepting, of course, the skilled farmer or villager, can make a living out of the land, and that the longer the migrant to that waste land has lazily held up the lamp-post at the street-corner the better he is fitted for the job. He would not know a mandrake from a comet, but this would be all the higher qualification. John Burns is thus right in putting the matter bluntly. Still, farm colonies will be tried. Does not, by the way, Sir Walter Foster show us the best method of initiating the experiment? Sir Walter suggests two kinds of colonies—the one detentive, disciplinary, and preparatory; the other where skilled cultivation could be resorted to. It would be from the latter, of course, that labourers, allotment holders, and possibly small holders, would emerge; and those colonies would, in a large degree, be finally recruited from the first variety of colonies. Of course, a large body of men—those who have drifted from the villages into the towns, and there find themselves rudderless and aimless—would be already equipped for work on the second series of colonies. Still, I repeat, John Burns is to be congratulated upon his common-sense rebuke to the men who shout "Farm colonies" and "Back to the land," and allow the words to have the soothing influence of that blessed word "Mesopotamia."

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I find that an increasing number of Liberal candidates have resolved to include in their electoral appeals a demand that the principle of the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act shall apply to all holdings. Of course, the Market Gardeners' Compensation Act may be described as the embodiment in legislation of what used to be known as the Evesham custom. I am told that there is not a Liberal candidate in Warwickshire and Worcestershire, which naturally used to be affected by the Evesham custom, who does not subscribe to this proposal. Of course, as with Mr. Channing they admit that though the tenant should be given a statutory right to carry out all improvements suitable to the holding and necessary to its proper working, in the case of buildings and certain other permanent improvements notice should be given to the landlord, who, of course, might carry them out in his own way. What have the Conservatives to offer as a counter-seduction to this proposal? I can perceive nothing, diligently as I have studied the reports of speeches by Conservative candidates at Chambers of Agriculture and rural meetings. Of course, some of these Liberals cross the t's and dot the i's. Compensation for the whole value an improving tenant has added to the holding on a renewal of the tenancy (whether he quits or remains), compensation for the value added to the holding by continuous good farming and the laying down of permanent pasture, compensation for disturbance, compensation for damage caused by winged game, and freedom of cultivation and sale—these are the specific proposals advanced in certain of the Southern and Eastern counties. In other words, there be Liberals who not only appeal to the farmers because of an increase of rates, but because of their own distinctive affirmative policy. Again, I ask my friends the Conservatives, where is their affirmative policy?

Messrs. Little and Ballantyne, Carlisle, have issued a Planters' Guide, which gives details of their stocks of trees of all kinds, roses, etc., for 1906.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The month of November is proverbial for its discomfort, December brings greater cold but clearer, brighter days, and snow is always more welcome than mist and fog, while we find it more pleasant to walk over frozen ground than to flounder through mud and puddle. It is said that in the end of October and the beginning of November, wheat sowing was stopped in some of the Midland districts through the dry condition of the soil, but there is now a stoppage in the North from the opposite cause.

For some weeks past hired threshing machines have been at a premium, the weather not permitting more than about two days work to be effected in a week, and meanwhile the cattle-yards had to be daily littered and the supply of threshed straw on many farms was totally exhausted. The sheds, at least, of the cattle-yards must be kept clean and dry, so that the animals may lie down comfortably, or they cannot thrive. A fat bullock has something of the gentleman about him, and he has a great dislike to lie down amongst wet and dirty straw as a smartly dressed lady has to crossing a ploughed field in a rainy season. It is otherwise when the snow is on the ground, and a bullock will often repose on the snow-covered litter in a yard with the greatest apparent comfort and satisfaction, especially when it is somewhat frosty and there is a good thickness of manure beneath his body; to him the heat from the decomposing dung is a source of some comfort.

But if the farmer has had a sufficiency of rain, the dwellers in the towns need more, although, in spite of their needs, they may not desire more. The available supply of water for domestic purposes in the large towns and manufacturing districts is very scanty, and the water supply is a problem of pressing need. Some fine morning the country will awake to the position and realise what it has lost, and will regretfully recognise the cause of the loss. Those causes are now in full operation, and he who runs may read the effect which is becoming increasingly manifest.

The water-carriage system of our large towns and cities requires many millions of gallons daily, and every day local authorities, egged on by sanitarian faddists, and encouraged by the central authority at Whitehall, are endeavouring to compel the substitution of water closets in the place of every other system now in vogue. Immense quantities of pure water are expended in washing and watering the streets of our towns and in flushing the sewers beneath them. The boilers of the steam engines employed in our manufactures, and in the driving of our dynamos, and upon our railways, are fed with wholesome water which is supplied for these and other industrial uses at rates much lower than the prices charged to the mere householder.

Our system of land drainage has been so improved that in districts where a few years ago many acres would be under water for weeks during the winter or heavy rains, none now collects even during the heaviest storms; before rain has long continued, we may see the increased volume of water in the outfalls and note its progress to the river or stream which conveys it to the sea. The surface water is thus removed or is drawn upon for immediate use, and so deeper wells and borings are being every day found necessary, not merely in the vicinity of our large towns and industrial centres, but in our country villages and rural hamlets. Yet day by day our coal mines are being sunk to greater depths, and to enable these deeper workings to be prosecuted enormous quantities of water are pumped out of the internal reservoirs of the earth and are allowed to run to waste, the only object being to get rid of it as speedily as possible.

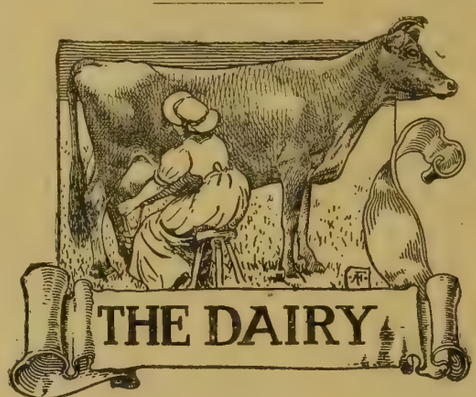
It should be the object of the department charged with the oversight of public health to conserve our water supply, but its energies are more particularly directed to encouraging the townsmen to waste more water, and to compelling country people to incur immense expenditure in obtaining supplies in excess of their requirements. Surely water that is not sufficiently pure and wholesome for drinking and other domestic purposes might be utilised in the flushing of sewers, the supply of engines, and for manufacturing purposes.

The Martinmas hirings are now practically over, and engagements have been concluded at about late rates. Some classes of men have been engaged on slightly lower terms, but plough lads of from fifteen to twenty years of age, a class, the demand for which on the mixed farms of the North is always in excess of the supply, have been engaged at fully the old rates of wages. Men from twenty one to twenty-five have been plentiful, but many of these preferred to take a prolonged holiday and wait until an increased demand for work springs up, rather than accept engagements on lower terms. Stockmen—that is to say, men to wait on cattle and to milk—have been scarce; indeed, the scarcity of such is always a feature, and year by year there seems an increasing aversion to milking.

At these Martinmas hirings only unmarried men are engaged. These men and lads are engaged by the year, and are boarded and lodged in houses of their employers, or in the houses of the married foremen on the farms. Married men are engaged by the week, and such engagements are subject to a week's notice on either side, and these men do the ordinary labouring work of the farm—the hedging, ditching, and often the shepherds and cattlemen are married men. The Martinmas servants are all single men, and young, and are practically all ploughmen or horsemen.

The political situation would be amusing if it were not somewhat bewildering, and it is to some extent monopolising attention. The fiscal problem was bad enough, with the Protectionist Party on one hand, the Free Traders on the other, and between them a middle party, who do not seem to know where they are, and to have even less idea of what they wish to do. The only thing that seems at all certain is that whatever they may tax, they will not put a tax on any foods and even this much is somewhat uncertain a very meagre programme, but sufficient to prove to the farmer that they have no intention of assisting him while they are considering the possibility of doing him some harm. And now the question of Home Rule for Ireland is again raised, and will necessarily tend to confuse the issue before the electors; but that is the only purpose it can serve, for the people of England have made up their mind on that matter, and Home Rule is as dead for all practical purposes as Protection ever was even in the halcyon days of the earlier seventies. M. Y.

December 1, 1905.



Cheese Show and Fair at Preston.

The last Christmas cheese show to be held under the auspices of the Preston Committee took place on Tuesday, when the entries and attendance constituted a record. In future it is anticipated that the show will be held under county auspices, in one of the great centres. Buyers and dealers were present from all parts of the North, and there were 95 lots entered for competition, compared with 65 twelve months ago. The judges' awards were as follows:—Occupiers of farms exceeding 80 statutary acres, not less than 6 cwt. exhibited—1, G. Whittaker, Kirkland Hall; 2, J. Coupe, Goosnargh; 3, J. Briggs, Cuerdale; 4, E. Townson, Bartle; 5, C. Collinson, Catforth; 6, R. Hornby, Ribby Hall; 7, J. Thornton, Cockerham; 8, G. Jolly, Goosenargh. Farms under 80 statutory acres, not less than 4 cwt. exhibited—1, W. H. Pearson, Elswick; 2, W. Sudell, Salwick; 3, J. Rayton, Treales; 4, T. Parkinson, Treales; 5, J. Sanderson, Greenhalgh; 6, J. Knowles, Goosenargh; 7, H. Cooper, Inskip; 8, T. Houghton, Ashton. Loaf Cheese—1, G. Whittaker, Kirkland Hall; 2, E. Barton, Barton; 3, G. Collinson, Catforth. Championship prize for best exhibit in the show—G. Whittaker.

The prize cheeses were subsequently placed under the hammer by Mr. E. G. Hothersall. In the first class the prices realised varied from 73s. to 84s., in the second from 73s. to 94s., while the loaf cheese varied from 85s. to 131s. per cwt.

At the usual cheese fair the pitch consisted of 107 lots, comprising 1,916 cheeses, an increase of 6 lots and 116 cheeses compared with the corresponding fair of last year. There was a brisk demand, and a clearance was rapidly effected at prices showing a slight advance upon those of last year. Cheese of medium quality made 65s. to 68s., and best 68s. to 71s. per cwt., whilst one or two exceptionally choice dairies realised up to 72s. 6d.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES

Frost, rain, and gales, with intervals of muggy and foggy weather, is the record for the past month, and December opens with such a damp and close atmosphere that weather prophets predict for Smithfield week a real London fog, as known in the olden times. As regards our fields in East Anglia, the hope of a good harvest next year is sustained in our farmers' breasts by the general healthy appearance of the "emerald carpet" that now is gradually extending over our landscape. Beans and wheat are looking their best where sown early, while the mangolds are now off the land and safely secured in clamps.

A fortnight ago a farmers' meeting was held at Great Bardfield, Essex, and on Saturday last another meeting was held in Leaden Roothing to approve of a light railway scheme, entailing an expenditure of a quarter of a million sterling, to open up the rural parts of North Essex, and from the tone of those present at these two meetings, the promoters hope that a considerable development in agriculture will result inasmuch as at present this district is ungetatable. The proposed line will start from Ongar northwards.

In connection with this light railway scheme it is of interest to note that another proposal is on foot to supply farm and dairy produce direct from the Essex producer to the London consumer. This scheme will be discussed at a meeting to be held this week under the chairmanship of Viscount Deerhurst, and we learn that it is proposed to establish depots at Ongar, Dunmow, Braintree, and Chelmsford, where the produce will be bought and collected, and where also, in the case of meat, slaughtering will be done. The county base will be Ongar, whence a motor wagon, it is proposed, should start every morning to collect from the depots, returning in the afternoon, when another and larger motor will proceed with the daily supply to London.

A wide range is noticed in different years in the losses occasioned by insects to farm products due to favourable or unfavourable climatic conditions, and also to the abundance from time to time of natural enemies. The result is more or less periodicity in the occurrence of bad insect year, or, in other words, periods of unusual abundance of particular insect pests are followed by a number of years of comparative scarcity. Further seasons which may be favourable to one insect may prove unfavourable to others, hence there may be not only periodicity in the occurrence of the same insect, but more or less of a rotation of the different insect pests of particular crops.

With the object of preventing the total extinction of owls in East Anglia, Lord Lilford a short time since liberated on his Cambridgeshire estate some fifty specimens of the Strix passerina variety. A number of birds, however, have, we are sorry to state, been killed of late, and his lordship has therefore been obliged to issue an appeal to farmers in the Eastern Counties to protect the birds which, so far from doing any harm to agriculture, are really the farmers' friends, and are of great use in keeping down sparrows, mice, etc.

On account of being of value for certain dyeing processes, hazel pears grown in the Eastern Counties have this year commanded as much as £10 per ton.

At the annual meeting of the Peterborough Agricultural Society the balance-sheet showed the total receipts for the year as £3,475 4s. 7d., and a total loss of £88 4s. The society, however, has a good balance in the bank, and its total assets amount to £1,350. Mr. Leonard Brassey, of Apethorpe Hall, was elected president for the ensuing year, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Gresswell on his retirement after thirty-five years' service as one of the veterinary surgeons of the society.

December 1, 1905.

At the Chester Horse Fair on Thursday the quality and general supply were unsatisfactory. Good cart horses and vanners for town work were in steady request, but other lots were difficult to sell. Prices ranged from £15 to £18 for light horses, and £30 to £60 for cart and waggon horses.

Chesterfield November Fair, held on Tuesday, was well supplied with cattle, and trade was brisk. Best milch cattle made £19 to £23; second sorts, £16 to £19; in-calf cows and heifers, £13 to £18; fat beasts, £13 to £18; matured stores, £10 to £13; two-year-old bulls, £10 to £15; stirks and stores, £8 to £10 10s.; young rough stock, £4 to £7 10s. Sheep were in moderate supply, and met a fairly active trade. Ewes, 42s. to 50s.; hoggs, 28s. to 34s.

Midland Notes.

December is upon us, and the short time of daylight—made shorter now by thick and constantly threatening cloud—reduces opportunities of field work to a minimum. Never was there a better illustration than this season affords of the advantages of doing things in good time. Farmers who made good use of the chances offered by October can look forward cheerfully to the winter; but this month has been almost a lost one in some respects, and from Nottingham, Northants, Stafford, and other parts one hears of land designed for wheat remaining still unsown. Meanwhile the wheat and other autumn-sown crops which were got into the ground in good time are doing capitally, and making a sturdy plant which should be able to withstand the rigour of the severe winter which so many farmers seem inclined to predict. It can be but guess-work, but if we do have a hard and a prolonged winter, it will not be surprising. Nature strikes averages in the long run, and one is assuredly due. All the same, it does not do to jump at conclusions from the fact that we have had a little spell of hard weather already. The old proverb about "ice before Martinmas" has more than a spice of truth in it.

This is poor threshing weather, but threshing has nevertheless been proceeding briskly whenever opportunity has served, for rent audits and cake and other Christmas bills have to be thought of, and the grain must be converted into ready cash—regardless, in too many cases, of the condition of the markets. One hears of a good many six-quarter yields in the grain-growing districts of Notts and the Eastern Midlands, and there is generally nothing much to complain of in the quality of wheat, but it is to be feared there is more than an ordinary percentage of inferior barley, and that samples reaching really good malting quality will be few.

On its smaller scale, the Warwickshire Agricultural Society is finding much the same difficulties in discovering a suitable show site for 1906 as have been experienced in some previous years by the Royal Agricultural Society. Rugby has plainly intimated that its own local society must have first consideration, and the Atherstone District Council, finding similar obstacles in the way of a visit there by reason of its local flower, horse, and agricultural shows, has cautiously determined to give Nuneaton first chance of extending the necessary invitation.

The trouble raises once again the whole question of the relation of county and district shows to one another. The Warwickshire meeting has by no means worn out its welcome at Leamington, Stratford, Coventry, and other places it has visited in recent years, but it would be unfortunate for all concerned to find other portions of the county barred to it. The same difficulty has confronted other Midland shows ere now, and as the small local meetings increase it threatens to become more pronounced. But surely once in a way the visit of the leading county societies must be of benefit to farmers.

Following upon Mr. Sigmund Stein's visit to Kidderminster, which was noted in this column some time ago, the Local Chamber of Commerce has started to consider in earnest the possibilities of developing the beet sugar industry, and this week the Town Council has also appointed a committee—but with an inconveniently wide reference, for it is also "to consider the question of other industries adapted for Kidderminster needs." It must be hoped that sugar beet will not be lost sight of in so large a field.

The news that a sugar factory is actually intended to be started in Lincolnshire has been received with interest in the Midlands, where Lord Denbigh's experiments at Newnham Paddox have shown the possibility of growing beet quite equal in quality to that produced on the Continent. There is a certain feeling, nevertheless, that the crop may have been over-rated—that the airy calculations one hears sometimes may allow too much for the feeding value of the tops and the residual pulp, and not enough for haulage to the factory and the exhausting nature of the crop. These points and others the Kidderminster Committee will have to consider very carefully.

News comes to hand as these lines are written of another destructive farm fire, this time at the Sneyd Farm, Essington, where damage reckoned at £500 is said to have been done before the Wolverhampton fire brigade could reach the spot and extinguish the flames. The difficulty of their task was increased both by the scarcity of water—the common cause of so much loss in farm and country house fires in remote districts—and by the fact that the source of the outbreak was hard to get at, being in the midst of a big crop of corn all stacked in a barn and ready for threshing.

Among the familiar faces missing from the Birmingham fat stock show one noticed with regret that of the honorary treasurer, Mr. Howard P. Ryland; and one was sorry to learn that the illness which kept him away was more serious than has been generally realised. It was said, indeed, that there was little expectation of his being seen again at Bingley Hall. Mr. Ryland is known and respected by agriculturists and stock breeders all over the country, and the deepest sympathy will be felt with him in his affliction.

November 30, 1905.

Field Culture of Potatoes.

The market lecture at the County Laboratories, Chelmsford, on Friday last, was delivered by Mr. Alec Steel, of Prittlewell, on the field culture of the potato. Mr. Steel, at the outset, briefly alluded to the introduction of the potato into this country, observing that it was first used only as food for cattle. Touching upon the chemical constituents of the potato, he pointed out that from these they could not expect great muscle power to grow out of it.

He wished to deal with the question from his personal experience of growing for market purposes. The most important factor was to secure a plant fresh and full of internal vigour and family life. They should get the seed from a distant district. The conditions of irregular growth did not prevail where the plants grew year by year to type, and retained the full vigour of youth. Then the first, and perhaps the most important, element in potato growing was assured.

He had only been able to discover three varieties—the early, mid-early, and main crop—that were quite enough for their purpose. Potatoes were fond of virgin soil, and never throve better than on freshly broken up lea. But in Essex, owing to the ravages of the wireworm, they were generally grown from the corn stubble, which was a fair preparation. There should be deep cultivation, with fresh soil, before planting and plenty of harrowing and horse-hoeing after, and moulding the earth close up to the stems before they bloomed, to prevent green tubers. He advocated the application of stable or farmyard manure, with the addition of lime, superphosphate, and sulphate of potash.

The Chairman (Mr. H. Rankin), who is a large grower of potatoes, said that some of the points to bear in mind were to get the dung on the land in good time—as early as possible, and, if possible, use peat manure, to get the land in good order, and to be very careful about the selection of seed.

Barley Exhibition at Stowmarket.

The annual barley competition promoted by Messrs. Prentice took place on Friday at their Chemical Works, Stowmarket, and proved a most interesting event. Messrs. Prentice commenced this competition a great many years ago to induce agriculturists to give more earnest attention to the growth of the best malting barleys fit for the Burton Breweries, and to use such fertilisers to their soils as would produce the finest quality barleys, which our East Anglian soils are so admittedly capable of growing. The prizes given by Messrs. Prentice, amounting in all districts to about £100, are intended to facilitate a healthy spirit of competition amongst their customers, who are users of Prentice's celebrated Champion Barley Fertiliser, and to recoup the fortunate growers of the best samples for their necessarily additional care and trouble over their barley crop. Messrs. Prentice have paid very particular attention to barley fertilisation, and for many years past have made most exhaustive experiments, so as to produce a fertiliser just suitable to this particular plant. The result of their trials is the Champion Barley Manure they are at present manufacturing, and they claim that this is one of the most useful and least expensive fertilisers that to-day can be used by barley-growers.

A very large number of samples were entered for this year's barley competition, and a finer assortment could not possibly be shown. The judges were Mr. W. W. Pallett, of North Walsham, and Mr. Ernest Cross, of Norwich, two of the largest buyers of malting barley in the Eastern Counties. These gentlemen had a most difficult task in adjudicating the eventual winners. They spoke in very flattering terms of the excellent assortment of samples, and Messrs. Prentice were congratulated all round on having received so marked a testimony of the value of their Champion Fertiliser, from which all these were grown.

The awards were as follows:—1st prize, £20, Mr. W. M. Lawson, Bedingfield.

2nd prize, £15, Mr. Alfred Woods, Occold.

3rd prize, £10, Mr. J. A. Lankester, Old Newton.

Several county awards will be judged early in the New Year, particulars of which will be published later, as these form a separate competition from that specially arranged for the Eastern Counties. The prize-winning samples will be exhibited at Messrs. Prentice's stand, Smithfield Club Show, Islington, this week.

Hunters and Farmers.

The members of the Warwickshire Hunt have taken an important step with regard to farmers in their country by establishing a Farmers' Benevolent Fund to alleviate cases of distress amongst tenant farmers within the limits of the hunt. Those who follow hounds and are not farmers will be asked to give a stated sum to the fund. The members of the Hunt have agreed to give from their private funds an annual subscription of 100 guineas to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, and the Hunt will give grants of money to farmers in distressed circumstances who are not eligible for pensions from the latter institution.

Hiring Fairs.

Bridlington.

The annual hirings at Bridlington were held on November 25, and were well attended by masters and servants. There was a fair number of engagements made, the wages given being similar to those of last year, viz.:—Foremen, £24 to £28; shepherds, £20 to £26; herdsmen, £16 to £22; waggoners, £18 to £23; third lads, £13 to £16; and boys to plough, £7 to £13.

Chesterfield.

There was a keen demand at the Chesterfield hirings (held on Saturday week) for yearly farm servants, and wages tended upwards. Experienced men commanded £20 to £25; ploughmen and waggoners, £16 to £18; second ditto, £12 to £14; and boys, first year out, £6 to £8. Female servants were hardly obtainable.

Dumfries.

At the Martinmas Hiring Fair at Dumfries on Wednesday there was a brisk demand for women, but the rates for young ploughmen and boys showed a tendency to decline. Current wages were as follows:—Young ploughmen, £8 to £10; byre women, £9 10s. to £11; kitchen girls, £8 to £10, and up to £11 for those able to milk; boys, £7 10s. to £8, all for the half-year.

Howden.

The cold and wet weather which prevailed at Howden interfered with the second hirings there on Thursday. There was a good attendance of servants, especially males, but the presence of employers was only meagre, and business was limited. For best hands in domestic service prices ranged from £16 to £23; ordinary servants, £15 to £18; young girls, £11 to £13; farm foremen, £20 to £28; second hands, £16 to £20; lads able to follow the plough, £8 to £10 and £12 per annum.

Malton.

There was a large attendance at the Malton annual hirings held on November 25, the town being crowded all day with servants. The best demand was for strong youths who could plough and young lads, and these promptly commanded the wages of last year; strong men were to be had for less money, and the wages of female servants were generally well maintained all round. Good foremen and managing hinds received to £30 per year, second rate £24 to £26; head waggoners £17 to £19, strong youths £14 to £17, and lads £7 to £9 per annum. Domestics hired at £18 to £20 for good cooks, housemaids £14 to £16, generals £10 to £15, and young girls from £8 per annum. Strong managing girls for the farmhouse £15 to £18.

The annual dinner of the Farmers' Protection Association, Darlington (Head Centre), will be held on Friday, February 2, at the King's Head Hotel. The Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., President of the Board of Agriculture, has consented to be present.

Future of the Royal Agricultural Hall.

SIR,—In view of the persistent rumours which are now being circulated to the effect that the Royal Agricultural Hall has been secured by the London County Council in connection with its tramway system in this district, I should feel greatly obliged if you would kindly permit me, through the medium of your paper, to say that such rumours are very misleading and totally devoid of truth.

I feel that it is due to the promoters of the many exhibitions in this hall, and to the very large section of the public who attend them, to do all in my power to contradict these mischievous statements.—I am, your obedient servant,

GARRETT TAYLOR,
Managing Director, Royal Agricultural Hall Co., Ltd.

November 28, 1905.

Forced from the Land.

SIR,—As one interested in the solution of how best to get the people back again on to the land from which they have been forced by various depressing circumstances over which they had no control, may I very earnestly and respectfully ask you to give me your candid experiences and valued opinions as to the wisdom and utility of large farms of 1,000, 1,500, 2,000, 3,000, as compared to good workable farms of from 200, 250, or 300 acres at the very outside. Farms (on good land) of 200 to 300 acres each are quite large enough for any one to cultivate thoroughly. As a close observer of many years' standing, my humble opinion is that it would be far better for landowners, their tenant-farmers, and agricultural labourers, and tradesmen locally, and, in fact, the whole community at large, if all large farms were split up into 200, 250 and 300 acres each. They would be far better looked after, and more thoroughly cultivated, and more horses and farm labour would be used, and there would be far less risk of landowners losing their rents than in the case of large farmers renting 1,000, 1,500, 2,000 or 3,000 acres, as many of the large farmers are simply backed up financially by their local bankers, brewers, maltsters, and corn merchants, etc. Any extra expenses in building extra farm buildings and new farm houses could be easily got over by having model co-operative dairy factories, where they could daily send their milk to be blended together and made into butter, cheese, cream; and also co-operative stores to deal with their other products, eggs, poultry, and grain of all kinds. Loans for building new farm premises can be had at £4 16s. 11d. per centum per annum, the cost being spread over forty years on good settled entailed estates. —I am, my dear sir, yours very respectfully,

WM. MORLEY ALDERSON, F.H.R.S., of U.S.A.
(Hon. Fellow of the Institute of Bankers of New York and U.S.A.).

1, Avondale Villa,
Queen's Road, Fakenham, Norfolk,
and 18, Argyle Square, London, W.C.
Nov. 29, 1905.

P.S.—I am sending a copy of this to all the principal landed nobility and gentry in the United Kingdom, asking their views. Mr. Chamberlain proposes a 2s. tax on wheat and flour as import duty. I would allow all raw products in an unmanufactured state to come in duty free if to be made up and manufactured for home and export trade. Any made-up and manufactured goods dry, or as butter, cheese, meat, eggs, poultry, which would likely to come into acute, keen, cut-throat competition with our own products, grown or made in United Kingdom I would tax slightly. I would also give a bonus of 2s. so as to encourage our own farmers at home to grow more wheat than they do at present, simply because wheat does not pay them so well now as oats, barley, and other root crops do.

Rural Education.

SIR, I have been expecting some one before this to have taken up the question of a separate system of teaching for our country children. Briefly, my plan is this:—

No child under nine years old to be taken away from home to be confined in school and compelled to suffer, as they do now, through being denied free access to the cupboard, free range of sight, and a chance to expand their lungs.

The children to be taught by visiting teachers, provided separate from the schools, assisted by the natural parents.

From nine to twelve to be kept regular to school (health permitting); twelve to fourteen, for us to decide—which is quick enough: to be retained at home with us to learn the many trades belonging to husbandry.

The speeches of Lord Heneage, Mr. E. B. Barnard, Mr. F. Street, together with the admission of Mr. Dymond, all point to the need of a separate system. I have not time to go fully into the subject now, so ask you to put this into the waste-paper basket.—Yours truly,

S. DUTTON.

Wash-Hall,
Little Langhall, near Chester.
November 28, 1905.

Voting for the Royal Council—All or None.

SIR,—Mr. J. J. Cridlan has referred to the iniquitous bye-law or regulation which appears to be in force in the election of members of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, that each member voting shall be compelled to vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies.

Very many persons strongly object to being thus disfranchised in order, as it is stated, to prevent a certain number of members exercising their perfect right to vote only for just those candidates whom they think will best represent their views in the Council and in the management of the Society to whose funds they contribute for a special purpose.

When a very large proportion of the members have shown their disgust by refusing to vote, and thus are not forced into voting for candidates of whom they know nothing or of whom they disapprove, they are inclined to believe that they have probed this festering sore to the bottom.

Let us spend a few minutes in the probable working of this regulation. For argument's sake, we will take an electorate of 500 members, with five candidates for four vacancies. Most probably three of these candidates will be really good men, and two of them mere place-seekers or men who dearly love a good dinner. As a rule, not more than four-fifths of the members will trouble to vote, especially under such conditions as are said to be in force. Of these, say five-eighths, or some 250 votes, will be cast for each of the three good men; the two useless candidates would then each get about 150 votes, as well as half (or 125) of the votes, which must be given to one or other of them by the 250 members who have already voted for the good men which they wish to elect.

Now mark the results. The two—to put it mildly—less useful men would both get elected, as each would receive 275 votes, whilst one of the trio would be rejected as unfit to act on the Council; then, in a division, the two diners-out would follow the lead given to them by their host, whilst the two independents would vote for the good of the greatest number. Thus the whole of the members in this particular district would be disfranchised when a question which by any means could be converted into a personal matter came to be determined by vote.

I confess that I know not what advantages are claimed for this most unjust bye-law, but I do know that the results are deplorable.

SANDERS SPENCER.

November 30, 1905.

South Dorsetshire Outlook.

SIR,—We have had some welcome rain of late. Many of the wells were getting very short of water, and, indeed, all the crops required it. There has been very little growth this past autumn. I never remember such dry conditions lasting on after harvest, and so long in the autumn, which somewhat retarded Spring catch crops and wheat sowing. Consequently, many of them are backward owing to the seed lying in the ground so long before there was sufficient moisture for it to grow. It was a splendid time for cleaning foul stubbles.

Wheat proves by the threshing machine to be the crop of the season, although this does not yield as well as many expected. Barley is very disappointing in quality; most of it is threshed, and not many lots good enough for the best brewers. Oats are light and an indifferent yield. I fancy they will be worth more money as Spring sowing approaches.

The early sown roots after fallow are good, but those after catch crops are very patchy and poor. There seems to have been no life or growth in them. Mangolds were somewhat hindered in clamping by the severe frosts in October, but where they were allowed to recover, have not, I think, received any harm.

Sheep are healthy and have been doing well through the fine weather, and we are hoping for a good crop of lambs (our sheet anchor in this part of Dorset), although the keep for the Spring if we get a hard winter, does not look cheering.

Store cattle, with a plentiful supply of good hay, are holding their own, although there is very little old grass for them to browse over.

Nov. 30, 1905. H. S.

Essex.

SIR, The weather during November has been very changeable here. A fair amount of rain has fallen on some days, and several sharp frosts have occurred, with the result that the wheats are coming up very slowly. They were sown late on account of the ground being too dry to admit of drilling till November came in.

The land is being ploughed up for the winter in very nice condition, and, as all roots have been carted off the fields without any injury by the cart wheels having been done, the prospect for good seedbeds for the spring corn is all right.

Roots, with the exception of mangolds, are a very poor crop in this district. The turnips were very late sown; while September and October being too dry and the temperature too low, they did not make much autumn growth.

D. ABBOTT GREEN.

December 1, 1905.

Farming Outlook in North Wilts.

SIR,—The recent heavy rains have generally been welcomed by agriculturists, as the water supply in most districts had begun to cause anxiety. The autumn-sown corn has also benefited, for the dryness of September and October, though good for planting operations, was not so suitable for the newly-sown seed. Work is well forward, and the land has, to a great extent, been cleansed of the foul state into which it fell during the wet years of 1902 and 1903.

The cattle trade is extremely bad, which is certainly not warranted by the prevailing price of hay. Probably the chief reasons are the fall in the value of milk and beef, the great increase of stock, as shown by the agricultural returns, and—most potent of all—the shortness of money. Where milk can be sold, and hay and straw can go off, farms are taken with a small amount of capital, and that is sometimes borrowed.

Consequently, many farmers are always in a state of financial embarrassment. With low prices, high rates, and expensive labour, it is most difficult for these to keep the cart upon the wheels, and if such barren years as the early nineties were again experienced, many farms would become vacant, and rents would undergo a further fall. R. P.

December 1, 1905.

Agricultural Prospects in Kent.

SIR,—Agricultural prospects in this district are not over flourishing after a very dry October, when it was hardly possible to plough some lands, we have had a wet November, and, when it did not rain, sharp frosts were experienced. Wheat season is very backward about here, and unless we have a dry period at once, the acreage must be very short.

Most of the mangold has been secured in good condition, though a few pieces were exposed to the frost, which could not have done them any good. Potato clamps are keeping badly, and several have to be sorted over, as they are "dropping in," in which case blight has caused much havoc. There is no doubt they must be dearer in the spring.

There is still a fair bite for the flocks on the pastures, which is very fortunate, as winter keep was never much shorter about here. Mustard is good, and the frosts, so far, have not cut it down; when this is finished, the bulk of the feed has gone.

The corn crops, as a rule, come out short of expectation, and, what with present prices, and the dead loss on the hop crop, this year will have to be reckoned as one of the lean ones for Kent.

November 30, 1905. W. S.

Crops in Devon.

SIR, The past season has been a very poor one for the agriculturist. The grass land has not grown near as much grass as last year owing to a cold, dry spring. Crops have also been very light; corn, especially, is gone in very small, and a lot damaged by the rain. We had a very trying time with both corn and hay harvest, a lot of both being spoilt; and now a good bit of the corn has been thrashed, and has yielded very light—that accounts for the price advancing. There is every likes of feeding stuffs being very dear, as very few farmers have sufficient for their own use. Roots are also very scarce. Owing to dry weather at tilling time a good many farmers had to sow their ground a second time for both mangolds and turnips, and a good many places wireworms played havoc. This seems to be an increasing complaint; it appears that at present there is nothing to destroy the destructive things.

Some have tried different remedies, but nothing seems to kill nor drive them away permanently. Salt seems to check them for a little while, but the best thing that seems to answer is to till the ground affected in mustard, and, instead of stocking it, plough it in, and it will be some time before wireworms will make their appearance again. What punishes the farmer most is the high rent, rates, and taxes; but I don't know who they can blame, as most farms now are let by tender, therefore they have it their own price—at which is too often too high, and it is useless to ask for abatement of rent, because if there is a farm to let there is twenty or more want it, so they are crushing one another instead of forming some kind of union as some trades do, then their time would be much brighter than it is at present. J. H.

November 30, 1905.

Weather and Crop in South Hants.

SIR,—Owing to the dry and unusually cold October, the wheat crop this season has not been sown under the most favourable circumstances, especially with regard to the clover leys on the strong land, which is looking very backward in consequence; but, after rape and turnips, the crop is looking quite strong and even, and has much improved during the mild weather of the past week. The acreage sown (which is now practically finished) is quite up to the average.

Beans and winter oats look very promising, and quite forward enough for the time of year. Vetches and early sheep feed not so forward as at this time last year.

Sheep are doing well, with a plentiful supply of roots. Store sheep easier in price, fat sheep making good prices.

The ploughing and cleaning of stubbles, etc., are in a more forward state than for many years past.

The corn trade is firm, with an upward tendency for wheat and oats, the latter of which thrash out very disappointingly, and the former not quite up to expectations. With hay and straw selling at ruinous prices, the farmer must turn his attention to the raising of stock, which, however, is not very encouraging, as store cattle is a very dull trade. W. F. M.

December 1, 1905.

Crops in Somerset.

SIR,—The weather has been very wet during the past week, and in the previous week we had frost and a little snow, but it is bright and clear now. The weather in the autumn was very fine; there is very little wheat grown in this district, but what is is looking well. Swedes, turnips, and mangolds are an average crop, but on some farms turnips are considerably damaged by finger-and-toe.

Oats are a light crop, and the greater part light in weight. Fat and store sheep have been selling well all through the autumn, but beef (especially cow beef) has been selling badly, and the prospect for the sale of store cattle is not good.

December 1, 1905. A. S. LOVELACE.

FOREIGN CROP PROSPECTS.

FRANCE.—Weather conditions generally may be described as changeable, with a preponderance to wet. In some parts fields of wheat were reported to be under water, and in others from the same cause it has been found impossible to terminate the harvesting of potatoes. Farmers are desirous of the advent of dry weather to allow of sowings being completed, although the delay occasioned by flooding has been turned to good account in getting through with more threshing.

GERMANY. From the official report of the crops in the German Empire, recently issued, it appears that owing to bad weather many of the winter crops suffered badly. In consequence of the late sowing and unfavourable weather for germination, the condition of a large portion of the young crop was not yet ascertainable. However, a definite statement has been made that autumn-sown crops are lacking in appearance, and, with regard to potatoes, where the quantity was large, complaints existed as to rot.

ITALY. Sowings throughout the whole of the peninsular, excepting the extreme South, have been retarded during the second half of November by persistent rains. The young crops are reported as germinating well in Upper and Central Italy, but it is feared now that the excessive moisture will cause damage. The olive harvest is satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

RUSSIA. From the report of the Chief Department of Agriculture the condition of autumn sowings presented recently a gratifying aspect in the majority of districts. The whole of Europe in Russia. The area considerably increased unsown in the Government of Bessarabia and the district of Lower, and advices from other parts in the South mentioned the appearance of the worm pest in autumn-sown cereals, the crops had been exterminated by the rains, and no material damage was reported.

NORTH AFRICA. Advices of recent date from Tunis state that the temperature has been quite abnormal, a condition which is prejudicial to the fields. Farmers and natives alike are desirous of rain, and moisture is badly needed. Some farmers have sown their wheat, and reports from Kef say that the agricultural outlook is very encouraging. Barley crops are beginning to sprout.

UNITED STATES. Favourable weather in the wheat belt was reported early in the week, but later mention was made of predictions of a cold wave from the south-west, and farmers being concerned for the young wheat.

ARGENTINA. Information from up-country with respect to the crops may be regarded as satisfactory, notwithstanding that in some districts the wheat crop has suffered from heavy rains.

INDIA. From Lahore, on the 27th ult., information was cabled that following the failure of the unirrigated autumn crops in the Punjab anxiety was felt for the ensuing spring crops, which urgently needed rain. Bombay cables report slight rains in the Berar Provinces. The weekly telegram concerning crop prospects from the Viceroy, dated November 28, states that no rain had fallen in the United Provinces and Rajputana. In Central India prospects were generally fair, except in Bundelkhand, where crops were withering. No rain in Bombay, and the same as Hyderabad, but the situation was not serious. The general prospects were satisfactory at Madras, and in other Provinces fair or good.—*Dornbusch.*

By Lupulin.

Happenings at Home and Abroad.

England.

Occasional visits to Borough offices this week show me that the trade is slackening off as regards volume, but I am glad to hear of improvement in values sufficiently marked to be worthy of note. This has not been created so much by continuation of demand, as by diminution of supply. The early anxiety of growers to sell offered such inducements to buyers that a rush of orders came in, which were so willingly responded to that by the end of October an unprecedented quantity of hops had been disposed of. The activity remained during the first fortnight of last month, when the reduction of growers' holdings began to be felt, and although buyers are still willing to operate at former prices, the position is now changed. A firm tone has replaced the previous panic, and the few holders who have been bold enough to stem the tide have a good prospect of a fairly substantial reward. The advance of prices is most evident in the lower qualities, as choice lots are few and far between, and 35s. to 40s. are now readily paid for hops that a month ago were obtainable at 25s. to 30s. It appears probable that higher figures will he heard of before the close of the year, although it must be remembered that, as soon as the quotations for English produce reach a point at which importation is profitable, American and Continental shippers will be likely to operate, as large quantities are waiting their opportunity. Therefore we can hardly expect that our values will be allowed to advance much further, and it appears desirable that our English holders should watch the course of the market very closely, so that they may avoid the annoyance of being left in the cold. A good many yearlings have been sold at low rates, but I am glad to know that some are still in hand being held for better prices, that I sincerely hope may be realised.

Much satisfaction has been experienced this week by the reappearance in the Borough of our highly respected veteran, Mr. H. Jones. His serious and prolonged illness, the result of a severe operation, has aroused the sympathy of every member of the trade and of all his numerous country friends. I am personally thankful to have been permitted to shake hands with our dear old friend the other day, and to congratulate him upon his convalescence, which I heartily trust may be permanent.

America.

Growers are much disgusted by the condition of the markets, and declare that there is neither "rhyme nor reason" to account for it. Being asked to hand over their hops at prices that do not pay for the outlay incurred to put them in bales, planters are naturally asking "why this thusness?" But so long as panic rules them arguments are useless. The Oregon men have beseiged the offices of buyers, and surrendered themselves and their produce without hesitation at prices ranging from 7½ to 12 cents. The principal business seems to have been done at about 9½ cents. This depression is doubtless largely due to the scarcity of choice samples, and to the low average of quality which characterises the 1905 crop of the Pacific States. But there is some hope that "bed rock" has been touched, and that recovery of values will be gradually developed. In New York State the position is rather more favourable, from 18 to 20 cents being paid for lots having any claim to quality, and the quotation in the New York City market remains fairly firm at 20 to 22 cents for prime to choice, and 13 to 16 cents for common to fair sorts.

Germany.

The business of the past fortnight has been very quiet, consequently prices of ordinary and low qualities have not only fallen during the interval, but the tendency remains with similar indications for the immediate future. Consumers appear to have provided for their requirements, as their operations are gradually, but certainly, lessening. The demand for export is at present small, and is principally directed towards the lowest priced lots, several transactions having taken place at 18s. to 24. for yellow and brown qualities, and at 30s. to 40s. for better colousr. Arrivals are constantly exceeding sales, the increase of stock therefore creates some uneasiness, and holders are becoming anxious to reduce their responsibilities. There is, however, an appearance of firmness in the higher grades, although their current values are somewhat reduced from the figures of a month ago. For instance, scaled Hallertans stand at 55s. to 75s., selected Spalts at 75s. to 80s., while other choice growths of Wurtemberg, Baden, Alsace, etc., range from 65s to 75s. The present outlook is, nevertheless far from encouraging to sellers.

The general trend towards lower values is also shown by the currency at the great brewery centre Munich, where the following quotations are recently given in the official returns:—Certified Hallertans, 115s. to 120s.; Spalts, 120s.; Saaz (Bohemia), 140s. to 155s. The sales for the week ending November 17 were very unimportant, and in the following week no sales were made.

France.

The market at Dijon (Burgundy) has been quiet, with very limited business during November. The whole of the choice qualities have been disposed of, the balance of the crop remaining (estimated at about 20 per cent.) being entirely of the inferior class. The best of these are obtainable at 40 to 45 francs, and samples deficient in colour at 30 to 35 francs.

Belgium.

General calmness prevails in both town and country markets. The greater part of the growers have cleared out in Alost, where dealers are willing to sell at 45 to 47 francs. Poperinghe growers are not asking more than 30 francs, and have some difficulty in finding buyers.

Redhill Show.

The annual show of the Redhill Agricultural Society took place last week, the total entries numbering over 900. Additional attraction was given to the show in that the champion beasts of Chichester, Horsham, and Tonbridge shows were exhibited. The judges awarded the championship to Mr. G. J. Stanford, of Worthing Road, Horsham. There was a very fine collection of sheep; in fact, far better than there has been for several years, more especially of Southdowns. There was exceptionally keen competition in the class for a pen of three wether sheep between Mrs. Montefiore, of Worth Park, and the Duke of Devonshire, the former taking the prize with a pen which gained the championship at Tonbridge.

Bruff, co. Limerick, November 28.—Large fair, and, with a good attendance of buyers, demand was fairly active, a good all-round clearance being effected. Calves, 1st class £5 to £5 10s., 2nd class £3 5s. to £4 10s.; yearlings, 1st class £8 5s. to £9 7s. 6d., 2nd class £6 to £8; two-years-old, 1st class £11 10s. to £13 10s., 2nd class £8 10s. to £11 2s. 6d.; springers, 1st class £16 to £17 10s., 2nd class £11 10s. to £14 10s. Young pigs 8 to 10 weeks old were in fair demand at from 20s. to 25s. each.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The general tone varied but slightly from that of Monday, trade in most cereals, however, moving slowly. English wheat in moderate supply is held for steady prices. Whites, delivered up, quoted 30s to 34s; and red, 29s to 33s per qr. Imported wheat slow, and tendency of prices in buyers' favour. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 34s ex ship; Australian, ex store, 34s to 34s 6d; Russian, as to sample, 32s to 35s 6d per qr. Flour market steady: No. 1 town households, 27s delivered in; Iron Duke, 22s 6d; country patents, 25s to 27s per sack. Grinding barley dull; Azoff, 20s ex quay. English malting is held steadily. Imported oats were in slow support; 38lb. Russian 16s 3d to 16s 9d, ex quay, as to sample. Maize firm; American, old, 25s to 25s 6d; and sound La Plata, 25s landed terms.

Mark Lane, Friday. — Attendance was poor, and trading generally of a retail character, but with a firm tone throughout. English wheats were maintained in value, while foreign grades ruled firm, with Americans held for an advance; No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship quoted at 34s 3d. Maize firm, with mixed American rather dearer; for La Plata landed 24s 9d is wanted, and 24s 3d for ex ship; mixed American ex quay is held for 25s 6d and new crop ex ship for 23s 3d. Barley firm at 20s 3d for Odessa Nicolaieff landed, and 9d ex ship. Flour quiet at late rates. Oats held for 3d advance; 38lb. Russian offered at 16s 6d to 16s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheats out of condition were neglected, and prices were low, though irregular; for fair samples there was no alteration, and business was conducted between 28s and 30s a quarter. Malting barley made 27s to 30s; oats, 17s to 21s; Mazagan beans, 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 27s to 28s; foreign grinding barley, 23s to 24s; and peas, 29s to 30s per quarter. Flour: Whites, 31s; seconds, 28s; scaling, 26s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 28s to 28s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans, new, 26s to 30s; beans, old, 33s to 36s; oats, 17s to 21s; oats, old, 20s to 24s; peas, 27s to 30s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday. — Good attendance. Prices of wheat and barley unchanged. Oats dull sale, except for finest qualities. Wheat, 28s to 29s; barley, 24s 6d to 29s; oats, 17s 6d to 21s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—There was a large attendance, and business was considerably more brisk than for several weeks past. Foreign wheats met with a good demand at the following quotations:—River Plate, 32s 9d to 33s 6d per qr. (496lb.) at Sharpness. Russian 32s 9d to 33s 6d at Sharpness, Indian 32s 9d at Gloucester. Plate maize rather easy at 24s 3d to 24s 6d per qr. (480lb.) at Sharpness; flat maize unchanged at 24s 6d at Bristol. Grinding barley was 6d lower at 20s 6d per 400lb. at Sharpness. English wheats were rather scarce, and made up to 30s per qr. (496lb.) delivered Birmingham. Oats and beans at late rates.

Brighton, Thursday. — Small attendance and slow trade at last week's prices. Wheat in short supply. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s to 23s; oats, English, 17s to 20s; peas, 28s to 29s; beans, 30s to 31s.

Bristol, Thursday.—There was not a large attendance on our market to-day. English wheat in smaller supply at about late prices. Foreign unchanged. Round maize 3d lower. Flat maize, unaltered. Barley, 6d decline. Oats, unaltered. Flour, firm at recent rates.—GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday. — Wheat: The supply was only an average one, but the trade was weak in tone, although there was not much change in prices; reds or whites, 29s to 30s; revets, 28s to 29s per qr. Barley: Supply moderate, with a quiet but steady demand for useful malting parcels, at 27s to 32s per qr. Maize steady for spot delivery at 26s to 26s 6d for flat, and 26s for round; weak for forward delivery. Other feeding corns firm.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade has been inactive during the week. The condition of many samples is not so good, and buyers are more indifferent. There was a moderate show of wheat; trade was very slow, and occasionally the turn against sellers. Red wheat, 29s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lb. Barley quite as dear. Beans and oats very firm.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Wheat values firm at from 29s up to 32s for 65lb. lots. Barley a quiet demand, malting samples being worth from 28s to 31s, and grinding, 23s to 25s. Oats and beans are rather dearer, the former selling up to 23s, and choice samples of ticks up to 33s 6d.

Carlisle, Saturday. — Large supply of oats in our market to-day; good demand at 6d per qr. less money; 17s 6d to 19s per 336lb.—THOMAS ROBINSON.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Very small attendance and little grain on offer. New white wheat, 33s to 34s; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 21s to 21s 6d; oats, English, 17s to 21s; peas, 29s to 30s; beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 25s to 26s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Chester, Saturday.—The general demand was slow. American maize was lower than last market day, and wheat was easier. Oats continue firm. Quotations: Wheat, red and white, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; grinding barley, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 7d; ditto old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; Indian corn, old, 13s to 13s 3d; River Plate, new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Colchester, Saturday.—Very moderate supply; wheat steady trade at fully last week's prices. The quantity of malting barley was not large, and all descriptions sold readily at full prices. Beans and oats very strong.—JOSEPH WILLIS AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—A fairly good attendance. Wheat offered freely, and trade a fair one at recent figures. Barley ruled quiet. Peas and beans practically unchanged in value. Quotations: Wheat, old, 11s to 11s 6d per 480lb.; new, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 480lb.; barley, 27s to 29s per 448lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.; beans, old, 11s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; new, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 196lb.; oats, old, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; new, 19s to 23s per 352lb.

Derby, Friday. — No change in either the supply, demand, or value of wheat. Spring corn firm on late rates. New white wheat, 30s to 34s; red, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new, 32s to 34s. Old oats, 23s to 24s; new, 19s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday. — There was a moderate supply of corn. The trade for wheat was slow, and inferior qualities sold at rather lower prices. Other corn no alteration. The following were the quotations: New wheat, 14s 6d to 15s; secondary, 12s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s 6d; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 25s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Only a small supply of English wheat, and moderate demand. Last week's prices were repeated up to 11s 6d per load. Steady trade for foreign wheat, and prices unchanged. Fine oats were firm at late rates. Slow sale for barley, and no improvement in prices. Beans 6d per quarter dearer. Other things unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The attendance, as well as the supply, was somewhat affected by the miserable weather prevailing, the whole countryside round being enveloped all the earlier part of the day in a dense fog, which cleared somewhat towards the afternoon. Samples did not come to hand particularly well, and a quiet trade was experienced at last week's rates, on which holders declined to make any concessions, and we must quote both English and foreign as practically unchanged from previous market. Malting barley met a very firm trade owing to a shortage of offers; grinding practically unchanged in value. Trade in feeding stuffs generally inactive, but prices are about maintained.

Dublin, Friday. — Wheat, 17s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; oats, 11s to 12s 6d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 11s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday.—Trade slow. English wheat rather easier; foreign 6d dearer. English barley firm; grinding barley unchanged. Maize rather firmer. Oats steady. Flour unchanged. English wheat, 3s 6d; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday. There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour met a slow sale at prices the turn in buyers' favour. Maize scarce on spot, and held for higher prices. Barley and oats dull. Grinding beans held for 3d. advance. Pease firm. Oatmeal dull, with small demand.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday. Market quiet for wheat; prices unchanged. There is not much business passing in flour; Minneapolis patents are at 25s. net c.i.f., but buyers are not disposed to operate further, as they have flour bought ahead. Mixed American maize quiet at 15s per 280lb. Feeding stuffs generally low, with values unaltered.

Gloucester, Saturday.—There was a small attendance and inactive market. English wheat showed an easier tendency. Foreign was unchanged. Maize and barley were each 3d down. WAITE, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — An average attendance of farmers and corn factors. Small show of wheat, quotations ranging from 28s 6d to 29s 6d per quarter. Barley was in moderate supply, and sales were effected at 24s to 28s per quarter. A sharp trade in beans at slightly improved prices. Oats and peas firm.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was an improved attendance, with a slightly better trade. English wheats showed no change, and the same can be said of barleys. Oats were firm; beans little doing. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 7d per 62lb.; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56lb.; old oats, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb.; new oats, 2s 2d to 2s 6d per 40lb.; old beans, 4s to 4s 6d per 65½lb.; new beans, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 65½lb.; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65½lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat was in fair average supply, and with a fairly healthy demand, prices were practically unchanged on the week, at 30s 6d to 31s 3d per 504lb., delivered at Ipswich. Barley in fair supply, with a steady unaltered demand for useful samples, running from 28s to 32s per quarter. Oats steady on the week at 20s to 21s 6d per quarter; old scarce and firm. Maize unchanged, at 25s to 25s 6d per quarter. Grinding barley and other feeding corns all very firm. Linseed cakes firm, at £8 5s to £8 10s per ton. Milling offals firm, at last week's prices.

Leeds, Friday. — There was little doing, either in English or foreign wheats, which showed no change from Tuesday's prices. Malting and feeding barleys were the turn easier. No changes in beans, peas, oats, maize, or flour.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with limited supplies of home grown wheats, which met a quiet sale. Red wheats, 29s to 30s; white wheats, 30s to 32s per 36 stones; good barley, 25s to 28s per 32 stones; beans, 33s to 35s per 38 stones; oats, 20s to 23s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Moderate show of English wheat, which met with a fair inquiry, at the full prices of last week; a slow trade in barley at unaltered rates. Oats quiet. Beans in request and very firm.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat.—There has been only a small attendance at to-day's market, and wheat generally is quiet, with a moderate trade at an occasional ¼d decline; Manitobas are firm, however, at ¼d to 1d advance. Flour.—A very quiet trade at about last Tuesday's prices. Maize.—Mixed is in moderate demand, and prices are occasionally ¼d. dearer. Plate sorts are quiet at ¼d below last Tuesday. European grades quiet, unchanged. Barley.—Malting steady, but there is less inquiry. Feeding quiet without alteration. Beans firm, but quiet; Odessa tending dearer. Peas quiet, rather more offering, but still firm. Oats steady at about late rates, but in very slow demand. Oatmeal very scarce and firmly held at recent figures. Demand quiet. Oilcake.—A quiet trade for American at late prices. English firm with a good demand at an occasional advance. Meal firm at 2s 6d per ton advance.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English and foreign wheat was unchanged, and rather firm, with an upward tendency. Flour was slow and unchanged. Indian corn was about 2d lower for mixed American, and for Plate 1d per cental lower. English and foreign oats were in buyers' favour, but with no quotable change. Barley steady. Peas and beans firm. Bran 3d per load dearer; thirds firm and unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday. — Wheat made a small show, which sold quietly at last week's prices. Barley, oats, and beans were without change in value. Quotations: Wheat, 29s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 29s to 31s per qr.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday. — Wheat at our to-day's market was steadily held for last Saturday's prices. Maize 6d per 480lb. lower on the week; malting barleys quiet and prices easier; oats steady, unchanged in values; beans and peas dearer with a fair demand.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Nottingham, Saturday. — With a fair supply of wheat, trade ruled steady at late rates. Barley, but little offering, but sufficient for requirements; values unchanged. Oats and beans in small supply, and prices in sellers' favour.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was only a small supply of wheat at our market to-day, with a firm trade at last week's quotations. Barley was a slow show, with no quotable change in values. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per qr.; weight 62lb. per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending November 18, 1905: Wheat, 2,945, 28s 8d; barley, 16,002, 24s 6d. J. A. MILLS.

Oxford, Saturday.—There was a fair attendance, but business was restricted by the limited supplies available. English wheat moved slowly at steady rates, while feeding stuffs were quiet but steady.

Peterborough, Saturday. — A moderate supply of wheat met quiet demand, at same prices last Saturday. Barley firm but slow. Oats fully as dear.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Thursday.—There was a very good attendance on Change to-day, but business was fairly quiet. Barley and maize were offered at 3d. cheaper, oats 3d dearer. Wheat was unaltered and quiet.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—The tone has been strong and healthy during the week, with wheat values 1½d per cental more. To-day's market was only sparsely attended, and there was no change in prices, supplies being still small. Quotations: Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 13s to 13s 6d; ditto red, 12s 9d to 13s; oats, new, white, per bushel, 2s 9d to 2s 10½; beans, per windle, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday. — Although there was a fair attendance, there was not a great disposition to trade; those who would have sold set their goods at a high price, and would-be buyers stood off where they could do so, and the result was a slight trade only at following prices:—Wheat, 28s to 31s; barley, 24s to 31s; oats, 16s 6d to 21s 6d.

Retford, Saturday. Good attendance, and a fair supply of grain. In wheat there was no movement, and the business transacted was generally at 29s to 29s 6d per quarter. Malting barley was in fair demand, and useful lots in good condition readily made 26s to 26s 6d; inferior lots to 24s 6d per quarter. Small parcels of grain for feeding purposes changed hands at the currencies of last Saturday; maize making 26s; English beans, 31s; black oats, 17s 6d to 19s; and white ditto, up to 20s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday.—A dull market and a slow trade. English wheat shows a downward tendency. Prices:—New wheat, 28s to 28s 6d; foreign wheat, 33s to 36s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; ditto malting, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; maize, round, 26s to 26s 6d; ditto flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Romford, Friday. — About an average attendance, business was only moderate, and prices in many instances reduced. Wheats met a dragging market, and made a trifle less than last week, 29s to 30s per quarter. The supply of barley was very limited, and consisted chiefly of inferior samples, and trade was very quiet. Grinding barley, 23s to 26s 6d; malting, to 28s 6d; oats made barely late rates, at 18s to 21s for old, and 21s to 24s for new; peas were firm at 40s to 45s; beans, 29s 6d to 31s per quarter. Maize was firmly held.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little business passing at this day's market, and there is no change to note in the value of wheat, barley, or oats. Arrivals, coastwise:—Wheat, 700 qrs.; oats, 500 qrs.; foreign, nil.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 32s 6d to 33s; new red ditto, 32s to 32s 6d; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 21s; rye, 25s to 26s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 37s; tares, 44s to 52s; maize, 26s to 30s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Small supply of wheat, which sells at the extra prices of last week. Not much barley on offer; prices rather higher. Oats and beans scarce and rather dearer. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat firm, and a fair supply; foreign unaltered. Barley 3d cheaper. Oats occasionally 3d advance. Maize unchanged. Flour a dull trade at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK, AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—Market thinly attended. Wheat meets a slow trade at barely late rates; reds, 30s to 30s 6d. Oats firm, 19s to 21s. Other articles unchanged. —JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, and good supply of grain, with little variation in price from last week. White wheat 28s to 30s; red wheat, 28s 6d to 28s; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s to 18s 6d; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 27s 6d per qr.

Yeovil, Friday.—Home-grown wheat of best quality sold from 30s 9d to 31s 3d per quarter; secondary, 28s to 29s 9d; foreign, 33s 3d to 36s 3d; malting barley, 31s to 34s 6d; feeding barley, 21s 3d to 23s; foreign, 20s 6d to 21s; beans, 32s to 37s 6d; maize, 24s to 25s 6d; rye, 22s to 23s 6d; oats, black, 18s to 20s 6d; white, 17s to 20s 6d; Irish black, 17s to 17s 9d; rape, 46s to 49s; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. A quiet trade in flour, which sold at about last week's rates, fine realising from 24s 6d to 25s; and extra fine, 26s 6d to 27s. Offals and meals in good request at full rates of last week.

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer, and no change in prices. Fine white, 30s to 31s; red and mixed, 29s to 30s per quarter of 36 stones. Malting barley continued dull and a poor demand; fine, 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; ordinary, 23s to 25s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats scarce and dear; white Tartary, 17s to 18s; black, 18s to 19s; white Gartons, 19s to 20s per quarter of 24 stones; rye, 22s 6d to 25s; beans, 30s and 33s per quarter of 36 stones.

FOREIGN

Hamburg, Saturday.—Market rules very firm here, and prices are fully maintained; our maltsters and brewers are buying rather freely any good parcels obtainable at reasonable prices, as they are anxious to have a good stock for next season to commence with, to save the increased or double duty for malting barley, which comes into force on March 1.—FRANCIS M. TH DUHNE.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The weather was changeable; rain, storm, and light frost alternated. At present it is mild. Market quiet in general, but the improved tone in foreign markets caused a firmness, and floating parcels of foreign grain expected to arrive here before the close of river navigation attracted some attention. Since November 1 the import amounted to 37,054 tons wheat, 11,015 tons rye, 42,494 tons barley, 54,900 tons maize, 16,100 tons bran. Fine Red Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is firmly held at 33s 6d to 34s per 504lb. f.o.b. American Hard Winter No. 2 is quoted at 31s 9d 80 ks; River Plate Russo, 32s 3d; 77 78 ko Rosafe, 31s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Rye quiet; 9 15 20 South Russian afloat is offering at 27s to 27s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Malting barley firm in value. There continues a good sale for Danish at 30s to 32s per 448lb. c.i.f. Fine Bohemian and Slovakian to arrive per barge is held at 34s 6d to 38s per 448lb. f.o.b.; 60-61 ko Russian feeding is selling at 19s 3d to 19s 6d; American at 18s 6d to 18s 9d per 400lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Oats firm; white clipped American, 17s to 17s 3d per 320lb. c.i.f. Maize again in better demand. Mixed afloat due is selling at 24s 6d; December shipment at 24s 3d; River Plate afloat at 23s 9d to 24s; March-April, 24s 6d per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

THE BALTIC.

The market for wheat cargoes is weaker since the close of November. Sales have included Rosario at 30s. 6d. per 480 lb., Bahia Blanca at 30s. 9d. per 480 lb., Russian fine winter at 34s. 6d. per 492 lb., Russian Taganrog at 31s. 9d per 492 lb., Russian f.a. q. Azoff on passage at 32s. 6d. per 492 lb., Kustendje fine new at 32s. per 492 lb., Roumanian f.a.q. at 31s 3d. per 492 lb., Australian new crop for February shipment at 32s. 6d. per 480 lb., Walla Walla at 32s. 6d. per 500 lb., and Red Walla at 31s 6d. per 500 lb.

Maize cargoes are neglected as a rule, but a cargo of Argentine sold on Saturday for 23s 9d. per 480 lb.

Barley cargoes have made 20s. 9d. per 400 lb. for Odessa, 21s. 9d. per 416 lb. for Kustendje, and 28s. per 448 lb. for fine Californian. Although the market it described as weak, it is not to be called depressed, while these rates are realised for grinding and brewing grades respectively.

Cargoes of oats are held for 1s. 6d. per 304 lb. American, 16s. 9d. per 312 lb. Canadian, 17s. 3d. per 304 lb. Black Irish, and 16s. 3d. per 304 lb. Baltic. Buyers are not easy to find at these quotations. On Saturday a cargo of cottonseed arrived from Alexandria and at once sold for £5 12s. 6d. per ton.

The arrivals of grain and seed-laden vessels at ports-of-call for the week were 2 wheat (1 Adelaide, 1 Port Pirie), 1 maize (Rosario). Total 3.

The sailings of grain and seedladen vessels from ports-of-call for the week were 1 wheat (Cardiff) and 1 maize (Antwerp).

Since January 1, 1905, the total arrivals have been 299 wheat, 2 flour, 2 wheat and ots, 1 wheat and linseed 1 flour and wheat, 13 barley and wheat, 10 barley, 12 maize, 1 beans, 4 locust beans, and 52 linseed. Total 397.

Last year during the same time the arrivals were 230 wheat, 1 wheat and maize, 37 barley and wheat, 17 barley, 11 maize, 6 beans, 4 locust beans, 1 rye, 41 linseed, and 1 Canaryseed. Total 399.

East Indian wheat prices, according to the London Corn Trade Association, under Rule No. 4 of the Association East Indian Wheat Contracts, are as follows:—No. 2 Club Calcutta 33s. 6d, Soft Red Calcutta 31s. 9d., Choice White Karachi 33s., all per 492 lb.

No Bombay or Delhi wheat is quotable.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 2, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1900	53,450¾	26 10	169,149¾	25 11	20,618¼	17 4
1901	47,925¼	27 1	162,996¾	26 7	23,990¾	19 0
1902	58,793¼	25 1	189,749	24 4	32,617¾	17 0
1903	51,695	26 8	187,535¾	23 9	23,574¾	15 9
1904	45,942¾	30 4	166,869¾	24 6	35,831¼	16 2

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, November 28, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	7,661	3	11,970	19	8	1	10	1
Barley	1,768	1	2,201	13	10	1	4	6
Oats	1,591	5	1,596	14	9	0	18	11

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn Imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 2, 1905:—

Wheat	1,813,600	cwts.
Wheat-flour	334,500	,,
Barley	653,800	,,
Oats	204,000	,,
Maize	658,300	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,808,600	1,093,300	1,312,230	1,230,500
Wheat-flour	369,700	453,200	421,431	330,000
Barley	516,600	483 800	718,308	810,800
Oats	317,900	277,100	360,163	359,400
Maize	653,300	613,000	512,729	743,900

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats s.	d.
Highest of Year	30	6	25	10	17	5
Lowest of Year	26	3	18	2	15	5
Gradient	4	3	7	8	2	10
Mean of Year	28	4	22	4	16	

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1904-5	30	7	24	6	16	11
1903-4	27	2	21	11	16	4
1902-3	26	5	23	0	17	8
1901-2	28	4	26	0	20	4
1900-1	27	1	25	0	18	4
1899-1900	26	5	25	0	17	5
1898-9	26	1	26	1	17	4
1897-8	26	4	27	9	18	4
1896-7	28	8	23	2	16	9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s.	d.	Barley. s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.
1890	31 9	per qr.	28 8	per qr.	18 7	per qr.
1891	37 1	,,	28 2	,,	20 0	,,
1892	30 4	,,	26 2	,,	19 11	,,
1893	26 4	,,	25 6	,,	18 9	,,
1894	22 10	,,	24 6	,,	17 1	,,
1895	23 1	,,	21 11	,,	14 6	,,
1896	26 2	,,	22 11	,,	14 9	,,
1897	30 2	,,	23 6	,,	16 11	,,
1898	34 0	,,	27 2	,,	18 5	,,
1899	25 8	,,	25 7	,,	17 0	,,
1900	26 11	,,	25 9	,,	17 9	,,
1901	26 9	,,	25 3	,,	18 5	,,
1902	28 0	,,	25 8	,,	20 2	,,
1903	26 9	,,	22 11	,,	17 2	,,
1904	28 4	,,	22 4	,,	16 4	,,

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,587,000
Barley	,,	418,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	680,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10	27 1	24 11	16 6
November	30 4	24 7	16 0	28 3	24 8	17 6
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(*Converted into English money for sacks of* 280 *lb.*)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7
Feb.	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4
March	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1
April	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3
May	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0
June	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6
July	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0
August	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6
Sept.	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0
Oct.	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6
Nov.	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3
Dec.			31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0
Yrly. Avrg.			30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(*Sacks of* 280 *lb. ex-mill for cash.*)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	25	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9	23	9	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0
March	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	25	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	5
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	5	22	3	39	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6	23	1½	35	0
July	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6
August	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6
Sept.	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	22	0	25	3	22	0	26	5
Oct.	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1
Nov.	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0	21	0	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2	23	4	29	6

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Dec. 3	45,942¾	30	4	166,869¾	24	6	35,831¼	16	2
,, 10	50,718½	30	4	165,257½	24	4	36,625¼	16	2
,, 17	44,715¾	30	4	130,563¼	24	4	35,960¾	16	2
,, 24	33,336½	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916¾	16	1
,, 31	21,163¾	30	4	60,817¼	24	8	18,166¼	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757¾	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230¾	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754¾	16	3
,, 21	45,646¾	30	5	99,469¼	25	0	32,957¾	16	5
,, 28	48,869¼	30	6	89,496¾	25	1	41,662¼	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442¾	30	6	75,347¼	25	0	41,486¾	16	7
,, 11	50,585¾	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,690¼	16	8
,, 18	44,495¼	30	5	51,755½	25	2	36,643¼	16	9
,, 25	42,165¾	30	10	39,569¼	25	0	30,627¼	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188¾	30	8	40,477¼	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	38,118¾	30	9	23,448¾	25	2	24,306¼	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,142¾	24	11	20,270¼	16	10
,, 25	32,371¾	30	9	17,428¾	25	2	18,910¾	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,236¾	25	1	17,703¼	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104¾	25	6	15,699¾	17	0
,, 15	27,701	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	29,984¼	30	8	2,875¼	24	4	14,871¾	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,185¼	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183¾	30	8	3,014¼	25	3	11,578¼	18	0
,, 13	25,600	30	8	2,968	24	10	12,937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003¼	24	8	8,893¾	18	5
,, 27	21,508¾	30	11	761¼	24	4	9,017¾	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942¾	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247¾	24	0	6,115¼	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171¼	26	0	3,599¾	19	1
,, 24	11,574¾	31	7	145¼	23	9	3,031¾	18	10
July 1	9,579¾	31	0	289¾	23	2	3,188¼	19	7
,, 8	7,854¼	32	1	375¼	22	11	2,532¼	19	6
,, 15	4,884¾	32	3	34¼	23	10	1,902¾	19	7
,, 22	6,558¼	32	2	52¼	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691¼	32	3	24¼	23	11	3,965¾	19	3
Aug. 5	5,062¼	31	11	371¾	22	0	4,344¾	18	4
,, 12	8,184¼	30	5	648¼	22	5	8,974¾	16	11
,, 19	32,715¼	28	5	1,758¼	23	4	13,656¼	16	4
,, 26	88,696¾	27	1	6,461¼	23	6	20,855¼	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630¾	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090¼	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888¾	23	4	20,622¾	15	11
,, 16	83,182¼	26	11	30,988¾	23	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475¼	23	10	30,715¼	15	11
,, 30	104,984¾	26	9	123,125¼	24	3	42,067¾	16	1
Oct. 7	89,579¾	26	9	147,570¾	24	9	31,190¼	16	3
,, 14	85,449¾	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354¾	16	6
,, 21	90,548¾	27	1	224,530	25	0	24,637¾	16	7
,, 28	86,116¾	27	4	257,307¼	24	11	23,860	16	8
Nov. 4	80,380¼	27	10	231,869¼	24	9	28,422¼	17	1
,, 11	78,270¼	28	3	209,509	24	10	23,316¾	17	4
,, 18	87,001¼	28	7	209,520¼	24	6	32,382	17	8
,, 25	77,163¼	28	5	197,662¼	24	6	21,133¾	17	9
Dec. 2	93,509¾	28	8	177,368¾	24	6	29,859¼	17	11

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

		London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	30	0	(per sack)	27	0
,, 13	,,	29	0	,,	26	0
October 11	,,	23	0	,,	25	0
November 3	,,	30	0	,,	27	0
,, 29	,,	29	9	,,	26	9

(No change since last date given.)

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s.	0d.	per 480 lb.
Barley	24s.	8d.	per 400 lb.
Oats	17s.	10d.	per 312 lb.

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended December 2, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	93,509¾ qrs.	28s. 8d.
Barley	177,368¾ qrs.	24s. 6d.
Oats	29,859¼ qrs.	17s. 11d

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

November 22 to 29, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total.
Wheat qrs	2,800	58,000	60,800
Barley	2,100	46,000	48,100
Malt	16,391	...	16,391
Oats	3,600	94,000	97,600
Rye	100	250	250
Beans	1,110	511	1,621
Peas	427	1,760	2,187
Maize	...	19,273	19,273
Tares	55	...	56
Linseed	...	5,200	5,200
Canaryseed	...	824	824
Millet	...	410	410
Lentils	...	918	918
Haricots	...	2,000	2,000
Flour sacks	32,437	61,604	94,041
Ricetlour	...	2,000	2,000
Ryeflour	...	150	150
Oatmeal	...	100	100

CHEESE.

Newport, Wednesday.—A supply of about seven tons and a brisk demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 50s to 59s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 60s to 63s; truckles, 50s to 53s; Derbys, 66s, and Cheddars, 62s to 65s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were smaller, and business was very limited. Holders showed inclination to meet buyers. Cheddars are quoted from 60s to 63s per cwt., and Dunlops 56s to 61s.

BUTTER

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 1s 1d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 3d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 1d. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Malton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Pontefract: 1s 2d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d. Stokesley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Whitby: 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 1d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS

Saturday.—Appleby: 5 and 6. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 6. Carlisle: 5. Doncaster: 7. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 5 to 7. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Lancaster: 6. Malton: 8 and 9. Pontefract: 7 and 8. Retford: 2s 10d to 3s per score. Richmond (Yorks): 6. Skipton: 6 and 7. Stokesley: 6 and 7. Whitby: 5 and 6. Worcester: 6. York: 6.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

November was rather wetter and much colder than usual, while 36 hours' bright sunshine is not much more than an hour a day. The autumn-sown wheat looks surprisingly well considering its chilly seedbed. But more rain is decidedly to be dreaded, and a wet, mild December such as at present seems the dominant weather would mean a very poor agricultural start for 1906. Our rain gauge recorded 2,97 inches for November, and the mean warmth was only 42 degrees. Fitzroy and Glassher give the November mean at 43 degrees, and for the last ten years of the 19th century it was 43.2. In 1901 the mean was only 40.8, but 1902 registered 45 degrees, and 1903 45.5 degrees. In 1904 the warmth barely exceeded 42 degrees as a mean, but only 1.47 inches of rain fell, and it is the combination of rain and chill which is so untoward in its souring action upon the soil.

The Russian crop returns published on the 1st inst. were as follows in English weights:—

Wheat	79,285,000 qrs.	of 480lb.
Barley	41,505,000 qrs.	of 400lb.
Oats	98,288,000 qrs.	of 312lb.
Rye	85,779,000 qrs.	of 480lb.
Maize	3,996,000 qrs.	of 480lb.

These are remarkable totals. That of wheat exceeds the preliminary estimate by over 13,000,000 qr. The yield of maize is, on the other hand, much below anticipations, so that another year appears to be before us in which small round corn will be at a decided premium.

The expected change of Government in England causes a certain moderate stringency of money. Nobody is eager to lend on the verge of a General Election. But stocks of grain are not proving as heavy to carry as might be expected, and thus far there has been no sign of inability to bear carrying charges or other indication of a disposition to put stores on an unwilling market. Probably the most weakening element in the situation for wheat is a New York quotation 7s. 2d. per qr. lower from last December. On the other hand, the present price of 32s. 3d. per qr. is not underselling English wheat in London at 30s. 1d., and, so long as New York is dearer than Mark Lane, wheat should be a trade with a strong bottom. The intrinsic milling superiority of the average American over the average English does not exceed the cost of ferrying the grain over, and of landing it on the London quays. Thus the two averages, as they stand, afford a fairly accurate, if rather rough, index of market position generally.

The price of English wheat averages over 30s. per 480 lb. at Reading and at some other markets in the Thames Valley. Good prices are also made locally in Kent and Surrey. Canterbury's good average of 29s. 8d. per 480 lb. equals 31s 3d. per 504 lb., and most East Kent farmers sell by the 63 lb. bushel. In Sussex value is about a shiling lower than in Kent; 28s. 6d. is the Chichester average. Essex, a very important wheat county, quotes 29s. 1d. at Chelmsford. Suffolk quotes 28s. 11d. at Ipswich, and the same price is recorded on liberal sales at Norwich. In the North of England 28s. 2d. is quoted at Doncaster, but there are averages below 28s. in most northern an in all western counties; Salisbury, however, returns 28s. 7d., a good price for the south-west.

The price of English barley has risen to 26s. 11d. at Canterbury and to 26s. 7d. at Reading; but Salisbury, Norwich, Lincoln, Doncaster, and Cambridge, all quote under 25s. per qr. The important market of Ipswich quotes a 25s. 4d. average.

The price of English oats is good at Reading, where 19s. 5d. per 312 lb. is averaged. Chelmsford quotes 18s 9d., Chichester 18s. 2d., and Salisbury 18s. 5d., which are not unremunerative prices. At Canterbury, however, (unless there be some error in the Government returns), extreme depression prevails, and only 16s 9d. is averaged in Yorkshire.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been large. Prices have been depressed in consequenc, but have latterly shown improvement. The returns for 1905 thus compare with the thirteen first completed weeks of last cereal year:—

This season 1,130,000 qrs. at 27s. 3d. per qr.
Last season 605,000 qrs. at 30s. 2d. per qr.

The sales of British barley at the statute markets have been a little heavier than last season, but not so much so, as the larger yield per acre shown by the Board of Agriculture returns would have led us to expect. The price made has been low, but seems to be mending.

This season 1,914,000 qrs. at 28s. 4d. per qr.
Last season 1,830,000 qrs. at 28s. 1d. per qr.

The sales of British oats since September 1 have been decidedly small, and value in consequence is advancing.

This season 364,000 qrs. at 16s. 7d. per qr.
Last season 461,000 qrs. at 15s. 11d. per qr.

The imports of the U.K. for the past week have been:—

Wheat, 363,000 qrs.; a fairly good supply
Flour, 140,000 sacks; a fairly good supply.
Maize, 117,000 qrs.; not much more than half the current wants.
Barley 167,000 qrs.; somewhat excessive imports.
Oats 83,000 qrs.; a good deal less than the market requires.

Imports of the United Kingdom for September, October, and November, making the first quarter of a new cereal year, have been as follows:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	5,172,000
Flour	1,292,000
Breadstuffs	6,464,000
	Qrs.
Maize	2,654,000
Oats	1,275,000
Barley	2,410,000

The imports of breadstuffs have been a little below the average; those of spring corn have not been excessive. Of barley there has been a comparative glut, of oats a comparative scarcity. Maize occupies an intermediate position, but has certainly not been abundant.

In 1904 the imports of September, October, and November were as follows:—

	Qrs.
Wheat	6,748,000
Flour	996,000
Breadstuffs	7,744,000
	Qrs.
Maize	2,601,000
Oats	1,289,000
Barley	2,359,000

It will be seen that we are relapsing into the vicious system of importing an undue quantity of our breadstuffs in the form of flour. The English mills did a bumper business in 1904, but they now are once more feeling the pressure of American competition.

Twelve thousand pounds were paid at Mark Lane on November 24, 27, and 29 for English wheat, eight thousand quarters of which averaged 30s. 1d. per 480 lb., or 31s. 8d. per 504 lb.; the majority of transactions were on the latter basis. These are the largest sales of English wheat chronicled at Mark Lane since the new century came in, and they are probably the largest sales on record. They were, we understand, the largest since the Board of Agriculture took over the inspectorship for London, and before that date there was a tendency, owing to a weaker executive, for many firms to ignore the duty of sending in returns. The figures of pre-Board of Agriculture days are, in fact, ignored by the statistical world for the most part.

The sales of English barley and oats in London during November were moderate, but did not drop away so much as is sometimes the case.

The trade in farm seeds is improving. Red cloverseed of the new English crop is not coming to hand as fast as buyers could wish. The fine samples at 70s. to 85s. per cwt. are few, and the crop as a whole is not thought to exceed a very moderate average of quality. Hopes ran a little higher in August. Some useful samples are to hand from Germany, Russia, and Chile, and the latter are all well worthy of buyers' attention. White cloverseed, Timothy, and trefoil are still neglected, but a better demand is looked for "after Smithfield." There are offers of New Zealand cocksfoot at 60s. for the good 18 lb. type.

Supplies on passage show an increase in the important items of wheat, flour, barley, oats, maize, cottonseed, and linseed. It is only on the minor articles—beans, peas, and rapeseed—that there is a falling off. The wheat returns for December 1 were:—

	Qrs.
Californian	250,000
American	305,000
Russian	480,000
Indian	264,000
Argentine	465,000
Australian	42,000
Various	40,000
Total	1,846,000

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 4.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Russian	42	to 43
Morocco	47	to 48
American	40	to 41
Dutch	42	to 46
Calcutta	40	to 41
Argentine	39	to 40
Turkish	41	to 43
Persian	40	to 41

COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	5/9 to 6/0
Indian	4/9 to 5,0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Dutch	49	to 53
Cawnpore Yellow	38	to 39
,, Brown	36	to 37
Calcutta ,,	36	to 37
Gujerat	41	to 42
Ferozepore	36	to 37
Roumanian	36	to 38

POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	41 to 43

SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb.
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 4

[FIRST REPORT.]

There was an excellent attendance, [illegible] on the first day of Smithfield week. English [illegible] sold well at full prices, and was the [illegible] which steadily supported demand on an otherwise reactionary market. Foreign wheat gave way 6d. for Russian, Roumanian, American, and Argentine, but was steady through spot scarcity for Indian. Maize was 6d. lower for both white and yellow, but round was not usually obtainable. Small lots were proffered at quite fancy prices, 26s. to 34s., according to type and condition. Barley was 3d. cheaper for Russian, but the turn dearer for fine English, Chilian, and Californian. Oats receded 3d. for 304 lb. and 312 lb. sorts, but were in improved request at the alteration. Heavy oats were, if anything, a little dearer from the close of November. Beans and haricots were rather dearer to buy, as were some sorts of rice. Peas, rye, and linseed were firm at currencies.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

			s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.		31	33
Red	,,		29	32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)		26	27
BARLEY, Malting	,,		31	37
Brewing	,,		26	30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)		24	25
,,	(per 400 lb.)		20	24
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)		31	36
Brown	,,		27	29
Black	,,		18	20
Crystallized	,,		31	33
OATS, Best Scots	,,		22	25
New Black Winter	,,		18	19
,, Grey Winter	,,		18	19
,, Black Tartary	,,		18	19
,, White Gartons	,,		18	19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)		17	18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)		23	24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)		40	42
Pigeon	,,		43	45
Tick	,,		36	38
Winter (Old)	,,		35	36
,, (New)	,,		33	34
Spring	,,		34	35
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,		62	72
New Unpicked ,,	,,		46	56
Partridge	,,		44	46
Dun	,,		32	33
Maple (Old)	,,		35	37
,, (New)	,,		34	35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,		72	82
(English ,,)	,,		56	64
(Winter)	,,		48	56
(Spring)	,,		52	64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)		28	30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)		52	56
Brown	,,		48	52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Manitoba No. 1	34/3	35
,, ,, 2	33/9	34
,, ,, 3	32/9	33
Am'can Red Winter	33 9	34
,, Hard Winter	32 9	33
Argentine	34	34/6
Australian	34/6	35
New Zealand	31	32/3
Saxonka	34	35
Azima	33	34
Ghirka	32	33
Taganrog	31	32
Bombay	none	
Calcutta	none	
Kurrachee	32	33
Turkish	31	32
BARLEY:		
Chilian (448 lb.)		
Chevalier	31	33
Brewing	29	30
Californ'n (448 lb.)	29	30
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	32
,, (400 lb.)	24	26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	30
,, (400 lb.)	20	22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	20/6
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	22	23
American (400 lb.)	19/9	20
Persian (400 lb.)	18/9	19
Crushed (304 lb.)	16 6	17
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	35
Smyrna	33	36
Ouchak	33	36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	22	24
Australian (320 lb.)	16/0	17
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	15	20
Libau (320 lb.)	19	20
,, (304 lb.)	16	16 6
Argentine (304 lb.)	16	
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	17 6
American (320 lb.)	17—17	6
,, (304 lb.)	16—16	6

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	none	
Turkish	none	
American	24/9	25
Argentine	24	24 3
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	31	36
Konigsberg	33	36
Egyptian	34	35
Syrian	35	37
New Zealand	35	36
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	60	74
Burmese	34	44
Chilian	60	64
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	5/3
Portuguese	5/0	5,1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	44
Canadian	41	43
Konigsberg	43	46
Indian White	31	32
,, Dun	28	29
,, Green	24	25
New Zealand Maple	38	39
Victoria Dun	31	32
Gram	24	25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	43
Red	25	27
Yellow	24	25
Sorghum	19	21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	14	15
Java	13	22
Indian	14	16
Burmese	8	10
"Feeding"	7	8
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	18	20
Indian	18	20
Persian	24	25
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	30
Russian	27	28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	34	38
Swedish (Gores)	64	74

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED RATHER FIRMLY, BUT BUSINESS WAS PREVENTED TO A GREAT EXTENT BY THE BAD LIGHT. FACTORS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 4

Prices receded to-day 6d. per sack for London and country makes, also for nearly all American sorts of flour. Australian was not maintainable at quite old prices. Hungarian, however, was unchanged. Russian and Argentine are temporarily off the market; while French continues neglected. Manitoba flour made 27s. for patents on spot, 26s. 3d. on passage. Some prices quoted were 27s. 3d. for landed Wisconsan patent, 25s. 6d. for good Milwaukee, 25s. 3d. for Ohio, 27s. 3d. for good Duluth, 26s for Nebraska. Some secondary types of Manitoba were on offer at 22s. per sack. Cascadia flour was quoted at 27s. per sack. Germany sent a small supply of fine flour, which made 27s. 6d. to 29s. per sack, and fancy Belgian was on offer at 28s. per sack. Whole meal had buyers at 200s. per ton for No. 1, and 185s. for No. 2. The market for milling offals favoured holders.

LONDON FLOUR.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 ne
Town Whites	,,	27/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	24/6 ,,
No. 2	,,	21/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/6 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/6 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21/0 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25—26/6
Fine Roller whites	,,	24—24 6
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	22—22/6
Best Stone made	,,	21—21/6

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28/6—29/6
,, Second Patents	,,	27/6—28/6
,, First Bakers'	,,	21/6—22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19/6—20/6
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26/6—27/6
,, Bakers'	,,	20/6—21/6
Californian	,,	26/6—27/6
Canadian	,,	26/6—27/6
Hungarian, 0	,,	31 — 31
,, 1	,,	30 — 32
,, 2	,,	29 — 31
,, 3	,,	28 — 29
French, Corbeil	,,	25 — 26
,, Renaux	,,	24 — 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22 — 23
Australian	,,	24/9 - 25

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	19 — 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour	,,	34 — 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	13 — 14
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	18 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	14 — 15
,, Cones	,,	18 — 19
,, Gluten Meal	,,	12 — 13
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 19
Locust Bean Meal	,,	15 — 19
Rice Meal	,,	10 — 16
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 21
Rice Cones	,,	18 — 21

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 10d.	Dec. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 9d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 4d.	Jan. delivery.
,,	4s 3d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 3d.	May ,,

The market for futures today was unchanged in prices, but was a trifle steadier in feeling.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—A steady demand prevailed for a good supply of fruit and vegetables. Quotations of English produce: Grapes, 8d to 4s; apples, 5s to 10s per bushel; ditto (Cox's Orange Pippins), 2s to 3s 6d per box; cob nuts, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 12lb.; tomatoes, 3s to 5s per 12lb.; sprue, 9s to 10s per dozen bundles; celery, 6s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; horseradish, 3s 6d to 12s 6d per dozen bundles; Jerusalem artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s per half sieve; Brussels sprouts, 1s to 1s 6d; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d per bushel; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; turnip tops, 1s 6d to 2s per bag; onions, 4s 6d to 6s per cwt.; endive, 1s to 1s 3d; cucumbers, 3s to 5s per dozen; cabbages, 3s 6d to 5s; cauliflowers, 6s 6d to 10s per tally; spinach, 1s 6d to 2s per bushel; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; turnips, 2s to 3s; carrots, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12lb.; seakale, 12s to 18s per dozen punnets; garlic, 15s to 16s per cwt.; potatoes, 60s to 85s per ton.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—No new feature to report; the higher quotations from America have no perceptible influences on buyers, nor do they prevent wholesale merchants and home millers accepting prices somewhat below recent quotations. GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Offals. The demand for bran is again improving, and for most qualities prices are being quoted 2s. 6d. to 5s. per ton higher.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Demand is slow and arrivals heavy. Grain. American Indian corn, owing to an arrival, is 6d. per boll down. Plate maize quiet at 14s. 6d. Beans 3d. dearer. Oats, barley, and pease unchanged. Grey pease and gram 3d. to 6d. per 280 lb. up. Oilcake firm. Oatmeal 6d. per sack higher. Mill Stuffs.—Bran and Thirds very scarce.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

Flour.—A quiet trade at last week's full prices. —T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling Offals.—Millers keep quite clear of all grades at full prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

Wheat shipments during the past week have been large, and we have liberal arrivals. Trade is slow. Russian wheat unchanged. American 3d dearer. Flour slow at late rates. Maize in favour of buyers. Barley 3d. and oats 6d. to 1s. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: As is generally the case just previous to end of year, trade keeps quiet, but with small stocks of both foreign and home-made cakes values are well maintained. Cotton cake: Trade is ruling principally in this article owing to the comparatively low figure asked, and prices are inclined to harden. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Stocks of meal are almost bare, values being merely nominal. Linseed: A good trade and strong markets.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	0	0 to 8	5	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, Western ,,	to arrive	7	12	6		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay	7	12	6		
Russian Oil Cake ,,	ex quay	7	12	6 to 8	2	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7	0	0		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	7	0	0		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	17	6		
Eryptian ,, ,, (in bags)	ex quay	4	16	3 to 4	18	9
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5	7	6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	7	6		
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	1	0 to 2	2	6
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs.	sacks included ex warehouse	2	1	6 to 2	5	6
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.						
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,,						
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.						

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC. 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

The cargo trade is not quite so weak this morning for wheat, and is much firmer for oats. Considering the large supplies on passage, oilseed cargoes must be regarded as very well held. There are no changes to-day in the prices of cargoes of maize or barley.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Santa Fé, 31 6d per 480lb. on passage; Barletta, 32s per 480lb.; on passage; White Walla, 32s 6d per 500lb., on passage; Red Walla, 31s 6d per 500lb., on passage; Australian, 32s 3d per 480lb., February shipment; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 6d per 480lb., on passage; Roumanian, 31s 6d per 492lb., prompt shipment; Russian Winter, 33s per 492lb., prompt shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 22s 9d per 480lb., December shipment; American, 20s 3d per 480lb., January shipment.

BARLEY.—Azoff, 20s 9d per 400lb., on passage; Californian, 28s per 448lb., December shipment.

OATS.—Black Liban, 16s 6d per 304lb., prompt shipment; Odessa, 16s per 304lb., prompt shipment; American, 17s. per 320lb., January shipment; Black Irish, 17s 3d per 304lb., prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 40s 3d per 410lb., on passage; Argentine, 37s 3d per 416lb., February shipment.

RAPESEED.—Brown Calcutta, 38s 6d per 416lb., June shipment; Ferozepore, 40s 3d per 416lb., on passage.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 15s per 2,240lb., January shipment; Bombay, £4 15s per 2,240lb., January shipment.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,661 bales, and from foreign ports 9,609 bales. The bacon market was steady but quiet last week: Danish and Irish firm on short arrivals, but Canadian some 1s to 2s easier in consequence of fair supplies, and a weaker demand, ranging:—Irish, 60s to 62s up to 66s; Danish, 54s to 62s up to 66s; Canadian, 52s to 55s up to 58s, and quoted up to 60s. Butter: The butter market was quiet; Danish being again some 2s to 3s cheaper; prices ranging:—French, 100s to 120s; Danish, 118s to 120s; Russian, 94s to 108s; Canadian, 94s to 108s; Australian, 96s to 115s; New Zealand, 110s to 115s; Argentine, 112s to 114s; American, 80s to 106s. Lard: The lard market was firm:—Irish, 55s to 64s; Danish, 56s to 60s; American, 39s 3d to 40s 6d.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 4, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 5, 1904.
Beasts	200	200	1,269
Sheep and Lambs	5,440	5,440	6,950
Calves	10	10	10
Milch Cows	49	49	49

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 6d
Sheep	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 10d

Milch cows, per head, £17 to £23.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, nil; Eastern Counties, 111; Midland, Home and Western Counties, —; Devon, 35; Ireland, 12.

We note to-day an increase of 190 head in the number of beasts offered for sale compared with Monday last; trade for both prime and second quality cattle, was of a slow nature, with a downward tendency in value, though not quotably so; the slow trade experienced here to-day is partly attributed to buyers holding back their purchases for the Great 'Xmas Market which will be held on Monday next. The Irish arrivals consisted only of 12 Stores, which met with no demand, consequently they remain unquotable. Fat butchering cows and bulls were slow of sale at a decline in value for anything that was not of very choice quality.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 5, 1904.
Scotch	—	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Norfolk	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 0d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 8d ex 3s 10d
Irish	—	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 4d to 3s 6d

There was a decrease of 500 head in the number of sheep penned compared with Monday last. Trade ruled slow for all grades of both wethers and ewes, rates favouring the buyer, although, not quotably so. Irish descriptions were in smaller numbers and with a poor trade were quoted 2d. lower, on the other hand Scotch sheep sold well, at late currencies, all on offer being disposed off. The supply included 100 Scotch, 530 Irish and 1,503 from the Eastern Counties. The prospects of a clearance being made is extremely doubtful.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 5, 1904
7½ to 8 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9 st Downs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Down Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
11 st Hampshire Legs	5s 6d to 5s 8d	3s 8d to 3s 10d

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Supply good, trade quiet. Beef: Scotch, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; English, 3s to 3s 4d; American, 3s to 3s 3d. Mutton: Scotch tegs and wethers, 4s 4d to 5s; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Veal: 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: 3s 11d to 4s 3d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beast 444, sheep 660, pigs 354. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d; fat and store cattle sharp trade; fat and store sheep and pigs good demand; milch cows short supply, £15 to £22.

FOREIGN.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 460. To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, showed a decrease of 210 head, and consisted of 320 from the United States, and 140 from Canada. Trade was of a slow nature, at a decline of 1d per 8lb. on the States' cattle; Canadians were quoted at late rates. Besides the above, about 1,000 States and 300 Canadians were withheld for Wednesday. The best States were quoted at from 3s 9d to 3s 11d; seconds, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; Canadians, 3s 5d to 3s 7d per 8lb. (sinking the offal). On Saturday, 1,967 States and 233 Canadian were offered for sale, and met with a slow trade at about late rates. The best States on offer were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s; seconds, 3s 7d. Canadians, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; seconds, 3s 2d. 181 Canadian ewes were offered for sale and were quoted at from 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb. (offal given in).

Liverpool, Monday.—Supply of cattle was smaller than last week; good qualities in demand at fully late rates; middling and inferior classes difficult to cash again. Smaller supply of sheep; notwithstanding, this trade was very slow, and there was no appreciable alteration in prices. Beef, 5¾d to 4¾d; mutton, 9d to 6d per lb. At market: 1,274 cattle and 2,907 sheep.

ply; prices £15 to £22.

HOPS

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The demand for English hops continues. Stocks are now exceedingly limited, and values are hardening.

Worcester, Saturday.—An improved demand, with smaller supplies, has had a hardening effect on this market, and hops cannot be bought at late rates. Holders ask more money, and few choice lots can be found. Best medium samples are, however, very good value, and hardly pay cost of growing; 987 pockets have been weighed this week.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

SEEDS

London, Monday.—An extremely well attended market has put life into the trade. Fair business passing in clovers and grasses at firm prices. English reds are coming out freely, and find buyers at reasonable prices. New spring tares have opened too high to attract buyers here; a good trade might be done were prices reasonable. —JOHN PICARD AND CO.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Good supplies were offered, but met a slow demand. Best sorts, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Dunbars, 50s to 70s; ditto (grey soil), 55s to 65s per ton.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

At the Islington Cattle Market during the week there was a slightly smaller number of beasts on offer, trade throughout the week for both prime and second quality English cattle was of a slow nature, nevertheless, late rates were fairly maintained for the best. The supply, as usual at this season of the year, was chiefly drawn from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties. The Irish arrivals were considerably smaller, and met with an extremely dull and dragging trade, rates ruling 2d. per 8 lb. in favour of the buyer. There was a full supply of fat butchering cows and bulls, but these met with a limited inquiry from both town and country buyers, consequently sellers were willing to accept from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. less money to effect sales. On Thursday, about thirty fat beasts were on offer, but these were quite unsaleable; fat beasts and rough cattle were slow of sale at late currencies. The total number offered for sale on both markets was 4,900, as against 4,690 during the previous week, consisting of 1,280 British (decrease fifty) and 3,620 Foreign (increase 260. These latter comprising 3,387 from the United States and 233 from Canada. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 95 stone Irish, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 7d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d., ex. 3s. 6d.

The trade for sheep, both wethers and ewes, was of an extremely slow nature, the tendency in regard to value being a downward one, though barely sufficient to enable us to quote any lower rates. Scotch and Irish descriptions shared in the general depression of trade, and met a decline of 2d. per 8 lb.; this is partly attributed to the bad trade which has been experienced at the Dead Meat Market lately. On Thursday late rates were difficult to obtain for all grades, although no quotable decline can be noticed. At Deptford, 181 Canadian ewes were offered for sale. The total number penned was 6,161, as against 6,490 during the previous week, consisting of 5,980 British and 181 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s.; 11 stone Hampshire tegs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; Canadian ewes, 4s.

Calves numbered twenty, trade nominal.

Pigs (thirty), trade slow but firm, but small breeds were quoted at 4s. 6d.

Trade in the West.

The stock markets once again present slightly more satisfactory features than they did a week or a fortnight ago both in regard to store as well as fat stock. With less need for extra feeding than was the case when, with unusually severe frosts nightly, the temperature had sunk so abnormally low during the last fortnight, barreners are going strong just now, young fresh-conditioned grazing cattle making £24 to £32 per pair, the latter price being readily paid for good class Devons or Shorthorns, but more medium-class animals are scarcely in so much demand at from about £18 to £22 or £23 a pair, and rough inferior grades—old cows, etc.—are still much neglected. In regard to milch beasts we must quote all the best heifers or cows quite 10s. to 20s. a head dearer than they were, good reliable milchers selling from £18 up to £23 apiece, and, though the latter is rather an outside figure, we know of several, in which this price has been paid both for heifers and cows.

Coming to fat stock we are pleased to note less activity oth for beef and mutton. With prices decidedly favouring the seller some very good Devons, both steers and heifers, are coming out to make room for those being finished off for Christmas, and these are commanding a fairly active trade at from £15 10s. to £22 apiece for the smaller weights and £24 to £30 for heavier animals, or quite 4s. 10d. per stone, more medium quality bullocks bringing 4s. 4d. to 4s 8d., and plainer grades at 3s. 10d. to 4s., with cows at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 10d., according to quality. Best wether mutton is also selling at advanced rates, the choicest qualities making 5s. 8d. to 6s. 2d. per stone; secondary grades are rather slower of sale, but prices are well maintained at 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; ewes selling at 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. The calf trade continues exceptionally firm, best vealers, which are bringing from £4 10s. to £6 10s. each, being computed as worth 8d. to 8½d. per lb., and seconds, for which there is likewise a good inquiry, 7d. to 7½d. Porkers as well as baconers are almost eclipsing themselves in point of price, the choicest weights in porkers now bringing 11s. to 11s. 6d. (if not over) per score and hogs 9s. to 10s. 6d. (according to weight); sows 8s. to 8s. 6d. The trade in slaughtering pigs has not been so good for years as it is at present; and the spread of wine fever in different parts of the country is not likely to bring down values. As regards Christmas prospects there is a better outlook just now than many had predicted, though prices are expected to keep at a medium level for everything except the very choicest grades.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer has been a full average and the general quality good. For the best class a fair demand was experienced at prices as nearly as possible similar to the previous week, while secondary kinds were a shade cheaper. There was a full supply of sheep. For those adapted for shop purposes previous prices were obtained, but owing to the bad reports from London, hoggs and heavy weighted sheep made 1s. a head less money. Ewes in better supply than for some weeks, and they met a good inquiry at fairly satisfactory prices. A very small supply of fat calves, and the best class exceedingly dear. Fat pigs made previous prices. A few more store sheep on offer, and anything of a good class got fairly well sold, but a few of the middling sheep left over. "Big Wednesday" market has been held this week, at which there was a full average number of store cattle, many of them of a very indifferent class. There was a fair inquiry, and a good clearance effected of all well-bred cattle, but a considerable number of two-year-olds and small calves were left unsold. The best class of milch cows met a satisfactory trade, but the secondary descriptions were very difficult to sell at less money. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 39s. 1d.; current, 36s. to 37s. 6d.; Irish, 30s. to 32s.; mutton, 7d. to fully 9d per lb —JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LIMITED

Trade in Ireland.

There was a good attendance of buyers, both exporters and home trade, at last Thursday's Dublin Market. The cattle offered for sale numbered 4,339, an increase of 68 on the week; while the sheep were 5,584, or 300 less. The majority of the cattle were wanting in finish, and for such the buying was slow, and perhaps slightly lower. For really choice, well-finished beef the demand was good at about last market rates, though several of the cross-Channel buyers, who are generally in evidence for the few Dublin markets before Christmas, were conspicuous by their absence. Stall-fed beef is meeting with better inquiry than it did. Coarse beef was a drug. Prime grass-fed cattle ruled at from 28s. to 30s. per cwt. (live weight), but a few choice lots made 1s. per cwt. more. The enormous importations of foreign cattle and meat, of course, means a serious loss to the Irish cattle trade. The number of live cattle landed from foreign ports in England during last week was 11,554, and the quantity of foreign meat was 71,163 cwt. A very choice lot of cattle in Dublin Market on Thursday were fed by Lord De Vesci, and sold at 33s. 6d. per cwt. (live weight) for the London market. Best ox and heifer beef made from 48s. to 52s., and in a few exceptional cases up to 54s. and even 56s. per cwt. (dead weight); good second-quality beef, from 45s. to 47s. 6d.; and inferior ditto, from 42s. to 44s. per cwt.

The mutton trade, owing to smaller supplies, was rather more active, and there was a fairly brisk demand for best sorts of wethers, and for nicely-meated ewes, at an advance of about 1s. per head. Hoggets suitable for the North of England markets were looked for, but in heavy hoggets for London market little or nothing was done. Choice wether mutton made from 7d. to 7¾d. per lb., but the latter price was only for very fancy sheep; choice ewes, from 6d. to 6¼d., and occasionally a fraction more, per lb., and inferior sheep from 5d. per lb. upwards. For prime veal there was a good demand at from 7d. to 8¼d. per lb., but no improvement for coarse inferior calves.

A limited number of milch cows on offer, and for really good ones there was a firm trade; best freshly-calved cows making from £17 to £19, and heavy young springers from £18 to £21. Ordinary cows could be bought from £9 upwards. Store cattle still very quiet, and any purchased were chiefly for shipping. Prices very irregular. The pig market was well supplied, but the absence of some of the English buyers and the representatives of most of the Irish curing firms made trade weaker all round than on the previous Thursday, and a very tedious clearance was effected. Choice light-weight pigs sold at 50s. to 54s. per cwt. (for best); inferior, from 32s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday. — Supply of beasts compared with Thursday last showed decrease of 40 head, consist chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, and fairly large consignment of prime quality cattle; for the latter, however, there was practically no demand, quotations, consequently, cannot berecorded. Fat cows and bulls met slow demand, sales being more or less forced; nevertheless, no lower rates are quotable. Top prices: Fat cows, 3s 4d, extreme 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Sheep supply consisted entirely of Downs and half-breds. Trade very slow, late rates being obtained with difficulty, chiefly due to marked absence of retail buyers and over-stocked state of the dead meat market. Best pens made per 8lb. as follows:—8st Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10st ditto, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s. Calf trade nominal. Pig trade slow but steady; best small breeds quoted 4s 6d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb. (sinking the offal):—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 6d. Total supply:—Beasts, 100; sheep, 80; calves, 10; pigs, 30; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Supplies were on a large scale, but with no improvement in the demand, business again made slow progress at about late values. Arrivals of beef included 70 tons Scotch, 142 Liverpool sides, 2,150 hindquarters, and 1,500 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,000 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef: Scotch short sides, 3s 10d to 4s; extreme, 4s 2d; long sides, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English, 3s to 3s 4d; American Deptford killed, 3s to 3s 4d; Liverpool sides, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; American refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 2d to 3s 6d; fore quarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 2d to 2s 4d; forequarters, 1s 9d to 1s 10d. Mutton: Scotch tegs, 4s to 5s; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; extreme, 4s 8d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; Scotch ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English ditto, 3s to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Lamb: New Zealand, s2 8d to 2s 10d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 4s to 4s 8d; Dutch, 3s 11d to 4s 6d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef, in smaller supply, sold rather better; prime heifers and steers making 4s 4d to 4s 8d per stone; prime animals are now being kept back for Christmas trade. Best mutton made up to 6d a stone for Downs, and 5s 8d for Kents. Veal dearer, up to 5s 4d. Pork also dearer, roasters making up to 4s 8d per stone.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbord and Sons' sale yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 29 fat beasts, 47 calves, 379 fat sheep and lambs, 310 pigs, and 161 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Fat Shorthorn beasts made up to £19 18s.; Welsh runts, £17 to £21; two-year-old Galloways up to £18; cows £13 to £15; fat calves 65s to 85s; small 20s to 50s; fat hogs 69s to 85s; porkers 48s to 64s; small 28s to 45s; store pigs 10s to 26s; dairy cows £8 15s to £21 15s. Best Down wethers and young ewes made from 50s to 54s; ten months old 50s to 55s; smaller 40s to 48s; three months old sucking lambs 26s to 38s; old Down ewes 34s to 40s; Down rams 43s to 55s; smaller and inferior 36s to 42s. A little more inquiry for fat beasts, previous prices ruling in most transactions. Fat sheep met a good inquiry from buyers for local and distant markets; late rates well maintained with a satisfactory clearance. There were plenty of buyers of the best class milch cows and heifers at an advance in price. Store cattle met a better inquiry, a clearance being nearly made at more money. Fat calves sold well at late rates. Fat hogs and porkers continue a brisk trade, and for all good ripe quality pigs late prices were well maintained. Fat sows are in demand, selling readily. Store pigs were cleared without a brisk trade. Best fat beasts 6½d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior 4½d to 5½d per lb; best fat sheep 8½d to 9d; second ditto 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior 6d to 6½d per lb; fat calves 7d to 8½d per lb; fat hogs 9s 6d to 10s 6d; fat porkers 11s to 12s 6d; fat sows up to 8s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Cattle numbered 439 beasts — 35 less than the previous week. Attendance of farmers and buyers small, quality of stock good, and trade bad. Calves, £4 5s to £5 5s; heifers, £8 10s to £10 10s; stirks, £9 to £10; two-year-olds, £12 to £13; Shorthorn bulls, £11 10s to £13 10s.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Fair supply of pigs, small supply of beasts and sheep. Trade fair for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Beef, 4½d to 6d per lb., a few Herefords 6½d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb., a few 9d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 9d to 9s 10d per score; cutting pigs, 10s per score; porkets, 11s 4d per score; sows, 8s 3d to 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef was plentiful, but demand scarcely up to the average, and best qualities declined slightly in value, being quoted at 54s to 56s per cwt. Sheep were fairly numerous, and trade was quiet, last week's prices being maintained in all grades, whilst ewes went up to 6½d per lb. Pigs were in short supply, and porkers advanced 3d to 11s per score.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Cows and calves were selling at from £14 to £20 10s; yearlings, £8 to £9 10s; and two-year-old heifers up to £13 per head.

Carlisle, Saturday.—The supply on the Sands was the smallest of the season, there being only about 100 Irish store cattle forward. Buyers were scarce, and the market was very slow. Wintering heifers, £8 10s to £12 10s; horned bullocks, £7 10s to £9 10s.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under	9 6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ..	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	9 0
Under 12 sc. ... ... ,,	3 in. ...	8 6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Chester, Thursday.—Supplies were well up to the average, and there was a very good demand for best dairy stock. In other classes trade was quiet, and the market proved very disappointing to sellers. Prices generally ruled much the same as last week. Milch cows, £15 to £22; calvers, £14 to £18; barrens, £10 to £13; heifers, £8 to £14; and stirks, £5 to £9.

Colchester, Saturday.—There was a good trade, and a good supply this week all round. Beef, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s per 8lb.; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of cattle, and

quality above the average. Steady trade, and prices firm. Milch beasts, £16 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; young stores, £5 to £7 each. Small supply of sheep, and though trade was not brisk, prices were firm. Hoggs, 38s to 44s; shearlings, 42s to 46s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—To-day's cattle market was again heavily supplied, especially with barreners, of which Messrs. Ensor and Son held their second sale to-day. In spite of unpleasant weather the sale was well attended, and a brisk trade resulted, especially for young fresh conditioned graziers, which made up to £28 per pair, ranging down to £18 for plainer grades; two-year-old steers making for Devons up to £12 10s. Milch beasts made very brisk, especially for heavy milchers, which brought from £17 to £21 10s for best, and from £14 to £16 15s for others; in-calvers, £10 10s to £14; a few good fat heifers sold from £15 to £17 for medium weights (or up to 11s per score); fat bulls making to £17 (or 9s. 6d to 10s). Not much doing in mutton, with a firmer trade. A good many barreners were again bought to go into Somerset; a good clearing trade resulted.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts 4,339, increase 68; sheep 5,584, decrease 360; calves 36, increase 11. The demand for choice cattle was well sustained, but late rates could not be exceeded. Rough sorts were rather in excess of requirements and some concessions had to be made in order to effect sales. No material alteration in price of sheep compared with last week, though buyers operated very cautiously. Cattle (live weight), best 27s to 29s 6d per cwt.; exceptional for Angus crosses up to 32s. per cwt; rough and inferior sorts 24s to 26s 6d per cwt. Mutton (dead weight), 5½d to 7¼d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There was a large supply of store cattle, with a good trade; Polled bullocks sold to £14 15s; horned, £14 10s, and stirks, £10. A good show of store sheep; half-bred hoogs sold to 37s, Cheviot Dinmonts to 38s, cross hoggets to 28s, and Black-faced Dinmonts to 34s each. A fair sale for cows; Shorthorns to £26; crosses to £23 10s, and Ayrshires to £19 10s per head.

Exeter, Friday.—Smaller supply of beasts; good demand for best sorts; steers and maiden heifers, 11s per score; cows, 9s to 10s; mostly all sold. Large supply of sheep; better quality at late rates; hogs, 8d to 8½d per lb.; wethers, 8d; ewes, 6d to 6½d; all best sold. A large number of lambs, for turnips, 32s to 38s each; many unsold. Calves, 7½d per lb.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was a moderate show; demand slow, owing to the glutted state of the dead meat market. Top Scotch cattle, 63s; current, 60s to 62s; top Irish, 56s per cwt.; top hoggs, 9½d; secondary, 8½d to 9d; top wethers, 8d to 8½d; secondary, 7½d per lb Dead meat easier; best Scotch beef, 6d; States, 4¾d to 4⅞; Canadians, 4¾d to 4¾d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows: A very large supply of cows and calves (95), with good trade for the best quality, the highest prices being £21 2s 6d, £21, £20 10s, and £20. A very short supply of store cattle, with fair trade.

Hereford, Wednesday.—The beef trade was slightly better than last week, best heifer and bullock beef rallising from 6d to 6½d pr lb.; cow beef made 5d per lb. The supply was good. There was only a few calves on offer and the demand was poor; veal fetched from 6½d to 7d per lb. The sheep trade was bad and the supply meagre; best wether mutton made 8½d per lb. and ewe mutton 6d to 7d per lb. Porks were a fair trade at from 5½d to 6d per lb., and baconers sold well at 4d to 6d per lb. There was a good supply. The store cattle trade was very dull.

Leicester, Saturday.—Full average consignments of home-bred stock. Trade ruled sluggish at fully 10s per head decline. Choice milch cows, £20 to £23 10s; good lots, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; Shorthorn cattle, £10 to £12 10s; Irish bullocks, £12 to £15; Welsh runts £9 to £11 10s; calves, 20s to 40s; lamb hoggs, 32s to 33s each.

Lincoln, Friday.—Large consignments of beasts, and a dull trade. Yearlings, £8 to £10; two-year-olds, £12 to £16; and drapes, £10 to £12. Sheep were penned in small numbers, and the demand was fair; hogs, 38s to 43s.

Lynn, Tuesday.—A little larger show of fat beasts, 7s to 8s per stone; smaller show of stores, slow trade, £6 to £14 each. Small show of fat sheep, 9s to 10s per stone. Scarcely any store sheep, 42s to 44s; lambs, 26s each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First class, 4¾; second class, 3¾d to 4¼d; third class, 2¾d. to 3¼d. Mutton: First class, Scotch cheviots, 7¼d; others, 7d; second class, 6d to 6¼d; third class, 5¼ to 5½d. Veal: First class, 7d.; second class, 6d to 6½d; third class, 5d to 5½d. Bacon pigs: First class, 5½d; second class, 4¾d. to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porker pigs: First class, 7d; second class, 6¼d to 6¾d; third class, 6d to 6¼d per lb.

Norwich, Saturday.—Trade not so good for fat beasts, of which there was a large supply, top price being 7s 9d per stone; slow trade again experienced for store animals, which were offered in large numbers for lateness of season; values in home cases showed a decrease of 5s to 10s per head, and prices averaging £6 to £16 per head. Very few store sheep and dragging demand, keeping hoggets making 30s to 41s per head. Fat sheep penned in large numbers, and prices ranging from 9s to 10s per stone. Ready demand for fat pigs, at 6s 9d to 7s 3d per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Smaller show all round, and trade about the same as last week. Best milch cows, £18 to £21 10s, and in-calf heifers, £13 to £17; strong heifers and steers, £9 to £13; younger beasts, £6 to £9; calves, 25s to 45s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—Although there was a fairly good supply both of cattle and sheep, buyers were not very numerous, and a rather quiet trade was experienced all round. Cows and bulls made 5d to 5¼d; heifers and bullocks 5¼d, hoggs 5¾d to 6¾d, tups 5¼d to 6d, ewes 6d to 7d, and lambs 8¼d to 8¾d per lb.

Retford, Saturday. — Limited show, but quite sufficiently for all requirements. Milch cows of first-class quality were especially scarce, and worth £17 to £20; steers and heifers, £12 to £14; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 40s each.

Romford, Wednesday. Fair supply of fat beasts, average trade. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade good at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Average supply of sheep, trade about same: best, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. No store beasts offered. Pig trade fair at late rates.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Small supplies. Beef trade quiet. Sheep and pigs met with ready buyers at steady prices. Quotations: Beef, 5½ to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 7¼d to 9d per lb., veal, 7½d to 8¼ per lb.; porket pigs, 8s 9d to 10s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 8s 9d to 9s 9d score. Cows with calves up to £24 12s 6d. Numbers offered as follows: — Cattle 402, sheep 287, calves 63, pigs 445.

Thame, Tuesday. There was not quite such a large attendance of buyers as usual at this market, no doubt many are hanging back for the great Christmas Show on December 12, for which special entries of cattle have already been received. There was a capital entry of cattle, the quality being excellent. Trade was about the same as previous week, a practical clearance being effected. Sheep still continue scarce, with a firm trade. Veal, bacon, and pork in demand. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 72 fat beasts, 92 fat sheep, 71 fat and weaning calves, and 112 fat and store pigs. Fat heifers made from £16 to £21. Fat oxen from £17 to £24 5s. Fat ewes 42s to 50. Fat tegs 43s to 48s. Fat wethers 50s to 56s. Fat calves £3 to £4 10s. Weaning cow calves 20s to 55s. Bull calves 10s to 70s. Bacon hogs £3 10s to £5 10s. Porkers 26s to 48s. Stores 12s to 22s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk. Attendance very good. Fat bullocks, 54s to 58s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 34s; wethers, 7d to 7½d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7d to 7½d; pigs, 8s 9d to 42s each. Beef, 6d to 8d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 8d; lamb, 6d to 8d; veal, 6d to 8d; pork, 6d to 8d; bacon, uncured, 6d to 7½d; ditto, cured, 7d to 9d; pork carcasses, 4½d to 5½d. Number in cattle market:—Bullocks, 424; calves, 65; sheep, 182; pigs, 194.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday. — Fair supply all round. Trade slow for beasts, good for sheep. Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 9d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Moderate supply of stock, with prices down as compared with late rates. Best beef, 6s 6d to 7s; secondary, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown wethers and cross-bred shearlings, 7d to 8½d; ewes, 4d to 7d per lb.

POTATOES.

Goole, Wednesday.—There was a large attendance, but not much change in prices. Royal Kidneys and Evergoods made £2 per ton, and best Dates 50s to 52s 6d. Potatoes are still being shipped to America, 200 tons being now ready. No change in retail prices.

Manchester, Saturday.—Yorkshire warps, 7s to 9s; sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire kidneys, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Irish, 3s per cwt.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been in excess of the demand, and prices for all samples have been in buyers' favour. The following are this day's quotations:—Scotch Up-to-Dates, 55s to 65s per ton; Scotch B. Queens, 55s to 65s per ton; Lincoln Evergoods, 50s to 60s per ton; Lincoln Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s per ton; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 50s to 57s 6d per ton; Blackland B. Queens, 50s to 55s per ton; Blackland Evergoods, 50s to 55s per ton.—R. G. BROWN.

York, Saturday.—Fair supply of potatoes, with a steady demand at late rates. Best sands made up to 40s, and warps 45s to 52s 6d per ton.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday.—Butter: The demand for Australian butter this week has not been quite so brisk as last owing to the large arrivals (which are the largest for any week this season), having cast their shadows before them. The number of boxes arriving during the week being over 32,000, but next week only 18,000 are due, and the following week 12,700, and for the week ending December 23, 25,800. The prices of "Choicest" salted Australian are 112s per cwt., with an occasional 113s and 114s. "Finest" salted are making 104s to 108s. "Choicest" Queensland makes 108s, and "Finest" 104s to 106s. The Danish official quotation has been lowered by three kroner, and the market is reported dull in Copenhagen. The competition of New Zealand in the North of England is causing the reduction in the price of Danish. Siberian arrivals are very small this week, and about 5,000 boxes of Argentine have arrived and are selling at 112s to 114s. Cheese.—There has been a good trade in Canadian cheese, and "Choicest" goods are making 60s. per cwt for white and 61s for coloured. "Finest" white sells at 58s and coloured at 59s, but the "Choicest" goods are much the better value.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

WET GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet Grains.—Prices are now very firm at 21s ale, and 1/ to 18s porter per ton. These prices being current at this time last year, and as all other feeding stuffs are so much dearer, higher prices may still be looed for. Wet distillers' grains maintain price at 30s and 32s 6d per ton. Pressed white distillery meal, 32s 6d to 35s per ton. Dried grains are without change, ale 102s 6d, mixed 97s 6d, and distillers 115s. These are relatively the cheapest feed, as thoy havo not depreciated with other feeding stuffs. Dried Distillery Meal.—45.80 per cent oil and albuminoids, without change, 117s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO.

Irish Live Weight Quotation.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

The following returns are those of actual sales made in Robson's Cattle Mart, Belfast, the stock being weighed either before or after sale, for week ending Oct. 3, 1905.

No. of Beasts.	Description and Quality.	Average Live weight.	Average price per head	Average price per cwt.
		c. qr. lb	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2	Bullocks (prime) ...	10 3 0	16 12 6	1 10 11
1	" " ...	11 0 21	17 5 0	1 10 10
1	" " ..	9 0 14	14 0 0	1 10 8
2	" (very good) ..	9 1 7	13 12 6	1 9 3
2	" " ...	9 0 3	13 0 0	1 8 9
2	" " ...	9 3 14	13 17 6	1 8 1
1	Heifers (prime) ...	11 2 7	17 15 0	1 10 8
1	" " ...	10 0 7	16 5 0	1 10 4
1	" (very good) ...	10 2 0	15 5 0	1 9 1
1	" " ..	10 2 0	14 15 0	1 8 1
1	" " ...	11 0 7	15 10 0	1 8 0
2	" " ...	10 0 14	14 0 0	1 7 8

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed. The arrivals are 20 qr from Harlingen, 250 Libau, 5,677 St. Petersburg; total, 5,947 qr. The shipments for the week ending November 24, were: Plate, 52,000 orders and other U.K. ports; 52,000 Continent; total, 64,000 qr. Calcutta: 5,190 London; 1,090 other U.K. ports; 6,000 U.K., via Cape; total, 76,280 qr. The market is lifeless, and values are 6d. per qr lower on the week. River Plate: Spot, 37s 9d ex store; afloat and November December sold at 37s 9d; January February nominally 36s 3d. Cottonseed. Without quotable change in prices of Egyptian, the market has continued quiet, and only a moderate business done at £5 12s 6d spot, £5 11s 3d passage, November and December January shipments, which are to day's values. Bombay sold at £4 15s December, and this price since accepted for shipment by 5th of the month, January offers at £4 14s 6d, and January-February £4 12s 6d. Oilseed Cakes. A steady market, at previous rates.—KEIGHLEY, MAXSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday.—Linseed. Market is steady with a rather improved demand, sellers very reticent. Calcutta-London Spot 40s; afloat 40s, October-November 40s, November December 39s 3d, April-June 38s. Hull—rather more inquiry. La Plata spot 38s, passage 38s, November-December 38s 3d, December-January 37s 6d, and January-February 37s. Rapeseed easier and buyers difficult to find. Yellow Cawnpore November-December 42s 6d. Yellow Guzerat 43s 6d. New crop, March-May shipment, Yellow Guzerat 43s 6d, Yellow Cawnpore 42s 6d, Brown Cawnpore 38s 9d., Ferozepore 38s 9d. Brown Calcutta new crop 37s 9d. Cottonseed.—The market has been very quiet; for the last two days Alexandria has been practically closed, on account of holidays, which has somewhat interfered with business. At the close there was a firm tendency. London—Spot £5 16s 3d, November-January £5 13s 9d. Hull—Spot and passage £5 13s 9d, November-January £5 to £5 12s 6d Oil Cakes.—Linseed cakes firm. London made £8 2s 6d to £8 5s. Cotton cakes firm. London made £4 17s 6d to £4 18s 9d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO., LTD.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Supplies of foreign continue on a very limited scale, and most of the home mills are either running short time or turning their attention to cottons; consequently, values are fairly well maintained in spite of a very poor consumptive demand. Russian remain relatively cheap at last weekes prices. American still offer unchanged. East India seed pures may be bought at late rates. London-made are only sparingly offered, and needy buyers are compelled to pay full prices of last week. Cotton cakes: The market is almost bare of stocks, but a steamer parcel, shortly due, is procurable at last week's quotations, while slightly less would be accepted for late delivery. English move off steadily at 1s 3d per ton less money. Decorticated, London-made, finds a free sale at £6 17s 6d for cake; £7 for meal; and £5 5s for special digestive meal. Rape cakes do not offer. Maize germ meal: A parcel of white American, shortly due, offers at £5 17s 6d free to trucks, at which it is in moderate request. English remain scarce and dear. Maize gluten meal may be bought at £6, both in spot and forward positions. Rice meal: A fair business has been done in the past week in steamer parcels of Rangoon at £4 16s 3d to £4 17s 6d, and the market has a further hardening tendency. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is temptingly offered at £4 15s per ton. Locust beans are unchanged at £5 10s for whole, and £5 15s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is fully as dear at £10 10s per ton ex quay for spot for spring delivery.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	8 2 6 to	
Russian, in bags	7 12 6 to	7 17 6
in mats.....	7 11 3 to	7 12 6
Round Trieste..... (in bags) ex quay		
American ..... ex quay	7 10 0	
Calcuta to arrive.....	7 15 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 16 3 to	4 17 6
" for shipment.....	4 15 0	
English.....	4 16 3 to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
" " " Meal.....	7 0 0	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta		
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 16 3 to	5 17 6
American, Dec /Jan.....on rail	5 17 6	
American		
Maize Gluten Meal..... .....June/Dec.	6 0 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice .....ex ship	4 16 3 to	4 17 6
Rangoon		
Broken Rangoon Rice .....ex docks	4 15 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	10 10 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kibbled.....	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations: Hay, £3 15s to £4 per ton; clover, £4 to £4 5s per ton; straw, 2s 8d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 80s to 90s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed straw, 50s to 55s per ton; oat straw, 50s to 60s per ton; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s per ton.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4¾d to 5½d; clover, 5¼d to 6½d; wheat straw, 3½d; oat ditto, 3¾d to 3¾d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Supplies were of fair extent, but a quiet demand prevailed. Prices:— Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 72s 6d; good ditto, 60s to 70s; inferior ditto, 45s to 57s 6d; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 25s to 34s per load.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—A brisk demand continues, and values have hardened all round.

The Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac, 1906.

Good as have been the past issues, we think it will be generally agreed that the 1906 edition of "The Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac" now in its fourteenth year, is the best of the series it is certainly the largest, 272 pages. In general appearance it is on similar lines to those which have made it so popular - namely, plenty of readable, and, at the same time, useful, articles and an abundance of illustrations, the latter depicting various phases of farm life, and horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs that have figured notably in our show yards during the year; there are also the many useful tables and statistics, brought up to date, so valuable for reference at all times. In fact, this "Annual" has become to be looked upon as *the* farmers' handbook. Recognising this, many have familiarly termed it the "Farmers' Red Book," and falling in with the idea, the publishers have this year bound the pages in a deep red coloured cover, and given "The Annual" the subsidiary title of "The Farmers' Red Book," under which designation "The Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac" is likely to achieve even greater things than in the past.

There is another innovation which calls for mention, and this is a Fertilisers' and Feeding Stuffs' section. During the past year there has appeared each week in the MARK LANE EXPRESS a Yellow Supplement dealing exclusively with the two matters just mentioned, and it is the success which this has achieved that has induced the publishers of "The Annual" to devote some of its pages to fertiliser and feeding stuff matters. We think the innovation will be generally welcomed, for both subjects deeply affect farmers, many of whom in the past have been somewhat careless in the purchase of their manure or feeding stuffs, but happily are beginning to understand the advantages arising from thoughtful consideration of the manure to apply, and, when buying, seeing that they get what they pay for, and not a manure deficient in some of its most valuable constituents. The same remark can be applied to feeding stuffs, and it is this necessity for care in the direction stated that the Yellow Supplement in the MARK LANE EXPRESS has for months past been strenuously pressing home to agriculturists, and to a great extent this is the object of the new section in "The Annual," but it also has another aim, and that is the dissemination of knowledge concerning the various fertilisers and feeding stuffs, and this the numerous facts, etc., given cannot fail to do

So much for a general survey of The Annual; now let us turn to the articles. In the first place there is 'An Agricultural Programme," which, in connection with the promised early General Election, should prove of the greatest interest. Farmers are called upon to sink their political views, and to unite in pressing upon candidates for Parliament the necessity of passing several measures (which are enumerated) of vital importance to agriculturists in general. This "Agricultural Programme" will be much in evidence at the next General Election. Then we come to two old and welcome features of this Annual, namely, the reviews of the past year's work and its results, etc., on the farm, and details of pedigree live stock sales in 1905. The subjects are not unduly laboured, the review of the farm work taking up less than a dozen pages, whilst the pedigree stock sales details are given briefly yet sufficiently. The result is they are of general interest to all, whereas a lengthy discourse of every breed would not appeal to every one, whilst much valuable space would be taken up. The chief value of such particulars is their recording for future reference the results of the year 1905, and this the articles in question do amply.

Small holdings are always a subject for interesting discussion, and therefore the article, "A Country of Small Holdings," by L. P. Hadley, will be welcomed, for it gives some interesting details of some successful holdings. Hunters have for several years past been receiving increased attention from farmers, and in "Hunter Breeding for Farmers," "Pleasure and Profit" gives some good advice on the subject. An interesting insight as to how agriculture is taught in an agricultural college in Australia is given by J. T. Critchell's article, "Hawkesbury: An Australian Agricultural College"; "Miller Farmer" gives some useful advice in "Success in Flour Milling"; whilst E. G. F. Walker has one of his characteristic contributions written in West Country vernacular, and containing much that is humorous, sometimes sarcastic, but, nevertheless, has many truths, in "Experiences with a Moral." Our Position as Regards Light-Horse Breeding" is considered by W. Scarth Dixon. G. H. Hollingworth contributes "After the Potato Boom," and the gist of his remarks may be imagined; J. B. Simpson has something to say concerning "Wintering Store Cattle in the North of England"; and the year's doings of the Royal Agricultural Society in connection with its show and Park Royal are recounted by "A. J. B." "M.R.C.V.S." gives some instructions on "How to Blister the Horse." The shows of 1905 and the hop trade are reviewed by "A. W. S." and "Lupulin," respectively; whilst there are other articles, including one on geese by "J. W. H.," and another on "Birds in the Field and Garden" by "R. W. D."

It will thus be seen that the articles cover a wide range of subjects, practically all branches of our greatest industry receiving attention. The illustrations are better than ever, and include portraits of the President of the Board of Agriculture, the President of the Royal, and the Chairmen of the Central Chamber and the Farmers' Club. Although bigger than last year, the price of "The Annual" is still 1s., of all booksellers, or can be had post-free 1s. 4d. from the offices of the "Mark Lane Express," 3, Wellington Street, Strand, W.C.

Border Union.

The report presented at the annual meeting of the Border Union Agricultural SIociety states that the animal show was very successful as regards both the number and quality of the exhibits. The total receipts for the year amounted to £1,161 18s. 6d., or £31 15s. less than in 1904; and the total expenditure to £948 8s. 5½d. The balance at the credit of the society now amounts to the substantial sum of £482 4s. 5d. The Duke of Buccleuch was elected president for the year, and Mr. John Scott, Ploughlands, was unanimously re-elected secretary and treasurer. It was agreed to hold the annual show on Monday, August 6 next, the date of St. James's Fair, and the ram sales were fixed to take place on the second Friday of September, being the 14th of that month.

Gloucestershire Chamber.

At the meeting of the members of the Gloucestershire Chamber of Agriculture was held at Gloucester on Saturday last, when the subject of "Our System of Local Taxation" was discussed, and the following resolution was unanimously passed: "That the rise in the rates is a serious danger, and this Chamber wishes to draw the attention of the Central Chamber of Agriculture to the desirability of abolishing the compound rate-payers." The following proposition was down for consideration, to be introduced by Mr. J. G. Hawkins: "That exhibitors, who, regardless of cost, maintain shows as a hobby, are injurious to the agricultural industry, in so much as they alienate the sympathy of the country in its state of depression."—Mr. J. H. Jones said Mr. Hawkins, being unable to attend, had asked him to introduce the subject, but he presumed, in view of the advanced hour, they would not go on with it that day.—The Chamber agreed, and it was understood that a motion would be introduced at the next meeting of the Chamber.

Tunbridge Wells Farmers.

The chief subject of discussion at Friday's meeting of the Tunbridge Wells Farmers' Club was the traspasser nuisance, particularly gipsies. Mr. Troy spoke of the difficulties of dealing with trespassers on farm lands, and observed that he found the worst trouble with gipsies. He thought the club should ask the Central Chamber to take some steps to deal with these people. Mr. Williamson remarked that gipsies thought they could go on anybody's land and do what they liked with other people's property. Mr. Parris said he knew of a case in the Crowborough district during a fair, when no fewer than thirty horses were found in one field. It was difficult to get rid of them. The police were called, but little could be done. Several other farmers present agreed as to the unsatisfactory state of the law of trespass. Mr. Troy suggested that delegates to the Central Chamber should urge for something to be done to bring gipsies' vans under the same sanitary arrangements as ordinary house property. This would soon doubtless change matters. The bulk of those present agreed with Mr. Troy, and a motion by him, as suggested, was passed.

Berkeley Hunt.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society held at Berkeley on Wednesday. Mr. R. A. Lister was voted to the chair in the absence of Lord Fitzhardinge, and in the course of a speech said they could again congratulate themselves upon the society being in a unique position of prosperity. The total receipts had been £1,036, and of that sum £690 had been distributed in money prizes, which indicated that no less than two-thirds of the income went right into the pockets of those competing for the prizes offered by the society. The prizes for the best-fenced farms were only second in the great advantages offered by the society. One could not help being struck, when going about the country, with the amount of work provided through these competitions and the consequent improvement in the neatness of the farms and the appearance of the countryside in the Berkeley Hunt. It was largely through the generosity of the latter that these prizes were forthcoming, and £55 was a very substantial sum to be divided (hear, hear). Their society had been referred to as one of the best educational institutions in the kingdom for the development of observation and knowledge in a practical way. The reports and accounts were adopted, and Lord Fitzhardinge re-elected President. Then followed an interesting discussion on the cider industry.

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Rates for the conveyance of the traffic may be obtained on application to any Great Northern Station Master or Agent, and will in no case exceed those in force by any other route.

Exhibitors should be careful to address their exhibits "per Great Northern Railway." Through vans for the conveyance of exhibits will be run wherever necessary

Special arrangements will be made for the return of exhibits, &c, at the close of the show, and exhibitors are requested to mark the return labels "per Great Northern Railway."

A Great Northern Company's representative will be in attendance at the show, prepared to give exhibitors and others all information with respect to train service, &c.

OLIVER BURY,
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Publishing Offices: 1, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

Live Stock Record.

SMITHFIELD WEEK—SOME SHOW PARTICULARS.

This week is one of, if not the most, important of the year to farmers. The principal event is, of course, the Smithfield Club Show, or, as it is more amiliarly known, "The Cattle Show." This is expected to be rather above the average of recent years, and it remains to be seen whether his Majesty the King will repeat the remarkable series of successes gained at Birmingham. It is quite possible that one of the animals from the Scottish National Show may prove too much for the Birmingham winner, while there may even be a dark one somewhere in waiting.

His Majesty the King has notified his intention of visiting the Cattle Show to-day, at three p.m.

In addition to the Show, farming bodies of all sorts will hold meetings. On Wednesday, the Royal Agricultural Society will meet to appoint the new Secretary, while the annual farmers' dinner will take place on the previous day, under the chairmanship of the Earl of Derby, among the guests ebing the President of the Board of Agriculture.

The President of the Smithfield Club for the year is Lord Tredegar, who also filled this position twenty-five years ago. The interest in the Show is universal, breeders and exhibitors throughout the United Kingdom vying with each other for the valuable prizes offered by the Club, but more especially for the possession of the magnificent challenge cups presented by his Majesty the King, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and H.R.H. Prince Christian of Schleswig-Ho'stein.

The total value of the prizes offered is £4,153, which is allotted to the various sections as follows:—Cattle, £2,060; sheep, £1,185; pigs, £490; carcase competition, £296; and table poultry, £122. As it is possible for the champion beast to win £260 and the King's Challenge Cup, the best pen of sheep £110 and the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup, and the best pen of pigs £70 and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup, it is natural that the finest animals in the United Kingdom should compete, including the champion animals from Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Norwich.

The chief alterations in the prize sheet are:—First prizes for Red Polled cattle increased in value to £20 each, and the value of the breed cup increased to £20; a £10 breed cup offered for Kerry and Dexter cattle, and £10 breed cup for small Cross-breds instead of a £15 breed cup between these breeds. Separate classes for Devon Long-wool and South Devon Lng-wool lambs; and a class instituted for single pig of any distinct or cross-breed. In the carcase competition the cattle and pig sections remain as last year; but in the sheep section the classes offered last year are now offered for pure breeds only, and additional classes are instituted for cross-breds.

The entries for the general sections of the Show exceed those of last year, the numbers being 301 head of cattle, 163 pens of sheep, and 107 pens of pigs; a total of 571 entries, comparing with 550 last year. In the carcase competition the entries number 24 cattle, 60 sheep, and 57 pigs, and the table poultry section 187 entries.

The carcases and table poultry will be sold by auction on the Thursday of the Show.

The following table shows the entries in the various sections for the last five years:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Cattle	301	276	286	262	273
Pens of sheep	163	168	152	165	157
Pens of pigs	107	106	115	101	96
Carcase competition:—					
Cattle	24	32	22	15	24
Sheep	60	59	56	37	46
Pigs	57	35	39	—	—
	712	676	670	580	596

LIST OF JUDGES.

Cattle.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex.—Skinner, Alfred C., Pound Farm, Bishops Lydeard; Stanford, Alfred, Eaton, Steynings, Sussex.

Herefords and Red Polled.—Keene, Rees, Llanvihangel Court, Rogiet, Newport, Mon.; Bruce, A. D., Elvetham Park, Winchfield.

Shorthorns and Cross-breds.—Peter, James, Berkeley, Glos.; Eady, C. H., Lockinge, Wantage.

Aberdeen Angus and Galloways.—Whyte, William, Hatton of Eassie, Glamis, N.B.; Biggar, James, Grange Farm, Dalbeattie, N.B.

Welsh and Highland.—Harris, J. W., Pilrhoth, Llanstephan Road, Carmarthen; Macdiarmid, Robert, Castles, Lochawe, Argyll.

Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-bred Cattle.—Hordern, F. A., Buxted, Sussex; Roumieu, G. F., Bethune House, Farnham, Surrey.

£25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup.—Stratton, Richard, The Duffryn, Newport, Mon.; Ferguson, W. S., Pictstonhill, Perth.

Sheep.

Leicesters, Border Leicesters, Cotswolds, and Lincolns.—Marshall, William, Cottam House, Driffield; Smith, Henry, The Grove, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

Kentish or Romney Marsh, Devons, etc.—Amos, Alfred, Wye, Ashford, Kent; Tuckett, William, Stockleigh Pomeroy, near Crediton.

Cheviots and Mountains.—Davidson, William, Cornhill Farm, Cornhill-on-Tweed; Linton, Simon, Oakwood, Selkirk.

Southdowns and Shropshires.—Penfold, Hugh, Moat Farm, Marston, Ampthill; Berry, A. S., Church Farm, Whittington, Lichfield.

Hampshire Downs and Suffolks.—Bennett, E. J., Chilmark, Salisbury; Smith, J. T., Dodnash Priory, Bentley, Ipswich.

Oxford Downs and Cross-Breds.—Eady, John M., Lancefield, Thorpe Malsor, Kettering; Eagle, T. Blake, Manor Farm, Thrupp, Oxford.

Ryeland and Dorset, etc.—Price, David, Bulwark House, Brecon; Kidner, John, Dodhill House, Taunton.

Champion Plates for Long and Short-woolled Sheep and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup.—Thomas, William, The Hayes, Sully, Barry, Glamorganshire; Coxon, Charles, Elford Park, Tamworth.

Pigs.

Small White or Small Black, Middle and Large White Breeds.—Parr, John, Ruddington, Nottingham; Daybell, D. R., Bottesford, Nottingham.

Large Blacks and Berkshires.—Townsend, W., The Manse, Stroud, Glos.; Kimber, J. W., Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.

Tamworth and Cross-Breds.—Hill, J. B., Smethwick Hall, Congleton; Nichol, Anthony F., Bradford, Belford.

Champion Plates and Prince Christian Challenge Cup.—Crosland, Walter, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon; Philip, D. W., The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham.

Carcase Competition.

Cattle and Sheep.—Bright, R., Ivingtonbury, Leominster; Clark, C., Aberdeen House, Upper Clapton, N.E.

Pigs.—Cottrell, J. E., Abingdon, Berks; Venner, R. P., 97, Southampton Street, Reading.

Table Poultry.—Brooke, C. E., 11, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, N.; Phillips, E., 9, Sloane Street, S.W.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

In consequence of the diminished interest in the feeding of fat stock for the Christmas markets, caused by the low prices, altered public taste, and other circumstances, several firms of auctioneers in the County of Worcester have abolished the custom of giving prizes at their Christmas sales. This custom has been discontinued by the auctioneers at the fat stock sales in some of the Northern Counties for several years, and it is probable that it will gradually die out entirely, as the object for which it was instituted no longer exists.

The demand for pedigree pigs from the well-known Walton herd, belonging to Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., of Walton Hall, Warrington, still continues brisk. A very choice Middle White boar has just been sold to Mr. Maclennan, for exportation to the Argentine, and was shipped from Liverpool on the 25th ult., per the Houston Line steamship "Harmonides." On the 28th ult. a fine Large White boar was shipped from Grimsby to Hamburg on account of a customer in Schleswig-Holstein, and on Thursday last a high-class Middle White in-pig sow was despatched per the steamship "Tokomaru" from the Royal Albert Docks, London, its destination being New Zealand. These pigs were of that high standard of excellence usually to be found at Walton. The home trade is said to be in a very flourishing state.

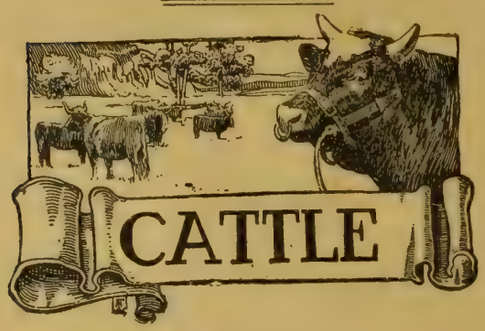
The Warwickshire Agricultural Society seem to be having a difficulty in finding an invitation for holding their show next year. It will be remembered that the Rugby and Dunchurch Agricultural Society recently decided that it was not desirable that the County society should hold their show in that town next year, and now the Atherstone District Council, on being asked, have by no means jumped at the offer. At a meeting of the Council last week, a letter was considered from the Warwickshire Agricultural Society, inquiring whether it was desirable that the annual show of 1906 should be held in the town of Atherstone, and stating that it would be necessary to provide a suitable site of about sixteen acres. It was pointed out that there would be some difficulty in the way of coming to Atherstone, seeing that the local Horticultural and Horse Society held their annual exhibition in Merevale Park about the same time, whilst the question of the prize list was also a very serious matter. Another member thought that the County show would also have a deleterious effect upon the Ansley Agricultural Show, and expressed the opinion that the local shows were more beneficial to the farmer. After some discussion, the Council deferred the question for a fortnight, in order that they might see what action was taken by the Nuneaton District Council, by whom a similar application had been received.

At a meeting of the Council of the Cleveland Agricultural Society, held at Redcar last week, it was decided not to amalgamate with the Yorkshire Show, which is to be held at Redcar next year, but to hold the show separately as usual.

The Council of the Suffolk Sheep Society met last week, when a letter was read from the Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, saying that the Stock Prizes Committee had had under consideration the composition of the prize sheet for the show to be held at Derby in 1906, and it was decided to recommend to the Council that the prizes for Suffolk sheep should be:—First £10, second £5, and third £3, in each case, for

shearling ram, three ram lambs, dropped in 1906; three sharling ewes of the same flock, and three ewe lambs, dropped in 1906. The Council of the Suffolk Sheep Society decided to give a class for two-shear rams, and one for single ram, with prizes of £10, £5, and

Messrs. Alfred Mansell and Co., of Shrewsbury, have recently despatched to Tasmania a small but very choice lot of Southdowns on account of Mr. Hart. Mr. Alfred Mansell selected all the animals, and for this purpose had visited Sandringham and Summersley. In rams Mr. Hart got a valuable sire bred by His Majesty the King, being one of the pen of three which won first prize at Park Royal, 1905. This ram was also the winner of first and champion at the Norfolk shows of 1904 and 1905. Another equally good ram hailed from Mr. Brassey's flock, and has been used extensively this season by Mr. Ellis, from whom he was purchased. In ewes, Mr. Hart obtained six of Mr. Ellis's best ewes (prize winners) in lamb to high-class sires. In selecting, special care was given to obtaining nice character, cherry skins, and dense wool.



Notes and Jottings.

The great annual Midland Counties fat stock show occupied the attention of most breeders last week. The show was all round an excellent one in point of quality. If there need be any complaint, it should be on the score of weight with regard to a few of the animals, some sections weighing lighter proportionately than others. The attendance during the week was very satisfactory, the private view day, as the Monday is commonly called, giving a considerable increase in gate money from the previous year. Tuesday in the Midlands was a very rainy day throughout, and so affected the gate adversely to a very slight extent. Wednesday and Thursday were also very good; indeed, on the Wednesday Birmingham was fuller of company than for years past.

Another very satisfactory item to report is the capital demand experienced for the animals that were for sale, the salesmen being able to report a record day on the Monday for sales, and this appeared to be followed up later, as the majority of the lots were labelled sold by the Wednesday evening. The prices obtained did not generally transpire, but there is reason to believe that these also were on the brighter side as compared with recent markets. The stock generally appeared to be very healthy, which is another gratifying point, and what is perhaps more gratifying of all is the fact that both the championship of the show and the reserve for the championship were won, and fairly so, by the pure-bred classes.

The great trophy of the breeders' champion prize, as well as the elaborate hundred-guinea cups presented for competition by Messrs. Elkington, Webb and Sons, and Mr. Joseph Thorley, were all carried off by H.M. the King's famous Hereford steer, first prize in the under three years old class. Like all the Windsor exhibits, he was bred in the Royal herd, sired by Iron Duke, and his dam Silver Cup. In age he is rather at a disadvantage, being but two years and nine months old, yet he weighs the extraordinary weight of 18 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb., and is as active and free from over-feeding as a calf. His back and prime parts, too, are quite first class, and what is most creditable of all to the white faces is the fact that he is one of a class of eight, all of which are of great beauty and quality.

The reserve champion was H.M. the King's first prize Shorthorn heifer Madeleine, by Silver Plate. In age she is a couple of months older than the Hereford, she, however, for a female, scales quite remarkably, being 17 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb., and carries her weight in very little compass. This, again is a wonderful achievement for a heifer of that age, and a highly-bred one. The success of the Royal herd was altogether a study, as, in addition to these champion honours, the best Hereford, best Shorthorn, and best Devon animals all came from the Windsor sheds, and the weight of these animals proves that both breeding and feeding have been most skilfully and creditably arranged and managed. Year after year the stock from the Royal farms find a high level, and their right to the honours accorded them is seldom disputed.

In the first of these notes it is mentioned that the only complaint that could be made in respect to the cattle at Birmingham was the too light weights recorded in a great many instances. When animals of any of the large pure breeds or crosses of those breeds are fattened from the day of their birth until three years old and do not attain more than from 14 to 15 cwt. there is something that ought not to be encouraged. Either the animals are of too small a cast, which means that with ordinary feeding they would not have made sufficient weight to be profitable or otherwise, and, what is quite as bad, their carcases must consist of flabby fat instead of close-grained flesh. A heavy weight in a small compass is considered by the butchers to be the best possible indication of flesh.

Comparing the weights of the pure breeds with those of the large crosses, or, more properly, the crosses of the large breeds, the females suffer perhaps most, the first and second prize heifers between two and three years scaling respectively 14 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lb. and 14 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb., whilst the Shorthorn heifers scale 17 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. and 14 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb., the third-prize heifer also weighing 15 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. The first-prize Hereford heifer also turns the scales at 17 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb., and the second 14 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. The cross-bred steers over two and not exceeding three years, too, run at 16 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb., 16 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb., and 16 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb., the Herefords being 18 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb., 16 cwt. 0 qr. 24 lb., and 18 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb., and the age of these latter is not at all in their favour. The Shorthorn steers of that age are not quite as heavy as the Herefords.

Comparing the two exclusively beef breeds, the Herefords with their best steer 18 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb. at 2 years and 9 months old, the second prize one 16 cwt. 0 qr. 24 lb. at 2 years and 8 months, and the third prize one 18 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. at 2 years and 8 months, the Aberdeen-Angus of the same class first prize steer is 16 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. at 2 years 9 months, the second 15 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. at 2 years 11 months, and the third 16 cwt. 0 qr. 19 lb. at 2 years and 9 months, matters do not argue very favourably for the desired alteration in the date of the latter breed, some of these being as heavy, practically, as the Herefords that were not calved till after the usual date, and also that the oldest steer of the Angus breed, Mr. Earl's second prize one, which was born in December, according to the age given, is the lightest of the three first winners in his class.

Turning from beef to milk, one of our dailies gave an account recently of an action that had been brought against a milk seller owing to the poverty of milk drawn from a cow in the presence of the inspector, the said sample not being taken from the whole of the cow's milk. It is well known, or ought to be, by every one who sells milk, as well as by those who are considered competent inspectors, that the first portion of milk drawn from a cow with a full udder is simply skim milk, as compared with the last pint from the same cow. The case is rather difficult to understand. The producer certainly ought to have known better than let such a sample be taken, whilst the inspector was similarly unfair, and why costs were imposed on the farmer in such a case is very hard to see.

We have seen, too, prosecutions, or attempted prosecutions, for too much water being found in butter. Some argue that an excess of moisture in butter is of so trifling a consideration as not to be deserving of prosecution, as the excesses mentioned were so very slightly in excess of the allowable percentage. There is another side to this question, namely, the damage that this moisture does to the butter, which is of far greater importance to the consumer than the mere question of weight. When the buttermilk, or water that is used for washing the butter, and which in this process becomes more or less butter milky, is not thoroughly worked out, that butter will not keep sweet for any length of time, frequently in hot weather becoming sour after even two days.

IMPORTANT TO FARMERS.—The best Farm Account Books are "WEBB'S PRACTICAL FARMER'S ACCOUNT BOOK," with Preface by Clare Sewell Read; 72nd edition; 6s.; larger size, 7s. 6d. JARROLD'S IMPERIAL FARM ACCOUNT BOOKS, 3s. 6d.; JARROLD'S FARM LABOUR BOOKS, 2s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., post free. List of Game and Dairy Account Books, post free, of Jarrold and Sons, 10 and 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.—[ADVT.]

The demand for milking cows continues very brisk, though we hear but little of exceptional prices; this may, however, be due in a great measure to the fact that the generality of calving cows just at this time are rather lower in condition than in the average of seasons, owing to scarcity of feed in the middle of the summer, the time when, owing to the calf they were carrying being but a very light burden, they would, had their pasturage been good, have prepared themselves for winter's work by laying on plenty of flesh. In many herds complaints are rife as to the milk yield. This may be due in a measure to the dryness of the hay, a great deal of this product last year was far too much done before being stacked, and will need more roots to compensate it.

For some reasons, too, probably the same, butter has been more regular in price recently, and at a better price in many country districts than for some time past. A good supply of butter in the dead of winter is difficult to maintain, particularly if quality is to be regarded as well as quantity, and therefore a good fair price is necessary if a profit is to be made. One thing that helps much with the butter income during the winter months is the fact that the separated milk is of much more value, either for selling or to use up for calf rearing. The latter business should be most looked after at this time of the year, as good calves can be purchased more cheaply, and they get a start over those not bought till next May, when milk is plentiful again.

The milk records in Mr. John Evens's herd of Lincoln Red cattle, recently published, give excellent results, though in some past seasons those of the present year have been exceeded. During 1904 forty-three cows yielded an average per cow of 842 gallons, eight of these being heifers with their first calves. In 1899, however, it appears that 860 gallons per cow was reached on the average of 34 animals, and in 1896 forty-three cows gave an average of 889 gallons, 867 being recorded for the previous year. The records since 1890 appear to have been very good each year, though a little variable, the lowest average being 720 for thirty-five cows in 1891. Having regard to bad seasons as well as ill-luck occasionally, these records are very high.

Canadian Cattle Agitation.

Association Formed.

A conference of delegates representing nearly 100 county councils, borough councils, harbour boards, co-operative societies, butchers' associations, and agriculturists, was held on Monday for the purpose of considering the formation of an association to advocate the free importation of Canadian cattle. Bailie Watson (Glasgow) presided.

Rules for governing the Association which it was proposed to form were submitted by an executive committee appointed at a first conference called by the Glasgow Corporation last May. It was agreed that an association should be formed, with the title of "The Free Importation of Canadian Cattle Association of Great Britain," and that it should consist of chambers of agriculture, farmers' clubs, chambers of commerce, of municipal, harbour, railway, and local authorities, and of co-operative societies, butchers' and cowkeepers' associations, commercial and shipping firms, and any other parties interested in the removal of the restrictions on the importation of Canadian cattle. The object of the association was defined as "to secure the amendment of the Diseases of Animals Act of 1896, by providing for the abolition of the compulsory slaughter of Canadian cattle at the port of landing in Great Britain."

At the close of the formal business,

Mr. Hamar Grenwood briefly addressed the gathering. He said that everyone connected with Canadian administration was keenly interested in obtaining the removal of the embargo on the importation of Canadian cattle, and the Association would have their enthusiastic support. It was the unanimous opinion of the Canadian people that the present restrictions were unfair, unreasonable, and unjustifiable, and, indeed, one Minister of the Crown had gone so far as to describe the restrictions as constituting an unfriendly act. That being so, he thought it was full time that the British Government took cognisance of this disapproval on the part of the Canadian people. In these days of noisy Imperialism a splendid opportunity had presented itself of showing consideration for Canada, and at the same time benefiting the majority of the people of Great Britain.

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

If the Neapolitan Prince did nothing but talk of his horse, as Portia complained, the Senior. Puisne judge of South Australia has no eye for any other light horse than the Arab. He "takes a fragment for a whole, and calls the whole a part" in framing his indictment against the English Thoroughbred, and everyone who does not agree with him is either put down as one of the crowd of "bookies, jockey boys, ten-dollar amateurs (whatever they may mean), dandies, barmaids' best boys, etc., for Sir James Boucaut treats us to a lot of this sort of thing in his book, "The Arab, the Horse of the Future."

I have seen a few Arabs in my time, and I have seen and known many good ones. But it is not doing any good to the breed as a breed to give it virtues which it does not possess. For instance, I have seen a weak-backed Arab, slack in the loins. Sir James Boucaut would have us believe that this does not necessarily imply lack of weight-carrying power—in the Arab. Well, in the instance which came to my notice it did, and I fail to see how a horse that is faultily made can be no worse for that faulty construction, simply because he is of a particular breed. I have seen Arabs, as I have already said, such as any man might be proud to have in his stable; I have seen others that I would not find on a line—with upright shoulders, straight pasterns, and little feet.

It is no part of my duty in these columns to discuss matters relating to the Turf, but I may say that, in common with all lovers of the horse as an animal, I am strongly opposed to the multiplication of short-distance racing which took place a few years ago, and which the Jockey Club has done its best to suppress. But I join issue at once with Sir James Boucaut when he asserts that the (asserted) deterioration of the Thoroughbred is due to short-distance racing. The latter is an effect rather than a cause. The cause of our Thoroughbreds not being what they ought to be, and what they easily might have been, is that we have neglected all but one particular strain of blood, and in-bred to that to the neglect of others, especially to the neglect of the great Herod line. Naturally we suffer from the consequences of continual in-breeding which in our case is to a very considerable extent indulged at the dictates of Fashion. There are countless breeders for the sale rings, and it is of little use sending up yearlings for sale unless they are by a fashionable sire.

But are we alone in following this pernicious plan of continuous in-breeding? I trow not, and the modern Arab is as in-bred as the modern English Thoroughbred. It is prejudice, which is perhaps only another name for Fashion, which has induced the Arab to go in for in-breeding to an extent which has certainly injured the breed. This statement is made on the authority of Darwin, and I certainly prefer Darwin to Sir James Boucaut as an authority.

Sir James Boucaut cites the English cavalry horse used in the Boer War as part of the indictment against the English thoroughbred. He is, by the way, very full of wrath about the English trooper and never fails to make an opportunity for comparing the useless English horses with the horses of the Boers, which he asserts to be Arabs, an assertion of which he does not give any satisfactory proof. Now, I do not hold a brief for the English trooper; he is, as a rule, very moderate. And how can he be expected to be anything else when £40 is the price paid for him? So long as the present system holds, English troopers will continue to be moderate. Even if the average quality of English bred horses were to improve by 50 per cent. or even 100 per cent., the class of troopers would show little improvement, because men have more sense than take the regulation price for a good horse. That there is always a better market for a good horse than the Remount Department affords, goes without saying.

Ex parte and prejudiced statements respecting a breed do a great deal of harm. And the harm they do is not to injure the breed in the eyes of impartial judges, but rather to distract attention from the weaknesses of the breed which they are used to attack. No good can possibly arise from bitter controversies about the superiority of one breed or another. In the heat of argument things are said pro and con which have no foundation in fact, and which are apt to confuse the main issue.

I presume what we all want is a sound, hardy, fast horse, capable of doing a heavy day's work and "coming again" within a reasonable time. We want something more than this. We want a horse with smooth action and good manners. And we want him, naturally, at a little price. It strikes one forcibly that the best way to obtain that horse is to use the material we have, and make the best possible use of it, rather than commence experimenting in the way of "making" a breed. We have a record of our thoroughbreds going back for two hundred years, and it is the only record of any breed which can boast of a life of two centuries. The Stud Book, much as Sir James Boucaut despises it, is an invaluable record of what has taken place, and if we study it carefully we shall, I think, soon find our general purpose thoroughbreds improving.

Let me give an instance or two of the good which is in the general purpose thoroughbred of the present day, the horse that is anathema to Sir James Boucaut and his friends. In the first place the best harness horse I ever sat behind was a thoroughbred, bought out of a selling race for some £15. He on one occasion did his twelve miles within the hour with much of the road against the collar. The two of us who were in the heavy dogcart would average 14 st. each, and there was some luggage, which might be put at another two or three stone. And at the end of the twelve miles the horse was as fresh as he was at the start.

A gentleman of my acquaintance buys every now and again thoroughbred yearlings. He buys big, long colts or fillies, not fashionably bred, and he never gives more than 20 gs. for one. Generally they make excellent 14 stone hunters. I have in my mind's eye now a mare he bought which was one of the best 15 stone hunters I ever saw, and which was bought at a yearling sale for under £20. I am quite sure that if some of these "unfashionably"—how I hate the word, but I must use it—bred yearlings were, instead of being forced for a yearling sale, allowed to live a more natural life, generously fed of course, but given every liberty, they would leave their breeders much more profit than they do at present, for they would grow into sizeable horses with plenty of bone. It has always been a wonder to me why such a plan has never been adopted, and horses sold at four instead of one year old.

"Sizeable"! Yes, that is where the difficulty comes in. It is somewhat curious when one hears people talking of undersized breeds, light bone, and other equine failings, to find them advocating the Arab-cross, and I am very much afraid the farmers would not look at an Arab sire for their half-bred mares, even if one could be found for them. They have been taught that big horses are wanted. Now those who have read these notes for the last two years do not need reminding that I have always advocated the small, neat thoroughbred, full of character and courage, as a hunter sire, and for the same reason I should like to see an Arab have a chance with some good Cleveland mares. But it must be an Arab with good shoulders, good back, and good action in all his paces, and in this latter quality a considerable proportion of the Arabs I have seen have been wanting.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sale of Shires at Derby.

Sir Oswald Mosley's shire horses have such a wide reputation that a sale of some of them always attracts a large company of breeders from all parts of the country, and such was the case on the 24th ult., when at Derby Repository, Messrs. Sexton, Grimwade, and Beck brought under the hammer a number of firstclass shires belonging to Sir Oswald, and also some from Mr. H. W. Kearn's well-known herd. All the animals met good competition, and a satisfactory sale resulted, Sir Oswald Mosley's twenty-six animals averaging about £81 per head, and Mr. Kearn's thirty-six, £61 each. The best figure of the day was 340gs. given by Mr. R. Whitehead for Sir Oswald's Bodenham King, an excellent stallion, a son of which (Rolleston King) was sold later for 220gs., to Mr. E. Balderson. His Majesty the King paid 105gs. for Rolleston Conqueror, a two-year old filly, whilst Lord Egerton of Tatton was the purchaser of Pendle Helvellyn, a yearling colt, at 151gs., a similar sum being paid by Lord Burton for Harleston Gloaming, a four-year old brood mare. Mr. Gould, of Lynn, Cheshire, gave 260gs. for Darling, a massive grey brood mare. Other three-figure prices were 115 gs., given by Mr. Forshaw, of Carlton, for Fascination, a three-year-old filly, and 120 gs., paid by Mr. Jackson, of Knottingley, for a filly foal. A sale list is appended.

The property of Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart.

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES

	Gs.
Keythorpe Duchess, b., s. Hendre Champion — Mr. Seawall	62
Holker Extravagance, b., s. Moorland Paxton — Mr. J. Conchar	63

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Rolleston Conquest, b., s. Blaisdon Conqueror — H.M. the King	105
Rolleston Waif, b., s. Bodenham King — Lord Camden	95
Dunsmore Narcissus, br., s. Dunsmore Masterman — Mr. R. Smedley	84
Horninghold Maimoun, b., s. Dunsmore Masterman — Mr. Swindells	61
Rolleston Folly, b., s. Hendre Conqueror — Mr. C. E. Cooke	34

STALLIONS.

Bodenham King, b., f. 1897; s. Kesterton — Mr. R. Whitehead	340
Severn Bradford, b., f. 1901; s. Bar One II. — Mr. E. Christian	41

YEARLING COLTS.

Rolleston King, b., s. Bodenham King — Mr. Ed. Balderson	220
Stockley King, b., s. Bodenham King — Mr. C. Keevil	28

YEARLING FILLIES.

Rolleston Darling, gr., s. Bodenham King — Mr. Watts	56
Rolleston Stamp, br., s. Bodenham King — Mr C. E. Cooke	40
Queen Blossom, b., s. Bodenham King — Mr. Geo. Brown	70
Stockley Queen, b., s. Bodenham King — Mr. C. E. Cooke	28
Poppett, b., s. Bodenham King — Mr. Geo. Brown	21
Elderflower, br., s. Bodenham King — Mr. J. W. Phillips	45

FOALS.

Brown colt foal, s. Blythwood Kingmaker — Mr. Frohock	28
Bay colt, s. Severn Bradford — Mr. Thompson	26

BROOD MARES.

Lady Barnett, br., f. 1900; s. Royal Rock — Mr. Feilder	40
D'Arcy Charming, br., f. 1899; s. Iron Chancellor — Mr. Gallimore	70
Rosa, br., f. 1899; s. Blythwood Harold — Mr. C. Thompson	60
Desford Stamp, br., f. 1899; s. Stonewall — Mr. Wood	43
Rolleston Future Queen, b., f. 1899; s. Warwick IV. — Mr. W. Bowler	74
Darling, gr., f. 1898; s. Coleshill Carbon — Mr. Jas. Gould	260

THREE-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

The property of Mr. H. W. Kearns.

Fascination, br., s. Stroxton Tom — Mr. J. Forshaw	115
Fickle Fortune, b., s. Menestrel — Mr. Smith-Carrington	58
Fortune's Favour, br., s. Calwich Blend — Mr. W. Howkins	53

TWO-YEAR-OLD FILLIES.

Guenever, bl., s. Nailstone Cœur-de-Lion — Mr. R. Whitehead	86
Guiding Light, b., s. Bodenham King — Mr. C. E. Cooke	66

STALLIONS.

Knottingly Referee, b., s. Knottingly Regent — Mr. Alf. Clark	40
Earl King, br., s. Harold — Mr. Cole Ambrose	62

YEARLING COLTS.

Pendle Hambledon, br., s. Birdsall Menestrel — Mr. Gee	43
Pendle Horatius, b., s. Stroxton Tom — Mr. S. Grimes	37
Holker Commodore, b., s. Blythwood Kingmaker — Mr. Thompson	37
Pendle Helvellyn, b., s. Menestrel — Lord Egerton	150

YEARLING FILLY.

Pendle Homespun, br., s. Menestrel — Mr. Pearman	90

FOALS.

Black filly foal, s. Nailstone Cœur-de-Lion — Mr. Welch	24
Black filly foal, s. Blythwood Kingmaker — Mr. E. H. Buncombe	95
Bay filly foal, s. Birdsall Minestrel — Mr. Jackson	120
Grey filly foal, s. Lockinge Albert — Mr. A. W. Griffin	46
Bay filly foal, s. Eros — Mr. Simpson-Jay	58
Brown colt foal, s. Knottingly Regent — Mr. R. Long	23

BROOD MARES.

Iris of Hitchin, c., f. 1900; s. Old Warden Royal Harold — Mr. W. Darley	68
Rokeby Hester, b., f. 1901; s. Calwich Heirloom — Mr. Walker	60
Harleston Gloaming, br., f. 1900; s. Dunsmore Combination — Lord Burton	150
Coquette, br., f. 1899; s. Worsley Prince — Mr. Lott	36
Hendre Twilight, b., f. 1896; s. Prince Harold — Mr. T. Newton	70
Star, br., f. 1895; s. Merrie — Mr. Hicks	47
Windley Blossom, b., f. 1893; s. Marmion II. — Mr. Bower	44
Beauty, b., f. 1889; s. Bar None — Mr. Lott	31

Notes and Jottings.

The current week is occupied by England's great fat stock show, namely, the Smithfield Club Show. Flock-masters have many matters of interest to which they may with profit give attention. The Smithfield schedule provides probably the best and most valuable object lesson that can be given to flock-masters, particularly those who are non-stud sheep breeders.

In that section where the awards are won by the exhibits alive will be seen the full development, etc., that can be secured by both lambs and wethers reared under the most favourable circumstances, and in the carcase best classes can be seen the result of different breeds and crosses of the same when specially fed for slaughter.

Attention can also be given with profit to the cross-bred classes in the first section mentioned, because the exhibits in these classes show the resultant produce of the mating of at least two pure breeds of sheep. If our information is correct, the lamb class in this section will be of greater interest than usual this year, for we understand that there will be entries of at least three distinct crosses in Hampshire Down ewes, i.e., the Oxford Down, the Southdown, and the Shropshire, the latter cross being that which produced the Birmingham winning pen.

Amongst the interesting features, from the sheep-feeders' point of view, that came under observation at Birmingham Show was the splendid pen of cross-bred lambs that won first honours for Mr. H. C. Stephens.

The cross in this case is Shropshire and Hampshire Downs, and, from the wealth of flesh, grand backs, and good legs noticeable on these lambs, it is evidently a cross that ought to become a popular one in suitable localities.

To meet the present-day requirements of the mutton market, the conformation and size of these lambs appear preferable to the larger and more leggy lambs that are the produce of the Oxford Down and Hampshire cross.

This latter cross has for very many years been particularly successful at our Christmas shows, and there is no question of its value, but the same can with equal truth be said of the successful cross-breds that most deservedly took the lead at this year's Birmingham Show.

The exhibition of this cross will be of value to both the pure breeds from which it is descended, and adds another cross that can with advantage be used by those who are breeding to supply our mutton market. The Border Leicester breeders are finding out what all other breeders have done—namely, that the establishment of a flock book society to look after the general interests of their breed has resulted in an increased demand from the export buyer.

In other words, that which individual effort so often fails to accomplish can be done with far greater effect and at a much lower expense by the combined effort of a representative society. Wherever breeders combine and place the interest of the breed as a whole to the fore, then results such as those which have been secured by the society in question are practically certain to follow.

There is a matter that ought to be seriously taken in hand by the flock-masters of this country namely, to insist that some means or other should be taken at once to rid the country from sheep scab. The enormous amount of trouble and annoyance, not to mention the loss that is being continually inflicted upon innocent parties by reason of the neglect of negligent flock-masters to keep their flocks clear of this disease, is astounding. Yet, despite the knowledge of this fact, the vast majority of the flock-masters of this country are content to let the matter rest as at the present time, when a few months or so at the most of stringent and effective administration would practically rid the country of this pest.

If those responsible for the continuance of the present condition of the country in connection with this disease could realise the feeling of the New Zealand colonists who visit our country when they are told we are not free of this disease, it would certainly surprise them. Said a New Zealand flock-owner the other day, when the writer told him our country was not free, "This is to me incredible and disgraceful. In our country, despite all the difficulties that had to be overcome, an entire clearance was effected, but here in your country, fully enclosed with no wild or bush land stocked with wild and stray sheep, the work of eradication is but child's play compared with ours."

Mention is made of this subject because it is one that more than any other stops the greater development of the demand for stud sheep to New Zealand and Australasia, for, were this country free from sheep scab, it is more than probable that the period of quarantine for imported sheep would simply be that period occupied by the voyage, instead of being, in addition to the voyage, some lengthy period on arrival there.

The old Ryeland breed will soon be amongst those breeds that have a flock-book society to help to forward its interests, and, it may be added with emphasis, to bring before the public, both at home and abroad, the unquestionable merit of this breed for mutton and wool production.

One of the results of the late Royal Show in respect to this breed's exhibit there has been the sale of a valuable consignment of in-lamb ewes, ten in number, and a ram and ram lamb from the flocks owned by Messrs. Barnby and F. E. Gough to a New Zealand visitor. The purchaser of these sheep was attracted by the symmetry and conformation of the sheep that represented the breed at the Royal Show, and last week, accompanied by Mr. W. W. Chapman, an inspection was made of the two flocks named above, with the result that a selection of some of the best yearling ewes that could be selected from these two flocks, five from each, will, accompanied by a ram from Mr. Gough's flock and a ram lamb from Mr. Barnsby's flock be shipped from London on December 14 next for New Zealand.

To those who are unacquainted with this breed, it will be interesting if the exhibits made in the wether class at Smithfield be carefully examined, when it will be found that this but little known breed has very superior merit, which, if more widely known, would certainly lead to more demand, particularly for cross-breeding purposes.

An important shipment of Romney Marsh sheep has been made by Mr. C. File, of Eltham, Canterbury, to Mr. McRae, of the Argentine. The purchaser, making his own selection, has certainly secured a particularly fine lot of sheep. Two of the rams selected have been most successfully used as stud rams in the Eltham flock for four and three seasons respectively, and three others were used in the same flock this season. Six ram lambs were also taken. Included in this lot was one, if not more, out of that fine pen that took third honours at the Royal Show last June. Five in-lamb yearling ewes completed this valuable consignment, quite one of the best sent to the Argentine lately.

PIGS.

Colston and Barrowfield Herds of Large White Pigs.

Two exceptionally fine gelts have been purchased by Mr. O. A. T. Bennett, of Gateby Hall, East Dereham, Norfolk, for a well-known breeder in Galicia. This is the second consignment from these herds within the year; and a very fine Large White boar has been shipped to Schleswig for Mr. H. R. Hawkens, Camden Road, London. Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, exporters, London, have also purchased a very nice type of gelt for the Argentine: this is the second recent shipment to South America; and a little sister to the above has been exported to a customer near Posen, Germany. All the above are by the champion boar Vanguard, whose showyard career is so well known. The home trade has been exceptionally brisk of late, and there are a most promising lot of young pigs coming forward in both herds. In addition to the diploma of grand champion, another diploma has been awarded by the grand jury to the owner of these herds, as the breeder of the second best boar at the St. Louis Exposition.

Birmingham: Good Attendance.

The Birmingham Fat Stock Show was not favoured with fine weather last week, and the result was that the attendance suffered somewhat, particularly on the last day (Thursday), when weather of a most wretched description prevailed, and the attendance was considerably short of the totals for the corresponding days in previous years. However, there were large attendances on the other days, and the total for the five days was 43,711, or nearly 700 more than in 1905, whilst the receipts amounted to £1,292 15s., which is about £40 more than was received in 1904. Compared with twelve months ago there were larger attendances on Monday and on Wednesday, when the difference in the takings was something like £40. It is satisfactory to add that not a single complaint or protest was made by any of the exhibitors. As indicating the excellent supervision of the show it may also be stated that not a single case arose necessitating police prosecution. The following tables show the details of the admissions and the receipts:—

RECEIPTS.

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Second day...	233 16 0	216 17 0	285 13 0	242 17 0
Third ,, ...	282 5 0	287 1 0	238 19 0	382 12 0
Fourth ,, ...	491 5 0	451 12 6	467 15 6	498 17 0
Fifth ,, ...	285 9 0	298 1 6	281 14 0	338 16 0
	£1,292 15 0	£1,253 12 0	£1,374 1 6	£1,424 2 0

ADMISSIONS.

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.
Subscribers' tickets ...	6,480	6,495	6,480	6,521	6,411
Five shillings each ...	568	517	713	641	678
One shilling each	1,836	1,752	2,148	1,652	2,278
THIRD DAY.					
By ticket	1,785	1,781	1,791	1,780	1,851
One shilling each	5,645	5,741	6,779	7,652	7,740
FOURTH DAY.					
By ticket	3,077	3,033	3,150	3,117	3,091
One shilling each	5,485	5,062	5,250	5,405	6,496
Sixpence each.....	8,680	7,941	8,211	8,784	8,710
FIFTH DAY.					
By ticket	3,530	2,501	2,599	2,571	2,670
One shilling each	3,793	3,792	3,470	4,131	4,221
Sixpence each	3,832	4,339	4,328	5,290	5,028
	43,711	43,014	44,910	47,644	49,123

Below we give a table showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning sheep.

Breed and Owner	Age.	Weight	Average Daily Gain.
SOUTHDOWNS.	Days	lbs.	lbs.
(Wethers not exceeding 23 months).			
1 His Majesty the King	638	606	·94
2 His Majesty the King	638	566	·88
(Wether Lambs).			
1 His Majesty the King	273	450	1·64
2 His Majesty the King	273	429	1·53
3 Earl of Ellesmere	273	447	1·63
SHROPSHIRES.			
(Wethers not exceeding 23 months).			
1 Exs. late Mr. P. L. Mills	638	818	1·28
2 Exs. late Mr. P. L. Mills	638	792	1·24
(Wether Lambs).			
1 Mr. R. P. Cooper	303	471	1·55
2 Exs. late Mr. P. L. Mills	273	514	1·88
3 Exs. late Mr. P. L. Mills	273	512	1·87
OXFORDS.			
(Wethers not exceeding 23 months).			
1 Mr. J. S Hobbs	675	924	1·36
2 Miss A. de Rothschild	666	784	1·17
3 Mr. J. Horlick	645	833	1 29
(Wether Lambs)			
1 Mr. W. H. Lovell	303	671	2·21
2 Mr. H. W. Stilgoe	303	540	1·12
3 Mr. J. Horlick	287	602	2·09
HAMPSHIRE AND OTHER DOWNS			
(Wethers not exceeding 23 months.)			
1 Mr. J. Flower	668	824	1·23
2 Mr. T. F. Buxton.....	668	774	1·15
(Wether Lambs)			
1 Mr. J. Flower	303	609	2 00
2 Sir W. G. Pearce	294	609	2·07
3 Mr. T. F. Buxton	303	605	1·99
CROSS BRED.			
(Wether sheep not exceeding 23 months.)			
1. M. T. Rush	638	851	1·33
2. Mr. N. Hague.....	621	827	1·33
(Wether Lambs.)			
1 Mr. H. C. Stephens	303	587	1·93
2 Mr. H. C. Stephens	303	541	1·78
3 Mr. T. Rush	294	609	2·08

Tonbridge.

The annual Christmas fat stock, poultry, and grain show at Tonbridge took place in the spacious Agricultural Hall and cattle market buildings on Monday. There were, as usual, some scores of entries, not only from the immediately surrounding districts, but also from parts of Sussex and Surrey, so widely known and popular has now become this interesting fixture at the old town on the Medway. Ample space in the extensive covered building was afforded for the competitive

exhibits of fine Sussex beasts, Southdown and Romney Marsh sheep, and pigs of all sizes and breeds in the different classified sections. Taken altogether the show was a most encouraging example of the best of Southdown farmyard produce.

The entry of the Sussex cattle at this year's show were not so good, taken in the aggregate, as it has been usual to find them. Some few of the best animals have been retained at home to be sent direct to Smithfield, and thus with these in addition there will probably be found several alterations in the award list at that show. The older steer class was one in which preference was given to a very finely grown and lengthy steer from Mr. W. W. Berry's herd, bred by Lieut.-Col. W. W. Hammond. This steer had a capital loin and good top, but was lacking in the flank and not handling at its best; next came one from Mr. W. F. Winch's herd, whose touch was preferable to the winner, and might have taken precedence. The younger steer class had for its winner one exhibited by the exors of Louis Huth, a wide-topped and good loin steer, but one when handling alone that was not level along its back; a better formed steer, but not quite so wide, from Mrs. Montifiore's herd took second honours.

The heifer classes were divided in the same ages as the steers; in the older one a level and good-loined heifer with capital flesh took first honours; the Earl of Derby's entry, a fine heifer, had to be content with second place, and Mr. F. Manwaring took the r.n. The younger heifer class was a capital class; here the winner, which came from Mr. W. Cattley's herd, was of very considerable merit, a well-grown and fed heifer. A class for Sussex calves deserves brief mention, because it shows just how well this breed will develop when given full opportunity to do so. The Earl of Derby was first and second, both under the year, that gave a live weight of 8 cwt. 16 lb. and 7 cwt. 4 lb.; Mr. G. Warde's calf, under nine months, weight 6 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lb.

The any other breed section, practically all Aberdeen-Angus, was quite a feature of the show. The first class of this section for steers between two and under three years was by far the best class of the show, and it is seldom that so fine a lot of steers are seen at any local show. The winner here, a beautiful and level Aberdeen-Angus, was one from Mr. W. Cattley's herd, weighing at 31 months 16 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. This steer was very deep in its flesh, evenly fed, and moved well, and when champion honours fell to its lot the award was cordially approved. The younger steer class had for its winner a very fine and well-grown steer from Mr. T. Wother's herd; this animal was very ripe and in excellent form, winning easily in its class. The older of the two heifer classes was a smaller one, but in its winner, Mr. C. F. Stanford's well-fed and good-handling heifer, specially good along its back and loin, was found the r.n. for champion honours. The younger heifer class was a capital one; here T. Wotton repeated his success in the corresponding class for steers, and went to the fore with a well-topped heifer, but one that was run very close indeed by Mr. G. F. Stanford's entry, that came in for second place; the leading animal was better in the loin and back, but not quite so full at the fore end. Sir H. N. Dering, with a Shorthorn of good merit, came in for third honours.

The calf class for the any other breed section was a good one, in which the Aberdeen-Angus were all to the fore; first and r.n. went to a pair of well-grown and good-fleshed ones from Mr. A. Landgridge's herd, and the second place had for its occupant a very level and well-grown heifer from G. Drummonds at Penshurst.

A couple of classes for tenant farmers with steers and heifers mixed, one for under two, and the other for under three, raised a good entry, the former one particularly so. An auction class was added to the prize schedule, and it is evidently a popular class, for it secured a good entry. The winner was a very grand barren Sussex heifer from Mr. G. Warde's herd, who won with ease; an Aberdeen-Angus from the Messrs. Casswell's herd at Quading took second honours for Mr. W. H. Bowler, and the third place was occupied by a Sussex from the Earl of Derby's herd.

Sheep were, as a whole, better than we have seen for some time, but the increase was entirely in the Southdown and cross-bred classes—in fact, it is many years since we found so poor an entry in the Kent and Romney Marsh classes. In the wether lamb class only one competitor came to the fore, Mr. C. Gordon Neame, whose pens were first and r.n.; the same competitor was first and second in the wether class, but neither of these pens were so good as those that represented the flock twelve months previously at the same show. The Southdown wether class had for its winners a very typical pen full of quality and good flesh, from Mr. F. Elmer Spud's flock, that were made r.n. for champion honours. The Duke of Devonshire come in for second honours, but whilst being of good merit they were not quite so well covered as the leading pen. Mr. W. M. Cazalet was to the fore in the class for ewes; his two pens were well fed and handled well, and they were put first and second. The wether lamb class was fully an average one for this show; Mrs. Montefiore came to the front with a pen of well grown and good-fleshed lambs; these handled well, and were made winners of the champion prize; the Duke of Devonshire came in for second honours with a well-grown pen of lambs, but not quite deep enough in the flesh.

The tenant farmer classes were better supported than last year, and the auction class secured a very good entry; some of the pens found in these classes were well-fed and good mutton sheep. The pig classes were better than last year; some very good animals were included amongst the winners. Roots, poultry, corn, and fruit were also on exhibition, and in each case there was a very good entry; the competition in the root and poultry classes was very keen indeed.

Scottish National.

The ninth show of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club was held on Wednesday and Thursday last at Edinburgh. Entries were good and rather more numerous than a year ago. Shorthorns were few in number, there being only five animals in the three classes. In the young steer class, Mr. John Ross, Meikle Tarrel, was first with his roan "Linus." In the class for steers above two years, Captain Stirling was placed first with a thick, blocky ox bred by Mr. Finlay Munro. Only one heifer is shown, and she comes from the Meikle Tarrel stock, that well-known herd of Mr. Ross', the first prize for young Aberdeen-Angus steers goes to Mr. Turner, Cairnton of Boyndie, which was reserve for the breed cup. The King was second and third with a pen of bullocks. There were only two steers in the young class, and Mr. William Watt, Middlefield, was first. The pick of the show came in the heifer class, and although only two were entered, they provided not only the champion of the breed, but the champion of the show, and the animal which will go forward to Smithfield next week as a strong competitor against all the English breeds. Colonel M'Inroy's heifer is one of the best of the breed that has been seen in recent years.

The Galloway breed of cattle made a creditable appearance, the entries being much larger than on some former occasions. Among the Highlanders in the younger steer class Sir Wm. Ogilvy Dalgleish of Errol led with a very big bullock for his age of good length and well balanced. The second, shown by Sir John Gilmour of Montrawe, is a steer of great substance, and certainly very ripe, but wanting is breed character. In the female class Sir Wm. Ogilvy Dalgleish won with probably the best Highland heifer seen in the market. "Lass o' Gowrie" is of extraordinary thickness, and easily won the breed cup, Lord Southesk's first prize steer being reserve for the honour.

Mr. Turner of Cairnton headed in the young cross-bred steer class with a very big steer, which stood reserve for the breed cup, being followed by a very nice bullock from Meikle Tarrel. In the older class the premier place and the breed cup was won by Mr. Thomas B. Earle, York, with a first-class steer, rather overdone, however, but good over the top and loin. Amongst the heifers in the younger class, Mr. Ross achieved honours with a pretty little thing of first-rate quality, and Mr. Wm. J. Robertson, also from Ross-shire, was second with a thick, low-standing heifer. In the older class of heifers Mr. Alex. Smith, Findowrie, Brechin, won with a female which was not the heaviest of the class, but was of great quality.

The judging of the championship awards was witnessed by a large gathering round the ring, and the decisions of the judges were received with general approval. For the best steer the choice lay ultimately between Mr. Arnot's cross-bred ox, Captain Stirling's Shorthorn, and Mr. Earle's cross-breed winner. In the end the verdict was in favour of Mr. Arnot's animal. Captain Stirling's Shorthorn being reserve. In the heifer competition, interest centred mostly in four of the animals presented to the judges, these being Colonel M'Inroy's cup-winner, the Meikle Tarrel Shorthorn, the Errol Park Highland cup-winner, and Mr. Brown's Galloway heifer. The judges followed popular opinion when they awarded the prize to Colonel M'Inroy's Black Poll. The final tussle for the championship now lay between Mr. Arnot's cross bullock and Colonel M'Inroy's Aberdeen-Angus heifer, and the judges did not take long to decide between the two, and their award in favour of the Polled heifer was received with much approval.

The sheep classes were better in point of quality than any of the exhibits at the previous shows of the Club; and it says a great deal for the excellence of the stock that the judges had considerable difficulty in allocating the prizes. Blackfaced sheep were an exceptionally good show. The lamb class was headed by a pen owned by Messrs. A. and W. Burns, Rosyth, this trio weighing 407 lb. The lamb class in the Cheviot section was headed by exhibits owned by Mr. John Stewart Clark, Dundas Castle, the first prize winner being sired by a Leaston ram. Cheviot wedders were a small but excellent class, and Mr. M'Dowall had no difficulty in gaining first and second honours. His first prize pen were so outstanding that the judges had no difficulty in awarding them the premier breed ticket. This seemed to be the more remarkable when it is remembered that the same animals, two of which are twins, were passed over as lambs last year; and the quality of these exhibits may be better gauged when it is said that they were selected for championship honours as the best pen of sheep in the show. The best pen of cross-breds was owned by Mr. Alexander Smith, Findowrie, Brechin, and in the extra classes Mr. William Ford, Fenton Barns, had the distinction of being reserve for the championship. Pigs made a remarkably good display, but were only of local interest.

JUDGES. Cattle.—Shorthorns, Aberdeen-Angus, and cross-bred cattle: Messrs. George Harrison, Gainford Hall, Darlington; Wm. Wilson, Coynachie, Gartly; and H. Milne, Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh. Galloway, Highland, and President's prizes: Messrs. James Phillips, Carse, Kirkcudbright; Duncan M'Diarmid, Camusericht; and Andrew Young, Forrestfield, Kelso. Extra class and dairy cows: Messrs. Adam Boazman, The Hermitage, Kelso; Andrew Wood, Edinburgh; and Charles Harrison, Tems House, Giggleswick, Settle. Blackfaced, Cheviot, and half-bred sheep: Messrs. James Greenshields, West Town, Coalburn; George Douglas, Hindhope, Jedburgh; and Hugh Lawrie, 40, Madeira Street, Leith. Crosses and extra classes: Messrs. James Thomson, Haddington; Wm. Jackson, Symington; Chas. Robertson, Crosshill, Glasgow.

Annual Meeting.

The report of the Council of the Scottish National Fat Stock Club to the annual meeting of members, held on Thursday, stated that the accounts are in a satisfactory state, the balance at credit being £469 7s. 8d., against £356 11s. 1d. in 1904, £370 6s. 5d. in 1903, £287 18s. 11d. in 1902, £235 10s. in 1901, £131 5s. 4d. in 1900, and £73 at the close of the books in 1899. The number of members on the roll at September 30 last was 686, against 676 at September 30, 1904. The Council are anxious to have a membership of 1,000, and they respectfully ask the present members to get their friends to join.

Transactions in Store Stock.

(Reported to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.)

Roscrea, co. Tipperary, November 29.—Large fair, and good demand for any cattle in condition, but thin animals neglected. Calves, 2nd class £3 10s. to £4 10s., 3rd class £2 12s. 6d.; yearlings, 1st class £8 10s. to £9 10s., 2nd class £7 to £7 15s., 3rd class £4 17s. 6d. to £5 15s.; two-years-old, 1st class £12 to £13 10s., 2nd class £9 10s. to £11 15s.; three-years-old, 1st class £13 to £15, 2nd class £10 10s. to £12 12s. 6d.; springers, 2nd class £13 to £13 15s., 3rd class £10 10s. Small supply of lambs; demand good. Lambs, 1st class £1 12s. to £1 14s. 3d., 2nd class £1 5s. to £1 11s. 6d.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

***Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture** for the week ending Nov. 25, 1905:—*

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	73	23	206	195	3,276	5,284
								7,166
								7,541
	Outbreaks.	No.	10	12	33	25	725	1,125
								1,351
								1,561
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	19	15	46	34	778	1,179
								1,439
								1,307
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	32	71	51	34	1,897	2,469
								2,288
								1,897
	Outbreaks.	No.	19	30	30	21	1,103	1,403
								1,540
								1,069
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								120
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								...
								7
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	23	29	31	12	1,209	1,373
								1,025
								960
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	24	18	11	876	917
								684
								611

Period.		
Week ended Nov. 25, 1905		
Corresponding week in	1904	
	1903	
	1902	
Total for 47 weeks in 1905		
Corresponding period in	1904	
	1903	
	1902	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.

The Quality and Yield of English Malting Barley.

A paper on "The Quality and Yield of English Malting Barley," by Mr. E. S. Beaven, Warminster, Wilts, was set down for reading at to-day's meeting of the Farmers' Club, and from an advance proof we make the following extracts. We may mention that the paper is an unusually long one and deals most exhaustively with the subject, and to the grower of barley, is full of interest:—

Paper to be read before the members of the Farmers' Club, on Monday, December 4, 1905, by Mr. E. S. Beaven, Warminster Wilts, on "The Quality and Yield of English Malting Barley."

Barley of one sort or another can be grown under almost any climate and soil conditions. Amongst a collection of plants comprising several hundred varieties which have been grown at Warminster for several years, and for aid in the accumulation of which I am greatly indebted to the Board of Agriculture, there are barleys grown originally as far north as Iceland and as far south as Abyssinia. Barley is in fact more widely distributed than any other cultivated plant, and can be grown under more diverse conditions; only certain climates, however, give barleys which are good for the special purpose of malting, and there is not much relation between the value of the grain for this and for other purposes.

England has richer soil and less sunshine than many other good barley-growing countries, yet the average quality and also the average yield of barley are better than on any other area of equal size in any part of the world and they are often combined. Allowing that this is in spite of our variable climate and largely because the practical knowledge of the British farmer enables him as with so many other problems to adapt his methods, on the whole successfully, to natural conditions, yet there must be a good deal to be said in favour of our soil and climate for barley growing. "Our soil and climate" is however too vague an expression, since both vary so much and it may be useful in the first place to try to connect what definite data we have with reference to the distribution of the barley-growing area and the average yields in different parts of England with what we know about the soil and climate generally in the same districts. Even so, only some very general conclusions can be hoped for.

Soils.

If we draw a line from Bristol through Derbyshire to Berwick-on-Tweed, there is no considerable barley-growing district to the west except in Shropshire. It is mainly a grazing district, and of the small area under cereals there is a large and increasing proportion of oats as compared with barley. The soil of this western district lies mainly on the primary formations. The coal measures stretching across the country approximately in the same line divide the primary rocks on the west from the secondary strata on the east, except in Cheshire and Shropshire.

It must be something more than a coincidence that there is this relation between the character of the strata and the position of the barley-growing districts, even allowing that the higher rainfall in the west may be a largely controlling factor in separating arable from grazing districts. A similar relation extends further, for as we go east and south and come to the soils of still later origin, viz., those overlying chalk and tertiary strata, there is again an increasing area of barley land and grain of better average quality. The broad belt of lias and oolites stretching from Dorset to Lincolnshire is not generally overlaid with as good barley soil as that overlying the chalk and the more recent formations to the south-east of a line from the Bill of Portland to the Wash. With a few exceptions the best barley soils are the soils associated with the more recent formations, and some of the best soils of all are those of the glacial drifts.

The red soils of the new red sandstone and permian formations in the West Midlands and the South-West are an exception, for these give on an average quite as good or better yield and quality of barley than the stonebrash and gravelly soils of the oolites. The broad belts of clay also, occurring in the lias, oolites, weald, and the gault are of course an exception of the reverse kind. These mostly occupy the vales, and except where they are overlaid with drifts comparatively little barley is grown on them.

Generally speaking, the so-called sedentary soils, that is, those resulting from the weathering of the strata immediately underlying the surface are not as good barley soils as the other class of soils known as transported or drifted soils, and which are of much more mixed origin. This especially applies to shallow soils with practically no subsoil.

If an attempt is made to classify the soils of the English barley-growing districts in order of merit, taking into account quality and yield combined, they would probably fall into something like the following order:—

1. Drift overlying chalk and tertiaries in the Eastern Counties.
2. The lighter red soils in the South-West and Midlands.
3. Tertiary and recent soils of the Thames Valley and South, including Isle of Wight.
4. Chalky soils on the slopes of the Wolds, the Chilterns and the Downs.

Climate and Seasons.

The average temperature and rainfall are very different in some parts of England to others, and it may be worth while to endeavour to see if there is any relation between, on the one hand, average temperature and rainfall in different districts, and, on the other hand, the average yield and quality of the barley produced in the same districts. For this purpose attention may be confined to the larger barley growing districts, viz.: the North-East, the East, the South-East, and the South-West.

The following table gives the approximate average temperature and rainfall in these districts, and also the average yield calculated from the returns of the Board of Agriculture for the past ten years.

Barley Districts.	Mean Annual Temperatures. first q'rter.	second q'rter.	third q'rter.	fourth q'rter.	year.	Average yield, barley 10 yrs. bush.
N.-Eastern	38.9	50.1	57.6	43.7	47.3	35.1
Eastern ...	38.8	51.0	59.0	43.1	48.0	34.3
S.-Eastern	40.5	53.0	60.6	45.0	49.7	32.7
S.-Western	43.4	53.2	59.9	47.6	51.0	31.3
Kent.....	—	—	—	—	50.3	37.9
No'th'mb'ld	—	—	—	—	47.0	35.8
Cornwall ...	—	—	—	—	52.0	32.0
Hunts	—	—	—	—	49.0	30.1
	Average inches of rain.					
N.-Eastern	5.10	5.55	7.67	7.7	26.1	35.1
Eastern ...	5.35	5.44	7.68	8.0	26.5	34.3
S.-Eastern	6.17	5.45	7.34	8.5	27.5	32.7
S.-Western	10.73	7.08	9.85	13.9	41.5	31.3
Kent.....	—	—	—	—	2 .0	37.9
No'th'mb'ld	—	—	—	—	28.0	35.8
Cornwall ...	—	—	—	—	51.0	32.0
Hunts	—	—	—	—	23.0	30.1

The averages taken over the larger areas seem to show that the highest yields are in the driest and coldest districts and vice versa, but there are exceptional areas within the larger districts. Kent, with an estimated yield higher than any other county in England, is one exception. Huntingdon, on the other hand, which is the driest county in England, has a much under average yield; lower than Cornwall, which is almost the wettest. Averages of all kinds are apt to be very misleading; in this case there is moreover some doubt as to the accuracy of the figures which are averaged, but when we take a large area there is a probability that errors may to some extent balance each other.

As with soil conditions, so with climate and seasons, the effects on yield and quality of barley are so complex as almost to defy any attempt at a summary statement.

The arable districts on the east side of England are the driest and coldest. They give on an average higher yields of barley than the warmer and moister districts in England where there is a much lower proportion, and a diminishing proportion of arable as compared with grass land. On the other hand, the higher temperatures and even in not a few seasons the higher rainfall of the south and south-west are favourable to quality. As to seasons, deficient yield is as often due to drought as to excessive rainfall.

It is hardly to be expected that any relation would be traceable between yearly or even quarterly rainfall and quality of barley as between different districts, seeing that it is the weather (and by no means the rainfall only) of the two critical months before and during harvest which, more than all other conditions combined, determine quality. But admitting this, there are fairly definite characters attaching to the barleys of different districts year after year, combined with fairly constant differences in yield, and the conclusion is that over a series of years it is as much or more the character of the soil than of the climate which is the determining factor.

Average yields over a long series of years are about as follows:- England, 32 bushels; Scotland, 36 bushels; Ireland, 40 bushels. Variations of the average for England in different years are about from 26 to 36 bushels. Judging from the results of such manurial trials as are available, artificial soil conditions (cultivation and manuring) give maximum differences of about eight bushels under ordinary farming conditions. Lastly, as will be shown later as between different varieties under equal conditions, there is an average range of about four bushels.

Quality

The problem of the relation of quality and quantity, and how, if possible, to combine them, presents difficulties in most industries. It was raised by Mr. Hall's recent paper on wheat. We know what good yield means, but a definition of quality which would be generally accepted presents a host of difficulties. Assuming grain to be of possible malting quality, in respect of ripeness, condition, and vitality, which are essentials, and which are fairly well indicated by the colour of the grain, it would be a good thing if we could further define quality in terms of something which is intrinsic in the grain, and which is also related to the same conditions of cultivation which affect yield.

Now the quality of barley, like the strength of wheat, depends largely on the conditions of growth and maturation, and if we could say definitely that there was something in good barley which corresponds to either strength or weakness in wheat, it would be a useful point to make, because there would then be a strong presumption that the condition in respect of climate and soil which gave the one would be in favour of the other also.

An attempt was made by Dr. Munro and myself in 1897 to show the relations which exist between composition of barley in respect of different kinds of nitrogenous bodies on the one hand and malting quality on the other. The results which were obtained in a long series of analyses made on barley of different varieties and grown under widely differing conditions pointed to a particular kind of nitrogenous matter, differing from other kinds in respect of its solubility as being directly connected with malting quality, and as being in excess in stiff working grain. The properties of this substance have been fully investigated, although not in relation to malting quality, by Dr. Osborne, of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, and he had shown that there is a very similar body present in the gluten of wheat.

The next point is that this substance is present in large proportion in strong wheats and in small proportion in weak and starchy wheats. There are other points of resemblance. Both free working barleys and weak and starchy wheats mellow easily in the field, and are floury rather than steely. In both the mellow stage quickly succeeds the ripe one. There is then a distinct parallel between weak wheats and free working barleys, and the most simple expression for the character they have in common is low nitrogen content in proportion to starch.

When we turn to the conditions which gives low nitrogen content in wheat and in barley respectively, the parallelism is not quite so clear. It is largely a question of weather, but still the soil is a very considerable factor. That this is the case may be illustrated by Mr. Hall's table showing the difference in strength of wheat in the same season on different soils. Take the extreme cases (1) of wheat grown in the fens, and (2) on the light chalk soil at Wye. The fen land grew wheat with higher nitrogen content, whichever variety was sown. It also, doubtless, although the figures are not given, gave a much higher yield, and there is no doubt that if barley had been grown alongside these wheat plots the fen land would have also given a larger crop of barley than the light chalk land, but of higher nitrogen content. The parallel also generally holds good in countries where soil and weather conditions are quite different to our own. California, for instance, always grows weak wheat and free working barley.

Varieties.

With wheat, unfortunately, the strong varieties are not as good yielders as the weak sorts, and if we want a heavy crop we have at present to select one of the varieties which generally gives a comparatively weak grain, and a comparatively low nitrogen content. But this combination of high yield and low nitrogen is just what is wanted in barley, and the barley problem would be solved if we could get it. It is easy to do this with wheat where the combination is not wanted. Why is it so difficult with barley where it is wanted?

The answer, as far as can be seen at present, is that differences in composition of grain are not so persistent in different varieties of barley as in different varieties of wheat. Whereas with wheat, if we take seed of a certain variety (or even of a mixture of grain differing botanically, but which has been so long grown in a climate favouring strength and high nitrogen as to acquire these characters) we may fairly expect to get a crop of grain showing the same characters, limited to some extent, of course, by soil

and season. This is much less the case with barley. The difference between the two plants is that with wheat the internal character of the seed counts for much in determining both quality and yield.

With barley the external conditions, soil and climate, count for very much more than the previously acquired internal character of the seed. Yet when acquired characters have become so fixed as to constitute a distinct variety, there are differences both of yield and quality due to the acquired characters of the seed in barley, and it may fairly be hoped, with the example of wheat before us, that something may be made of them.

It is probable that all our existing varieties originated from a single wild sort, and became what they now are mainly through the effects of very long continued differing conditions prevailing in different localities. The extent to which barley varies under climatic conditions and retains its acquired character after transplantation is illustrated by some specimens of the progeny of seed coming from various parts of the world and grown for several years in succession at Warminster. All these plants have been grown year after year from the progeny of single ears or single plants. This is the best way of studying the value of acquired characters. If this could be systematically done under different conditions of soil and climate there would be hope of discovering which of the existing varieties best suits particular soils under the average climatic conditions prevailing.

Straw.

After dealing at considerable length on the different varieties, Mr. Beaven came to the question of straws, and concerning this he said:—For good quality of barley the straw must be dead ripe. Unfortunately, dead ripe straw has a low feeding value. The recent decline in the acreage of barley has therefore been greatest in grazing and dairying districts, because oats can be cut when less ripe and the straw is better food. The "lodging" question is, however, still more serious.

When barley goes down just as the grain is ripening off, the whole plant often leans from the crown of the roots, which is generally about half an inch under the surface. This can hardly happen without the roots being to some extent loosened, and therefore probably depends either on the condition of the soil or the strength of the roots. Whether or not the Archer type of barley is the more strongly rooted, it will generally be agreed that Archer barley does not go down at this stage as easily as Chevallier.

This year there was probably less actual lodging than usual, but a good deal of Chevallier barley was, as in many seasons, badly "knee bent" at the uppermost "knot" or node. This generally happens after the grain is ripe and in an interval during which adverse weather may prevent cutting. It seems with Chevallier barley to be directly due to the length of the internode between the last joint and the ear. Barley generally has five or six internodes, and the relative lengths vary considerably. Plants of the different varieties grown side by side at Warminster showed the following average differences:—

	Archer. Inches.	Chevallier Inches.
Average length of straw from root to crown to base of ear	33	35
Average length of last internode or "neck"	11	15

Now in Chevallier barleys the knots appear to be the weakest points, and if the last internode carrying the spike is very long it does not take much wind or rain to bend the straw at the last "knot." Whole fields of barley can often be seen with almost every stem "kinked" at this point. The quicker the growth of the plant, the weaker are the knots, because growth of the young tissue of the stem takes place up to time of ripening at just these points. Archer barley with a shorter neck seldom gets "knee bent" to the same extent as Chevalliers, because the leverage of the ear acting upon the straw at the "knot" is not so great.

Goldthorpe and the other wide-eared barleys have a thicker stem and shorter knots, and, moreover, although the last internode is long the head does not fall over so much. There is, however, a tendency for the straw to get "kinked" or "neck bent" near the ear, and this is much more serious than being "knee bent." With "neck bent" barley of the wide-eared type there is much loss from breaking. With "knee bent" Chevalliers, although there is some discolouration of the grain due to the ear falling near the ground, the stem does not often break.

Unfortunately the stem or rachis of the ear is generally brittle also in the wide-eared sorts so that very little rough handling causes the ear itself to break. Lastly, the awns of these sorts are brittle, and have a tendency to break off and leave the grain "beardless." It is a doubtful point whether this is a good thing or otherwise.

Amongst about twenty quite distinct wide-eared barleys grown at Warminster, some always ripen later than others, and the later ripening ones seem to be the toughest, and one at least of these sorts, distinctly later than all the others, has been for four years following best in point of colour of the grain and has a consistently low nitrogen content. This is grown up from one of about 140 different kinds of barley, all quite distinct, which were kindly sent to me in 1902 by Mr. Karl Hansen, of Lyngby, in Denmark.

Mr. Hansen, in reply to a recent inquiry, informs me that he selected this barley from a Swedish sort known as "plumage korn." It seems probable that the later ripening and tougher straw go together, and that this barley may combine some of the good qualities of Archer and Goldthorpe.

Thanks to the activity of the representative Agricultural Society of Denmark, and to the remarkable and complete system of trials here described, there is now a general agreement there on the part of all who are interested in barley with regard to the respective good points of the various types. Our conditions are much more complex owing to the greater differences in soil and climate in different parts of England. I suggest, however, as matter for discussion whether it would be possible, beginning perhaps on a small scale, and starting with the information already in hand, to commence a co-operative series of trials, starting in each locality with seed grown up from single ears of known and common origin, in order if possible to determine which type of barley is best suited for different conditions in England. In course of time it would then be possible to say much more definitely than we can now to what extent by suiting varieties to soils and situations there was a prospect of combining yield and quality.

Shropshire Sheep Breeders.

The annual meeting of the Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association and Flock Book Society was held at Birmingham on Monday, under the presidency of Mr. J. Bowen Jones.

The report of the Council showed that the total worth of the Society was £1,415 18s. 9d. Of this sum £1,207 14s. 7d. was in respect of investments, and £108 4s. 2d. was cash in hand, while the net cost of flock books on hand, £207, was valued at £100. The export trade during the year had been very satisfactory. No sensational prices had been realised, but an absolute clearance had been effected, and it was with difficulty that foreign orders at the close of the auptumn could be filled satisfactorily. Altogether 1,032 sheep were exported, 253 to the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland, 497 to South America, 153 to Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, 54 to South Africa, Algiers, and Algoa Bay, and 75 to Russia, Germany, France, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Hungary, Jamaica, and Finland. In the previous year the number of sheep exported was 703, and in the year before that 788. A very extensive trade in high-class sheep had been done with Australia, Tasmania, and South America, and there was every indication that the demand was likely to expand considerably. At home the breed had been well exhibited, and the greatest interest attached to the awarding of the prizes at the Royal, the Shropshire and West Midland, and the other leading shows. The interest at the Royal Show was increased owing to the liberality of an anonymous donor, who gave £50 to establish a selling class, which proved a great success. The Council recommended that a sum not exceeding £150 should be set apart as prizes at the shows next season for the purpose of promoting the interests of Shropshire sheep breeders and making more widely known the special attributes of the breed.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that £50 more was allocated in prizes last year because of the gift of the sum by an anonymous donor to establish a selling class at the Royal Show. That ensured the success of the class. Mr. R. P. Cooper had now offered £50 for the same purpose at next year's Royal Show, and it was to be hoped that the number of entries would be very large, and that the class would prove as successful as last year. The number of animals exported was 1,032, which was almost a record. In 1899 about the same number was exported, but since then the trade had steadily increased. The financial year terminated on September 29, and since then 312 sheep had been exported, as compared with 154 in the same period of last year.

Mr. R. P. Cooper seconded the resolution, observing that the prospects for Shropshire sheep were never brighter than they were now.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. R. P. Cooper, seconded by the Chairman, a vote of sympathy with Mr. H. P. Ryland in his illness was adopted.

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. R. P. Cooper for his generous gift, and a similar compliment having been paid the Chairman for presiding, the meeting closed.

Royal Lancashire.

The annual meeting of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at Preston on Wednesday, under the presidency of Mr. H. L. Storey, Lancaster. A most satisfactory report from the Council was presented and adopted, and from it we take the following:—

The operations of the Society during the year 1905 have been attended with a measure of success which, taking into account the unfortunate climatic conditions under which the show was held, must be considered eminently satisfactory. Your Council have pleasure in congratulating the members upon the substantial addition (£1,607 9s. 11d.) to the Society's general balance, and the undoubted gain in its prestige which have resulted from the visit to Liverpool.

The local enthusiasm and practical co-operation which have become traditional features in connection with visits to Liverpool, were again forthcoming on the present occasion, and it is in a large degree due to the very handsome sum of £1,957 12s. 9d. handed over by the Local Committee that the balance-sheet submitted to-day is so satisfactory.

The serious falling-off in the gate receipts on the three first days of the show was partially retrieved by the fourth day's result, when 42,084 persons paid for admission. This is the largest single-day attendance which the Society has yet had, and is the more gratifying from the fact that the weather broke down at an early hour in the afternoon, and doubtless prevented many from attending. The general balance in favour of the Society now stands at £12,007 8s. 10d.

During the year a very satisfactory number of new members, viz.:—5 vice-president members, 6 life members, and 132 annual members—has been enrolled, whilst 79 have been removed through death and other causes. The total number of members at present on the Society's books is:—Presidents, 5; vice-presidents, 114; vice-presidents (life members), 9; hon. vice-president (life members), 3; life members, 73; hon. life members, 7; annual members, 1,161; total, 1,372.

Your Council feel that the present is a most opportune time in which to recognise the very great services that the Rev. Leo. Charles Wood, C.A., Chairman of the Agricultural Sub-Committee and the Diseases of Animals Acts Committee of the Lancashire County Council, has rendered in the cause of agriculture, particularly in Lancashire. Mr. Wood, for upwards of forty years, has devoted his great abilities and energies to the furtherance of agricultural knowledge, and especially in connection with technical education in agriculture. It has therefore been decided to mark the Society's appreciation by conferring upon him the honorary vice-president life membership of the Society.

At a special meeting of members held in the Liverpool show-yard, an invitation for the 1906 show was presented by an influential deputation from Lancaster and district, including their worships the mayors of Lancaster and Morecambe, the President of the Lancaster Agricultural Society (Councillor Geo. Jackson), Herbert L. Storey, Esq., D.L., Colonel W. H. Foster, J.P., W. Fitzherbert-Brockholes, Esq., D.L., Edward Barton, Esq., J.P., A. J. Clarke, Esq., J.P., and H. J. Coulston, Esq., J.P. The invitation was unanimously accepted by the meeting, and from the very cordial expressions of welcome which characterised the speeches made by the deputation, as well as the zeal with which the preliminary arrangements have been entered into by the Town Councils of Lancaster and Morecambe, your Council have every confidence that the visit to the county town will be alike beneficial to the district and the Society. The site placed at the Society's disposal is at Scale Hall, situate halfway between Lancaster and Morecambe.

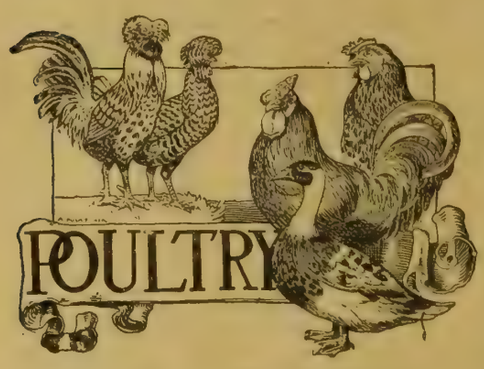
Mr. White, who moved the adoption of the report, said they had had a very successful year, and a record show in all things except the weather of the first two days. The experiment, undertaken with some anxiety, of fitting up the show-yard by the staff of the Society, had proved very satisfactory. The shedding and other accommodation required for this year's show would have cost £1,100 more if it had been provided on the old lines.

The Society unanimously elected Mr. H. L. Storey as the new president, and Mr. Storey, in a speech of thanks, claimed it a great honour to be the president of "the best agricultural society in England." Mr. Storey presented to Mr. John Lea, ex-Lord Mayor of Liverpool, and to the Rev. L. C. Wood, framed certificates of life membership of the Society as vice-presidents. The presentation was made to Mr. Lea as the highest acknowledgment in the Society's power of dis-

posal of the share which Mr. Lea took, as Lord Mayor of Liverpool, in promoting the success of the Liverpool show. The presentation to Mr. Wood was in recognition of his long years of service to agriculture. Mr. Park spoke of Mr. Wood as the Grand Old Man of Agriculture—in a national as well as a county sense—and Mr. Wood, in reply, contrasted the flourishing condition of the Royal Lancashire Society to-day with the difficulties he had to face when he first took up its work. He spoke of the great help which the Society afforded to agriculture by the encouragement of its shows, and commended the joint effort of the Society and the Lancashire Council in encouraging students of agriculture at the Harris Institute and at the Farm School.

It was decided to hold next year's show at Lancaster on August 2, 3, 4, and 6. The twelve retiring members of the Council were re-elected.

Nearly every speaker at the meeting referred in terms of warm appreciation to the excellent services given to the Society by the secretary, Mr. Edward Bohane, and at the end of the meeting a resolution that an honorarium of £100 should be given to Mr. Bohane and £25 for distribution amongst his staff was proposed and carried with acclamation.



Turkeys for Christmas Fattening.

The season is now here when those who supply fattened birds for the Christmas markets must commence that special feeding which the birds require in order that they may appear to the best advantage, and, as a result of this, realise the highest possible price. At one time turkey rearers used to pay but little attention to their flock, and those which were to be bred from were selected in a haphazard way; and when the young birds were growing, and looked the reverse of promising, their owners trusted to the few weeks' special feeding before they were killed to convert them into fine plump birds. Year after year the birds disappointed them, and then they found out, by comparing notes with those who produced fine birds, which at all times command satisfactory prices, that their stock birds were the cause of failure. Year after year there are hundreds of birds sold in the market at prices which cannot possibly pay those who reared them.

It has already been our contention that the better bred stock gives a much better return for the food they consume than those of inferior quality; and, as it behoves everyone to make as much profit as possible, those who have not hitherto been successful with their turkeys would do well to improve matters by purchasing a few fine turkeys from a reliable breed, taking care that they are unrelated, and then giving the young birds careful attention through the summer, and, by the time next Christmas is here, they will find that it is much more profitable to rear good birds than bad ones. Good feeding will not correct errors in breeding, and it will not be found possible to turn out well-fattened birds when the frames of the birds are small, and the stock lack that stamina so necessary to make them a complete success.

When once people are convinced that a certain class of bird pays better than those they already have, they usually go in for the most profitable birds at once. There is always a big supply of small birds on the market at Christmas time, and prices rule low for these, so that it pays breeders who have younger birds coming on to run them on until after Christmas, when better prices will be made for them. Where there is a large number of birds it is a good plan to separate them into three lots—the finest cockerels in one lot, then the medium-sized birds, and the small ones can be kept by themselves. Where only a few have been bred, this is not advisable, as they fret if separated from their companions, but it is entirely different when the three flocks are of a good size.

The feeding of the birds is a very important matter. They require liberal treatment now, and then at the commencement of the first week in December they should be taken in hand and have three weeks of special feeding and very little liberty. It would not answer to keep the birds shut up from now until they are killed, as they do not stand more than three weeks of this really well, but it is quite time they had food of a fattening kind.

The morning meal now should consist of ground oats mixed with prepared fat and milk. It is a great advantage to use milk to mix the food with, as this fattens the birds; and the flesh of the turkey, or any class of poultry, which have had milk in their food is of much better quality than those which have not. For a change, barley meal with a small quantity of locust mill or pea meal may be given.

The birds should always have some prepared fat mixed in their food. Until the last few weeks they should have from one to one and a half ounce each, when they should each have two ounces; then at midday the birds should have a small feed of boiled wheat and boiled maize on alternate days, and at night barley and oats on alternate evenings. In the event of them not caring for the oats, maize may be substituted one evening, wheat the next, and barley the next, making a change for them.

The birds should not be encouraged to roam about, as this is against the accumulation of flesh, yet they must not be shut up; at the commencemen of the last week in November they should be kept as much as possible to ground oats, two-thirds, and maize meal, one-third, mixed with milk with prepared fat already mentioned. A good meal should be given as soon as the birds are let out at mornings, so as to allow plenty of time for that to become assimilated, and the birds to have an appetite before the midday food. If they get their breakfast late, they will not be ready for their dinner; this should consist of a mixture of the same as that given for breakfast, one day, and boiled paunches or lights (cut up finely) the next. This provides a nice change for the birds, and one which is appreciated by them.

We always find it better to boil their grain for the evening meal every other day. Care should be taken to see that the corn is well boiled, but that it has not burst and become sticky, as the birds do not like it in this condition. It should be placed in the copper or boiler and well covered with water, and allowed to boil gently. After it has come to the boil, it answers quite as well as if just simmered. It should be stirred occasionally to prevent it from sticking to the bottom of the copper, and should not be burnt. It is no trouble if the one who feeds the birds is at hand to give it a stir.

Other foods, such as barley meal, maize meal, and middlings, may be substituted for the ground oats if the birds appear to go off their feed, as it is very essential that this should be avoided, because they quickly go down in condition if they lose their appetites.

A very good change can be provided for the birds by soaking crushed maize in boiled skimmed milk for an hour. The maize is crushed by being passed through the grinding machine, which most farmers possess, and which is worked by a horse; and then it is placed in a pail, and the boiling milk poured over it, and the pail should be covered up so that the steam is retained. Those who fatten their birds most successfully are those who "keep them eating."

As soon as the bird is noticed to be eating less, it should be caught, and a dessertspoonful of castor-oil, which has been made warm, given. It is most important that the birds should be kept to their food, as they very quickly lose their condition if they do not feed well. A dessertspoonful of sharp flint grit should be mixed in their soft food for each bird once a week, as they cannot digest their food and derive the full benefit from it unless they are supplied with this.

The plan adopted by many successful turkey rearers who live on farms is to allow their birds two of their large barns, or parts of two barns, covering the floors with clean straw, or short chaff, so that it is comfortable for their feet.

At the commencement of the first week in December the young turkeys should be kept entirely in barns or outbuildings to finish off before being killed. Three weeks is occasionally too long for their confinement, as some birds can only thrive for about sixteen days under these conditions; but the feeder must use his discretion as to this, according to the condition he finds the birds in when handling after they have had the special feeding referred to in our last number.

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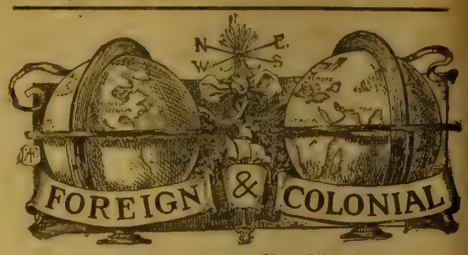

Land Settlement in Victoria.

With reference to a letter from the Secretary of the Sydney Labour Council which appeared in the Press, wherein he stated that Victoria is practically settled and cannot receive more immigrants, the Agent-General for Victoria writes us that this is quite a misapprehension. At the present moment the Government are purchasing large estates, which are being made available under the Closer Settlement Act, which is most liberal and not complicated. As showing the advantageous terms on which land may be acquired in Victoria, it may be stated that the law permits farmers to purchase allotments of land up to £1,500 in value, and agricultural labourers' and workmen's land up to £200 in value, both on terms extending over 31½ years.

With regard to the agricultural labourers and workmen, the only improvements insisted on are that the agricultural labourer should build a house to the value of at least £30, which must be erected during the first year, and enclose the land by a fence at the end of the second year. The repayments are made on the Credit Foncier system, and power is given by the Board to advance pound for pound up to £50 to assist agricultural labourers towards the cost of fencing and building.

The Government, under the Land Act of 1898, purchased 33,660 acres at a cost of £200,000, on which are now settled 239 families, and, since passing the Closer Settlement Act, 1904, it has been authorised to expend £420,000 in the purchase of seven estates comprising 77,200 acres. So far, 3,000 acres only have been disposed of, and 12,000 acres are available under most liberal terms.

West Riding Chamber of Agriculture.

The annual meeting of the West Riding Chamber of Agriculture was held at Wakefield on Friday. Major Beadon (Huddersfield) presided in the absence of Sir Thomas Pilkington, and opened a discussion on the increased valuations of small holdings through the extra number of stock kept, and especially through the keeping of more stock than such holdings will accommodate. He contended that if no remedy was found small farmers would certainly be ruined, and added that everything is against the struggling farmer, and it is not right. Other members spoke on the subject, and finally the secretary undertook when he gives evidence before the Parliamentary Committee on Small Holdings, to raise the point so that the matter may enter into their report, because the tendency of the practice in this district was in the direction of the reduction of rents. A resolution was adopted, on the motion of Mr. Haworth, seconded by Mr. Kilby, condemning the law of trespass as obsolete and ineffective, and favouring its amendment, particularly in the direction of providing protection of products which, though of natural growth, are of a marketable character. Sir Thomas Pilkington wrote intimating his desire to retire from the office of President, and the position was left vacant. The Hon. J. L. Wood (Templenewsam) and Mr. C. G. Milnes Gaskell were elected vice-presidents; Messrs. L. Twiggo (Wakefield) and A. Pickles (Middlestown) were placed on the General Council; and the other officers were re-elected.

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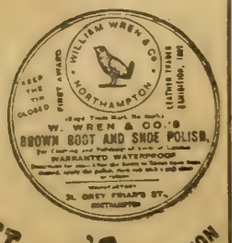

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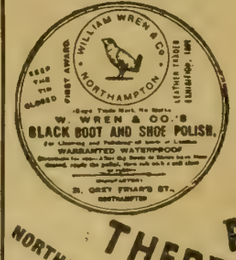

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December 7th, 1905.

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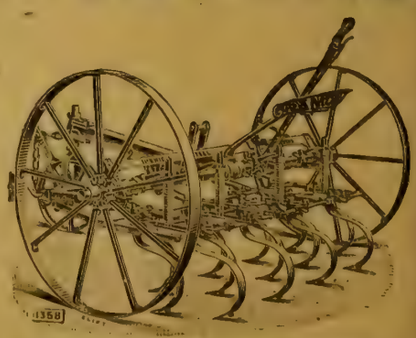

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DECEMBER 11, 1905.

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THE WEEK'S HAPPENINGS.

Cattle Show week is always replete with interest for British agriculturists, and this year has been no exception to the general rule. Societies of all grades of importance and differing aims have held meetings, and a great many of them were more than usually interesting, in consequence of the recent change of Government and the imminence of a General Election. Naturally, the agricultural programme was well to the fore, and it is to be hoped that the various means adopted to bring it before Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman's Ministry will meet with some measure of success. There is no reason why most of the items of the agricultural programme should not be placed upon the Statute Book. They are by no means of a political character, and it only wants a resolute body of men in the House of Commons to insist upon their adoption.

The Council meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society was of more than usual interest, as it was expected that details would transpire concerning the future management of the Society and its show. We must congratulate the authorities in Hanover Square upon having secured the consent of Sir Gilbert Greenall to undertake the duties of honorary director. Sir Gilbert is a man who has had a wide and varied experience, and, as a successful master of a fashionable pack of hounds, comes to take over the onerous position with exceptional qualifications. The Society have appointed as their new secretary Mr. Thomas McRow, who will be well known to most members of the Society who have been in the habit of attending the shows up to within the last two or three years. Mr. McRow was trained in the offices of the Royal Agricultural Society under the late Mr. Jenkins and Sir Ernest Clarke, and only left that body to take up the more responsible position of secretary to the Royal Agricultural Hall Company. The new secretary brings with him a rare amount of energy and ability, which will well serve him in his new and onerous position.

The Farmers' Dinner, held jointly under the auspices of the Farmers' Club and the Central Chamber of Agriculture, was rather robbed of its interest by two exceptional and uncontrollable circumstances. First of all, the transition state of the Government, and secondly, the absence of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, who has been for the last nine or ten months President of the Board of Agriculture. There was a general note of cheerfulness and hope about the proceedings, and under the able chairmanship of the Earl of Derby, K.G., the event passed off most successfully. At the meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture, steps were taken to bring agricultural requirements before the new Government, otherwise there was nothing calling particular attention.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has consented to be the president of the Smithfield Club for 1906, and at the annual meeting of members was accordingly unanimously elected to that position. The Smithfield Club have had a most successful year, and, under the presidency of the Heir to the Throne, 1906 bids fair to eclipse the period of prosperity which is just drawing to a close.

Seasonable Topics.

There are some events in the agricultural year which are looked for and expected much the same as we welcome the festivals of Christmas and Easter. The annual great Fat Stock Show in the Royal Agricultural Hall at Islington is perhaps the most important of these, and at a season when the sky overhanging London is invariably gloomy and forbidding, the huge building near the famous Angel is for the time being the Mecca of the leading lights of the agricultural world. Numerous changes have been made in the arragement of the Smithfield Show since its institution, and closely connected with it is the memory of many a famous agriculturist long since departed, but the show itself is a national institution, and the idea of it not being held would sound foreign in the ears of any British farmer. Indeed, like the brook immortalised by Tennyson, the Smithfield Show is a thing apparently intended to go on for ever, and though it may change with the times in its details, the interest in the great gathering never wanes, nor does it appear to lose any of its popularity. All roads lead to Islington in Cattle Show week, but how different are the roads to what they used to be, in the old days when a journey to London from the provinces was a matter of days, and something to be seriously considered before it was undertaken. Now, by means of cheap bookings, the railway companies induce the farmer to attend the Smithfield Show, fast express trains quickly convey him to town, and if, on his arrival, he uses the once-abused Underground, he finds it electrified, light, and pleasant, instead of stiflingly suffocating, as in the old days. And apart from the animals which attract attention, what a gathering of humanity is the Smithfield Show, for there the aristocracy of the agricultural world rubs shoulders with the yeoman farmer, friends meet friends, and congenial spirits discuss the rights and wrongs of the time-honoured industry. In truth, Smithfield Show is a grand old institution. May it continue for all time and prosper greatly as the years roll on.

Smithfield Show.

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If we had no calendar to remind us, Smithfield Show would be sufficient to indicate that we are well into December and Christmas is in view. Throughout November things have been slack and dull, but with the advent of the festive season they naturally liven up again in various ways. In accordance with the traditions of the nation it is a season of beef, and, in addition to the great gathering at Islington, local fat stock shows now being held throughout the country are the forerunners, as it were, of the trade the farmer has been preparing for during the weeks and months that are gone. Imported beef may be all very well in the ordinary way, but it seems as if at Christmas the average Englishman likes to think that his joint comes from a beast that has been bred and fed in the old country, and there is something distasteful at Christmas time about the idea of the honoured roast beef of old England coming from a beast bred on the other side of the Atlantic. We are reminded here that everybody does not eat beef at Christmas, or what would become of the trade in turkeys, geese, game, and poultry? At the moment of writing thousands of birds are feeding cheerfully, unconscious that the end is near, and dealers and poultry farmers are preparing for the great rush of the year. Here people do not appear to be so particular as in the case of beef, and to the man in the street a turkey is a turkey, and where it has been brought up and what it has been fed upon are matters that concern him but little. The countryman, however, who is acquainted with the taste of a farmyard turkey knows better, and prepares accordingly. We hope there will be no falling off this year in the spirit of Christmas, for though there is trouble and distress in the country through lack of employment, the fund started by our noble Queen has been loyally supported, and no doubt a portion of the money will be employed in bringing a ray of Yuletide brightness to those who are now not richly blessed with the world's goods. In short, though habits and customs may change, we want the old English Christmas to remain a time of peace on earth and goodwill towards men.

The Approach of Christmas.

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In the West of England the Berkeley Hunt Agricultural Society is looked upon, and rightly so, as being one of the most up-to-date and go-ahead of its kind in the country, and it lives not only for the purpose of running an agricultural show, but also to encourage and develop agricultural education on the most practical lines possible. The Society is fortunate in having such a President as Lord Fitzhardinge, who is not only a keen sportsman, but a thorough agriculturist, and takes a deep interest in the welfare of the tenants on his estate. Fences in the Berkeley Hunt, like fences in most other parts of the country, have been neglected of late years, and the Society not long ago conceived the idea of arranging for substantial prizes to be offered for the best-fenced farms. The idea caught on, and though the competition has not been inaugurated very long it is easy to observe that it has been the means of bringing about a marked improvement in the way the fences in the district are kept. The competition does good in two ways, because if a farmer enters for a prize and wins one he receives a substantial sum of money, and in addition to this he has the satisfaction of having a well-fenced farm. On the other hand, if he does not win a prize his fences are in a better state than they would have been, and consequently he is the gainer through taking part in the competition. Ploughing matches are held all over the country, and in connection with these prizes are given for fields of roots,

A Useful Competition.

long service, and so forth, and we think many societies might with advantage introduce a new feature and follow the example of Berkeley in establishing a competition for the best-fenced farm.

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Work for Wintry Days.

There are necessarily many days at this time of the year, and on through the winter, when outdoor work is impossible, and the farmer has to find employment for himself and his men under cover. Not that he ever has much difficulty in this, for there are generally many little jobs waiting which have been saved up in anticipation of bad weather. It is, however, when the ordinary routine work of the farm cannot be carried on that the labourer proves his ability as a handy man. Invaluable, we say, is the man to a farmer who can turn his hand to a little rough carpentry, repair a gate, make a hurdle, patch up a manger, or put a board in the bottom of a cart. Strange though it may seem, there are scores of farm labourers who seem to have no capacity for anything but sheer unskilled labour, and they are not worth so much by several shillings a week as the man who is possessed of some natural mechanical ability. As a useful branch of technical education, we think that lads should be taught the use of tools, not with the idea of making them cabinet-makers or wood-carvers, but in order that they can manipulate a saw, hammer, plane, and chisel so as to be able to do odd jobs in the way of repairs. As a matter of fact, we know several men who are able, when occasion demands it, to turn their hands to simple mechanical work, and they can command better wages than others who have no capacity in this direction, and at the same time they are worth more to their employers. A stitch in time saves nine, and in the case of harness, again, one waggoner will take no notice of a little thing giving way until at last it breaks, and the gearing has to go to the harness maker's. Another, a handy man, will provide himself with a few simple repairing materials, and by applying the stitch in time will save his master some expense in the course of a year. We need not ask which of the two is the most valuable servant, and a man can learn to piece a strap or put a buckle on without pretending to be a harness-maker.

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A Day's Beating.

In those parts of the country where game is largely preserved covert shooting is the order of the day just now, and beating offers welcome occupation for the rural unemployed as well as for the farm hands who can be spared for the task. Indeed, on a good many medium-sized estates it is customary for the tenant farmers to take one or two of their men, and themselves help with the beating on the occasion when the landlord has his big shoot. There is nothing menial or servile about it, for the farmer goes of his own free will, and the volunteer service on such an occasion speaks well for the spirit of good-fellowship existing between landlord and tenant. The landlord, on his part, if he is a sportsman, appreciates the help of his tenant, but he makes no attempt to patronise him, and in more cases than one the latter receives an invitation for a day's shooting when the former has had his fill. We know from experience how ready labourers, farm hands, and even farmers themselves are to help with the beating on the occasion of a big shoot, for the men with the guns do not get all the fun. Beating is not an occupation of the every-day order it offers an element of variety, and being associated with sport, that is quite sufficient. In fact, the man who starts a rabbit from a thicket of underwood, or puts up a cock pheasant and cries "mark over" very often gets as much amusement out of the act as he who kills the bird, and the beaters have the advantage over the sportsmen in the respect that they can criticise, and if many a shooter knew what the members of the beating party thought of their efforts he would not feel flattered.

New President of the Board of Agriculture.

This (Monday) morning it is officially announced that Earl Carrington has been appointed President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries with a seat in the Cabinet.

The annual meeting of the Northallerton Shire Horse Society was held on Tuesday. The balance-sheet, which was adopted, showed the receipts to have been £350, and the expenditure £334, leaving a balance of £16. The Chairman moved a resolution, which was adopted, stating that the society would not be justified in securing the services of another entire horse, unless they have previously received a guarantee of not less than £60.

Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Who will be the Minister for Agriculture in the new Cabinet? This is the one political question of moment to the agrarian interests. I find that in Liberal circles the most favoured nomination is that of Lord Carrington. At the National Liberal Club, on Friday, I heard the definite declaration made that his lordship had been assured by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman that this is the one office beyond all others which he would prefer he should occupy. Sir Henry is aware, of course, that the farmers, as a class, are not exuberantly Radical or profoundly sympathetic towards himself. The appointment, therefore, of a man of the calibre of Lord Carrington—a politician who has made the rural problem the subject of wide experiment and sagacious thought—would be, it is assumed, accepted as in the nature of an act of conciliation. It would be, so runs the anticipation, interpreted as an assurance that at least the rural policy of the Government will not proceed upon transigeant lines, and will at least be characterised by knowledge and personal sympathy. Well, such an assurance as this would inevitably be welcomed, after the wild turgidities turgidities which have assumed the character of phophecies as to the Liberal policy—which have appeared in certain prints friendly to the new Premier, and claiming to have his confidence.

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And what of Mr. George Lambert? Well, I cannot pretend to be aware of what is upon the knees of the gods. One fact is, however, certain. Mr. Lambert does not now loom large in the anticipation of the quidnuncs. Why he should have receded in political esteem, I cannot say; but there has been something in the nature of a recession. Of corrse, it may be that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman will in the end be glad to take advantage of his undeniable talents and capacity. If many Liberal Leaguers follow the reported example of certain of their chieftains and refuse to take office, the political position of Mr. Lambert would inevitably have recognition. What, however, may make for his appointment to the Ministry for Agriculture—despite the fact that the prophet-mongers do not favour him—is the growing feeling against the head of a great administrative department being in the House of Lords. This feeling had a vivacious expression when the Earl of Onslow renounced the portfolio of agriculture. Even Conservatives echoed it; and among the farmers themselves—and, after all, the farmers have some claim for consultation—the undesirability of giving the position to another peer had almost a vehement expression. That Radicalism, with its antipathies to the Upper House, and to what I may describe as peer-dom, should prefer to see the position given to a commoner is natural. It is, I repeat, this which makes for the benefit of Mr. George Lambert. Perhaps when you read these lines the formal authoritative announcement will have been made. Notwithstanding my own argument, however, I reassert that the portents are against the appointment of Mr. Lambert.

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What position will Sir Walter Foster have in the new Ministry? Of course, Sir Walter has been a fighting asset of the Liberal organisation in the last ten years. As one of the most important forces of the Land Law Reform Association, he has been an active propagandist on land-reform lines. His former experience at the Local Government Board means an equipment for administration which only a few other men in the party possess, whilst his personal qualities have greatly commended him to his fellow-legislators. For my part I should like to see Sir Walter made President of the Local Government Board. This would mean that he would not have to secure a prefatory knowledge ere he ventured on the work of administration. I fear, however, that Cabinet-rank is not intended for him. The pyrotechnists of the party have first to be provided for—the Liberal authors of oratorical fireworks. These men are not only pyrotechnists; they are pushful. And pushfulness is, in modern politics, an infinitely greater commendation than mere work-a-day spade-work. Sir Walter is also not of the temperament that cares for the employment of trumpeters; he is not of the nature to organise an eternity of pæans to his own honour; he is too sensitive, too, to eternally hymn his own glories. Hence, I fear, that the position which he really deserves may go to another, and he a pyrotechnist. Well, 'twill be a thousand pities. Sir Walter Foster has those qualities which are most in harmony with the necessities of the Local-Government Board.

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Is this Ministry calculated to be of advantage to agriculture? Will it embody in legislation those proposals we associate with the names of Mr. George Lambert and Mr. Channing? The pre-occupations and pre-engagements of the new Government simply render this impossible. Ministers may, of course, seek to give a more important character to the Board of Agriculture. They may give it a wider administrative authority, and seek to make the Board a real, rather than a lay, influence. This, of course, would be simply a matter for the estimates, and would mean nothing more serious than a couple of hours' discussion. I do not believe, however, that the Government will attempt to do more, or, at least, not more than to pass Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes' Butter Bill, and his Dogs Bill. First of all, the passive resisters and the tee-totallers have to be conciliated. This alone will provide more than enough work for a couple of sessions. Then the Irish will demand recognition and concessions. The man would be a bold prophet who asserted that Home Rule will be conceded by this Government; but, at least, unless Ministers make some progress along the road of devolution they will have the Nationalist fangs in their throat. It is certain that meanwhile the clamorous economy-men and efficiency-men will be raising their cries. They will be insistent that the Army shall be placed in a satisfactory condition; they will demand that at the War Office we shall have every time twenty-shillings' value for each sovereign of the nation's money. The Anti-Randites, too, will then begin to assert themselves. You may be certain, for instance, that they will seek to make the South African millionaires pay that promised thirty millions. What chance thus can there be for the farmers? They will never shout like the other interests. True, they are boasting of their intention to pursue an independent political course, but their song has really a very dulcet note.

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The New Forest election has a considerable significance. It reveals that in the rural constituencies the tide of anti-Toryism has been somehow arrested. It means that, after all, the bogeys which have been so assiduously utilised during the last two or three years have lost something of their repellent guise. The phosphorus does not appal in the old fashion; the scooped-out turnip and candle is not so often mistaken for the countenance of a ghostly resident of the spheres. As a fact, the Liberals have rather over-done their own game. Their prophecies as to the inevitable result of Protection have been couched in too lurid a phraseology. They have painted their picture in too fierce pigments. It was really inevitable that after a time the business would pall. I doubt that the agricultural labourer really believes that if Protection be adopted as the economy of this Empire, he will at once be reduced to an unvarying fare of horse-flesh and black bread. He has been so often hysterically assured that Protection would mean the reinvocation of the miseries of the hungry forties that the hysteria has at last failed to quicken the pulse to a fearsome gallop. The New Forest election may be a moral Liberal victory in that the Conservative majority has been seriously reduced, but it has put something like a new heart into the Tory organisers. Their foreboding

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

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is less acute as they regard their prospects in the counties.

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Procrastination is an excellent synonym for the words "Warwickshire farmers." The Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce met on Saturday for the purpose of resolving upon independent political action. It was, of course, apparent on Saturday that we were on the very shadow of a General Election. No man with a gift of observation could then have assumed that it would be postponed for more than a few weeks. This fact should have lent immediacy to their purpose. Did it? Well, when one practical speaker, Mr. O. Bowen, proceeded to outline the objects which should animate such independent action, he was called to order, and, in effect, had his mouth closed. Then by way of apology to him, and with the object of solacing its own conviction that there was no effective sincerity behind the advertised anxiety, the Chamber asked Mr. Bowen to read a paper outlining his proposals at the next meeting of the Chamber, which will take place towards the end of January. If the matter can be postponed until the end of January, it can just as well be postponed to the Kalends. It is this, nevertheless —this indisposition to forceful action— which, I fear me, will render the whole business innocuous and futile. If we do have resolutions, let us see to it that they are really resolute. "If you do have beliefs, don't believe them too hard," says the Yankee cynic. In British politics, if you don't believe your faiths hard, you shouldn't entertain beliefs at all.

Agriculturalist in the Political Honours List.

Following the usual custom, the retiring Government has obtained his Majesty's approval of a list of honours for gentlemen who have rendered signal service to the cause with which the Government is associated. Nine new peerages have been conferred, including two viscounties. Five gentlemen are appointed Privy Councillors, eleven are raised to the rank of baronet, and fourteen are given knighthoods, whilst there is a new K.C.M.G. (Mr. Henniker Heaton), two C.B.s, and four additions are made to the Irish Privy Council.

We are glad to see that one or two agriculturists figure in the list. The most notable is perhaps that distinguished veteran of the Crimean war, Lord Tredegar, who, as our readers know, takes the keenest interest in agricultural affairs, proof, if such were needed, being found in the great annual show promoted by him. His Majesty has made him a viscount, and it will be the wish of all agriculturists that he live for many years to enjoy his well-deserved honour.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, who has also been made a viscount, will be remembered as the Chancellor of the Exchequer who put a small duty on corn.

Among the new baronets figure the well-known sheep-breeder, Mr. R. P. Cooper, who as a member of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society has figured prominently during the Society's crisis, and it is stated that he is the gentleman who has guaranteed to make good any loss on next year's Derby show. Mr. Lindsay Hogg, who is another recipient of baronetcy, is M.P. for the Eastbourne Division of Sussex, and is well known in the South for the interest he takes in agricultural affairs.

The last issue of the Journal of the Welsh National Agricultural Society is chiefly taken up with an account of the society's second show, this occupying about thirty of the sixty-four pages. The other contents, all of which are interesting, include. "The Origin of the Welsh Cob," by C. C. Rogers; "Rations for Farm Stock," and two articles in Welsh. There are also some full page illustrations of prize winners at the show.

FARM.

Direct Supply of Farm Produce.

With the object of forming an association to supply farm and dairy produce of essentially Essex origin direct from the producer to the London consumer, a meeting of gentlemen living in the county was convened for Monday afternoon at the Great Eastern Hotel., Liverpool Street. Lord Deerhurst, who is taking considerable interest in the movement, and a number of other gentlemen attended at the appointed time, but in view of the numerous letters expressing sympathy with the objects of the gathering, but intimating that the writers wished to be present at the Agricultural Hall during the King's visit there, it was deemed advisable to postpone the meeting to an early but more convenient date.

Under the scheme which will be laid before the meeting, purchasing and collecting depots would be established at Ongar, Dunmow, Braintree, and Chelmsford, to begin with, where all the sorting, grading, and slaughtering could be done in a much better, cleaner, and cheaper manner than is possible in London. The county "base," owing to its greater proximity to London, would be Ongar, whence a motorwagon would start every morning to collect from the depots at other places mentioned, returning thither every afternoon, when another and larger motor vehicle would proceed to the London depot at Westminster. Each of the depots would be furnished with cold storage and chilling rooms, the motor-waggons being also insulated.

In lieu of the shops it is proposed to employ ingeniously devised and attractive stalls. Three of these (one with butcher's meat, another with fruit and vegetables, and the third with butter, honey, cheese, eggs, etc.), would be placed in six of the eight "market" streets of Westminster. It is considered that £15,000 would be required for the erection of buildings, etc., and about £5,000 for working capital.

Higher Agricultural Education.

Deputation to the Board of Agriculture.

A deputation waited upon the Board of Agriculture in London on Tuesday afternoon, to urge the importance of maintaining by all legitimate means the agricultural industries of England and Wales. The deputation consisted of representatives of the Universities of Cambridge and Leeds, the Armstrong College (Newcastle-upon-Tyne), the University of Wales (Aberstwyth), the University of North Wales, the University College of Reading, the Midland Agricultural and Dairy Institute (Derby), Harpers-Adams Agricultural College (Newport, Salop), the Agricultural College (Wye), the Carnarvonshire County Council, Derbyshire County Council, and other local authorities.

The deputation urged the necessity of proper provision being made throughout the country for research and higher education in agricultural science, in order that, if English agriculture is to hold its own in face of increasing foreign competition, English agriculturists should be enabled to bring to their work a scientific knowledge and training in scientific method such as are placed at the disposal of foreign rivals and their own countrymen north of the Tweed. The speakers were Professor Middleton (Cambridge University), Professor Blackwell (University College, South Wales), Lord Barnard, Mr. Morris (Yorkshire), and Alderman Tinniswood (Cumberland).

Sir Thomas Elliott, Permanent Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, who received the deputation in the place of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, President of the Board, said his first duty was to say that he was sorry it had fallen to his colleagues and himself to receive the deputation in the absence of Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes. Mr. Fellowes, however, thought, until such time as his successor was appointed, that the permanent staff, as the link between the old and the new regime, should receive the deputation. They had arranged for a verbatim report to be made of the weighty and practical speeches which had been delivered, so that it might be submitted in extenso to their next chief. If Mr. Fellowes had been able to he would have expressed his full concurrence as to the great value of the work being done by the colleges in the interests of agriculture. If a man was to be a successful agriculturist to-day in the face of foreign competition, it was necessary that he should have a thorough scientific knowledge of the industry. It was often said that agriculturists were slow to adapt themselves to different circumstances and new discoveries. However true that might be in certain directions, it could not be alleged in regard to agricultural education. As regarded finance, he was quite certain that the Treasury, in any application the deputation made to them, would require to be informed in very great detail as to whether there was any chance of some increase in the constitutions of local authorities or in the amount of private benefactions. If such increases had been given, the position of the Board of Agriculture in the matter would be much easier. He should like to associate himself with the gentleman who said there was great room for those who advocated scientific research in agriculture. Personally, he thought the time had come when they should take some steps for the co-ordination of the various agencies for such research. He should like to see some better equipment for agricultural research, and the provision of financial assistance for that purpose, and he could assure them that, so far as the Department were concerned, they would not hesitate to impress that view upon the Treasury. The Department had the fullest sympathy with the work which the colleges had done, and it would be his duty to bring what they had said under the notice of the incoming President. He believed, with the strong case the deputation had put before them, the Board might before long be able to meet their aspirations. (Cheers.)

The deputation then withdrew.

National Agricultural Examination Board.

The National Agricultural Examination Board held its annual meeting yesterday (December 7), at 13, Hanover-square, under the presidency of the Very Rev. Dr. Gillespie, LL.D., chairman of the Board. There were present:—Lord Moreton, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Martin J. Sutton, and Sir Ernest Clarke (representing the Royal Agricultural Society of England); Dr. Gillespie, Dr. David Wilson, Mr. Alexander Cross, Mr. John Speir, and Mr. James Macdonald (representing the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland); Dr. William Somerville (Board of Agriculture), Mr. John Struthers, C.B. (Scotch Education Department), and Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey, Secretary of the Board.

The reports on the various examinations held under the auspices of the Board during the year 1905, were considered, and the regulations for the similar examinations to be held during 1906 were discussed, and, after revision, ordered to be issued.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week inded Dec. 2, 1905, together with the quantities, emported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	12,161	13,836	Wheat ...	1,808,600	1,813,000
Sheep.....	13,019	1,623	Flour	360,700	334,500
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ..	536 000	653,800
Horses ...	269	351	Oats	317,000	204,000
			Peas	50,953	41,880
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	78,820	1,540
Beef	96,341	67,105	Maize ...	658,300	658,300
Mutton...	62,913	33,540	Apples ...	168,618	159,410
Pork	15,622	14,737	Apricots		
Bacon ...	107,907	101,631	&Peaches	—	—
Beef, salt	1,312	4,067		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	24,304	27,766	Bananas	63,046	81,445
Pork,salt	4,212	1,223		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat,salt			Cherries	—	—
& Fresh	14,535	9 292	Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	16,146	26,660	Goosebr's	—	—
Butter ...	72,548	67,826	Grapes ..	7,787	4,547
M'rg'rine	19,926	22,616	Lemons..	6,404	27,654
Cheese ...	35,272	58,448	Oranges	191,238	226,700
Milk,			Pears.....	3,304	4,589
Fresh,			Plums ...	104	25
in cans			Oth'r Fr't	5,168	5,781
or				Tons	Tons.
drums.	60	—	Hay	1,735	1,577
Milk,			Straw ..	2,425	1 240
Cream	93	105	MossLitt'r	—	1,236
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	20,818	20,818	Hops	12,584	8,722
Milk			Locust		
pr's'v'd,			Beans	29,934	6,413
other				Bush.	Bush.
kinds ...	107	132	Onions ...	181,594	145,620
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	46,507	16,397
Eggs	388,939	414,617	Tomatoes	14,694	11 464
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry&	Value.	Value.	Veg'bles	£6,969	£4,209
Game	£17,502	£14,983		Cwt.	Cwt.
			Dried ...	4,831	12,615
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	17,415	23,767	by can-		
Lard ...	38,799	41,510	ning ..	5,332	3,619

The Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Monthly Council Meeting—Sir Gilbert Greenall, the Honorary Director—The New Secretary—Prize Sheet for Derby —No Government Grant for the Society.

A monthly Council meeting was held on Wednesday, Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (President) in the chair.

Trustees.

The Earl of Coventry, Earl Egerton of Tatton, Sir Walter Gilbey, Bart., Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Lord Middleton, Lord Moreton, Sir John H. Thorold, Bart.

Vice-Presidents.

H.R.H. Prince Christian, K.G., Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. J. M. Dugdale, the Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., the Earl of Northbrook, the Hon. Cecil T. Parker.

Other Members of the Council.

Mr. George Adams, Mr. Charles R. W. Adeane, Mr. T. L. Aveling, Mr. S. N. Bankart, Mr. Richardson Carr, Mr. R. P. Cooper, Mr. J. P. Cross, Lieut.-Col. Curtis-Hayward, Mr. John T. C. Eadie, Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Mr. R. M. Greaves, Sir Gilbert Greenall, Bart., Mr. Joseph Harris, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. J. H. Hine, Mr. R. W. Hobbs, Mr. J. Howard Howard, Mr. Walter F. Ingram, Mr. Ernest Mathews, Mr. W. A. May, Mr. C. Middleton, Mr. T. H. Miller, Mr. T. S. Minton, Mr. Ralph C. Palmer, Mr. Claude M. S. Pilkington, Mr. F. Reynard, Mr. John Rowell, Mr. W. Scoby, Mr. E. W. Shackle, Mr. A. J. Smith, Mr. R. Stratton, Mr. Herbert Tallent, Mr. George Taylor, Mr. John Thornton, Mr. A. P. Turner, and Mr. C. W. Wilson.

Election of New Members.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Council, held on November 1, 1905, having been taken as read and approved, the election of the following twenty-two new members was proceeded with:—

Attenborough, George, 10, Pembridge Place, W.
Beck, Septimus F., Great Missenden.
Bevan, Edmund H., Whilton Lodge, near Rugby.
Biddulph, the Hon. John M. G., 6, Eaton Place, W.
Browne, Arthur S., Buckland Filleigh, Highampton, Devon.
Craig, Charles, Fllore House, Weedon, Northants.
Goodchild, C. S., The Hermitage Farm, Clare, Suffolk.
Hallett, John S., Sherford, Brixton, Plymouth.
Hitch, W. H., Cowley Manor Estate Office, near Cheltenham.
Horne, Lieut.-Col. H. S., R.F.A., East Haddon, Northampton
Keene, H. F., Clerk of the Asylums Committee, London County Council, 6, Waterloo Place, S.W.
Manfield Harry, Moulton Grange, near Northampton.
Morgan, Captain D. Hughes, Pontywal Hall, Talgarth, Brecon.
Morley, Earl of, Saltram, Plympton.
Murland, William, Badby House, near Daventry.
Shepherd, Edmund T., Guildford Street, Chertsey.
Soames, Gerald M., Welton, near Daventry.
Stooke, John, Sherford, Brixton, Plymouth.
Thomas, F. E., George House, George Hill, Llandilo, Carmarthenshire.
Toy, William, Chipping Norton.
Woolcombe, G. A. L., Hemerdon House, Plympton.
Young, H. A. L., St Helens, Weymouth

Finance: Park Royal.

The final balance-sheet of the Society's Show at Park Royal, held last June, had been submitted to and examined by the Society's accountants and by the auditors appointed by the members. The balance to the debit of the show was £7,279 17s. 11d., of which £7,038 12s. would be defrayed by the contributions received to the Show Fund of 1905, and the balance (£241 5s. 11d.) from the Society's ordinary funds.

A letter had been received from the Society's solicitors, stating that the original vendors had declined to exercise their right of pre-emption in regard to the Park Royal Estate. Under these circumstances the Committee proposed that the Estate should be put up for sale in the course of next summer. Any suitable offer made meanwhile would be considered.

The Committee further reported that Sir Nigel Kingscote had intimated his desire to be relieved of the duties of Chairman at the end of the present year. They had received this intimation with extreme regret, and they felt it incumbent upon them to place on record their high sense of the ability, courtesy, and impartiality with which Sir Nigel had fulfilled the responsible and laborious duties of Chairman of the Committee during the long period of thirty years.

Mr. C. R. W. Adeane had been elected Chairman of the Committee for the year 1906.

Election of New Secretary.

Sir NIGEL KINGSCOTE presented a report from the Finance Committee upon the applications received for the office of Secretary to the Society. The Committee submitted the names of three candidates for the consideration of the Council, and recommended the appointment of Mr. Thomas McRow. He, therefore, formally moved Mr. McRow's appointment.

Mr. W. HARRISON seconded the motion, and it was unanimously adopted.

Journal.

Sir JOHN THOROLD (Chairman) reported the arrangements made with the printers for the production of the next volume of the Society's "Journal," and for the collection of advertisements. The Committee recommended that the price to non-members of the forthcoming volume be fixed at 10s. The contents of the volume had been discussed, and it had been arranged to include a biography of the late Sir Jacob Wilson, accompanied by a portrait, which would form the frontispiece to the volume.

Mr. T. McRow.
THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Mr. McRow has been the secretary of the Agricultural Hall Company for the past two years. In that position he succeeded the late Mr. Venner, and for many years before he assumed the control of the flourishing North London Establishment he was under the late Mr. Jenkins and Sir Ernest Clarke at Hanover Square.

Stock Prizes.

Mr. GREAVES (Chairman) reported that offers of the following prizes had been received from various Breed Societies for the show of 1906, and the Committee recommended their acceptance with the cordial thanks of the Society:—

Hunters' Improvement Society.—Two Gold Medals, of the value of £10 10s. each, for the best hunter mare four years old and upwards, and for the best hunter filly not exceeding three years old, which are registered or entered in the Hunter Stud Book.

Hackney Horse Society.—Two Champion Gold Medals, of the value of £10 each, for the best hackney stallion and the best hackney mare or filly; and a Champion Gold Medal, of the value of £5, for the best mare or gelding exhibited in the single harness horse classes, the produce of a registered hackney stallion.

Shetland Pony Stud Book Society.—A Silver Medal for the best Shetland pony.

Polo and Riding Pony Society.—Two Gold Medals, of the value of £10 each, for the best polo and riding pony stallion and for the best polo and riding pony mare.

Shire Horse Society.—Two Champion Gold Medals, of the value of £10 each, for the best Shire stallion, and the best Shire mare or filly; and two prizes of £5 to the breeder of the champion stallion, and to the breeder of the champion mare or filly, provided the breeder is a member of the Shire Horse Society, and the dam is a mare registered in the Shire Horse Stud Book.

Clydesdale Horse Society.—Two Champion Prizes of £10 each, for the best Clydesdale stallion, and for the best Clydesdale mare or filly.

Suffolk Horse Society.—A Challenge Cup, value 50 gs., for the best Suffolk stallion, the cup to become the absolute property of an exhibitor winning it three times.

Shorthorn Society.—Class for heifer in milk, calved in 1905: 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4. Class for Shorthorn dairy cow, in milk, under four years old, on the first day of the show, entered or eligible for entry in Coates's Herd Book: 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4. Class for Shorthorn dairy cow, in-milk, four years old and upwards, on the first day of the show, entered or eligible for entry in Coates's Herd Book: 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4. Cows entered in these Shorthorn dairy classes to be clean milked at six o'clock in the evening previous to the opening of the show. That on the first morning of the show all cows shall be milked in the ring in the presence of the judge, who shall see the milk weighed, and any cow that does not yield up to the following standard shall be disqualified:—Cows having calved within three calendar months of the show, 25lb. of milk. If calved more than three calendar months from the first day of the show, 20lb. of milk. Two Champion Prizes of £50 each for the best male and best female Shorthorn, and special prizes of £5 each to the breeders of the first-prize animals in each of the nine Shorthorn classes.

Lincolnshire Red Shorthorn Association.—Bull, calved in 1904: 1st, £10: 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4. Bull, calved in 1905: 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4. Heifer, calved in 1904: 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4. Heifer calved in 1905: 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £4.

Hereford Herd Book Society.—A first prize of £15 for bull calved in 1905; two Champion Prizes of £10 10s. each for the best Hereford bull or the best Hereford cow or heifer.

Sussex Herd Book Society.—£54 towards the Prize for Sussex cattle, and two Silver Medals for the best male and best female Sussex.

Welsh Black Cattle Society.—A Champion Prize of £5 5s. for the best Welsh bull.

The Red Polled Society.—£20 towards the Prizes for Red Polled cattle.

Polled Cattle Society.—Gold medal for the best breeding animal in the Aberdeen-Angus classes.

English Aberdeen-Angus Cattle Association.—Gold Medal for the best Aberdeen-Angus animal of the opposite sex to that of the animal awarded the Gold Medal of the Polled Cattle Society.

English Guernsey Cattle Society.—A Champion Cup, of the value of £5 for the best Guernsey cow or heifer.

English Kerry and Dexter Cattle Society.—Prizes of £5, £3, and £2, in two classes, for Kerry heifers and for Dexter heifers, calved in 1904 or 1905. Two Challenge Cups, value 25 gs. each, for the best Kerry animal and for the best Dexter animal, the cups to become the property of an exhibitor winning them three years in succession.

English Jersey Cattle Society—Butter Tests.—A. Cow of any age, breed, or cross, exceeding 900lb. live weight: 1st, £15; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5. B. Cow of any age, breed, or cross, not exceeding 900lb. live weight: 1st, £15; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5. Special prizes for the three cows in Classes A and B obtaining the greatest number of points in the Butter Test Competition: 1st, £20; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5. A Gold Medal (or £10 in money), Silver and Bronze Medals for the three Jersey cows entered in or eligible for entry in the English Jersey Herd Book, obtaining the greatest number of points in the Butter Tests, Classes A and B. Special Milk Yield Prizes of £20, £10, and £5 for cows in milk of any age, breed, or cross.

Oxford Down Sheep Breeders' Association.—£8 for four fourth prizes of £2 each in each of the four classes for Shearling rams, three ram lambs dropped in 1906, three Shearling ewes of the same flock, and three ewe lambs dropped in 1906 respectively.

Shropshire Sheep Breeders' Association.—Two-shear ram: 1st, £8; 2nd, £4. Five Shearling rams of same flock: 1st, £15; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5. Special selling (auction) Shearling ram: 1st, £20; 2nd, £15; 3rd, £10; 4th, £5.

Southdown Sheep Society.—Prizes of £10, £5, and £3 in two classes for two-shear rams and three Shearling rams of same flock. A Champion Gold Medal (or £10 10s. in money) for the best two-shear or Shearling ram. A Silver Medal for the best pen of ewe or ewe lambs.

Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association.—Prizes of £10 and £5 for two-shear rams, and a Champion Prize of £10 for the best pen of ram lambs or ewe lambs.

Lincoln Longwool Sheep Breeders' Association.—Prizes of £7 and £3 for two-shear rams; £15, £10, and £5 for pens of five Shearling rams of same flock; and a Champion Medal (or 5 gs. in money) for the best Lincoln ram exhibited.

Lonk Sheep Breeders' Association.—£10, for two Second Prizes of £5 each, in each of the two classes for ram, Shearling, and upwards, and three Shearling ewes of same flock respectively.

National Pig breeders' Association.—Three Champion Gold Medals (or three special prizes of 5 gs. each) for the best boar or sow exhibited in the Large White, Middle White, and Tamworth classes. Also prizes of £7, £3, £2, in three classes for Large White, Middle White, and Tamworth sows farrowed in 1905.

The Committee recommended that prizes for Milk-yield Classes be offered as last year. The question of the date from which the ages of Aberdeen-Angus cattle should be calculated had again been considered by the Committee, who adhered to their previous recommendation on the subject. They also recommended that the request of the Galloway Cattle Society, for the calculation of the ages of Galloway cattle from December 1, be complied with.

The Committee had considered the draft prize-sheet for the show of 1906, and now recommended it for acceptance and circulation in the ordinary course.

They also made the following recommendations:—The insertion of a condition that breeding sows competing for prizes in the Society's showyard must either be exhibited with a litter of live pigs, or must have produced a litter in 1906 previous to the show. That in the Sheep Classes for which they had suggested at the previous meeting a single prize of £10, two prizes, a first of £7 and a second of £3, be offered instead. That the Judges Selection Committee have power to appoint two judges where a decision from two judges was, in their opinion, necessary. That instructions be given for letters to be sent to the various Breed Societies asking them to be good enough to send in a list to the Society of not more than six judges recommended by them. That auctioneers at the sales to be held in the Derby Show-

yard be appointed as follows:—Mr. Arthur C. Beck for horses, Mr. John Thornton for cattle, and Mr. Alfred Mansell for sheep and pigs.

Age of A.-A. Cattle.

Mr. RALPH PALMER said that, with reference to the question as to the date from which the ages of Aberdeen-Angus cattle should be calculated, he did not think the Council had had the fact as to the matter before them. If the recommendation of the Stock Prizes Committee were adopted, he thought it would entail a very great hardship, and he therefore begged to oppose the Committee's recommendation that the ages of Aberdeen-Angus cattle be calculated from December 1 instead of January 1, as at present.

Mr. THORNTON seconded, and said that as the matter now stood the year is stated to be 1902, 1903, or 1904, and the Aberdeen-Angus Society desired, under the new order of things, that the ages should be reckoned from December 1.

Mr. GREAVES thought the Society must go even further. If they allowed any of the breeds to choose their own dates, they must allow all the breeds to do likewise. It would not be fair on the application of one breed to fix a certain date without consulting the other breeds.

Mr. MIDDLETON said that all animals had to be eligible for entry in their respective Herd Books. If so, they ought to take the dates from those books.

The PRESIDENT having formally put Mr. Palmer's amendment to the meeting, it was declared lost, and the recommendation of the Stock Prizes Committee was adopted.

Implement.

Mr. GREAVES reported that, in the absence of Mr. Frankish through illness, he had been called to the chair.

Mr. Neville Grenville had forwarded a report as to the trials which took place after the last show at Park Royal of a milking machine entered as a "new implement," together with a letter from the judges recommending that a silver medal be given to Messrs. J. and R. Wallace for their milking machine No. 2,558 in the catalogue for 1905. The Committee recommended that the suggestion of the judges, in which the Stewards of Implements concurred, should be adopted.

The Committee recommended for adoption regulations for trials of suction gas engines to take place in connection with the Derby Show of 1906, with prizes of a gold and silver medal.

The Implement Regulations for the Derby Show had been finally amended and approved by the Committee, and instructions had been given for their circulation.

General: Derby.

Sir GILBERT GREENALL reported that the following representatives of the Derby Local Committee, nominated by the Mayor of Derby, had been elected members of the General Derby Committee:—Mr. E. T. Ann (Mayor), Mr. Alderman Souter, Mr. Councillor Hart, Mr. Richard Finney, Mr. James Oakes, Mr. J. Pakeman, Mr. W. Cecil Salt, Mr. Jacob B. Smith, Mr. G. H. Strutt, with the Local Secretaries, Mr. G. Trevelyan Lee and Mr. Sidney Burton, Secretary of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society.

The proposals of the Local Committee with regard to the offer of prizes had been discussed, and various questions arising out of them had been settled. The Committee recommended that a horse-shoeing competition be held in connection with the Derby Show, in two classes, for agricultural horses and for hunters; that the competition be open to the United Kingdom; and that the following prizes be offered in each class:—First prize, £3 10s.; second prize, £2; third prize, £1 10s.; fourth prize, £1.

Showyard Works.

Mr. HARRISON reported the Committee's recommendation that Sir Gilbert Greenall be added to the Committee. The Committee had considered tenders for the construction of the showyard which had been laid before them. As the matter required further consideration, they asked for authority to deal with it before the next meeting of the Council.

New Members of Council

Sir JOHN THOROLD (Chairman) reported that Mr. James Falconer, of Northbrook Farm, Micheldever Station, Hants, had been duly elected under Bye-laws 84 and 88 as an Ordinary Member of the Council for the Division of Hampshire, to fill the vacancy caused by the election of the Earl of Northbrook as a Vice-President. He also reported that for the four divisions—Cornwall, Dorset, Essex, and South Wales—in which there were vacancies on the Council to be filled up, the following members had received the largest number of votes:—Cornwall: Mr. George Lobb, of Lawhitton, Launceston. Dorset: Mr. Arthur Hiscock, jun., of Manor Farm, Motcombe. Essex: Mr. John Barker, of The Grange, Bishop Stortford. South Wales: Mr. C. Coltman Rogers, of Stanage Park, Brampton Bryan. The Committee had the pleasure to announce that Sir Gilbert Greenall had consented to undertake the duties of Honorary Director of the Derby Show, and the Committee formally recommended his appointment. They recommended also the appointment of Mr. Ernest Mathews as Steward of Dairying and Mr. J. T. C. Eadie as Steward of Forage. The Committee recommended the election of Sir Ernest Clarke as an Honorary Member of the Society on his retirement from the office of Secretary.

On the motion of Sir John Thorold, Mr. George Lobb, Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., Mr. John Barker, and Mr. C. Coltman Rogers were formally elected Members of the Council under Bye-law 90.

Sir Ernest Clarke.

Sir JOHN THOROLD, in moving that Sir Ernest Clarke be elected an Honorary Member of the Society on his retirement from the office of Secretary, in recognition of his services to the Society during the eighteen and a half years that he had held that office, said that he did not think words of his were necessary to recommend this motion to the Council. Having been on the Special Committee which elected Sir Ernest Clarke in 1887, and having worked with him up to the present time, he wished to testify to the very great obligation of himself and every member of that Council to Sir Ernest for the great services he had rendered to the Council, and for the valuable assistance he had rendered to them all as individuals, never sparing himself in time or out of time, and always having the interests of the Society as his one and only object. In conferring the Society's Honorary Membership upon Sir Ernest, they would permanently attach him to the Society in whose interests he had spent the best years of his life. (Hear, hear.)

Sir Gilbert Greenall.

The Honorary Director of the Royal Agricultural Society.

Sir NIGEL KINGSCOTE said he had the greatest pleasure in seconding this proposal. Having been on the Council during the whole of Sir Ernest's period of office, he wished to express his high sense of obligation to him for all that he had done for the Society.

The PRESIDENT said that he felt he could add nothing to what had been said so ably by Sir John Thorold and Sir Nigel Kingscote, except to say that during the short time that he had filled the chair he recognised to the full the ready assistance which Sir Ernest Clarke had given him on all occasions.

The motion having been carried unanimously, Sir ERNEST CLARKE, whose rising was greeted with applause, said that he was deeply touched at the generous words with regard to himself and his services to the Society which had been spoken by the two distinguished Members of the Council who had moved and seconded the resolution, and who had been such kind friends to himself during his long association with the Society. His philosophy failed him at the crucial moment when he reflected that he was now standing for the last time in the familiar place that by the favour of the old Council had been his for the last eighteen and a half years. Very many changes had taken place in the interval, and of the Members of the Council whom he had first met as a complete stranger to them all in June, 1887, only eight were still members of the governing body. Time had passed so quickly by that it was difficult to realise that he had served the Society longer than his predecessor as Secretary, and had been officially associated with more Royal Shows than ever their late friend Sir Jacob Wilson had been as Honorary Director. He desired to thank the Council from the bottom of his heart for their constant kindness and consideration to him in the carrying out of the heavy and responsible work which had to be fulfilled by the occupant of the honourable office which he now relinquished. He also wished to express his cordial thanks to the colleagues who had worked with him and under him for the loyal assistance they had always given to him and to the Society. The Council had been good enough to pay him a rare compliment, and one which he highly appreciated, by electing him an Honorary Member, and thus, as Sir John Thorold had well said, attaching him to the Society for the rest of his life. He thanked the Council for this mark of their goodwill towards him, and he hoped that the many private friendships with which he had been honoured during the time that he had been privileged to be in official relations with members of the Council would be continued in his retirement. The Council had honoured him with their confidence and support during the long years of strenuous work which lay behind him, and he had endeavoured to the utmost of his abilities to justify that confidence by devoting the best of his powers to the service of the Society, which he sincerely hoped might have before it a prosperous future worthy of its splendid traditions.

Royal Commission on Horse Breeding.

A letter dated November 18, 1905, was received from the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, asking the Council, in view of the decease of Sir Jacob Wilson, who represented the Royal Agricultural Society upon the Commission, to nominate one of their number to represent the Society, in accordance with the terms of the Royal Warrant dated December 3, 1887, in order that such nomination might be brough before the First Lord of the Treasury for submission to His Majesty the King.

On the motion of the Earl of COVENTRY, seconded by Lord MIDDLETON, it was resolved unanimously that Sir Walter Gilbey be nominated as the Society's representative upon the Commission.

Date of Next Meeting.

After some discussion, the Council fixed the date of the next meeting for Wednesday, January 10, 1906, and then adjourned until that date.

The Government Grant. Deputation to the Board of Agriculture.

A deputation from the Royal Agricultural Society of England waited upon Sir Thomas Elliott, K.C.B., Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, on Wednesday.

The deputation consisted of Mr. F. S. W. Cornwallis (President), the Earl of Northbrook (Chairman of the Veterinary Committeee), Lord Moreton (Chanrman of the Education Committee), Mr. J. Bowen-Jones (Chairman of the Chemical and Woburn Committee), Sir John Gilmour, Bart., Sir Ernest Clarke (Secretary), and the Very Rev. Dr. John Gillespie, LL.D., and Mr. Ernest H. Godfrey (Secretary of the National Agricultural Examination Board).

Mr. CORNWALLIS having introduced the deputation, and apologised for the absence, through illness, of Mr. E. V. V. Wheeler (Chairman of the Botanical and Zoological Committee), made a statement as to the objects of the deputation.

The Royal Agricultural Society base their appeal upon the fact that these branches are conducted as much in the interests of the general agricultural public as in the interests of the governors and members who subscribe to the Society. They also point out that whilst the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries administers annually considerable grants in air of local teaching institutions, and of local agricultural experiments and research, the Royal Agricultural Society of England, whose educational and scientific research work is national in character, receives at present no grant of the kind. It is

considered that the Society may fairly claim to be placed in this respect upon an equal footing with other Agricultural Societies, and with the local university and agricultural colleges in the various districts of Great Britain.

Lord MORETON, Dr. GILLESPIE, Lord NORTHBROOK, Mr. BOWEN-JONES, and Sir JOHN GILMOUR having spoken in support of the appeal,

Sir THOMAS ELLIOTT, in reply to the representations of the deputation, said that Mr. Fellowes and the officers of the Board had been in consultation for some time past as to the position of the Royal Agricultural Society and its desire for a grant from the Government. As a result of the inquiries made, he had come to the conclusion that there was no prospect of the Treasury making any direct grant to the Society. There was, in fact, a disinclination to recognise the justice of a claim for a subvention from the Imperial Exchequer towards defraying the cost of privileges which were more or less confined to a limited class.

That being so, the Board had considered whether there was any way in which indirect aid could be given to the Society, and in discussing the question he would deal with the work of the Society under the three chief heads which had been mentioned.

The Board believed that the valuable work done by the Royal Veterinary College constituted an equitable claim to assistance from the State, and representations on the subject had been made to the Treasury, who seemed not unwilling to provide the money for a grant. At the present time the principle was practically acknowledged, and the only matter in dispute was the amount of the grant The Board were very hopeful that a substantial sum would be allocated for this purpose, and, if they were thus able to give a grant to the Royal Veterinary College, it would be possible for the Royal Agricultural Society to withdraw, or considerably reduce, their grant of £200 a year, and so diminish, for a time at least, the burden of charge upon the decreased resources of the Society

The Board fully recognised the value of the work done by the Royal Agricultural Society in the direction of examinations, and they were strongly of opinion that it was most desirable to have one central standard examination for the whole country. At present there were several bodies holding examinations at different centres with varying standards, and some measure of co-ordination was urgently needed. The Board believed that this could be best achieved by the formation of a National Examination Council, on which would be represented the Board, the Royal Agricultural Society, the Highland Society, and the Agricultural Colleges and Institutions. If this could be done he thought the Government should contribute a substantial sum towards the expenses, and that the other adhering bodies should each contribute some smaller amount. In this way, also, the funds of the Royal Agricultural Society would be relieved; since, instead of spending, say, £250 a year on the examinations it might be sufficient if they contributed only £50 a year.

As to the agricultural research work and the Woburn Farm, Sir Thomas alluded to the great and important problems from an economic point of view which awaited solution in the field of agricultural research. He felt sure that in many directions research would result in discoveries of very great practical value. At present such work was being carried out by many agencies at isolated stations in different parts of the country, and, here again, what was needed was better organisation and co-ordination. If there were some representative body, well equipped with funds, comprising representatives of the Board, the Royal and Highland Societies, the Colleges, the Rothamsted Trustees, and possibly some of the County Councils, there could be no doubt but that more work would be done, and the whole would be better organised. He thought that if such a body were formed, somewhat on the lines of the Fruit and Cider Institute, the Government would not be unwilling to provide sufficient funds for the purpose when a suitable opportunity presented itself. So far as the Royal Agricultural Society was concerned, the Board would hope that Woburn could be included in such a scheme, and that the valuable services of Dr. Voelcker would still be available in this direction. If it proved practicable for the Royal Agricultural Society to co-operate in such a scheme it would entail a reduced charge upon the funds of the Society without any diminution of the efficiency of the work as at present carried on.

In conclusion, Sir Thomas said that the Board were prepared to take the initiative at once by formulating schemes on the lines above indicated, which would be submitted for the consideration of the Royal Agricultural Society and others concerned at an early date.

The deputation then withdrew, after an expression of thanks from Mr. Cornwallis on its behalf for the courtesy of Sir Thomas Elliott in receiving it.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The fat stock shows are drawing to a close, and perhaps the time is opportune for a consideration of their value as educational institutions. Some consider the exhibitions to rank higher than the agricultural shows of the summer, but those who hold that view are entirely mistaken. For at the fat stock gatherings we see only those animals which have not been selected for breeding purposes—the very best specimens are not to be met with, although the best types may be seen and recognised. On the other hand, the finished and matured animal is to be seen at Christmas time in full war paint trained to the hour, and ready to be "turned off" in the pink of perfection. It is impossible to deny that these Christmas fat shows are not highly beneficial to the agricultural visitor, for they prove to him what results have been attained by careful feeding; and, of course, the thing that has been done once may be done again.

At our summer meetings we see little of cross-bred stock, the stock aggregated are almost entirely pure-bred animals, and the tyro can form no opinion of the capabilities of crosses between particular breeds. But in the fat stock show he finds cross-bred animals very much in evidence, and he soon learns that for the purposes of mere meat production the first cross between two distinct breeds may surpass either of its progenitors. There is another lesson which has to be learnt, and which practical experience soon teaches those who essay the experiment: that by breeding from the cross, especially where both parents are the produce of a first cross, most disappointing results are obtained, the progeny being usually weedy and of a nondescript type, combining in themselves the worst properties of both the breeds from which they sprang.

In the course of time, by careful selection of the best types, and by occasional recourse to fresh infusions of blood from one or both of the original races, the undesirable features may be eliminated and the valuable properties perpetuated; but this is in every case effected only by the exercise of the greatest skill and judgment through a long series of years. Marked success attended the efforts of the founders and originators of the New Oxford breed of sheep—as the Oxford used to be termed—even greater success attending the labours of Bakewell in the evolution of the New or Dishley Leicester, although these prefixes have long ago been dropped; but many would-be imitators have totally failed to successfully attain a similar purpose.

There is, however, no doubt that for the general purposes of the farm—apart, of course, from breeding purposes—cross-bred stock often prove more profitable than pure-bred animals. By cross-bred is here meant the first cross between two pure-bred animals of different breeds, and not the result of a second cross, nor any similar hybrid nondescript. The cross-bred animal often, on the whole, surpasses the mean of his parents in many ways. He is larger and hardier, and possesses greater aptitude for fattening. A sheep may have a fleece decidedly more valuable that the mean of the fleeces of his parents, and a cow may be a better milker than her dam and better than the dam of her sire. The cross-bred is more vigorous and more vivacious than its parents, often more so than either of them, but it has no prepotency, it cannot reproduce in its offspring those properties which render itself so valuable.

The change of Government is causing many other changes. The political crisis has caused a fluttering in a good many dovecotes, and has disturbed many arrangements for the Christmas festivities. Shortly after the New Year comes in many farmers' clubs and associations hold their annual gatherings, when local M.P.'s and other notabilities are in request. The provisional arrangements for these are all disordered, and one very important meeting—the annual meeting and dinner of the Yorkshire Union of Agricultural Clubs, usually held in January or February—has been postponed.

Cabinets come and go, but agriculture, the oldest of our industrial pursuits, remains; and it is earnestly to be desired that the new President of the Board of Agriculture will lend a favourable ear to the suggestions recently made by the Central Chamber. There are several measures, of a non-party nature, which have recently been before Parliament, but which the late Government failed to press forward—whether from the lack of will or the lack of the power, it is hard to say—although it is clear that the late Minister of Agriculture did his best in their support. It is to be hoped that his successor in office may prove equally willing, but more successful in dealing with these matters. M. Y.

December 8, 1905.

Midland Notes.

The Christmas fat stock sales have opened promisingly, prices of £42 15s. for a pair of heifers, £45 5s. a pair of bullocks, and 70s. a head for a pen of wethers all which were realised at Sutton Coldfield on Tuesday, not leaving much room of complaint. But a touch of frost is wanted to put life into the market, both for stock and grain. As to corn, by the way, recent threshing has revealed some disappointing results. "Instead of just clearing my expenses," said a Nottingham farmer to the writer, "I shall make a loss I cannot any way afford"—this a propos of wheat. Frost, by the way, would be ill-timed for growing crops just now, for although the earlier sown corn is now a level and sturdy plant, there are many acres, particularly towards the north and east, which want a further spell of sun and mild weather to stimulate a somewhat feeble growth, and give them a good start in the way they should go.

In the general election which is now upon us, there will be much heard in the Midlands of farming interests and the land laws. The Chambers of Agriculture in Warwickshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire, have all been considering what to demand of Parliamentary candidates in the way of pledges and promises, and in the first-named county, at any rate, there seems to be a very general determination not to give support to any one who does not show a genuine inclination to work for the welfare of agriculture, and to signify adhesion to the farmers' own programme of needful reforms.

But while the Butter and Dogs Bills to all rating reform, and the regulation of excessive railway rates, with, perhaps, a Land Purchase Bill, some on the lines of Mr. Jesse Collings's are the main planks in the ordinary farmer's platform, there is another set of workers with a totally different catalogue of complaints. There are sturdy malcontents, like Mr. Fred Horne for instance, and many farmers in Worcestershire, who stand out for greater security of tenure for occupiers, and much more compensation for improvement due to good farming when a tenancy comes to an end.

This is not a political article, nor the proper place to dissect political letters and speeches. There will be no doubt—there is already—some nonsense talked and written on both sides, and much exaggeration. The attacks upon landlordism in the person of Colonel Kenyon Slaney, for instance, were pushed unprofitably far for his assailants when they drew signed testimony from his tenants to his consideration and fair dealing. It is going rather far, too, to say with Mr. Horne that bogus claims are "often" made by landowners; or to argue with the Northamptonshire farmer to whom a leading Unionist daily paper gives nearly a column of space, that a rent must necessarily be iniquitously high because a farmer fails to make a profit. There are plenty of other causes for bad business besides high rents—which, after all, generally represent about the amount that the farmer himself reckons he can afford to pay.

All the same, there are matters one would like to see altered. It cannot be good for agriculture that so large a proportion of English land should be in the hands of owners who have but a life interest in it, or that so many farms should be let on nothing better than a yearly tenure. Then again, the mortgages and other heavy charges which so many estates have to bear, and the sheer folly of ignorant and pretentious by-laws which make building needlessly troublesome and expensive, are other influences which tend to discourage landlords' improvements, and one need not be a political partisan to discover cause for further safeguarding the interests of a good tenant on the termination of his tenancy.

It is unfortunate that in certain cases—happily one cannot say very many—it should be just the good tenant who deals well and liberally with his land, who should be least secure. It is the agent's business, where management of an estate is committed to his care, to make the best he can out of it. Very likely there is that troublesome mortgage interest to think of, and very probably he knows the owner finds it hard to keep up the old position of his family upon a much reduced income. So he is prone to have regard to the farm rather than the farmer, with the result that the tenant who had improved the general condition of his holding is apt to find less consideration than he deserves. If he is not content, the agent argues there will be no difficulty in discovering another man ready to take up so good an occupation on equal or better terms.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.

Annual Meeting—The Quality and Yield of English Malting Barley Discussed.

The sixty-third annual general meeting of the Farmers' Club was held at 5, Whitehall Court, S.W., on Monday, Mr. W. A. Prout, Chairman of the Club, presiding.

The CHAIRMAN: As this is the annual meeting, I call upon Mr. Anker Simmons to propose the adoption of the report.

Mr. ANKER SIMMONS: I beg to move "That the accounts and report of the Committee for the year 1905 be received by this meeting and adopted." I will not detain you for many moments, but I would like to briefly refer to one or two items that are dealt with by the Committee in their report. In the first place, with regard to the accounts, it must be a matter of satisfaction to every member of the club to know that we are £157 15s. 8d. better off than we were a year ago. That is the result, to a great extent, of the increase in the number of members, the present number, as you will see, according to the report being 870. I am glad to say that at the Committee meeting held previous to this meeting we received over thirty applications for membership, so that we have every reason to look forward to a very considerable increase in that number. I think you will agree with me that we are extremely fortunate in having been able to secure the services of Mr. H. Trustram Eve as our new secretary. We all know him well enough to be assured that the business of the club will be extremely well looked after. I think, too, knowing what I do of him, that we are also extremely lucky to have Mr. Magar as his assistant.

We have also been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. F. E. Muntz, of Umberslade, as our chairman for the ensuing year, and I think the Committee is to be highly congratulated upon that. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Muntz is a most excellent man. He is a thoroughly practical man, and I am sure the club will go on and prosper under his rule. Then, at the end of his year of office, we can look forward to the election of a gentleman whom we now have as vice-chairman for the year, Mr. Harold Howard, whose name is also a well-known name in the agricultural parts of the country. In conclusion, the only other thing I have to say is to impress upon every member of the club the desirability of increasing the membership a great deal more.

Mr. STIRTON seconded the motion for the adoption of the report. The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

The SECRETARY (Mr. H. Trustram Eve): The following members of the Committee retire and are eligible for re-election:—Messrs. Barfoot Saunt, Gar Coles, T. A. Dickson, W. J. Henman, S. Kidner, John McLaren, F. E. Muntz, W. A. Prout, T. Stirton, George Street, A. Voelcker, J. Wrightson. Will someone kindly propose that they be re-elected or propose any change?

Mr. STRATTON: I beg to propose that they be re-elected.

Mr. H. L. BLUNT seconded the motion, which was carried.

The CHAIRMAN: In consequence of the death of several members and the resignation of one or two others, we have had to recommend four new members for the Committee. The names suggested by the Committee are:—The Hon. C. H. Strutt, M.P., Mr. W. D. Knight, Mr. Dennis, and Mr. Amos. Are you agreeable to accept the recommendation of the Committee?—Agreed to.

A paper entitled "The Quality and Yield of English Malting Barley" was then read by Mr. E. S. Beaven, of Warminster, Wilts. It will be remembered that we gave some extracts from the paper in our last issue, so we now give only the discussion, which was as follows:—

The Discussion.

Dr. WILLIAM SOMERVILLE (Assistant-Secretary, Board of Agriculture and Fisheries): Barley is one of the most interesting cereals. It is one in which we think we have attained a great measure of success as regards quality, and it is a crop which is more easily influenced, apparently, by agricultural, climatic, and geological conditions than any of our commoner cultivated agricultural crops. The difference, I suppose, between common barley and first-class barley this year may be represented by a difference between 25s. and 35s. per quarter, and I take it that no amount of attention to cultivation would produce such a large difference in the value of, say, wheat or oats. You find barley, cultivated, and cultivated successfully, and cultivated with a production of excellent quality, in the most unexpected districts sometimes. You have an excellent barley produced in the North-East of Scotland; you have barley in the South-East of Scotland; then coming further south, you get to what one may call the pick of the barley districts—that is to say, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridge but you find barley of the very highest quality grown in the South-West of England, a district where the rainfall is high and where, I think I may venture to say without contradiction from the head of the Meteorological Department, that the sunshine is less than it is in the East. You even get first-class barley grown away out in the far West of Ireland, the County of Galway. As far as my observations go, as a general rule the best barleys are grown in counties which touch the coast. We are fortunate, I think, in having had one or two excellent workers in the improvement of barley, and, without desiring to indicate who those workers have been, names at once arise to one's mind, especially that of our late lamented friend Mr. Stopes. The Brewers' Exhibition, which he had so much to do with, gave us a great deal of most useful information with regard to the conditions under which barley may be successfully grown; and these results confirm, I think, to a very great extent the results that have been scientifically obtained, for example, at Rothamsted. I am not going to trouble you with any figures, but I should just like to indicate, for example, that in connection with the Brewers' Exhibition, manure has been found to be a very influential factor. I may say that in the last two years for which Mr. Stopes' Reports are available, it is found that a very large number of the prizes were obtained from wheat crops which had been produced without the direct agency of any manure at all, and from that I conclude that high quality is associated with not a very great quantity of available manure in the soil.

The Time of Sowing.

The time of sowing appears to be a very influential factor, and, as a general rule, you find that the results are precisely opposite to what you obtain with wheat. I think I am right in saying that the experiments to which I have already alluded in the case of wheat show that a short growing season produces a strong wheat, a highly nitrogenous wheat. On the other hand, in the case of barley, you find that a long-growing season produces a starch growth; that is to say, in the case of wheat a short season of growth will produce a good quality; in the case of barley a long season will produce the same effect. In the year 1900 there was only one autumn-sown barley shown at the exhibition, and that one auaumn-sown barley obtained the champion prize. In the same year there were six samples of barley shown which had been raised from grain sown in February, and half of the total number obtained prizes—three out of six; whereas when you come to early-sown barley you find that only six out of twenty-four of the samples shown obtained prizes. Then we all know what an influence rotation has. We find, for example, in 1900 that thirty-three prizes were gained by crops that had succeeded another wheat crop, and no other rotation has anything like as many prizes. Again, I suppose it is due to the fact that one wheat crop exhausts the ground to a certain extent of the available nitrogen, and the barley crop succeeding that wheat crop finds the condition suitable for the production of grain of very high quality. There is no doubt that the great bulk of the fine barleys come off light land, but we also find that it is quite possible to produce barley of the very highest quality off heavy land; and I think I am right in saying that this year the champion barley of England, and what is probably the champion barley of the world has been grown upon a strong clay land. The grower of that barley is here to-night, and if you can possibly induce him to tell you how he produced the champion barley, the first prize barley in all England, it will be a most excellent thing for the Club. I see there are a great many men here who are capable of speaking to the point much better than I am, and I hope they are willing to speak; but at all events none of you can exceed the heartiness with which I propose a very cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Beaven for the particularly valuable paper he has given to the Club. (Cheers.)

Practical Experience of Barley Growing.

Mr. CARY COLES (Winterbourne, Stoke, Salisbury): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—Mr. Beaven, in his valuable and interesting paper, has treated barley from the scientific point of view, and Dr. Somerville has followed him to a great extent in the same direction. I propose very briefly to give you my experience of barley-growing as a practical agriculturist. The soil which I farm is a light gravelly loam on a chalk sub-soil. Barley is grown in the four-course rotation, succeeding a white straw crop generally. At least 95 per cent. of the barley is grown that way; a small portion, perhaps, is grown after mangels—which is another very good preparation—and occasionally after vetches fed off the preceding summer, and the land simply fallowed. That is a very good preparation for barley, both for crop and quality, but it is rather an expensive one, and we sheep-breeders lose a turnip crop entirely by so doing. I chance to know, however, two or three people who work that way and grow a very good crop. In my own district, for quality barley my practice is to sow the barley as early after January 20 as the land will work well with. If you go in for crop, I believe any time up to March 25 will do. When you go in for a crop, I advise at once sowing something else than spring barley. I should prefer to sow a six-rowed barley if you go in for a crop. I can grow more value per acre with the six, if I get a low malting quality, than I can with any two-rowed sort. With reference to the sowing, I prefer to drill. After the experience I have had, I am very particular to get my land to work if possible so well that I can always use a two-horse roller in front of my drill.

I believe there is a good deal in sowing barley an even depth, and that depth should be as near 1½ in. as possible on my land. If your barley is sown at an even depth it comes away altogether, and when it does that it generally goes on and ripens altogether, which is a great advantage in malting samples. For the last few years we have top-dressed, as a rule, all the stubble barleys. The top dressing I use is about 3 cwt. of superphosphate, and from ½ cwt. to ¾ cwt. of nitrate of soda. I do not use so much nitrate of soda as my friend the Chairman; I am very shy of nitrate of soda for quality in barley. In my experience it increases the crop at the expense of the quality if you go over ¾ cwt.—certainly in my district. With regard to the barley that won the prize in Class F at the Growers' Exhibition this year, I was tempted at last to send some samples to the Brewers' Exhibition (two years ago I should have been afraid to have done such a thing), and, fortunately, I won. I think I ought to say, in justice to the people whose manure I had, that it was grown with a barley manure which on analysis should contain 20 per cent. of soluble phosphates, about 4 or 5 per cent. of nitrogen, and 2 per cent. of potash, and about 3 cwt. per acre was used. I slightly differ from what my friend has said in the paper with regard to variety. In practice I am obliged to differ slightly.

With regard to the variety, I grow Chevallier, for this reason: If I grow Archer, I quite admit what my friend says that you grow a bigger crop, but it is of a dull grey colour, and unless it is a very favourable season it is just outside the malting circle, and that means, not the difference between 25s. and 35s., as Dr. Somerville said, but 5s., or, on an average, 3s. a quarter. In very favourable seasons the Archer barley is all right, but in an unfavourable one I just miss the best customers—Burton men are the best buyers of malting barley in my district. I have tried Goldthorpe, and my objection to that is that not only is the straw very brittle, but also the ear. If you get it a week or a few weeks over-ripe through bad weather, you have half the ears breaking off in the centre in an awful way. Further than that, it is not the thing to grow it in the south-west of England unless you can get maltsters there who will malt it. Out of twenty barley buyers in Salisbury market, fifteen would buy Chevallier and would not buy Goldthorpe or any of the wide-ear varieties. With reference to the question of harvesting, I hear a great deal against cutting barley with a binder. Since binders have come out I have used them for wheat, and I have followed it up for barley generally, unless it is very full of clover. I find by giving them plenty of field room, and keeping the machines up if they go down, and leaving them in stack a couple of months after they are harvested, I have no difficulty. The greater part of the barley I have grown is malting barley. The barleys I showed at the exhibition were sheaf barleys; in fact, all my barleys are sheaf barleys with the exception of two acres out of 150, which is not worth speaking of.

Influence of Weather on Barley.

Dr. SHAW (Meteorological Department): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—Mr. Beaven was kind enough to invite me to the meeting this evening, otherwise I should not have got so far as hesitating as to whether I had any business to be present at so technical a discussion. He wished me to say something with regard to the subject which does form part of his paper, namely, the relation between yield and the climatic conditions, and, with your permission, I will say a word or two on that part of the subject. I have looked at Mr. Beaven's figures, and I am

bound to say that I do not find that they are so altogether recalcitrant as he seems to think. He makes the remark that the averages taken over larger areas seem to show that the highest yields are in the driest and coldest districts, and vice versâ, but there are exceptional areas within the larger districts. That, of course, is true. What the exception may be due to I cannot pretend to say. The variations in the yield for a particular county—take Kent, for example—probably depends upon a number of circumstances that could not be stated in any generalised way; but if you take his first statement that the yield is better in the colder districts and in the drier districts, and if instead of taking, as he does, either the individual quarters or the total for the year, one takes the second and third quarters—that is to say, the spring and summer quarter—then one gets these figures for the different districts. If you take north-east, east, south-east, and south-west, the yield goes as Mr. Beaven shows in his paper, 35, 34, 33, and 31, and the temperature goes, taking the average of the second and third quarters, at 54, 55, 57, and 57. So that there is a regular sequence down from the better-yielding districts to the worse-yielding districts, the same sequence as between the cold districts and the warm districts, with the exception of the south-west. In the south-west, although the temperature is a little colder than in the south-east, yet the crop is less; but there the rainfall is 4 in. higher than it is in the east, so that Mr. Beaven's statement appears to be very satisfactorily borne out.

If you compare the three districts which have equal rainfall you will find that the coldest district gives you the best yield, and in the two districts, east and west; where the temperature is about the same, the drier set gives you the best yield. But in these matters, in consequence of the effect of the soil and local circumstances, it is rather difficult to compare from the point of view of climate the different districts for the same year. It is better, if possible, to compare the same district for a succession of years; in that case you eliminate all the difficulties as to the local variations of soil, and you compare the effects of the same soil. For the Royal Agricultural Show at Park Royal last year I had a little diagram drawn out. It is intended to exhibit the relation between the warmth of the spring and summer combined and the corresponding yield of barley. I think it shows tolerably conclusively—not absolutely conclusively—that a cold season is favourable for a large barley yield. Whether that is the experience of practical farmers or not I am not able to say.

There is another point to which I would like to direct your attention. I have put in a blue curve, which represents the earliness or lateness of the corn harvest, taken from Morley's Report. If it goes up high, it shows it is early; if it goes down low, it shows that the harvest is late. If you look again you will see that when the spring and summer are warm, then the harvest is early, and when they are cold it is late. That seems to me to be reasonable — whether it is or not I do not quite know, but it follows in consequence that practically when the harvest is late the barley yield is good, and when the harvest is early the barley yield is poor. Whether that is true or not the practical farmers must find out, but, so far as the figures go, that appears to be borne out. That, I think, is a matter which may be of interest to you, and it seems to me to bear out what Mr. Lisle has said, according to the paper, where he speaks of the late ripe barley, which is evidently the best suited to his land, and goes into a long explanation of its merits.

Before I sit down I should like to say, if you will listen to me for another minute, that I was extremely surprised at the regularity with which these relations between climatic conditions and crops show themselves if one takes averages over sufficiently large districts. I need not, perhaps, refer to the diagram showing the relation between the rainfall and wheat. I have noticed within the last few days that the wheat yield for England has been announced as being 32.66 bushels per acre, and that comes within two bushels of the figure that is dependent upon the amount of rainfall in the previous autumn shown in the diagram. So that this year makes fifteen years out of twenty-two in which the rainfall gives you the means of computing the subsequent yield of wheat within two bushels. Some time or other I hope to be able to put before the public generally the succession of wheat yields for the last twenty years, showing a sequence so regular that one can put it in a mathematical formula.

From an Experimental Point of View.

Mr. A. D. HALL (Lawes Experimental Station, Rothamsted, Harpenden): I do not know that I can do more than confirm from my own experience a good many of the things which Mr. Beaven has set out in his paper. One thing which does come out very strikingly in the examination of some of the Rothamsted results is the fact that the yield and the quality of the crop are not things which vary in the opposite sense. It is too often supposed that the power of growing good barley depends practically upon starving the land, that you have got to crop out any superfluity of fertility there is in it, and then get a small yielding plot if you want to have a comparatively high quality. I think our results agree exactly with those of Mr. Beaven that that is not the case, that you cannot get a barley of high quality unless you have a certain amount of food in the land.

When we are dealing with barley we are dealing with a plant that is subject to much more fluctuation of quality than wheat. When you are dealing with wheat it is very hard to influence the quality by such things as manure, date of sowing, and so forth. You bring about certain small fluctuations, but you do not bring about very large ones. The variety that you sow is dominant over everything else, and although, as has been shown, certain soils will always yield stronger wheats than others, the variation you bring about in that way is comparatively small compared with the variety. But as soon as you come to deal with barley, whether it is because of the shorter growing period or whatever it may be, you have something which is capable of much greater fluctuation, which you can influence much more by the character of the manure and by the preparation that you give to the soil than you can in the case of wheat.

The CHAIRMAN: I am afraid I must now bring the discussion to a close owing to the lateness of the hour. We have had a most interesting paper from Mr. Beaven, and, I think I may say, a very learned discussion on it.

The vote of thanks to Mr. Beaven was then put and carried with acclamation.

Mr. BEAVEN, in reply, said: I thank you very much for your great kindness in listening to what I am sure was a very long paper. I could not help feeling all the time I was speaking that there were a great many gentlemen here who knew a good deal more about the subject than I do—in fact, that it was rather presumption on my part to talk at so great a length about the subject of barley. Anyway, I am sure that one of the facts which has come out is that the more closely we study our plants the more we arrive at the conclusion that what we really know is very little compared with what we have yet to learn. As we have not by any means exhausted this subject, may I, before sitting down, say that it will give me very great pleasure indeed if at some time during the summer, when I hope to have all these varieties planted, you could come down and examine them on the spot at Warminster on some convenient day which we can fix upon. I thank you very much indeed for your kindness.

Vote of Thanks to Mr. Muntz.

Mr. THOMAS LATHAM: Gentlemen, I have the pleasure and the very great honour of proposing a vote of thanks to our Chairman for the way in which he has looked after our affairs during the past year. We have had a most excellent Chairman, I do not think he has missed a single meeting. All of us who sit with him on the Committee work with him with the very greatest pleasure indeed. No doubt in the last paper you have had sent to you you saw recorded the great treat that Mr. Prout gave to the Committee of this Club by showing us over his occupation and telling us of the way in which he farmed it. It was a treat that very few of us will ever forget.

Professor WRIGHTSON: I have been asked to second this resolution, and I do so with very great pleasure. I can remember Mr. Prout's father, and I have known Mr. Prout for a great number of years. I heartily endorse what Mr. Latham has said with regard to his hospitality and the valuable lessons which we learned by inspecting Mr. Prout's farm and his experiments.

The resolution was put to the meeting by Mr. Latham and carried with acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN, who on rising to reply was very heartily received, said: I thank you very much indeed for the kind and altogether too flattering way in which the resolution was proposed and passed. I have had rather an eventful year, clouded by the loss of two very worthy members, Mr. Druce and Mr. Read; but in other respects it has been a year of great pleasure to me.

The meeting then terminated.

At a recent meeting of the Nantwich Farmers' Club Mr. James Sadler, secretary of the Cheshire Milk Producers' Association, criticised a report recently presented to the Cheshire County Council in which Mr. Carter Bell, public analyst for the county, expressed the opinion that if farmers fed their cattle well and kept them in good condition the result would be first-class milk. It was, he said, a fact that could not be contraverted that no matter how some cows were fed they could not be made to yield milk with 3 per cent. of butter fat in it. Like other speakers at the meeting, Mr. Sadler urged that the Corporations of Manchester and Liverpool ought to obtain milk samples intended for analysis at the farms, and not at the receiving stations.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES

For most of the past week grey mist—half fog, half rain—has blurred, and, in many districts in East Anglia, completely obscured the landscape from the traveller's eye, while on all sides we hear from farmers that a sharp December frost would be most welcome. That a long frost would not now be out of place is demonstrated by the fact that trees and herbs have commenced to take winter's continued mildness as the return of spring, while the leaf-bud is seen to be active on every side. Not only do the arable farmers require frost now, but stock-keepers would be glad of colder weather, inasmuch as it would materially stiffen meat prices and benefit those who have stock of some kind to dispose of at this time of the year.

Apart from cattle shows and Christmas cattle sales, all of which the East Anglian farmers take a great deal of interest in, it must now be born in mind that farmers in the Eastern Counties of England send to London and large Midland towns a considerable number of British-bred poultry for Christmas, and, in fact, East Anglia has attained an important position in this produce. This year, according to some accounts received by the writer, this market will see a greater supply of poultry from East Anglia than has ever been known. In fact, it is to be a record year.

Late on the morning of Tuesday last, a sad accident occurred at Messrs. Ransomes, Sims, and Jeffries' Works at Ipswich. A man was engaged in painting the inside of the roof of one of the shops that form the Orwell Works, and in this case was about thirty feet from the floor, when suddenly the ladder upon which he stood fell from under him, and the poor man, whose name was Fred. Wilkinson, fell on to some iron. The ambulance men connected with the works were soon on the spot and rendered first aid, and, on a surgeon arriving, it was found that the poor man was suffering from fracture of the right elbow and fractures of the nose and other severe external injuries. He was conveyed as quickly as possible in the horse ambulance to the hospital, where he remains an in-patient.

From what was stated at Stowmarket and Chelmsford by farmers attending these markets, the Smithfield Cattle Show must indeed have been crowded, and the markets held on Wednesday throughout East Anglia must have missed many a familiar figure, for never before have so many East Anglians visited at one time the Agricultural Hall, Islington, in connection with this show. The Suffolk Successes in the Carcase Competitions attracted a great deal of attention from farmers from all parts of the Eastern Counties.

As a prominent Suffolk agriculturist, Mr. Frederick George Cook, of Saxtead Lodge, Framlingham, who died on December 2nd, will be greatly missed, not only amongst his friends in the immediate neighbourhood of his home, where he spent an active and useful life, as well as rendering good public service on behalf of — particular locality, but his absence will be felt beyond the district of Framlingham inasmuch as his success as a breeder and exhibitor brought him into considerable prominence far from his native county. The deceased gentleman was a marked member of the Suffolk Horse Society and one of the founders of the Framlingham Live Stock Association. It was his admiration of the Suffolk horse, as well as his success and knowledge of the county breed, that made his services requisite as a judge of Suffolks at the Royal as well as county shows.

One would hardly have thought that there was so much life in the rural districts of Essex, especially in the Roothings, for does not an old writer say they (the Roothings) are like the axle of a wheel, they stand still while all the world around them is moving. The meeting at Leaden Roothing was a great success, and there were, besides others, at least forty landowners and farmers of the neighbourhood present. It was stated that the scheme had been so enthusiastically taken up at Bardfield and other places north of Dunmow, that applications had been received for ordinary shares to the value of £1,250, while the preference shares were nearly all applied for. The total cost of the line was estimated at £7,000 a mile. Mr. Isaac Mead, the miller of Margaret Roothing, said the saving effected by the new railway to farmers would be very considerable, for they would be able to do with one horse what they now did with three. Some farmers in the Roothings had to send now their milk seven miles by road to get to the nearest station, and at the present time it cost a person 13s. to get to London and back by road and rail, whereas when the line was made the return fare would be about 4s. 6d. to the Roothings. Other speakers followed in the same tenor, and the chairman (Mr. Barclay Heward), in closing the meeting, said he had travelled seventy miles to be present.

THE FARMER'S DINNER.

The Annual Dinner of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club was held on Tuesday evening at the Trocadero, London, under the presidency of the Earl of Derby, K.G., the Chairman of the Central Chamber. There was a very large attendance, among those present being Sir Thomas Elliott, Secretary to the Board of Agriculture; Mr. Courtenay Warner, M.P., Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., and Mr. W. A. Prout, Chairman of the Farmers' Club.

Lord Derby, in proposing the toast of "The King," said His Majesty had distinguished himself as a successful breeder of stock. Precept was all very well, but it was tenfold better when backed by example. (Cheers.)

After this and the other loyal toasts had been honoured, the Chairman read a letter from Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, M.P., in which he said it was a great disappointment to him that, on the day of resigning his office as President of the Board of Agriculture, he was prevented from meeting the members of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture and the Farmers' Club at their annual dinner, the reason being that he had rather badly strained his voice, and the doctor had forbidden him any public speaking for the next fortnight or three weeks. After that he hoped to be fit to enter the coming fray—(laughter and cheers)—though it would not be so congenial to him as addressing meetings of agriculturists. He could not give up the Presidency of the Agricultural Department without expressing his most cordial and grateful thanks to agriculturists all over the kingdom for the courtesy and kindness they had always shown him during the three years he had been connected with the department. The work had been a great pleasure. He had not only secured many friends, but he had been associated with a body of men in his office who were second to none in the public service and who were animated by a single-minded desire to do everything they could on behalf of the agricultural industry. Red tape was absent from the department. What it suffered was from lack of funds, and he trusted that when the Treasury was overflowing, the wants of agriculture would not be forgotten. He wished agriculturists better luck in the future, and, although he was now out of office, he would do everything in his power for their benefit. (Cheers.)

Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., in proposing "Success to Agriculture," referred to Mr. Fellowes's letter as an interesting, characteristic, and most touching farewell of his friend, who had raised agriculture above party and rendered it great service. He hoped in the new Parliament agriculture would hold no second place, but would be frankly recognised as the fundamental industry and the root of national prosperity. (Cheers.)

Sir Thomas Elliott, K.C.B., Permanent Secretary to the Board of Agriculture, in responding, paid a graceful compliment to the ability and kindliness of his late chief, who, he said, was a practical man and a breeder of stock; and he expressed the hope that the next President will be in no way inferior to Mr. Fellowes in those respects. The speaker said he was a little tired of what might be called "post-mortems" on agriculture. Every one seemed to look upon agriculturists as practically dead, or at any rate with little kick left in them. (Laughter.) But in his judgment, the British farmer was still absolutely the best farmer in the world. (Hear, hear.) He produced more per acre in regard to corn crops than any other farmers, while as to live stock, every other country that wanted to improve its stock had to send to England. With regard to animal diseases, there had been a great diminution, pleuro-pneumonia, foot-and-mouth disease, cattle disease, and rabies had practically disappeared. They had had some uphill work in regard to swine fever, but each year during the last four years had been better than its predecessor, and he believed that with a little more energy this disease also would be conquered. From local authorities in rural districts they had a right to expect an education that would fit their boys to become good farmers like their fathers before them.

Mr. Charles Bidwell, President of the Surveyors' Institute, in giving "The Central and Associated Chambers and the Club," lamented that it had not been found possible to pass two such valuable measures as the Sale of Butter Bill and the Dogs Bill, and advocated the introduction of a permanent and comprehensive system of local taxation under which agriculture would get the relief which it deserved.

Lord Derby, in responding, said whether they looked backwards or forwards they had an anxious task before them, and one which would require the utmost efforts of every man who belonged to the Chamber. It was difficult to realise how great was the change that had taken place, not only in the mode of farming, but in the manner in which it was looked upon by the community. We had risen by leaps and bounds during the last thirty or forty years, and had become a great manufacturing community and partly for that reason very largely an urban population. The evils of that were obvious. There was one cry now heard everywhere, and which ought not to be long resisted, and that was "Back to the land!" He did not include those schemes by which people unversed in agriculture were to be put upon the land at various places, and artificially nursed. He feared that the agriculture which arose under that system would be at the best a very puny plant. His lordship expressed the view that agriculture would be benefited if only railway managers would meet producers halfway in the matter of small consignments, and on the subject of main roads he said he considered they should be maintained by the State, and not by the individual. Where heavy traffic passed through a locality without benefiting it, it was hard to throw upon that locality the maintenance of the road. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. W. A. Prout, outgoing Chairman of the Farmers' Club, also responded for that body, this bringing a pleasant evening to a conclusion.

Central Chamber.

Annual Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was also held on Wednesday, the Earl of Derby presiding.

The report of the Council showed that the total strength of the Association now stands at 130. In a reference to the death of Mr. Clare Sewell Read, it was stated that he was one of the founders of the organisation, and was chairman in the third year of its existence—1869—since which he had served continuously on the Council.

There was two facts worthy of notice as bearing on his later work, namely, his emphatic statements in his minority report to the Beer Materials Committee in January, 1899, as to the inadequate protection of the public against the use of deleterious substances in the manufacture of beer, and his generous action in passing on the sum of £200 handed to him as the balance over and above the cost of his portrait in 1896, to the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, in order to endow a grand of £5 to the highest unsuccessful Norfolk candidate. The Central Chamber's votes at the annual election of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution, were given to Mrs. Manfield, widow the late Mr. Manfield. The Butter Bill was this year re-introduced for the fourth consecutive session. During the whole of that time the public demand for the measure had increased, and opposition diminished; yet once more the Council had to report that the Government made no effort to give effect to the wishes of agriculturists.

Mr. Fitzherbert Brockholes (Lancashire) complained that the paragraph in the report did not sufficiently explain the reasons why the Butter Bill was so urgently needed. The demand for the measure had increased, not only from agriculturists in this country interested in the production and sale of pure butter, but from Canada and the Australian colonies. Leading Grocer Associations demanded such a measure in the interest of honest traders, and it was also urgently required in the interest of consumers, especially the poorer ones, who were the chief buyers of cheap butter, and provided the lion's share of the enormous profits made by the manufacturers and dealers in "faked" butter. They ought to emphasize the point that a Bill was required to protect honest traders and consumers quite as much as agriculturists, and they regretted that time could not be found to proceed with the measure, or at least to read it a second time, and refer it to a Select Committee. In view, however, of the great importance of the matter, and the danger to the dairy industry, and other interests which further delay would involve, they should express the opinion that the Bill ought to be passed practically in its present form, without wasting further time, and that the other forms of adulteration which had recently arisen should be dealt with in a fresh measure. (Applause).

Mr. Martin Sutton intimated that he recently addressed a conference of grocers upon the Butter Bill. Grocers were thoroughly sound on the question, and were determined to have the Bill passed. If dairy farmers wished to have the Bill carried into law, they must enlist the sympathies of those other than agriculturists.

Mr. R. L. Everett (East Suffolk) said the amended clause Mr. Brockhole desired to have adopted did not contain the censure which the report did.

Finally Mr. Brockhole's suggestions were incorporated in the report, which was adopted.

The monthly meeting of the Council of the Central and Associated Chambers of Agriculture was held on Tuesday, and was followed by the annual meeting of the Central Chamber. The Earl of Derby presided.

Destructive Birds.

A letter was read from Mr. O. V. Aplin, member of the Ornithological Society, directing the attention of the Council to the damage caused to farmers and fruit growers by the depredations of certain birds, due in respect of some of the birds to their increased numbers, and of others to their altered habits of feeding. Among the more destructive of the birds enumerated were the rook, starling, ring dove, blackbird, blue tit, bullfinch, and sparrow. The enormous increase in the number of starlings during the last few years had changed the feeding habits of certain birds. For instance, the starling now ate in spring the food which had hitherto formed the main supply for rooks, and the latter, as a consequence, had taken to eating the young green corn. In the interests of farmers and fruit growers the birds must be kept in check, and as a means to that end he suggested the payment of "head money," and the preservation of sparrow hawks.

The Chairman said the letter, which was a most interesting and important one, had only just been received by the Council, and it was proposed to embody its leading points in their answer to a communication from the Board of Agriculture, who, in acknowledging a former resolution passed by the Chamber on the subject, had asked for some indication of the specific points to which the attention of any Committe of Inquiry which might be appointed should be directed.

Cattle Diseases.

The report of the Cattle Diseases Committee submitted by Mr. B. St. John Ackers, and adopted by the meeting, expressed the opinion that greater efforts should be made by the Board of Agriculture to eradicate glanders, and as one means of achieving that end they considered that compensation for the slaughter of suspected animals which, on post-mortem examination, were proved to be diseased, should be increased from one-fourth its value to three-fourths, as in the case of pleuro-pneumonia. The Committee also recorded their entire approval of Mr. Fellowes' action in refusing to admit Canadian store cattle, and trusted the Board's present policy will be continued.

The Agricultural Minister.

As a matter of urgency, the meeting, at the instance of Mr. C. Middleton, adopted a resolution affirming "that it is desirable in the best interests of agriculture that the President of the Board of Agriculture should be a member of the House of Commons, and included in the Cabinet," and it was also agreed that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Prime Minister.

The Law of Trespass.

On the motion of Mr. C. F. Roberts, the following resolution was adopted:—"In the opinion of this Council, it is most urgent that the law of trespass be revised, giving owners and occupiers of agricultural land the sole right to all the products of the soil, both natural and cultivated, and adequate protection of property, stock, and crops."

Mr. Christian said that what was needed was power of conviction without proving damage.

Enforcement of Adulteration Act,

Mr. Latham moved that local authorities should enforce the Acts to prevent adulteration with more zeal, and, failing this, pressure should be brought to bear upon the Board of Agriculture.

Professor Long, who seconded the motion, said little had been done in the matter by local authorities in many parts of the country. He instanced the Lancashire County Council as an admirable exception, and said it would be a benefit to the country if other authorities followed their example. He could give many instances where members of local authorities were themselves sellers of adulterated articles, and influenced the authorities in not carrying out the Act. (Hear, hear, and "Shame.") The little traders who sold the produce of British farmers were being squeezed out of existence by large dealers who dealt in nothing but foreign produce, much of which was adulterated, and never came within the ken of the local inspectors, and who were not only defrauding the buyer, but were ousting the produce of British farms. (Hear, hear.) Unless systematic inspection were adopted, they would have the whole system increasing until there was nothing genuine left but the British farmer himself. (Hear, hear, and laughter.)

Other speakers referred to the inadequacy of the penalties imposed in cases of conviction, and Mr. Brockholes pointed out that the Board of Agriculture have power to put the Act into force where they find the local authorities neglect their duty. The resolution was agreed to.

On the motion of Captain Smith Neil, a resolution was passed expressing agreement with Lord Roberts's address on Imperial defence and national physique most calculated to produce healthy men of strong physique.

By Lupulin.

A Few Statistics.

Figures are proverbially rather dry reading, but they are sometimes necessary, as upon them must be founded calculations from which information may be gained that is useful for our future guidance. This consideration may be accepted as my excuse for giving to my readers some of the points I have extracted from two recent Blue Books referring to our national revenue and the consumption of alcoholic beverages. I have confined my observations to beer, that being the only section which is interesting to hop growers, and although the details given are the most recent obtainable, they are not in all cases actually up to date, but will sufficiently serve to "point the moral and adorn the tale" I desire to emphasise.

Beer-Producing Countries.

The principal of these are Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, which rank in the order named, and coming some distance behind them are Austria, Belgium, France, and Russia. Beer is also produced in our Colonies, and in some other European countries, but the quantity is comparatively unimportant. I have taken them all into account in my totals, but do not refer to them separately. The German Empire produced in 1903 1,516,944,000 gallons, our own country 1,279,367,000, and the United States 1,206,455,000 gallons. These figures will suffice to show the proportions of these most important producers, the next lower dropping considerably, and the several quantities falling rapidly until they reach very small figures.

Progress of the Trade.

In this direction we find the most complete particulars referring to the United Kingdom, where we are faced with undoubted proofs of the decline in the national thirst for beer. The revenue derived from this source in the financial year, 1904-5, was £13,101,459—showing a reduction from the previous year of £359,822, and when it is compared with five years earlier the falling off is no less than £839,077. Since 1901 the brewers' licences, for sale and not for sale, have been reduced in number from 26,091 to 15,241, and the same period the number of licences issued to vendors of intoxicating liquors have been lessened by 8,729. In the year ending March 31, 1900, when we attained the highest record of beer production, the output of our breweries reached 37,153,031 barrels of standard gravity, and during the year ending March 31 last we only produced 34,404,287 barrels, showing a reduction of 2,748,744 barrels. It is, however, a singular fact that while in respect both to output and duty paid, England and Scotland are so much lower, Ireland is exceptional in showing a material increase. Speaking with reference to these changes, the official reporter notices that they "correspond fairly closely with the changes in industrial prosperity," apparently deducing therefrom that a recovery of the previous position is possible. It must not, however, be forgotten that within the period named our population is estimated to have increased by over two millions. It therefore appears that we must find other causes for the alteration in the habits of the people. I do not think it would be difficult to find a further explanation, but this is hardly the place to speculate. I confine myself to the recital of facts. These are singularly confirmed in almost all other beer-consuming countries, as, with the exception of Belgium and the U.S.A. a reduction both in production and consumption is evident, though perhaps not to the same extent as in this country.

Standard and Liquid Barrels.

The beer duty in England is paid per barrel of 36 gallons of the standard gravity of 1,055 deg., and upon this basis all the official returns are based, but the beer actually consumed by the bulk of the public does not come up to this standard. In England 29,385,206 barrels of standard gravity are represented by 30,594,189 liquid or bulk barrels, and in Scotland the bulk is in the same way increased from 1,815,109 to 2,021,374 barrels. But Irish brewers apparently deliver their products to the consumer at higher strength than the standard, as 3,205,970 barrels,, as tested by the legal unti, only came out in bulk 2,799,960 barrels. There is, however, a slight discrepancy in the bulk figures, as it is noted in the returns that they do not include the quantities produced by brewers not for sale.

Consumption per Head of Population.

If any further evidence is required that we, as a nation, are drinking less beer than formerly, it will be found in this detail. In 1894 the average consumption stood at a little over 29 gallons, from this point it gradually increased to over 32½ gallons in 1899, from which year a steady reduction has taken place, and we have now arrived at the average of under 28½ gallons, representing a decrease of over 11 per cent.. This speaks plainly in favour of the improving soberity of our people, and when taken in connection with the reduction in the potency of the beer, previously referred to, is, methinks, a decided mark of progress. For the sake of comparison, I give a few of the average consumptions of other countries. The highest is Bavaria, where the latest returns give 51 gallons per head, this being, however, some 3 to 4 gallons less than four years earlier. Belgium comes next with about 48 gallons, having increased by 10 gallons since 1889. Wurtembergers consume 37 gallons, the Baden folk 34 gallons, but the average throughout the German Empire does not exceed 26 gallons, this being substantially lower than it was. Denmark is the next best patron of beer to the extent of 20 gallons, Austria and the United States take only 15, Switzerland and Sweden about 13, and the consumption of other countries is comparatively insignificant. Amongst our Colonies, West Australia most nearly approaches the Mother Country, with about 25 gallons, the others varying from 5 to 10 gallons.

The World's Consumption.

This is a rather difficult decision to arrive at, and must be more or less speculative, and at best, can only be approximate. But the figures before me enable me to present what may be accepted as a fair conclusion. It is important, as affecting the question I have principally in view. The consumption of hops depends upon the consumption of beer, and as the whole world is, for the purposes of commerce, but as one vast country, it behoves our native planters to contemplate the whole when they desire guidance for their own action. With some labour, and as much care as possible, I have arrived at this result, that the production of beer in the various countries of the world may be expressed approximately as 175,500,000 barrels of 36 gallons each. The amount of hops used per barrel varies from ¾ lb. to 2 or 2½ lb. As nearly as I can gather, the larger proportion of the beer is brewed with an average of 1 lb. per barrel, and taking this quantity as a basis, the calculation comes out that the world requires annually about 1,600,000 cwt. of hops. If, however, we take a more liberal estimate, and give 1¼ lb. per barrel, the annual consumption of hops would rise to nearly 2,000,000 cwt. This latter is the figure usually accepted, and probably is not far from correct, if we take into account the other purposes for which hops are used.

My object in collecting these details is achieved if I have succeeded in arousing some interest in the subject, which is all-important to our hop industry. I do not claim absolute exactitude in my statements or deductions, but I trust I may be allowed to ask for indulgence on the ground that I sincerely desire to put before my friends such information as may be of some service to them.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Mr. George Thursby, who rides on equal terms with jockeys, is the subject of the second of the series of articles on "Sportsmen of Mark" in the December number of the "Badminton Magazine of Sports and Pastimes." A valuable article on "The Importance of Leaving a Good Breeding Stock" will specially commend itself to all owners of shooting estates. Miss Lilian E. Bland contributes "A School Across Country," illustrated by some of her remarkable photographs. In "Some Ladies who Ride to Hounds" there are many portraits of the most notable horsewomen in the country. The series of "Royal Homes of Sport in Germany" is concluded by a description of "Rominton." This series has been written specially for the "Badminton Magazine" by the gracious permission of His Imperial Majesty the German Emperor. "Some Motor Problems" are discussed by Major C. G. Matson, and an amusing story, "The Backney Hunt Poultry Fund," is the ninth "Strange Story of Sport." The monthly notes on "Bridge," "Books," and a splendid selection of photographs in the Prize Competition complete a good number. On the cover is an excellent reproduction of the race for the Ladies' Plate in the Bath and County Harriers' point to point.

The Royal Show.

Sir,—I had not intended to trespass on your valuable space by answering correspondents, some of whom are trying to poison the minds of the public against the much-needed reforms that have been determined upon by the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society. It has been very noticeable how the new council has refrained from criticising—either at their meetings, or in the Press—the best policy of the Society, which, although resulted in failure, was, without doubt, entered upon with the best intentions.

Now, when such a letter appears as that under the signature of Sir R. Green-Price, following, amongst others, in the same key that of another venerable baronet, I think it is only fair to call the attention of your readers to the systematic "crabbing" that is being indulged in. Sir Richard can have no grounds for his virulent attack on Mr. Cooper, who as so magnanimously come forward to our assistance in the hour of need. No one can find fault with his challenge to Sir Walter Gilbey; he is only backing his own opinion, and asking Sir Walter if he is prepared to do the same. Sir Rchard goes on to say that Sir Walter has paid out of his own pocket a sum of £50,000 to the R.A.S.E. I have always understood that money have never been accepted by the Society from any private individual, except in the case of the purchase of Harewood House and Park Royal, and the special prize fund of about £10,-00q for the 1905 show. If Sir Richard's statement is a fact, it comes as an "eye-opener" (vide Sir R. Green-Price) to most of us, and it will be necessary to hold a strict investigation in order to discover what has become of the money.

As regards the permanent —v— the migratory show system—a matter in which the worthy baronets seem singularly in accord—I would point out that the total loss to the society in the period of the ten years of the migratory shows (1893-1902) quoted by Sir Walter, was the small sum of £488, while the loss on the three shows held at Park Royal was £23,590, the attendance of the paying public dwindling from 63,012 in 1902, to 23,975 in 1904, the smallest "gate" for about half a century.

In the face of these figures, who could, in their sober senses, advocate another show at Park Royal?

It has been thought by some that it would be well for the society to keep Park Royal simply as a land investment. This may be so; but how, in view of our present financial difficulties, do they propose to raise an annual amount of £1,500 to £1,700, which Sir Ernest Clarke estimates will be necessary if we continue to hold the property until 1911, the date of the expiration of Messrs. Lambert's pre-emption rights?

Why Sir Richard demands another census of the members of the R.A.S.E., I cannot imagine. Within the last few months by the election of the present council, they have spoken with no uncertain voice. The policy of the new council and Mr. Cooper's generous offer, have now been for some time before the public. Why does Sir Richard so suddenly take up the cudgels? Has he only just heard about it, or is it the effect of his recent visit to a southern seaside resort. On carefully perusing his letter again, the conviction is borne in upon me that although the hand is the hand of Esau, the voice is Jacob's voice.—Yours faithfully,

Walton Hall, Warrington. GILBERT GREENALL.

Mr. Clement's Weather Forecas for November.

To the Editor of THE MARK LANE EXPRESS.

Sir,—Mr. Clements was right in his general prediction as to the character of the weather of November, which, as he predicted, has proved a very rainy month. It is not surprising, however, that in attempting to forecast the weather of individual days, he proved wrong in many instances. I give below his several forecasts for London in detail, and the actual facts, taking the records of the Meteorological Office for the rainfall up to 6 p.m. at Brixton:—

FORECASTS.

Rain on 22 days.

Eight days without rain, on the 4th, 10th, 12th, 19th, 20th, 24th, 25th, and 26th.
Heavy rains on 5th, 13th, 14th, and 27th.
Not so heavy on 3rd, 7th, 25th (given above as rainless) and 30th.
Unsettled and rainy, particularly round the 2nd, 8th, 14th, to 18th, round the 22nd, and after the 27th.
Windy on the 6th, 18th, 23rd, and 27th.

FACTS.

Rain on 19 days.
Rain on 4th, 10th, 12th, and 26th. None on 19th, 20th, 24th, and 25th. Half right and half wrong.
On 5th 0.25 in., 13th 0.26 in., 14th 0.03 in., 27th 0.19 in. None of these falls were particularly heavy.
On 3rd 0.37, 7th none, 25th none, 30th 0.08 in. The fall on the 3rd was heavier than on any other day up to 6 p.m.
Rain on the 2nd, none on the 7th, 8th, and 9th, only 0.03 in. on the 14th, 0.12 in. on the 15th, none from the 16th to the 18th inclusive, none on the 22nd, and only 0.04 to 0.08 in. after the 27th. The correspondence with the forecast not at all close.
Wind very slight on 6th, gale in the nights of 18th and 23rd, and a strong wind on 27th. Forecasts remarkably accurate in this set.

WEATHER OBSERVER.

Agricultural Prospects in the East Riding of Yorks.

SIR,—As regards the agricultural prospects in this district, things are looking fairly well. Wheat has come up thick, and is looking promising. Turnips in some places are thin, and are going fast. Swedes and mangolds are better than the white-fleshed turnips; indeed, some mangolds are very good. Clovers vary very much—in some places they are good, being well set in, others thin and poor. T. B.

December 8, 1905.

Stock Prospects in the North Riding.

SIR,—This district is exclusively a breeding one, and had it not been that lambs sold well our farms would have been in rather a tight corner. The hay crop was not more than one-half of an average one, and many farms have had to sell more stock than usual. This will mean having to purchase again in the spring. The turnip crop, except in a very few cases, was almost an absolute failure.

A good clearance of bullocks was made in the first week in November, when special trainloads were sent into Norfolk for feeding, although the price was anything but satisfactory, many beasts paying nothing for summer keep. The weather up to now has been open, and cattle are still running out on the land, thus somewhat saving the hay. There has been a good demand for Wensleydale cheeses at a paying price. J. E. R.

December 8, 1905.

Rural Education in Hampshire.

SIR,—The season since harvest has been one admirably suited to the preparation of the land for autumn crops, which have gone on well, but have been somewhat tardy in growth. The season has also suited the cultivation of the stubbles, which are in a very forward state. Both sheep and cattle are very healthy, and have done well, but prices of beef have been bad for nearly three months, and feeding stuffs comparatively very dear—singularly enough with hay and straw very cheap.

With the gross returns of produce totalling a very moderate, I might truthfully say a small, sum, it is scarcely to be wondered at that, with labour some 20 per cent. dearer than before the Boer war, and the quality of it very indifferent, added to that higher rates and taxes, and the fact that we are educating the children for other purposes than agriculture—at least it appears to be so, as on 1,200 odd acres of land, I have not a boy under eighteen years of age, and others tell me the same, whilst I see numbers of boys from thirteen to sixteen loafing about the greater part of their time, but occasionally employed as golf caddies, which occupation the police and others who come into their contact say leads them to occupy their spare time (and they have plenty of it) in gambling, drinking, etc., the probable outcome of which will be a swelling of the number of the unemployed and unemployable within a few years, and I am also afraid it may increase the work of the magistrates and judges, as also our rates.

It was with great satisfaction that we heard the Central Chamber of Agriculture are making a representation to Parliament calling on them to alter the law of trespass so that everything on or arising from the land should be recognised as the occupier's property, including mushrooms, regarding which latter it seems very doubtful if the learned judge who ruled that they were natural or spontaneous growth was quite right, as I cannot recollect ever seeing them growing except where manure from horses or farm animals has been deposited, and an act of manurance appeals to most agriculturists' minds as an act of husbandry. E. E.

December 8, 1905.

West Suffolk.

SIR,—With fair open weather up to the present time farming operations have been steadily going on, and men generally employed and few out of work.

The barley crop is principally threshed, and some farmers are turning their attention to the drawing of seed.

Wheat appears to be the crop of the year, as far as quantity is concerned, but the price is not very satisfactory, that given by millers not being equal to the price of foreign wheat.

A good crop of mangolds is the rule in this district; but turnips for folding off with sheep on the land are a very indifferent and partial crop. J. J.

December 8, 1905.

The Autumn in Hampshire.

We have had altogether a favourable autumn. October was a very dry month, and colder than usual, with several severe frosts. November was wet and foggy. The early sown wheat is come up and looking fairly well. Some was put in very dry. On some farms the root-crops are good, on others almost a failure.

Cattle are doing well, although grass is not so plentiful as usual, young stores sell very badly. Sheep are generally healthy, and store lambs very dear. I cannot see anything at all bright in the outlook for farmers. Most of the produce is selling at a low price, especially hay and straw, and rates are going up. I. P. C.

December 8, 1905.

Season in Sussex.

The season during the summer was very dry and warm, and good for cleaning the land, but too dry for the turnip seed to braird in many instances, and consequently the root crop is very disappointing on many farms. Some farms, and one joining this place, has a very good crop of both swedes, turnips, and mangolds. But that is an exception. I have a very poor one. Grass was short all summer.

The corn crops got a blight on them before they got filled; what I term rust. When walking through the cornfields before harvest your boots got quite yellow, and the reaper when cutting the corn was covered with it. The corn in that case never filled properly, and ripened too soon. Some is not worth thrashing. I saw some with a neighbour after it was thrashed, not good tailing, and that was from seed got from Dumfries-shire. The machineman told me he had thrashed some oats near to Petworth that has been put through the winning machine six times and not good corn now. I have not thrashed any myself yet, but expect it better than that. The wheat is the crop of the season—good all through. Potatoes not much grown in this district, and in some places a lot of disease. One man told me he had four bushels bad out of six. Some are very good. One lot of mindyfold weighed 20 tons 4¾ cwt. and 12 lb. to the acre. We got one potato 2lb. and one 1¾ lb.

Sheep are paying their way much better than cattle. Some cattle will not pay a cent. for summering. I saw several lots of store cattle put through the auction ring to-day at Chichester without ever a bid for them; could not get inlaid price for them; and at Barnham market, on Monday, several fat bullocks went home unsold. I consider it a very poor year for farmers, especially for those who made a fresh start in a new farm like myself. My nearest neighbour is a new man here from Scotland this year. He bought his cattle in May. He is trying to feed some of them; they won't pay for their cake. His store cattle are not worth the money he gave for them in May. Rent and taxes must be all paid out of pocket this year by a good many farmers. JOHN CAMPBELL.

December 8, 1905.

Farming in the Isle of Wight.

On the whole the weather since harvest has been favourable for farming operations. The thrashing of barley is pretty well over; samples are not very bright, but good samples have weighed from 56lb. to 58lb. per bushel. These were sown in February. The later sown ripened too quickly. Prices have ranged from 28s. to 35s. Yield not good. Oats thin, and poor yield. Wheat good generally.

Prices for sheep at the famous Michaelmas sales were very good, the well-known Kingston-Dorset horn flock averaging 70s. per head for the whole flock, including ewe tegs. Horses were not so dear as last year, and dairy stock about the same. We are now in the middle of the combing season. So far as I hear there is a fairly good crop. Not so many twins as usual. Weather rather too wet.

Mangolds just done storing, which will seem late to the mainland farmers. We seldom get any frost to hurt until after Christmas. Those we do not cart off the land are either heaped or ploughed in—one drill left standing, and one either side pulled and placed in the standing drill—then ploughed in, a turn on either side, and afterwards any that may be exposed are covered with a spade. In the spring these are cross-dragged and fed on the land—quite the cheapest way of preserving that I have found.

I would suggest that all interested in the land, should see that their representatives in the new Parliament do something to relieve the heavy taxation that land has to bear so unjustly, e.g., on a rental of £400 I am paying over £50, double what it was before the Agricultural Rate Act.

December 8, 1905. H. W.

The Season in North Westmoreland

SIR,—We are already close upon the great festival season which in times past was looked forward to with keen interest and great preparations made nearly in every household for entertainments and games of various descriptions to entertain both old and young according to their age and tastes. It is still looked forward more or less as a holiday when kindly acts and feelings are frequently exchanged, but it reminds us also that we are nearing the end of another year, when a general overhauling of financial matters takes place to see how the balances stand in the various branches of business, though, perhaps, least so among the farming community considering the turn over which annually takes place.

I am quite sure the agriculturists of North Westmoreland have nothing to boast of, except the valley and hill farmers, whose products consists wholly or largely of sheep, wool, and dairy produce, all of which have been making all-round good and improved forms. With this class is must have proved quite a record year, but it is quite the reverse with the inland and arable farmers, for, although mutton, wool and lamb have all been making good prices, much of it has been reinvested in store and feeding, and breeding sheep, while beef and store cattle have been difficult to dispose of and at most disappointing prices, large quantities loosing their summer's grazing and cash in addition. The cold wet late spring has a good deal to answer for with cultivated farms, especially strong land, especially as it was succeeded by a hot-aired summer. Days followed with cold mornings and nights; the result was a serious deficiency in the hay crop bulking less than half an average.

The corn crop has also bulked badly, hence a hard and long winter is seriously dreaded, but we sincerely hope we may be spared the infliction. Potatoes are proving an abundant crop, and green crops of all descriptions have developed amasingly during the genial mild weather which still prevails, though it keeps slightly on the wet side. In many cases the turnip crop has doubled since the middle of September.

But the air almost rings with complaints of the wasteful extravagance of the various public bodies who are now entrusted with the expenditure of local rates which are pitied upon us without mercy or reason, bringing no return either present or prospective, and will continue to do so until some radical change is effected which will, in the first place, spread the liability to pay more over the wealth of the country which shares in all the advantage which this extravagance produces. Secondly, to return the control of local administration to practical men on smaller areas who must earn ther ates before they can pay them and remove it from the county councils, who are largely composed of gentlemen of ample means and leisure, to whom time and expenses are of little consequence, and who rarely undertake any duties of a similar character without consulting some expert or practical man to adverse and direct them, but, strange to say, regard themselves as the best qualified to spend the money of others economically and wisely.

December 7, 1905. T. B.

Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes, President of the Board of Agriculture, has written to Sir John Kennaway, M.P., expressing his willingness to address a meeting of the leading agriculturists of Devonshire irrespective of party at Exeter, on January 12.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—Usual mid-week attendance, and firm tone generally, but business was restricted in all departments. Foreign wheat ruled firm, with American occasionally harder to buy; No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship held for 34s 6d. Maize quiet at fully last rates; La Plata landed is quoted at 24s 9d, while 25s 3d ex ship is wanted for mixed American new crop. Flour dull but unchanged: Iron Duke offered at 22s 6d. Barley quietly steady at 20s 3d for Odessa Nicolaieff. Oats firm and rather dearer; 38lb. Russian are obtainable at 17s to 17s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Thin attendance, and while a firm tone prevailed generally, the amount of business done was small. English wheats steady, while foreign ruled firm, with an occasional advance asked; No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship quoted at 34s 6d to 34s 9d, and No. 2 at 34s 3d. Maize quiet and unchanged; mixed American ex ship offered at 25s 3d, new crop and La Plata landed at 24s 9d. Flour steadily held; Iron Duke obtainable at 22s 6d and Hungarian at 32s. Barley meets a poor demand at last rates; Odessa Nicolaieff ex quay offered at 20s 3d and ex ship at 19s 6d to 19s 9d; for Persian 19s is wanted and 19s 6d for American ex quay. Oats firm and rather dearer, 38lb. Russian held for 17s 6d to 17s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Wheat trade quiet at late rates, 28s to 30s; English malting barley 1s dearer, at 28s to 31s; English oats 6d to 1s dearer, making 18s to 21s 6d; peas, 29s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 23s to 24s; Mazagan beans, 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 27s to 28s per quarter. Flour: Whites, 31s; seconds, 28s; sealing, 26s per sack.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red (new), 28s to 29s 6d; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 29s to 31s; ditto (old), 33s to 35s; oats, 17s to 22s; ditto (old), 20s to 24s; peas, 27s to 30s—per quarter.

Berwick, Saturday.—Fair attendance, with average supplies of grain. Barley met a firm trade at late rates. Oats unchanged. Barley 24s 6d to 28s 6d; oats, 18s to 21s.

Birmingham, Thursday. English wheats made up to about 30s per quarter (496lb) delivered Birmingham. Grinding barley unchanged at 20s 6d per 400lb at Sharpness. English oats, 18s 6d to 19s per 312lb; and beans, 12s 3d to 12s 6d per bag (196lb) delivered Birmingham.

Brighton, Thursday.—Wheat in short supply, prices unaltered; trade dull. Small attendance and little business. Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; rye, 24s to 25s; peas, 28s to 30s; beans, 31s to 33s. Oats 1s dearer. Barley firm.

Bristol, Thursday.—English wheat in moderate supply, making last week's full rates. Foreign very firm, with a slight advance in some descriptions. Maize 3d dearer. Barley unchanged. Oats the turn in sellers' favour. Flour unaltered in value, but little doing at present. — GRACE BROTHERS.

Bury St. Edmund's, Wednesday.—Rather a moderate attendance for the time of year, and generally a quiet market. Wheats, in variable condition, were firm for fine dry samples, at 29s to 31s per quarter. Inferior samples difficult to sell. Few good samples of finest malting barley were offering, the trade for which was unaltered. Good mediums sold readily at late rates of 29s to 31s. Feeding qualities firm. Oats firm, 19s to 20s per quarter. Beans, 32s to 33s; peas, 30s to 32s.

Cambridge, Saturday.—Wheat made last week's rates; reds, 29s to 31s; and white up to 31s per 504lb. at mills. Barley was not in large supply, and, with a good demand, prices ruled very firm. Beans were mostly lacking in condition, and a dull trade. Oats 6d dearer.

Chester, Saturday.—Wheat and oats firm at last week's prices, with few samples offering. Indian corn was the turn easier. Quotations:—Wheat, white and red, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 7d; ditto old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; Indian corn, 13s to 13s 3d per 240lb.; River Plate, new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade generally rather better, prices for nearly everything showing a slight increase. Wheat sold from 29s to 32s per qr; barley, from 28s to 32s for malting samples, and for grinding qualities from 23s to 25s per qr.; oats firm, from 18s to 23s per qr.

Chichester, Wednesday.—Good attendance, very fair trade, with oats, beans, and peas 1s dearer than last week. New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 30s to 31s; barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 21s; oats (English), 15s to 22s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 32s to 34s; maize, 26s to 26s; flour, 25s to 27s.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat was in moderate supply and sold at prices barely equal to last week. Many sample were affected by the damp weather. Barley was not freely offered, but was sold at late rates. Beans and oats unchanged.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—Attendance was not large; fair supply of wheat, for which trade was quiet at late rates. Oats and beans made as much as last week. Quotations:—Old wheat, 11s to 11s 6d; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 196lb.; barley, 27s to 32s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s; new oats, 19s to 22s per 352lb.; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s; new beans, 11s 9d to 12s 6d; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday.—Wheat unchanged from last week. Spring corn firm at late rates. White wheat, 30s to 31s; red, 29s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; old beans, 34s to 36s; new, 33s to 34s; old oats, 23s to 24s; new, 19s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply of corn. Prices were firm, with no quotable alteration from last week. Quotations:—New wheat, 14s 6d to 16s; second ays, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans, 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Average attendance. Small supply of English wheat, and prices very firm. Steady demand for foreign wheat. Fine barley met with a ready sale, but secondary kinds neglected. Grinding barley and maize met with a fair demand, and were slightly dearer.

Dorchester, Saturday.—Only very small attendance, and not much business passing, the offer being limited. Owing to the wet weather throughout the week, which caused pressing operations, whilst many were absent at the Christmas fat stock sale at the cattle market, where there was a grand display of stock. Prices generally showed quite as much for wheat, but also for all other kinds. Fat wheat sales took place were practically on last week's rates, there being nothing that really calls for comment. Prices:—

Dublin, Friday.—Wheat, 17s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 18s 6d to 19s 3d; grinding ditto, 14s 9d to 14s; oats, 11s to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 14s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 11s to 14s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat and flour quiet, and unchanged on the week. Maize a slow sale and unchanged. Corn 6d per boll cheaper since Wednesday owing to fresh arrivals. Barley nominally unaltered. Foreign oats the turn dearer, but Scotch unchanged. Beans 3d per boll dearer on the week. Pease very firm, but practically unchanged. Oatmeal quiet, and meets with a slow sale. Bran and thirds in good demand and unchanged.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Wheat steady in price, but inquiry small. Flour unchanged, with very little trade passing. Foreign oats have a firmer tendency, with little actual business, however, passing. Home oats favour buyers.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat was in fair supply, and values unchanged. Foreign a dull trade, but occasionally 3d. dearer. Maize, barley, and oats firm and unchanged.—WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday.—Average attendance of farmers and dealers, and a fair business. Wheat in small supply, and last week's prices (28s 6d to 30s per qr.) maintained. A slow trade in barley at 25s to 32s per qr. Beans unchanged. Blue peas, 35s to 40s. Oats, 18s to 21s per qr.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Wheat in rather short supply. No particular change, but samples were in some cases making a little less money on account of condition being not all that could be desired. Reds or whites, 30s 6d to 31s per quarter, delivered at Ipswich. Barley, with only a moderate supply, was a steady trade at 28s to 32s per quarter for malting samples; grinding sorts firm, at 24s 6d to 25s 6d per quarter. Oats the turn dearer on the week. Beans very firm, at 32s to 33s per quarter. Maize unchanged. Maize germ meal, £6 to £6 2s 6d per ton.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Trade has ruled quiet during the past week, but notwithstanding the heavy shipments advised this morning the tone is decidedly more confident owing to the general consumption of wheat proving far larger than anticipated. Prices show no alteration, holders being indifferent sellers. English in reduced supply. Malting barley meets a slow sale at late rates. Maize rather easier. Beans and oats unchanged. DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—Both English and foreign wheats were slightly easier than on Tuesday, with a slow demand. Maize was also in buyers' favour. Peas fully maintained the late advance of 6d, but there was no change in beans, oats, barley, or flour.

Lincoln, Friday.—Fair attendance and moderate show of English wheat, which sold freely at last week's full prices. Oats and barley quiet at unchanged rates. Beans firm at the full prices of a week ago.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers with full supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade steady at firm rates. Red wheats, 29s to 31s per 36 stones; white wheat, 30s to 32s per 35 stones. Barley of good quality in better demand at 25s to 28s per 32 stones; beans, 32s to 34s per 38 stones; fine oats, 20s to 23s per 26 stones.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat unchanged; foreign, ½d per cental dearer, and firm. Flour slow at unchanged rates. Indian corn easier, and turn in sellers' favour. New English oats easier. Barley, peas, and beans unchanged. English peas met with a fair inquiry. Bran and thirds firm and unchanged.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat a firm trade at last week's prices. Barley repeated previous values. Oats and beans unchanged. Quotations:—Wheat, 28s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 30s to 32s per quarter.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Saturday.—A slow demand for wheat of all descriptions prevailed at our to-day's market at last week's quotations. Maize steady and unchanged in values. The demand for peas and beans was fairly steady and prices in the favour of sellers. A slow demand for barley and prices favouring buyers. A steady demand for oats at unchanged prices.—JOSEPH POLLARD AND CO.

Northampton, Saturday.—Larger attendance, but small supply, wheat prices being firm, and practically unchanged; new wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 32s. new white oats, 19s to 20s; new black oats, 18s to 19s. new beans, 28s to 30s; peas 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There is no quotable alteration in the wheat trade at our market to-day, the supply being small, with a firm trade. Rather more barley offering, which met buyers at late rates. Damp, but milder weather has prevailed during the past week. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per qr., weight 63lb. per imperial bushel. Corn inspector's return for the week ending November 18, 1905:—Wheat, 2,788, 28s 7d; barley, 19,188, 24s 5½d.—J. ARTHUR MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Less wheat offering, mostly out of condition; dry lots sold at full rates. Barley small supply; values unchanged. Oats and beans sparingly represented; prices in sellers' favour.—ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—Attendance moderate, but trade dull at easier rates. Home-grown wheat met a poor demand, and holders were easier to deal with. Feeding stuffs moved slowly.

Peterborough, Saturday.—Not much wheat offering, but the demand was not brisk and prices remain as last week. Barley in short supply and fully as dear. Oats firm and the turn in sellers' favour.—THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Plymouth, Tuesday.—There was only a fair attendance on our market to-day; business was not very brisk. Wheat was steady. Maize a turn cheaper. Oats and barley unaltered on the week.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Preston, Saturday.—Today's market was similar to that of the last few weeks. Farmers' grain made the full prices of last Saturday. Flour unaltered. Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 13s to 13s 6d; ditto red, 12s 9d to 13s; oats, new, white, per bushel, 2s 9d to 2s 10d; beans, per windle, 16s to 16s 6d.

Reading, Saturday.—Average attendance, but trade was by no means brisk, at the appended prices: Wheat, 28s to 32s; oats, 16s to 22s; barley, 25s to 30s; beans, 30s to 34s; peas, 28s to 31s.

Retford, Saturday.—Not a very large attendance, and a moderate supply of grain. No change in the wheat trade. Business was transacted on a limited scale at 28s to 30s per qr. Ordinary barley found buyers without much difficulty at 26s to 28s; inferior down to 25s; grinding, 24s 6d; maize, 26s 6d; beans, 31s to 32s; oats, 17s 6d to 20s; and rye, 21s per qr.

Ripon, Thursday.—Round maize dull, and to do business less money had to be taken. Prices: New wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; foreign ditto, 33s to 36s 6d; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting ditto, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; round maize, 25s 6d to 26s; flat ditto, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Stamford, Friday.—Attendance was not quite so good as last week, and only a medium trade was done. Best wheat, 29s to 29s 6d; oats, 18s to 18s; malting barleys, 29s to 31s; grinding, 23s to 25s; peas, 39s to 42s; beans, 30s to 32s 6d per qr.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Little grain on offer; wheat steady at late rates. Barley quiet. Oats firm. Arrivals, coastwise, wheat 1,075 qrs.; foreign nil. — E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 32s 6d to 33s; new red ditto, 31s 6d to 32s; barley, 26s to 34s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, English, 17s 6d to 20s; rye, 25s to 26s; peas, 33s to 3—s; beans, 32s to 36s; tares, 42s to 56s; maize, 29s to 30s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat, which makes the full prices of last week. Barley very scarce; best samples wanted, and make rather more money. Oats and beans rather dearer. Feeding stuffs unchanged.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat a shade dearer on the week, short supply; foreign firm, unchanged. Barley and maize unaltered. Oats 3r advance. Flour fair consumptive demand, at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair attendance, but little demand. Quotations:—Barley, 28s to 31s per 448lb; oats, new, 12s 6d to 13s; old, 16s 6d per 196lb; beans, 13s to 15s 6d per 196lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Small attendance and moderate show of grain. White wheat, 28s to 30s; red wheat, 26s 6d to 28s; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s 6d to 19s; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s to 27s per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—Foreign wheat realised 3d per qr. more money, and maize favoured sellers. Best quality English wheat made from 30s 6d to 31s; secondary, 28s to 29s 6d; maize, 24s to 25s 6d; malting barley, 31s to 34s 6d; feeding barley, 21s 6d to 23s; rye, 22s to 23s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 37s 6d; oats, black, 17s 9d to 20s 3d; white, 17s 3d to 20s 6d; Irish black, 17s to 17s 9d; rape, 46s to 48s 6d; vetches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour a slow trade without much change in value, first making from 24s 6d to 25s per sack, and extra fine 25s 6d to 27s.

York, Saturday.—A fair attendance, and a moderate supply of wheat; fine white made 30s to 31s, and red and mixed, 29s to 3—s per qr. of 36 stones. A small supply of barley in variable quality; fine sold at 27s to 29s; good, 25s to 27s; and ordinary, 23s to 25s per qr. of 32 stones. Oats were in fair supply, and made slightly less money, white Tartary fetching 17s to 17s 9d; black, 18s to 19s; and white Garton, 19s to 20s per qr. of 24 stones. Rye, 22s 6d to 23s; and beans, 30s to 33s per qr. of 36 stones.

FOREIGN.

Hamburg, Saturday.—The animating reports from foreign markets had not much effect here; wheat and rye were in better supply, and last week's prices were barely supported. Feeding stuffs continue in fair demand, particularly parcels near at hand. Fine Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is offering at 32s 6d to 33s per 504lb.; American Hard Winter No. 2, at 31s 9d; 80 kg River Plate Russo, at 32s to 32s 3d; 75 kg. Rosafé, at 30s 9d to 31s per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg; 72-73 ko. Danubian rye has been sold at 27s 3d; 9 20-25 Odessa offeat is offering at 28s per 480lb. c.i.f. Danish malting barley is selling at 3s to 32s; Oderbruch and Silesian is held at 29s to 31s 6d; Bohemian and Slovakian to arrive per barge at 34s 6d to 38s per 448lb. Feeding barley in good demand; 60-61 ko South Russian is selling at 19s 6d; American at 18s 9d per 400lb., c.i.f. Hamburg. American white clipped oats are in demand at 17s 3d per 320lb. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed American maize on the spot is selling at 22s 9d; Jan.-Feb. at 21s 9d; River Plate due, 24s; May-June, 21s. 3d. per 480lb. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

THE BALTIC.

The London Corn Trade Association have made up standards of choice white Kurrachee, Soft Red Kurrachee, and Choice White Bombay wheat, of White and Green Calcutta peas, of Bombay and Calcutta linseed, and of Calcutta grain. These samples can be inspected at 26, St. Mary Axe, and specimen samples purchased.

The Association prices for arrived cargoes are 33s. 9d. per 492 lb. for White (Club) Calcutta wheat, 31s. 9d. for Soft Red Calcutta wheat, and 33s. for Choice White Kurrachee wheat. No Bombay or Delhi cargoes are on offer.

Cargoes arrived on sale last week were:—

Wheat 1: from Australia:
Maize 2: from Argentina.
Barley 1: from Chili.

The maize and barley cargoes were bought for Antwerp, Hamburg, and Ipswich; while the wheat cargo is still on sale.

Total arrivals January 1-December 9 thus compare:—

	1905.	1904.
Wheat	303	282
Flour	3	—
Barley	24	56
Maize	14	13
Linseed	54	43

These arrivals on sale indicate roughly the degree of speculative business. Most cargoes are bought for shipment or on passage, and arrive to the order of the buyer.

Cargo sales during the past six days have included the following:—Wheat.—Blue Stem, 32s. 9d. per 500 lb.; Walla Walla, 32s. 6d. per 500 lb.; Red Walla, 31s. 6d. per 500 lb.; Rosario, 32s. per 480 lb.; Kustendje, 32s. 3d. per 492 lb.; Odessa Ghuka, 33s. per 492 lb.; and No. 1 Manitoba, 32s. 9d. per 480 lb. Maize.—Argentine, 23s. 6d. per 480 lb.; and American, 21s. 3d. per 480 lb. Barley.—Kustendje, 20s. 6d. per 416 lb.; and Azoff, 20s. 3d. per 400 lb. Oats.—No. 2 American Mixed, 17s. 3d. per 320 lb.; and Baltic, 16s. 9d. per 304 lb. Linseed.—Calcutta, 40s. 9d. per 410 lb.; and poppyseed, Bombay, 43s. 6d. per 377 lb.

HAY AND STRAW.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4d to 5d; clover, 5½d to 6d; straw, wheat, 4d; oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Birmingham, Friday. Small supply; trade quiet. Hay, £3 10s to £3 15s per ton; clover, £4 5s per ton; straw, £3 2s 6d per ton.

Derby, Friday. Best clover, 80s to 90s; wheat straw, 60s to 70s; pressed straw, 50s to 60s; oat straw, 50s to 60s; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 9, 1905:—

Wheat	1,516,100 cwts.
Wheat-flour	387,000 ,,
Barley	593,400 ,,
Oats	389,900 ,,
Maize	313,800 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,976,600	1,776,304	1,414,477	1,094,300
Wheat-flour	316,900	405,657	507,321	397,800
Barley	385,700	454,716	493,356	471,400
Oats	313,000	323,038	395,295	357,600
Maize	646,000	1,003,641	501,291	786,500

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 5
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 10
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,,	473,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	620,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10	27 1	24 11	16 6
November	30 4	24 7	16 0	28 3	24 8	17 6
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb.	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 1	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1
April	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June	30 3	28 3	34 0	30 9	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6
July	30 0	29 4	31 9	29 9	28 0	26 9	27 8	32 0
August	29 5	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6
Sept.	31 1	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6	26 3	25 9	31 0
Oct.	31 0	31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6
Nov.	31 0	32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9	25 4	24 3	30 3
Dec.		31 3	8 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 6	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.		30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905.	1904.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 0	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	30 7
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6	23 1½	25 0
July	25 9	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August	25 0	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6
Sept.	24 6	27 0	25 0	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct.	25 9	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov.	25 9	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 9	24 3	22 8	22 10	23 2	22 4	29 6

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 5, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £ s. d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £ s. d.
Wheat	7,480	1	11,234 18 2	1 10 0
Barley	293	4	345 10 3	1 3 2
Oats	4,177	3	3,931 12 7	0 18 10

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 9, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
1900	52,876½	26 9	165,516½	25 7	24,508½	17 1
1901	73,757	27 2	153,857½	26 8	27,013½	19 3
1902	58,984⅜	25 0	142,657½	24 3	26,953⅜	16 11
1903	58 150	26 7	163,0.0½	23 2	30,660½	15 0
1904	50,718½	30 4	165,257½	24 4	36,635½	16 2

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s. d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s. d.	OATS. Qrs.	s. d.
Dec. 10	50,718½	30 4	165,257½	24 4	36,635½	16 2
,, 17	44,745⅞	30 4	130,563½	24 4	35,960⅞	16 2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30 3	99,997½	24 7	28,916⅜	16 1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30 4	60,817½	24 8	18,106½	16 2
1905.						
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30 4	45,191	24 4	18,230⅜	16 3
,, 14	39,647½	30 4	78,934	24 6	34,754⅜	16 3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30 5	90,469½	25 0	32,957⅜	16 5
,, 28	48,869½	30 6	89,495⅜	25 1	41,062⅜	16 7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30 6	75,347⅜	25 0	41,486½	16 7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30 7	67,923	25 2	38,080½	16 8
,, 18	44,495½	30 5	51,753½	25 2	36,643½	16 9
,, 25	42,165⅜	30 10	39,509½	25 0	30,627½	16 10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30 8	40,477½	25 2	30,957½	16 10
,, 11	33,118⅜	30 9	23,418⅜	25 2	24,396½	16 10
,, 18	31,869	30 10	18,41.⅜	24 11	20,279½	16 10
,, 25	32,371⅜	30 9	17,428⅜	25 2	18,910⅜	17 0
April 1	26,933	30 9	11,235⅜	25 1	17,703½	16 11
,, 8	25,600	30 9	8,104⅜	25 6	15,660⅜	17 0
,, 15	27,791	30 8	4,691	24 3	14,659	17 6
,, 22	23,984½	30 8	2,875⅜	24 4	14,871⅜	17 5
,, 29	24,276	30 9	3,185⅜	24 4	7,597	17 9
May 6	22,183⅜	30 8	3,014⅜	25 3	11,578½	18 0
,, 13	25,600	30 8	2,963	24 10	12,937	18 3
,, 20	26,514	30 10	1,003⅜	24 8	8,803⅜	18 5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30 11	761½	24 4	9,017⅜	18 8
June 3	20,984	31 3	724	23 6	5,912⅜	19 1
,, 10	16,685½	31 4	247⅜	24 0	6,115½	18 11
,, 17	12,819½	31 7	1,171⅜	26 0	3,992⅜	19 1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31 7	145½	23 9	3,031⅜	18 10
July 1	9,579⅜	31 0	289⅜	23 2	3,483½	19 7
,, 8	7,834⅜	32 1	375⅜	22 11	2,532⅜	19 6
,, 15	4,884½	32 3	31⅜	23 10	1,982⅜	19 7
,, 22	6,558½	32 2	52½	23 7	2,434	18 11
,, 29	7,691⅜	32 3	24⅛	23 11	3,065⅜	19 3
Aug. 5	5,062½	31 11	371⅜	22 0	4,344⅜	18 4
,, 12	8,184½	30 5	548½	22 5	8,978⅜	16 11
,, 19	32,715½	28 5	1,758½	23 4	13,656⅜	16 4
,, 26	88,630⅜	27 1	6,461½	23 6	20,855	15 9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26 11	14,747	23 5	24,090½	15 9
,, 9	78,589	27 1	17,888⅜	23 4	20,622⅜	15 11
,, 16	83,185½	26 11	36 956⅜	23 7	23,705	16 0
,, 23	95,743	26 8	70,475½	23 10	30,715½	15 11
,, 30	104,984⅜	26 9	123,125½	24 3	42,067⅜	16 1
Oct. 7	89,579½	26 9	147,570⅜	24 9	31,196⅜	16 3
,, 14	85,419⅜	26 11	192,044	24 10	28,354½	16 6
,, 21	90,548⅜	27 1	224,530	25 0	21,037⅜	16 7
,, 28	86,116⅜	27 4	257,307⅛	24 11	23,860	16 8
Nov. 4	80,360⅜	27 10	231,869½	24 9	28,424½	17 1
,, 11	78,276½	28 3	209,509	24 10	23,316⅜	17 4
,, 18	87,001⅜	28 7	209,500½	24 6	32,382	17 8
,, 25	77,163⅜	28 5	197,602⅜	24 6	25,433⅜	17 9
Dec. 2	93,509½	28 8	177,388½	24 6	29,850½	17 11
,, 9	82,752	28 6	165,885⅞	24 7	32,371	17 11

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended December 9, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	82,752	qrs.	28s. 6d.
Barley	165,882⅞	qrs.	24s. 7d.
Oats	32,371	qrs.	17s. 11d.

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

		London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.
September	1 (per sack)	30 0	(per sack)	27 0
,,	13 ,,	29 0	,,	26 0
October	11 ,,	23 0	,,	25 0
November	3 ,,	30 0	,,	27 0
,,	29 ,,	29 9	,,	26 9

(No change since last date given.)

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade in anything a little stronger. Kent fleeces 12d to 12½d per lb, 11½ for Downs, 12½d for half-breds; lamb wool 9d per lb, and 4d to 5d per lb for locks.

Halifax, Saturday.—A little better feeling. Home-grown woods continue in fair request and steady in price, with fine Down woods quoted at 14½d.

Liverpool, Friday.—Wheat: There has been a good attendance of millers at to-day's market, and wheat meets a better inquiry, with holders firm at 2s commercial advance. Manitobas, however, owing to a good supply, are fully 2d dearer. Flour quietly steady at about last market day's prices for both foreign and English brands: demand slow. Maize: Mixed, owing to a fair demand, is firmly held at 2d advance. European grades are quiet, unchanged. Plate is in better request and the turn dearer. Barley: Malting is scarce, and there is a good inquiry for the small lots offered, which are full 2d dearer. Feeding firm, with more doing at 2d advance. Beans firm, with a fair inquiry at about unchanged values. Peas steady at about late rates but demand only moderate. Oats steadily held at full prices for American, but other foreign qualities and English sorts quiet, with little demand. Oatmeal extremely scarce, and held at fully late rates, which checks the demand. Oilcake: A fair to good trade in both American and English cakes at unchanged prices. Meal firm, 2s 6d per ton dearer.—SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

London, Saturday.—English per pkge. of 240lb.—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s, half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13 10s; ditto wethers, £12 10s to £13; Kent fleeces, £12 10s to £13; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £12 to £12 10s; Colonial per lb.—Vics., Fleeces super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., secondary average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9½d N.Z., scoured average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece, average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; cross-breds—grs.—Vic, good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand, fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; ditto medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; ditto coarse, 10½d to 11½d.

Maidstone, Thursday.—There was no change in the wheat trade to-day, the firm tone continuing, but as usual at the approach of Christmas, millers do not buy except for about present need. Rather more inquiry for barley at full rates, and oats are decidedly dearer than last week. Not any alteration in other descriptions of grain.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese light, demand slow, especially for Cheddars. Anything under finest difficult to move, but parcels strictly choice command 1s above highest quotations. Prices:—Cheddars, 60s to 63s; Dunlops, 56s to 61s.

Newport, Wednesday.—Good supply and fair demand. Quotations:—Caerphillies, 54s to 6s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 63s to 65s; truckles, 56s to 60s; Derbys, 60s to 62s; and Cheddars, 62s.

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,153 bales, and from foreign ports 10,978 bales. The bacon trade was quiet last week, and prices in many cases tending in buyers' favour:—Irish, 59s to 62s up to 66s; Danish, 54s to 62s up to 66s; Canadian, 53s to 55s up to 60s. Butter: The butter market was steady, with—Danish, 118s to 120s; French, 100s to 120s; Russian, 94s to 108s; Irish, 103s to 108s; Canadian, 94s to 104s; Australian, 98s to 114s; New Zealand, 114s to 115s; Argentine, 112s to 114s; American, 84s to 106s. Lard: The lard market was firm:—Irish, 55s to 64s; Danish, 58s to 60s; American, 40s to 41s 3d.

HOPS.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Trade quiet. Choice East Kent Goldings nominally quoted 75s to 85s per cwt., and nothing is obtainable, except yearlings, under 40s per cwt.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report:—The market is quiet; stocks are very small; growers are nearly cleared out. The imports of hops from September 1 to November 30, 1905, were 41,364; for the corresponding period last year, 161,152. The export of hops from England from September 1 to November 30, 1905, were 10,735; for the corresponding period last year, 6,772.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—Fair supplies, but quiet demand. Prices: Pheasants, 3s 6d to 4s; young grouse, 3s 6d to 4s; old, 2s 6d to 3s; young partridges, 3s to 3s 6d; old, 1s 9d to 2s per brace; French turkeys, 8½d; Italian, 6½d to 7d; Austrian, 6d to 6½d per lb.; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; geese, 4s 6d to 6s; Surrey fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; Irish fowls, 1s 9d to 2s; wild ducks, 1s 9d; woodcock, 1s 9d to 2s; snipe, 6d to 9d; quails, 9d to 1s 2d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 9d to 1s; English hares, 2s 3d to 2s 9d; leverets, 1s 9d; Scottish hares, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; tame rabbits, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; wild rabbits, 8d to 10d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen. Venison: Haunches, 12s to 15s each; forequarters, 3d per lb.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Fairly good supplies and trade steady. Quotations of English produce: Grapes, 3d to 4s per lb.; apples, 7s to 12s per bushel; lemons, 10s to 18s; cranberries, 12s to 15s per case; tomatoes, 2s 6d to 5s per 12lb.; cucumbers, 3s 6d to 6s 6d; endive, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen; celery, 5s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s per half sieve; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d; Brussels sprouts, 1s 6d per bushel; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; turnip tops, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bag; cabbages, 3s 6d to 5s; cauliflowers, 4s 6d to 7s 6d per tally; horseradish, 6s 6d to 14s per dozen bundles; seakale, 9s to 12s per dozen punnets; turnips, 2s to 2s 6d; carrots, 2s to 3s; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bunches; onions, 4s 6d to 6s per cwt.; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per 12lb.; potatoes, 60s to 90s per ton.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

A temperature ten degrees above the mean has reduced the retail inquiry for breadstuffs, besides the natural food wants of live stock. London has been busy enough with the crowd that attends on the Smithfield Show, which is the agricultural carnival of the year, but the country markets have been dull, and great ports, like Liverpool, Bristol, and Hull, have also done a smaller trade than usual. Wheat prices are sixpence cheaper for foreign sorts at a number of the larger towns, and the condition of English deliveries showing a falling off, this branch of trade has also presented a weaker appearance. Dry and good samples of English, however, are not lower in price. The market for flour is depressed by reason of America's free offers to ship in January at substantially lower prices than are quoted today at London and Liverpool.

The market for maize continues to be quoted rather freer for immediate delivery, but for delivery a fortnight hence value is a shilling below spot terms, and for delivery a month hence is a florin under currencies, so that buyers naturally pursue a policy of extreme reserve. Barley is steady, both for malting and grinding descriptions. The latest telegrams from San Francisco and Astoria indicate a scarcity of brewing barley in California and Oregon which had not been anticipated. Even if the scarcity be due to a corner and not to crop deficiency, it is a cause for firmer markets here, it taking four months for Pacific shipments to get to England. Oats have been held by some firms for quite fancy prices on the expectation that Russia, the great source of supply, would cease to ship, and that America would then hold back her surplus in order artificially to enhance quotations. These anticipations of importers have not been productive of much beyond an increased caution on the part of buyers, though here and there, where contracts to deliver by a specific date had to be fulfilled, substantially higher prices have actually been paid.

Cereal production during the past ten years is reckoned to have increased largely (by over a hundred million cwts.) in the United States and Argentina. It has increased materially (by over ten million cwts.) in Canada, France, Italy, Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Roumania. A slight increase is shown in India, Bulgaria, Japan, and Uruguay, and no appreciable change is noticeable in Turkey, Belgium, Holland, Spain, Portugal and Greece. The countries were cereal production has declined on the ten years are the United Kingdom, Chili, Mexico, Persia, Egypt, Cape Colony, Norway, Sweden, and Algeria. Good reason exists for believeing that in Algeria the main cause is the extension of the vineyards, and that in Egypt an increased growth of cotton is the cause. Foreign competition accounts for the decline in the U.K., bad government is said to be the cause in Persia. This leaves Chili, Mexico, Cape Colnoy, and Scandinavia unaccounted for. In Cape Colony protective duties are very high.

The following are the latest estimates of the Australasian wheat crops. That for the crop just ripening is necessarily subject to revision.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT CROPS.

			Qrs.
December, 1905—January,	1906	.....	9,000,000
,, 1904 ,,	1905	.....	7,000,000
,, 1903 ,,	1904	.....	10,000,000
,, 1902 ,,	1903	.....	2,421,000
,, 1901 ,,	1902	.....	5,130,000
,, 1900 ,,	1901	.....	6,895,000
,, 1899 ,,	1900	.....	5,400,000
,, 1898 ,,	1899	.....	6,800,000
,, 1897 ,,	1898	.....	4,200,000
,, 1896 ,,	1897	.....	3,300,000
,, 1895 ,,	1896	.....	3,130,000

Home wants are put at 4,000,000 qr., and, as Australasia, like France, is non-progressive in population, there is no change requisite in this estimate on entering upon a new season.

The New Zealand crop, which is the most uncertain factor in the estimate for 1905-6, has fallen as low as 452,000 qr. (in 1894) and risen as high as 1,630,000 qr. (in 1898).

The world's maize crop is thus estimated; the figures for Argentina and Uruguay are those of March and April last; the growing crop is not advanced enough for any estimate to be of any practical value.

	Qrs.
The United States	340,000,000
Austria-Hungary	20,000,000
Argentina	15,000,000
Roumania	9,000,000
Italy	8,000,000
Russia	4,000,000
Canada	3,000,000
Europe	3,000,000
Uruguay	1,250,000
Turkey	1,000,000
Total	405,000,000

During the nineteenth century maize production varied from 100,000,000 qr. to 343,000,000 qr. The bumper year of that century was 1896, when America, Argentine, and Austria-Hungary all had good yields.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets since harvest have been large, and the price low.

This season 1,224,000 qrs. at 27s. 6d. per qr.
Last season 651,000 qrs. at 30s. 2d. per qr.

The sales of British barley have been a little above the average, and the price made has been a little below it. No very great differences, however, are disclosed either way.

D shirdlu Id shirdlu Dshrdlu
This season 2,691,000 qrs. at 24s. 5d. per qr.
Last season 1,996,000 qrs. at 25s. 0d. per qr.

The sales of British oats have been small, and the reticence of farmers has been rewarded by a not unsubstantial rise in prices. The market, moreover, is still rising.

This season 394,000 qrs. at 17s. 2d. per qr.
Last season 497,000 qrs. at 15s. 11d. per qr.

Last week's imports into the United Kingdom were :—

Wheat, 425,000 quarters; a large supply.
Flour, 133,200 sacks; a moderate quantity.
Barley, 184,000 quarters; heavy arrivals.
Oats, 76,000 quarters; very small supplies.
Maize, 154,000 quarters; less than usual.

Imports of breadstuffs since harvest have been :—

	Quarters.
This season	6,998,000
Last season	8,390,000

These figures include wheat as flour.

The quantity of wheat on passage to the United Kingdom continues to increase. On the 9th inst. it was as follows :—

	Quarters.
Californian	320,000
American	325,000
Russian	500,000
Indian	271,000
Argentine	460,000
Australasian	40,000
Various	20,000
Total Dec. 9	1,936,000
Total Dec. 2	1,846,000

The quantity of maize on passage has risen from 719,000 qr. to 805,000 qr. in the same period. That of barley, however, has fallen from 605,000 qr. to 560,000 qr., and of oats from 305,000 qr. to 275,000 qr.

Expectations of oilseeds are as follows :—

	Dec. 9, 1905.	Dec. 10, 1904.
Linseed (qrs.)	215,000	130,000
Rapeseed (qrs.)	13,000	25,000
Cottonseed (tons)	50,000	32,000

Shipments from America last week were good, including 314,000 qr. of wheat, 70,000 qr. of barley, 76,000 qr. of oats, 15,000 qr. of linseed, 232,000 qr. of maize, and 111,000 sacks of flour. Argentina sent off 131,000 qr. of wheat, 108,000 qr of maize, and 32,000 qr. of linseed.

Russia, though a smaller shipper than in November, is still sending considerable quantities of grain to other countries. Shipments last week were 575,000 qr. of wheat, 225,000 qr. of barley, 150,000 qr. of oats, and 5,000 qr. of maize. From Roumania 315,000 qr. of wheat, 37,000 qr. of barley, and 2,000 qr. of maize were exported. The last-mentioned item should be noted, for, small as it is, it signalises the abrogation of an old embargo. Maize shipments from Roumania were prohibited on October 1, 1904, and the prohibition was only removed on November 30 last. India last week shipped 67,000 qr. of wheat, and 15,000 qr. of wheat were exported from the Australasian colonies.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY.
December 11.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
Russian	40 to 41
Morocco	47 to 48
Dutch	42 to 46
Calcutta	41 to 42
Bombay	42 to 43
Duluth	40 to 41
Argentine	39 to 40
Turkish	41 to 43
Persian	40 to 41
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.
Indian	41 to 43
COTTONSEED.	per cwt.
Egyptian	5/9 to 6/0
Indian	4/9 to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s. s.
French	43 to 45
Dutch	49 to 53
Brown Calcutta	39 to 41
,, Cawnpore	41 to 43
Yellow Gujerat	44 to 45
Ferozepore	40 to 41
HEMPSEED.	per 326 lb.
Russian	44 to 46
MAWSEED.	per cwt.
Indian	17 to 18
SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb.
Finest	48 to 52
Ordinary	40 to 44

SEEDS

London, Monday. There is more demand and inquiry for both cloverss and grasses, with good trade passing at firm prices. English reds are coming out freely, and finding buyers at reasonable prices. Foreign reds completely neglected for the present.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY,
December 11.

[FIRST REPORT.]

English wheat made fully previous prices for dry lots, but there was a greater proportion than in November of damp grain, and for this the prices obtainable were rather unsatisfactory. Farmers, of course, would do well not to thresh when the temperature is high and the air humid. Foreign wheat tended lower for American and Russian, but actual price charged was difficult to quote. Barley was 6d. dearer on the week for both malting and feeding descriptions, and malt was also the turn in sellers' favour. Oats were held by some firms for a high price, while other houses offered both light and heavy oats at the quotations subjoined. The Russian supply so largely dominates this branch of business that the merchant has to become a politician—or, at least, a critic of politics—in spite of himself. Latest advices from Russia are more pacific, but there is ample ground for holding Russian produce actually in London with a considerable firmness. Beans and peas were firm, and, if anything, a trifle dearer on the week. Rapeseed and cottonseed made fully previous prices, but linseed was the turn in buyers' favour, both for Indian and Argentine descriptio ns.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	31	— 33
Red	,,	29	— 32
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 30
Brewing	,,	26	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	28	— 10
Crystallized	,,	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	22	— 23
New Black Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Grey Winter	,,	18	— 19
,, Black Tartary	,,	18	— 19
,, White Gartons	,,	18	— 19
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	40	— 42
Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
Tick	,,	36	— 38
Winter (Old)	,,	35	— 36
,, (New)	,,	33	— 34
Spring	,,	34	— 35
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	64	— 72
New Unpicked ,,	,,	48	— 56
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple (Old)	,,	35	— 37
,, (New)	,,	34	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	52	— 55
Brown	,,	48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

WHEAT, per 496 lb.	s.	s.
Manitoba No. 1	34/6	—35
,, ,, 2	33/6	—34
,, ,, 3	32/6	—33
Am'can Red Winter	33/6	—34
,, Hard Winter	32/6	—33
Argentine	33/6	—34
Australian	34/6	—35
New Zealand	30/6	—32
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	32	— 34
Calcutta	32	— 33
Kurrachee	31	— 33
Turkish	30	— 31
BARLEY.		
Californ'n (448 lb.)	29	— 30
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
(400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	22	— 23
American (400 lb.)	20	— 21
Persian (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Crushed (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb. :		
Californian	32	— 35
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb. :		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS :		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	22	— 24
Australian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20
,, (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Argentine (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
American (320 lb)	17	— 18

MAIZE, per 480 lb. :	s.	s.
American	24	— 26
Argentine	24	— 25
BEANS, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	34	— 36
Konigsberg	33	— 35
Syrian	35	— 37
New Zealand	35	— 36
HARICOTS, per 504 lb. :		
Italian	60	— 74
Burmese	34	— 44
Chilian	60	— 64
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5,2	—5/3
Portuguese	5/0	—5,1
PEAS, per 504 lb. :		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	41	— 43
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	28	— 29
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Grau	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb. :		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt. :		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	13	— 22
Indian	14	— 16
Burmese	8	— 10
"Feeding"	7	— 8
DARI, per 480 lb. :		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	26	— 27
Persian	22	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb. :		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb. :		
Konigsberg	34	— 38

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED FAIRLY FIRMLY, BUT THE BAD LIGHT WAS AGAINST BUSINESS AND THE FOG LIMITED THE ATTENDANCE.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 11.

Town whites and Town Households to-day recovered 3d. of their recent decline for credit and delivery, but the spot and cash price remained the same as on the 4th. Top price is very steady. Country flour was in large supply and tended slightly in the buyer's favour. The weather is of course all against a large sale of bread, and bakers consequently act with caution. American flour fell 6d. per sack for all the principal types. The Jan. shipment, fine N. W. patents, were offered at 26s. c.f.i., and Manitoba patents were offered at 25s. 9d. c.f.i. The latter made 27s. landed. Hungarian flour was a trifle firmer, and Australian a little weaker from the 4th. In French there was no change and no Argentine was offering. Bran middlings and pollard were in sellers' favour, and American feeding flour was a little dearer on the week. A good price was paid for maize meal, flour, and gluten meal.

LONDON FLOUR.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	27/6 ,,
,, Households	,,	24/6 ,,
No. 2	,,	21/6 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/6 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/6 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21,6 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 26
Fine Roller whites	,,	24	— 24
Ord'y Roller ,,	,,	22	— 22
Best Stone made ,,	,,	21	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	— 29
,, Second Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Californian	,,	26	— 27
Canadian	,,	26	— 27
Hungarian, 0	,,	32	— 33
,, 1	,,	31	— 32
,, 2	,,	30	— 31
,, 3	,,	29	— 30
French, Corbeil	,,	25	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	24	— 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22	— 23
Australian	,,	24	— 25

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour, "Corndour"	,,	19	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	19	— 20
,, Gluten Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 20
Locust Bean Meal	,,	17	— 18
Rice Meal	,,	14	— 16
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	19	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	7s. 0d.	Dec. delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 11d.	Jan. delivery.
,,	4s. 4d.	Mar. ,,
,,	4s. 3d.	May ,,

A little business in wheat futures was put through to-day at 6s. 11d., and in maize futures at 4s. 4d. (Jan. delivery), but there was not much disposition to operate.

SEVEN YEARS' GRAIN AVERAGES.
(OFFICIAL.)

Wheat	28s. 0d. per 480 lb.
Barley	24s. 8d. per 400 lb.
Oats	17s. 10d. per 312 lb.

LONDON TOP PRICE FLOUR.

NETT EX MILL.
OFFICIAL PRICES.
Cereal Year commencing 1st September, 1905

		s.	d.
September 1	(per sack)	31	0
,, 11	,,	30	0
November 3	,,	31	0
,, 10	,,	30	0

(No change since last date given.)

GREAT CHRISTMAS CATTLE MARKET.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 11, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 12, 1904.
Beasts	2,510	2,510	2,250
Sheep and Lambs	10,630	10,630	11,550
Calves	20	20	0
Milch Cows	60	60	50

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	3s 0d	3s 8d	5s 0d
Sheep	4s 8d	5s 10d	6s 2d
Lambs	6s 0d	6s 8d	7s 2d
Calves	3s 10d	4s 8d	5s 6d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, 600; Eastern Counties, 630; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 837; Devon, 300; Ireland, 14.

The second Monday before Christmas Day is the time always set apart for the holding at Islington of the chief market day of the year, commonly known as "The Great Day." The satisfactory exhibition held last week at the Agricultural Hall had prepared us for a good display to-day, and the result has not belied expectations. That there should be a good Christmas market should not be a subject for surprise, but rather looked upon as a matter of course, considering the perfection to which cattle breeding has been brought in this country. As usual, the pick of the market consisted of Scotch beasts, closely vieing with these being the Devons. Both descriptions, so far as weight was concerned, were well up to the butcher's ideal, not carrying too much fat, and being small of bone.

The predominance of small breeds over unwieldy animals was even more clearly demonstrated than in recent years, thus showing that our breeders and graziers have done their utmost to suit the requirements of the butchers. The consignments from Scotland were numerically stronger, and fully up to the average in point of quality, a very fine lot of Polled Aberdeens being seen on the stands of W. Hayward and Slater, Cooks, and Hill. W. Reid, Eve, and Son, Bownd and Son, C. G. Wood, Vivers, Taylor, and Bocock had a very choice show of Polled Scots and Crossbreds. The principal consignors were Mr. Wallace, of Auchterless; Provost Rhind, of Huntly; and J. Cocher, of Lyric; Messrs. A. Beddie; G. Wilson, of Oupar; G. Walker, Tillygreig; A. Ingram McCombie, and A. Fowlie. On Mr. Law's stand were seen some very good specimens of the Devon breed, these being equal to the former in all points.

Turning now to other descriptions, we note a great falling off both in quality and numbers as regards Herefords, the season for these being now practically over. Runts were shorter in number but quite up to Christmas requirements.

Some exceptionally choice Norfolk cattle were shown on the stands of Messrs. W. Law, F. Syder, E. and P. Chapman, A. Allday, and E. Neve, the majority being consigned by the well-known breeder and grazier, E. Chapman. There was an average supply of Shorthorns, the quality of which, taken as a whole, was good. Ireland was well represented by some very choice Dublin Show cattle, which were to be seen on the stands of Messrs. Oliver, McTurk, and Bunker; Mr. Fitzgerald showing a remarkably good consignment of Waterfords.

There was an increase of 260 head compared with the last Great Market Day. Business was extremely late in commencing owing partly to the dense fog prevailing. Trade taken as a whole was of a slow nature, due to the overstocked state of the Dead Meat Market and the fact of the market being held so long before Xmas Day; the tendency in regard to value was a downward one, both Scotch and Devons being quoted 2d. per 8 lb. lower than last year. The Irish arrivals consisted of 107 Dublins and 28 Waterfords, also 8 Store Cattle, for which there was absolutely no enquiry. Dublin Cattle met with a fairly steady trade in average supply and met a poor enquiry from both Town and country buyers. A clearance is not expected to be made, but it is too early for a great Market to state anything definite.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 12, 1904.
Scotch	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Devons	4s 7d to 4s 8d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Polled Norfolk	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Plain No folk	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Runts	4s 4d to 4s 6d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
Lincolns	4s 2d to 4s 4d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Irish Dublin Sh. Cattle	4s 10d to 5s 0d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Irish Plain	4s 2d to 4s 4d	—
Waterfords	4s 0d to 4s 2d	3s 10d to 4s 0d
Fat Cows	3s 6d to 3s 8d	3s 2d to 3s 4d

Number of beasts offered for sale since 1842.

Year.	Beasts.	s. d.	s. d.	Year.	Beasts.	s. d.	s. d.
1842	4,511	3 4 to 4 8		1874	6,570	4 6 to 6 10	
1843	4 510	3 4 to 4 4		1875	7,680	4 6 to 6 3	
1844	5,713	4 0 to 4 6		1876	7,020	4 6 to 6 4	
1845	5,326	3 6 to 4 8		1877	7,510	4 6 to 6 2	
1846	4,570	4 0 to 5 8		1878	6,830	4 6 to 6 0	
1847	4,288	3 4 to 4 8		18 9	5,620	4 0 to 6 4	
1848	5,942	3 4 to 4 1		1880	7,660	4 0 to 6 0	
1849	5,765	3 4 to 4 0		1881	8,000	4 0 to 6 2	
1850	6,341	3 0 to 3 10		1882	7,370	4 8 to 6 4	
1851	6,103	3 8 to 4 2		1883	5,940	4 0 to 6 4	
1852	6,271	2 8 to 4 0		1884	4,990	4 0 to 6 2	
1853	7,037	3 2 to 4 10		1885	7,470	3 6 to 5 8	
1854	6,151	3 6 to 5 4		1886	6,920	3 2 to 5 0	
1855	7,000	3 8 to 4 2		1887	6,420	3 4 to 5 4	
1856	6,743	3 4 to 5 0		1888	7,400	3 0 to 5 4	
1857	6 858	3 4 to 4 8		1889	5,000	3 4 to 5 2	
1858	6,424	3 4 to 5 0		1890	5,330	2 4 to 5 4	
1859	7,560	3 6 to 5 6		1891	4,510	2 8 to 5 2	
1860	7,860	3 4 to 5 6		1892	4,520	2 4 to 5 6	
1861	8,840	3 4 to 5 0		1893	4 640	2 8 to 5 4	
1862	8,430	3 4 to 5 2		1894	4,840	2 6 to 4 2	
1863	10,372	3 6 to 5 8		1895	3,170	2 6 to 5 4	
1864	7,130	3 8 to 5 4		1896	4,060	2 6 to 5 2	
1865	7,830	3 4 to 5 6		1897	4,570	2 4 to 4 8	
1866	7,340	3 8 to 5 8		1898	3,940	2 6 to 4 10	
1867	8,110	3 4 to 5 2		1899	3,960	3 0 to 5 2	
1868	5,320	3 4 to 5 2		1900	3,020	3 0 to 4 10	
1869	6,728	3 6 to 6 0		1901	2,510	2 8 to 5 4	
1870	6,425	3 6 to 6 2		1902	3,660	2 10 to 5 6	
1871	6,320	3 10 to 6 2		1903	2,960	2 4 to 4 8	
1872	7,560	4 0 to 6 0		1904	2,250	2 10 to 5 2	
1873	6,170	4 8 to 6 8		1905	2,510	3 0 to 5 0	

Turning our attention now to the sheep market, we note an increase in the supply compared with the corresponding day last year, amongst which was a fair proportion of lambs, the assortment of the former consisted chiefly of Downs and Half breds. The total number available, amounting to 10,630 head, proved 320 less than on the last great day. Some very fine Halfbred and black-faced sheep, numbering about 500, were to be seen on Mr P. Chapman's stand, these being consigned by Messrs Walker, Cooke, and Buttomley the well known graziers. Thomas & Son and R. Worboise showed a fine lot of Down Legs, Wethers, Black-faced Downs, and choice lambs. Messrs. F. Lloyd and Stimson & Son were well to the fore with Hampshire Dawn Legs, Wethers, Scotch ditto, Down Ewes, Dorset ditto, and 90 Halfbred Dorsetsne king lambs (these were exceptionally choice. Messrs. Woodward & Son the oldest established firm of sheep salesmen on the market at the present time, showed some very choice Lincoln Halfbreds. Taking the show as a whole, it comprises as regards quality very favourably with past years. Trade as usual on a great Market Day opened with an entire absence of life, butchers being occupied on the beast market until late in the day. Scotch descriptions were short on number and, being of good quality, cleared early. Irish descriptions were in good supply for the time of year but ruled dull throughout the day. The tendency in regard to value was an upward one. Lambs met with a steady enquiry, all on offer finding buyers. Notwithstanding the increased activity as the day advanced it is feared a clearance will not be effected.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 14, 1904.
8st Scotch	5s 10d to 6s 0d	
7½ to 8 st Downs		5s 10d to 6s 0d
9 st Downs		5s 6d to 5s 8d
8½ to 9 st Downs Tegs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	
10 st Suffolk Tegs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Down Wethers	5s 4d to 5s 6d	
11 st Lincolns	5s 4d to 5s 6d	
12 st Lincolns		4s 8d to 4s 10d
10 st Irish	5s 2d to 5s 4d	5s 0d to 5s 2d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 2d to 4s 4d
11 st Halfbred Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
4½ to 5 st Down Lambs	7s 0d to 7s 2d	6s 8d to 7s 0d
5½ to 6 st Halfbred ,,	6s 4d to 6s 8d	

Number of sheep since 1842

Year.	Number.	s. d.	Year.	Number.	s. d.
1882	7,490	7 10	1894	13,280	6 4
1883	9,570	7 6	1895	16,980	6 0
1884	9,940	5 0	1896	13,390	5 6
1885	13,650	5 8	1897	13,150	6 0
1886	11,390	6 0	1898	10,850	5 10
1887	13,330	5 4	1899	9,220	5 10
1888	12,890	6 6	1900	10,550	6 0
1889	11,250	6 10	1901	10,580	5 10
1890	13,250	6 4	1902	10,600	6 0
1891	14,570	6 0	1903	11,120	6 0
1892	15,290	5 6	1904	11,550	6 0
1893	13,550	5 10	1905	10,630	6 2

Calf trade slow, best small breeds making from 5s 4d to 5s 6d per 8 lbs (offal given in.)

No pigs on the market.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies, quiet demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 8d to 4s 2d; English, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; American, 2s 9d to 3s 3d. Mutton: Scotch tegs, 4s 8d to 5s; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s. Veal: 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: 3s 10d to 4s 6d

FOREIGN

Deptford, Monday.—To-day's supply of beasts, compared with Monday last, consisted entirely of shipments from the United States, trade for which was firm and steady at an advance of 2d per 8lb on late rates. Besides the above, 750 more were withheld from Wednesday. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s 2d to 4s 4d per 8lb, seconds 3s 10d to 4s per 8lb (offal given in). On Saturday 2,000 beasts from the United States were offered for sale, and met with a firm trade at an advance in value. Besides the above, 800 States and 460 Canadians were held back for Monday. The best States on offer were quoted at from 4s to 4s 2d, seconds 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb (offal given in).

THE BALTIC. 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Holders of wheat, maize, oats, and barley cargoes are firm, and linseed is the only article offered at any decline. For the few cargoes of beans, peas, and rapeseed available rather higher prices are asked, and despite a large supply on passage cottonseed is quite firm.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 3d per 480lb., February shipment; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 31s 9d per 480lb., February shipment; Santa Fé, 31s 3d per 480lb., February shipment; Bahia Blanca, 32s 6d per 504lb., March shipment; Bahia Blanca, 31s 6d per 492lb., February shipment; Walla Walla, 32s 3d per 500lb., prompt shipment; Odessa Ghinka, 32s 9d per 492lb., due; American Red Winter, 34s 6d per 501b., on passage.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 20s 6d per 400lb., on passage; Californian, 27s 9d per 448lb., on passage.

OATS.—American, 17s 9d per 320lb., January shipment; Baltic, 16s 9d per 304lb., on passage.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 21s 6d per 480lb., New Crop, June shipment; American, 20s 3d per 480lb., New Crop, January shipment.

BEANS.—Syrian, 35s per 480lb., prompt shipment; New Zealand, 36s per 504lb., prompt shipment.

PEAS.—Indian White, 29s per 504lb., New Crop, May shipment; Indian Green, 29s per 504lb., arrived.

LINSEED.—Argentine, 38s per 416lb., arrived; Calcutta, 40s 6d per 410lb., on passage.

HEMPSEED.—Riga, 48s per 336lb., on passage.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 15s per 2,240lb., on passage.

Milling Offal.—Milling offal remains firm and scarce at last week's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND Co.

Arrivals are liberal of Canadian and Russian wheats. The trade is steady at prices of last Monday. Flour sells slowly at late rates. Maize and barley firm. Oats dull, and Americans are 3d. per qr. dearer.—COVENTRY.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

Review of the Week's Cattle Trade.

For fat beasts of both prime and second quality, trade, practically confined to Monday, opened and continued of a very slow and dragging nature, with a downward tendency in value, though not quotably so; the want of life being partly attributed to the near approach of the great Christmas market, which is to be held on Monday next, butchers holding back their purchases for that day. The majority of the supply was drawn from the Midland, Home, and Western counties; the arrivals from the Eastern counties are on the increase. The Irish consignment consisted entirely of store cattle (one and a half year olds); these, meeting with little or no inquiry, were practically unquotable. Fat butchering cows of choice quality on both market days well upheld late currencies, whilst, on the other hand, middling quality cows and bulls met with little demand even at a decline of from 1d. to 2d. per 8 lb. in value.

At the Foreign Cattle Market, Deptford, trade was slow throughout the week, but on Wednesday, notwithstanding this, an advance of 1d., and occasionally 2d., per 8 lb. was asked and obtained. The total number on offer at both markets was 4,094, as against 4,900 during the previous week, consisting of 1,100 British (decrease 180) and 2,994 Foreign (decrease 626), comprising 2,854 States and 140 Canadians. The following were the top rates paid per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—80 to 90 stone Devons, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 90 stone Norfolks, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 100 stone Shorthorns, 3s. 10d. to 4s.; 110 stone ditto, 3s. 8d.; 90 stone States, 3s. 10d. to 4s., ex. 4s. 1d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 5d. to 3s. 7d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.

The sheep trade at Islington, with a decrease in the supply throughout the week, ruled dull and dragging, rates ruling in favour of the buyer; Irish showed a marked falling off in numbers, and a decline of 2d. per 8 lb. in value; on the other hand, Scotch sheep sold steadily, all on offer being disposed of. No sheep on offer at Deptford. The total number penned at Islington was 5,560, as against 6,161 during the previous week, consisting entirely of British consignments. Best pens made per 8 lb. as follows (sinking the offal): 7½ to 8 stone Downs, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 8 stone Scotch, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; 9 stone Downs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 9 stone Irish, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Downs, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Half-breds, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 11 stone Hampshire Tegs, 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 3s. 10d. to 4s.

Calf trade was nominal, only 20 being on offer during the week.

Pigs numbered 40, and met a slow but firm trade, best small breeds being quoted at from 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d. per 8 lb.

Trade in the West.

The revival in business in most kinds of store things to which we referred in our last issue has been more than maintained.

There is also a good healthy inquiry for the plainer qualities of both cows and heifers, at widely varying prices, ranging from £16 down to as low as £12 or £13 for very common-place cows whose time for dairying purposes is almost at an end. In-calf beasts, both cows and heifers, are also commanding a healthy sale, and business all round may just now be accurately described as thoroughly sound.

The improvement is equally satisfactory both as to demand and price, as regards fat stock of nearly every class, beasts, to begin with, being unusually firm, especially for all the neater weights in Devons, which are being caught up very readily for the Christmas trade at 12s. to 13s. per score for the choicest grades (or from £24 to £32 each for steers and heifers), medium qualities selling at 11s. to 11s. 6d., and secondary descriptions at 10s. to 10s. 6d., even rough bullocks selling at 9s. to 9s. 6d. at sheep, too, are also meeting a much more active inquiry, especially small weights in either wethers or tegs, at from 50s. to 60s. each or 6s. per stone); heavier descriptions are a shade easier, at 5s. 4d. to 5s. 8d.; but coarse heavy ewes, old sheep, are still not very easy to cash.

Pigs still maintain their supremacy as being the best selling and dearest thing on the market. Last week we quoted small porkers at 11s. per score; now they have jumped another 6d., if not more; whilst hogs bring 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d.; and sows 7s. 9d. to 8s. 6d., according to quality.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been a fair average, and the general quality good. A steady trade has been experienced throughout, and prices as nearly as possible without change from the previous week. A full average show of fat cows also made previous prices. Fat sheep in average numbers, but the general quality not quite so good as the previous week. Everything adapted for shop purposes met a good inquiry at fully previous prices, but owing to the middling reports from London those adapted for that market made no advance in price. Ewes selling fairly well. The supply of calves was rather under the average, and prices rather lower. Pigs offered in fair numbers, and they met an exceedingly good demand at hardening rates. A small show of store cattle, and they met a very dull dragging market, and about half the number on offer would be left unsold. Good milch cows very dear, secondary cheaper. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s.; current, 34s. 6d. to 36s.; mutton from 7d. to nearly 9¼d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

The quality of the cattle was very poor, the great majority being coarse and only half-finished, and the consequence was that values (live weight) for the small number of prime heifers and bullocks advanced quite 1s. 6d. per cwt., the scale average running between 30s. to 32s. 6d. for Shorthorns, and 32s. to 35s. for Polls. Out fed cattle were lower than the previous week, and it was with great difficulty that anything like a clearance could be effected in coarse cattle. The attendance of buyers at the market was, however, large, as last Thursday was the Christmas market, and the Liverpool and Manchester men put in a good appearance, and for really choice lots up to 10s. and 15s. a head more was given; but other sorts may be put down as duller than ever.

There was a fair demand for really good sheep. Stiffer quotations were made for good heavy Dublin wethers, and nice hardy Cheviot sheep, which fetched the extreme rates of the previous market. For coarse sheep, trade was very slow, and prices easier. Some large drafts of hoggets were taken for the London market at prices ranging from 54s. to 58s. each, and others at from 45s. to 53s. A pen of Border-Leicesters, sold at Ballsbridge Show, made 75s. a head; and the Silver Cup winners there were bought by a Dublin victualler at £5 each. These sheep were "Roscommon" and fed in that county. Good veal in request at from 8d. to 8½d. per lb., other sorts neglected at from 4½d. up. Dairy cattle of good class are now rating dearer, but middling or inferior cows attract few customers. Choice springers made from £19 to £21; rough cows from £9 upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted chiefly of fat butchering cows and bulls, and small consignment of prime quality cattle; for latter there was no inquiry, and rates are unquotable. On other hand, fat cows and bulls, though slow of sale, fully upheld last Monday's quotations. Top value: Fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 1d per 8lb. Increase of 40 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting entirely of Downs and halfbreds, which showed no quotable decline in value, the near approach of Christmas market naturally making trade very slow, retail butchers buying short in order to have clear shops for this day. Leading pens made per 8lb. as follows:—8st Downs, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; 9st ditto, 5s 6d to 5s 8d; 10st ditto, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st halfbreds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 3s 10d to 4s; 11st Hampshire tegs, 5s 6d to 5s 8d. Calf trade nominal. Pig trade slow, at decline of 2d per 8lb. Quotations per 8lb., sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; sheep, 3s 10d to 5s 10d; pigs, 2s 10d to 4s 4d. Total supply:—Beasts, 110; sheep, 120; calves, 10; pigs, 40; milch cows, 5.

London (Central), Friday.—Very slow demand again for the good supplies submitted, at about late values. Arrivals of beef included 70 tons Scotch, 200 Liverpool sides, 2,000 hindquarters, and 1,400 forequarters American refrigerated; also 950 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef, Scotch short sides, 4s to 4s 2d; long sides, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; English, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; American, Deptford-killed, 2s 10d to 3s 3d; Liverpool sides, 2s 9d to 3s 2d; New Zealand hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; forequarters, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; American, refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d. Mutton: Scotch tegs, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; extreme, 5s; wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; English wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; New Zealand, 2s 4d to 2s 8d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: English, 3s 10d to 4s 6d; Dutch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Beef trade steady at last week's rise, best steers making 4s 4d to 4s 6d per stone. Mutton was not much wanted, and butchers reduced their offers, but sellers held firmly, and many sheep went away unsold. Nominally 6s was the top price for best Downs, and 5s 8d for best Kents. Veal, in short supply, made previous rates. Pork was in request, and best porkers made quite 4s 6d per stone.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' Sale Yard there was a good attendance of buyers to meet a supply of 47 fat beasts, 52 calves, 356 fat sheep and lambs, 225 pigs, and 195 head of dairy and store cattle, for which the following prices were realised:—Prime quality fat Devon steers, £20 to £26; heifers, £20 5s; and cows, £13 5s; Shorthorn steers, to £17 15s; heifers, £15; and cows, to £15; Polled steers, £17 5s; Short horn bulls, £14 to £17 10s; West Highland cows up to £10 10s; fat calves, 80s to £5 10s; small, 20s to 55s; fat hogs, up to £5; porkers, 48s to 77s; small, 35s to 46s; store pigs, 10s to 23s 6d; dairy cows, £8 10s to £20 10s; best Down wethers and young ewes, from 55s to 58s; eleven months old, 50s to 56s; small, 42s to 48s; crossbreds, 55s to 42s; old Down ewes, 55s to 42s; Down lambs, 45s to 48s; small and inferior, 35s to 42s. The show of fat beasts included some good Devon steers and heifers, which were mostly sold at late rates. There is more demand for fat cows; half fat and inferior beasts continue a bad trade. Best quality Down wethers and young ewes were cleared at last week's figures. To make sales lower prices had to be taken for ewes, rams, and inferior sheep. Dairy cows of good class found buyers at late prices, a clearance being made at satisfactory values. Store cattle met a fair demand, most of the lots on offer being sold, but no advance in prices can be reported. A short supply of fat calves met with a brisk trade for good quality calves. Fat hogs and porkers maintain their price, the supply being unequal to the demand, and throughout the sale a brisk trade was done. Fat sows sold well at late rates. Store pigs are inquired for and sell readily. Ruling values: Best fat beasts, 6½d to 7d; second ditto, 6d to 6½d; bulls, cows, and inferior, 4½d to 5½d per lb.; best fat sheep, 8½d to 9d; second ditto, 7½d to 8d; old ewes, rams, and inferior, 6d to 6½d per lb.; fat calves, 7d to 8½d per lb.; fat hogs, 9s to 10s 6d; fat porkers, 11s to 12s; fat sows, 7s 6d to 8s 6d per score.

Berwick, Saturday.—Number of beasts penned was 77 less than previous week, total being 362. The attendance of farmers and buyers was small, quality of stock fair, and trade slow. Calves, £4 10s to £6; stirks, £8 to £10 15s; two-year-olds, £13.

Birmingham, Thursday.—Good supply of pigs; small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Beef, 4½d to 6d per lb; a few Herefords, 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 8½d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d to 9s 8d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; porkets, 11s 3d to 11s 6d per score; sows, 8s 4d per score.

Bristol, Tuesday.—Moderate quantity of beef, which realised slightly better prices, being quoted at 56s to 58s, and secondary at 53s, but trade was dull. Sheep were in less number, and demand quiet, but all grades maintained values except ewes, which declined to 6½d. Pigs were rather more numerous, and last week's rates prevailed.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Only about fifty sheep on offer; scarcely any demand. A few Welsh and Irish bullocks met no sale.

Calne, Friday.—**Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.**

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s. d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb.	...2½ in. and under ...	9 6
Under 10 sc.	...Not exceeding 2½ in.	9 6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in.	9 0
Under 12 sc.	3 in.	8 6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Very small show on the Sands, the smallest for several months. A number of buyers attended, and a ready sale was experienced at £8 10s to £12 10s per head for Irish heifers.

Chester, Thursday.—Large show of Irish cattle, but a rather poor selection of fat stock. With a moderate attendance of buyers trade was slow for all classes. Quotations: Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £14 to £18; barrens, £11 to £14; and stirks, £9 to £11.

Colchester, Saturday.—Good supply all round, with the exception of mutton, an ditrade fair. Beef (best quality), 5s to 5s 4d; other qualities, 4s to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s 4d per stone; pork, 9s to 10s per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Large supply of cattle, but only a moderate attendance, and trade slow except for good bullocks. Prices unchanged. Milch beasts, £16 to £23; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £11 to £15; stirks, £7 to £9; young stock, £5 to £7 each. Poor show of sheep, and few buyers. Hoggs, 38s to 46s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—The first of the great Christmas fat stock markets was held to-day, when there was an exceptionally full supply, which included some grand quality bullocks, both steers and heifers, both at Messrs. Duke and Son's, and also at Messrs. Symonds and Sampson, the latter firm having a prize competition, at which some £30 was given in prizes for fat beasts and sheep, these exciting considerable rivalry, Mr. G. Gillett, Marlock, Somerset, and Mr. T. Matthews, Symondsbury, Bridport, making the awards, in which Mr. J. Wyatt, of Dorchester, was one of the chief prize takers, he having secured the blue ribbon for having the best beast in the market, independent of a number of other prizes. As regards cattle, there was an exceptionally good demand for all the bettermost grades of bullocks, both steers and heifers, which brought £21 up to £28 10s (or 11s. 6d. to 12s. per score); fat cows, £23 to £26 (or 10s. 6d. to 11s.) The mutton trade was steady for anything ripe in wethers or young ewes, which made from 42s. up to 55s. each (or 8d. to 8½d. per lb.); seconds slower sale at 7d. to 7½d. Lamb not a particularly fast sale, except for anything choice and of good quality.

Dublin, Thursday.—A well-sustained inquiry for the best-finished descriptions of bullocks and heifers, prices for which were better. The drop in supplies helped to steady the demand for rougher sorts, which cleared at about late rates. Some good lots of stall-feds brought the extreme market quotations. Best qualities of sheep for home and export purposes easier sold dat last week's prices; other descriptions unaltered. Cattle, live weight (best), 28s to 30s per cwt; extra for Angus crosses and choice stall-feds, to 33s per cwt; rough sorts, 24s to 27s 6d per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Lighter supplies of sheep, but good selling trade. Cheviot Dunmonts, 31s to 37s 6d; half-bred hoggets, 26s to 34s; crosses, 26s to 28s. Small show of cattle and dull market. Horned bullocks to £12 10s; stirks, £10; best shorthorn cows, £25; secondary, to £23; Ayrshires, £18 15s; crosses, £18 to £20.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Supplies larger and trade fair. Prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 58s to 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, light weights, 9¼d; heavy weights, 8¾d to 9d; top wedders, 9d; aged wedders, 8d to 8¼d per lb. Dea meat firm, as supplies are shorter; best Scotch beef, 6½d; best States, 5½d; best Canadian, 4¾d to 5d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows: A large supply of cows and calves (90), with good trade for the best quality. A fair supply of store cattle, with trade about the same.

Leicester, Saturday.—Moderate consignments of home-bred stock, and trade very sluggish, with prices very low all round. Milch cows, £17 to £19; inferior, £14 to £16; shorthorn bullocks, £11 to £13; Welsh cattle, £9 to £11; calves, 20s to 35s per head.

Lincoln, Friday.—Beasts marketed in good numbers, and trade ruled dull. Yearlings made £8 to £10; two-year-olds, £12 to £16; drapes, £10 to £12. Small show of sheep, and a fair trade. Hoggs, 40s to 43s.

Lynn, Tuesday. Larger show of fat beasts, trade very slow, 7s to 7s 6d per stone. Few stores, trade very slow, £6 to £14 each. Small show of fat sheep, trade slow, 9s to 10s per stone. Few store sheep, 44s each.

Manchester, Friday. Beef, firsts, 4½d; seconds, 4d to 4½d; thirds, 3d to 3½d. Mutton, firsts, Cheviots, Scotch, 7½d; others, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 7d; thirds, 5½d to 6d. Veal, firsts, 7½d; seconds, 6½d to 6¾d; thirds, 5½d to 5¾d. Bacon pigs, firsts, 5¼d; seconds, 4¾d to 5¼d; thirds, 5¾d to 4¾d. Porket pigs, firsts, 7d; seconds, 6d to 6½d; thirds, 5d to 5½d.

Norwich, Saturday.—This was the Christmas market, and consequently much business in fat stock sections. Large supply fat beasts of good quality, and prices averaged from 7s 6d to 8s per stone, a few choice over year animals making up to 9s. Keen competition for fat sheep, which were in large supply, prices being 9s 6d to 10s per stone. Trade not so good for fat pigs, a drop of 3d per stone in some instances, and prices realised 6s 6d to 8s 9d per stone. Large number of store cattle offered, late rates being maintained. Store sheep in short supply; prices 35s to 45s per head.

Nottingham, Saturday.—Small show of milch beasts, with improved trade. Best milch cows, £18 to £22; in-calf heifers, £13 to £19. Rather poor supply of store beasts, for which a similar demand to that of last week was experienced; strong heifers and steers, £9 to £13; younger beasts, £6 to £9; calves, 25s to 50s. No sheep or pigs were on offer.

Preston, Wednesday.—Fairly good supply of sheep, but a rather slow trade was experienced, prices showing a slight advance on last week. Cows and bulls, 5d to 5½d; heifers and bullocks, 5½d to 6d; exceptionally choice beasts, 6½d. Sheep were also slightly dearer; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; tups, 5½d to 6d; ewes, 6½d to 7d; lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Milch beasts of good quality were in demand, at £18 to £20; medium, £16 to £17; two-year-old steers and heifers, £10 to £12; yearlings, £6 to £8; calves, 40s.

Romford, Wednesday.—Average supply of fat beasts, trade unchanged. Best animals, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; middlings, 3s 10d to 4s per stone. Calves scarce, trade better at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in short supply, trade about the same; best, 5s 10d to 6s; middlings, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; ewes, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Very slow demand for store beasts. Pig trade unchanged.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Usual supplies, but prices generally had a downward tendency. Quotations:—Beef, 5½d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 7¾d to 9d per lb; veal, 7d per lb; porket pigs, 8s to 10s 3d per score; bacon pigs, 9s to 10s per score. Numbers offered as follows:—Cattle 689, sheep 582, calves 65, and pigs 490.

Thame, Tuesday.—There was a smaller entry of stock, no doubt many waiting for the Christmas sale on Tuesday next, for which a large entry has been received. Beef met late quotations, and sheep were a slightly better trade. Bacon and pork quickly disposed of at advanced prices. Weaning calves wanted. Messrs. Bond and Burrows' sale comprised 49 fat beasts, 136 fat sheep, 80 fat and weaning calves, and 107 fat and store pigs. Fat oxen made from £17 to £20, fat heifers £15 to £17 15s, fat wethers 48s to 53s, fat ewes 45s to 53s 6d, fat calves £3 5s to £5 5s, weaning cow calves 28s to 56s, bull calves 10s to 48s, bacon hogs £4 to £5 10s, porkers 28s to 48s, store pigs 10s to 26s.

Truro, Wednesday.—Business fairly brisk. Attendance very good.—Fat bullocks, 54s to 60s per cwt; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt; cows and calves, £10 to £16 each; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7¼d per lb; ewes, 5¼d to 6d; lambs, 7¼d to 8d; pigs, 9s to 10s each.

Wolverhampton, Wednesday.—Fair supply all round; slow trade.—Beef, 5d to 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; veal, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Very small show of stock and small attendance. Beef was down about 3s per stone. Best beef, 6s 3d to 7d; secondary, 6s to 6s 6d per stone; best Southdown and cross breds, 7½d to 8½d; ewes, 5d to 7d per lb.

Yeovil, Friday.—Good demand, but trade quiet in other departments. Cows and heifers, with calves, made from £17 5s to £20 10s; secondary, ditto, from £12 17s 6d to £16 5s; in-calf heifers, £10 to £13; barreners, £9 to £10 5s; coming two-year-old heifers, £8 to £10; store steers, £9 10s to £11s; horn wethers, 42s 6d to 80s; horn ewes, 38s to 46s; Down ewes, 34s to 40s; Down wethers, 43s 6d to 52s 6d; crossbred lambs, 30s to 35s.

York, Thursday.—Above an average show of both English and Irish cattle for time of the year, though fewer than for last few weeks, and trade for store cattle continues in a depressed condition. In a few cases late prices were maintained, but the general run of prices was a shade lower than usual. The best demand is for strong three-year-old cattle full of flesh, and one or two made up to £16 10s, while a few lots of very useful cattle made up to £12 or £13. The English cattle were chiefly stirks, a few young beasts selling from £8 to £9 10s. Rather smaller show of calving and milch cows, which were in good demand, some of the best making up to £22 each, the usual run being from £16 to £19; cows rather less fit were selling at less money. A slow trade for sheep. Shearlings made up to 42s, twice-crossed lambs 32s to 46s, and Mashams 25s to 35s.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—Fair supplies but demand remains slow. Best silts, 60s to 65s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Scotch, 60s to 70s; Dunbars, grey soil, 80s to 90s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Small attendance, but plenty of potatoes on offer. Prices ranged from 4s 6d to 6s per load; retail, 5d to 6d per stone.

Soutnwark (Waterside), Saturday.—During the past week the arrivals have been heavy, and stocks have accumulated. Prices for all samples have been very weak, and the demand slow. The following are this day's quotations:—Scotch Up-to-Dates, 50s to 65s; ditto British Queens, 50s to 65s; Lincoln Evergoods, 50s to 60s; ditto Up-to-Dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland Up-to-Dates, 50s to 55s; ditto British Queens, 50s to 55s; ditto Evergoods, 50s to 55s per ton.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Heavy supplies, but were in slow request. Royal kidneys, 55s to 60s; British Queens, 55s to 60s; Blacklands, 50s to 55s; Up to date, 60s to 65s; Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

York, Saturday.—Good attendance and fair demand, for which there was an adequate supply. Sands made up to 45s per ton; Warps, 45s to 52s.

Quotations, best medium are in good demand, and there

CHAS. FARAM AND CO.

HOPS

Worcester, Saturday. — Notwithstanding the near approach of the Christmas holidays trade keeps good, and prices work gradually dearer. In the absence of choicest qualities best medium are in good demand, and there is a strong inquiry for rich brown hops; 271 pockets have been weighed this week, making the total 28,274.—

CAAS. FARAM AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed: The arrivals are 100 qrs from Harlingen, 1,023 Riga, 5,051 St. Petersburg; total, 6,154 qrs. The shipments for the week ending December 1, were:—Plate: 37,000 U.K.; 34,500 Continent. Calcutta: 9,000 Continent. Bombay: 14,000 Continent. Linseed has been quiet until the close when a better demand has sprung up and 6d to 9d advance paid. River Plate: Spot after selling at 37s 9d is now held for 38s 3d. Afloat and November-December sold at 38s 6d, January-February 37s 6d nearest. Cottonseed: The market has been steady and rather a better seller for Egyptian at £5 12s 6d spot, £5 11s 3d and £5 12s 6d passage, and November £5 12s 6d to £5 13s 9d paid December-January. To day the market is firm at £5 12s 6d spot, and passage £5 13s 2d December-January. Bombay has found occasional buyers at £4 18s November, £4 18s 6d to £4 16s early December, and £4 14s 6d paid January-February shipments. Oilseed cakes: Market steady without material change in value. KEIGHLEY, MANSTED AND CO.

London, Thursday. Linseed: Market has been very strong and full prices paid, especially in new crop to the Continent. Sellers very reticent. Calcutta-London Spot, 40s 9d; afloat, 40s 9d; October-November, 40s 9d; November-December, 40s 6d; April-June, 38s 6d. Rapeseed firm and sellers very reserved, but buyers so far not much in evidence. Cottonseed has become firmer, and prices have improved, chiefly owing to linseed having advanced. London — Near at hand £5 15s, December-January £5 17s 6d now asked. Oil cakes: Linseed cakes firm; London-made £8 5s to £8 10s. Cotton cakes firm; London-made £4 17s 6d to £4 18s 9d.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS COMPANY, LTD.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: Trade keeps quiet, but with light stocks of both foreign and home-made; prices are well maintained. Undecorticated cotton cake: Considering the comparatively low figure, trade is a little disappointing, but a better business is predicted with the turn of the year. Decorticated cotton cake and meal: Stocks of meal and foreign cake are exhausted, so prices are nominal. Linseed: A good trade, and market advancing.

English Linseed Cake .. ..ex mill	8	5	0
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay			
,, Western ,, to arrive	7	10	0
Round Trieste Linseed Cake .. ex quay	7	10	0
Russian Oil Cake ,, ...ex quay	7	16	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake .....ex quay	7	0	0
,, ,, Meal .....ex quay	7	2	6
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4	18	9
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4	16	3 to 4 17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5	7	6
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs. ex warehouse	2	8	0
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	2	2	0
I a Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs. sacks included ex warehouse	2	1	6 to 2 5 6
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs. ex warehouse			
Dulath do. per 416 lbs.	2	3	0 to 2 1 0
Larnica Linseed (in bags) per 16 lbs.			
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London			
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)			
Bombay ,, ,, ...			
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.			

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

Mark Lane, Monday.—Linseed cakes: Supplies of foreign are somewhat on a more liberal scale, and, with only a poor demand, values rule quiet, in spite of the strong position of the seed market and a limited home production. Russians move off slowly at about last week's prices. Americans remain dull, but without change. East India seed pures are available for arrival at a comparatively low figure. London made, being only sparingly offered, command full prices. Cotton cakes: With some heavy arrivals of Egyptian the market is barely as strong, with sellers of spot parcels at 1s 3d per ton less money. English are difficult of sale, even at the lower quotations, which is also applicable to Bombays. Decorticated: London made continues in good request, probably owing to their excellent quality. Rape cakes are scarce and dear. Maize germ meal: Some white American shortly due is obtainable at a reasonable price, while English makes are particularly firmly held. Maize gluten feed may now be bought for monthly deliveries during the whole year of 1906. Rice meal: A fair quantity in second hands has been cleared off the market at a slight advance both as regards Rangoon and Saigon, while broken Rangoon rice is also the turn dearer. Locusts beans are relatively cheaply offered both for whole and kibbled. Nitrate of soda for spring delivery without change.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	8 2 6 to 8 5 0	
Russian, in bags	7 12 6 to 7 13 9	
in mats.....	7 11 3 to 7 12 6	
Round Trieste..... (in bags) ex quay		
American .... ex quay	7 10 0	
Calcuta to arrive.....	7 15 0	
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 15 0 to 4 17 6	
,, for shipment.....	4 15 0	
English.....	4 16 3 to 4 17 6	
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake.....	6 17 6	
,, ,, Meal.....	7 0 0	
,, Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	5 5 0	
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 18 9 to 6 0 0	
American, Dec /Jan.....on rail	5 17 6	
American		
Maize Gluten Meal.....June/Dec.	6 0 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice .....ex ship	4 17 6	
Rangoon		
Broken Rangoon Rice .....ex docks	4 17 6 to 5 0 0	
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	10 10 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kil bled.....	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 80, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

BUTTER

Friday - Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 5d to 1s 6d. Barnstaple: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 2d. Crewe: 1s 2d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 3d to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Knutsford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Leyburn: 1s 9d to 1s 10d. per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 1s 3d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Nantwich: 1s 3d. Otley: 1s 11d to 2s per 24 ounce roll. Redruth: 1s 4d. Runcorn 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 4d to 1s 6d; Stamford: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Stockport: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Tavistock: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

Saturday. Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Berwick: 2d to 10d. Bridgnorth: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Carlisle: 1s 4d. Doncaster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d. Howden: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Ipswich: 1s to 1s 2d. Lancaster: 1s 3d. to 1s 4d. Malton. 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Whitby: 1s 2d to 1s 2d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 4d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

EGGS

Friday. — Altrincham: 5. Ashburton: 1s 6d to 1s 7d per dozen. Barnstaple: 8 to 10. Camelford: 6. Chester: 6. Crewe: 6. Congleton: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per dozen. Derby: 6. Helmsley: 7 and 8. Knutsford: 6 and 7. Leyburn: 7 and 8. Lincoln: 7. Lostwithiel: 12. Macclesfield: 5 and 6. Nantwich: 7. Northwich: 6 and 7. Otley: 6. Redruth: 1s 4d per dozen. Runcorn: 6. St. Austell: 6. Stamford: 5 to 7. Stockport: 6. Tavistock: 6 and 7. Totnes: 1s 8d to 1s 9d per dozen.

Saturday.—Appleby: 6 to 7. Berwick: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 7. Carlisle: 5 and 6. Doncaster: 7 and 8. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 6 to 8. Ipswich: 6 to 8. Lancaster: 6 and 7. Malton: 9. Pontefract: 7. Retford 2s 8d to 2s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 5 and 6. Skipton: 6 and 7. Stokesley: 6 and 7. Whitby: 5 and 6. Worcester: 6. York: 6.

WET GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet grains: Prices remain firm at 21s to 22s 6d ale, and 17s 6d to 19s porter per ton. Wet distillers' grains are firm at 32s 6d per ton. Pressed white distillery meal 35s per ton. Dried grains without change; ale 102s 6d, mixed 97s 6d, and distillers 115s. These are relatively the cheapest feed obtainable, as they have not advanced the same as other feeding stuffs, being about the same prices as last year. Dried distillery meal, containing 45 80 per cent. oil and albuminoids, without change, 117s 6d per ton. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, E.C.

COLONIAL DAIRY PRODUCE

London, Friday.—Butter: The market for Australian butter continues strong and prices are well maintained at last week's figures, with an occasional advance. There is more than the usual proportion of unsalted butter in the latest arrivals from Australia, and, consequently, prices of this kind have fallen virtually to a parity with salted. Continental prices remain firm, and the Danish market shows an improved inquiry. It is worthy of note that for the first time the Copenhagen official quotation has fallen two weeks in succession without affecting the price of Australian and New Zealand in British markets. This is the more remarkable as the Danish decline amounts to 5s 6d per cwt. Supplies of Siberian were larger this week, but the bulk of the butter was from the cold store at Riga. No arrivals of Argentine took place, and the market remains firm at 112s to 114s for "choicest." Cheese: There has been a good market for Canadian at an advance of 2s per cwt. on the week, "choicest" parcels of white making 61s to 62s and coloured 62s to 63s per cwt. on the spot, and c.i.f. quotations are even higher. With these high prices there is a very great inducement for the production of fodder-made cheese wherever possible in Canada between now and April, 1906.—W. WEDDEL AND CO.

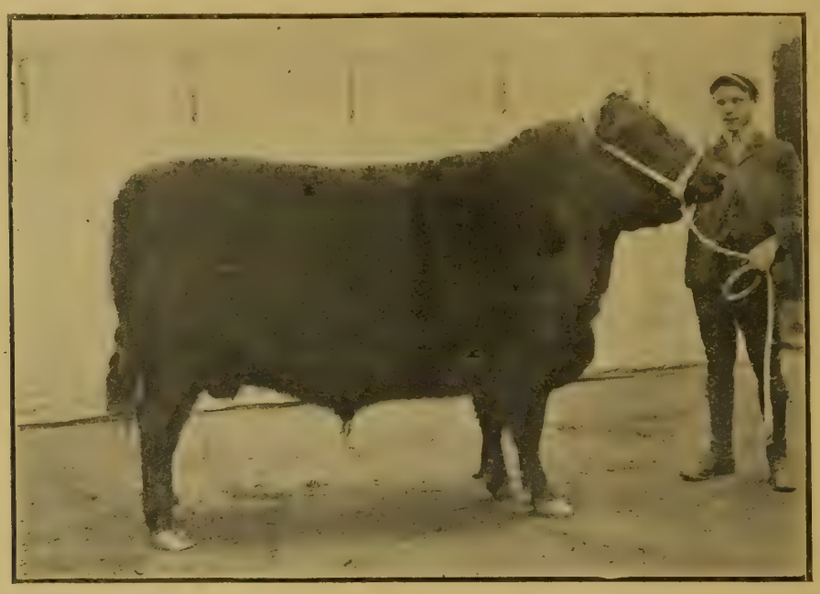
MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday. — Nitrate of soda is firm and quoted at £10 17s 6d to £11 2s 6d per ton for ordinary to refined, according to quality; prices which are on parity with this date last year. Kainit is attracting more attention and likewise basic slag, and they are in fair seasonable demand at the quotations. Feeding stuffs are a firm market all round, but the consumptive demand rules slow, which is ascribed to the higher range of prices caused by the increased values of importations and the necessarily higher cost of home productions, owing to the higher prices paid for the raw materials, whilst not a few consumers are utilising their barley and wheat, as they are both cheap this season. Fair sales of prime American feeding treacle and crushed cottonseed at present moderate quotations. Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £7; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 12s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 17s 6d to £11; bone meal, Monte Video, prime, in bags, £5 2s 6d to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime, but hard, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 17s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), prime, in bags, £14 to £15; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good, ordinary, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto English decorticated, prime, soft, in bags, £7 15s to £7 17s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 13s 9d to £5; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6; corn oil cake, 10 to 13 per cent. oil, prime, in bags, £6 2s 6d; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 7s 6d to £2 8s 6d per qr. 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding, prime, in barrels, 4s 6d per cwt.; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; ditto ditto guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; ditto ditto, guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 13s; ditto prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2; ditto finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 1s to £2 3s per ton—at depots inland.

Live Stock Record.

POPULARITY OF THE SMITHFIELD SHOW.

We have had another highly successful Smithfield Show, and the prospects of that time-honoured popular institution, the Smithfield Club, are better than ever. At the annual meeting last week, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales was elected president for the ensuing year, and Lord Winterton, in making the motion to that effect, truly observed that the Royal Family had always taken the greatest possible interest in the welfare of the Club, as well as in the promotion of agriculture generally. The annals of the Club afford ample evidence of such being the case, for it is recorded in the minutes that H.M. George III. was a very early exhibitor, and the visit of Queen Victoria, in company with the Prince Consort, and of the latter with his two sons, then very young, are prominently recorded. There cannot be the slightest doubt that H.M. the King derived the keen interest he takes in live stock, and his likings for so many kinds of farm animals, very early in life from his illustrious father. Great results have sprung from this source. The sums of money invested in stock-breeding, and even in procuring and fattening famous animals for the Christmas fat shows by our nobility, estate gentry, and millionaires, that they may follow the example set by the King, would amount to a stupendous total were it reckoned up, and the greater the trend that way, the more are our tenant farmer breeders and the general interests of agriculture benefited.



Aberdeen Angus Steer BLACK PRINCE, First Prize Steer over 2 and not above 3 years old. Exhibited by Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Maisemore Park, Gloucester. Age, 2 yrs 9 months 3 weeks 4 days. Weight, 15 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb.

But the main cause of the great success of the Smithfield Club, and the continuous prosperity of its shows, must be looked for in another direction, namely, the readiness of its Councils to move with the times, and effect changes as soon as proofs were afforded of their being absolutely necessary. They have been popularly elected by the members themselves, and, consequently, abolished oxen classes after farmers in general had abandoned keeping steers until they were six or eight-year-old oxen to perform field work. An oligarchical Council, such as the Royal until recently had, would probably have set their own interests as showmen more than the general interests of the farming community, and it will be fresh in remembrance that very grave fears were harboured by pessimists as to whether the curtailment of the show of those monstrosities of size and obesity, which sometimes yielded a live weight of from 30 cwt. to 35 cwt., would not diminish the number of sightseers. The result has abundantly proved the groundlessness of such fears. The crowding of the Islington hall on Wednesday last in every part afforded convincing proof that the exhibition, chiefly of young animals scarcely full grown, in no respect militates against the popularity of the show. This is, however, only one of the numerous changes which have been effected in recent years. The London butchers made a strenuous demand for carcase prizes and carcase competitions. The agitation set on foot was for object lessons to teach graziers the sort of animals best for the block. The demand was readily accorded, and this supplementary exhibition has now been in existence for several years without affecting the interests of the leading one in the slightest degree. The carcase classes are very interesting and serviceable appendages to the live stock main exhibition, but the animals, to win prizes in them, must be different to the premium ones of the latter.

Scarcely a year passes without some alteration being noticeable in the features of the show, and they have usually been found to be improvements. Certainly the institution of a special class for South Devon steers for the first time last week gave admission to stock the Knights of the Cleaver were particularly keen after. One of the exhibitors said he could have disposed of forty or fifty if he had been in possession of them to offer. The Devon Longwool and South Devon sheep and lambs had hitherto been amalgamated together, but a separation has now been made which has created immense satisfaction, not less, however, than that felt by the Ryeland graziers in having a separation from the Dorset Horn sheep, with which they had very little similarity.

One noticeable feature in the recent show was the large number of heifers in proportion to steers, especially those of the Red Poll, Aberdeen-Angus, and Galloway breeds. A considerable proportion were legacies from the breeding shows, animals which had been victimised by the high-training system. The Smithfield Show has become a last refuge for such, which cannot be helped while breeders are ready to put some of their best animals in jeopardy. The proposition was made some few years since to add yearling heifer classes to the exhibition, but it was not entertained, owing to apprehensions that it would prove injurious, instead of beneficial, to cattle improvement. Another thing strongly advocated by a few, but which the many stoutly opposed not long since, was that no animals should be shown more than once at a Smithfield Show. Although many of the prize beasts are still fed to a much higher degree than is profitable for spending purposes, the abuse in this respect is nothing like what it was some years since.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

I am informed that another highly-bred Large White Yorkshire boar has just been sold from Sir Gilbert Greenall's well-known prize-winning herd at Walton Hall, Warrington, for exportation to the Argentine, and was shipped from Liverpool to Buenos Ayres on the 2nd inst., per the David McIvor Line steamship "Araby."

Mr. Ernest F. Jordan, of Eastburn, Driffield, has sold two rams from his flock of Leicesters to Mr. J. E. Davenport, for exportation to New Zealand. The two Leicester shearlings sent out previously from this flock, to the same order and destination, realised high prices, the best ram making 112½ gs., the buyer being Mr. Rhodes, of Tai Tapu.

Breeders of Tamworth pigs are in a peculiar position. A good many years ago their favourite long-snouted, brown-coloured animals went out of fashion a good deal, and consequently fell into the possesion of few individuals. The problem since that time has been to secure change of blood. The Tamworths are regaining favour; but they are plainly too much in-bred, and consequently in danger of losing constitution. It has occurred to the Tamworth Pig Breeders' Society that fresh blood from America would help them immensely. When the Board of Agriculture comes into possession of a new President, the Tamworth men will crave the Board, says the *Glasgow Herald*, to allow American breeding pigs of the red variety to land alive in this country. The answer of the coming Minister of Agriculture will be awaited with great interest by more than the upholders of the Tamworths. With quarantine regulations, there is no reason why breeding animals from a reasonably safe country should not be admitted to Britain. The first piece of business, of course, requires to be an Amendment of the Act of 1896, which enforces slaughter at our ports of all meat-producing animals from abroad.

H.M. the King's Southdown Sheep, winners of the Championship for the Best Pen of Short-woolled Seep or Lambs, and the Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for the best pen of Sheep or Lambs bred by exhibitor. Bred at Sandringham; age 21 months; weight 6 cwt. 0 qrs. 6 lbs.

THE SMITHFIELD SHOW.

An Aberdeen-Angus Champion.—His Majesty wins Challenge Cup for Sheep.

CRITICAL REPORT AND PRIZE LIST.

The 107th show of the Smithfield Club which closed on Friday last was one of the most successful ever held by that body. His Majesty the King visited the Agricultural Hall on Monday afternoon, making a rapid survey of the exhibits in the various sections. The attendance during the week of the paying public was also large, and in the afternoons, and evenings especially, the gallerie were somewhat inconveniently crowded. In the following pages will be found a critical report of the various sections, together with a complete list of prizes.

The Championships.

With so many new comers in the ring, the great trophies of the day at Smithfield became very early one of the great themes of the day. The Midland champion had been universally appreciated as an admirable champion the previous week, and was again first favourite with most ringsiders, but the Edinburgh champion heifer, it was also seen, would be a formidable competitor, as also the Royal Shorthorn Madeleine, as she had been at Birmingham. The first honour, however, to be decided was that for best beast not exceeding two years old; this, as at Birmingham, went to Mr. R. W. Hudson's beautiful cross-bred heifer, with Captain Townshend's first-prize Shorthorn steer as reserve. Next came the competition for best ox or steer in the place, and here, it seemed to the public, a great variation of opinion took place, for the judges favoured Captain Stirling's first-prize aged Shorthorn for this trophy and Capt. Townshend's younger steer for the reserve, thus depriving the Royal Hereford of a chance for the main honours. Seeing the slight difference in weight, and the very superior quality of the Hereford here, the decision was hard to understand. Next came the competition for best female, and here matters were very close between Colonel McInroy's Aberdeen-Angus and H.M. the King's Shorthorn; the powers of the Scottish judge and the Scottish heifer, however, prevailed, and so the Angus carried off the cup and the Shorthorn the reserve, these two being similarly placed for the entire championship of the show.

Devons.

There were some alterations made as regards the Bingley Hall decisions in the classes for Devons. The Red Rubies of the West enjoy a fine reputation for making some of the best beef that graces the dishes of the London epicure, and the fame of the breed was well sustained by the classes in the Hall at Islington in the class for steers not exceeding two years. The Hon. Claud B. Portman must have regretted that he has replaced the Rubies by the Roans when he saw his steer advance from reserve at Birmingham to the lead of its class at Islington. Farewell is a fine steer with a good sirloin, and has mellowed on its travels, having lost that hard touch which was so characteristic of it at Bingley Hall on judging day; second to it came in Curley, a steer sent by Mr. Thomas Kidner from Halvergale Hall, Norwich. This steer was bred by Mr. Abraham Tribble, Holsworthy; it is long, and growing a trifle weak behind the shoulder, but has excellent butts, and should come out well another year. As third came in Viscount Portman's Reggie, that was first at Birmingham. This steer did not retain the form of Bingley Hall, having gone quite soft, and its end was not a trifle more attractive than the reference we made to it last week. The Earl of Cawdor was reserved with Stackpole Klondyke, a long, straight, useful steer, not over done, and evidently only sent up to qualify for another year. A commended card went to the Earl of Rosebery's Togo, which was second at Bingley Hall. The other commendation went to Mr. J. C. Williams, with a rather light-boned steer sired by Drosera. The older steers were one less in number than the youngsters, and here another notable reversal took place, the Earl of Rosebery's Nelson, a fine lump of beef that handled well and was worthy of its position subsequently as the winner of the breed cup. It had the meat where it was wanted, and should show a fine carcase; second to him was placed its Birmingham rival, the King's steer sired by Quantock Bridegroom, that is not quite so straight as the other, but still has a lovely rib and presents a fine broadside view, but handles for a thick spine; third prize went to a steer sent by Lord Calthorpe, that was soft and lacked a sufficiency of bone to support its weight. The reserve went to Mr. George Risdon, Dunster, Somerset, with a big steer that was recently put second at the Dunster fat stock show; it was a good specimen, right away from the wild red deer country. Mr. Edgar F. Case also sent up a good steer whilst in its native county of Somerset, but scarcely strong enough for historic Smithfield.

The heifers made a class of four, and each was worthy of the honour bestowed upon it. His Majesty the King was well to the fore with Dewdrop, that should cut one of the best sirloins in the show; she was straight, and handled with that fine touch of mellowness so much sought after but so seldom attained. Second went to Mr. J. C. Williams's Blooming Cow 19th, that filled the eye well, being very square, but with a decidedly small neck. The third prize went to Lord Calthorpe, with Miss Lyddon 7th, that was very kindly to the touch, had a nice back, but did not finish well at the end. The reserve went to Viscount Portman's Fossie, a nice, well brought out heifer, that would have stood higher had her back been strengthened or levelled up a bit. Taking the classes as a whole, the Devons were quite up to average merit as compared with recent years.

Herefords.

The three classes of this breed were, as they had been at Birmingham the previous week, well filled, and there was little alteration, addition, or detraction from that show. Some of the animals had lost a little more weight than others, and felt the effects of the continued want of rest and the worry accompanying it more than others had, and it is only needless to say where this was the case a little loss of bloom had naturally taken place. Of steers not exceeding two years there were eleven entries—a very neat and level collection, full of quality, and, for age, well matured. The first prize was accorded Mr. Richard Phipps for a son of Locarno, and a half-brother from the same herd carried off the third prize. Their weights were 14 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb. and 13 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. respectively; the former a level-fleshed, deep-bodied bullock, with good finish for his age, and generally first-class quality; the latter also very level in outline and of good breeding and quality, though not quite as good in the scales. These were both bred by exhibitor. The second steer that divided these two was bred and shown by Mr. James Edwards, sired by Carbineer, and of Growe blood on the dam's side. He scaled 13 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb., and in symmetry and in general aspect and breeding was a close runner-up to the other entry. Mr. W. H. Evans was r. and h.c. for a very smart all-round steer, nor quite as forward as the others, but of best quality and flesh. He was sired by Fusilier. The Earl of Coventry received a c. card for a very useful steer bred by Lord Llangattock and sired by Albion.

Steers above two and not exceeding three years old were quite a remarkable class; for uniformity of quality and breeding one of the best classes, probably, that has been seen at Smithfield, their quality and evenness in the laying on of their flesh being quite exceptional. H.M. the King's splendid steer that had championed the Birmingham show the previous week had little difficulty in getting into his rightful position again here at the front. He had lost a little weight in travelling, nevertheless his bloom and handling were well retained, and his wealth of flesh, quality, and general breed appearance were of the highest. Mr. Peter Coates came in second with a grand steer of his own breeding, sired by Q.C. A famous back, good bottom line, and fine quality, well-finished, he well deserved the second place. He is 15 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb., being some nearly 2-cwt. lighter than the winner from the Royal herd. Mr. W. H. Cooke's third is also an exceedingly fine steer. He was bred by exhibitor, and sired by Centurion, and in weight is considerably heavier than the second prize one. A second entry of Mr. Coates's was r.; and a good entry from the Croome Court herd c. Females were a small entry, only three being shown. The Hon. F. G. Wynn's Bodvean Primrose, a rather medium-weight heifer, but even in flesh and shape, sired by Union Jack, was first, H.M. the King's Sophia second, and Lord Coventry's Golden Fairy third, the breed cup being accorded to H.M. the King's steer, and the r. to the Hon. F. G. Wynn's heifer.

Shorthorns.

The entry of this breed, which had stood out so conspicuously at Birmingham, was again quite exceptionally good, as most or all of the Midland contingent were in their places, and a somewhat strong reinforcement from the Edinburgh Show had taken place. In steers under two years old—quite a wonderful class for quality—considerable changes took place from the Birmingham awards, H.M. the King's very compact and good-fleshed steer by Royal Duke that had been first in the Midlands, though in his usual good form, failed to please the judges, and was put down to the third place. Captain H. L. Townshend's steer—second at Birmingham, bred by Mr. Finlay Munro, and sired by Maxwell—being now at the front. He certainly was a close competitor the previous week, and it was no surprise that in London he should rise a place. He is a steer of capital quality, shape, and breeding. The second place, however, being filled by a steer of Lord Tredegar's that was outside the money in the Midlands, and of not too good pattern in his hind quarters, was rather difficult to understand. Mr. M. C. Williams's red and white, a soppy, useful steer, was given a fourth prize, and a steer of Mr. John Ross's r.; h.c. and c. were also accorded to very good steers of Lord Calthorpe's and H.M. the King's.

The older steer class was quite a much better one in London than in the Midlands. At the latter show this was decidedly the weakest sec-

tion of the Shorthorns, but the addition to the class of two such steers as were contributed by Captain A. Stirling and Mr. H. S. Leon, gave a much better general aspect to the class. The former of these steers had been at the Edinburgh show, and was bred by Mr. Finlay Munro, and the get of Maxwell. He has a well-covered top, thick of flesh, and handles fairly well, with good bottom line and general appearance; his weight in London was 17 cwt. 3 qr., and he was given the first prize. Mr. H. S. Leon's steer, placed second, was bred by exhibitor, and sired by Conservative; he scales 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb., but a slight difference from the first prize one. He has good flesh, handles well, and shows good breeding, his hind quarters, too, are very full and level in the back. He is a little inclined to droop, otherwise a fine steer. Sir John Swinburne's steer that had been in the back in the Midlands was now third, and H.M. the King's white steer r., a c. card being dealt out to Sir Oswald Mosley's massive beast. Heifers were also a very good class. H.M. the King's Madeleine well held her own; her compact shape, great weight, and superb quality quite kept her at the top. Miss Alice de Rothschild's Waddesdon Butterfly, third at Birmingham, now advanced a place, a very level capital-backed and ripe heifer; and the third place was allotted to Lord Tredegar's Lady Llangibby, a very useful heifer of Mr. James Graham's being r. The breed cup of this section was awarded to the Royal heifer, Madeleine, and the r. to Captain Stirling's first prize aged steer.

Sussex.

Three of the steers which had been entered in the junior class were absentees, but ten remained to make a truly imposing display, for they were a prime collection, six of them over 13 cwt. each live weight, and the one belonging to Mr. W. F. Winch was by far the heaviest weight yearling in the hall, as although under twenty-three months, he pulled down the scales to 14 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb., yet so compactly built and level was he that no one would by casual inspection credit him with any such scaling. The first-prize yearling of Mr. J. Aungier, at a little over this age, scaled 13 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb., which was the next heaviest. He had remarkable and nice character, no less than substance, and his level form has very thick coating. Mr. J. Godman's second prize steer scaled just 13 cwt., and also displayed excellent quality. Earl Winterton's was another yearling of broad massive build, which possessed so much merit that a fourth prize was awarded him. There were no absentees in the senior steer class, and ten were in competition as before. They were of such merit that the class generally was commended, after four prize-winners and a reserve had been selected. The Earl of Derby came to the show with a son of Diploma, very broad, level, and well covered on his top, and of good substance, his scaling being 17 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb. His lordship had a second very good steer to be reserve; the second prize being awarded to Mr. W. G. Fladgate's handsome thick-fleshed one, and the third to Mr. Winch's, which weighed 17 cwt. 3 qr. 27 lb. Mrs. Montefiore had two remakably good ones, to one of which an extra prize was awarded. But the heifer of Mr. Gerald Warde was considered to be the best Sussex beast, and received the cup as such. She seemed full and ripe as a plum, and the other two heifers which competed with her belonging to Mr. Braby and Mr. Saillard, had level nice conformation likewise. Indeed Tutsham Pearl, Drungewick Queen, and Bessborough Winch 4th have all been met with at the summer shows.

Red Poll.

Four Red Poll yearling steers competed, and Sir W. Corbet's was selected for first prize, one which carried a good middle, and, with the exception of being a little faulty at tail, had symmetrical build. The Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P., secured the second premium with a heavy-fleshed one, shapely, except at the rump end. Mr. R. P. Cooper's third prize steer, neat and of less size, possessed nice quality. He was three months the junior of the first winner. One of the four which had been entered in the senior class was absent, but there was admirable representation, and Sir W. Corbet's shapely son of Red Knight not only received first prize, but the cup. He had level conformation, well-covered with rich flesh. Mr. Fellowes, M.P., had again second prize with a steer which did not handle quite so well as Sir W. Corbet's, but was admirably covered. Mr. R. J. Thurman's third prize was of larger scale, but not quite so noteworthy for chaste welding and quality, was a good butcher's beast. There were seven heifers, most of them show-yard ones, which, through training had lost the breeding function. Amoret, from the Horningham herd, won first prize; Mr. Cooper's Ashlyns Gravel coming next, and then Mr. Hammond's Davy 209th, and Sir W. Corbet's Acton Coral. Sad was it to find these shapely heifers going for beef when they should have been fruitful in propagating their kind.

Aberdeen Angus.

This breed was remarkably well represented at Islington this year. It is seldom, taking the classes all through, that a better lot are to be seen. Though the pick of them have perhaps been a little superior upon one or two previous occasions, the general level, the tail of the classes, has seldom or ever been as good; and there was a large entry, a good number being added from the Edinburgh Show. Steers not exceeding two years old come first, and these were a very good quality and shapely lot generally. Mr. R. W. Hudson's steer, bred at Danesfield and first at Birmingham, again held that position, a very straight-topped steer, and of good breeding and general quality. Mr. Robert Turner, from Portsoy, provided the second winner, a thick-backed, good, level steer bred by Mr. Stewart and sired by Veteran of Preston; he scales just 13 cwt., and is capital beef. Mr. J. H. Bridges filled the third place with a steer bred at Langshott and sired by Leponito of Careston, a level top and bottom boned one, with good flesh and quality; he is rather lighter in weight than some of them, but a very taking steer. H.M. the King's Abergeldie herd contributed two very fine entries, both bred by His Majesty, and sired by Elandslaagte; one of these was awarded fourth prize, and the other reserve and an h.c.; the former is particularly clean in his outline and breeding, one of the best steers in the class in this respect, and his weight is very good, too—12 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. Mr. J. J. Cridlan, Mr. J. C. Williams, a second entry of Mr. J. H. Bridges, and one from Mr. George Bruce's herd were all honoured with minor cards. Steers above one and not exceeding two years old were a small class numerically, and though producing some excellent beef animals, there was nothing of outstanding beauty in other respects. Mr. J. J. Cridlan's Black Prince by Junic, bred by Sir James Duke and second in the junior class last year, was just as he had been in the Midlands the previous week; he scales in London rather lightly for his size—15 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb.—but he is very thick of beef, and an all-round good steer apparently for the butcher. Mr. R. L. Batchelor carried off second prize with a good shaped and capital handling steer by Darlington; he, too, is none too heavy. Mr. R. W. Hudson's third is also a ripe good bullock; like Mr. T. B. Earle's reserve, he was sired by Equerry of Ballindalloch, and is also a generally good sort of beast for the butcher.

The heifer class was the brightest portion of the Aberdeen-Angus section; this was an admirable class of some eleven entries, and, amongst others, provided the champion of the entire show; this was Colonel Charles McInroy's Baron Bellona, bred by exhibitor and sired by Ben Vrachie; she had been champion of the Edinburgh Show the previous week, and though we have seen better-finished champions in London, she fills the eye from symmetrical point of view as well as in breeding, is a particularly neat heifer, and well filled in the hind quarters, and with perfectly level back; at the back of shoulder she may lose a little, but is otherwise a fine heifer, and her weight—16 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb., at under the limit of age—is satisfactory. Mr. R. L. Batchelor was second with Gay Lass of Greatham by Quinto, bred by exhibitor, a very ripe and good handler, and with capitally covered back. Mr. J. T. Stanford's third, Birdie of Rutherstock, a heifer of fine shape and quality sired by Santoy was third; she is a little on the light side; a fourth prize was given to Captain H. L. Townshend's Oma 5th, another very neat and ripe one; the reserve went to Mr. Thurman, and c. cards to Mr. J. H. Bridges and Captain Stirling completed the class, the breed cup going to the first-prize heifer.

Galloway.

Six yearling steers of this breed gave three prize-winners of considerable merit, and the others secured barren honours. Mr. Robert Graham won the first premium with Betty 2nd, of a singular colour—red-roan belted with a saddle of white, and, being shapely, he had a handsome appearance. Captain Stirling's Allanwater, with his curly coat, was also attractive. The third prize winner had neat, shapely character. There were some older steers, at the head of which Mr. Alfred Palmer's Character, with a straight, deep, well-coated form appeared; Mr. R. Graham's Rodger, although not quite so weighty, making an excellent second; and Sir J. Swinburne coming third with a full-shaped compact one, which fell off slightly at the rump-end. The heifer class was largest of this breed also, and its prima donna came to the front as cup-winner. This was Mr. David Brown's Esmee of Stopford, of a deep, broad, level, form, well covered with nice flesh. Mr. R. Graham's Fairy Queen was second, winning by a full expansive middle but not quite so scaly as the first winner. Mr. Alfred Palmer's Meg secured the third premium, which, like Fairy Queen, excelled in her middle-piece, and indeed was slightly the heavier of the two. Sir J. Swinburne's Gladsome Lady and Mr. A. Palmer's Heatherbell had barren honours.

Welsh.

As usual, the muster of the black cattle of the Principality was a large one, and only one of the twenty-seven animals entered failed to appear. In the steer class under two years appeared several weighty ones, displaying how admirably the breed, as improved, is adapted for early maturity. Mr. W. Hughes won first prize with one not so heavy as two or three of the others, but exceedingly level and nice in flesh. Mr. R. M. Greaves's second winner was nearly two months the senior of the first winner, but very much heavier, as he pulled down the scales at 14 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.; in fact, his form is grandly covered, and there is no coarseness worthy of notice. The third winner was Mr. R. Roberts's Cymro, so that the awards coincided thoroughly with those at Birmingham.

In the two year-old steer class, likewise, Mr. Greaves was first with the same animal as was at the top at Birmingham. He unites quality to substance admirably, is richly coated over the back and ribs, with a fulness seldom seen over the crop and at the shins. He made an admirable cup winner. Mr. W. Evans's Twm, the heaviest in the class, was not at Birmingham. He has length as well as breadth and depth of form, and was a firm handler. His weight at 2 years 11 months 2 days was 18 cwt. 3 qr. There was a reversal of the Birmingham decision in Mr. T. Roberts's Glanrafwr Boy being preferred to Gorlleg, shown by the Coed Coch Trustees, the former being third and an extra prize being awarded to the latter. Five heifers competed, two of which belonged to Mr. Greaves, who won first and third prizes with them; Mr. R. Hughes's Queen obtaining second premium, which was exactly confirmatory of what was done at Birmingham. These three heifers, and Mr. R. Roberts's Sally, displayed very compact, full-shaped forms, they, like those of some other breeds, having been summer-show animals.

Highland.

The picturesque cattle of the Scotch hills, with their broad antlers and shaggy coats, made a formidable display, being in good muster. There were eight steers not exceeding three years, and a first winner was found in Sir W. Ogilvy Dalgleish's Errol Candidate 4th, handsome in style, yellow coated, and with good flesh. Sir J. Gilmour furnished the second winner; and the light-brindled and dark-brindled steers of H.M. the King had third prize and reserve. In the oxen class, which had the same number of entries, a handsome yellow, grand-looking animal belonging to H.M. the King, was preferred to all the others. The Earl of Southesk's Buller, red in colour, of compact form, being second, and his Shellay third. The two four-year oxen of the Earl of Durham were by far the heaviest. Sandy scaled 17 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. Two of the five heifers were from Sandringham, belonging to his Majesty. They displayed shapely form, but preference was given to Sir W. Ogilvy Dalgleish's Lass o'Gowrie for first prize, the weightiest in the class. Mr. W. J. Nimmo won third prize, and divided the Royal heifers.

Crossbreds.

There was once more a large and excellent display of these cattle in each of their four classes; their general quality was very good, and though there were perhaps none of outstanding weight, the generally level flesh as compared with the patchiness that prevailed a short time ago, their compact build, shortness of leg, and fine quality caused them to give a very favourable impression all round.

The younger steer class was a much better one than that of the same age the previous week in the Midlands. There were thirteen entries; amongst these two or three new comers that were of good outline and quality and helped much with the general appearance of the class. Mr. John Ross of Merkle Tarrell provided both the first and second winners in a couple of Angus and Shorthorn crosses of good size, scaling 12 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. and 13 cwt. 0 qr. 5 lb. respectively, and thick-fleshed, well brought out steers, good in their outline and character too. Mr. Robert Turner's third, also of Shorthorn and Angus cross, followed the others very closely; he is a steer of beautiful quality, wealthy flesh, and deep, well ribbed body—altogether very pleasing. The fourth prize went to Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Blue Boy, another very heavy-fleshed one, that had done well at Norwich and Birmingham. The Earl of Durham, Captain Townshend, and Mr. C. F. Raphael were each accorded minor honours.

Steers above two and not exceeding three years old had an entry of thirteen animals; Mr. R. W. Hudson's admirable steer that championed the male section at Norwich and the cross-breds at Bingley Hall had so far retained his form as again to be able to come to the head of affairs in his class, and also to carry off the cross-bred cup. Mr. T. B. Earle's heavy-fleshed and thick, level steer of Angus and Shorthorn cross was placed second, and the Earl of Durham's, also of the same cross, third, a deep, thick, sappy bullock, and well

covered all over with capital roasting beef. Sir John Swinburne was second, and an h.c. gain to Mr. George Bruce, which completed the class.

Cross-bred heifers under two years of age came next; the entry in this class was not quite so strong, but eleven entries being catalogued. These, however, included several heifers of exceptional shape and quality, altogether good of their age. Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Honey Bee, that had been first in the Midlands the previous week, and also carried off the champion prize as best beast under two years bred by exhibitor, was again at the front. She had lost nothing in her beautiful general appearance and quality, and in symmetry, as was said of her previously, she is most perfect; her breeding is Aberdeen Angus and Dexter, and her scale now 12 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb., very good indeed for her age. Danesfield Ruby Lass from the same herd ran in fourth. She, too, is remarkably symmetrical, and with thick and good covering of flesh. Mr. John Ross secured the second place with a very sweet heifer in shape and quality, but rather on the light side; and Miss Alice de Rothschild's Waddesdon Primrose, a fine quality, thick fleshed, and well shaped roan, second in the Midlands, was placed third. The reserve card went to Mr. W. J. Robertson, h.c. to Mr. G. F. Stanford, and c. to a second entry of Mr. John Ross.

Heifers exceeding two but not over three years old were a very strong class both numerically and also in point of quality. Mr. T. Learner's Norfolk champion, and first at Birmingham, was once more first in her class. As said of her previously, she has a capital top, but her weight is scarcely as good as it should be; still, she well held her position. Sir John Swinburne came second with a very thickly covered black and white of Galloway and Shorthorn cross, a ripe, compact heifer, and good in symmetry; she is but two years and

Small Cross Bred.

The steer class under two years had four in competition, headed by a steadily deep black belonging to H.M. the King, which was an Aberdeen-Angus Dexter. The Shorthorn-Dexter brought from Ireland by Mr. Nash was given the second prize; whilst Sir W. Gilbey was third with a cross similar to the King's winner. In the class for older steers Mr. Nash came to the front with a very neat, nice specimen of the Aberdeen-Dexter, Mr. Michael Rogers getting the second premium with a white Shorthorn-Dexter of much larger scale. There were seven heifers, and a very classic specimen of nice character, Mr. Hudson's Danesfield Little Jap, of the Aberdeen-Dexter cross, carried off the Cup as well as first prize. Mr. de Bertodano's La Mancha Dodo obtained the second prize, and his La Mancha Dainty was reserve. Mr. Nash bringing from Ireland Lucan Lily, a Shorthorn-Dexter, to win the third premium.

Appended is a table showing the average daily gain of the prize-winning animals :—

Exhibitor and Breed.	Age.	Weight.	Average Daily Gain.
DEVONS.	Days.	lbs.	lbs.
(Steers not exceeding 2 years old.)			
1 Hon. C. B. Portman (Farewell) ...	654	1,231	1·88
2 Mr. T. Kidner (Curley) ...	652	1,373	2·10
3 Viscount Portman (Reggie) ...	703	1,248	1·90
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Earl of Rosebery (Nelson) ...	974	1,807	1·85
" H.M. the King ...	1,003	1,606	1·60
3 Lord Calthorpe ...	908	1,527	1·53
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King (Dewdrop) ...	1,037	1,429	1·37
2 Mr. J. C. Williams (Bloomingford)	922	1,284	1·39
3 Lord Calthorpe (Miss Lyddon VII)	1,030	1,293	1·25
SOUTH DEVONS.			
(Steers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. F. W. Roe (Gent'eman John)	861	1,622	1·88
2 Mr. J. Sparrow-Wroth (Hotspur)	772	1,705	2·20
3 Mr. Brooking Trant (Best Man)...	872	1,839	2·03

Galloway Heifer, Esmee of Stepford, Winner of the Galloway Breed Cup and First Prize. Bred and Exhibited by Mr. D. Brown, "Stepford by Auldgirth" Dumfrieshire. Age, 2 years 11 months 3 weeks 1 day. Weight, 13 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.

seven months old, consequently at a disadvantage in this respect. The Earl of Durham provided a famous thick, well-finished heifer in his blue-grey Rose for the third place. She was one of the heaviest heifers in the class, being 14 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. Mr. G. F. Stanford was fourth with a deep, good heifer by Santoy that scaled 15 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. A very nice-topped heifer, and lengthy, with good handling, shown by Mr. Alexander Smith was third; and an h.c. to Mr. Stewart, c. to a second entry of the Earl of Durham's, and c. to Mr. W. J. Fladgate concluded this class.

Kerry and Dexter.

Six animals appeared in the class for steers under two years, headed by the King's fine, deep, full-shaped Dexter, by far the largest and weightiest in the class. This was a black, but his Majesty also won the second premium with a red one; the Duchess of Devonshire coming third with Compton Durban. In the class for two-year steers Mr. R. W. Hudson could not be denied the first premium for Danesfield Jim; the Duchess of Newcastle's Hardwick Jack, of the Kerry breed, was the heaviest, and he received second prize, the third going to the Duchess of Devonshire's Compton Dobbin; the curiously-coloured Cowbridge specimen of Mr. de Bertodano being reserve. In the heifer class Mr. Hudson won another first with Danesfield Jill, larger and heavier than any of the others; Cowbridge Little Nell, belonging to Mr. de Bertodano getting the second premium, and Sir Walter Gilbey's La Mancha Braw Lass the third. This

HEREFORDS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. R. Phipps (Sirloin) ...	665	1,591	2·39
2 Mr. J. Edwards (Lemco) ...	1,051	1,527	1·45
3 Mr. R. Phipps (Beefsteak) ...	689	1,525	2·21
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King ...	1,000	1,960	1·96
2 Mr. P. Coats (Sheepcote Wonder)	987	1,752	1·77
3 Mr. W. H. Cooke (Wilton 4th) ...	985	1,939	1·96
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 The Hon. F. G. Wynn (Bodvean Primrose) ...	983	1,493	1·51
2 H.M. the King (Sophia) ...	1,033	1,576	1·52
3 Earl of Coventry (Golden Fairy)	1,025	1,895	1·84
SHORTHORNS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Captain H. L. Townshend (Cicero)	713	1,543	2·16
2 Lord Tredegar (Prize Boy) ...	687	1,519	2·32
3 H.M. the King ...	712	1,515	2·12
4 Mr. J. McWilliam (Great Scott)...	694	1,536	2·21
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Capt. A. Stirling (Confidence)...	997	1,988	1·99
2 Mr. H. S. Leon (Bletchley Bush)...	982	1,971	2·00
3 Sir J. Swinburne ...	1,085	1,884	—
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 H.M. the King (Madeline) ...	1,060	1,896	1·78
2 Miss Alice Rothschild (Waddesdon Butterfly) ...	1,014	1,632	1·73
3 Lord Tredegar (Lady Llangibby)...	1,049	1,709	1·63
SUSSEX.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. J. Angier ...	692	1,560	2·25
2 Mr. J. Godman ...	684	1,456	2·12
3 Mr. W. F. Winch ...	693	1,644	2·37
4 Earl Winterton ...	698	1,503	2·15
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Earl of Derby ...	1,054	1,974	1·87
2 Mr. W. G. Fladgate ...	1,070	1,907	1·76
3 Mr. W. F. Winch (Tilsden) ...	1,056	2,015	1·91
4 Mrs. H. F. Montefiore (Belle Flower)	1,037	1,876	1·80
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. G. Warde (Tutsham Pearl) ...	1,030	1,858	1·80
2 Mr. E. F. Braby (Drungewick Queen) ...	1,018	1,776	1·64
3 Mr. P. F. R. Saffard (Bewbush Wind) ...	943	1,592	1·68
RED POLLS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Sir W. Corbet ...	692	1,358	1·99
2 Rt. Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Alan) ...	696	1,358	1·99
3 Mr. R. P. Cooper (Ashlyns Gem)	591	1,232	2·08
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Sir W. Corbet ...	1,034	1,903	1·55
2 Rt. Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Augustus)	942	1,467	1·75
3 Mr. R. J. Thurman ...	960	1,719	1·79
Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Rt. Hon. A. E. Fellowes (Ainomet)	898	1,348	1·50
2 Mr. P. R. Cooper (Ashlyns Gravel)	1,017	1,270	1·24
3 Mr. J. Hammond (Davy 272nd) ...	878	1,438	1·63
ABERDEEN ANGUS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Negro) ...	668	1,338	2·00
2 Mr. R. Turner (Walter) ...	705	1,456	2·06
3 Mr. J. H. Bridges (Sylvanus) ...	667	1,321	1·96
4 H.M. The King (Principal of Abergeldie) ...	615	1,381	2·24
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. J. J. Cridlan (Black Prince)	1,025	1,768	1·72
2 Mr. R. L. Batchelor (Victor) ...	1,054	1,707	1·61
3 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Cumbrian) ...	1,010	1,785	1·77
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Col. C. McInroy (Burn Bellona) ...	1,056	1,821	1·72
2 Mr. R. L. Batchelor (Gay Lass of Greatham) ...	1,051	1,691	1·36
3 Mr. G. F. Stanford (Bird's of Butterstocks) ...	1,036	1,579	1·52
4 Capt. H. L. Townshend (Ovina 5th)	1,051	1,588	1·51
GALLOWAYS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. R. Graham (Belty 2nd) ...	704	1,356	1·92
2 Capt. H. Stirling (Allanwater) ...	602	1,260	2·09
3 Messrs Thomson (Jumbo) ...	679	1,215	1·78
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. A. Palmer (Character) ...	1,072	1,678	1·56
2 Mr. R. Graham (Rodger) ...	1,010	1,561	1·54
3 Sir J. Swinburne ...	1,051	1,464	1·38
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. D. Brown (Esmee of Stepford)	1,075	1,545	1·43
2 Mr. R. Graham (Fairy Queen)...	992	1,432	1·44
3 Mr. A. Palmer (Meg) ...	1,047	1,425	1·36
WELSH.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. W. Hughes ...	665	1,437	2·16
2 Mr. R. M. Greaves (Towyn) ...	721	1,604	2·22
3 Mr. R. Roberts (Cymro	721	1,497	2·07
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. M. Greaves (Twrch) ...	1,044	1,842	1·76
2 Mr. W. Evans (Twm) ...	1,065	2,100	1·97
3 Mr. R. Roberts (Glanrafwr Boy)...	1,089	1,904	1·74
4 The Coed Coch Trustees (Gorileg)	1,084	1,951	1·79
(Heifers, not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. M Greaves (Angharad Ddu)	1,081	1,837	1·74
2 Mr. R. Hughes (Queen) ...	1,017	1,544	1·51
3 Mr. R. M. Greaves (Waen) ...	695	1,503	2·20
HIGHLANDS.			
(Steers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Sir W. O. Dalgleish (Erol Candidate 4th) ...	948	1,574	1·63
2 Sir J. Gilmour ...	1,017	1,573	1·54
3 H.M. the King ...	1,024	1,566	1·52
(Steers over 3 years.)			
H.M. the King ...	1,349	1,777	1·31
Earl of Southesk (Buller) ...	1,390	1,820	1·30
Earl of Southesk (Shellarg) ...	1,430	1,746	1·26
(Heifers not exceeding 4 years.)			
1 Sir W. O. Dalgleish (Lass o' Gowrie) ...	1,338	1,573	1·17
2 H.M. the King (Phroiseaig 5th of Dunlossit) ...	1,380	1,456	1·05
3 Mr. W. J. Nimmo ...	1,435	1,490	1·03
CROSS-BREDS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. J. Ross ...	713	1,404	1·82
2 Mr. J. Ross ...	663	1,461	2·20
3 Mr. R. Turner (Roan Prince)...	719	1,468	2·04
4 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Blue Boy) ...	688	1,592	2·31
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Midnight) ...	1,072	1,805	1·68
2 Mr. T. B. Earle (Don) ...	1,077	1,915	1·77
3 Earl of Durham (Johnnie) ...	1,040	1,929	1·85
(Heifers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Honey Bee) ...	702	1,442	2·05
2 Mr. J. Ross ...	647	1,196	1·60
3 Miss A. de Rothschild (Waddesdon Primrose) ...	683	1,414	2·07
4 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Ruby Lass ...	723	1,374	1·90
(Heifers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. E. T. Learner (Luxury) ...	1,007	1,611	1·59
2 Sir J. Swinburne ...	942	1,501	1·69
3 Earl of Durham (Rose) ...	978	1,678	1·71
4 Mr. G. F. Stanford (Bluebell)...	1,053	1,748	1·65
KERRYS AND DEXTERS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 H.M. the King ...	676	938	1·38
2 H.M. the King ...	599	820	—
3 Duchess of Devonshire (Compton Durban) ...	599	672.	—
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jim)	1,024	1,180	1·15
2 Duchess of Newcastle (Hardwick Jack)... ...	1,023	1,243	1·06
3 Duchess of Newcastle (Compton Dobbin)... ...	974	1090	1·11
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Jill)	1,041	930	0·94
2 Mr. Baldomero de Bertodano (Cowbridge Little Nell)...	851	882	1·03
3 Sir W. Gilbey (La Mancha Braw Las) ...	655	685	1·04
SMALL CROSS-BREDS.			
(Steers not exceeding 2 years.)			
1 H.M. the King ...	545	869	1·59
2 Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Charlie) ...	698	1,046	1·51
3 Sir W. Gilbey ...	663	974	1·46
(Steers over 2 and not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Larry) ...	961	1,020	1·05
2 Mr. M. Rogers (Snowball)...	1,060	1,180	1·11
(Heifers not exceeding 3 years.)			
1 Mr. R. W. Hudson (Danesfield Little Jap) ...	689	1,011	1·46
2 Mr. Baldomero de Bertodano (La Mancha Dodo) ...	1,060	1,245	1·17
3 Mr. R. G. Nash (Lucan Lily) ...	877	1,253	1·42

SHEEP.

The sheep entry was, in the aggregate, slightly less than last year, but the merit of the exhibition as a whole was first class. The leading pens of the several breeds are dealt with below under the several headings.

Leicesters.

This section was arranged as in previous years, viz., for Leicesters or Border Leicesters, but none of the latter were exhibited. Mr. E. F. Jordan, with two first-class pens of wether lambs, took first and second honours. These were well developed lambs. They handled well, and were ripe. Mrs. R. Perry Herrick was third and reserve with a couple of very fine pens of lambs. In the wether class, Mr. Jordan was first and second again. His pen of wethers was of a very superior type and character, quite one of the best pens we have seen in this section for some years. The Breed Cup and its r.n. went to the two first-prize pens of Mr. E. F. Jordan.

Cotswolds.

Mr. W. T. Garne was the only exhibitor in these classes. He sent four pens, two in each class, and why it is we do not know, but whether it was a mistake in booking the award, or whether it was by oversight on the part of the judge, there is no question but that the better pen in each of the classes was placed r.n. and not first, as should have been the case. The best pen was very typical of their breed, well fed, well brought out, and of good quality.

Lincolns.

The lamb class was a very good one, and even in its merit and quality. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons won first honours here with a very choice pen indeed, having grand backs and specially good flesh. Mr. Henry Dudding took second honours with a level, evenly matched, and most typical pen of sheep; but that pen which filled the third place in the award list, exhibited by Mr. W. B. Swallow, had hard luck in not at any rate going to the second place. The wether class found, as have been the case for the past three years, a pen from Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons at its head. This was a very superior pen indeed. They were wonderfully perfect in type, formation, and flesh, as their subsequent success undoubtedly proved; especially fine and typical pen from Mr. H. Dudding took the second prize. They were a choice pen of sheep and well matched. Mr. F. Ward, whose entry into the Smithfield contest is welcome, secured the third prize for a very nice pen of typical sheep. They were hardly so heavy as some of the other pens, but they did credit to the flock from whence they came. Messrs. Dean were winners of the Breed Cup with their first prize pen of wethers, and reserve for the same honour with their pen of lambs.

Kent or Romney Marsh.

The lamb class was one of very superior merit all through. The winning pen that came from Mr. T. Wotton's flock was of special quality and high merit, and in awarding to it the Breed Cup the judges recognised its high merit and quality. The second prize went to a very evenly matched and well-fed and typical pen from Mr. H. Rigden's flock. These lambs were of a very superior quality indeed, and they were made r.n. for the Breed Cup. The wether class was one of superior merit. Mr. J. E. Quested won first honours; some question the correctness of this award, but the great scale and size of these sheep, coupled with their grand appearance when out of the pen, offered full justification for their position in the class. Mr. F. Neame took second honours. His was a pen of very superior merit, good in their flesh, well let down, and even in type.

Devon Long Woolled Breeds.

This section has been sub-divided since last year, and the above breed allotted a single class for its wether lambs. There were four entries, and Mr. F. White won first and second prizes with two pens of specially good merit. The other section was for the South Devons, and in its lamb class only one entry was made, but this was a pen of very special quality and high merit, owned by Mr. A. C. Hall, the merit of which was sufficient to justify its winning the Breed Cup.

Cheviots.

Mr. J. McDowall had the class for lambs to himself. His two entries were of a very special merit, and brought out clearly how much more early this breed can be developed by judicious management and proper treatment. The same exhibitor was first and second in the wether class, and also secured the Breed Cup.

Mountain Breed.

Mr. J. MacDowall won in the lamb class with a very deep fleshed pen of lambs, but Sir J. Gilmour, who was second, had probably the better pen of the two. The last-named exhibitor, however, led in the wether class with a specially good pen. These came to hand well, and thoroughly deserved the Breed Cup that they won.

Southdowns.

This year's entry was not so large as it has been during several other years. There was a slight falling off in the wether lamb class in respect to the number of competitors, and also in that for the wethers. The winning pen in the lamb class came from his Majesty the King's lot at Sandringham. This pen were wide and deep in carcase, and although there is room for exception to be taken as to the correctness of the award from the breed standpoint, it can be said that two of the lambs had really first-class carcases of mutton, the third one being not so good a handler. The better pen in the class was that which came in for second honours. How a pen of this merit, with its grand flesh and neat weight, could be relegated to a secondary position is a matter of surprise. Mr. Adeane, who owned the pen, has good reason to consider that he had hard luck in this award. Another pen from the same breeder of rather more scale, but not so choice in touch, secured the r.n. The Duke of Devonshire, with a lengthy and well-brought-out pen, took third honours, whilst the extra fourth prize, awarded on account of the merit of the class, went to Mrs. Montefiore's pen, a pen that certainly met with no more than it deserved, for we found on examination some really good flesh and very nice character. These lambs were hardly up to their best; had they been so, higher honours would undoubtedly have fallen to their lot.

The wether class was a very good one indeed. His Majesty the King secured in it a very notable success. He was first and second for wethers of very prime quality, and not only did his Majesty secure the Breed Cup, but its reserve, an honour seldom achieved. The third prize pen came from the Duke of Richmond's flock. This pen was of the choicest quality, and had the judges adhered to the old Southdown dictum, their neater weight and firmer flesh might have taken them to the top. The Earl of Ellesmere was r.n. for a very nice pen indeed, and the Duke of Devonshire's h.c. pen was well worthy of the notice it secured.

Hampshire Downs.

No breed, taken as a whole, made a better, more typical, or truer representation of its characteristics and quality than the breed now under review. Its lamb class was of very superior merit, and in its winning pen, which came from Mr. James Flower's flock, we found one of the best pens seen for some time. Another pen from the same flock had to be content with third honours. Doubtless the award was a correct one, because this pen had lost its bloom and touch to a slight degree, which accounted for their position. Mr. T. F. Buxton came in for second honours, with a very choice pen indeed. This pen was better under hand than it looked. Sir W. G. Pearce had fourth honours with a wide, deep, and good pen of lambs; they handled well, and came out of the pen well, but they need rather fuller development in the hind quarter, and possibly would have been improved with slightly more length. An h.c. acknowledged the merit of a second entry from this flock, and Mr. H. C. Stephens took r.n. with another choice pen of good merit and type.

In the wether class Mr. T. F. Buxton's pen fully deserved their position at the head of this fine class of sheep. A second entry from and type was first-class. A second entry from the same flock secured a well-deserved h.c. The Marquis of Winchester, who took second honours, is to be congratulated upon the high merit, type, and quality of his very fine pen. Third honours went to a very choice pen from Mr. James Flower's flock, a pen that had outstanding merit from the breed point of view, but were not quite so deep in the flesh as the leading pen. Mr. James Flower's pen of lambs easily won the Breed Cup, and the r.n. went to Mr. T. F. Buxton's wethers.

Suffolks.

The Suffolk breeders were well represented at this show, better than was the case last year. The lamb class, taken as a whole, was a very creditable one indeed. Mr. H. E. Smith secured the first prize with a pen of well-developed lambs that handled well. Mr. D. Abbott Green had to be content with second honours; some would have given them the first place. Had this been so a thoroughly good and well-fed pen would have occupied the leading position.

Small in number but great in quality is a brief but true description of the three excellent pens of wether sheep that made up the class, the first and second honours in which went to Mr. H. E. Smith, for six grand typical Suffolk sheep, the third prize pen being awarded to a well brought pen from Mr. W. G. Hale's flock. The Breed Cup and its r.n. went to Mr. H. E. Smith, the pen of wethers taking the Cup.

Shropshires.

A much better entry was made by this breed than last year. We are pleased to observe that breeders of the Shropshire sheep are realising that it is necessary to secure, at the premier fat stock show of the world, a fully representative entry of their well-known breed.

Mr. R. P. Cooper won first prize in the wether class with a very well-fed pen of sheep, with good quality. He was, however, closely pressed by those two excellent pens from the Executors of P. L. Mills's flock, that under hand gave great satisfaction and disclosed a wealth of flesh and first-class conformation. They were second and third.

The wether class had two entries from the well-known Ruddington flock. These were first and third. They were choice pens of the highest merit, especially the winning pen that secured the Breed Cup, the r.n. for which went to Mr. Cooper's pen of wether lambs. The last-named exhibitor, with a fine pen of sheep, not so evenly matched as the winners, but of very good quality, took second honours.

Oxford Downs.

A small, but very select entry represented this breed. The winning pen of lambs came from Mr. W. H. Loveli's flock. They were good sheep, deep in the flesh, and handled well, but hardly typical of the breed they represented. A better pen by far, from the breed point of view, and quite as good in the flesh, was that which took second honours for Mr. H. W. Stilgoe. Mr. J. T. Hobbs had a couple of entries, but, like many ram breeders who have large demand for rams, had been unable to spare for his wether pens lambs of outstanding merit. However, these pens, which were third and r.n., were fully typical of their breed, and of fine quality. These merits were distinctly seen from that very grand pen of wethers with which Mr. T. Hobbs won first in the next class, and took the Breed Cup of his breed. Miss A. de Rothschild exhibited a fine pen of wether sheep, well fed and evenly matched. These took second in their class, the r.n. for the Breed Cup going to the winning pen of lambs.

Ryelands.

There was only one class offered for this old-established breed, i.e., for wethers. Mr. W. T. Barneby was first and second with two pens of choice wethers, most typical of their breed, and having thoroughly good flesh. Mr. F. E. Gough had to be content with r.n., but his pen, too, was of high merit.

Dorset Horns.

The lamb class for this breed had a very good entry indeed, and the competition was a keen one, Mr. James Toop taking first and third honours with two pens of very superior merit. In fact, the winning pen, to which also went the Breed Cup, was a pen above the average of those that have represented this breed for several years past. The third-prize pen were not quite so good handlers, but still a pen of merit. The same exhibitor was the only contestant in the class for wethers, his pen winning first prize, and taking the r.n. for the Breed Cup.

Cross Bred Sheep.

The class for the lambs in this section was a particularly good one, and the winning pen was one of exceptional merit. Its merit, early maturity, and great development indicated most successful feeding and management. Mr. T. Rush, who owned this pen, has won many notable successes in former years, but this pen was certainly one of the best he has exhibited. His second entry came in for h.c. Second and third prizes were won by two pens from Mr. E. Henty, both of which were square and deep carcase sheep, with very choice flesh and good touch; but the fourth-prize pen from Mr. James Toop could have with justice taken at least third, if not second honours. The latter gentleman was c. for his second pen, and Mrs. Montefiore took a similar honour for her pen, leaving the r.n. for the Earl of Ellesmere, whose pen was brought out in very fine form, with good flesh. Mr. H. C. Stephen's pen, which won leading honours at Birmingham, was accounted by the judges to be unworthy of even a c.: a strange contrast of opinion, and one that cannot be justified, for the two pens which represented Mr. Stephen's flock in this class were pens of undoubted merit and exceptional quality, but not of a cross that was appreciated by the judges.

The wether class was headed again by another of those fine pens sent by Mr. T. Rush, whose second entry received third honours, and might have even gone to the second place. these pens had splendid flesh, and plenty of it. Mr. W. W. Robinson, who was second and r.n. for two pens, was certainly fortunate in securing the former prize; for whilst his pen had great development and depth of flesh, it did not handle with that firmness and evenness that the third prize pen from Mr. Rush did.

The Scotch Cross wether lambs had for their winner a well-fed and good pen of butchers' sheep, the same breeder having the r.n. Mr. A. Smith, who exhibited a cross-bred Lincoln Black-faced

pen, had a pen of marvellously good lambs of very fine quality.

The same competitors competed in the wether class for this section, and their position in the award list was as stated above. The Breed Cup for Cross-breds went to Mr. T. Rush's excellent pen of wether lambs, and the r.n. to the same breeder's pen of wethers.

Champion Prizes.

The contests for the champion prizes were watched with considerable interest. That for the Long Woolled section went, with general approval, to Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons' grand pen of Lincoln wethers, and the r.n., with equal approval, fell to that first-class pen of Lincoln wethers from Mr. E. F. Jordan's flock.

The Short Woolled champion contest was a much tougher fight, but it resulted this year as it did last year, in the King's pen of Southdown wethers, being preferred before the pen of grand wether lambs from Mr. James Flower's Hampshire Down flock. These, despite their merit, early maturity, and great development had to take the r.n., a position Mr. Flower has occupied for two successive years.

In the contest for the Prince of Wales's challenge cup, his Majesty the King won for the second year in succession with his pen of Southdown wethers, a notable achievement, and one that is not often accomplished. Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons came in for the r.n., making the

Sir W. Corbet's Steer, Winner of the Cup for the Best Rel-Polled, and First in the Class for Steers of the breed over 2 and not above 8 years old. Age, 2 yrs. 10 months 4 days. Weight, 14 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

third time that these gentlemen have occupied that position during the past three years.

Below we give our usual table showing the average daily gain of the prize winning sheep.

Breed and Owner.	Age. Days.	Weight. lbs.	Average Daily Gain. lbs.
LEICESTERS OR BORDER-LEICESTERS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. E. F. Jordan	242	506	2·09
2 Mr. E. F. Jordan	242	454	1·87
3 Mrs. S. Perry Herrick	242	432	1·78
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. E. F. Jordan	607	815	1·34
2 Mr. E. F. Jordan	607	835	1·37
3 Mrs. S. Perry Herrick	607	814	1·34
COTSWOLDS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. W. T. Garne	294	580	1·97
2 Mr. W. T. Garne	294	574	1·95
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. W. T. Garne	628	869	1·38
2 Mr. W. T. Garne	645	976	1·51
LINCOLNS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons	291	679	2·33
2 Mr. H. Dudding	294	625	2·12
3 Mr. W. B. Swallow	280	632	2·25
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons	652	1,042	1·59
2 Mr. H. Dudding	647	1,036	1·60
3 Mr. F. Ward	668	939	1·40
KENT OR ROMNEY MARSH.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. T. Wotton	256	527	2·05
2 Mr. H. Rigden	242	445	1·83
3 Mr. F. Neame	242	457	1·88
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. J. E. Quested	607	783	1·28
2 Mr. F. Neame	607	766	1·26
3 Mr. T. Wotton	614	894	1·45
DEVON LONGWOOLED.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. F. White	273	541	1·99
2 Mr. F. White	273	582	2·13
3 A. C. Skinner	287	547	1·90
SOUTH DEVON LONGWOOLLED.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. A. E. Hall	287	684	2·33
CHEVIOTS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. J. McDowall	242	456	1·88
(Over 12 months.)			
1 Mr. J. McDowall	607	836	1·37
2 Mr. J. McDowall	607	764	1·25
3 Mr. J. D. Fletcher	917	494	0·53
MOUNTAIN-BRED.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. J. McDowall	242	389	1·60
2 Sir J. Gilmour	226	374	1·65
(Over 12 months.)			
1 Sir J. Gilmour	592	621	1·04
2 Mr. J. McDowall	607	596	0·99
3 Mr. A. Smith	607	566	0·93
SOUTHDOWNS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 H.M. the King	273	474	1·73
2 Mr. C. R. W. Adeane	303	421	1·38
3 Duke of Devonshire	287	413	1·44
4 Mrs. Montefiore	287	426	1·24
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 H.M. the King	638	618	1·06
2 H.M. the King	638	618	1·96
3 Duke of Richmond	614	562	0·91
HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. J. Flower	310	641	2·06
2 Mr. T. F. Buxton	310	643	2·07
3 Mr. J. Flower	310	593	1·91
4 Sir W. G. Pearce	313	628	2·07
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. T. Fowell Buxton	675	871	1·29
2 Marquis of Winchester	679	882	1·29
3 Mr. J. Flower	675	864	1·28
SUFFOLKS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. H. E. Smith	287	632	2·20
2 Mr. D. A. Green	303	567	1·87
3 Mr. F. Traylen	299	530	1·77
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. H. E. Smith	653	931	1·42
2 Mr. H. E. Smith	653	836	1·32
3 Mr. G. Stale	638	812	1·27
SHROPSHIRES.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. R. P. Cooper	273	482	1·73
2 Executors late Mr. P. L. Mills	273	503	1·84
3 Executors late Mr. P. L. Mills	273	491	1·79
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Executors late Mr. P. L. Mills	638	776	1·21
2 Mr. R. P. Cooper	638	846	1·32
3 Executors late Mr. P. L. Mills	638	772	1·21
OXFORD DOWNS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. W. H. Lovell	303	636	2·09
2 Mr. H. W. Stilgoe	310	599	1·93
2 Mr. J. T. Hobbs	310	536	1·72
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. J. T. Hobbs	675	1,008	1·39
2 Miss H. de Rothschild	659	757	1·14
RYELANDS.			
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. W. T. Barneby	614	666	1·08
2 Mr. W. T. Barneby	614	634	1·03
DORSET.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. J. Toop	347	654	1·88
2 Sir A. Cope	345	601	1·73
3 Mr. J. Toop	347	536	1·68
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Sir A. Cope	703	573	0·81
CROSSBREDS.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. T. Rush	303	712	2·34
2 Mr. E. Henty	327	550	1·68
3 Mr. E. Henty	327	550	1·68
4 Mr. J. Toop	303	576	1·90
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. T. Rush	660	883	1·33
2 Mr. W. Walter Robinson	638	914	1·43
3 Mr. T. Rush	648	824	1·29
First pairs from Cheviot, Scotch and Mountain Breeds.			
(Under 12 months.)			
1 Mr. J. McDowall	242	514	2·12
2 Mr. A. Smith	263	447	1·69
(Over 12 and under 24 months.)			
1 Mr. J. McDowall	607	829	1·36
2 Mr. A. Smith	623	737	1·16

PIGS.

The members of the porcine race this year nearly filled the Minor Hall. But the ventilation was so well arranged that little discomfort was experienced either by the animals or the visitors. The judges got over their work in good time, and there was general satisfaction at the awards. It is very evident that the Small Blacks have now become a breed in name only. But slightly more interest is taken in the Small Whites. This year there were two competitors, and the regulation line, Hon. D. P. Bouverie, was broken up. In the class for small breeds for pigs not exceeding nine months old, Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield was first with nice deep youngsters, so well fed that they could scarcely see out, but they had nice coats and were turned out smartly. This pen also secured the Breed Cup. The Hon. D. P. Bouverie was put second with a very even pair, scarcely so good in their coats. In the older class the Hon. D. P. Bouverie had no opposition, and so he was put first and reserve. They were very even, and had wealthy coats.

The Middle Whites were seen to advantage in the younger class. Here the first prize and the Breed Cup went to Mr. J. A. Fricker with a fine pen of lovely quality and great length, though they were somewhat closely pushed by Mr. T. Simpson Jay, that had length and substance. Mr. Alfred Brown was third, mainly because he has evidently been trying to strengthen the profitable at the expense of the nonprofitable parts of the pigs, and they were not quite so even in consequence. His Majesty the King was reserved with a pen that were not quite in their bloom. There was one more entry in the older class, where Mr. Fricker again scored with two fine pigs, and yet which when out, were not quite a pair, and this accounted for their being placed as reserve for, instead of being winners of the Breed Cup. Second went to capital examples of bacon sent up by Mr. Alfred Brown; H.M. the King being placed third with well-grown picks that lacked finish. The reserve went to non-matchers sent by Mr. E. Henry Loyd. The Hon. D. P. Bouverie was highly commended with a pair originating from Coleshill Dandy and Coleshill Jewel 2nd.

The Large Whites were not numerous, but good, and there is a tendency to suppress the heavy jowls. Messrs. Wherry, of Lincolnshire, certainly afforded a sit-up for some of the others who came on from Birmingham to win. They, in the young class, sent a neat, even-matching pair that, though well fed, yet contained a goodly proportion of the meat that the public like to pay for. Mr. Alfred Brown was a very close runner-up in this class, his pigs being full of meat, and Mr. Arthur Hiscock's reserve number made up three as good pigs of this breed as has been seen at Smithfield for some time. The older section consisted of a meagre entry of two only. There was no mistaking the merits of Mr. Arthur Hiscock's pen, however. They were long, straight, and with deep, nicely turned hams, and were declared winners of the Breed Cup. Mr. R. A. Ayre, Watford, sent a meritorious pair that might have been better remunerated than with the reserve number; but the entries did not admit.

Considering the amount of push that has been put into the Large Blacks these did not make large classes by any means, and the tendency is now for a somewhat shorter pig of more evenness throughout. The first prize in the young class went to a very smart pair sent by Captain S. E. D. Webb. They were of fair length, nicely set up, and full of quality. They secured the Breed Cup. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark was second with a pen more of the Suffolk type, nice and thick; and he had it all his own way in the next class, there being no other exhibitor. It was a pity there was not, as his pigs stood well and were placed reserve for the Breed Cup.

Berkshires did not hide their light beneath a bushel, or keep their heads buried in a pig's trough, though it was evident that they had done complete justice to the latter, and both as regards numbers and quality they constituted the feature of the show. In the young class there were thirteen entries, to win in such company was meritorious indeed, and it speaks well for the level headed management of the Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum that they could put in the pen two such splendid exhibits as they did, perfect as to points, they nearly constituted the buthcher's ideal as to flesh, and, after securing first and third, the former pen won the Breed Cup and the two championships of the pig classes. Mr. J. A. Fricker was placed second in this class with very even-matching pigs that ran the winners very close. The fourth prize went to Mr. Nathaniel Benjafield's exhibit. This pair had nice heads and grand backs; and the reserve went to the Earl of Carnarvon, whose pigs had evidently been done a bit too well. Mr. Arthur Hiscock's highly commended pen was evidently close on the age limit, they being entered as being eight months four weeks old.

By a singular coincidence the older class of Berkshires also totalled thirteen entries, and superstition was not justified, as amongst these the reserve championship of the show was placed, this being secured by two superb pigs exhibited by Prince Christian. They were brought out in the pink of condition, and were as matching as could be, and which were placed reserve champions. Lord Calthorpe's herd was well represented by some of the Duchess of Devonshire's strain, and that this selection was justified was shown by the fact that her Grace secured third prize. There was a considerable

set back to fourth place, which was filled by Mr. Laurence Currie's two, that did not place themselves to the least advantage when out before the judge. Mr. Alfred Brown, the whole of whose exhibits this year lack that grand bloom so intimately associated with this herd on previous occasions, was r. and h.c

Much was expected from the Tamworths after their extraordinary success at Birmingham, but they made exceptionally small classes, there being only Mr. R. Ibbotson's entry in the young class. These were of good quality. But the same exhibitor's entries in the older classes were much better. Here was placed first and also best for the breed cup with his Birmingham champion pen that are very lengthy, of good colour, and full of lean meat, he was also awarded second prize and r. for the breed cup for another excellent pen. Third prize went to Mr. H. C. Stephens Cholderton with a pair of growing pigs that needed a bit more condition.

The cross-bred classes, as usual, attracted attention, but, taking them as a whole, these were scarcely up to the form of the past two shows. There were only seven entries in the younger class, where the prize went to Mr. Fricker's Middle White Berkshire cross. These pigs were of grand quality. Mr. Alfred Brown's second prize pen, Berkshire Large White cross, were evidently weighers, but not quite so evenly modelled as the others. Mr. Arthur Hiscock's third prize was also of Berkshire Large White cross, but they were rather coarser. The r. went to the Earl of Carnarvon with a Middle White-Berkshire cross, the h.c. exhibit of Mr. H. C. Stephens being a Berkshire-Tamworth cross. There was a most meagre entry in the older cross bred class. Here Mr. Alfred Brown came out in his old style with a well-finished pen. They were shapely, they were weighers, and they should cut well. They were a Berkshire-Middle White cross, and took the breed cup easily. Captain S. E. D. Webb was put second with a Middle White-Berkshire cross that were also of good quality, the third prize going to Mr. George Atkins's Large White-Berkshire cross.

It is in the single pig classes where the breeds rub one another. In the class for single pig of any White breed not exceeding twelve months old Mr. John Manerson came in with a very fine specimen of the Large White bred by Mr. T. Simpson Jay. Messrs. Wherry were second, also with a Large White, of their own breeding, the r. also going to a specimen of the same breed exhibited by Mr. Arthur Hiscock. Mr. A. Brown's h.c. pig was a Middle White, as was also his Majesty the King's c. exhibit. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark was again the victor in the Black breeds the Middlesex Committee again leading with their Berkshires, Mr. Ibbotson also retaining his supremacy in the Tamworth section. There were but few entrants in the cross-bred class, Mr. A. Brown being first and r. with Berkshire-Middle White cross. Mr. Henry Grant was second with Berkshire-Tamworth cross, Mr. George Atkins' exhibit being a Large White Berkshire cross.

Carcase Classes.

The Carcase Classes were well filled, and produced good competition. The championship prize for the best specimen of beef in the three classes for cattle was awarded to Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher, of Rosehaugh, Avoch, for the carcase of a cross-bred heifer, 1 year 9 months old, bred by the exhibitor, which gained also the first prize in its class. The live weight of the animal was 11 cwt. 15 lb., and the weight of the carcase 101 st. 4 lb. Next in order of merit was placed the carcase of a Welsh steer, 2 years 11 months old, shown by Mr. Robert Hughes, of Bron-y-Maen, Llanfairfechan, which, in addition to being in reserve for the championship, was the first prize winning exhibit in the class for steers between two and three years old. The live weight in this instance was 13 cwt. 14 lb., and the weight of the carcase 119 st. In the class for steers under two years old, the first prize was awarded to Mr. R. M. Greaves, of Portmadoc, for the carcase of a Welsh steer. In the other classes for steers the prizes were awarded first to Mr. Hughes for the Welsh steer already mentioned. In the heifer class a cross-bred exhibit shown by the Duchess of Newcastle was placed next to the champion.

The champion exhibit of mutton was the carcase of a Suffolk wether, 8¾ months old, bred and shown by Mr. H. Grant, of Great Clacton, Essex. The live weight of the animal was 127 lb., and the carcase weighed 81 lb. This exhibit won also the first prize in an excellent class for wether lambs of any pure Short-woolled breed. In reserve for the champion was placed the body of a cross bred wether, 20 months old shown by Mr. F. N. Bocock, of Newmarket, which had a live weight of 178 lb. and a carcase weight of 109 lb. The prizes in a class for the carcases of weather lambs of any pure Long woolled breed under 12 months old were gained by the exhibits of Sir John Gilmour and Mr. W. Kennedy, both Scottish breeders.

The carcases of nearly fifty pigs were shown. In the class for pigs of a live weight not exceeding 100 lb. the prize-winning exhibits were those of Mr. N. Benjafield, of Shaftesbury; Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son; Mr. H. Grant, of Great Clacton; and Mr. J. A. Fricker, of Mere, Wilts. In that for pigs of a live weight between 100 lb. and 220 lb., the first prize was won by an exhibit contributed by the Duchess of Devonshire, the second by one shown by the authorities of the Middlesex County Asylum, the third by Mr. R. Brown, of Southampton, and the fourth by Messrs. Sanders Spencer and Son. In the remaining class for pigs of a live weight above 220 lb. and not exceeding 300 lb. the prize-winning exhibitors were Mr. W. A. Dix, of Chertsey, and the Committee of the Middlesex Asylum.

Table Poultry.

The exhibit of table poultry was slightly below the number shown last year. A high level of excellence was obtained, and in most of the classes the judges bestowed commendation upon several of the exhibits which did not gain prizes. The cup for the best pair of pure-bred fowls was awarded to Mr. W. S. Hett, who secured also the cups for the best pairs of cross-bred fowls and farmyard fowls. Mr. Ben Taylor was awarded the cup for the best exhibit of ducks, and Mr. Frederick Read that for the best geese.

The cup for turkeys was won by Lord Rothschild. Among other winners of prizes for table poultry were the Duke of Devonshire, Sir Arthur Hazlerigg, and Lady Evelyn Cotterell.

Judges.

CATTLE.

Devons, South Devons, and Sussex.—Alfred C. Skinner, Pound Farm, Bishops Lydeard, Alfred Stanford, Eatons, Steyning, Sussex.

Herefords and Red Polled.—Rees Keene, Llanvihangel Court, Roiget, Newport, Mon., A. D. Bruce, Estate Office, Elvetham Park, Winchfield.

Shorthorns and Cross Breds.—James Peter, Berkeley Castle Estate Office, Berkeley, Glos., C. H. Eady, The Manor, Lockinge, Wantage.

Aberdeen Angus and Galloways.—William Whyte, Hatton of Fussie, Glamis, N.B., James Biggar, Grange Farm, Dalbeattie, N. B.

Welsh and Highland.—J. W. Harris, Pilrhoth, Llanstephan Road, Carmarthen, Robert Macdiarmid, Castles, Lochawe, Argyll.

Kerry, Dexter, and Small Cross-Bred Cattle.—F. A. Herdern, Buxted, Sussex, G. F. Roumieu, Bethune House, Farnham, Surrey.

£25 Cup, £50 Cups, Champion Plate, and King's Challenge Cup.—Richard Stratton, The Duffryn, Newport, Mon., W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill, Perth.

SHEEP.

Leicesters, Border Leicesters, Cotswolds, and Lincolns.—William Marshall, Cottam House, Driffield, Henry Smith, The Grove, Cropwell Butler, Nottingham.

Kentish or Romney Marsh and Devons.—Alfred Amos, Wye, Ashford, Kent, William Tuckett, Stockleigh Pomeroy, near Crediton.

Cheviots and Mountain.—William Davidson, Cornhill Farm, Cornhill-on Tweed, Simon Linton, Ookwood, Selkirk.

Southdowns and Shropshires.—Hugh Penfold, Moat Farm, Cornhill-on-Tweed, A. S. Berry, Church Farm,

CARCASE COMPETITIONS.

CATTLE.

	Live Weight.			Carcase Weight. stones.		Placed by Judges alive.	Carcase
	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	8 lbs.	lbs.		
Class 89. STEER not exceeding 2 years old.							
Mr. R. M. Greaves (Welsh)	12	0	2	109	1	1st	1st
Sir O. Mosley (Crossbred)	11	[illegible]	14	104	3	2nd	2nd
Mr. G. Young (Crossbred)	10	2	15	98	4	3rd	3rd
Mr. J. G. Young (Crossbred)	10	3	0	63	5	R.	4th
Sir W. Corbet (Red Polled)	9	0	1	80	6	—	R.
Class 90. STEER above 2 and not over 3 years old.							
Mr. R. Hughes (Welsh)	12	0	14	119	0	1st	1st & R. Champion
Mr. G. Young (Crossbred)	13	0	2	116	0	—	2nd
Sir W. Gilbey (Crossbred)	9	0	0	79	3	2nd	3rd
Mr. R. M. Greaves (Welsh)	14	3	4	131	7	3rd	4th
Mr. J. G. Young (Crossbred)	11	1	25	102	[illegible]	—	R.
Class 91. HEIFER not exceeding 3 years old.							
Mr. J. D. Fletcher (Cross bred)	11	0	15	101	4	1st	1st & Champion
Duchess of Newcastle (Crossbred)	10	1	12	94	0	2nd	2nd
Sir W. Corbet (Red Polled)	11	1	7	92	7	—	3rd
Mr. R. W. Greaves (Welsh)	12	1	[illegible]	110	0	—	4th
Lord Treigar (Crossbred)	12	1	25	116	0	—	R.
Mr. J. G. Young (Crossbred)	10	2	10	92	3	3rd	—
Mr. G. Young (Crossbred)	9	1	22	83	4	R.	—

SHEEP.

Class 92. ONE LONG-WOOLED WETHER LAMB not exceeding 12 months old.							
Sir J. Gilmour (Blackfaced)	0	3	12	7	6	—	1st
Mr. W. Kennedy (Cheviot)	1	0	13	9	3	1st	2nd
Class 93. ONE LONG-WOOLED WETHER SHEEP over 12 and not exceeding							
Mr. J. Douglas (Cheviot)	1	0	7	10	1	R.	1st
Mr. R. Graham (Blackfaced)	1	0	9	9	4	3rd	2nd
Mr. W. Kennedy (Cheviot)	1	1	9	12	3	2nd	3rd
Sir J. Gilmour (Blackfaced)	1	2	20	16	1	1st	—
Class 94. ONE SHORT-WOOLED WETHER LAMB not over 12 months old.							
Mr. H. Grant (Suffolk)	1	0	15	10	1	—	1st & Champion
Sir A. G. Hazlerigg (Suffolk)	1	1	8	11	0	—	2nd
Mr. F. N. Bocock (Suffolk)	1	0	27	11	1	—	3rd
Messrs. W. Vivers and Sons (Suffolk)	1	0	23	10	1	—	4th
Mrs. Montefiore (Southdown)	0	3	21	8	2	—	R. & V. H. C.
Mr. J. Webb (Southdown)	0	3	12	7	4	—	H. C.
Mr. S. Dawson (Suffolk)	1	0	26	10	6	—	C.
Mr. J. W. Eagle (Suffolk)	1	1	13	11	7	—	C.
Mr. T. Simpson Jay (Hampshire Down)	1	1	23	12	6	3rd	C.
Mr. S. R. Sherwood (Suffolk)	1	0	19	9	5	—	C.
Mr. G. Hall (Suffolk)	1	2	6	13	7	1st	—
Mr. C. Cousins (Suffolk)	1	2	1	13	3	2nd	—
Messrs. S. and F. Traylen	1	0	15	9	5	R.	—
Class 95. ONE SHORT-WOOLED WETHER SHEEP over 12 and not above 24 months old.							
Mr. J. Webb (Southdown)	1	1	2	11	7	—	1st
Mr. T. F. Buxton (Hampshire Down)	1	2	9	14	2	3rd	2nd
Capt. R. P. Croft (Southdown)	1	0	23	11	1	—	3rd
Duchess of Newcastle (Southdown)	1	1	12	12	4	R.	4th
Mr. W. Kennedy (Suffolk)	1	3	5	17	2	1st	—
Sir W. G. Pearce (Hampshire Down)	1	2	5	14	6	2nd	—
Class 96. ONE CROSS-BRED WETHER LAMB not above 12 months old.							
Mr. F. N. Bocock (Suffolk-Cheviot)	1	0	10	9	2	2nd	1st
Mr. W. Kennedy (Wensleydale-Mountain Cross)	1	1	0	10	6	1st	2nd
Mr. C. T. A. Robertson (Suffolk-Cheviot)	1	0	24	10	1	3rd	3rd
Mr. D. W. Crichton (Suffolk-Cheviot)	0	3	22	8	2	—	4th
Sir W. Gilbey (Southdown-Suffolk)	1	0	16	10	1	R.	—
Class 97. ONE CROSSED WETHER SHEEP over 12 and not above 24 months old,							
Mr. F. N. Bocock (Suffolk-Cheviot)	1	2	10	13	5	3rd	1st & R. Champion
Mrs. S. Perry-Herrick (Suffolk-Oxford Down)	1	2	25	14	7	R.	2nd
Mr. R. Graham (Wensleydale-Blackfaced)	1	1	9	12	1	—	3rd
Messrs. W. Vivers and Sons (Suffolk-Cheviot)	1	1	3	11	2	—	4th
Mr. C. T. A. Robertson (Leicester-Blackface)	1	2	0	13	5	1st	R.
Mr. W. Kennedy (Suffolk-Wensleydale and Mountain Cross)	2	0	11	20	4	2nd	R.

PIGS.

Class 98. ONE PIG not exceeding 100 lbs. live weight.							
Mr. N. Benjafield (Berkshire)	0	3	3	9	0	—	1st
Messrs. Sanders, Spencer & Son (Middle White)	0	3	1	7	7	—	2nd
Mr. H. Grant (Berkshire)	0	3	11	8	6	2nd	3rd
Mr. J. A. Fricker (Berkshire)	0	3	7	8	0	1st	4th
Mr. G. Attkins (Middle White)	0	2	27	7	6	—	R.
Messrs. W. H. & E. Wherry (Large White)	0	3	1	7	6	3rd	—
Class 99. ONE PIG over 100 and not exceeding 220 lbs. live weight.							
Duchess of Devonshire (Berkshire)	1	1	2	14	2	—	1st & Champion.
Visiting Committee Middlesex County Asylum (Berkshire)	1	2	10	17	6	—	2nd & R. Champion
Mr. A. Brown (Cross Bred)	1	2	13	17	0	—	3rd
Messrs. Sanders, Spencer & Son (Large White)	1	1	21	15	2	—	4th
Mr. H. Grant (Berkshire)	1	3	12	21	5	2nd	R.
Mr. N. Benjafield (Berkshire)	1	3	2	20	5	1st	—
Class 100. ONE PIG above 220 lbs. live weight.							
Mr. W. A. Dix (Berkshire)	2	1	0	26	1	1st	1st
Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum (Berkshire)	2	0	2	23	1	—	2nd
Mr. N. Benjafield (Berkshire)	2	0	12	23	7	—	3rd
Mr. J. Neaverson (Large White)	2	0	18	25	0	—	4th
Mr. G. Attkins (Middle White)	2	1	9	26	5	—	R.
Duchess of Devonshire (Berkshire)	2	1	21	28	6	2nd	—
Mr. A. Brown (Crossbred)	2	0	26	24	1	3rd	—
Messrs. W. H. & E. Wherry (Large White)	2	1	22	28	0	4th	—

Whittington, Lichfield.

Hampshire Downs and Suffolks.—E. J. Bennett, Chilmark, Salisbury; J. T. Smith, Dodnash Priory, Bentley, Ipswich.

Oxford Downs and Cross Breds.—John M. Eady, Lincefield, Thorpe Malsor, Kettering; T. Blake Eagle, Manor Farm, Thrupp, Oxford.

Ryeland and Dorset.—David Price, Bulwark House, Brecon; John Kidner, Dodhill House, Taunton.

Champion Plates for Long and Short Woolled Sheep, and Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup.—William Thomas, The Hayes, Sully, Barry, Glamorganshire; Charles Coxon, Elford Park, Tamworth.

PIGS.

Small White or Small Black, Middle, and Large White Breeds.—John Parr, Ruddington, Nottingham; D. R. Daybell, Bottesford, Nottingham.

Large Blacks and Berkshires.—W. Townsend, The Manse, Stroud, Glos.; J. W. Kimber, Fyfield Wick, Abingdon.

Tamworths and Cross-Breds.—J. B. Hill, Smethwick Hall, Congleton; Anthony F. Nichol, Bradford, Belford.

Champion Plates, and Prince Christian's Challenge Cup.—Walter Crosland, Estate Office, Buscot Park, Faringdon; D. W. Philip, The Ashes, Whitacre, Birmingham.

CARCASE COMPETITION.

Cattle and Sheep.—R. Bright, Ivingtonbury, Leominster; C. Clark, Aberdeen House, Upper Clapton, N.E.

Pigs.—J. E. Cottrell, Abingdon, Berks; R. P. Venner, 97, Southampton Street, Reading.

Champion and Special Prizes.

Champion Plate (value 100 guineas), for the best beast in the Show: Col. Charles McInroy's Aberdeen Angus heifer Burn Bellona; r, H. M. the King's Shorthorn heifer Madeline.

The King's Challenge Cup for the best beast in the Show, bred by exhibitor: Col. McInroy's Burn Bellona; r, His Majesty's Madeline.

Best beast, not exceeding two years old, £25 silver cup, Mr. R. W. Hudson's cross-bred heifer Danesfield Honey Bee; r, Capt. H. L. Townshend's shorthorn steer, Cicero.

Best steer or ox, silver cup, value £50, Capt. A. Stirling's shorthorn Confidence; r, Capt. H. L. Townshend's shorthorn Cicero.

Best heifer, £50 silver cup, Col. McInroy's Burn Bellona; r, His aMjesty's Madeline.

BREED CUPS.

Devon: Earl of Rosebery's steer; r, His Majesty's steer.

Hereford: His Majesty's steer; r, Hon. F. G. Wynn's heifer.

Shorthorn: His Majesty's heifer; r, Capt. A. Stirling's steer.

Sussex: Mr. Gerald Warde's heifer; r, Mr. J. Aungier's steer.

Red-Polled: Sir Walter Corbet's steer; r, do. heifer.

Aberdeen Angus: Col. McInroy's heifer; r, Mr. Hudson's steer.

Galloway: Mr. David Brown's heifer; Mr. A. Palmer's steer.

Welsh: Mr. R. M. Greave's steer; Mr. W. Evan's steer.

Highland: Sir W. O. Dalgleish's heifer; r, His Majesty's steer.

Cross-Bred: Mr. R. W. Hudson's steer; r, Mr. E. I. Learner's heifer.

Kerry or Dexter: Mr. Hudson's steer; r, do. heifer.

Small Cross-Bred: Mr. Hudson's heifer; r, Mr. B. de Butodano's heifer.

SHEEP.

Plates and Cups.

The Prince of Wales's Challenge Cup for the best pen of three sheep or lambs, bred by exhibitor: His Majesty's Southdown sheep; r, Messrs. S. E. Dean and Sons' Lincoln sheep.

Best pen of Longwools: Messrs. Dean and Son's Lincoln sheep; r, Mr. E. F. Jordan's Leicester sheep.

Best pen of Shortwools: His Majesty's Southdown sheep; r, Mr. J. Flower's Hampshire lambs.

BREED CUPS.

Leicesters: Mr. E. F. Jordan's sheep; r, do. lambs.

Cotswold's: Mr. W. T. Garne's sheep; r, do. sheep.

Lincolns: Messrs. Dean and Sons' sheep; do. lambs.

Kentish or Romney Marsh: Mr. T. Wotton's lambs; r, Mr. H. Rigden's lambs.

Devons or South Devons: Mr. A. C. Hall's South Devon sheep; r, Mr. F. White's Devon lambs.

Cheviots: Mr. J. McDonald's sheep; r, do. lambs.

Mountain: Sir John Gilmour's sheep; r, Mr. J. McDowall's lambs.

Southdown: His Maejsty's sheep; r, do. sheep.

Hampshire Downs: Mr. J. Flower's lambs; r, Mr. T. F. Buxton's sheep.

Suffolk: Mr. H. E. Smith's sheep; r, do. sheep.

Shropshires: Executors of P. L. Mill's sheep; r, Mr. R. P. Cooper's lambs.

Oxford Downs: Mr. J. T. Hobb's sheep; r, Mr. W. H. Lovell's lambs.

Dorsets: Mr. J. Toop's lambs; r, Sir Anthony Cope's sheep.

Cross-Breds: Mr. T. Rush's lambs; r, Mr. E. Henty's lambs.

PIGS.

CUPS AND PLATES.

Prince Christian's Challenge Cup for the best pen of pigs bred by exhibitor: The Visiting Committee of Middlesex County Asylum's Berkshires; r, H. R. H. Prince Christian's Berkshires.

Best pen of pigs in the Show: Middlesex Asylum's Berkshires; r, H. R. H. Prince Christian's Berkshires.

Best single pig: Middlesex Asylum's Berkshire; r, H. R. H. Prince Christian's Berkshire.

BREED CUPS.

Small white or small black: Mr. N. Benjafield's small whites; r, Hon. D. P. Bouverie's small whites.

Middle whites: Mr. J. A. Fricker; r, do.

Large white: Mr. A. Hiscock, jnr; r, Messrs. W. H. and E. Wherry.

Large black: Captain S. E. D. Webb; r, Mr. K. M. Clark.

Berkshires: Middlesex County Asylum; r, H. R. H. Prince Christian.

Tamworth: Mr. R. Ibbotson; r, do.

Any other or Cross-Bred: Mr. Alfred Brown; r, do.

PRIZE LIST.

Cattle.

DEVON.

Class 1.—Devon steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, Hon. Claude B. Portman; 2, T. Kidner; 3, Viscount Portman; hc, Earl Cawdor; c, Earl of Rosebery, K.G., J. C. Williams.

Class 2.—Devon steers, above two years old, and not exceeding three years old.—1, Earl of Rosebery; 2, H. M. the King; 3, Lord Calthorpe; r, G. Risdon; hc, G. Riadon; c, E. F. Case.

Class 3.—Devon heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, H. M. the King; 2, J. C. Williams; 3, Lord Calthorpe; r, Viscount Portman; hc, Viscount Portman.

SOUTH DEVON.

Class 4.—South Devon steers, not exceeding three years old.—1, F. W. Roe; 2, J. Sparraw Wroth; 3, Brooking Trant; r, J. Sparrow Wroth.

HEREFORD.

Class 5.—Hereford steers, not exceeding two years old.—1 and 3, Richard Phipps; 2, J. Edwards; c, Earl of Coventry.

Class 6.—Hereford steers, above two years old, and not exceeding three years old.—1, H. M. the King; 2, P. Coats; 3, W. H. Cooke; r, P. Coats; hc, P. Coats; c, Earl of Coventry.

Class 7.—Hereford heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, Hon. F. G. Wynn; 2, H. M. the King; 3, Earl of Coventry.

SHORTHORN.

Class 8.—Shorthorn steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, Captain H. L. Townshend; 2, Lord Tredegar; 3, H. M. the King; 4, James McWilliam; r, John Ross; hc, John Ross, Lord Calthorpe; c, H. M. the King.

Class 9.—Shorthorn steers, above two years, and not exceeding three years old.—1, Captain A. Stirling Keir; 2, H. S. Leon; 3, Sir John Swinburne; r, H. M. the King; c, H. M. the King, Sir Oswald Mosley.

Class 10.—Shorthorn heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, H. M. the King; 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild; 3, Lord Tredegar; r, James Graham; c, James Graham.

SUSSEX.

Class 11.—Sussex steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, John Aungier; 2, J. Godman; 3, W. F. Winch; 4, Earl Winterton; r, and hc, executors late Louis Huth; c, Mrs. H. F. Montefiore.

Class 12.—Sussex steers, above two years old, and not exceeding three years old.—1, Earl of Derby; 2, W. G. Fladgate, Hill, Slinford, Horsham; 3, W. F. Winch; 4 and r, Mrs. H. F. Montefiore; hc, Mrs. H. F. Montefiore, W. W. Berry; c, P. F R. Saillard, Earl of Derby, W. Levett.

Class 13.—Sussex heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, Gerald Warde; 2, E. E. Braby; 3, P. F. R. Saillard.

RED POLLED.

Class 14.—Red Polled Steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, Sir Walter Corbet; 2, Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P.; 3 R. P. Cooper; r, Lord Amherst of Hackney; c, Lord Amherst of Hackney.

Class 15.—Red Polled steers above two years, and not exceeding three years old.—1, Sir Walter Corbet; 2, Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P.; 3, R. J. Thurman.

Class 16.—Red Polled Heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, Right Hon. A. E. Fellowes, M.P.; 2, R. P. Cooper; 3, John Hammond; r and hc, Sir W. Corbet; c, John Hammond.

ABERDEEN-ANGUS.

Class 17.—Aberdeen-Angus steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, R. W. Hudson; 2, R. Turner; 3, J. H. Bridges; 4 and r, H. M. the King; hc, H. M. the King, J. J. Cridlan; c, G. Bruce, J. H. Bridges, J. C. Williams.

Class 18.—Aberdeen-Angus steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old.—1, J. J. Cridlan; 2, R. L. Batchelor; 3, R. W. Hudson; r and hc, T. B. Earle.

Class 19.—Aberdeen-Angus heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, Colonel C. McInroy; 2, R. L. Batchelor; 3, G. F. Stanford; 4, Captain H. L. Townshend; r and hc, R. J. Thurman; c, Captain A. Stirling, J. H. Bridges.

GALLOWAY.

Class 20.—Galloway steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, R. Graham; 2, Captain A. Stirling; 3, Messrs. Thomson; r and hc, Rev. John Gillespie; c, A. Palmer, Sir J. Swinburne.

Class 21.—Galloway steers above two years and not exceeding three years old.—1, A. Palmer; 2, R. Graham; 3, Sir John Swinburne; r and hc, Earl of Durham.

Class 22.—Galloway heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, David Brown; 2, R. Graham; 3, A. Palmer; r and hc, Sir John Swinburne; c, A. Palmer.

WELSH.

Class 23.—Welsh steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, William Hughes; 2, R. M. Greaves; 3, R. Roberts; r, Hon. F. G. Wynn; hc, Hon. F. G. Wynn, R. M. Greaves; c, R. Hughes.

Class 24.—Welsh steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old.—1, R. M. Greaves; 2, William Evans; 3, R. Roberts; 4, the Coed Coch Trustees; r and hc, Hon. F. G. Wynn; c, R. Hughes.

Class 25.—Welsh Heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1 and 3, R. M. Greaves; 2, R. Hughes; r, R. Roberts.

HIGHLAND.

Class 26.—Highland steers, not exceeding three years old.—1, Sir W. O. Dalgleish; 2, Sir John Gilmour; 3, H. M. the King; r, H. M. the King; hc, H. M. the King, W. J. Nimmo; c, W. J. Nimmo.

Class 27.—Highland steer or ox, above three years old.—1, H. M. the King; 2 and 3, Earl of Southesk; r, Sir R. A. E. Cathcart; hc, Sir R. A. E. Cathcart, Earl Durham; c, Earl of Durham.

Class 28.—Highland Heifers, not exceeding four years old.—1, Sir W. O. Dalgleish; 2, H. M. the King; 3, W. J. Nimmo; r and hc, H. M. the King; c, H. C. Stevens.

CROSS-BREDS.

Class 29.—Cross-bred steers, not exceeding two years old.—1 and 2, John Ross; 3, R. Turner; 4, R. W. Hudson; r and hc, Earl of Durham; c, Captain H. L. Townshend, C. F. Raphael.

Class 30.—Cross-bred steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old.—1, R. W. Hudson; 2, T. B. Earle; 3, Earl of Durham; r, Sir John Swinburne; hc, Sir John Swinburne, George Bruce.

Class 31.—Cross-bred heifers, not exceeding two years old.—1 and 4, R. W. Hudson; 2, John Ross; 3, Miss Alice de Rothschild; r, W. J. Robertson; hc, W. J. Robertson, G. F. Stanford; c, John Ross.

Class 32.—Cross-bred heifers, above two years and not exceeding three years old.—1, E. T. Learner; 2, Sir John Swinburne; 3, Earl of Durham; 4, G. F. Stanford; r, A. Smith; hc, A. Smith, W. S. Menzies; c, Earl of Durham, W. G. Fladgate.

KERRY AND DEXTER.

Class 33.—Kerry and Dexter steers, not exceeding two years old.—1 and 2, H. M. the King; 3, Duchess of Devonshire; r, R. M. Greaves.

Class 34.—Kerry and Dexter steers, above two years and not exceeding three years old.—1, R. W. Hudson; 2, Duchess of Newcastle; 3, Duchess of Devonshire; r, Baldomero de Bertodano; c, M. Rogers.

Class 35.—Kerry and Dexter heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, R. W. Hudson; 2, Baldomero de Bertodano; 3, Sir Walter Gilbey; r and hc, M. Rogers.

SMALL CROSS-BRED CATTLE.

Class 35.—Small cross-bred steers, not exceeding two years old.—1, H. M. the King; 2, R. G. Nash; 3, Sir W. Gilbey; r and hc, Sir W. Gilbey.

Class 37.—Small cross-bred steers, above two and not exceeding three years old.—1, R. G. Nash; 2, M. Rogers; r and hc, Sir Walter Gilbey.

Class 38.—Small cross-bred heifers, not exceeding three years old.—1, R. W. Hudson; 2, Baldomero de Bertodano; 3, R. G. Nash; r, Baldomero de Bertodano; hc, Baldomero de Bertodano; c, Sir Walter Gilbey.

Sheep.

LEICESTERS, OR BORDER LEICESTERS.

Class 39.—Fat wether lambs under twelve months old.—1 and 2, E. F. Jordan; 3, Mrs. S. Perry Herrick; r, Mrs. S. Perry Herrick.

Class 40.—Fat wether sheep above twelve months and under twenty-four months old.—1 and 2, E. F. Jordan; 3, Mrs. S. Perry Herrick; r, Mrs. Perry Herrick.

COTSWOLDS.

Class 41.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, W. T. Garne; r, W. T. Garne.

Class 42.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1, W. T. Garne; r, W. T. Garne.

LINCOLNS.

Class 43.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, S. E. Dean and Sons; 2, Henry Dudding; 3, W. B. Swallow; r, S. E. Dean and Sons.

Class 44.—Fat wether sheep, twelve and under twenty four months old.—1, S. E. Dean and Sons; 2, Henry Dudding; 3, F. Ward; r, S. E. Dean and Sons.

KENTISH OR ROMNEY MARSH.

Class 45.—Fat wether lambs under twelve months old.—1, T. Wotton; 2, H. Rigden; 3, F. Neame; r, T. Wotton.

Class 46.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1, J. Egerton Quested; 2, F. Neame; 3, T. Wotton; r, C. Gordon Neame.

DEVON LONG WOOLLED BREED.

Class 47.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1 and 2, Frederick White; 3, A. C. Skinner; r, A. C. Skinner.

SOUTH DEVON LONG-WOOLLED BREED.

Class 48.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, A. C. Hall.

CHEVIOTS.

Class 49.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, John McDowall; r, John McDowall.

Class 50.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve months old.—1 and 2, John McDowall; 3, J. Douglas Fletcher.

MOUNTAIN.

Class 51.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, John McDowall; 2, Sir John Gilmour.

Class 52.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve months old.—1, Sir John Gilmour; 2, John McDowell; 3, A. Smith; r., John McDowall, Sir John Gilmour.

SOUTHDOWNS.

Class 53.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, H. M. the King; 2, C. R. W. Adeane; 3, Duke of Devonshire; 4, Mrs. Montefiore; r, C. R. W. Adeane; hc, C. R. W. Adeane, C. H. Berners; c, Sir J. Wernher, E. Henty, Mrs. Montefiore, Earl of Ellesmere.

Class 54.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1 and 2, H. M. the King; 3, Duke of Richmond and Gordon; r., Earl of Ellesmere; hc, Earl of Ellesmere Duke of Devonshire; c, Sir J. Wernher, Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

HAMPSHIRE DOWNS.

Class 55.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1 and 3, James Flower; 2, T. F. Buxton; 4, Sir William Pearce; r, H. C. Stephens; hc, H. C. Stephens, Sir W. G. Pearce; c, James Goldsmith.

Class 56.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1, T. F. Buxton; 2, Marquis of Winchester; 3, James Flower; r, Sir W. G. Pearce; hc, T. F. Buxton, Sir W. G. Pearce.

SUFFOLKS.

Class 57.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, H. E. Smith; 2, D. Abbott Green; 3, St. F. Travlen; r and hc, C. T. A. Robertson; c, M. G. Hale.

Class 58.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1 and 2, H. E. Smith; 3, M. G. Hale.

SHROPSHIRES.

Class 59.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, R. P. Cooper; 2 and 3, executors Philo L. Mills; r and hc, Lady de Rothschild; c, Lady de Rothschild.

Class 60.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve months and under twenty-four months old.—1 and 3, executors Philo L. Mills; 2, R. P. Cooper.

OXFORD DOWNS.

Class 61.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, W. H. Lovell; 2, Hugh W. Stilgoe; 3, J. T. Hobbs; r, J. T. Hobbs.

Class 62.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1, J. T. Hobbs; 2, Miss Alice de Rothschild.

RYELAND.

Class 63.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1 and 2, W. T. Barneby; r, F. E. Gough.

DORSET.

Class 64.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1 and 3, James Toop; 2, Sir Anthony Cope; r, Sir Anthony Cope.

Class 65.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1, Sir Anthony Cope.

CROSS-BREED.

Class 66.—Fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, T. Rush; 2 and 3, E. Henty; 4, James Toop; r, Earl of Ellesmere; hc, Earl of Ellesmere, T. Rush; c, Mrs. Montefiore, James Toop.

Class 67.—Fat wether sheep, above twelve and under twenty-four months old.—1 and 3, T. Rush; 2, W. Wallis Robinson; r and hc, W. Wallis Robinson.

Class 68.—Scotch Cross-bred fat wether lambs, under twelve months old.—1, John McDowall; 2, A. Smith; r, John McDowall; c, A. Palmer.

Class 69.—Scotch cross bred fat wteher sheep, above twelve months and under twenty-four months old.—1, John McDowall; 2, A. Smith; r and hc, John McDowall.

Pigs.

SMALL WHITE OR SMALL BLACK.

Class 70.—Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, N. Benjafield; 2, Hon. D. P. Bouverie; r, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

Class 71.—Pigs above nine and not exceeding twelve months old.—1, Hon. D. P. Bouverie; r, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

MIDDLE WHITE.

Class 72.—Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, months old.—1, J. A. Fricker; 2, A. Brown; 2, H. M. the King.

Class 73.—Pigs above nine and not exceeding twelve months old.—1, J. A. Fricker; 2, A. Brown; 3, H. M. the King; r, E. H. Loyd; hc, Hon. D. P. Bouverie.

LARGE WHITE.

Class 74.—Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, W. H. and E. Wherry; 2, A. Brown; r, A. Hiscock, jnn.

Class 75.—Pigs above nine, and not exceeding twelve months old.—1, A. Hiscock, jun.; r., R. A. Ayre.

BLACK.

Class 76.—Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, Captain Somerset E. D. Webb; 2, K. M. Clark; r, K. M. Clark.

Class 77. Pigs above nine and not exceeding twelve months old. R. M. Clark.

BERKSHIRE.

Class 78. Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, Visiting Committee of the Middlesex County Asylum; 2, J. A. Fricker; 4, N. Benjafield; h.c., N. Benjafield and A. Hiscock, jun.; c., A. D Acland.

Class 79. Pigs above nine and not exceeding twelve months old.—1, H.R.H. Prince Christian; 2, Lord Calthorpe; 3, Duchess of Devonshire; 4, Laurence Currie; r. and h.c., A. Brown; c., Lord Calthorpe.

TAMWORTH.

Class 80.—Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, R. Ibbotson.

Class 81.—Pigs above nine and not exceeding twelve months old.—1 and 2, R. Ibbotson; 3, H. C. Stephens.

ANY OTHER BREED OR CROSS.

Class 82.—Pigs not exceeding nine months old.—1, J. A. Fricker; 2, A. Brown; 3, A. Hiscock, jun.; R. Earl of Carnarvon; h.c., Earl of Carnarvon and H. C. Stephens.

Class 83.—Pigs above nine and not exceeding twelve months old.—1, A. Brown; 2, Captain Somerset E. D. Webb; 3, G. Attkins.

SINGLE PIGS.

Class 84.—Any White breed breed not exceeding twelve months old.—1, J. Neaverson; 2, W. H. and E. Wherry; r., A. Hiscock, jun.; h.c., H.M. the King, A. Brown, and A. Hiscock, jun.; c., H.M. the King.

Class 85.—Any Black breed not exceeding twelve months old.—1 and 2, R. M. Clark; r., H. G. Regnart.

Class 86.—Berkshire breed, not exceeding twelve months old. 1, Visiting Committee Middlesex County Asylum; 2, H.R.H. Prince Christian; r., Duchess of Devonshire; h.c., Lord Calthorpe; c., Earl of Carnarvon, Alfred D. Acland, Alfred Brown, Lord Calthorpe, and A. Hiscock, jun.

Class 87. Tamworth breed not exceeding twelve months old.—1, R. Ibbotson; r., H. C. Stephens.

Class 88.—Any distinct or cross-breed, not exceeding twelve months old.—1, A. Brown; 2, Henry Grant; r., A Brown; h.c., G. Attkins.

Club's Annual Meeting.

At the annual meeting at the Agricultural Hall, on Tuesday, the Prince of Wales consented to become President of the Smithfield Club and Cattle Show for 1906. The President (Lord Tredegar) was in the chair.

The Council, in their report, regretted the serious loss which the Club had sustained by the deaths of Earl Cowper, Sir Jacob Wilson, Mr. Clare Sewell Read, vice-presidents, and Mr. J. E. Ransome and Mr. W. Newton, members of the Council. Mr. Wm. Harris, Long Sutton, Odiham, and Mr. H. D. Marshall, Gainsborough, had been, it was further reported, elected to fill the vacancies on the Council. The General Show Committee had considered the question of having a parade of the prize-winning animals, but in view of the risk involved in moving the animals, and the very slight advantage which such a parade would be to the public, they considered it was not desirable to have a parade. This report had been adopted by the Council.

Consideration had been given by the Council at a recent meeting to a circular letter from the Board of Agriculture suggesting the holding of local conferences between agriculturists and representatives of the railway companies, with a representative of the Board of Agriculture, on the question of differences as to the rates and facilities for the carriage of agricultural produce. Various matters which appeared to require attention were mentioned, and members invited to submit any such cases or grievances to a committee that had been appointed by the Council, preparatory to their submission by a small deputation to the President of the Board of Agriculture. During the past year the Club's funds were increased by the purchase of Consols to the amount of £383 14s. 5d. On October 31 the Club's invested funds were £4,500 Consols (valued at 90), while the balance of the current account at the bankers' and in the Secretary's hands was £840 3s. 6d., and the amount on deposit at the bank £2,000.

The President moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, and referring to the subject of the carriage of agricultural produce, said that at the moment there was no Minister of Agriculture, and that, therefore, the proposed representation would have to be deferred.

Mr. C. W. Tinstall seconded.

Railway Preference

Mr. William Cooper, in supporting, said he had had innumerable conferences with railway companies, but with very little success. They seemed at all times to deprecate British agriculture and to do everything they possibly could to give advantage to the foreigner. (Applause.) This was no figure of speech. The rates charged for the carriage of foreign produce were much lower than those charged for home-grown produce, and it was very extraordinary that railway companies considered that it was no part of their duty to foster and encourage British agriculture. The genesis of many railway undertakings was understood to be the development of agriculture, but the companies now seemed only to think how they could increase their dividends at the expense of the British producer by giving greater facilities to the foreigner. The companies said that the foreigner did this and that which enabled them to carry his produce much easier and cheaper than that of the home producer, but that was a very bald excuse. Whereas they charged 70s. per ton for meat from Aberdeen, only 25s. per ton was paid from Liverpool. (Applause.) They were to have a change in the Minister of Agriculture. He was not at all sure that that held out any great hopes of success, but there was an idea of a new broom sweeping clean. At any rate, they hoped that the new Minister would, like his predecessors, take a deep interest in agriculture.

The President generally agreed with Mr. Cooper. He did not, however, think that railway directors were as bad as the speaker had painted. The Smithfield Club would press the matter upon the new Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Cooper had spoken of a new broom—well, they would have three new brooms at the Board of Agriculture in twelve months. (Laughter.)

The report was adopted.

Lord Winterton then moved that the Prince of Wales be elected President of the Club for 1906. He dwelt upon the great interest which the Royal Family had taken in agriculture and the Club, and said his Royal Highness was following the example that had been set him. The King had this year won outright the challenge cup given by the Prince of Wales for sheep and lambs. (Applause.)

Mr. Bowen Jones seconded, and the resolution was carried with acclamation.

On the motion of Mr. Cooper, and seconded by Mr. S. Kidner, Mr. James Hornsby was chosen President-elect, and will consequently fill the Presidency in 1907.

In accordance with the articles of association, twenty-two names had been submitted to the members for election to the Council, and the following eleven had been elected to serve for the ensuing three years:—Messrs. C. R. W. Adeane, James Bigger, Richardson Carr, William Cooper, J. J. Cridlan, W. S. Ferguson, Thomas Goodchild, A. C. Skinner, Richard Stratton, John Threadwell, and J. D. Willis.

Prince Christian next proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring President.

Mr. James Hornsby seconded, and the resolution was warmly agreed to.

Lord Tredegar, in a brief reply, recalled that he filled the Presidency twenty-five years ago.

The Herdsmen's Smithfield Club.

On Monday evening last there was even a larger company than usual at the occasion of the annual meet of the Herdsmen's Smithfield's Club at Reggiori's Restaurant, King's Cross. It is seemingly but a few years ago that this club was practically unknown outside of the herdsmen themselves, and only even a portion of these were conservant with the extent of its scope and utility originally instituted to give encouragement to those herdsmen whose charges had won high honours for their masters. But it was soon seen that even more was required, and then a little helping hand to those stricken by sickness or assistance to a household where the old armchair had been rendered vacant brought on a kindly recognition on the part of the masters at first, this took the form of subscriptions, they then began to take a personal interest in the club and encourage the men to help themselves. It was soon seen that the lean stock men must join hands with the fat stock men, and thus originated the summer meetings at Park Royal and in the the show yard of the Regal Lancashire Society, the early pioneers, Messrs. Hailas, George Sinclair, and others soon proved that it was not a purely Scotch movement, and they welcomed Mr. Arthur Hiscock as their first breeder president, and he put spirit into the movement. It was found that a business and social evening could not be combined, and so the purely business section was transacted on Saturday evening. The balance-sheet for the year shows subscription amounting to £47 3s. 6d., and members' fees £23 12s. 6d., or a total of £70 16s. Out of this payments on account of sickness and death have been made amounting to £54 2s., and prize-money £26 10s. There are a few minor expenses, but the nett result is a balance in hand of £91 2s. 1d. The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman then, on behalf of the members, presented the secretary, Mr. George Sinclair, with a most handsome marble clock and supporting ornaments, as well as a gold bracelet set with opals, for Mrs. Sinclair. The clock bore the following inscription: "Presented to George Sinclair, Esq., by the members of the Herdsmen's Smithfield Club and a few friends in recognition of his faithful services as Honorary Secretary and

Whitchurch Cheese Fair.

There was a fair pitch for the time of year (forty tons), but many of the lots were slightly too new, sufficient time not having been given to bring them to due maturity before being placed on the market. On Thursday the whole of the cheese was quickly disposed of, buyers being present in strong force, but the prices realised were a shade under recent quotations. The highest grades made from 68s. to 73s. per cwt., medium grades from 63s. to 67s. per cwt., and lower qualities down to 60s. per cwt.

THE DUBLIN SOCIETY'S WINTER SHOW.

The annual Christmas show of this Society was held on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last in the usual place, the Society's most suitable premises at Ball's Bridge. There was not a large attendance—indeed, the public never have flocked to this show as they, one would think, ought to do. The business it encourages, that of fattening cattle and sheep of improved breeding, is one that concerns the country and its people very extensively, and the show is deserving of most wide sympathy from farmers and landowners in all its provinces. The weather, it is true, was not altogether of an inviting description, being gusty, cold, and squally; yet in the winter such changes are generally expected and prepared for.

The show of cattle was some considerable number short of last year's entry, and the quality, generally speaking, was quite in sympathy with the falling off in numbers. The general want of higher condition in the out-fed cattle is attributed by the breeders to the bad season for grass, owing to a too long spell of fine weather. In a country like Ireland, however, where roots and green food can be so plentifully raised, the matter of a few weeks' drought ought to be tided over, or even a little extra cake or corn could have been given to compensate for this. One point, perhaps, may be taken into consideration in respect of this shortness of feed, namely, that all those animals that were in the ripest condition—and which naturally means all the best-bred ones—were disposed of in the early part of the season, leaving the plainer and more common-bred animals, as well as the more backward-conditioned ones, for the Christmas shows and markets.

Those who paid best attention to their stock will reap the greatest benefit, as the demand at good prices for the best cattle was very bright, and on the morning of the second day of the show very few animals were left in the exhibitors' hands, the label "Sold," or the scissor-clips of the buyer being most conspicuous along the lines. The small cattle had received exceptional attention, and most of these were for England.

The in-fed cattle were the ripest, and these, also, as a rule displayed the most quality, partly from being younger and having been kept going from their birth, and partly from the better feeding.

The number of purely bred animals at the fat-stock shows of this Society is surprisingly few. Shorthorns have a long way the best of it in this respect, and there are also a few Aberdeen-Angus purely bred, but Herefords and and any other breed are scarcely to be found at all in their pure state, 90 per cent. of the animals being cross-breds of either Shorthorns and Angus, Hereford and Shorthorn, or one or other of the small crosses. This extraordinary amount of crossing causes a great want of uniformity in the classes, both in size and type. The classification, too, is one that might with the greatest possible benefit to all parties concerned be considerably altered. The distinction between being artificially and naturally polled is not at all reliably calculated to give the same kind of animal in either division, some of the polled crosses are born with horns and some without when served by the same bulls and from the same class of cows, and then one of these is eligible for one class and the other for another. Then the distinction of in-fed or out-fed artificially sheltered is also one that cannot be called properly a distinction—or at least a distinction without a difference. With a complete turning over of these classes in these respects, abolishing half of them, and giving more substantial prizes, it seems on the face of things ought to be tried by the Royal Dublin Society, rather than giving up their winter show in despair of its ever becoming popularly attractive.

In weights very few of the cattle here give as good record for age as at the English shows; a few of the older ones, perhaps, show as much, but the generality of those under two years are much lighter than the English ones, of whatever breed they may be.

The champion of the in-fed section of the show this year is an Aberdeen-Angus steer under two years old, bred and fed by Mr. R. G. Nash, sired by Jumper 2nd, and calved in March, 1904. He scales now 12 cwt. 0 qr. 8 lb., and is one of the most symmetrical steers out this season of his age; his character and quality, too, are quite first-rate, and he looks well able to go on satisfactorily for another year. He, of course, was awarded, in addition to his champion prize, first prize in his class that for steers naturally polled and under two years of age.

In the horned or artificially polled section some very good cattle were shown of Hereford and Shorthorn cross, and Angus and Shorthorn, as well as Angus and Hereford. The chief winners in these were Colonel Everard, whose Hereford crosses under three years were just

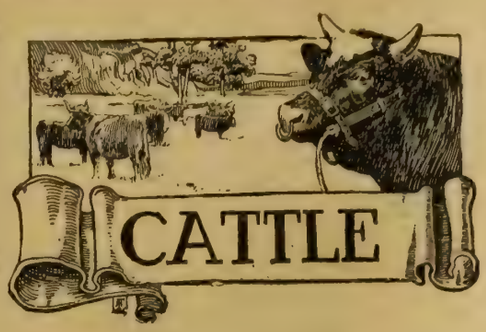
upon 15 cwt.; Miss Staples, with Shorthorn in the not exceeding two years and eight months class, weight just upon 14 cwt.; and Mr. Nash in the under two class with Angus and Shorthorn at near 13 cwt. These were all steers. In heifers, similarly, Miss Staples was first in the middle class with a Shorthorn of 13 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lb., and Mr. Richard Williams, in the under two years class at nearly 11 cwt. Mr. Thos. Anderson's first prize Angus ox in the naturally polled section under two years and eight months, was of very good weight, scaling 17 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb., and Miss Staples's second prize Angus and Shorthorn cross under two years was 14 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. Naturally polled heifers in the other classes were rather lighter.

Small cattle were a very large entry, and as variable in character and quality as they were numerous. Mr. R. G. Nash, Mr. James Griffin, and Viscount Duncannon were the most successful exhibitors in these, and showed several remarkably ripe and good quality animals as well as symmetrical, their weights coming out pretty well up to their limit, except in the case of a few of the younger ones. Groups of three cattle were not as good quite as usual, several of them being rather ordinary. Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Thomas Leonard, Mr. F. Murphy, and Mr. H. D'E. Stevens were the winners in these of the first prizes, and the weights were not excessive. In single out-fed oxen Mr. Nicholson won a first and a second prize with two remarkably big Shorthorn bullocks of deep and well-shaped build and first-class beef, under four years old, and weighing over 18 cwt. each. Mr. Joseph Lowry had a blue-grey, also 18 cwt., and Colonel Everard had also very nice animals winning first prizes in this section. The Earl of Longford also carried off a first prize with a blue-grey not exceeding two years and eight months, at about 14 cwt. Captain Howe and Viscount Duncannon were also successful in securing first. In the entirely out-fed section Colonel Everard had some Hereford crosses of excellent quality and over 17 cwt. each. The champion of this entirely out-fed section was a black cross-bred Angus of Mr. Michael Farrell's, not exceeding four years old, that scaled 19 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb., and was of good shape and beef. Captain Steeds was another successful exhibitor, also Mr. Markey and Mr. Thomas Anderson.

SHEEP.

The sheep show at Ball's Bridge has never been a great attraction so far as the number of entries is concerned, and the present season is not at all better supplied. There are, however, several pens of very good sheep, and several pens of crosses of a somewhat novel mixture that promise to be worth while encouraging. These are with the Roscommon and Oxford breeds. There are also some splendid sheep of Cheviot and Shropshire cross. Mountain breeds were shown in somewhat natural condition. The best pen of Longwools were quite a grand trio, these were three Roscommon ewes, shearlings bred and shown by Mr. G. R. Acheson, and for quality, touch, and generally first-class practical points, are quite a first-class entry. Their weight is 8 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb., and they well merited the special cup that was also allotted to them. Mr. Franks had a very good pen of Border Leicesters placed second to them; these were 6 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb. In the Short-woolled class both first and second prizes fell to the Shropshire breed for very well matched pens, with breeding and quality about them, shown by Mr. R. Hamilton Stubber and the Earl of Longford, and placed in the order written. The first pen scaled 6 cwt., and the second 5 cwt. 2 qr. 9lb.. Cross-breds were a strong class in most cases, the Oxford breed taking part. The first prize pen were from the Earl of Longford's, and were of Cheviot and Shropshire cross, taking the two breeds very evenly in point of features, and their quality was of the very best. These scaled 6 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb. Black-faced and Cheviots were of good breeding and quality, but very few of them were fed up thoroughly. The Marquis of Waterford had a very fine pen of the former breed, scaling 5 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb.; and Mr. L. F. Ball had the best Cheviots. Lambs of the present year were not numerous, Mr. M. H. Franks and Sir Algernon Cootes were the exhibitors of them, both being pens of pure Border Leicesters and of exceptionally nice quality, the first-mentioned were awarded the first prize, their weight being 4 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb. In the Cross-breds, Mr. M. H. Franks carried off first honour with a pen of lambs of Oxford and Border Leicester cross, scaling 4 cwt. 3 qr.; very good quality and well brought out. The Earl of Longford's second prize pen were of Oxford and Roscommon cross, and these two were quite an exceptionally good pen and scaled 4 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb. The capital quality of these lambs quickly secured purchasers for them for the English market.

The entry of this section has dwindled away to almost a blank. The pens have never filled as might be expected, but this season the total of three entries only is quite a low record. These were all Whites of good quality and light weights, shown by Mr. G. J. Smith and Mr. J. Wellington.



Notes and Jottings.

To all feeders of fat cattle, whether for show purposes or only for the ordinary market, the week before the big market in London is a very important one. A great many home auctions and sales take place, as well as the Smithfield, Dublin, and one or two other smaller shows, and the aspect prices and demand assume at these places form a fair guide to what may be anticipated at the great Christmas markets that take place the following week. In these notes we have for weeks past prophesied a good demand for the best-finished, thoroughly ripe animals with quality about them, no matter what their size. All things seemed to point to a good trade as being quite probable. Choice beeves, in spite of large supplies in total, have been very scarce.

In all our English markets, in Chicago, in Ireland, and elsewhere, the cry has continually been that first-class cattle were hard to obtain. Up to the time of writing these notes matters have progressed much, as was anticipated. Taking show cattle first, at the Midland Counties Exhibition, at Birmingham, a great number of cattle were sold on the first day of the show. At Smithfield the same thing took place; whilst at the Dublin show practically everything on offer found buyers and good, fair prices, and in the open market at Dublin cattle were much dearer on the Thursday. It is well that is so, for, with the high prices ruling for corn and cake, stores bought a little dearly to begin with, and a season following that from drought lost a good deal of progress, cattle feeding would have been a much worse business than usual.

The great annual Smithfield Show proved quite as great an attraction as usual to all stock-breeders from the country, as well as to the special show-feeders and the butchers, whilst the general public always appear to like to see something of their Christmas beef whilst it is alive. The judging at these shows, especially of the champion honours, is a matter that proceeds with possibly less satisfaction than any other branch of officialism at these shows. This is mainly owing to the several different breeds that are exhibited, all of which have a right to, and do, take part in the contests for the open champion prizes. The single-judge system appears to have lost favour, and the breeder-judge system appeared to do so likewise. This year dual judging was once more resorted to.

Whether the decisions were satisfactory or no was not commonly said; there were, however, many who were of opposite opinions to the judges—as there probably always will be. Having regard to all things concerning these important awards, it becomes quite worth while thinking whether some other way or deciding them ought not to be adopted. One plan might be for the whole of the judges to take part and vote upon the matter, the animals obtaining the greatest number of votes to be the winners. Then there is another plan that strikes me as being worth a trial, namely, to settle the matter by a scale of points, so many points being allowed for weight for age or, in other words, early maturing with weight—other points in breed character, symmetry, and ripeness.

It is high time weight was much more taken into consideration than it has been. When we find animals of fine symmetry, first-class beef properly finished and scaling several, or, at least, 3 or 4 cwt. heavier than others that have had the same time and amount of feeding, surely the heavier animal—with its greater value to the seller, feeder, and consumer—should take precedence. It would be but a very simple thing for the Smithfield Club, or for a conference of members of Council from the Birmingham, Smithfield, and Edinburgh clubs to formulate a scale of points that would work easily and smoothly, and prevent many heart burnings, as well as a good deal of unfavourable criticism of the judges, which is often as unfair as it is unpleasant.

The final championship of the Smithfield Show lay between two heifers, one of the Shorthorn and one of the Angus breed, both of which had been accounted the breed cup or best specimens of their respective breeds in the Hall. In point of symmetry and quality there was, many would say, not a hair to choose between the two, both being finished in the best possible manner and brought out with the finest gloss upon them. The award in such a case, where two judges are concerned, rests practically with the man who is the smartest hand at diplomacy or, in plain language, can play his cards the best. He is certain to have the pull over a quieter and less assuming judge, who invariably in dual judging acts upon the give and take principle.

Taking the age and weights of the two heifers mentioned as contesting the great Smithfield champion honours, the two were exactly the same age, or at least there were but two days between them according to the entries in catalogue. In weights, however, the Shorthorn scaled ½ cwt. 19 lb. the heaviest, which, seeing that the award appeared to hang so long in the balance, would or ought to have decided the honour in favour of the roan heifer. At the Birmingham show the week previous the chief contest lay between the Hereford and Shorthorn breed, resulting in a victory for the former. There the Shorthorn had the advantage in the way of age and the Hereford in weight, and it is quite probable that points would have given a result similar to what was arrived at—the Hereford being first.

Many years ago in the entries of these cattle at the Christmas shows the kind of feed used was stated in conjunction with the age, etc., of the animal. This sort of thing, if it could be relied upon as being given correctly, would help very amazingly in teaching what kind of food yielded the most weight in a given time, and also would be of immense value in teaching what kinds or mixtures of feed gave the best results as regards quality of meat when slaughtered. At present these shows, whether of live or dead stock, teach us but very little; indeed, it is very difficult to see in what way we are benefiting practically as feeders. There is perhaps as little to be learned as to the results or effect of mixing certain strains of blood or certain breeds in crossing.

The other day I came across an article dealing with the earlier days of Shorthorns, in which mention was made of the celebrated Durham ox. This reminds me of what an ancestor informed me with regard to that notable animal—namely, that he gained the greatest weight per week in the month of March, when his food consisted very largely of common or white turnips, and, as his feeder expressed it, when they were "quite woolly." It may be that being rid of their watery properties the feeding powers of these turnips are better at such a stage, otherwise the generally accepted theory in these days seems to be that this kind of root is but of little value after February. Such a thing is worth a little attention, and might be attended with profit.

To return to the Smithfield Show, there was exhibited there a Galloway steer or two of the sheeted kind—that is, with a white belt round the middle. One was a dun with this white marking, and the other a black. When travelling northward a few weeks since I met with an individual of the softer sex very much interested in horses and cattle, who was speaking about these sheeted Galloways and their great interest and beauty. The animals exhibited at Smithfield, there is no mistake, were quite "proper" as Galloways, of beautiful quality and shape, and the white band gave them further interest. It would be very interesting to learn the origin of these belted or sheeted cattle. They are mentioned by Yonatt as being found in parts of Devon years ago. Indeed, I had some for my own feeding from that county many years ago.

Then there is a Welsh breed exactly similarly marked, and very picturesque they look grouped together in a park or on ordinary feeding lands; and these, too, are good doers. Now there appears to be a third section in the South of Scotland marked in the same peculiar manner. Thus they seem to run from Devon in the south-west up through Wales to the lower part of Scotland. The Welsh beasts are black with the white band (of considerable width). The Devonshires were red with the same white belt, and these Galloways appear to be either duns or blacks with the white sheet thrown around them. The young breeder with intelligence and energy, as well as a little spare capital, might do worse than look into these cattle. There is money in them.

During the past summer I met by chance with two of the Welsh section of them, shown in a dairy class, and right good milkers they evidently were. White colour has always been associated with milk. Many of the best Short-

horns of both the earlier and latter days, as milkers, have been of the white colour, and depend upon it, it would be no difficult matter to evolve a capital strain of milking cattle from these sheeted Welsh or Galloways; and how valuable such a race of cattle would be! Hardy to a degree, good cattle for feeding and the butcher, and handsome for the park and pasture; then, with the dairy points added, they would quickly find many to favour them.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 2, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	110	59	3,385	5,343
				136		7,302
				146		7,687
	Outbreaks.	No.	15	15	740	1,140
				28		1,379
				32		1,533
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	24	14	802	1,193
				47		1,486
				39		1,346
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	...
				...		...
				...		11
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	...
				...		...
				...		12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	32	32	1,929	2,501
				56		2,344
				30		1,927
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	22	1,125	1,425
				22		1,362
				19		1,078
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...
				...		...
				...		120
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...
				...		...
				...		1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	21	19	1,230	1,307
				17		1,043
				14		914
	Outbreaks.	No.	13	16	889	933
				15		696
				11		622

Period.		
Week ended Dec. 2, 1905		
Corresponding week in ...	1904	
	1903	
	1902	
Total for 48 weeks in 1905		
Corresponding period in ...	1904	
	1903	
	1902	

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

Sale of Mr. Balston's Shorthorns.

An important sale of Shorthorn cattle, comprising Mr. R. J. Balston's entire herd, took place on Thursday, at Barvin, near Potter's Bar, Hertfordshire, Messrs. Thornton and Co. being the auctioneers. There was a large and representative attendance, and a successful sale. Some of the tribes represented were the Miss Ramsden, Red Rose, Waterloo, Bracelet, Raspberry, and the Rose of Warlaby. The herd was in nice healthy breeding condition, and was sold in consequence of Mr. Balston's absence from England for a considerable time. The best price among the cows and heifers was 66 guineas given by Mr. J. Webb, for Bonny Scot a roan five-year-old cow bred by Mr. E. T. D. Robinson, in Yorkshire. Mr. E. Harwood gave 50 guineas for Lady Ollie, bred at Sandringham, and Mr. R. P. Cooper, and Mr. G. Frear, 51 guineas each for two-year-old heifers. The yearling bull Stars Crack, bred by Mr. H. K. Colville, made 52 guineas, to Mr. A. Hiscock, but the old stock bull went cheaply enough at 29 guineas to Mr. Henge.

The following is a list of the principal sales:—

COWS AND HEIFERS.

	Gs.
Border Princess, roan, c. Aug. 6, 1897; s., Border Riever 68254 ..... Mr. A. Hiscock	34
Pride of Wyck, roan, c. Nov. 9, 1897; s., Pippin's Pride 71157 ..... Rev. C. H. Brocklebank	40
Lady Betty, roan, c. Feb. 11, 1898; s., Captain of the Guard 58596 ..... Mr. A. J. Mullins	32
Bracelet 9th, rich roan, c. Jan. 4, 1899; s., Winter King 71891 ..... Mrs. Poissin	26
Lady Ollie, roan, c. Nov. 21, 1899; s., Crystal Prince 70421 ..... Mr. E. Harwood	50
Barvin Pride, red and white roan, c. June 7, 1900; s., Mandarin 74991 ..... Mr. J. Thomson	33
Bonny Scot, roan, c. Sept. 14, 1900; s., Royal Scot 77541 ..... Mr. J. Webb	66
Sea Myth, roan, c. March 23, 1901; s., Mandarin 74991 ..... Mr. F. W. Monckton	30
Mrs. Betty, roan, c. Sept. 1, 1901; s., Merman 77255 ..... Mr. W. Fleming	27
Red C.C., by Duke of Barrington 68th 80904, c. June 15, 1905 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	22
Empress Queen, red, c. Jan. 4, 1902; s., Emperor of Waterloo 32nd 74489 ..... Mr. C. R. H. Gresson	35
Ruth Clarence 23rd, roan, c. Oct. 17, 1902; s., Banker 79731 ..... Mr. R. P. Cooper	51
Philippa, roan, c. May 24, 1903; s., Provider 77542 ..... Mr. E. Harwood	35
Rosamond, red, c. June 17, 1903; s., Royal Cornwall 82138 ..... Mr. F. W. Monckton	28
Lady Arabella, roan, c. June 22, 1903; s., Conqueror [illegible] ..... Mr. A. Hiscock	35
Rose of Cornwall, red, c. July 14, 1903; s., Royal Cornwall 82138 ..... Mr. G. Frere	32
Barvin Princess, white, c. March 21, 1904; s., Duke of Barrington 68th 80904 ..... Mr. F. T. Stanley	28
Hollywell Marigold, roan, c. April 21, 1904; s., Manor Sebaste 79350 ..... Mr. G. Frere	51
Barvin Bangle 4th, roan, c. May 18, 1905; s., Duke of Barrington 68th 80904 ..... Mr. A. Hiscock	25

BULLS.

	Gs.
Duke of Barrington 68th 80904, red roan, c. Jan. 3, 1901; s., Carr House Chief 74186 ... Mr. W. Hinge	29
Star's Crack, red roan, c. Jan. 2, 1904; s., Charming Star 76333 ..... Mr. A. Hiscock	52

SUMMARY.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
32 Cows and heifers	31 2 9	996 9 0
8 Bulls	24 14 9	197 18 6
40 Head, average	29 17 2	1,194 7 6

Horse Notes.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse."
—Merchant of Venice.

The New York Horse Show has been a great success, and it is likely to become even a still greater favourite with English Hackney breeders than it is, after the very pleasant experiences of the recent gathering. Mr. A. A. Haley, of the Whitewall Stud Farm, Malton, must have very agreeable recollections of his visit to New York in the rôle of exhibitor, for he showed three stallions, all of which took first prizes. Trade was, I hear, very good, and our American cousins are keener about the Hackney than ever. So that when the English show season comes round again we may expect to see some buyers over on the look-out for high-class horses.

The question of judging is a perennial one, and no sooner does the dull time of the year come on than we have any number of letters from disappointed exhibitors and angry spectators, dealing with the shortcomings of judges in the past and proposing drastic, and not very possible, changes for the future. The disappointed exhibitor is always with us, and he is perhaps not altogether the fairest critic of the judges. Neither is the general public. The general public at times takes a certain horse for an idol, and whenever he is beaten is apt to get angry. There is one thing pretty certain, and that is that though the judging is open to improvement, as a rule it is honestly done, and as a rule it is well done.

Personally, I fail to see how any better system can be devised than that of a couple of practical men judging together, with a third man called in as umpire. The ideal system of judging is that pursued at the Agricultural Hall at the Shire and Hackney Horse shows. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that three judges are appointed, but that two only act, unless the services of the other are required as referee. The first two to act are appointed by lot, and one retires after every class is judged. It is just possible that the fact that there is an expert in the ring with them who is in a measure justified in criticising may have something to do with the expeditious and generally satisfactory way in which the judging is done at the great London shows, but the care with which the judges are selected, and the excellent plan of having two judges, are no doubt the reasons why the judging is so well, and, as a rule, expeditiously judged at the Agricultural Hall.

It is suggested that there should be a jury of five or even more to give their opinions on the various class; but would the public, with its prejudices, or the disappointed owner, be one bit better satisfied if this plan were adopted? All the suggestions seem to be made on the assumption that the disappointed ones would find themselves winning. Of course this is not stated in so many words, but the assumption is easy to see by those who can read between the lines.

The fact is patent to all who have a wide experience of shows and showing that the judging is, on the whole, very fairly done, and there can be no doubt that it has improved and is improving. Of course, mistakes are made now and again, and they will continue to be made to the end of time; but really they are not of frequent occurrence, and the criticisms of outsiders would be materially modified if they made the close inspection of the exhibits which a judge is compelled to do. Public opinion, too, is very much influenced by the record, whilst the judges have to judge the horses as they are at the time, and not as they were a month previously. This is too often lost sight of. Plenty of instances can be given of how an inferior horse was better on a certain day than the horse that had always beaten him. One is very much to the point. It was in a harness class, and one horse had won prizes all over the country and in the best of company. His most formidable opponent was a young horse that had been second to him a few times—a very promising young horse indeed, but not quite so fashionable, and with not such showy action. But it so happened that there had been a good deal of rain for two or three weeks previous to the show in question, and when a heavy thunderstorm, followed by continuous rain for three or four hours, took place in the early hours of the morning of the show, the show ground, which was naturally on the soft side, was very heavy-going indeed. The fact that several classes had been judged in the rings before the harness class came in, did not tend to improve the going, and before the favourite had gone twice round the ring he was sprawling all over the place and leaving his hind legs behind him. Every chance was given him; he was run on the top of a ridge, but the farther he went the worse he went, and eventually he was placed second. The truth of the matter was that the winner was the better bred horse, and his extra dash and blood got him through the dirt. There was a considerable outcry at the time, and the owner might have found himself in an awkward position if the judges had not been good natured, for his utterances were distinctly libellous.

There were plenty of people, of course, who did not hesitate to say that the constantly repeated formula, "He has always beaten him before," was no argument; but these, as is usual with men who know, were not clamourous. Only make plenty of noise and you will get yourself heard, is a maxim of the ignorant, and one they don't forget to honour in practice. So, when anything of this sort occurs the noise goes on, and the true circumstances of the case are forgotten, and an upright and capable judge has reflections cast upon him which are utterly unwarranted and unjustifiable.

Whilst on the subject of judging, I must draw attention to a growing evil at our shows. It began, and it is seen at its worst at the Hackney Horse Society's Show in London, but it is, I am sorry to say, spreading. That is the organised attempts to influence the judges by a carefully arranged system of applause when certain horses are being shown. When a class is sorted down to some eight or nine, every time a horse is shown out there is a round of shouting, rapping with sticks, and other noises, and there is little doubt that at any rate the inception of these noises is due to paid claqueurs. A few men judiciously placed here and there round the ring side and on the stands can do a great deal in causing what appears to the uninitiated, a spontaneous demonstration. That such organised demonstrations are exceedingly unfair is manifest, and they should be strenuously suppressed. This, however, is by no means easy of accomplishment, though it would have been easy to do at one time. Still, all right-thinking people would do all in their power to help the executive to put an end to the nuisance if they would only use the means they undoubtedly possess. Simply putting up a notice that anyone making discordant noises or rapping with their sticks whilst horses are being shown will be turned out and then doing nothing to enforce the rule is worse than childish.

From time to time I have pointed out in this column that though we are by no means doing what we might do and what we ought to do in the way of horse-breeding, still things are not in such a bad state as some would have us believe. The returns of our horse stock show that we have made some progress at any rate. The first returns were published in 1876, and according to the recently published return which gives the number, there are 2,116,798 horses for agricultural purposes, which is an increase of 16,000 on the return of thirty years ago. It is not a very substantial increase perhaps, but it is satisfactory to note that at a time when mechanical contrivances for doing work hitherto done by horses alone have increased to such an extent as they have, that our horse stock was never so large as it is at present.

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Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	32·55	Starch, Mucilage, Sugar ...	25·11
Indigestible Woody Fibre ...	19·28	Woody Fibre	15·36
Mineral Matter (Ash)	4·70	Mineral Matters (Ash)	4·20
	100·00		100·00
✱Containing Nitrogen ...	4·24	✱Containing Nitrogen ...	3.76
Sand	·10		

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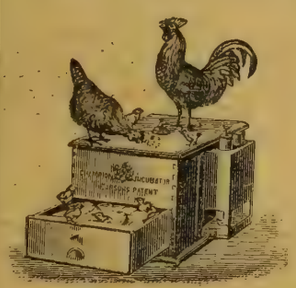

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We have recently taken another step forward, and have invented a process by which the Feeding Cakes can be turned out in the form of "Cakettes," as shown in our illustration; it is obvious that this improved method of manufacture will save a good deal of time to the Feeder—and what is more it costs him nothing.

So excellent an innovation has attracted the attention of a great many Cake users, and naturally more or less plausible imitations of our "Cakettes" are beginning to loom on the horizon.

We do not complain of this in the least, so long as the Feeder knows exactly what he is buying; for no one is quicker than he at discovering the difference in value between an original piece of work and a more or less successful copy. For the same laws obtain in commerce as in art; and all artists begin by copying the work of the masters in the craft.

But a caution is necessary; no connoisseur of art expects the same perfection of detail in a copy as in the original picture; and a user of Feeding Cakes, when buying an imitation of our "Cakettes," should not conclude therefrom that he is getting a Cake of our quality.

We have been catering for many years for those Feeders who demand—and who will have—

The Best Feeding Stuffs the Market affords;

and we maintain a staff of Chemists and an Experimental Farm, researching all the time after improvements in all directions; and it must be manifest to all that this line of policy is bound to yield the best results obtainable, a fact which any observant feeder will discover for himself if he make careful tests.

We may add that all the most approved methods of producing Cake in this form have been patented by us, and not only is the quality of our "Cakettes" the result of years of the most painstaking research, but the pieces themselves are more regular, shapely, and more satisfactory in every way than can be otherwise obtained.

We have, therefore, thought it but right to bring these facts under the notice of feeders, so that buyers who really want our "Cakettes" may not be put off with an imperfect article, and particularly as the genuine thing can be had at the same price.

We have registered the word "Cakettes" to describe the results of our improved method of manufacturing Feeding Cakes; and buyers who want our "Cakettes" should see that the word "Cakettes" is plainly marked on the bags, as shown in our illustration. If the word "Cakettes" is not on the bags, and you have been sold something "Just as good," we recommend that a practical experiment be made to test the quantity and quality of the milk which they severally yield, for the stomach of a cow is a handy and reliable chemist; and the more the farmer submits the claims of rival Cakes or Meals to practical tests of this kind, the more careful will he be to select the original article, however plausible a copy of it may be recommended to his notice.

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Notes and Jottings.

Smithfield Show is fully reported elsewhere, and hence there is no reason to refer in detail to that notably fine exhibit of British sheep.

Incidentally there is a matter which I have not observed mentioned elsewhere in connection with Smithfield Show. It is the growing importance of this annual meeting to the stud sheep breeder. To mention that the Smithfield Show can after all these years become more important to the stud sheep breeder than heretofore may be questioned by some. The fact, however, is that in no previous year were so many of those gentlemen who are engaged in the export business present than was the case upon the two first days of the recent show. That the export breeder should make a practice to come to this show is a matter of satisfaction, because at no other centre can so many distinct varieties of British sheep be seen, developed to the fullest extent that care and good management can effect. Many enquiries were heard of for sheep for export, but there is a growing practice amongst more than one leading breeder to give no details, hence it is not within our power to report fully, and it can only be stated in general terms that the export demand was very active, and several important transactions were either completed or under negotiation.

We heard much comment when the system of single judging was inaugurated, both for and against the system. The opponents gained the upper hand, and the Club reverted back to its old practice of grouping two breds together, and so far as regards the pure-bred classes selecting one judge from each breed.

It has been claimed that this is a better system than leaving each breed judge alone to his own particular breed. It may be that those who are but casual observers are satisfied, but a careful examination of the entries this year confirm the opinion held by the writer that far more mistakes have been made both this year and last than when each breed had its separate judge, the only rational and right way so long as two breed experts cannot be appointed. Mention of judges brings to mind a real grievance which a section of the cross-bred exhibitors have, namely, it almost invariably is the case that those selected to judge these classes are representative breeders and feeders moreor less connected with breeding the larger-sized breds.

Doubtless those who are selected are reliable and competent to award the premiums, but it would, it is considered, largely increase the number of entries, and, in fact, be carrying out the system adopted in the other classes were the Council in the future to select its cross-bred judges, one from those engaged in breeding and feeding the larger cross-breds, the Oxford and Hampshire, for instance, and another from those more intimately connected with the smaller class of cross-breds produced by either the Southdown or Shropshire. The Hampshire Down Sheep Breeders' Association, by establishing an annual dinner in town during Smithfield Week, the first of which took place last Wednesday, under the genial presidency of Mr. A. F. P. Drake, has taken an important step, and one that cannot fail but to be of value to the breed as a whole. This annual reunion of breeders from all parts of the country will do much to advance the mutual interest of all, as well as affording an opportunity for interchange of opinion, etc., that should be of considerable value.

From some facts mentioned by Mr. J. E. Rawlence in the course of his speech at the dinner, we find that the Hampshire Down Society was founded in 1890 with a membership of eighty-four in its first Flock Book, whose aggregate total of sheep then registered was 114,000, at the present date fifteen years later, the membership numbers 390, and the total of registered sheep in the "Flock Book" numbers 228,865. This notable increase is a matter of which those who have been connected with the Society all through its career can well be proud of. The number of members and the large total of registered sheep also confirms the Council's decision that the time has now arrived when the "Flock Book" can be closed against all but sheep bred from registered sheep without danger to the best interest of the breed.

More than one other Sheep Society are contemplating taking this step, but a word of caution is advisable, particularly to those Societies that have so large a members' roll as the Hampshire Down Society. It is bad policy to be too hasty, and where rules are in existence that provide for the use of properly registered rams for at least four years previously to registration there can be no question, but it is far wiser to those societies that have not a large number to come to no hasty decision upon so important a question. The annual general meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association has been held during the past week, the President for the current year is Mr. J. T. Hobbs; another President-elect is Mr. J. Flowers, both of whom are well known as thoroughly practical and leading flock masters.

Some say with the change of Government there is a danger that the existent regulations that govern the importation of live stock may be altered. A resolution was passed at the National Sheep Breeders' meeting that no alteration should be made. Sheep-breeders have a particular interest in seeing that the free importation of live sheep for grazing purposes should not be again allowed. Those who are old enough to remember what happened when this freedom was last in operation will not have forgotten the many scabby sheep that came from other countries, and there are many who consider that this importation of sheep scab as well as sheep is one of the many reasons why the disease increased so rapidly a few years back, just at the time these imported sheep were coming and immediately after the trade was stopped.

It is with sheep as with cattle. We do not say that we shall import disease, but experience of the past shows there is a great danger of this being done. Prudence, therefore, urges why incur the risk, particularly now when the imported supplies of both beef and mutton have assumed proportions altogether beyond that anticipated when the present wise, judicious, and sure regulations were put into force.

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Australian Industrial Openings:
Fruit Drying.

Among the numerous infant industries of the Commonwealth none show a more certain promise of future development than that associated with the production of raisins, currants, and other dried fruits. Although in California, where the soil and climate closely resemble those of the southern half of Australia, fruit-drying has been made the basis of a large and remunerative export trade, the lesson thereby afforded was, until a comparatively recent period, completely lost upon the Australian colonists, notwithstanding it had been frequently pointed out that in those districts where the grape grew most luxuriantly the production of raisins of a good-quality was attended with no difficulty. The establishment of the two irrigation colonies—Mildura, in Victoria, and Renmark, in South Australia—was followed by a rapidly-increasing output of raisins and currants, dried apricots and peaches, and other dried fruits of such an excellent quality that they went rapidly into consumption, demonstrating beyond all question the possibilities of the industry if conducted on sound principles.

At Mildura 8,386 acres were under culture in 1903, the crops raised including currants, sultanas, peaches, and citrus fruits. About 2,509 acres are under gordos, 2,141 acres under sultanas, and 299 acres under currants, as compared with 1,931, 870, and 148 respectively three years previous. The rainfall is only about 9 in. per annum, but a plentiful supply of water is obtained by pumping from the Murray, the channels commanding an irrigable area of about 15,317 acres. In 1903 the returns from the sale of fruits amounted to about £100,000. Included in the output were 1,200 gallons of olive oil, 1,688 tons of raisins, 745 tons of sultanas, and 90,000 cases of citrus fruits. At Renmark somewhat similar work is being carried on. Over 3,600 acres are under irrigation, and maintain a population of nearly 1,000 persons. The value of the fruits and olive oil sold amounted to £15,000 in 1903.

The other States also furnish excellent opportunities for the prosecution of the dried fruit industry, and for the building up of a large export trade in raisins, dried currants, figs, and other staples peculiar to the isles of the Levant and the Grecian peninsula. Wherever the Spanish muscatel has been introduced it has proved a very prolific bearer; and, were it more generally cultivated, there is no reason why raisins equal to the finest obtained from Muscatel should not be produced. In the Muscatel district the raisins are said to bring the vignerons a profit of from £40 to £60 per acre, and, all the conditions being fairly equal, the Australian-grown product should yield proportionately high monetary results. The main obstacle to the development of the dried-fruit industry in Australia generally is want of knowledge and inexperience on the part of both vignerons and fruit-growers generally.

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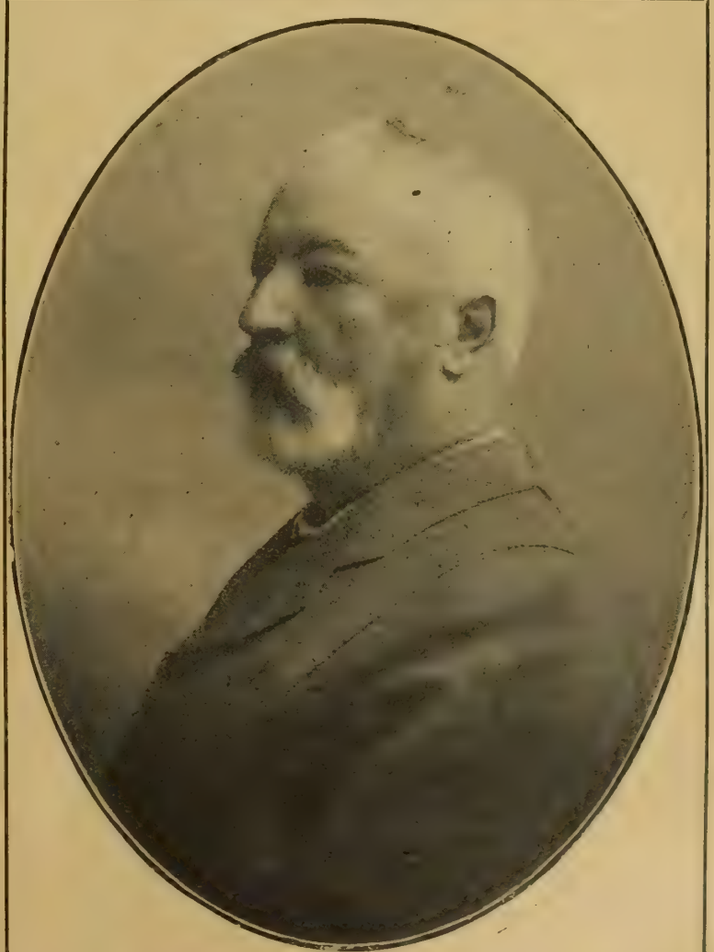

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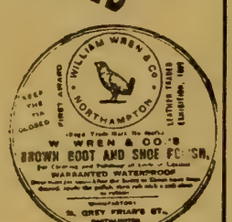

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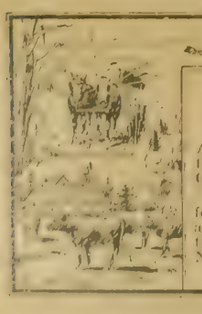

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In the recent action at the suit of THE MOLASSINE COMPANY, Limited, of 36, Mark Lane, London, against R. TOWNSEND & COMPANY, Limited, Royal Cake Mills, Stroud, for an infringement of a patent (for mixing Peat and Molasses as a food for cattle), originally taken out by Mr. Wilhelm Schwartz, and afterwards transferred to the plaintiffs—

> It was held that we had infringed the patent by mixing Peat with Molasses in the manufacture of the Molass Feed sold by us.

Under these circumstances we have, in submission to the decision, entirely discontinued the use of peat in any form, in the manufacture of our Food, which will henceforth be prepared of Molasses and Grain with other suitable products which produce a Food of High Feeding value.

During the Legal Proceedings a report on Molass and Peat Fodder, issued by the FOREIGN OFFICE, was brought to our notice, and we give the following extracts for the purpose of showing that the absence of Peat from our Food is of no practical importance.

Extracts.

A factory has bee quite recently opened in Stettin for the manufacture of "Peat-Molasses-Fodder," or "Molasses-Mull," according to the patent of W. Schwartz. The manufacturer, Herr Ludwig Boldt, has obtained the sole right from the patentee for the province of Pomerania. The Molasses-Mull-Fodder costs 2s. 2½d. per cwt., free to station or f.o.b. Stettin.

No physiologist of plants would admit that a peaty substance can have a nourishing value and it is very easy to convince oneself by an experiment, viz, by giving some animals 4 lbs. of pure molasses and others 5 lbs. of Molasses-Fodder (4 lbs. Molasses and 1 lb. Torf-Mull). According to my experience the result in both cases was the same, which proves that the sugar is the chief factor, and that the Torf-Mull —quite apart from the fact that it acts, in time, sluggishly, and therefore prejudicially, on the digestive organs—was given uselessly. But as feeding with it is not free of cost, it must be disadvantageous to the farmer's purse.

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We have recently taken another step forward, and have invented a process by which the Feeding Cakes can be turned out in the form of "Cakettes," as shown in our illustration; it is obvious that this improved method of manufacture will save a good deal of time to the Feeder—and what is more it costs him nothing.

So excellent an innovation has attracted the attention of a great many Cake users, and naturally more or less plausible imitations of our "Cakettes" are beginning to loom on the horizon.

We do not complain of this in the least, so long as the Feeder knows exactly what he is buying; for no one is quicker than he at discovering the difference in value between an original piece of work and a more or less successful copy. For the same laws obtain in commerce as in art; and all artists begin by copying the work of the masters in the craft.

But a caution is necessary; no connoisseur of art expects the same perfection of detail in a copy as in the original picture; and a user of Feeding Cakes, when buying an imitation of our "Cakettes," should not conclude therefrom that he is getting a Cake of our quality.

We have been catering for many years for those Feeders who demand—and who will have—

The Best Feeding Stuffs the Market affords;

and we maintain a staff of Chemists and an Experimental Farm, researching all the time after improvements in all directions; and it must be manifest to all that this line of policy is bound to yield the best results obtainable, a fact which any observant feeder will discover for himself if he make careful tests.

We may add that all the most approved methods of producing Cake in this form have been patented by us, and not only is the quality of our "Cakettes" the result of years of the most painstaking research, but the pieces themselves are more regular, shapely, and more satisfactory in every way than can be otherwise obtained.

We have, therefore, thought it but right to bring these facts under the notice of feeders, so that buyers who really want our "Cakettes" may not be put off with an imperfect article, and particularly as the genuine thing can be had at the same price.

We have registered the word "Cakettes" to describe the results of our improved method of manufacturing Feeding Cakes; and buyers who want our "Cakettes" should see that the word "Cakettes" is plainly marked on the bags, as shown in our illustration. If the word "Cakettes" is not on the bags, and you have been sold something "Just as good," we recommend that a practical experiment be made to test the quantity and quality of the milk which they severally yield, for the stomach of a cow is a handy and reliable chemist; and the more the farmer submits the claims of rival Cakes or Meals to practical tests of this kind, the more careful will he be to select the original article, however plausible a copy of it may be recommended to his notice.

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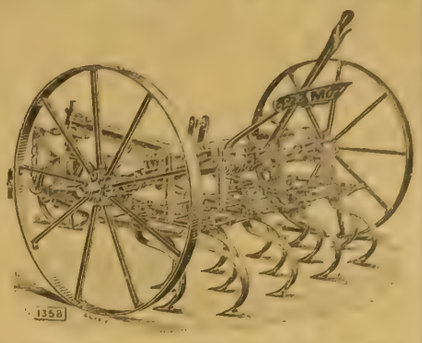

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Mark Lane Express
Agricultural Journal.
and
Live Stock Record.
ESTABLISHED 1832.

DECEMBER 18, 1905.

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Advertisements, Subscriptions, and business communications should be addressed to THE PUBLISHER "Mark Lane Express" 3 Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To Readers and Advertisers.

In consequence of Monday next being Christmas Day, the MARK LANE EXPRESS will be published on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22.

All communications for that issue should reach this office as early as possible, and in any case not later than by first post on FRIDAY MORNING NEXT.

THE COMING ABUNDANCE OF MAIZE.

Towards the close of August it came to be generally known that the maize crop of the United States this year was likely to be a record one. September and October added to the promise, so that when on November 11 last the official figures were published at Washington, no great surprise was expressed at a surplus allowing not less than three hundred and twenty million bushels to be exported. None of this vast extra store has yet left America, because maize is a crop which requires two months to dry after the cob is detached from the stem. But from the beginning of January new American maize will be in evidence at Mark Lane, and early samples will be shown there before Christmas. It therefore becomes highly important that we should make up our minds how to deal with this undoubtedly valuable foodstuff. Maize, says Hassall, in his famous work on "Food," contains more fattening materials than flour from wheat, than milk, than beans or peas. In the matter of carbo-hydrates it is richer than oatmeal, one of the most nutritious of foods. Evidently it is an article that our analysts and scientists, our Voelckers and our Dyers, may teach us how to use, and principally how to utilise it as part of the dietary of live stock, of poultry, and of other birds. If we do not buy America's maize, the United States will use up the great surplus at home, and we shall have a later but severer invasion in the form of maize-fed American bacon, maize-fed American poultry, patent American farinaceous foods and flours, and forms of meal, of all of which the basis will be maize.

On the other hand, an all but limitless supply of a fattening and nourishing feeding stuff at a guinea for 480 lb. is a real incentive to increased industry on the home farm. The price is very little over a halfpenny per lb., and there is very little fear of loss on unsound corn, the great maize-producing districts of America having this year had perfect weather for the ingetting of the crop.

Now, the first use of which cheap maize is capable is that of being fed, with skim milk, to pigs on the farms of the United Kingdom. Recent experiments with the use of skim milk have shown the exact proportion which can be profitably combined with maize, and, with respect to the latter, good may be done by feeding it to pigs in various stages of fineness, from simply bruised or half-broken corn to a comparatively fine meal. How to feed maize to pigs to best advantage would make a very useful leaflet for the Board of Agriculture to issue.

If plentiful maize enables English and Irish farmers to contest the trade in pork and bacon in 1906 and keep out foreign pigs, the prospects of the agricultural interest will have been appreciably bettered in the course of the year.

With respect to poultry, farmers are still far too prone to regard that industry as one for the women to take up as a hobby possibly, but a trifle beneath the dignity of agriculture proper. The result of this attitude is seen in the enormous tribute which we pay to foreign countries for their poultry and for their eggs. If our poultry are well fed with Indian corn, we ought to be able to make up for the more genial climate of France, and to contest the poultry market with home supplies. Continental countries are unwise enough to tax maize, which is raw material of the very highest value to the farmer in temperate climates. Whilst speaking of poultry one may be permitted to wonder why pigeons are not more extensively bred for the table. If one wants a fat pigeon, a Bordeaux bird has to be bought. Is this not absurd? Pigeons delight in maize, and the cheapness of a favourite food should in 1906 lead to these being kept and fattened for Leadenhall Market on a scale not known to previous years.

With reference to maize for horse food, great care must be shown. The stamina of heavily-worked horses can only be kept up where heavy oats, good beans, and the like are a part of the ration, and any tendency to give more Indian corn than before because it is so cheap is to be deprecated as pound foolish in its penny wisdom.

For human consumption maize has its uses, but it is too fattening for adults to take in any large quantity with advantage, and is chiefly useful for growing children. Family men might do well to buy a sack of maize flour at 19s. per sack, and divide it between three or four families. In fancy cornflours and the like, which are merely maize flour rather too finely ground, they are paying at the local groceries a price four to five times that of the actual article at Mark Lane.

The ruthless destruction of wild flowers in Devonshire has caused the County Council to apply to the Secretary of State to sanction a by-law with a view to their preservation.

At the annual meeting of the Norfolk Agricultural Association, held at Norwich on Saturday, it was stated that the revenue during the past year had been a record one, amounting to £3,349, of which £1,449 had been distributed as prizes. The invested reserve fund had been increased by £550, and now amounted to £3,454. The election of the president for the ensuing year and the selection of the scene of the next summer show were deferred.

Seasonable Topics.

The mind has to go back some years to remember the time when there was a general movement in favour of draining land. To be quite exact, it was in that disastrous period in agricultural history when we had a cycle of wet summers followed by hard winters, the results of which shook well established farmers, and brought many to the ground who were working on small capital. A good deal of draining was done about that time, but the dry seasons experienced of late years seem to have done away with the necessity of this operation, and we have heard more complaints about the scarcity of water rather than a superabundance of it. In spite of all this, however, we frequently see land that would be all the better for draining, and one wet season would make the necessity all the more palpable. One need not be a scientist to understand that water-logged land is cold, because the rays of the sun are engaged in evaporating the water instead of warming the soil, and, again, when water is evaporated from the soil the ground is left considerably colder than it the moisture passed away by filtration. Further, air is necessary in the soil, and when the land is full of water, it is practically sealed against air, hence the necessity of draining. By the lay of the ground, and the character of the herbage which grows, any practical man can indicate when land wants draining, but one cannot always lay hand on a man who is capable of carrying out the work. Years ago the writer had a good deal of draining work in hand, which was performed by a gang of thoroughly capable men, acting under a chief, who contracted for the work, and did it in an efficient manner. When a lull came in the draining work in the district the gang separated, some left the place, a few are dead; and now, if the same kind of work had to be carried out extensively it would not be an easy matter to secure men so thoroughly capable as the members of the old gang. It seems to me that it is in work of this kind where the labour in rural districts has deteriorated, not so much in quantity, as there are plenty of men to be had now, as in what is really more important—efficiency.

Drainage.

* * *

With the mention of draining is connected another operation of almost equal importance, i.e., liming. The practitioners of a quarter of a century ago, or thereabouts, realised that to drain a water-logged grass field, which grew rank wiry grass and rushes, was not in itself enough. It is true the draining served as a means of carrying off the superfluous water, and where the mouths of the drains have been kept open, they still serve this useful purpose, but something was wanted to sweeten and purify the land, and set the sweeter and more palatable grasses into growth. The material which affected this object was, and still is, lime, and the custom was after draining pasture land to allow the farmer lime, he to do the hauling and spreading. What a traffic there was in this commodity can be seen by the many now disused lime kilns, which are still to be seen about, and it used to be a common sight to see farmers' carts and waggons making journeys to and from the nearest kiln. Lime, however, seems to have got somewhat out of fashion of late years; perhaps owing to the extended use of basic slag and other cheap concentrated fertilisers. Be it far from us to say a word against the value of the latter, but we support the old practitioner in his faith in lime. During the past summer we were in a large field where the grass was eaten off bare by the cattle up to a certain line, that could be easily traced across the pasture. We made enquiries, and learned that some ten years ago the land was drained and limed, but the quantity supplied by the landlord was not sufficient to cover the whole area. The short-sighted policy of the farmer would not permit him buying more lime to finish the field (though he could have got compensation if necessary), and the result was that the cattle would not go on to the unlimed part as long as they could get a bite on the portion of the land that was dressed. Not only was the former rather through not being limed evenly with the remainder, but it was further accentuated by not getting half the quantity of manure as the portion of the field where the cattle were frequently grazed.

Liming.

* * *

In the list of honours recently published we were pleased to observe that Lord Tredegar, the popular president of the Smithfield Club for the year, had been raised to the dignity of a viscount, and we feel sure that the high compliment thus paid to his lordship will meet with the approval of the agricultural fraternity at large. The Army may consider itself to have a claim on Lord Tredegar, who was one of the few who came safely out of that most glorious of military blunders the Balaclava charge—but for years his lordship has lived a quiet life as a British landowner, keeping up the family seat at Tredegar Park, Monmouthshire, in good old-fashioned style, hunting his own hounds, breeding prize cattle, and liberally spending his money in good works of all kinds. Lord Tredegar's show annually held at Newport is one of the agricultural events of the year, and the liberal way in which it is managed speaks volumes for its patron's interest in farming. In himself Viscount Tredegar is a reserved, unassuming gentleman, and a bachelor, but his name is one to conjure with in South Wales, where his good works are perhaps better known than elsewhere.

A Well-Deserved Honour.

SIR R. P. COOPER, BART.,
Head of the firm of William Cooper and Nephews, Berkhamsted.

It is very significant to observe that in spite of the great distress in towns and the growing seriousness of the unemployed question, at the late Martinmas hirings there was no undue overcrowding in the supply of labour, and though wages on the whole were slightly lower, as was expected, we have it on high authority that good servants were not easy to find, and that really good men had no difficulty in getting their own terms when the latter were within reason. Neither is it any over supply of men which accounts for wages ruling lower, but rather the inability of farmers to pay the former rates, and their reluctance to make promises for the future. Of course, the servants engaged at Martinmas hirings for the year are unmarried men, who are boarded and lodged on the premises, and it is in this class of labour that scarcity for some time past has been felt. Married men with families who are engaged by the week and live in farm cottages are more tied, but there are many inducements held out to young single men to leave farm work for the greater freedom offered in other vocations, but not always is the change really beneficial in the end, and it would be interesting to know how many of the unfortunate unemployed now idle in the streets of great towns began life on a farm, and left it for what seemed to them better prospects.

Labour Supply and Demand.

Though political fate has decreed that Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes' tenure of office as President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries should be one of short duration, every one will agree that for the past nine or ten months he has not been a mere figure-head, but, on the other hand, he has thrown himself heart and soul into the work of the office. It seems rather hard lines, when a man has just gathered up the reins, so to speak, and has got his team fairly going, that he should be obliged to hand over the ribbons to someone else; but such are the chances of politics, and in the same breath that we wish good-bye to Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes we welcome his noble successor, Earl Carrington. Of course, there are scores of people in the country who (according to their own views) could have made a much better Cabinet than that just formed by Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, but we hear few complaints about the selection of Earl Carrington as the Minister of Agriculture. Not only is Earl Carrington a Liberal peer, but he is also a liberal landlord, and what he has done in the interests of small holdings is a matter of common knowledge. He is also a man of parts, having done good work on the London County Council, and as Governor of New South Wales (1885-90). In a word, Earl Carrington is a man of wide experience and practical ability, and we venture to think that in his hands the Agricultural department of the new Government will be safe.

Political Changes.

* * *

Before us, as we write, is a report of a disastrous farm fire, in which a range of cowsheds was burnt to the ground, and nearly fifty valuable beasts perished in the flames. The actual cause of the fire is unknown, but it is suspected that a tramp seeking shelter for the night must have started the flames by dropping a lighted match or burning tobacco from his pipe. It seems natural when a farm fire occurs, and the actual cause is unknown, to suspect a tramp, because it is well known that members of this troublesome fraternity have been responsible for a good many disasters of this kind. The difficulty of what to do with the unemployed is by no means so great as that of how to deal with the habitually idle and unfit, and to this fraternity the professional tramp belongs. The rules of the casual ward are now so severe that he shuns this means of nightly shelter, and if he fails during the day to beg the requisite coppers to pay for a cheap doss at night, he prowls round barns and haystacks in search of the requisite shelter. Naturally the farmer trembles when he sees a tramping loafer hanging about his buildings at nightfall, because he knows how careless these men are in the use of matches and lighted pipes, and he fears for the welfare of his property. The day will surely come when the question not only of the unemployed, but the unemployable, will have to be dealt with, for the numbers of living parasites who, dead to all decency and self-respect, will not work, but prey on their fellow men, are on the increase.

Farm Fires and the Tramp Nuisance.

The continuous growth of County Council expenditure was the chief matter discussed by the members of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture at their annual meting. The matter was brought forward by a member (Mr. Lea) moving the following resolution:—"That this Chamber views with dismay the continuous and alarming growth of expenditure by County Councils and other public houses, as shown by the progressive increase in the rates, and begs to draw the attention of the chairmen of those bodies to the grievous burden entailed on the agricultural industry, which so largely contributes to the county and other rates, and the urgent necessity there is for a more careful exercise of economy by the spending committees of public bodies." He said that twenty years ago the county rates came to 10d. each half-year, and they had risen in 1905 to 2s. 2d. and 2s. 6d. per half-year on buildings, and 1s. 1d. and 1s. 3d. on land. For about ten years the county roads cost £24,000 a year, and now the cost stood at £37,500. The quantity of road materials had risen from 33,000 tons in 1894 to 42,000 tons at the present time. The farmers could not possibly bear this increasing burden. Mr. Madeley Burman, seconding the motion, said the roads were too good for ordinary agricultural traffic, and those for whom they were made as level as a billiard table—the motor car owners—ought to pay for the improvement. Several other members spoke in favour of the resolution, and it was adopted. Sir Hugh Gilzean Reid was elected chairman for the year.

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Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

So the appointment of Earl Carrington to the Board of Agriculture is the realisation of an anticipation which will be grateful to the farming interest. The appointment of Mr. John Burns to the Local Government Board is in the nature of an experiment. "Are you going to introduce the note of discord into the general appreciation which has greeted the appointment of Mr. John Burns to this position?" Well, I have yet to learn that Mr. Burns has even the slightest comprehension of the intricacies of the rural side of local government. That he has been a forceful boanergesian personality on the London County Council is undeniable. That he is the most significant advocate of the policy of municipal collectivism cannot be denied. That he has been the most acclaimed denouncer of the old order in municipal government—the old order which was chary of extending the principle of municipal ownership—is apparent to all. Cosmopolitan, however, as the man is, acquisitive as is his mental capacity, student as he ever has been, I have never yet heard that the hero of Battersea has been able to curb his impetuous temperament to a study of the rural phases of the local government problem. My fear is that the Local Government Board will become under his regime a mere urban organisation. Its care will rather be the pulsating urban municipalities, and the development of their activities—despite the warnings of men like Lord Welby and Lord Avebury—in the possibly dangerous sphere of municipal ownership and collectivism. I fear that the rural areas will be regarded, not merely as a subsidiary interest, but as not requiring the disciplined attention of the town municipalities.

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Of course, the Right Hon. John Burns is a very different personage to John Burns the sans-culotte. He is no longer the vivid Henry Georgian, no longer the declamatory demander of the nationalisation of all the means of production and distribution, no longer the man who hits his sublime head against the stars in ambitious perfervour and impossible anxieties. He certainly roars at intervals, but this is because his larynx is sound and his lungs unimpaired; but the roar expresses a comparatively mild purpose. The character of the latter-day Burns was best illustrated by his own picturesque criticism of the fatter-headed visionaries who fancy that their cry "Back to the land" indicates the panacea for all the social ills flesh it heir to. The Right Hon. John has, after all, long since allied sanity to his native enthusiasm; and he knows perfectly well that the belief that to forcefully migrate the human wastrels and unfortunates of the street corners to waste land, or even farm colonies—their migration having been without any prefatory training, and they having been thus divorced from all the methods and life of the past—would not only be a folly but a crime. You can't fashion a useful rural labourer, a man who can earn his living on the soil, by the mere boisterous assurance of some tempestuous Socialist orator. You don't create good labourers by violent phrases and turgid rhodomontade. This attitude on the part of Mr. John Burns is certainly more or less a good omen. Yet I mistrust the appointment—not certainly because of any belief in the want of ability in the man, or because of any inappreciation of his strident, ever-working, never-lazying character, or because of my fear that he has not shed his old intransigeant character. As a fact, so far as Labour men are concerned, Mr. Burns is, his collectivism notwithstanding, a distinctly conservative force in our midst. Hitherto, however, the Local Government Board has generally been regarded as a rural appointment. For instance Mr. Walter Long's accession to it was regarded as in the natural order of things. Mr. Burns is of the town towney. He exhales the urban temper; he has nothing of the somnolence of the villagers. Still John has shown the capacity to learn. I pray it be not exhausted.

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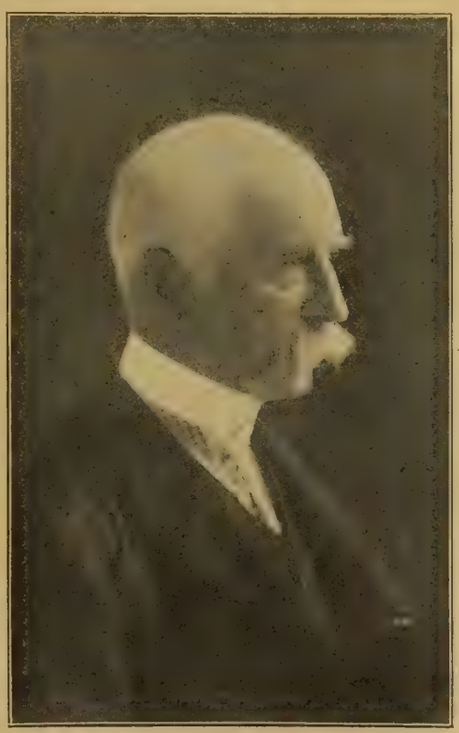
One of the regrets associated with the appointment of Earl Carrington to the portfolio of Agriculture—perhaps, the most opposite of



THE RIGHT HON. VISCOUNT TREDEGAR,
Tredegar Park, Monmouthshire.

the whole nineteen Cabinet appointments—is that his natural Parliamentary gifts will be somewhat cribb'd and cabin'd in the atmosphere of the Lords. Earl Carrington is like Guaga Din, "he doesn't seem to know the use of fear." The very altrition of the House of Commons would move him to a bolder policy. One of my arguements against the bestowal of a great administrative office upon a peer is that the conventional, soothing, placid atmosphere of the Lords may induce to a policy of routine and commonplace. Even a strong man might be lulled by this environment into a condition of acquiescence of the things that are. Separated from the quickening influence of interrogations and debate, a statesman, even of the best reforming intentions might relapse into the mood of acceptance. Of course, it was conception of this that led to the protests, on the resignation of Lord Onslow, against the office being given to a peer. I am bound to say that Earl Carrington's past—his establishment of a land court composed of his own tenants, his franker recognition than is conceded by the law of the principle of compensation for improvements, and his practical experiments in connection with small holdings—are as much an assurance as is the temperament of the new Minister that he will rise superior to these influences. I know him personally to be vigorous in administration, to be full of the quality of genial resource, to be superior to that personal conceit which renders some men indifferent to suggestion, and to be always eager for work. The first sequel to his lordship's own ambitions should be a demand for the enlargement of the sphere of the Board of Agriculture. Let him insist that the English body shall have, proportionately, something of the economic moment of the Irish organisation. Then his administrative anxiety may have a sufficient scope.

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One of the remarkable incidents of Lord Carrington's appointment is the enthusiastic appreciation it has provided in the West of England. Of course, the farmers of Devonshire and Cornwall are farther advanced in their agrarian economy than are the general body of farmers. Probably, this is due to the continued influence of the Callington platform. Be this as it may, at their dinners and the like these Western farmers refuse to nibble the dry-remainder-biscuit of out-of-date ambitions and commonplace purposes. In the series of dinners which have been held since Lord Carrington's appointment, something in the nature of warm-hearted confidence—all the more significant because having its origin in no partisan faith—has been expressed in the new Minister's prospective administration. His very unconventionality of character is held to be an asset of the farmers, inasmuch as it may induce him to refuse to proceed along the grooves of the not very valuable past, and persuaded him to follow his own natural instincts. His frank bonhomie and graceful courtesy are accepted as an assurance of his approachableness. His own past work on the field of reform—confined though it inevitably has been to his own estates—is held to be an indication that he has convictions as to the economic necessities of the land, which, by no means spoliative in their character, must, if generally applied, make for the betterment of the condition of the ordinary farmer. It is already certain, indeed, that in the West Lord Carrington is expected to infuse something like vitality into the framework of the Board of Argiculture, and to build upon it a flesh-and-bone fabric of usefulness.

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Are these anticipations—personally gratifying as they may be—altogether to the advantage of Lord Carrington? It is an ill-portent for this Ministry that it has been marked out by the varied bodies of its friends to do so much. As a sequel to this, it may become sterile. By reason of its selfish clamour for precedence the very channel of its output may become choked. Passive resisters, anti-brewers, anti-Chinese, Labourites, military all vociferously demanding that they shall have the first place in the purpose of the Government. Some sections must be baulked. Of course, at the same time, Lord Carrington, though generally responsible as a member of the Cabinet, is in a large measure divorced from these revalores. Hence it is that, in the administrative sense, he will have a freer and less trammelled opportunity of realising whatever purpose he may set himself. Still, I repeat, that the anticipations associated with him are not altogether an encouragement. Some of them are pre-doomed to disappointment. Besides, as in the enthusiasm which they have apparently assumed in the Western shires, they scarcely calculated to allow the Earl opportunity to carefully examine his position. Of course, Lord Carrington has come to the office at a significant moment in the position of organised agriculture. He has come to it at a junction when farmers are showing a growing inclination—the inclination, by the way, has not had a vivid enough expression yet—to release them-

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selves from the trammels of partisanism. Associated with this inclination is a deepening resentment of the neglect which characterised the administration of agriculture in the last ten years. Say, if you like, that this means that the field of administrative and legislative reform is white unto the harvest. It means also, in a subordinate degree, the aggravation of Lord Carrington's difficulties. Pray let us not forget that he is a member of a Government with many preoccupations. Still, administratively, he may do something. He can realise, perhaps, the anxieties of Mr. Hanbury with which Mr. Ailwyn Fellowes revealed so admirable a sympathy.

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There is one appointment in connection with Lord Carrington's position which will inevitably deepen generous expectations in certain of the Eastern and the Midland counties. This is that of Mr. R. Winfray as his unpaid private secretary. Mr. Winfray is an alderman of Peterborough, an active land reformer, a Liberal candidate, and has been Lord Carrington's associate and lieutenant in his smallholding and agrarian experiments. He is a man who possesses, beneath a dulcet, courteous exterior, an emphatic purpose. He is a small-holder advocate as resolute and practical as Mr. Rider Haggard himself. His economic outlook is not confined to small holdings; but it is in this role that he is most accepted, and in which he has made oratorial appearances at the conferences of the Land Law Reform Association. I accept his association with Lord Carrington as corroborative evidence that the improvement of the attractions of village life—and, of course, Lord Carrington has shown himself to be convinced that a brightening of the social and domestic side of village life is essential in any scheme of redemption—will be one of the earlier ambitions of the new Minister, and that he will not hesitate to invoke the financial aid of the State in realising it. Small holdings, allotments, and housing reform have long been anxieties with Lord Carrington. Aye, and I can assure his lordship that landlords and farmers are anxious to learn to what extent, and under what conditions, he will enable them to borrow from the State, in order to realise this purpose on their own estates and farms. Earl Carrington may be expected to go as far as Mr. Jesse Collings, Sir John Dorrington, and Sir John Kennaway, and even as far as Mr. Channing.

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By the way, how long ere the new Minister will persuade the President of the Local Government Board to revise and harmonise the building regulations of the rural areas. I doubt that the man to permit the sympathetic anxiety of would-be cheap cottage builders to be frustrated by the vanity or the ignorance, or the self-assertion of some local prudet who happens to have been elected to the rural council, or of some ex-publican or ex-grocer who may have been appointed building inspector.

MILLING.

The flour trade has been very quiet during the past fortnight, and prices remain about the same, although in some parts there is a reduction of 6d. per sack of 280 lb. Offals are in very good demand, both for coarse and fine makes. In many places the demand exceeds the supply, and prices have slightly advanced. Most millers find no difficulty in keeping quite clear of these products. Home-grown wheat has been in moderate supply, and there is no change to report in prices. Owing to the damp weather, some of it has been received at the mills in anything but good condition. It is remarkable how damp affects this wheat, causing it to break up badly, causing more difficult purification and dressing, and a lessened yield in the mill. There are some good samples to be delivered yet, however, and with the advent of dry, frosty days, matters will greatly improve. There are plenty of foreign parcels now on British markets from which millers can make a choice. Indians and Russians still continue to come and other kinds available are Manitobans, Red Winter, Australian, and Plate. Canadian long berried and short berried New Zealand wheat can also be obtained, but their quality is inferior to Australian. The colour of the flours from these, however, is often fine, and the.r flavour sweet.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The prospects of the Royal Agricultural Society continue to excite very considerable interest, and the recent correspondence strengthens the conviction that an annual exhibition near London must ever be a failure. The North Countrymen from the very first opposed a scheme for a permanent location near London, because they considered a permanent location anywhere to be bad, and that the migratory system was to be preferred; and also because they considered that if the migratory system were superseded, London was not a suitable position to select, and that if permanency was necessary, the site should be in one of the populous districts of the Midlands.

They contended, and as advents have proved, rightly contended, that the Londoner does not take the very slightest interest in agricultural matters, while countrymen would not come to the metropolis every year to visit an agricultural exhibition there. A demand has been made for a plebescite, but if there be one, the result will be an eye-opener, for fully three-fourths of the members will support the policy of the new Council and call for its further development. It is advisable to adequately test the feeling of the members, a thing that has not yet been done

The holding of a meeting of the Society in London affords no test whatever—the majority of the farming members can ill afford the expenses incurred in attending such a meeting—and only a small minority put in an appearance. If the Council would only arrange for the holding of a really business meeeing of the members on the first or second evenings of the show, they would obtain a far better representation of the rank and file, a matter rather carefully avoided in the past.

The ordinary meeting of members in the showground on the second day of the annual exhibition is a very futile affair, as little business being brought forward as possible. When the proposal to locate the show at Park Royal was still in its incipient stage, the society held its annual meeting at York, and the outside members determined to force a discussion, and would have done so in spite of all opposition had not his Majesty the King (then Prince of Wales) occupied the chair. It was felt that it would be unseemly to force the matter when he was in the chair, and so the opportunity was by common consent allowed to pass. But it was the only opportunity—a year later, things had gone too far.

One of the questions now before some of the northern farmers' clubs is the meagre form of certificate given by a district analyst who has analysed a sample of feeding stuffs taken for analysis pursuant to the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1893. A sample of what purported to be a 95 per cent. linseed cake was sent for analysis, and the district analyst declared the result of his analysis to be, "I am of opinion that the sample conforms to the description given on the invoice." The County Council, who employ this analyst, were asked to cause further information as to the constituents of the cake to be given, and in reply simply stated, "the analyst gives all the information the Act directs."

This statement is perfectly accurate, as Section 5 (3), of the Act of 1893, enacts, "The certificate of the district analyst shall be in such form and contain such particulars as the Board of Agriculture direct," and the Regulations of the Board do not require the analyst to state the percentages of nutritive and other ingredients present except when the invoice, or some circular or advertisement, sets out such percentages.

When it is remembered how greatly the "percentages of nutritive and other ingredients" in two samples of pure linseed cake may vary, it is seen how very serviceable and valuable such a certificate of analysis is to the sender of the sample.

Compare the subjoined analysis of two samples of linseed cake, both certified as pure:—

Moisture	7.69	..	14.32
Oil	6.23	..	12.30
Albuminous compounds	28.75	..	32.34
Mucilage, Woody fibre, etc.	50.89	{	30.72 / 6.28
Mineral matter (ash, etc.)	6.44	..	4.04
	100.00		100.00

Valuing these constituents at standard prices, there is a difference in value of at least 15s. a ton, even if the percentage of mucilage in sample A is assumed to be 34. Yet if the certificates of the analyses give no further information than is required by the Regulations of the Board of Agriculture, both would be certified as "conforming to the description given on the invoice."

Members of most farmers' clubs can get detailed analyses free through their clubs, or, at the most, at no greater cost than the fees they pay for analyses through the county councils. Is, there, then, cause to wonder that farmers prefer to obtain detailed analyses through the clubs instead of the meagre information obtainable through the county councils and the district analysts? Yet some of those in high places rail at the supposed apathy (?) the farmer evinces to the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Acts. He may well regard analyses under that Act with apathy and yet be keen enough on obtaining detailed analyses through his club or other available sources.

The finger of scorn has been pointed particularly at some of the Northern Counties, where there is little resort to the Act of 1903, but here there are many clubs which worked out their own salvation in these matters before 1893; one such club has a membership of over 500, several of over 100, and they prefer to rely on the procedure that has hitherto served them so well. M. Y.

December 15, 1905.

The Right of Landowners under an Old Act.

A case of interest to owners and occupiers of land came before the Chertsey Bench on Wednesday. An "ex parte" application was made by a solicitor with regard to some deserted land at Byfleet. The Clerk: Why, the application is made under an Act dater 1737! A magistrate: But has not that been repealed? The Clerk: No.. The solicitor: There was an amending Act. The section of the Act dealing with the case was read.

This stated that if a tenant was in arrears for a half year with his rent, and allowed the land to remain uncultivated or unoccupied, so that no sufficient distress could be levied to counteract the arrears of rent, and also refused to pay rent for the same, application could be made to the magistrates for delivery of the land to the landlord. Two magistrates could then view the land and affix a notice as to the payment of rent. Then at the expiration of fourteen days they must visit again, after which, if the occupier did not come forward, an order of delivery could be made.

Mr. Otter (a magistrate): Are you sure that the Act has not been repealed in any way? The solicitor: Yes, but there is an amending Act. Evidence having been given, the Bench appointed two magistrates to view the land.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Dec. 9, 1905, together with the quantities, emported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	8,576	10,731	Wheat ...	1,976,000	1,516,000
Sheep.....	10,867	1,931	Flour	316,900	367,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	385.700	693,400
Horses ...	242	176	Oats	313,000	389,900
			Peas	45.097	26,830
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	51.570	3,020
Beef	60,105	100 826	Maize ...	646,000	313,800
Mutton...	34,935	69.563	Apples ...	123,248	133,360
Pork	18,0.8	14,866	Apricots & Peaches	—	—
Bacon ...	111,146	110,314		Bunches	Bunches
Beef, salt	1,272	2,902	Bananas	105,469	96,978
Hams.....	27,900	24,090		Cwt.	Cwt.
Pork, salt	2,501	1,809	Cherries	—	—
Meat, salt & Fresh	10,398	14,482	Currants	—	—
Do. pres.	18,458	30,482	Gooseb'r's	—	—
Butter ...	87,120	76.160	Grapes ..	1,236	3 481
M'rg'rine	21,967	23,470	Lemons...	20.50o	10,953
Cheese ...	53,748	47,945	Oranges	205,632	243,066
Milk, Fresh, in cans or drums.	15	4	Pears ..... Plums ... Oth'r Fr't	2,620 — 627	5,260 — 752
Milk, Cream	126	89		Tons	Tons.
			Hay	4,331	2,473
			Straw ..	1,692	1,315
			MossLitt'r	—	1.795
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,865	17,267	Hops	11,330	8,997
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	10	323	Locust Beans	3,393	39,860
				Bush.	Bush.
			Onions ...	146,080	168,140
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	39.134	29,080
Eggs	478,847	449,482	Tomatoes	14,152	9,488
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry & Game	Value. £23,423	Value. £16,915	Veg'bles	£6,711	£4,954
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	4,584	10,070
Rabbits ..	12,372	21,025	Pres'v'd by canning ..	6,527	8 429
Lard	44,959	49,022			

Midland Notes.

The year is closing with farm work more in arrear than anyone thought likely at the beginning of winter. Four hundred or more tons of water per acre, which many districts received during November and the early days of this month, are not easily absorbed into the ground, and the damp air prevents evaporation. There is gradual improvement, but even now country roads are in a sad state, and carting in many places is altogether impracticable, for the land will hardly bear a horse. Only here and there has it been possible to make any substantial progress with seasonable tillages, while many fields which were intended for wheat still remain undrilled, and in the end will probably be diverted to other purposes. January is not a favourite month for sowing, even if it sees the land in good condition, and after then spring corn claims attention.

One hears not a few complaints of mangels failing to keep well. Probably a greater number were slightly touched by frost than was supposed when the cold spell so suddenly descended upon us; certainly blackening in the clamp is more common than one cares to see. To-day another turn of sharp weather is the one great thing to be desired, for we are in the thick of the Christmas sales, and a change is needed to put life into the beddings. Not that there has been much to complain of so far; indeed, the satisfactory times, prices paid at some of the earliest sales, and noted in this column last week, have been well maintained since. But a wek of frost would help to make the trade still more remunerative, and feeders in the Midlands have not been doing so well lately that they can afford to give anything away.

What are the Chambers of Agriculture and Farmers' Association doing to press forward the agricultural programme? Very little, I fear. The Warwickshire Chamber has invited Mr. Oscar Bowen to outline a scheme of common action at its next meeting, which will not take place until the fight is all over; the Worcestershire Chamber has taken no practical steps, and one does not find any very genuine appreciation of the needs of the moment on the part of the neighbouring chambers in Stafford, Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, and elsewhere.

Yet the Midlands are well equipped with organisations, through which farmers ought to make their influence felt. On the west, Hereford is only just forming a chamber of agriculture, and on the other side little Rutland and Huntingdon are chamberless. But altogether there are a score or more of chambers of agriculture, farmers' clubs, and associations, not reckoning the non-combatant bodies, whose sole aim and object of existence is the running of county and local shows. There is not one of them which ought not now to be a centre of political activity. By sad experience, farmers have learned that they must agitate if they would get the attention which is their right. But they must know on the other hand that the agricultural vote is too formidable a power in county constituencies to be rashly offended, and now is the time for farmers to show by deeds, as well as words, that it will be given to no candidate who will not accept and pledge himself to support the measures of reform which they have laid down as an irreducible minimum.

There is no doubt among individuals as to what is needed. Almost everywhere the ten items of the MARK LANE EXPRESS programme find general acceptance, and where additions are made they mostly take the form of a demand for consolidation and improvement of the Agricultural Holdings Acts, or the extension of "Eastern custom" to other holdings besides market gardens. But it is not enough to be agreed upon principle; conviction must be backed up by acton, and the action must be organised and emphatic. The publicans' motto, "our trade our politics," need not be the farmers' too, but it illustrates the spirit in which the latter should go to work; and he may do so without compunction, since to restore the agricultural industry to prosperity would constitute as great a service to the country as any political party could render it.

November 14, 1905.

The trustees of Harwarden estate have offered, on behalf of Mr. W. Gladstone, four prizes, of ten, seven, five, and three guineas respectively, for the best managed farms on the estate. Entries are to be sent in before next midsummer rent audit. The judging will be done by a competent practical farmer, and among the subjects he will be instructed to consider are general management of stock and crops, and especially the live stock bred by the tenant, care of farmyard manure before its application, management of dairy and poultry, and methods adopted for economising labour and meeting the changing conditions of farming.

FARM.

Lord Carrington's Small Holdings in Lincolnshire.

The annual meeting of the South Lincolnshire Small Holdings' Association was held at Spalding Corn Exchange on Wednesday. The association hold 650 acres of land under Lord Carrington (the new President of the Board of Agriculture), all of which is cut up into small holdings and occupied by just over 200 tenants. In connection with the further development of the small holdings movement on Lord Carrington's South Lincolnshire's estates cottages are now being erected on some of these farms.

Mr. R. Winfrey (chairman of the association) presided over the gathering, and was supported by Mr. H. R. Mansfield, M.P. for the Spalding Division, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, and Mr. Christopher Turnor, and there was a large gathering of the tenantry. A letter was read from Earl Carrington, in which his Lordship spoke of the small holders in that district as being pioneers in the movement, and said that by their thrift, courage, and industry, they had set an example to the rest of England. People were beginning to see that there was room for them all,, and that England would be none the worse if the labourers could obtain small pieces of land at the same rent as that paid by the farmer. Referring to the erection of houses for the small holders, he said that nothing would show the practical working of the small holding system more than the fact that the tenants demanded—and rightly demanded—better housing accommodation, and that they were willing and able without inconvenience to pay a sum as rent equal to 4 per cent on the money invested in the building.

Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, speaking with reference to the small holding movement, said that it might be thought that some of the land which had been occupied with large farms might usefully be divided up and worked, not by labourers earning wages, but by those who had a definite and personal interest in the prosperity of the land. They could not help noticing that there was a terrible loss through people leaving the country and drifting into the towns, and anything which tended to brig about the enlargement of the the population in the country districts would be a good thing and worthy of their encouragement. He congratulated Earl Carrington upon his appointment in the Government. His lordship had had great experience on agricultural matters, and he wished him a very prosperous career of office.

Mr. H. R. Mansfield, M.P., and others spoke and congratulatory references were made to Earl Carrington's appointment as Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Rider Haggard on Land Settlements,

On Monday afternoon Mr. Rider Haggard gave an address on "The Poor and the Possibility of Land Settlement at Home and Abroad," at a meeting of the Council of the Charity Organisation Society. Mr. Haggard said he thought the members of the Society would agree with him that, though charity was very good and helped many a person in a hard place it was no cure for the mass of poverty which existed in this country. They might as well try to make the Sahara Desert fertile with a watering-pot as attempt permanently to lessen the amount of poverty by means of doles of any kind. His object was to suggest a more excellent way, a way by which they might more or less get at the back of this state of affairs and cut those evils at their source. His idea was that this could be done by homeland settlements, by emigration, and by land settlements in the British Colonies. By homeland settlements he did not mean artificial colonies af small holders; he did not quite mean that; he mean rather giving facilities to the labouring classes who were in the country still to acquire land either by renting it or by purchase.

There were such communities in England, and wherever they existed the exodus to the towns had very largely abated, and there was more prosperity than in other places. In such instances the agricultural housing question settled itself more or less, because these small holders, by hook or by crook, managed to build their own houses. He saw no way out of the housing question on the land except by people building their own houses, which they would only do if they were freeholders. This would not, of course, abolish poverty. Who could abolish poverty? But if it was done it would stop a great deal of future poverty.

It would be said there was a lack of land. When we knew there were so many thousands of acres going out of cultivation every year, and that half the soil was not properly farmed, it seemed absurd to say there was a lack of land for the people to work on. But still he was told by experts that it was really impossible to get land except at an impossible price. The cause of this lack of land was large farms and estates, the spread of sport, and the pernicious idea that had gone abroad that the land should only be occupied by the rich. He still thought that suitable land could be purchased; but if it really was the fact that it could not, then there was nothing for it but to establish some system by which it should be transferred on a fair valuation.

There was plenty of room in England for large estates and sporting places. Let there be pleasure districts and industrial districts; there was plenty of land that could be made available without disturbing the tail of a single pheasant. It came to this, that the small holder and his wife could not be perpetually kept out of the rural Eden which he once occupied, by an angel in velveteen with a double-barrelled gun. Then there should be co-operation, equalisation of rates, and some system of advancing money to deserving agriculturists.

Then, as reagards colonisation and emigration, he had been criticised severely by Socialist organs for wanting to take the people out of the country; but surely it was better to take out of the country some of these pepole who were rotting in the cities than to leave them to rot. Least of all men he was in favour of depopulating the country, but when the people were in the towns and there was no opening in our own country, while there was an opening abroad, surely it was wrong to stand in their light and say they should not go because it would depopulate England. In his opinion we had to choose between reform and great troubles in the future. There were great forces arising, and it was well to spread them out over the land.

Mr. Spear on the Promotion of Agriculture,

Speaking at the Market Ordinary, held in connection with the Launceston Fat Stock Show on Wednesday, Mr. J. W. Spear, M.P., made some interesting remarks on agricultural matters. He said that if farmers were to have a successful industry they must keep an eye on the changes that were taking place. It had been suggested that the restrictions on the importation of foreign cattle into this country should be removed, but he thought that that would be very dangerous, in that it might throw them open to the danger of importing diseased cattle. If the graziers of this country found that grazing did not pay them, a great body of opinion would swing over in favour of the free importation, and they should study to do all they could to retain in the hands of the British agriculturists the production of store stock for this country.

Since agriculture was, after all, the greatest industry in this country, it behoved every man to do his utmost to promote its success. It was not a party question for the moment. There were men on both sides who were equally anxious to promote the welfare of the agricultural classes. They might differ, as honest men might differ, as to the best methods, but the purpose was one that they should do all they could to make it better worth while for agriculturists to remain in the country districts, and to seek to stop that movement of the population from the rural districts into the towns. They wanted to see more people owning and occupying the land, thereby developing their own industry and extracting from their own soil the largest amount of food which it was capable of producing, thus giving increased employment and adding to the national wealth.

He ventured to say that they must have in the rural districts the education of their children on more practical lines. Instead of trying to cram them with book learning, they must try to qualify them to be successful in the avocation which they had to follow, and he thought it would be desirable that close by every country school there should be an acre of land provided, where the boys could be encouraged to have their little plot to grow vegetables and flowers, and, if they liked, to sell their produce, and have a little pocket money. As a result, they would awaken in the minds of these boys an ambition to excel in the cultivation of the soil.

They wanted, at the same time, to see more hope for the future in the breasts of those boys. He hoped remuneration for the agricultural labourer would continue to improve, for unless he saw a prospect of being well rewarded for his labour he would not stay in the country districts. He knew the farmer could not afford to pay the labourers more, or he would do so, but the remedy lay in this—that certain unjust burdens must be removed from the farmer, placing him in a position to be better able to pay his men. Not only in the interests of the agricultural labourer, but in the interests of their grand old industry, it was the duty of any political party, no matter which, to do what they could, having regard to the just rights of other sections of the community, to make it better worth while for the agricultural classes to stay in the country districts.

By Lupulin.

Our Imports and Exports.

The Board of Trade returns just issued give us the following information concerning our foreign transactions in hops. We have received in November from the U.S.A. 5,360 cwt., and from other countries 17,233 cwt., the total, 22,593 cwt., showing an increase over the receipts of the previous month to the extent of 8,428 cwt. I fear that this enlarged influx may be taken as an indication of what will follow as soon as our rivals are tired of waiting for the sufficient advance in our values to enable them to find profit in our market. The surplusage both of America and the Continent must seek for an outlet, and it is only in the free ports of England that this can be found; therefore it is not unlikely that we shall hear of further shipments, at tempting prices, when local demand has been satisfied and the necessity of turning the balance into cash begins to be felt.

Comparing the results of the first three months of this season with those of the same period last year, we have reason to be well satisfied. America has this year only sent us 6,845 cwt., whereas in the same months of 1904 she shipped to England 59,278 cwt. From the Continent we have received this year only 34,519 cwt., against 101,874 cwt. up to this time last year. The difference of imports in our favour during the first quarter of the season is no less than 119,788 cwt.

Our exports during the period named have increased considerably upon the same business of 1904, being 10,735 cwt. against 5,772 cwt. This larger figure is mainly provided by the purchases of English hops for our Colonies, the buyers being attracted by our known qualities which are always in favour with our kin across the seas, and by the low prices at which we have been willing to sell this season. By deducting the exports from the imports, we find that the balances against our market at the close of November were 155,380 cwt. in 1904, and only 30,629 cwt. in the present year. We may therefore congratulate ourselves and say, "So far, so good," but we must be on the look-out, lest the enemy take us by surprise, and spoil our trade. There is certainly no markin for any injury of this kind, and it desirable that English holders, being forewarned, should be thereby forearmed, against possible loss.

General Observations.

England.

The Borough is feeling the effect of the approach of our Christmas holidays, consequently business is falling off, and the continuation of demand, which seemed to be probable a fortnight ago, is not being realised. Nor has the anticipated further advance in prices come about; but, on the contrary, it appears that the increase of imports last month has operated to some extent in checking the improvement in values that previously seemed imminent. The position in this respect is that of statu quo, prices being just maintained, but this is all that can be said. A circular, issued by a Borough firm to brewers, quotes this week 40s. to 85s. for English hops, adding that fine and choice descriptions are difficult to find at any price. On this basis we may fairly assume that growers cannot obtain more than 30s. to 75s., and I find that these figures are generally confirmed by factors' reports of the passing business. Their present experience is inducing some holders to withdraw from the market, in the hope that the trade may take a better turn when the New Year opens, and I hear that some of our growers are buying hops on speculation, thinking that they can make more profit in trading than in growing. This is quite possible, judging from the course of the current season, but, desiring to be a faithful counsellor, as far as my ability permits, I venture to utter a word of warning, and to advise caution. We cannot forget that an immense quantity of hops has been sold this year, being credibl informed that consumers have laid in very large stocks, and also that there is a large surplusage, both in America and on the Continent, which is only waiting a favourable opportunity to be shipped to this country. With these facts before us we can hardly expect that much, if any, improvement in values will be effected for some little time to come. Early clearance is therefore suggested as the most desirable policy. One cannot always be correct in forecasting, and the knowledge of the past makes one very careful, especially in such a vacillating and precarious a region as the hop trade. I trust, however, that my views are wrong this time, and that the future will be brighter than I can at present lock for.

Germany.

The latest reports from Nuremberg are very unsatisfactory. There is certainly some improvement in the export demand, but the business is being done at such very low prices, and in the most inferior qualities, that the market gains but little support therefrom. Several lots have been shipped at 15s. to 20s., and impartial observers are inclined to think that the lowest point has not yet been reached. Of course, much better figures are quoted for the higher grades. For instance, the best spalts are worth 80s. to 85s., Wurtembergs, Hallertans, and Padens 65s. to 75s., with other sorts in proportion; but the general dulness of business is so pronounced that all quotations must be considered only nominal, the tendency being so definitely in favour of further reductions, and the prospect of improvement remote.

The arrivals of hops at the Nuremberg Railway Station, from September 1st to November 30th last were 188,492 cwt., and the quantity despatched during same period 131,312 cwt. These figures do not represent the whole of the trade, as large quantities arrive and are sent out by road, but they give some indication of the increase of stocks, and in some degree account for the depression of the market. Another proof of the dulness that prevails is found in the reports from the great brewing centre, Munich, where, in the week ending November 17, only 170 cwts. were sold out of stocks amounting to 3,550 cwts.

Belgium.

Latest intelligence shows that the Belgian hop markets are in sympathy with those in other districts. The local demand is quiet, and comparatively little is being done in export business. The chief trade is of a speculative character, being stimulated by the necessity to cover earlier contracts. A moderate competition between bulls and bears is consequently aroused, in which sellers are somewhat conservative, and have been able to secure 48 to 50 francs for Alosts. But apart from these transactions, values in the open markets are hardly maintained, 40 to 45 francs being about the present currency for Alosts, and 25 to 27 francs for Poperinghe hops. In the country districts only a little business is passing, buyers being very reserved.

France.

My news from the U.S.A. has been recently somewhat limited, owing, I suppose, to the general dearth of business and its monotonous character. From New York State I hear that in the Cobleskill district the local market is dull, but fairly firm. Dealers have orders which cannot be executed owing to the general inferiority of the stocks remaining in growers' hands. Choice qualities are practically cleared out, the small remainders being held for higher prices. From Waterville the reports have a similar tone. The scarcity of good sorts compels buyers to turn their attention to the lower grades. These do not command more than 10 to 12 cents, and it is only occasionally that one hears of 15 to 17 cents being realised for little lots, which are exceptionally choice. A similar condition prevails on the Pacific Coast, where the bulk of the unsold stocks in first hands appears to be of undesirable quality. Any lots of good or choice hops are held with some firmness, and values are maintained. But prices of the lower qualities are all more or less nominal, ranging from 8 cents upwards. It is not unlikely that the experience of this season will check the previous tendency towards increase of the acreage, as although the crops this year are so large, the financial results to planters have been far from satisfactory. In the New York market there is some movement in export business, buyers being willing to pay for choice States 18 to 20 cents. Common to fair qualities do not command more than 10 to 15 cents, and yearlings are quoted from 8 to 14 cents. The outlook is not encouraging for holders, and the general feeling seems to be that, as soon as the necessity for realisation is felt, a large quantity will be forced for sale at any prices, and that further depression will be experienced.

The death was announced on Thursday of Mr. John Highfield, Cogshall Hall, Northwich, the owner of the Cogshall estates, and well known throughout the North of England as a breeder and exhibitor of Shorthorns. The deceased had lived at Cogshall Hall twenty years, and was aged sixty-four.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

Next Monday and Christmas will be upon us, so at this moment farmers can pause to look around them, for their produce, live stock and poultry, have by to-day been forwarded to their various market destinations, and no market business of any moment will occupy the attention of the agricultural world, the corn market, or the meat trade, till New Year's day. King Fog has been the ruler as regards the atmosphere in East Anglia during the past week, with intervals of frost and muggy weather; while the rain that has fallen indicated within twenty miles of London the compounds with which the fog was charged; for the rain, dispersing the fog for the time being, brought down upon the few flowers in bloom and evergreens a coating of filth that spoilt all their beauty. Nevertheless, as we have had fair open weather up to the present, farm operations have made such headway in the fields that now work is nearly everywhere concentrated towards the interior or immediate neighbourhood of the farm premises. But a glance at the fields in the Eastern Counties, and one can at once see that the year's life never slackens, and though winter's severities are still about—at least for plant life it is to be hoped so—Nature already sets her face towards Spring in many ways.

The early-sown wheat is looking fairly well, and the fields look much greener than they did some ten days ago, although in some districts it was put in under very dry conditions. This, no doubt, is the cause of the remarks that we have heard recently of the time the seed wheat has been in the ground this autumn before appearing above the surface. In these cases its growth has been abnormally slow, and one must not run away with the idea that it has been making good headway in its root growth, for, strange to say, the top and bottom growth of the wheat plant are generally about equal.

With the near approach of the great national festival, the sale of fat stock, from which supplies of choice Christmas fare are obtained have become very numerous, and so the daily and weekly Press in the Eastern Counties have been devoting columns about the doings in their respective localities where they circulate. Taking the whole of East Anglia, we should say that the prices for Christmas fare are satisfactory to agriculturists, although they naturally say that they would like values to be better, and frost now is what is wanted.

An interesting festive gathering took place at Hadleigh on Tuesday last, when Sir Cuthbert Quilter, M.P., entertained his tenants of allotments in the parishes of Layham and Hadleigh. It will be remembered that, with the laudable desire of benefiting the working classes, Sir Cuthbert Quilter some twelve years ago hired land for the purpose of allotments, which he sub-let to tenants in several parts of South Suffolk; and the popularity of the scheme and the goodwill that exists between the baronet and his tenants can not only be gauged by the manner in which he was received on Tuesday, but from the fact that as each tenant had the privilege of bringing his wife, daughter, or friend, close on 200 accepted Sir Cuthbert's hospitality.

Outside live stock and Christmas fare, farmers throughout East Anglia have had during the past ten days the question of producing sugar from English grown sugar beet at a profit. From Lincolnshire we learn that deputations from different bodies are now studying the German methods of extracting sugar from beet, and they are expected early in the new year to report on the prospects of establishing similar industries in England. While at the luncheon given in connection with the Ipswich Fat Cattle Show, Mr. E. G. Pretyman, M.P., in proposing the health of the President and success to the Show, after alluding to the unprofitableness of corn-growing, made beet sugar growing in England his sheet-anchor. Mr. Pretyman also remarked that he had grown sugar beet, and if he could get 18s. a ton for it he was perfectly prepared to grow it. Again, in Essex, the subject formed the topic of a lecture given by Mr. Sigmund Stein, of Liverpool, at the County Laboratories, Chelmsford, and in introducing the lecturer the Chairman, Mr. Thomas Goodchild, C.C., who is the Chairman of the Agricultural Committee of the Essex County Educational Committee, alluded to the experiments in the growth of sugar-beet recently undertaken in Essex, at Great Stambridge, Chelmsford, St. Osyth, Yeldham, and Maplestead. The average yield had been 18.2 tons per acre, 16.6 per centage of sugar, and 85.1 per cent. of juice purity. Thus the experiments carried out in Essex had more than held their own as compared with experiments in Germany.

Live and Dead Weight.

SIR,—Will you kindly answer the following queries in your Journal?—

Well-fattened bullocks and sheep, fit for butchers' use. Two Shorthorn bullocks weigh 80 stone each, live weight; 20 Blackfaced Suffolk sheep weigh 220 stone, live weight—all 14 lb. to stone.

What is a fair percentage to write off respectively between live and carcase weight? Also a fair percentage off fat hogs of 18 stone live weight? G. G. C.

The Impending Elections.

SIR,—I suppose that agriculturists will be anxious to know what is to be done for them in the new Parliament, and what will improve farming interest.

My prescription is, Peace and Popular Representation, instead of Despotic Imperialism.

Millions of people, if they had not been slain in war, would have been customers to consume the produce of the land. The so-called Union of the Empire by emigration for Ireland is absurd. Paddy has been driven away to America, there to cultivate an overplus of grain to swamp our markets.—Yours truly, OBSERVER.

December 13, 1905.

Wheat Crop in Hunts—Canadian Cattle.

SIR,—There is but little to report concerning agriculture at this dead season of the year. On the whole the autumn has been a favourable one, notwithstanding the somewhat severe frosts with which we were visited in the month of October. The wheat went into a fairly good but rather dry seed-bed; the effects of this are apparent in some fields where the plant appears to be thin; then the slugs have been extremely busy where the previous crop was clover, etc. The larks have also been more troublesome than usual, but, on the whole, the growing wheat may be reported as promising.

Some farmers were fearful that the frosts had injured their mangolds which were not stored; there does not appear to have been good and sufficient reasons for this fear, providing that the roots were not touched during the time that they were in the least frosted. Most of the mangolds were carted off the land with the least injury experienced for many years—in fact, we may safely report the mangold crop as one of the best of recent years, and extremely well stored with a minimum of horse labour. The growers of kohl rabi were not quite so fortunate, as a week of wet weather followed the break-up of the fine time in October. A slight delay in operations proved to be the proper course. Store cattle have not for many years been so low in price.

Surely the bottom is knocked out of the paid agitation of the representatives of the harbour trusts and of that small minority of feeders who care naught for the best interests of the thousands of small farmers who have been enabled to weather the storm solely by the aid of the rearing of young stock. The folly of the few beef manufacturers in imagining that for any length of time they will be able to force down the actual value of store cattle is beyond me; so long as the breeding and rearing of stores continues to be for a lengthened period profitable, so long will the other farmers produce them. The moment the conviction is forced on to them that there is little prospect of the rearing of stores being profitable, they will cease to rear and grow them, when the graziers will be entirely in the hands of our colonial friends, who will doubtless know how to take advantae of their opportunity.

Again, suppose there should be a case of foot-and-mouth disease among a shipload of stores, having amongst them a few suffering from that terrible skin disease, which is so prevalent in parts of the United States, if not in Canada, and the importation of stores is suddenly stopped, then the last state of the graziers will be worse than the present.

December 15, 1905. SANDERS SPENCER.

Prices and Prospects in Dorsetshire.

SIR,—This season has been a most favourable one for autumn cultivation, wheat-sowing, etc. In severe cases a certain amount of damage was done to the mangold crop by the early frosts. The root crop on the whole is not a good one, but, the winter having been mild, I do not think there is likely to be any real scarcity of keep this winter. The sheep trade has been good all along. The late fairs were some of the dearest for store sheep. Good milking cows and heifers have sold well, but store sheep have not sold well, except yearlings. There has not been any glut in the milk trade so far, but should the weather continue mild there will probably be a surplus of milk in January.

The wheat trade has been dull, and the price low considering the extraordinary quality of wheat. As regards quantity, the yield of wheat has been disappointing, and not in proportion to the bulk of stem. The oat crop, except winter oats, was a very bad one. The price of oats is fairly satisfactory. Barley a fairly good crop, and about average prices. Horses have been cheaper than they have been for some years past.

All farms in this neighbourhood, and one does not hear much grumbling among farmers. Where good cottages are provided there is plenty of labour to be had. G. E. R.

December 14, 1905.

Farm Work in Hampshire.

SIR,—The wheat plant is coming along well, also other winter crops, such as rye, oats, barley, and vetches. Owing to the small amount of hindrance by frost, all farm work is in a very forward state.

Hampshire Down flock-masters, in the earlier districts, are turning their attention to the lambing fold preparations.

Many flocks commence to lamb at the beginning of the New Year. Sheep feed in some parts is very good, while in others many complaints are heard of a short supply. Fat cattle prices have been very bad indeed, but prices for good-quality sheep have been well maintained. Fat pigs are scarce and making good prices—much better than for many years past.

Store cattle are difficult to sell, hardly realising what they cost to buy in the spring. M.

December 15, 1905.

Stock and Crops in East Yorkshire

SIR,—The season up to the present has been very favourable, and work of all kinds is very forward: labour is plentiful, and I am afraid a great many will be out of work during the winter; there are not so may days' threshing to do, so casual labour will not be in request. The growing wheat is looking well, and is about all up, but throught the frosty nights we had in November, it laid in the ground a long time.

The young clovers grew wonderfully after the corn was cleared from them and promise well. The white turnips are making a fair lot of eating, and swedes are growing yet, but are a broken crop. The yield of wheat has been good, prices 29s. to 30s. per qr. Barley yields fairly, but the price is not good, and the demand for it gets worse nearly every week. Oats a very poor crop and bad yield. We must hope for better prices in the New Year.

The beef trade has been bad all the autumn, about 7s. per 14 lb., and now at Christmas very few reach 7s. 6d. Mutton has been selling better, and I think is scarce throughout the country. The springs have risen a little, and are running now where they have not run for eighteen months. J.

December 15, 1905.

Hampshire Prospects.

SIR,—There is little to report at this time of year. Wheat sowing is nearly completed, and has been pushed on with little delay since the fine rain commencing October 30. I do not remember wheat lying so long in the ground, and that sown during the first week in November is only just breaking through. Rye, winter oats, and tares have done well. Turnips and swedes were not generally good in this part. The backward sowings never did well, and should we get severe weather pigeons and larks will clear fields of this description.

Sheep generally have done well and made good prices all through, but cattle have paid little or nothing for summer and autumn grazing. Labour very plentiful. E.

December 15, 1905.

"The Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac for 1906" is now ready. It contains specially written articles on all subjects of interest to a farmer. Send at once for a copy. Price 1s.; post free, 1s. 4d. "Mark Lane Express" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—[ADVT.]

Christmas Markets in Somerset—Potato Growing.

SIR, This week and next are very busy ones getting the remainder of the farm stock and produce despatched for the Christmas markets, and, judging by what has been sold lately, we are not likely to meet a very good market, for the old system of keeping up the best of everything for those times has been taken up by the importers, so that as likely as not there will be a glut, with a lowering of prices. This is already felt in the case of beef, for steers, which were not thought to be finished in August last were worth as much then as they fetched last week, so that their three months' keep on the best feed had been practically thrown away. A butcher who heard this said: When will the feeders listen to the warnings of the trade that it is no use piling on fat which the public will not have, and which has to be sold at surplus fat price of , say, 3d. per lb.?

Potato growers are finding present prices for good quality on the table are on a paying basis, provided a maximum is obtained, and one of the ways in that direction is to have the seed hand-picked at once, and see that only models in shape are put aside for own planting, for undoubtedly the rule of like producing like holds good in this case as in other plants and animals. The prohibitive prices of the new varieities are a thing of the past, and there is reason to believe they will be largely grown another season; for although in some cases the artificial propagation used to get up a stock in a hurry did harm, still there is now plenty that were not so subjected to this mode of culture and can be relied on to produce a big crop of good quality on suitable soil, and as they must have potash I find the cheapest form to obtain it is in kainit, applied broadcast before ridging up, about 5 cwt per acre, at a cost of, say, 15s. an acre. R.B.

December 15, 1905.

Stock Feeding in South Notts.—Local Burdens.

SIR,—We have at last got over the Christmas Fat Stock Shows, but we cannot feel that it pays well to feed cattle exclusively for the Christmas show, ordinary markets are about as good, and sometimes better. Sheep and pork are the only animals to pay well just now. What is going to become of the grazing fraternity if things do not mend one cannot tell. We cannot all go in for sheep and pork, or that will be in the same way.

Store cattle are doing well in the yards, but what we shall do with them if trade gets no better is hard to tell. We can only hope that after the General Election trade may took up and prices correspondingly.

Corn is not thrashing out above the average. I hear of very few samples of wheat being more than 4½ qr. per acre, and much barley not 4 qr. Oats generally a failure. New sowed wheat is looking well, and a considerable acreage is again put in, as also a larger area of winter beans, which are also looking well.

There appears a good amount of sheep-keep in this district, and of late sheep are doing well.

Dairy cattle are very dear, as is usual at this period when many cows are going dry consequent on calving in the early spring; even old cows, or cows which have had three or four calves in good buckle, are making £20 and more.

The open weather we are enjoying is helping us to get on with outdoor work, and ploughing is proceeding without any break. Early as was the work twelve months since, I think it is earlier now, with a larger acreage sown, leaving a smaller margin for spring corn, which of late years has not paid so well as autumn sown.

The suggestion of your correspondent in the Isle of Wight lends itself very generally to farmers and all agriculturists, and we ought to see that the candidates for Parliament will do something to reduce the heavy taxation. We have always had to bear more than our share, and it is high time we bestirred ourselves from our lethargic condition. The candidates themselves are but units, but if we club together and get at the units I feel sure something will be done. Then there is the question of education. We are educating our lads until we cannot get them to work for us. There are plenty of men, yet we cannot get a lad. Where are they all? Dressed up and going into town, where they can earn almost as much as their fathers can working on the farm, and having Saturday afternoon and Sundays to themselves. Can anyone blame them? That is what education has done for the farmer, and we have had to pay for it, and I presume shall have to still. There is no doubt, whilst our county councils and authorities are composed of rich men, not altogether practical, our rates will keep increasing. I sincerely hope the new Government will do something for agriculture. Let us see to it then that we urge the necessity of reduced rates on candidates everywhere.

J. A.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The attendance at Mark Lane was small, and trading ruled quiet in all departments. Foreign wheats were steady at last quotations. No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship quoted at 34s 3d and No. 2 at 33s 9d to 34s. For Australian 35s is wanted. Maize steadily held but quiet. Mixed American ex ship offers at 23s 3d. For La Plata landed 24s 9d is asked, and 23s 9d for ex ship. Flour firm and occasionally 3d dearer. Barley firm. Odessa-Nicolaieff landed is obtainable at 20s 6d. Persian at 19s, and American at 19s 6d to 19s 9d. Oats steady. 38lb. Russian offer at 17s 3d to 17s 6d., white American at 17s 6d to 17s 9d., and mixed at 17s 6d.

Mark Lane, Friday.—Trading was of a desultory character, but the tone generally was steady. English wheats quiet at last rates, while foreign sorts ruled firm at 34s 3d for No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex quay. Maize quiet, with mixed American landed held for 24s 3d; ex ship to arrive in a week offered at 22s 6d, and La Plata ex quay 24s 9d and ex ship at 23s 9d. Flour firm; for Iron Duke 22s 9d has been paid. Barley continues steady but quiet; Odessa Nicolaieff quoted at 20s 6d. Oats quiet at unchanged prices to the turn easier; South Russian offered at 17s 3d to 17s 6d, North Russian at 16s 9d to 17s 3d, and American at 17s 6d to 17s 9d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The approach of the holidays, and the occurrence of the Ashford Cattle Show, combined to reduce the business at this market to narrow limits. Prices were unchanged, though in some cases nominally. Wheat, 28s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 31s; oats, 18s to 22s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; Mazagans, 28s to 29s; maize, 27s to 28s; peas, 29s to 30s; foreign barley, 23s to 24s.

Banbury, Thursday.—Wheat, red, new, 27s to 28s 6d; ditto white, new, 27s to 28s; barley, 24s to 30s; beans, new, 30s to 31s; oats, 17s to 22s; peas, 29s to 32s per qr.

Berwick, Saturday.—Good attendance; smaller supplies of wheat and oats; barley firm at late rates. Wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; barley, 24s to 29s; oats, 18 s to 21s per quarter.

Birmingham, Thursday.—A small attendance at the market, and only a quiet retail trade. Both foreign and English wheats were about unchanged in value on the week. Plate maize has advanced to 24s 3d per qr. (480lb.) at Sharpness, flat maize being 3d down at 24s 6d Bristol. Grinding barley has improved 3d on the week, sellers requiring 20s 9d per qr. (400lb.) at Sharpness. English oats firm at 19s to 20s per qr. (312lb.), and beans 12s 3d to 12s 6d per bag (196lb.) delivered Birmingham.

Brighton, Thursday.—Barley, 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 32s to 33s. Quiet trade at last week's prices. Wheat in fairly good supply; prices unaltered and slow demand. Small attendance.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat: Not a great deal on offer; price unchanged on the week, at 29s to 30s per qr. Barley: In moderate supply, with a fair demand for malting qualities, at 28s to 32s per qr.; grinding descriptions firm, at 24s 6d to 25s 6d per qr. Oats firm at fully late rates of 20s to 21s 6d per qr. Maize unchanged at 25s 6d to 26s per qr. delivered for either rounr or flat. Other feeeding corns, also oilcakes and milling offals, firm, at last week's full prices.

Cambridge, Saturday.—The wheat trade last week remained quiet and unchanged in price, with small supplies Fine dry lots readily taken, but many samples lack condition and are neglected. There was no ta large supply on offer, and wheat was a dull trade for all but the best lots, without much change in values. Red, 29s to 31s, and white up to 31s per 504lbs. Spring corn quiet, but steady in value.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Barley supplies are diminishing, and for best malting samples a trifle more money is obtainable, values ranging up to 33s; grinding qualities, 23s to 26s per quarter. Tick beans are also worth a little more money, ranging up to 34s 6d; mazagans, 30s to 32s. Wheat firm, up to 32s. Oats steady, from 17s to 23s.

Chester, Saturday.—The offerings of English grain were small. Wheat was slow, oats firm, and barley quiet. Old Indian corn (flat) was easier. Better inquiry for offals. Quotations: Wheat, and red, 4s 3d to 4s 6d per 75lb.; barley, grinding, 3s to 3s 2d per 64lb.; beans, old, 5s 9d to 6s per 80lb.; oats, new, 2s 3d to 2s 7d; ditto old, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per 46lb.; Indian corn, new, 12s 6d to 12s 9d; ditto old, 12s 9d to 13s 6d per 240lb.; River Plate, new, 12s 9d to 13s per 240lb.

Chichester, Wednesday.—New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 20s to 21s 3d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 22s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 25s 6d to 26s; flour, 25s to 27s. Small attendance. Not much on offer, and firm trade.

Colchester, Saturday.—Wheat a small supply; prices unchanged. Barley dull. Beans and oats steady.—JOSEPH WILES AND SON, LTD.

Coventry, Friday.—There was but a medium attendance, and no alteration of moment in prices, which ruled as follows: Red wheat, 11s to 11s 6d per 1861b.; new wheat, 10s 3d to 10s 9d per 1861b.; barley, 27s to 32s per 448lb.; old oats, 23s to 25s per 352lb.; new oats, 19s to 22s per 352lb.; old beans, 12s 6d to 13s per 196lb.; new beans, 11s 9d to 12s 6d per 196lb.; peas, 11s 6d to 14s per 196lb.

Derby, Friday. Wheat in small supply, but firm in value. Spring corn realised the extreme rates of last week. Quotations: New white wheat, 30s to 31s; red, 29s to 30s; malting barley, 26s to 28s; old beans, 34s to 35s; new, 33s to 34s; old oats, 23s to 24s; new, 19s to 20s.

Devizes, Thursday.—There was a small supply of corn. Prices were firm, with no quotable alteration from last week. The following were the quotations: New wheat, 14s 6d to 16s; secondary, 13s to 14s; best barley, 26s to 32s; secondary, 20s to 24s; rye, 22s to 24s; old black oats, 20s to 23s; new ditto, 16s 6d to 19s; malting barley, 26s to 32s; beans 16s to 18s; fine flour, 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s.

Doncaster, Saturday. Moderate supply of English wheat and prices firm; top value 11s 6d per load. Foreign wheat continued firm, and Indians were 3d per quarter more money. Only the finest sorts of barley were asked for, prices unchanged. Maize was 3d per quarter lower. Other feeding offals unchanged.

Dorchester, Saturday. Somewhat improved attendance at to-day's market, and corn came a little better to hand, but there was not much business passing, the approaching holidays seemingly already beginning to tell on trade. Wheat, both English and foreign, remained unchanged from last week. Flour firmer, as was barley, both malting and feeding. Oats scarcely as buoyant as they were, and maize a very slow trade. Beans and peas as before.

Dublin, Friday. Wheat, 17s 6d to 18s 6d; malting barley, 14s 6d to 15s 3d; grinding ditto, 12s 9d to 14s; oats, 10s 9d to 13s 3d; oatmeal, extra pinhead, 12s 6d to 14s 6d; flour, 10s to 12s 6d; pollard and bran, 6s to 6s 6d.

Exeter, Friday. Not much trade. English wheat firm, if anything rather dearer; foreign unchanged. Maize firm. Barley shade dearer. Flour steady. English wheat, 3s 9d to 4s; English barley, 3s 6d to 4s; superfine flour, 25s to 28s; fine, 23s to 25s.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—There was the usual attendance at our Corn Exchange to-day. Wheat the turn in sellers' favour, and flour firm at last Wednesday's prices. Maize and corn both 3d per boll cheaper on the week owing to fresh arrivals. Barley firmer, but little business passing. Scotch and foreign oats met a slow sale at late rates. Beans firm, but nominally unchangedd. Peas firm, but unaltered. Oatmeal quiet and unchanged. Bran and thirds firmly held, but without change. GIBSON AND CLARK.

Glasgow, Friday.—Manitoban spring wheat held for 3d advance, which checks sales. Flour very quiet. Mixed American maize quiet at 14s 6d per 280lb.; round 1½d lower, at 14s 3d. Grinding beans, 3d dearer. Other feeding stuffs nominally unaltered. Medium bran in good demand at 92s 6d per ton.

Gloucester, Saturday.—English wheat was in fair supply and unchanged in value. Foreign was a very quiet trade at unchanged rates. Maize unaltered. Barley 3d to 6d dearer. Oats firm. WAIT, JAMES AND CO.

Grantham, Saturday. — An average attendance of farmers and dealers, and a fair amount of trade. There was a fair supply of wheat, and the demand was quite up to the average, last week's prices being maintained. Barley, 24s to 32s per quarter. A quiet business prevailed in other departments, and there was no variation in the values on the week.

Hereford, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance. English wheat steady at last week's figures. Barleys met with a rather better demand for good malting qualities, but trade for low classes was distinctly easier. Oats steady, without quotable change in price. Beans less active. Wholesale quotations: Wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 7d per 52lb; barley, 3s to 3s 9d per 56lb; oats, old, 2s 6d to 3s per 40lb; new, 2s 2d to 2s 6d per 40lb; beans, old, 4s to 4s 6d per 65 1-3lb; new, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; vetches, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per 65 1-3lb.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Small supply of wheat, trade steady, prices unaltered. Reds, 29s to 31s. Small supply of barley, trade slow at fully late rates. Fine, 32s to 34s; runs, 26s to 30s. Oats quiet. Maize rather easier. Beans and peas unaltered.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Shipments this week, although liberal, prove more moderate, and the trade keeps wonderfully healthy and firm; the demand for wheat, however, continues restricted, and business, besides, is sadly hampered by the interruption of telegraphic communication with Russia. Prices on the week, for both English and foreign wheat, are the turn against buyers. Malting barley favours buyers. Feeding stuffs firmer at a slight advance.—DUNNS AND CO.

Leeds, Friday.—English wheat was firm at Tuesday's top prices; foreign was the turn dearer for choice lots. There was no change in feeding and malting barley. Oats and peas were slightly dearer. Beans, maize, and flour firmly held.

Leicester, Saturday.—Good attendance of buyers and dealers, with full supplies of home-grown wheats. Trade steady. Red wheats, 29s to 31s; white wheats, 30s to 32s per 36 stones; good samples of barley, 25s to 29s per 32 stones. Beans steady. Fine oats, 20s to 23s per 26 stones.

Lincoln, Friday.—Good attendance, and fair show of English wheat, which met with a ready sale at the full prices of last week. Oats, beans, and barley in good supply, and selling readily at unchanged rates.

Liverpool, Friday.—There has been a small attendance, but wheat meets a very fair inquiry and holders are firm at an occasional ½d advance; Manitobas, however, have sold at a shade under last Tuesday. Flour: A very slow trade at about last Tuesday's prices for both foreign and home-made brands. Maize: Mixed, old is steady, but ¼d below last Tuesday, with a moderate trade; new Galveston, owing to its dry condition, has sold readily at quotations; Plate firm, owing to smaller supplies, but quiet; European grades steady, unaltered. Barley: Malting firm at about 6d to 1s advance and very scarce; feeding the turn dearer, but quiet. Beans steady at about unchanged prices, with a small trade passing. Peas steadily held at last market day's prices, but in slow request. Oats in slow demand, and generally the tone is quiet, but no lower prices are quoted. Oatmeal being very scarce is firmly held, but the demand is very small. Oilcake: A quiet trade for American cakes, but English cakes in fair demand at late rates; meal scarce and 2s 6d per ton dearer. — SEGAR AND TUNNICLIFFE.

Manchester, Thursday.—English wheat in small supply, and demand poor. Foreign quiet and unchanged. Flour rather easier. Indian corn lower. Plate quoted at 4s 11½d to 5s; mixed American, 5s 10½d to 5s 11d. English oats unchanged, and in buyers' favour. Beans and peas firm. Barley unchanged, and feeding stuffs steady.

Newark, Wednesday.—Wheat: A firm trade at full prices. Barley: A firm trade at previous prices. Oats firm. Beans rather dearer. Quotations:—Wheat, 28s to 30s; barley, 24s to 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 30s to 32s per quarter.

Northampton, Saturday. — Market had a holiday aspect. Supplies fairly large, but trade quiet. Oats and beans particularly firm. New wheat, 27s 6d to 29s; malting barley, 25s to 32s; new white oats, 19s to 20s 6d; new black oats, 18s to 19s; new beans, 29s to 32s; peas, 27s to 28s; flour, 24s 6d to 28s 6d.

Norwich, Saturday.—There was more wheat offering at our exchange to-day, with a firm trade at last week's currencies. Barley was also in better supply, and fully as dear. Gloomy weather still prevails. Wheat, red, 30s to 31s per quarter, weight 63lb per bushel imperial. Corn inspector's return for the week ending December 2, 1905: Wheat, 3,247, 28s 7d; barley, 20,889, 24s 4d.—J. A. MILLS.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was only a moderate supply of wheat, and prices were well supported. Meagre supply of barley, and slow trade at about late rates. Oats and beans poor show, and prices in sellers' favour. ROBT. HUBBLE.

Oxford, Saturday.—The attendance was fair, but business was on a somewhat small scale. English wheats were in moderate supply, and moved slowly at about former values. Feeding stuffs were in limited request.

Peterborough, Saturday.—The wheat trade to-day has been dull and slow, but there was no quotable change in prices. Barley was in small supply, and made fully as much money. Oats firm and quite as dear. THOMAS HILL AND SON.

Preston, Saturday. Despite an indifferent demand for wheat values were maintained. Poor attendance, and not much business passed. Wheat, white, new, per windle of 220lb., 13s to 13s 6d; ditto red, 12s 9d to 13s; oats, 2s 9d to 2s 10d per bushel; beans, per windle of 220lb., 16s to 16s 6d; bran, 10s 6d to 11s.

Reading, Saturday. The Exchange was fairly well attended, and business was firm. Wheat sold well at 28s to 32s, and barley realised 24s to 31s 6d. Oats fetched from 16s 6d to 21s 6d, and beans and peas made last week's prices.

Retford, Saturday. — A fair muster of factors and farmers, and a moderate supply, but trade all round was extremely dull. Prices of wheat were on the decline at 28s to 29s 6d, and rarely realising 03s. Good useful lots of malting barley changed hands at 26s to 28s; and grinding at 24s 6d per quarter. Business in grain for feeding purposes was confined to small lots for immediate consumption, and maize again realised 25s; beans, 30s to 31s; and oats, 18s to 20s per quarter.

Ripon, Thursday. — Scarcely any business passing. Last week's prices are maintained. A good show of malting barley. Prices: New wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; wheat, foreign, 33s to 33s 6d; barley, grinding, 23s to 24s; barley, malting, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; maize, round, 25s 6d to 26s; maize, flat, 25s 6d to 26s 6d per qr.

Shrewsbury, Saturday.—Wheat, 12s 6d to 12s 9d per 225lb.; white oats, old, 16s to 16s; new, 11s 6d to 12s 9d; peas, 11s 6d to 12s 6d per 240lb.; beans, 13s 6d to 14s per 240lb.; barley, 14s to 18s per 280lb.

Stamford, Friday.—Good attendance and a fair trade. Wheat, 28s 6d to 29s; best malting barley, 32s; grinding, sorts, 25s to 25s; oats, 18s 6d to 19s per quarter. Beans and peas very firm.

Sunderland, Saturday.—Better supply of grain. Wheat slow, and rather easier. Spring corn unchanged. Arrivals, coastwise: Wheat, 1,600 quarters; oats, 745 quarters. Arrivals, foreign: Barley, 4,449 quarters.—E. AND F. RICHARDSON.

Tunbridge Wells, Friday.—New white wheat, 32s 6d to 33s; new red ditto, 31s 6d to 32s; barley, 28s to 34s; grinding ditto, 21s to 24s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; rye, 25s to 26s; peas, 32s to 37s; beans, 32s to 35s; tares, 42s to 50s; maize, 26s to 30s.

Warwick, Saturday.—Very small supply of wheat; best samples sell at a trifle advance; out of condition slow sale. Poor show of malting barley on offer. Oats and beans about unchanged. Feeding stuffs rather lower.

Winchester, Saturday.—English wheat scarce, and a dull trade at last week's prices. Foreign unaltered. Barley and oats 3d advance. Maize unchanged. Flour quiet at late rates.—FEAR, COLEBROOK AND CO., LTD.

Wisbech, Saturday.—A small market. Wheat varies in condition. Dry reds, 30s 6d. Oats full prices, 19s to 20s 6d. Barley, 25s to 28s.—JAMES FLETCHER.

Worksop, Wednesday.—Good attendance, and a fair show of grain. White wheat, 28s to 30s; secondary qualities, 26s 6d to 28s; best malting barley, 28s to 30s; secondary, 26s 6d to 28s; grinding barley, 22s to 24s; white oats, 17s 6d to 19s; black oats, 16s to 17s; maize, 25s 6d to 27s 6d per quarter.

Yeovil, Friday.—English wheat firmly held. Foreign quiet. Oats sold at 3d advance. Grinding barley made 3d more. English wheat of best quality, 30s to 31s; secondary, 28s to 29s 6d; foreign, 33s 6d to 36s 6d; malting barley, 31s 6d to 35s; feeding barley, 21s 9d to 23s; foreign barley, 20s 9d to 21s; maize, 24s 3d to 25s 6d; beans, 32s 6d to 37s; rye, 22s to 23s 6d; oats, Irish black, 17s 3d to 18s; English ditto, 17s 6d to 20s 6d; ditto white, 17s 3d to 20s; rape, 46s to 48s 6d; veitches, 6s to 7s per bushel. Flour trade affected by the mild weather. Fine sells at 24s to 26s; extra fine, 27s to 30s. Good trade passing in offals and meals at the full rates of last week.

York, Saturday.—Very little wheat on offer, and good samples sold at last week's prices. Fine white made 29s 6d to 30s 6d; and red and mixed, 29s to 30s per quarter of 36 stones. Malting barley was in excess of the demand; fine fetched 26s 6d to 28s; good, 25s to 26s 6d; and feeding, 23s to 24s per quarter of 32 stones. Oats scarce and firm. White Tartary made 17s to 18s; black, 18s to 19s; and white Garton, 19s to 20s per quarter of 24 stones. Rye, 23s to 24s; and old beans, 33s to 34s per quarter of 36 stones.

FOREIGN

Paris, Wednesday.—In the provincial markets prices remain firm; offers are large, but there is not much business being done. Due to the approaching end of the year, both buyers and sellers do not care to do much business, preferring to wait till markets are in a more settled condition before taking up any definite position. Flour is selling slowly, but prices remain unchanged, although stocks are not large. The Bourse de Commerce is still characterised by that calmness which has been a feature of the past days. Wheat continues to arrive only from the district in the immediate vicinity of Paris, as the prices asked in the provinces are too high to enable them to compete. Prices remain firm, with a slight advance for current parcels. There is a somewhat better demand for flour, due not to any fear of a rise in prices, but to a desire to profit by the reduction which millers have thought it well to make. Speculators refused any concessions, but the market closed with a drop of from 5c to 10c.—*Dornbusch.*

Hamburg, Saturday.—Weather mild and damp; market kept quiet; buyers in the interior appear to have secured all they can provide for, and to effect sales lower prices must be taken. Only oats remain firm, owing to a want of offers from Russia. The imports since December 1 barley, 40,715 tons wheat, 10,838 tons rye, 33,430 tons barley, 40,715 tons maize, 10,080 tons bran. Fine Red Holstein and Mecklenburg wheat is offering at 32s 6d to 33s per 504lb. f.o.b.; American Hard Winter No. 2, 31s 6d; 80 kg. River Plate, 32s 6d; 77-78 kg., 31s per 480lbs. c.i.f. Offers of foreign rye are scarce; 9 15-20 South Russian afloat is held at 27s 3d per 480lbs. c.i.f. Good Danish barley continues in demand at 29s to 31s; Oderbruch and East Prussian is selling at 28s 6d to 30s; Bohemian to arrive per barge is held at 35s 6d to 38s per 448lbs. f.o.b. The demand in the southern markets has abated. Feeding barley in better supply; 60-61 kg. South Russian about due is offering at 19s 3d per 400lbs. c.i.f. Hamburg; spring shipments not offering. White clipped American oats are selling at 17s 3d per 320lbs. c.i.f. Hamburg. Mixed maize afloat is offering at 21s 9d, January 20s 9d to 21s 7d, River Plate due 23s 6d, May-June 21s, per 480lbs. c.i.f. Hamburg.—JOHN TATLOCK.

THE BALTIC.

London Corn Trade Association prices for arrived cargoes are 33s. 9d. per 492 lb. for White Calcutta wheat, 34s. 9d. for Red Calcutta wheat, and 33s. 3d. for Soft White Kurrachee wheat. No Delhi, Bombay, or Central Indian

wheat is quoted.

Arrivals at ports-of-call have been as follows:—

Maize, four cargoes from Argentina.
Linseed, one cargo from Argentina.

No wheat, barley, or oat cargoes have arrived on sale, the cargoes being in all cases already sold and arriving for actual use. Of cargoes off coast, two wheat have been bought for Ireland, two maize for Antwerp, and one linseed for France.

Since January 1 the total arrivals thus compare:—

	1905	1904.
Wheat	304	290
Barley	25	53
Oats	2	—
Maize	20	15
Linseed	55	44

Cargo sales between 11th and 16th inst. included:—Wheat.—White Walla, 32s. 6d. per 500 lb.; Red Walla, 31s. 6d. per 500 lb.; Blue Stem, 32s. 9d. per 500 lb.; Roumanian, 31s. 9d.; per 492 lb.; finest Russian winter, 34s .6d. per 492 lb.; Odessa Ghuka, 32s. 9d. per 492 lb.; and No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s. 9d. per 480 lb. Maize.—Argentine, 23s. 6d. per 480 lb.; and American 20s. 9d., the first on passage, the second for January shipment. Barley.—Kustendje, 21s. per 400 lb., and Black Sea 20s. per 400 lb. Oats.—17s. per 320 lb. American, and 22s. per 384 lb. New Zealand.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

	£	s.	d.
For 1905	69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	5
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 16, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	50,872½	26	7	145,585½	25	7	19,853½	17	2
1901	60,562½	27	7	119,398½	26	8	26,260½	19	8
1902	58,982¼	24	10	151,908¾	24	2	37,744¼	16	10
1903	53,397½	26	9	151,873½	23	0	30,707½	15	7
1904	44,745¾	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960½	16	2

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 16, 1905:—

Wheat	2,078,300	cwts.
Wheat-flour	218,600	,,
Barley	415,700	,,
Oats	145,000	,,
Maize	1,198,800	,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,551,400	1,730,900	1,507,931	1,323,400
Wheat-flour	262,200	397,500	536,595	332,400
Barley	508,800	736,800	691,692	560,400
Oats	104,000	293,700	158,665	560,600
Maize	469,600	510,700	559,756	1,168,200

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	36 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 5
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 10
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,437,000
Barley	,,	4,800	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	660,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	150,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	120,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	73,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 12, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,197	3	4,782	0	5	1	9	11
Barley	471	3	531	1	0	1	2	6
Oats	2,350	4	2,230	0	4	0	19	0

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
Dec. 17	44,745¾	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960½	16	2
,, 24	33,336¾	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916¾	16	1
,, 31	21,163¾	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757¾	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230¾	16	3
,, 14	39,647½	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754¾	16	3
,, 21	45,646¾	30	5	90,409½	25	0	32,957¾	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,495½	25	1	41,662½	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442¾	30	6	75,347¾	25	0	41,486½	16	7
,, 11	50,585¾	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080¾	16	8
,, 18	44,496½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643½	16	9
,, 25	42,165¾	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188¾	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	33,118¾	30	9	23,448¾	25	2	24,306½	16	10
,, 18	31,569	30	10	18,414¾	24	11	20,279¾	16	10
,, 25	32,371½	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910¾	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235¾	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660¾	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871¾	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,186½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183¾	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	25,600	30	8	2,963	24	10	12,937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803¾	18	5
,, 27	21,508¾	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017¾	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942¾	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	8,992¾	19	1
,, 24	11,574¾	31	7	145½	23	9	3,031¾	18	10
July 1	9,579¾	31	0	289¾	23	2	3,488½	19	7
,, 8	7,854½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,532¾	19	6
,, 15	4,884¾	32	3	34½	23	10	1,062¾	19	7
,, 22	6,553½	32	2	52¾	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691¾	32	3	24½	23	11	3,065¾	19	3
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	371¾	22	0	4,344¾	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	548¾	22	5	8,974¾	16	11
,, 19	32,715¾	28	5	1,758½	23	4	13,656½	16	4
,, 26	88,696¾	27	1	6,461¾	23	6	20,855	16	9
Sept. 2	92,630¾	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090½	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888¾	23	4	20,622¾	15	11
,, 16	83,185½	26	11	86 956¾	23	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475½	23	10	30,715½	15	11
,, 30	104,934¾	26	9	123,125½	24	3	42,067¾	16	1
Oct. 7	89,579½	26	9	147,570¾	24	9	31,190½	16	3
,, 14	85,449½	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354¾	16	6
,, 21	90,548½	27	1	224,530	25	0	24,635¾	16	7
,, 28	86,116¾	27	4	257,307½	24	11	23,860	16	8
Nov. 4	80,360½	27	10	231,869½	24	9	28,424½	17	1
,, 11	78,270¾	28	3	209,509	24	10	23,316¾	17	4
,, 18	87,001½	28	7	209,5 0½	24	6	82,382	17	8
,, 25	77,16 ½	28	5	197,662¾	24	6	25,433¾	17	6
Dec. 2	93,509¾	28	8	177,368½	24	6	29,859½	17	11
,, 9	82,752	28	6	165,885¾	24	7	52,371	17	11
,, 16	80,567¾	28	5	135,925	24	5	34,578¾	17	11

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Prices of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended December 16, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	80,567¾	qrs.	28s. 5d.
Barley	135,925	qrs.	24s. 5d.
Oats	34,878¾	qrs.	17s. 11d.

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

Dec 6 to 13, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total
Wheat qrs	4,740	82,521	87,261
Barley	3,200	16,000	19,200
Malt	15,532	...	15,532
Oats	5,100	117,000	122,100
Rye	100	2,900	3,000
Beans	1,084	2,477	3,561
Peas	321	836	1,157
Maize	...	27,681	27,681
Tares	35	...	35
Canaryseed	...	3,000	3,000
Cottonseed	...	9,400	9,400
Linseed	...	15,000	15,000
Dari	...	5,000	5,000
Flour sacks	22,862	60,000	82,862
Riceflour	...	17,000	17,000
Oatmeal	...	200	200
Barleymeal	...	45	45

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	26	3	24	9	24	0	21	9	24	6	21	9	25	9	29	0
Feb.	26	9	25	6	24	3	22	0	24	0	22	0	23	6	30	0
March	26	6	25	9	23	9	21	9	23	9	21	6	22	3	30	0
April	26	0	26	3	23	9	23	0	24	0	21	6	22	0	31	3
May	25	9	24	9	24	0	23	6	23	6	21	3	22	3	39	7
June	25	6	24	3	24	3	23	0	23	0	23	6	23	1½	25	0
July	25	0	25	0	24	3	23	0	22	3	24	6	21	9	29	6
August	25	0	26	6	24	9	22	9	22	3	24	0	21	9	27	6
Sept.	24	6	27	0	25	0	23	3	[illegible]	0	25	3	22	0	26	5
Oct.	25	0	27	0	24	9	22	9	21	6	24	9	23	3	26	1
Nov.	25	0	26	9	24	3	22	9	21	6	24	3	22	3	25	0
Dec.			26	9	24	3	23	3	21	9	24	0	21	9	24	0
Yrly. Avrg.			25	9	24	3	22	8	22	10	23	2	22	4	29	6

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 6	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10	27 1	24 11	16 6
November	30 4	24 7	16 0	25 3	24 8	17 6
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s.	d.	1904. s.	d.	1903. s.	d.	1902. s.	d.	1901. s.	d.	1900. s.	d.	1899. s.	d.	1898. s.	d.
Jan.	31	0	29	6	30	9	27	9	24	9	25	2	29	0	38	7
Feb.	31	6	30	0	31	6	26	3	25	9	26	3	28	3	39	4
March	30	3	31	0	31	6	27	0	24	0	27	3	27	6	40	1
April	30	9	29	0	34	0	27	3	24	6	26	9	27	6	42	3
May	31	9	28	0	33	3	27	6	25	6	26	8	28	0	40	0
June	30	3	28	3	34	0	30	9	26	3	28	6	27	6	35	6
July	30	0	29	4	31	9	29	9	28	0	26	9	27	3	32	0
August	29	3	30	0	30	0	27	6	27	6	26	4	27	0	31	6
Sept.	31	0	31	0	30	0	29	0	27	6	26	3	25	9	31	0
Oct.	31	0	31	6	30	0	30	0	27	6	26	0	24	9	30	6
Nov.	31	0	32	0	28	0	28	9	27	9	26	4	24	3	30	3
Dec.			31	3	28	6	29	6	28	3	26	0	24	6	29	0
Yrly. Avrg.			30	1	31	1	28	5	27	3	26	6	26	9	35	0

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION. CREDIT AND DELIVERY.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s.	d.		Town Households. s.	d.
September 1	(per sack) 30	0	(per sack)	27	0
,, 13	,, 29	0	,,	26	0
October 11	,, 23	0	,,	25	0
November 3	,, 30	0	,,	27	0
,, 29	,, 29	9	,,	26	9
December 11	,, 30	0	,,	27	0

(No change since last date given.)

WOOL.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Staplers, anticipating higher prices in the near future, there is a good demand. Holders, however, decline to sell except at an advance.

Halifax, Saturday.—The wool market is a little easier, with some tendency to further depression, though merchants are sanguine that it may be only temporary. As regards home-grown wools, the weakness is chiefly in wethers. Woollens are in steady request.

London, Saturday.—English—per pkge. of 240lb—Fleeces, South Down hoggs, £14 to £14 10s; half-bred hoggs, £12 10s to £13; ditto wethers, £12 5s to £12 15s; Kent fleeces, £12 to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £11 15s to £12 5s; Colonial—per lb—Vic., fleece super., 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W., scoured average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus., greasy average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z., scoured average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 10½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super., 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8½d; Natal, scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d; crossbreds—grs.—Vic., good to super., 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New Zealand fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; ditto medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d; ditto coarse, 10½d to 11½d.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Friday.—Nitrate of soda firm at late rates. Kainit and basic slag are in seasonable request at former reasonable prices. Feeding stuffs are firm all round, but lack activity as regards the consumptive demand, and appended are the values:—Fattening cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 17 6d to £7; feeding or dairy cake, prime Liverpool make, in bags, £6 10s to £6 12s 6d; nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 95 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11; bone meal, River Plate, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d; kainit, prime 23 per cent. sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s; linseed cake, American thin oilbag, prime but hard, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d; ditto English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 17s 6d; linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), prime, in bags, £14 to £15; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good ordinary, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d; ditto English decorticated, good ordinary, in bags, £7 15s to £7 17s 6d; ditto English undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 13s 9d to £5; cottonseed (crushed), 20 to 25 per cent. oil guaranteed, prime, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d; maize germ meal, prime, in bags, £6; corn oil cake, prime, in bags, £6 2s 6d; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 8s per qr. 416lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 6d per cwt.; D N S brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s; ditto ditto guaranteed 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s; ditto ditto guaranteed 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 13s; ditto prime quality, guaranteed 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 18s to £2; ditto finest quality, guaranteed 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 1s to £2 3s per ton.—at depots inland.—H. JONES LANGAR AND CO.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The aspect of the October-sown wheat is healthy, but the season is not quite of the character farmers desire, and a drier air is much to be wished for. The threshing of grain in this weather is a mistake, and the condition of the samples shown at Mark Lane has not been at all what one could approve. Millers will only pay a good price where the wheat admits of prompt use in the mill, while the reduction expected by buyers of any barley which is out of condition is a very large one. Colder weather set in before the close of the week all over France, and there would be general agricultural rejoicing if England in 1905 had an old-fashioned Christmas. Frost is king in Central Europe from Konigsberg to Buda Pesth, but on the lower Danube the autumn is still reinging and winter conditions have not yet set in; hence the heavy exportation of cereals from Roumania and Servia from the 1st to the 16th inst. In Russia the autumn has been extremely favourable to sowing, and the germination of the grain. There is no reason to suppose that the town riots have affected the hundred million of agricultural folk, nor do we profess to understand the nature of "universal railway strikes" which permit of 200,000 tons of grain being moved week by week from the interior to the seaboard. This tonnage means the use of about 40,000 trucks, or at least 2,000 long trains, each requiring two engines, say, 2,000 ordinary one-engine trains. The agricultural centres of production are often a thousand miles or more from the seaboard, yet the new crops have been arriving week by week without a break ever since October.

The telegram received from India on the 15th was very unfavoura---, and has caused a firmer holding of Indian wheat. The want of rain up to December 14 was serious, for if December is rainless wheat and oilseed crops will never fully recover the effect. The telegrams from India expected on 22nd and 29th will be awaited with great impatience. The Indian Government are to be thanked for keeping the trade well informed by weekly telegrams. It is a pity that no similar telegrams are available from Canada, South Africa, or the Australasian colonies.

The American farmer has sown 31,341,000 acres with autumn wheat, and the grain is of an average promise. North of the U.S. frontier the winter is severe, and it is said by some that the large reduction in wheat supplies at Winnipeg and other centres is due to snowfalls blocking the rails. Other reports, however, say that the crop was greatly over-estimated by the officials. The need of better information concerning produceion in the Dominion is genuine and serious. On November 24 "Beerbohm's List" estimated the Candadian and Manitoba wheat crop, at 13,000,000 qr., but, so far as we have seen, "Dombusch's List" adheres to its estimate of September 15, which was 11,250,000 qr. only. This difference of 1,750,000 qr. is of very material importance to the markets.

The new maize crop in America is now beginning to get into motion, and there are heavy sales for January shipment at 20s. 9d. per qr., as an inclusive charge. This means that maize in England in February is likely to be on sale at 21s. 9d. to 22s. per qr., and, of course, if the flood of supplies is continuous during January and February, a still more reduced quotation may prevtil in March. Up to the 16th the quantity of new crop forwarded from the interior to the seaboard was 12,253,000 bushels, as compared with 8,102,360 bushels last year. At this rate exports are likely to be half as large again as they were last season.

New York maize prices are thus telegraphed:—
December 16, 1905, 17s 2d per 480lb.
December 17, 1904, 17s 8d per 480lb.
December 18, 1903, 17s 6d per 480lb.

The winter freights always tend to be higher than those of summer, but the present price is clearly one which admits of a fair profit so long as 22s. can be obtained in London. At Mark Lane on Friday 24s. was still obtainable, but the tendency was against holders.

The American Board of Agriculture reports that the maize, hay, wheat, and oat crops of 1905 considerably exceed in money value at currencies the value of 1904 production. On the other hand, potatoes and barley have lost ground as paying crops. Dairy produce has brough in a largely increased revenue. On its agriculture, as a whole, the American Republic is estimated to have advanced £51,200,000 on the year. This is a substantial addition to the financial revenue of any country.

Good prices for English oats are by no means confined to Mark Lane, where the mean value though good, does not come up to that at Canterbury or at Chichester. In the North, however, prices only range from 17s. to 18s., and the Norwich average 17s. 6d., is by no means high. English wheat has been fetching over 30s. per 480 lb, and 31s. 7d. per 504 lb. at Canterbury and other markets in the Home Counties, but has been as low as 27s. 10d. at Lincoln and Peterborough. Barley has averaged 27s. 10d. at Canterbury, 29s. 7d. at Chichester, 26s. 9d. at Chelmsford; but against these fairly remunerative prices have to be set 23s. 10d. accepted at Cambridge, 23s. 1d. at Doncaster, 24s. at Lincoln, 24s. 1d. at Peterborough, and 24s. 6d. at Nottingham. Wheat straw is selling well in London, also at Bristol, Birmingham, Derby, and Carlisle. It seems to be cheap at Liverpool and Edinburgh, and, but for its bulkiness, should pay to ship round to Bristol and London respectively. Oat straw makes 55s. per ton for best in London and at Manchester, Carlisle, and Edinburgh. It is cheap at Leicester, Liverpool, and even at Glasgow, which apparently could make 5s. per ton by sending its straw to Edinburgh. Barley straw, as usual, is rather a drug in the market, but rye straw sells well and deserves to do so, as it is of excellent value. Straw chopped and otherwise treated for inclusion in cattle rations seems to be gaining in favour. It goes well with the fattening meals now in vogue, and has more nutritive value in itself than is often supposed.

The sales of British wheat at the statute markets last week were above the average for December, and raise the total sold since harvest to a very large total.

This season, 1,306,000 quarters at 27s 6d per quarter.
Last season, 701,000 quarters at 30s 2d per quarter.

This great disparity fully explains the fall in price. The sales of barley have been:—

This season, 2,257,000 quarters at 24s 5d per quarter.
Last season, 2,162,900 quarters at 25s 0d per quarter.

The recent sales of barley have been about the same as in 1904, but earlier in the season the deliveries of 1905 were rather excessive.

Last week the sales of oats were small, and returns for the 15 completed weeks of the cereal year are as follows:—

This season, 427,000 quarters at 16s 9d per quarter.
Last season, 533,000 quarters at 16s 0d per quarter.

The imports of the United Kingdom last week were:—

Wheat, 354,000 quarters; a full average.
Flour, 144,400 sacks; a fair supply.
Barley, 166,200 quarters; over an average.
Oats, 144,000 quarters; a good supply.
Maize, 73,200 quarters; an exceedingly small supply.

The total imports of breadstuffs including flour as wheat amount to 7,652,500 qr., as compared with 8,863,100 qr. in the like period of last cereal year.

Supplies on passage include 1,866,000 qr. of wheat, thus made up:—

	Quarters.
Californian	360,000
American	283,000
Argentine	445,000
Russian	380,000
Indian	281,000
Australian	80,000
Various	40,000
Total	1,866,000

Flour on passage is below an average quantity, 288,000 sacks being the last return.

Of barley the supply in prospect is moderate of feeding, fairly good of brewing.

	Qrs.
Russian	120,000
Roumanian	15,000
Asia Minor	60,000
Californian	280,000
American	80,000
Various	40,000
Total	615,000

Of maize 745,000 qr. are on passage. This is not a large total. Of linseed 209,000 qr. are on passage. This is more than usual. The expectations of cottonseed, 50,000 tons, are decidedly above an average, but those of rice, 18,000 tons, are as decidedly below the mean.

The shipments of grain from America last week were liberal, without being extraordinary. Actual quantities were:—Wheat 243,000 qr., barley 90,000 qr., oats 263,000 qr., maize 281,000 qr., and flour 151,000 sacks. Argentine sent off 115,000 qr. of wheat, 89,000 qr. of maize, and 37,000 qr. of linseed.

Russia shipped reduced quantities of all the chief cereals, but the surprise is that shipments continue at all. Actual exports were:—Wheat 515,000 qr., barley 200,000, qr., oats 70,000, and maize 40,000 qr. These supplies were augmented by Roumanian exports of 233,000 qr. of wheat and 47,000 qr. of barley.

India shipped 142,000 qr. of wheat, a comparatively large quantity, and Australia sent off 48,000 qr., the first four cargoes of the new wheat crop or the last of the old. The harvest is in active progress in South Australia, and is nearly finished in New South Wales.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 18.

[FIRST REPORT.]

Owing to English wheat being rather out of condition, and Manitoba wheat being in heavy supply, those two sorts to-day were obtainable at 6d. per qr. decline. On the other hand, the bad crop news from India caused the holders of Indian wheat in granary to ask 6d. advance. Russian, Roumanian, Australian, and Argentine sorts were unchanged. There was a little more business doing from the 11th. Maize was quiet, There were some buyers of Old American at 25s. 3d. ex granary, but most purchasers were content with the new crop at 24s. to 24s. 3d. per qr. Barley was rather cheaper for American and Russian, but quite firm for other kinds. Oats were unaltered for foreign, but 6d. dearer for English. Beans and peas are firm, and sold well at previous best prices. Linseed was fully 1s. dearer on the week. Rice, with a reduced supply on passage, tended to rise in price.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.	30	— 33
Red	,,	29	— 31
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	26	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT, Pale	(per 336 lb.)	34	— 36
Brown	,,	27	— 29
Black	,,	18	— 30
Crystallized	,,	31	— 33
OATS, Best Scots	,,	22	— 23
Ordinary Scots	,,	20	— 21
New Black Winter	,,	19	— 20
,, Grey Winter	,,	20	— 21
,, Black Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, White Gartons	,,	19	— 20
,, ,, ,, Chipped	,,	23	— 25
Pioneer	,,	20	— 21
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Mazagan	(per 504 lb.)	40	— 42
Pigeon	,,	43	— 45
Tick	,,	36	— 38
Winter (Old)	,,	35	— 36
,, (New)	,,	33	— 34
Spring	,,	34	— 35
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	,,	64	— 72
New Unpicked ,,	,,	48	— 56
Partridge	,,	44	— 46
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple (Old)	,,	35	— 37
,, (New)	,,	34	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 30
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	52	— 55
Brown	,,	48	— 52

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496 lb.		
Manitoba No. 1	34	— 35
,, ,, 2	33	— 34
,, ,, 3	32	— 33
American Red Winter	33	— 34
,, Hard Winter	32	— 33
Argentine	33	— 34
Australian	34	— 35
New Zealand	30	— 32
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	n	one
Calcutta	33	—33/3
Kurrachee	32	— 33
Turkish	31	— 32
BARLEY:		
Californ'n (448 lb.)	29	— 30
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	—20/3
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	22	— 23
American (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Persian (400 lb.)	18/9	—19
Crushed (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	32	— 26
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	22	— 24
Australian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20
,, (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Argentine (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
American (320 lb)	17	— 18

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
American	24	—24,3
Argentine	22/6	—24
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	34	— 36
Konigsberg	33	— 35
Syrian	35	— 37
New Zealand	35	— 36
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	60	— 74
Burmese	34	— 44
Chilian	60	— 64
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.		
Cyprian	5/2	—5/3
Portuguese	5/0	—5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	41	— 43
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	28	— 29
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
Gram	24	— 25
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	13	— 22
Indian	14	— 16
Burmese	8	— 10
"Feeding"	7	— 8
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	26	— 27
Persian	22	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	84	— 88

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED QUIETLY. MAIZE TENDED TO GO STILL LOWER THAN AT THE OPENING, BUT OTHER STAPLES WERE NOT QUOTABLY CHEAPER.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 18.

There was a better feeling to-day, as there are a good many buyers who are making plans to carry on from now to the new year without having to come to Mark Lane during the last eleven days of the old year. The prices of Town Whites and Town Households were tending slightly in sellers' favour, and were sustained by Seth Taylor's Households, which wer firm at 25s. ex. mill. Some fine English flour mixed with the best foreign, and made by Hungarian process, realised 31s. 9d. per sack cash. Cascadia at 27s. to 28s., and Granardia at 26s. to 27s., were once more in evidence, as was Pillsbury and Gilt Edg at 22s., and the well-known Iron Duke brand at 22s. 6d. per sack. Feeding flour was quoted at 16s. 6d. for Washburns and 15s. 3d. for Red Dog. Despite the Russian anarchy, there was some freshly arrived Russian flour on sale at 26s. cash. It is of excellent value. Australia offers to ship flour from the new wheat crop in February at 23s. c.f.i. There are no buyers at our 22s. 6d. per sack. Some good Belgian flour made 27s. No price changes were quoted in country flour or in French. Bran, middlings, and pollard were all the turn in holders' favour.

LONDON FLOUR.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 net
Town Whites	,,	28/0 ,,
,, Households	,,	25/0 ,,
No. 2	,,	22/0 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	25/0 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	23/0 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	22/0 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s.	s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25	— 26
Fine Roller whites	,,	24	— 24
Ordy Roller ,, ,,	,,	22	— 22
Best Stone made ,,	,,	21	— 21

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28	— 29
,, Second Patents	,,	27	— 28
,, First Bakers'	,,	21	— 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19	— 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26	— 27
,, Bakers'	,,	20	— 21
Cascadia	,,	27	— 28
Granardia	,,	26	— 27
Canadian	,,	26	— 27
Hungarian, 0	,,	32	— 33
,, 1	,,	31	— 32
,, 2	,,	30	— 31
,, 3	,,	29	— 30
French, Corbeil	,,	25	— 26
,, Renaux	,,	24	— 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22	— 23
Australian	,,	24	— 25

MEAL, &c.

		s.	s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12	— 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13	— 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11	— 12
Pollard	,,	11	— 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15	— 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14	— 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13	— 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16	— 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27	— 28
,, Seconds	,,	25	— 26
Barley Meal	,,	19	— 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25	— 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32	— 34
Groats	,,	33	— 34
Oat Flour	,,	34	— 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16	— 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	14	— 15
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	19	— 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	15	— 16
,, Cones	,,	19	— 20
,, Gluten Meal	,,	13	— 14
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20	— 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18	— 19
Rye Meal	,,	17	— 18
Pea Meal	,,	19	— 20
Bean Meal	,,	18	— 20
Locust Bean Meal	,,	17	— 18
Rice Meal	,,	14	— 16
Rice Flour	,,	20	— 21
Rice Cones	,,	19	— 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Saturday at the close of the week's trade were as follows:—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 11d.	Dec. delivery.
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	7s. 0d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 10d.	Dec. 27-30 delivery.
,,	4s. 0d.	Jan. 29 ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	Jan. 31 ,,
,,	4s. 3d.	February ,,
,,	4s. 4d.	May ,,

Buyers of American wheat for future delivery this morning were willing to pay 6s. 11d. per cental, but not 7s. Business was small. For American maize, any date February 1 to May 31, 4s. 4d. would have been accepted, but only 4s. 3d. was offered, and the selling interest was quite firm in standing out for the penny on the cental difference.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Flour.—Prices remain unchanged, and, as usual at the approach of Christmas, business is only of a limited character. GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Offals.—A further advance of 2s. 6d. per ton is being quoted for bran; the demand continues steady.—GREENHILL BROTHERS (Belfast).

Flour unchanged, demand poor. Grain.—Indian corn quiet, buyers holding off, waiting cheaper lots just due. Beans steady, not much demand. Oats rather dearer. Peas quiet. Oil-cake firm. Barley dull. Oatmeal steady. Mill stuffs (bran and thirds):—Millers are still behind with orders.—MCKINNON AND MCDONALD (Glasgow).

The flour trade has been in a subdued state during the week, and with little demand to-day values remain about the same as on Monday last.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS.

Wheat trade steady, and prices are unaltered. Flour is firm. Maize.—Plate is unchanged. Russian is 3d. lower. Barley and oats sell slowly at prices of last Monday.—COVENTRY AND CO.

Milling Offal.—There is no change to record; still firm at last Monday's prices.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

London, Monday.—Linseed cake: There is more business doing, and buyers are beginning to realise there is little chance of a weakening in prices for some time to come, especially as foreign stocks in London are almost cleared, and home crushers turn out very small quantities. Cotton cake: Trade rather quiet but prices well maintained. Linseed: In very good demand, and market advancing rapidly.

English Linseed Cake	ex mill	8	5	0 to 8	7	6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake	ex quay					
,, Western	,, to arrive	8	5	0		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake	ex quay					
Russian Oil Cake	,, ex quay	7	15	0 to 7	17	6
Decorticated Cotton Cake	ex quay	7	0	0		
,, ,, Meal	ex quay	7	1	3		
London-made ,, Cake (best)	ex mill	4	17	6		
Egyptian ,, ,,	,, (in bags) ex quay	4	16	3 to 4	17	6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, Burton	5	7	6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs.	ex warehouse	2	7	0		
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs.	sacks included ex warehouse	2	2	6		
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs.	ex warehouse					
Dulath do.	per 416 lbs.	2	3	0		
Larniea Linseed (in bags) per 16 lbs.						
London Desiccated Ale Grains	on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)						
Bombay ,, ,,	,,					
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.						

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

THE BALTIC, 1 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

Wheat cargoes are quiet for all sorts save Indian, which are 3d. up. Maize is unchanged for flat, rather firmer for cargoes of yellow. Barley and oats are steadier, while linseed and rice cargoes are held for an advance.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Rosario, 32s per 492lb., on passage; Rosario, 21s 9d per 492lb., January shipment; Rosario, 30s 9d per 492lb., March shipment; Bahia Blanca, 33s per 504lb., on passage; Bahia Blanca, 32s 9d per 504lb., February shipment; Red Walla, 32s 3d per 500lb.,, prompt; White Kurrachee, 34s 3d per 492lb., arrived; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 9d per 480lb., on passage; No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 32s 3d per 480lb., February shipment; Roumanian, 31s 6d per 492lb., prompt shipment.

BARLEY.—Crimean, 21s per 400lb., prompt shipment; Californian, 27s 3d per 448lb., on passage.

OATS.—American, 17s 3d per 320lb., December shipment; Black Irish, 18s 6d per 312lb., December shipment.

MAIZE.—Argentine, 23s per 480lb., arrived; American, 20s 9d per 480lb., February shipment.

PEAS.—New Zealand, 35s per 504lb., prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 42s per 410lb.,, arrived; Calcutta, 41s 9d per 410lb., on passage; Bombay, 43s per 416lb., prompt shipment; Argentine, 40s 6d per 416lb., February shipment.

RAPESEED.—Ferozepore, 39s per 416lb., April shipment.

POPPYSEED.—Indian, 45s per 377lb., prompt shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 15s per 2,240lb., prompt shipment.

RICE.—Rangoon, 7s per 112lb., prompt shipment; Saigon, 6s 6d per 112lb., prompt shipment; Siam, 6s 9d per 112lb., prompt shipment.

THE HOLIDAYS.

Mark Lane will be closed from the 22nd to the 27th, the Term Market from the 23rd to the 27th, and the Baltic from the 23rd to the 27th. The usual Monday markets at Darlington, Stamford, and St. Ives will not be held. The Scotch markets will be held as usual on the 25th and 26th, but New Year's Day will be a general holiday in North Britain, as it is in America and on the Continent. The Stock Exchange will be closed on December 25 and 26, and on January 1.

HOPS.

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, report: There is nothing fresh to report. The market is quiet, and it is expected that it will remain so until after the Christmas holidays are over. Stocks to be carried over to the new year are the smallest for many years.

CATTLE.

Metropolitan Market, Islington.

	Monday, Dec. 18, 1905. British.	Total.	Monday, Dec. 19, 1904.
Beasts	610	610	870
Sheep and Lambs	5,110	5,110	3,910
Calves	10	10	10
Milch Cows	40	40	40

Quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

ENGLISH.

	Inferior.	Second.	First.
Beasts	2s 10d	3s 6d	4s 10d
Sheep	4s 10d	5s 4d	6s 0d
Lambs	4s 8d	5s 10d	7s 0d

Milch cows, per head, £16 to £22 10s.

British arrivals include as follows: Scotland, 20; Eastern Counties, 114; Midland, Home and Western Counties, 302; Devon, 30; Ireland, 54.

We note to-day a decrease of 1,900 head, compared with Monday last. As is usually the case on a Monday following the Great Christmas Market, trade was a generally slow one, sellers being willing to accept 2d. less money to effect sales. The arrivals from Ireland were much shorter, and consisted of 44 Dublins (14 of which were black polled cattle) and 10 choice Waterfords, trade for which was extremely dull at a decline on last week's currencies. Fat butchering cows and bulls were in average supply but met with a limited demand from both Town and Country buyers. A clearance is considered to be very doubtful.

The following are top quotations per 8 lb. (sinking the offal):—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 19, 1905.
Scotch	4s 8d to 4s 10d	4s 10d to 5s 0d
Devons	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Herefords	4s 4d to 4s 6d	—
Norfolks	4s 2d to 4s 4d	4s 6d to 4s 8d
Runts	4s 0d to 4s 4d	4s 4d to 4s 6d
Lincolns	3s 10d ex 4s 0d	4s 0d to 4s 4d
Irish	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 2d to 4s 6d
Fat Cows	3s 4d to 3s 6d	3s 6d to 3s 8d

There was a decrease of 5,220 in the number of sheep and lambs penned compared with Monday last. Trade for all grades of wethers and ewes was of a very disappointing nature, a decline of 2d. per 8lbs. having to be accepted in most cases to effect sales, this being partly attributed to the overstocked state of the Dead Stock Market. The season for Scotch is now practically at an end, none being on offer to-day. Irish shared in the general depression, and were quot d 2d. lower. Lambs were in excess of the demand, salesmen having to accept 2d. less money to force sales. A clearance will not be made.

Undermentioned quotations are at per 8 lb. (sinking the offal), and are for the best of each class penned:—

	To-day.	Monday, Dec. 19, 1904.
7½ to 8 st Downs Tegs	5s 10d to 6s 0d	5s 8d to 5s 10d
9 st Downs	5s 8d to 5s 10d	5s 6d to 5s 8d
10 st Half-breds	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 2d to 5s 4d
10 st Irish	5s 4d to 5s 6d	5s 4d to 5s 6d
10 st Down Ewes	4s 0d to 4s 2d	4s 0d to 4s 2d
11 st Halfbred Ewes	3s 10d to 4s 0d	4s 10d to 4s 0d
5 st Down Lambs	6s 10d to 7s 0d	7s 0d to 7s 2d
6 st Halfbred Lambs	6s 4d to 6s 6d	6s 6d to 6s 8d

Calf trade nominal.

No pigs on offer.

London (Central), Monday.—Good supplies, fair demand. Beef: Scotch, 3s 10d to 4s 4d; English, 3s 4d to 5s 6d; American, 3s 2d to 3s 8d. Mutton: Scotch, wethers, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Veal: 3s 4d to 3s 8d. Pork: 4s to 4s 8d.

St. Ives (Hunts), Monday.—Beasts, 141; sheep, 525; pigs, 322. Beef, 7s 3d to 8s; mutton, 7s 7d to 10s 6d; pork, 6s 6d to 7s 6d. Fat and store cattle and pigs, sharp trade; mutton slightly slower; milch cows, short supply, prices £15 to £22.

Deptford, Monday.—Beasts, 800. To-day's supply, compared with Monday last, showed an increase of 260 head, and consisted of 475 from the United States and 325 from Canada. Trade was of a slow nature at a considerable decline in value. Best States were quoted at from 4s to 4s 3d; seconds, 3s 11d; Canadian, 3s 8d to 3s 10d per 8lb (offal given in). On Saturday, 2,047 beasts from the United States were offered for sale. Trade was firm. Some choice quality (Christmas quality) making from 4s 6d to 4s 8d. Ordinary States were quoted at from 4s to 4s 4d per 8lb (sinking the offal).

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, December 18.

LINSEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
Russian	41	to 42
Morocco	48	to 49
Dutch	43	to 47
Calcutta	42	to 43
Bombay	43	to 44
Duluth	41	to 42
Argentine	40	to 41
Turkish	42	to 44
Persian	41	to 42
POPPYSEED.	per 377 lb.	
Indian	41	to 43
COTTONSEED.	per cwt.	
Egyptian	5/9	to 6/0
Indian	4/9	to 5/0

RAPESEED.	per 416 lb. s.	s.
French	44	to 46
Dutch	50	to 54
Brown Calcutta	40	to 42
,, Cawnpore	42	to 44
Yellow Gujerat	45	to 46
Ferozepore	41	to 42
HEMPSEED.	per 325 lb.	
Russian	44	to 46
MAWSEED.	per cwt.	
Indian	17	to 18
SUNFLOWERSEED.	per 448 lb.	
Finest	48	to 52
Ordinary	40	to 44

SEEDS

London, Monday.—In spite of the holiday season being nearly on us, there is a fair trade passing in both clovers and grasses. Prices firm for the former and rising for the latter. There is more inquiry for spring tares, but no business, prices apparently too high for a start.—JOHN PICARD AND CO.

PROVISIONS

London, Monday.—Bacon: The arrivals of bacon last week were from Ireland 2,670 bales, and from foreign ports 11,071. The bacon market was quiet last week, especially for Canadian bacon, which was selling at fully 1s to 2s less money. Prices ranged:—Irish, 59s to 61s up to 66s; Danish, 54s to 61s up to 56s; Canadian, 52s to 54s up to 56s and 57s. Butter: The butter market was firm, with:—French, 108s to 123s; Danish, 113s to 121s; Russian, 97s to 108s; Australian, 104s to 116s; New Zealand, 11s to 117s; Argentine, 112s to 114s; American, 92s to 106s. Lard: The market was firm for lard:—Irish, 56s to 64s; Danish, 56s to 61s; American, 39s 6d to 41s 6d.

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in London.

The chief feature in regard to the cattle trade this week has been the holding at Islington, on Monday last, of the "Great Market Day," a day on which breeders and graziers vie with each other in sending their best stock forward for Christmas consumption. Of course, as usual, on this day both Scotch and Devon cattle were in considerably larger numbers. The dense fog which prevailed in the early morning made trade of an exceedingly slow and heavy nature; nevertheless, notwithstanding there was no sign of it uplifting, sales became a little brisker about 11 a.m.; the prices, however, remained considerably lower than on the previous big market day. Only choice quality cattle, however, can be said to have made much headway, middling descriptions meeting with very little inquiry. Fat butchering cows met with little demand; nevertheless, last year's values were well upheld. Bulls, on the other hand, were slow, but steady at a slight advance. The Irish consignments consisted pricipally of Dublins, including a few Shorthorns and 10 stores; these latter were not sold. On Thursday trade was slow at last week's quotations.

At Deptford trade throughout the week was of a firm and steady nature, at an advance in value, some especially choice Christmas-quality cattle being offered for sale. The total number on offer at both markets was 6,201, as against 5,689 on the corresponding day last year, showing an increase of 512 head, consisting of 2,840 British (increase 130) and 3,361 foreign (increase 382), these latter comprising 3,161 from the United States and 200 from Canada. The following were the top rates obtained per 8lb. (sinking the offal): 90 to 100 stone Scotch, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 95 stone Herefords, 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Runts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 90 to 100 stone Polled Norfolks, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 100 stone Lincoln Shorthorns, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Dublin Show cattle, 4s. 10d. to 5s.; 95 stone Irish, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.; 100 stone Devons, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.; 90 stone fat cows, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.; 90 stone States beasts, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; 95 stone Canadians, 3s. 10d. to 4s.

Of sheep at Islington there was a full supply, as usual, Downs and Halfbreds predominating. Trade, though slow, ruled pretty steady, late values being well maintained, and in some cases slightly surpassed. Scotch were short in point of number, and cleared early in the day; Irish, on the other hand, met a dull trade.

Lambs met with a fairly steady inquiry, the majority being cleared early at good money. On Thursday, although no decline in value can be noted, there was very little demand owing to the marked absence of retail buyers. No sheep were offered for sale at Deptford. The total number of sheep and lambs penned at Islington was 12,050, as against 12,950 on the corresponding day last year. Best pens of sheep made per 8 lb. as follows: 8½ to 9 stone Down tegs, 6s.; 9 stone Suffolks, 5s. 10d. to 6s.; 10 stone Down wethers, 5s. 6d.; 8 stone Scotch, 6s.; 10 stone Halfbreds, 5s. 6d.; 10 stone Irish, 5s. 4d.; 10 stone Down ewes, 4s. to 4s. 4d.; 8 stone Hampshire tegs, 6s.; 11 stone Lincolns, 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; 4½ to 5 stone fat Down lambs, 7s. to 7s. 2d.; 5½ to 6 stone Halfbred Dorsets, 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d.

Calves numbered 40. Trade not worth noting or quoting.

No pigs on the market.

Trade in the West.

As we are now within a week of the Christmas season attention is naturally closely absorbed by the fat stock sales in progress all over the country, and which cannot be said to be attended, on the whole, by otherwise than satisfactory results—at least, this is the outcome, as far as we can gather, of the generality of the sales held in the Western and South-western districts. The beef trade, as is generally the case, undoubtedly contrasts very favourably with mutton, both in regard to demand and to price. Purveyors have been eagerly on the alert for the very best class of beasts procurable, particularly Devons, which have been in even greater favour than in previous years. Both steers and heifers of this breed seem to meet the every requirement of purveyors at this particular season, and hence the eager demand for this class of beast, the great bulk of which have returned their owners from 12s. to 13s. per score where they have been turned out of hand with the finish so essential in beasts specially wanted just for the present. The best class of steers and heifers are making from £26 to £33 apiece for good weights, and for neater-handling beasts from £18 to £25, these quotations applying to the very choicest qualities. Secondary grades are also finding a very good market at from 11s. to 11s. 6d. per score; but half-fat beasts are but little wanted, even at low rates, as every one is centring their attention for the time on one thing—quality—and that seems to be the leading principle guiding all transactions just now. Compared with last year's rates prices are about 1s. per score better all round for beef. Veal, too, of good finish is also selling very well, especially those of first quality, for which buyers are freely paying up to 9d. per lb. (or from £4 to £6 apiece); those scarcely so choice, but not by any means to be classed as secondary, making 8d. to 8½d.; more ordinary runs meet an indifferent sale at from 7d. to 7½d. Mutton has by no means recovered from the depression from which the trade has been suffering, except in respect to wethers and tegs of a very choice stamp, which are commanding very close attention, especially where at all suitable for "show" purposes, when they make 8½d. to 8¾d. per lb. for nice weights with an absence of coarseness, as also do young ewes of a good stamp, for which butchers are giving 7½d. to 8d.; but anything that is outside the category of "choice" is much neglected and anything but easy to cash, even at 6d. to 7d. per lb. Choice suck lambs are, as usual, a good deal wanted, and anything at all fit for show makes 10d. to 11d.; but the ordinary run of lamb is altogether neglected. However well anything else is selling, there is nothing at present to approach small porkers, which sell freely up to 12s. per score and over, baconers being almost as dear, their range of value being from 10s. to 11s. 3d. Heavier weights in pigs are also very saleable at good prices; but for good sure returns there is nothing to compare with the neat porker or medium-size baconer, the present value of which has not been equalled for years.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of cattle on offer this week has been a full average, and the general quality good throughout. A steady demand has been experienced, and prices on the whole well maintained. Fat cows have made rather more money. A large show of fat sheep, and the quality also very good. For those adapted for shop purposes prices have been well maintained, but London sheep have, in some cases, suffered a fall of 1s. a head. Ewes were shown in smaller numbers, and for this class rather more money has been got. Fat calves selling dear, while pigs continue to make recent high prices. For the time of year there was a fair supply of store cattle. Anything of a good class met rather a better inquiry at prices just a shade higher, and a clearance of the better lots effected. Store sheep slightly more numerous, and plenty of inquiry for everything of a good description. The best class of milch cows sold exceedingly dear. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton, 7d. to 9½d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

For a home Christmas market supplies of catttle and sheep in last Thursday's Dublin Market were very deficient, and this was especially felt in the shortage of really well finished beasts. Numerically, the numbers were greater in both sections, but class was distinctly wanting. The attendance of home and export buyers was well up to the average, but business may be described as slow all round, as would-be purchasers could not find what they wanted, though quite prepared to pay well for it. Fine quality of well-finished stall-fed cattle were very scarce, and brought more money, but the right sort were "few and far between." Prime Shorthorns and Black Polled beasts made (live weight) from 34s. to 36s. per cwt. Good ordinary beasts made from 25s. to 30s. per cwt. Fat cows were a very difficult trade, and large numbers of rough, thin bullocks and heifers had to be held over unsold, much indifference being displayed towards such classes by buyers.

The cattle offered for sale were 4,025, or an increase of 381 head on the previous week. Dead weight, best ox and heifer beef was sold at from 50s. up to 56s., and for very choice up to 60s. per cwt.; good second-class beef from 45s. to 46s., and inferior from 42s. upwards.

There was a large offering of sheep, over 7,000, or 1,381 in advance of previous market, but, as cattle, quality was defective. There was a fair demand for good mutton for the Home and North of Ireland trade, but a very moderate export business was done. The majority of the market was made of nothing more than stores, and a great number of these had to be held over unsold.

Prime wether mutton made from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6½d.; and inferior from 5d. per lb. upwards. Hoggets sold at from 32s. each for small, up to 55s. for best heavy. Choice veal was quiet, but sold readily at from 7d. to 8d. per lb., but coarse calves neglected at from 5d. to 5½d. There was a large market of milch cows, but, as is usual about this time of year, buying was slack, and a late tedious finish was made. For very choice heavy springers up to £20, and occasionally £22 and £23, was given, but ordinary cows were slow. Store cattle still dull and quiet. Several large sales were held in Dublin. Trade in the country districts very flat. The pig market was well supplied, and there was a good attendance of buyers present. Trade was at first of a very dragging nature, owing to buyers endeavouring to bring down prices, but, seeing sellers determined, business improved after a little, and an early finish at about last week's currencies was effected. Choice light-weight pigs from 50s. to 54s. per cwt.; coarse, 42s. to 45s.; and inferior from 35s. per cwt. upwards.

LONDON.

London (Central), Thursday.—Trade, taken as a whole, was dull and dragging, salesmen having to accept 2d per 8lb less money in most cases to effect sales. Fat butchering cows and bulls also shared in general depression, making 2d per 8lb less money. Top prices per 8lb: 80st to 90s Scotch, 4s 8d to 4s 10d; 95st black polled Norfolks, 4s 8d; ordinary ditto, 4s 4d to 4s 6d; 90st Devons, 4s 6d; 100st Lincolns, 4s to 4s 2d; 95st runts, 4s to 4s 4d; 90st fat cows, 3s 6d; fat bulls, 2s 10d to 3s 2d. Increase of 1,320 in number penned in sheep market, supply consisting chiefly of Downs and half-breds, and very small consignment of lambs, for latter trade was not worth noting. Sheep trade slow but steady, last Monday's money governing all transactions. Best pens made, per 8lb, as follows:—8½st to 9st Down tegs, 5s 10d to 6s; 10st Down wethers, 5s 6d; 10st half-breds, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 11st Lincolns, 5s 4d to 5s 6d; 10st Down ewes, 4s to 4s 4d. Calf trade slow but firm. Quotations, per 8lb, sinking the offal:—Beasts, 2s 10d to 4s 10d; sheep, 4s 8d to 6s; calves, 3s 10d to 5s 6d.

London (Central), Friday.—Heavy supplies were on offer, for which a slow inquiry again prevailed. Arrivals of beef included 160 tons Scotch, 220 Liverpool sides, 2,300 hindquarters and 1,500 forequarters American refrigerated; also 1,050 Argentine chilled hindquarters and forequarters. Quotations: Beef: Scotch short sides, 4s to 4s 4d; long sides, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; extreme, 4s; English, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; American (Deptford killed), 3s 3d to 3s 5d; extreme, 3s 6d; Liverpool sides, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; American refrigerated hindquarters (best), 3s 4d to 3s 8d; forequarters, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; Argentine chilled hindquarters, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; forequarters, 2s to 2s 2d. Mutton: Scotch wethers, 4s to 4s 8d; ewes, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ewes, 3s to 3s 4d. Lamb: New Zealand, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Veal: English and Dutch, 3s 8d to 4s 8d. Pork: English and Dutch, 4s to 4s 8d per 8lb.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Best beef made better prices owing to the demand for Christmas trade. Prime steers, 4s 8d to 5s; and show bullocks, occasionally 2d more. Rough cattle and cows neglected. Mutton sold readily. Downs, at 6s 4d to 6s; Kent wethers, at 5s 2d to 5s 10d; and ewes, 3s 8d to 4s 2d. Veal dearer, making up to 5s 8d. Pork unchanged, roasters making 4s 8d.

Berwick, Saturday.—The number of beasts penned was 226, 96 less than the previous week. The attendance of farmers and buyers was small. Quality of stock fair, and trade slow. Calves, £4 to £5 10s; stirks, £10 to £11 10s; two-year-olds, £11; shorthorn bulls, £10.

Birmingham, Tuesday.—Fair supply of pigs. Small supply of beasts and sheep; trade slow. Quotations:—Beef, 5d to 6d per lb; Herefords, 6½d per lb; mutton, 6½d to 9d per lb; bacon pigs, 9s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 9s 6d to 10s per score; porkets, 10s 9d to 11s per score; sows, 8s to 8s 3d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—Beef fair supply. Best Devons, 65s per cwt; shorthorns, 60s to 63s per cwt; best ordinary, 56s per cwt; secondary, 52s per cwt; 400 store cattle offered at late rates. Small supply of mutton; best down wethers, 8½d to 9d per lb; prime wethers, 8d to 8½d per lb; heavy, 7½d per lb; ewes, 6d per lb. Moderate show of pigs; bacon, 9s 6d per score; porker, 10s 9d per score.

Canterbury, Saturday.—Very little business doing in store stock. Yearlings are selling from £8 to £9 10s, and calves from £4 10s to £5 10s per head.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under	9	6
Under 10 sc.	Not exceeding 2½ in. ...	9	6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb.	2¾ in. ...	9	0
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	8	6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Carlisle, Saturday.—Small supply on the Sands, and trade was practically at a standstill. Wintering heifers, £10 10s to £12 10s each.

Chester, Thursday.—An average supply of stock of all descriptions, with a good attendance of buyers. The quality of the cattle was generally good, and the demand keen, especially for sound milking stock, in which dealers did a very satisfactory trade. Prices all round were a little firmer. Milch cows, £17 to £22; calvers, £14 to £18; barrens, £11 to £14; stirks, £7 to £11.

Colchester, Saturday.—Trade was good, and stock of all kinds in short supply. Beef, 4s to 4s 6d per stone; mutton, 5s 6d to 6s; pork, 9s to 9s 6d per score.

Doncaster, Saturday.—Average supply of cattle, but only a poor show of milch beasts, which were hardly so dear as last week. Moderate demand for other kinds. Milch beasts, £16 to £22; bullocks, £12 to £17; heifers and drapes, £10 to £15; young stocks, to £9. Small supply of sheep, and trade very slow. Hoggs, 6s to 43s each.

Dorchester, Saturday.—For a second sale there was a very good supply of Christmas beef and mutton at Messrs. Ensor and Son's sale to-day, with a good sprinkling of stores, including some specially good milch beasts. Fat beasts found a ready sale for the best steers and heifers, the former ranging from £22 to £28 (for a grand quality Longhorn), or 11s. to 12s. per score; fat heifers, £18 10s to £21 (or 10s. 6d.); fat cows, £14 10s to £17s (or 9s. 6d. to 10s.), with a quiet sale. Dairy beasts in active request for best milchers at £17 10s to £22 10s. each; and plainer grades from £13 10s to £15 18s; barreners, sold from £19 to £21 10s per pair; stirk heifers, £15 10s to £16 10s. For mutton there

was a good inquiry for wethers at 55s to 63s (or 8d to 8½d per lb.); and ewes, 52s to 54s 6d; lambs, 35s to 38s 6d; a good clearance.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 4,025, increase 381; sheep, 7,067, increase 1,381; calves, 40, increase 7. A larger show of cattle, and with buyers in a cautious mood, trade was scarcely on as firm a basis as last week, except for really choice qualities suitable for home trade. Rough sorts in excess of demand and difficult to clear. Some beautiful heifers, fed by Mr. Cornwall, of Navan, were much admired, and realised top price for their class. Sheep a rather disappointing trade, and, except for fancy lots, late rates were difficult to maintain, and a clearance could not be effected. Cattle, live weight (best), 22s to 23s per cwt; extra for choice Angus crosses, 35s 6d per cwt; secondary and inferior sorts, 24s to 28s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 5½d to 7½d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—Black polled bullocks, £11 10s to £15; coloured, £10 10s to £13 13s; stirks, to £10; half-bred hoggets, 32s to 38s; half bred hoggs, 34s to 42s; Cheviot wethers, 36s to 39s; best shorthorn cows, to £26; crosses, £23; Ayrshires, £14 to £19.

Exeter, Friday.—Being the first market after the fair, supplies were short, and there was but little demand. steers and maiden heifers made 11s and cows 10s. Late prices were maintained at 8½d to 9d for small-size sheep. A number of keeping sheep sold at 32s to 38s. Calves, 7½d to 8d.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Demand fair and prices steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s; current, 58s to 60s; top Irish, 56s per cwt; top hoggs, 9½d; ditto heavy-weights, 9d; wethers, 8d to 8½d; ewes, 6d to 7½d per lb. Dead meat firm; Scotch beef, 6d; States, 5½d; Canadian, 5½d per lb.

Gloucester, Saturday.—Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. report their sales as follows: 70 cows and calves and incalvers, with a good attendance of buyers and a total clearance effected. A small supply of store cattle, with a better demand.

Leicester, Saturday.—Fair average consignments of home-bred stock. Buyers were not well represented, and trade ruled active for choice qualities. The finest milch cows sold readily at £20 to £24, good lots £17 to £19, inferior £15 to £16, shorthorn bullocks £11 10s to £15, Welch cattle £9 to £12, young stock £5 to 8, calves, 20s to 35s.

Lincoln, Friday.—A small attendance. Store beasts met with a slow trade. Yearlings, £10 to £12; two-year-olds, £12 to £16. The sheep pens were poorly filled, and there was little inquiry. Hoggs realised 40s. each.

Manchester, Friday.—Beef: First class, 4½d; second class, 4d to 4¼d; third class, 3d to 3½d. Mutton: First class, Cheviots, Scotch, 7½d; others, 7¼d; second class, 6½d to 7d; third class, 5½d to 6d. Veal: First class, 7¼d.; second class, 6½d to 6¾d; third class, 5½d to 5¾d. Bacon pigs: First class, 5¾d; second class, 4¾d to 5¼d; third class, 3¾d to 4¼d. Porket pigs: First class, 7d; second class, 6½d to 6¾d; third class, 6d to 6¼d.

Norwich, Saturday.—Trade firm for fat beasts, which were in small supply, an advance of 3d to 6d per stone being recorded; prices for best qualities were 7s 6d to 8s 6d per stone. Large supply of store animals, prices, which were about the same as past two or three weeks, being £6 to £15 per head. Poor trade for store sheep, which were penned in small numbers, prices being 35s to 45s per head; fat sheep made from 9s to 10s 6d per stone, and were in large supply. Improved trade for fat pigs at 6s 9d to 7s per stone.

Nottingham, Saturday.—There was a short supply of milch beasts. Best cows realised £18 to £22; in-calf heifers, £14 to £18; strong heifers and steers, £10 to £12; and younger beasts, £6 to £10; calves, 26s to 50s each.

Preston, Wednesday.—A slow trade was experienced all round although there was a good supply of both cattle and sheep. Cows and bulls, 5¼d to 5¾d; heifers and bullocks, 5¾d to 6¼d; hoggs, 8½d to 9d; tups, 5¼d to 6d; ewes, 6¼d to 7d; lambs, 8½d to 9d per lb.

Retford, Saturday.—Milch cows of really good quality were inquired for, but were scarce. Medium-class remained at £14 to £17; healthy steers and heifers, £10 to £12; and calves, 40s per head.

Romford, Wednesday.—The Christmas live stock show attracted a large attendance. Fat beasts were in large supply, and trade for best animals was good at 4s 6d to 4s 8d; middlings, 4s to 4s 2d per stone. Calves were in short supply; trade about the same, at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Sheep in large supply; trade unchanged. Best, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; middlings, 5s 2d to 5s 4d; ewes, 4s to 4s 4d per stone. Large supply of pigs; trade fair at late rates.

Shrewsbury, Tuesday.—Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb; mutton, 7¾d to 9d per lb; veal, 7¼d to 8d per lb; porket pigs, 9s to 9s 6d per score; bacon pigs, 8s 9d to 9s 9d per score. Small supply of store cattle, but good of fat stock, mostly for Christmas trade. Good attendance and trade.

Truro, Thursday.—Fat bullocks, 54s to 60s per cwt.; barreners and store bullocks, 40s to 45s per cwt.; cows and calves, £10 to £17; rearing calves, 20s to 35s; wethers, 7d to 7¾d per lb.; ewes, 5½d to 6d; lambs, 7¼d to 8d; pigs, 8s 9d to 50s each.

Wolverhampton, Thursday. — Large supply of beasts; slow trade. Fair supply of sheep; good trade. Beef, 5d to 6¼d per lb.; mutton, 6d to 9d per lb.; veal, 6½d to 7¼d per lb.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—At the usual weekly sales of cattle held at the Foreign Cattle Wharf to-day small supplies were on offer, only 193 animals being penned in the lairages. There was a fair attendance of wholesale and retail buyers. Bullocks of useful weights and size met a good demand, and superior animals were keenly bid for, but lower qualities were slow to sell. Owing to the limited supply and no imports due for several days, prices advanced from 2s to 4s per cwt dead weight over last week's quotations, and a number of animals were also sold to weigh at the increased rates. Bullocks of handy sizes and weights for all trade purposes sold from 56s to 58s per cwt dead weight, while a number of first-class animals made up to 60s per cwt, and prime bulls realised 45s per cwt dead weight.

WET GRAINS.

London, Saturday.—Wet grains: Prices are somewhat lower, owing to milder weather and extra brewings, preparatory to Christmas; ale at 20s to 21s, and porter 16s 6d to 17s 6d per ton. Wet distillers' grains are also easy from 30s per ton. Pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton. Dried grains are without change: ale, 10½s 6d; mixed, 9½s 6d, and distillers', 11½s per ton. Dried distillery meal, containing 45 to 50 per cent. oil and albuminoids, without change, 117s 6d per ton. Molasses feed, 90s per ton. Pure cane molasses (treacle) for cattle feeding, 92s 6d to 93s 9d per ton, according to rails. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37 and 38, Mark Lane, E.C.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday. Linseed: Linseed opened firm, but later lost about 9d per quarter, closing steady at 5d up from the lowest. River Plate: Spot, 38s 3d paid after 38s taken afloat, and November December 38s 6d nearest, January February 38s. Cottonseed: There was a further improvement in the market during last week, and up to £5 15s paid for Egyptian spot, afloat and December-January shipment; but there has been a quietness the last day or two, with £5 13s 9d taken yesterday and to day £5 12s 6d the value all these positions. A little February-March changed hands at £5 16s 3d, with sellers to-day at £5 15s. A fair business done in Bombay at £4 17s 6d to £4 17s November December, £4 16s 3d to £4 16s 6d December-January, and £4 16s 3d to £4 15s 9d January-February. Oilseed cakes.—Linseed cakes: A quiet demand, but prices remain very firm. Foreign are scarce, and are likely to continue so. Cotton cakes: Firm for best. Bombay, 1s 3d to 2s 6d per ton dearer. Decorticated meal: Spot about cleared, but there is some nearly due.—KEIGHLEY, MANSTED AND CO.

London, Friday.—Linseed: Market continues strong, with good demand for all positions both from U.K. and Continent. Calcutta-London, spot 42s, afloat 42s, October-November 42s, November-December 42s, April-June 40s. Hull: Good business doing in spot seed and also forward positions. La Plata spot 40s, passage 40s, November-December 41s 9d, December-January 40s, and January-February 3s 9d. Rapeseed firm and sellers very reserved, but buyers so far not much in evidence. Yellow Cawnpore November-December 43s 6d. Yellow Guzerat 45s 6d. New crop, March-May shipment, yellow Guzerat 44s 6d, yellow Cawnpore 43s 9d, brown Cawnpore 40s, Ferozepore 39s. Brown Calcutta new crop 38s 9d. Cottonseed has declined a little, but at the close is rather firmer, Alexandria having advanced. London: Passage £5 15s, December-January £5 15s, and January-February £5 16s 3d. Hull: Spot and passage £5 12s 6d, December-January £5 12s 6d buyers.—THE PRODUCE BROKERS CO.

Mark Lane, Monday. Linseed cakes: With decreasing stocks and a decided improvement in the demand, coupled with a further advance in seed, values again tend upwards, and there is every indication of higher prices being realised. Russian are becoming scarce on spot, while importers ask 2s 6d per ton more money. American may still be bought at last week's prices. East India seed pures make slightly more money. London made meet a steady trade, and are unchanged in value. Cotton cakes: A fair quantity of Egyptian now available in warehouse, and with only a moderate demand values remain quiet and without alteration, while English and Bombay find a slow sale at last week's quotations. Decorticated: London made continue in good request, being relatively cheaply offered at £6 17s 6d for cake, £7 for meal, and £5 5s for special digestive meal. Rape cakes scarce. East India unchanged. Ravison none. Maize germ meal: A steamer parcel of white American nearly due is obtainable at £5 17s 6d free to trucks, but English makes are still sparingly offered at £5 18s 9d to £16. Maize gluten meal may be bought at £6 per ton for monthly deliveries during next year. Rice meal: Very little offers in Rangoon, but a fair quantity of Saigon has changed hands at 92s 6d, while 97s 6d has been paid for White Garden Siam. Broken Rangoon rice in bags is good value at £4 17s 6d to £5 per ton. Locust beans are rather more inquired after at £5 10s per ton for whole and £5 15s per ton for kibbled. Nitrate of soda is fully as dear, at £10 10s per ton ex quay, for present or spring delivery.

	Per ton. £ s. d.	£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.		
London made .....ex mill	8 2 6	to 8 5 6
Russian, in bags	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
in mats.....	7 12 6	to 7 13 9
American .....ex quay	7 10 0	
Calcuta to arrive.....	7 15 0	to 7 17 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.		
Egyptian	4 15 0	to 4 17 6
English.....	4 16 3	to 4 17 6
Bombay	4 10 0	
Decorticated—		
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 17 6	
" " Meal.....	7 0 0	
" Digestive Meal.....	5 5 0	
RAPE CAKE.		
Calcutta	5 5 0	
Ravison		
MAIZE.		
English germ meal	5 18 9	to 6 0 0
American, Dec /Jan.....on rail	5 17 6	
American		
Maize Gluten Meal.....	6 0 0	
RICE MEAL.		
Rangoon to arrive Rice .....ex ship		
Saigon	4 12 6	
White Garden Siam	4 17 6	
Broken Rangoon Rice .....ex docks	4 17 6	to 5 0 0
MANURES.		
Nitrate of soda, Spot .....ex quay	10 10 0	
LOCUST BEANS.		
Whole	5 10 0	
Kit bled.....	5 15 0	

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

HAY AND STRAW.

Birmingham, Friday.—Small supply; trade quiet. Quotations:—Hay, £3 10s to £3 12s 6d per ton; clover, £4 per ton; straw, 2s 6d per cwt.

Derby, Friday.—Best clover, 80s to 90s per ton; wheat straw, 60s to 70s per ton; pressed straw, 50s to 55s per ton; oat straw, 50s to 60s per ton; peat moss litter, 35s to 40s per ton.

Manchester, Friday.—Hay, 4½d to 5d; clover, 5½ to 6½d; straw, wheat, 3½d; oat, 3½d to 4d per stone.

Whitechapel, Saturday.—Large supplies on offer met with slow support at following prices:—Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 72s 6d; good ditto, 60s to 70s; inferior ditto, 45s to 57s 6d; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw, 25s to 33s per load.

HOPS

Worcester, Saturday. — There is nothing fresh to report. The market keeps very firm, and few holders will offer their hops till the New Year, in the hope of better prices then. Yearlings sell from time to time. Forty pockets of new hops have been weighed this week, making 28,314 to date.—CHARLES FARAM AND CO.

BUTTER

(Price per lb., except where otherwise stated.)

Thursday, Axminster: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 3d to 1s 7d. Brigg: 1s 2d. Devizes: 1s 5d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Evesham: 1s 5d to 1s 5d. Kidderminster: 1s 2d. North Tawton: 1s 3d. Penistone: 1s 3d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 4d. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

Friday, Altrincham: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Ashburton: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Chester: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Congleton: 1s 3d. Crew: 1s 3d. Camelford: 1s 2d. Dartmouth: 1s 4 l to 1s 6d. Derby: 1s 4d. Helmsley: 1s 2d. Knutsford: 1s 3d. Leyburn: 1s 9d to 1s 10d per 24 ounce roll. Lincoln: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Lostwithiel: 1s 1d. Macclesfield: 1s 2d and 1s 3d. Northwich: 1s 2d. Nantwich: 1s 2d. Otley: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 ounce roll. Redruth: 1s 5d. Runcorn: 1s 3d. St. Austell: 1s 6d. Stockport: 1s 2l to 1s 3 l. Tavistock: 1s 3l to 1s 5d. Totnes: 1s 4d to 1s 5d.

Saturday.—Appleby: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Berwick: 8d to 10 l. Bridgnorth: 1s 2d to 1s 3l. Carlisle: 1s 3l to 1s 4d. Doncaster: 1s 3d. Grantham: 1s 2d to 1s 3l. Howden: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Ipswich: 1s 1d to 1s 3d. Lancaster: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Malton: 1s 1d to 1s 4d. Pontefract: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Retford: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Richmond (Yorks): 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Shrewsbury: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Skipton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Stokesley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Whitby: 1s 4d. Worcester: 10d to 1s 5d. York: 1s 2d to 1s 4d.

EGGS

(Number per 1s., except where otherwise stated.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 2d to 1s 3d per dozen. Birmingham: 6 and 7. Brigg: 8. Devizes: 7 and 8. Driffield: 9 and 10. Evesham: 1s 6d to 1s 8d per dozen. Kidderminster: 7 and 8. Penzance: 1s 6d to 1s 9d per dozen. North Tawton: 7. Penistone: 8. Plymouth: 6. Ripon: 7 and 8. Scarborough: 6. Wetherby: 6 and 7.

Friday.—Altrincham: 6 Ashburton: 1s 5d to 1s 6d per dozen. Camelford: 6 and 7. Chester: 6 and 7. Crewe: 6. Congleton: 6. Dartmouth: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per dozen. Derby: 6. Helmsley: 7 and 8. Knutsford: 7. Leyburn: 8. Lincoln: 7 and 8. Lostwithiel: 12. Macclesfield: 6 and 7. Nantwich: 7. Northwich: 7. Otley: 7. Redruth: 1s 5d per dozen. Runcorn: 6 and 7. St. Austell: 6. Stockport: 6 and 7. Chester: 8 and 9. Totnes: 1s 6d to 1s 7d. per dozen.

Saturday. — Appleby: 8 to 10. Berwick: 1s 5d to 1s 7d per dozen. Bridgnorth: 6. Carlisle: 7. Doncaster: 8 and 9. Grantham: 7 and 8. Howden: 7 and 8. Ipswich: 8 to 10. Lancaster: 5 to 7. Malton: 8. Pontefract: 7. Retford: 2s 6d to 2s 10d per score. Richmond (Yorks): 7 and 8. Shrewsbury: 7 and 8. Skipton: 6 and 7. Stokesley: 7 and 8. Whitby: 6. Worcester: 7. York: 6.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of home cheese were moderate this week, with a quiet trade passing. Holders still continue firm in their ideas. Cheddare, 60s to 63s per cwt.; Dunlop, 56s to 62s.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations: Caerphillies, 56s to 62s per cwt.; fancy dairies, 63s to 65s; truckles, 56s to 63s; Derbys, 63s to 70s, and Cheddars, 60s to 63s. A fair supply and a moderate demand.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Covent Garden, Saturday.—Ample and varied supplies of fruit and vegetables on offer, trade being fairly good. Quotations of English produce:—Apples, 8s to 12s per bushel; cranberries, 12s to 15s; lemons, 9s to 20s per case; grapes, 8d to 4s; cobnuts, 6s to 7s 6d per 12lb; tomatoes, 3s to 5s per 12lb; sprue, 9s to 12s per dozen bundles; artichokes, 1s 6d to 2s per half sieve; beetroots, 2s to 2s 6d; Brussels sprouts, 1s 3d to 1s 6d per bushel; celery, 5s to 12s 6d per dozen rolls; cucumbers, 4s 6d to 7s; endve, 1s 3d to 1s 9d per dozen; horseradish, 8s 6d to 14s per dozen bundles; onions, 4s 6d to 6s per cwt; parsnips, 2s 6d to 3s; turnip tops, 1s 6d per bag; seakale, 9s to 12s per dozen punnets; forced rhubarb, 1s 6d to 2s per dozen bundles; leeks, 1s 6d to 2s; parsley, 1s 6d to 2s; carrots, 2s to 3s; turnips, 2s to 3s per dozen bunches; mushrooms, 8s to 12s per lb; potatoes, 55s to 85s per ton.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Saturday.—A fair demand met a moderate supply. Prices:—Pheasants, 4s to 4s 6d; young grouse, 4s 6d; old, 2s 6d; young partridges, 4s to 4s 6d; old, 2s per brace; English turkeys, 10d to 1s; French, 10d to 11d; Italian, 8d to 8½d per lb; ducks, 3s 3d to 4s; geese, 5s to 7s; Surrey fowls, 3s to 4s 6d; Essex fowls, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; Lincolnshire fowls, 2s 6d to 3s; Irish fowls, 2s to 2s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 9d; woodcock, 2s to 2s 6d; snipe, 8d to 10d; quails, 9d to 1s 4d; feathered pigeons, 7d to 9d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s 2d; English hares, 3s 6d to 4s; leverets, 2s to 2s 6d; Scottish hares, 1s 6d to 1s 9d; tame rabbits, 1s 3d to 1s 9d; wild rabbits, 9d to 1s; live hens, 1s 9d to 2s 3d each; Australian rabbits, 5s 6d to 7s 6d per dozen.

POTATOES.

Borough, Saturday.—A slow demand prevailed for the good supplies on offer. Quotations:—Blacklands, 50s to 55s; best silts, 55s to 65s; Scotch, 55s to 65s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Good attendance and plenty of potatoes. Prices range from 4s 6d to 6s per load. Retail prices unaltered.

Manchester, Saturday.—Potatoes: Yorkshire warps, 7s to 9s; sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Irish, 2s 9d to 3s per cwt.

Southwark (Waterside), Saturday—During the past week the arrivals have been heavy, for which the demand has been slow, with prices in buyers' favour. The following are this day's quotations:—Scotch Up-to-dates, 50s to 65s; ditto British Queens, 50s to 65s; Lincoln Evergoods, 50s to 60s; ditto Up-to-dates, 60s to 70s; Blackland Up-to-dates, 50s to 55s; ditto British Queens, 50s to 55s; ditto Evergoods, 50s to 55s per ton. —R. G. BROWN.

Spitalfields, Saturday.—Light supplies were on offer, which were equal to demand. Royal Kidneys, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; British Queens, 2s 9d to 3s; Blacklands, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; Up-to-Dates, 3s to 3s 3d; Scotch Dates, 3s to 3s 3d; Queens, 2s 9d to 3s per cwt.

York, Saturday.—A good supply of potatoes, with a fair demand at late rates. Sands made up to 40s, and warps 45s to 59s per ton.

Barley at the Dublin Winter Show.

When we write that the total entries of barley at the recent winter show of the Royal Dublin Society amounted to no less than 300 of one sack each it will be seen at a glance what an important agricultural industry barley growing has become in the Sister Isle. The growth of barley in Ireland has several important factors favouring its cultivation. In the first place, it has very rich and suitable soil, it has a ready market close at hand from some of the largest distilleries and breweries in the world, and then, owing to the small proportion of tillage land to pasture in Ireland, a bulky crop of barley straw possesses considerable value. The greatest drawback to its cultivation in that country is its weeping climate, but in the case of most of the distilleries in Dublin bright colour of the grain is of less consequence than a good bold and plump sample, for the production of which the soil and other conditions are admirably suited. The season of 1905 must have been peculiarly suited to the cereal, as the great bulk of the 300 samples amply testify, as a bolder, better grown lot of barley would be difficult to find, and a large proportion is also of very good colour. The greatest fault to find was a want of more careful dressing, a great number of the samples having a good deal of horns still on the grain, whilst in some others a little more tail corn taken out would much have improved matters, and still other few lots were some seeds of weeds and occasionally a few wild oats, that detracted from the appearance somewhat. On the whole, however, the general display was most creditable and certainly one of the best that has ever been held since the institution of these classes. The way the entries are catalogued, too, is worthy of special comment, being deeply instructive to those who take an interest in growing barley, either at home or in Ireland; the variety of barley is given, time of sowing, time of harvesting, previous crop (for two years), manure used, kind of soil, upon which farm, and in some cases also width of drills, thickness of seeding ,and other details. The sum of £290 is presented by the Barley Committee to provide special prizes, to be given accoraing to an allotment scheme in the great barley-growing counties. In addition to the above sum of money, two champion prizes of £10 each are offered for the best narrow-eared and wide-eared varieties respectively.

The special prize for wide-eared barley was awarded to an entry rf Mr. M. Lawson, from Athy, Kildare. This was an excellent sample of barley, even, plump in berry, well shown, and of good colour. The following particulars are given as to its production: — Variety, "Standwell"; second year imported; manure used, farmyard; soil, yellow clay; previous crops, 1903 barley; 1904 turnips; sown March 5; width of drill, four inches; rate of seeding, 10 stones per statute acre; cut first week in August; threshed in October. The other special prize was awarded to a sample shown by Mr. John Keenan, from Queen's County; seed used, Scotch Chevalier (home grown); manure used, farmyard; soil, light loam over limestone gravel; two previous crops, 1903, barley, 1904 green crops; sown April 5; width of drill, six inches; rate of seeding, 9½ stone per statute acre; cut, August 14. This, too was a first-rate lot of barley, well dressed, in good condition, and an even sample of good body and colour. A few other prize-winning samples were a second prize to Mrs. Rice, in Co. Dublin; soil, lea; two previous crops, hay; sown, March 23; width of drill, two feet; split rate of seeding, 20 stones per statute acre; cut, August 5; yield per statute acre, 24 barrels. The yield of the previously mentioned crops was about ten barrels. Two first prizes in County Kildare were grown from Chevalier seed. In one instance the manure used was potassic superphosphate; previous crops, oats and turnips; sown, last week in March; width of drill, seven inches; rate of seeding, 9½ stones per statute acre; and yield, 10½ barrels.

In the other case no manure was used, the soil sandy, subsoil gravelly, two previous crops as in the last case; width of drill, six inches; rate of seeding, 15 stones per statute acre; yield, 15 barrels; time of sowing, April 15: and cutting, August 14. In County Carlow a first prize was awarded to a very bright and plump sample of Chevalier, shown by Mr. P. Kelly; the manure used, farmyard; soil, loamy; two previous crops, barley 1903, potatoes 1904; sown, March 29; width, five inches; rate of seeding, 14 stones per statute acre; cut, August 10; yield, 20 barrels. In County Wexford first prizes were won with good quality of Scotch, grown after oats and roots, sown in February and March. Very good bright barley also carried off the prizes in County Kilkenny, grown from farmyard manure, after oats and roots.

A first prize sample of excellent barley was grown in Queen's County from two cwt. compound bone manure on loam over limestone gravel; sown April 5th; previous crops, 1903 potatoes, 1904 barley, this following barley; the yield, too, was good, in this case 12⅓ barrels. A good crop of wide-eared barley won first prize in County Dublin from farmyard manure on sandy soil, sown March 5, at ten inches in drill, and 18 stones per statute acre, cut in August; this yielded 19 barrels; previous crops, oats and potatoes. The majority of the best samples and yields throughout were grown after roots, after oats apparently, the seeding time being most general, in March and April, and cutting at the beginning of August. There is great variation in the width of drilling, but, with the exception of the one lot mentioned earlier, grown upon two feet split ridges, the majority appear to be from four to six inches.

Mr. Lambert on Farm Colonies and Colonial Preference.

In the course of a speech made at the dinner held in connection with the Southmolton Road Christmas Show, Mr. G. Lambert, M.P., remarked that many persons believed that anybody could be a farmer. Let them try it; and if they did not find their mistake, then he was mistaken! To be a successful farmer, a man must be bred up to it. To dump a man with no previous experience down on a piece of land, and expect him to make that land pay was a delusionand a snare. And they were mistaken who thought it required no skill to perform the manual operations on a farm, as they might see by studying the varied duties of the farm labourer. A man had to be as skilful in the manual work on a farm as many men engaged in other trades and industries. He had been interested in reading the remedies proposed for the unemployed in the great cities. Some persons advocated farm colonies, and others small holdings. He wanted to know exactly what a farm col- was going to be. He did not think it possible to take the men who had been in the town for any considerable time, and think they could of themselves profitably cultivate the land. His own impression, as regarded the depopulation of the rural districts, was that they wanted, if possible, to keep the men from going into the towns. (Applause.) But if people meant by farm colonies places where men who could work and would not work should be made work, then he rather agreed with it. After mentioning other matters, Mr. Lambert touched upon the forthcoming General Election, and said they were told at the next election there would be a great cry of colonial preference. At present, many of the colonial farmers were in a much happier position than the British farmer, because this country had to support practically the whole burden of the army and the navy. The cost of the army and navy in this country was 52s. 6d. per head for every man, woman, and child; Australia only paid 5s. per head, and the Canadian farmer only 1s. 6d. per head. He did not believe the colonial farmer asked this country to penalise itself for the colonial, but that was the question to be decided at the next election. That was not a political gathering, and he would go no further into it, except to ask them to give their greatest possible attention to this most important question, and to be perfectly certain that they did not adopt a remedy which might be like going from the frying pan into the fire.

Potato Growers and Railway Rates.

The case of the National Federation of Fruit and Potato Traders' Association v. the Great Northern, the Great Eastern, and the Midland Railway Companies, came before the Railway Commission for judgment on the 5th inst. The applicants, who are potato growers and dealers in the Spalding district of Lincolnshire, where for the last 17 years a rebate of 2s. per ton on the carriage rate had been granted, complained of the withdrawal of the rebate, and asked the Commissioners to order the companies to grant a fair and reasonable rate, alleging that the revised rate of 9s. 2d. was neither fair nor reasonable. The defence was that the rebate allowed to the applicants amounted to an undue preference, and that the rate now in force was fair and reasonable.

Mr. Justice Bigham (President), in delivering judgment, said that it appeared that up to the year 1882 the carriage of potatoes from the Spalding district to London was performed by the Great Northern Railway alone, the charge being 9s. 2d. per ton for four-ton loads. Subsequently the Great Eastern Railway and the Midland Railway came into competition, and this led to the companies conveying the goods to the stations free of charge, this service being later commuted for a rebate of 2s. per ton from the original charge of 9s. 2d. per ton, the farmers and dealers performing the cartage service themselves. Before the beginning of the competition the evidence showed that there were no complaints on the part of the farmers and dealers that the conveyance rate was unreasonable. In 1903 the competition between the railways ceased, and the companies gave notice that they should revert to the old rate of 9s. 2d. for four-ton loads, and that the rebate would be discontinued. The railway companies, in defence of their action, said that the rebate amounted to an undue preference in favour of the farmers and dealers within the rebate area, and that they were anxious to perform their statutory duty of doing away with all unfair prejudice or preference.

Sir F. Peel and Mr. Gathorne Hardy concurred, and the application was accordingly dismissed.

Desist, I pray thee, unmannerly hog!

Dost think I know not of these Powders or that I should attempt to fat thee without their aid? No! no!! I wot too well their merit as a flesh producer, and as a preventative of the ills to which thy race is prone.

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	16	"	1/-	" 1/2
"	boxes—48	"	2/9	" 3/-
	44	"	8/-	" 8/-

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Live Stock Record.

SUCCESSFUL FLOCK-BREEDING.

Among the meetings of live stock societies held in London during Smithfield week, the annual meeting of the Hampshire Down Sheep-breeders' Association deserves special notice, if only for the admission in the report which was adopted that the past year has proved a highly prosperous one for those who keep that variety in every point of view. "The year 1905," states the report, "has proved

A view of Slough Market during the Sale of the King's Fat Stock

altogether a successful one for Hampshire Down breeders, the crop of lambs being better than in the preceding year, and prices for every class of sheep—whether rams, breeding ewes, stock ewes, tegs, wether lambs, or mutton sheep — have been maintained all through the year at a high level."

This is all the more gratifying, as the sheep alluded to are not only pedigree ones, but those of ordinary flocks also, and we may take it as a matter of certainty that in regard to the favourable season for lambing, and the remunerative market prices for sheep of every description, Hampshires are not alone in their glory, the experience being very general. Dr. Gillespie, at the dinner which followed the annual meeting, expressed a truism when he said: "While beef and some other things were at a very low ebb, the handling of sheep was proving, considering the whole circumstances of the time, satisfactory both in regard to wool and mutton." No doubt the advance in the rate of wool has had something to do with turning the attention of ordinary farmers more generally to shepherding, which a great many of them have been neglecting too much in the past two decades, as the agricultural returns fully show. The circumstance must be regarded as one of the most grievous misfortunes when sheep are neglected on the farm because of the high value of their manure when they feed off roots or green crop on arable land.

Mr. Prout, of Sawbridgeworth, in returning thanks for the Farmers' Club at the Agricultural dinner at the Trocadero, stated very truly that the laying down of too much land to grass tended to decrease agricultural wealth. The process by which this is arrived at is very intimately connected with the abandonment of shepherding. When the greater part of the land is converted to pasture it is far easier to turn to dairying than to keep up a flock of sheep, besides which there is rather a numerous class of farmers who used to follow the four-course system and grow turnips; and they were accustomed to buy in lambs in autumn to consume them and leave droppings to nurture the corn crop to follow. Those who had not large balances at their bankers threshed out their new crop of wheat soon after harvest that they might buy in sheep to consume their turnips in winter, and they were able to sell them again soon enough in spring to meet the Lady Day rent-call.

Sale of the King's Fat Stock at Slough: Selling the Pigs.

This is sometimes done now, but nothing like to the extent it used to be. In fact, the decrease of arable has always hitherto tended to the decline of sheep-keeping. There may be systems which it could be as fully sustained on pastures as well as on arable, as some aver, but they have never yet become popular. Perhaps if mutton and wool keep up their prices there will be a more general recourse to them.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

In the course of a paper dealing with the breeding and feeding of cattle, read at the annual meeting and dinner of the Aberdeen-Angus, Mr. W. Reid remarked that if the Board of Agriculture would only grant £5,000 a year for ten years to buy fifty bull calves every year and present them to the poorest districts of Ireland, British feeders would soon be independent of Canada. By the spending of less than the price of a single torpedo-boat more would be done to provide food for Great Britain in time of war than could be done by half the fleet if it were engaged in escorting food supplies from America. These remarks, as may be imagined, met with cordial approval, but what a lot hangs on the little word if! At the same meeting Mr. W. S. Ferguson said the position of affairs in this country would never be satisfactory if they tried to introduce foreign cattle. He included Canadian cattle in that class. Personally he had been twice nearly ruined by the introduction of cattle disease from abroad. When disease came the feeders of cattle got compensation, but to the breeders of cattle, who had spent a lifetime in perfecting herds, the compensation meant only a trifle of the value of their animals, and these men were ruined.

The Leeds Smithfield Club have for many years past been striving to get an Agricultural Hall in the centre of the town for their excellent Christmas Fat Stock Show, and some remarks on the subject were made at last week's show by the Chairman of the Committee (Mr. C. Bettison). The Committee, he said, were as anxious as were the subscribers and the tradespeople of the city that the show should be held as near the centre of the city as possible, but for the present, at any rate, they would have to make the best of the building which the Corporation had allowed them to use. A scheme was being formulated to have a cattle market nearer the city, and they would then hope to have a permanent home near the present meat market. Under present conditions they had all their work cut out to provide the prizes and to give a splendid show, but there was no doubt that if they could have a per-

manent home they would get the best cattle in the country on exhibition. Some of the tradespeople were refraining from subscribing to the show, urging that the Smithfield Club were not endeavouring to attain that end. Such an idea was quite erroneous, and he would point out to them that unless they supported the Club and kept it going until that time came they would have to give up the show altogether. If once they gave it up they would never get the show back to Leeds, for other towns in the near vicinity would be only too glad to take it up. Mr. Bettison remarked upon the friendly terms which now existed between Leeds and York, and he also made the welcome announcement that arrangements had been made by the Committee by which, for the next ten years at any rate, Leeds and York would not clash.

The Stretford Horse and Horticultural Society's sixteenth annual show of horses, dogs, dairy cows, poultry, pigeons, rabbits, and cavies will be held on Whit Monday, June 4, 1906.

A town's meeting was held at Nuneaton, on Thursday, to consider the advisability of inviting the Warwickshire Agricultural Society to hold next year's exhibition at Nuneaton, where it was last held in 1897. Several well-known gentlemen promised financial support, whilst others would not subscribe, being of the opinion that there would be no advantage in holding the show in the town. Eventually, however, it was decided by 25 votes to 1 to invite the Society, and thus the Warwickshire Agricultural Society has come to the end of their troubles over a site for their 1906 show.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

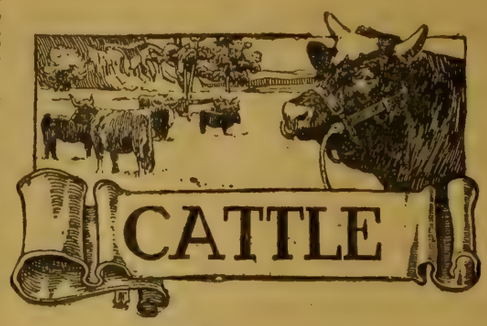
Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 9, 1905 :—

			Period.					
Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No. 132	Week ended Dec. 9, 1905	59	3,518	5,402
			Corresponding week in { 1904 / 1903 / 1902	200 / 93		7,602 / 7,780
	Outbreaks.	No. 25		13	765	1,153
				36 / 21		1,405 / 1,606
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No. 26		30	823	1,223
				59 / 69		1,545 / 1,405
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No. ...		...	...	...
				... / ...		... / 11
	Dogs.	No. ...		...	...	...
				... / ...		... / 12
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No. 20		25	1,949	2,526
				40 / 31		2,384 / 1,958
	Outbreaks.	No. 13		15	1,138	1,440
				24 / 23		1,386 / 1,101
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No. ...		...	...	...
				... / ...		... / 120
	Outbreaks.	No. ...		...	...	...
				... / ...		... / 1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No. 19		34	1,247	1,431
				25 / 20		1,068 / 984
	Outbreaks.	No. 18		17	906	950
				20 / 16		716 / 638
			Total for 49 weeks in 1905			Corresponding period in { 1904 / 1903 / 1902

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

An appointment as inspector under the Board of Agriculture has been given to Mr. Ian Robertson, son of the late Mr. John Robertson, for many years factor and chamberlain to the Duke of Atholl. Mr. Robertson, until his father's death about two years ago, assisted him at Balmacneil Farm, near Ballinluig, which Mr. Robertson tenanted after his retirement. Recently Mr. Robertson was an inspector under the Perthshire local authority in the carrying out of the Sheep Scab Order.

The Paris "Matin" announces that, starting from the principle laid down by Professor Behring regarding the discovery of a bovine vaccine against tuberculosis, Dr. Roux and Professor Vallé have found a vaccine against bovine tuberculosis, composed of tuberculosis bacilli from horses, while that of Professor Behring was composed of human bacilli. This new vaccine, it is believed, will have the double advantage of being easy to manipulate and not dangerous, for the tuberculosis of horses is not communicable to man.



Notes and Jottings.

The block test for cattle at the Smithfield Show, established a few years ago, appears to attract a few entries and to create a fair amount of interest, though, really, there does not appear to be any great amount of valuable information attaching to it. The breeding of the various lots is given, it is true, but nothing whatever is said as to the feeding. This latter ought by all means to be included in the particulars that the catalogue affords concerning its entries, so that it might be ascertained which kind and system of feeding tended most to flesh, and which to fat only. Then the weights of the majority of the stock are decidedly on the light side, and savour more of the character of ordinary market cattle rather than those specially fattened for Christmas.

The total entry this year numbered twenty-two in the three classes: steers under two years old, steers above two and not exceeding three years of age, and heifers not exceeding three years. The classes were open to any breed or cross, it appears, and were patronised by many varieties. But of the twenty-two entries, eight were of the Aberdeen-Angus or its crosses, four were of Galloway cross, and the remainder chiefly purely bred Welsh, Sussex, or Red Polled. The champion prize carcase proved to be a heifer of Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher's, whose weight for age was exceedingly good, being 101 st. 4 lb. at a year and nine months old, her live weight 11 cwt. 15 lb., so that she dressed very well indeed. The quantity of internal fat and suet, however, must be considered rather small for such good feeding as her weight for age indicates.

This heifer was bred by exhibitor and sired by the Aberdeen-Angus bull, Juba 3rd of Craighead, out of the Shorthorn cow, Kirklevington Duchess, whose sire was Duke of Brailes 14th, both the latter of milk breeding to a considerable extent, which doubtless assisted with the flesh on the carcase and kept down the fat. The hide was 78 lb., which for a heifer of a year and nine months is quite on the heavy side. In addition to the champion prize, the heifer was also first in her class, and also adjudged first when alive, which is altogether satisfactory. The second prize in this (the heifer) class was awarded to the carcase of a Kerry and Angus cross, shown by the Duchess of Newcastle, two years and two months old, and, though of a smaller cross, the carcase weighed 94 stone, the hide 1 lb. less, and suet a trifle more.

The third and fourth prizes in this heifer class were accorded to a Red Poll of Sir Walter Corbett's, with 92 st. 7 lb. of carcase and 65 lb. hide at two years and a month old; and to a Welsh heifer of Mr. R. M. Greaves just upon three years old, whose dead weight was 110 st. and hide 87 lb. It is astonishing how well the Welsh breed come out in these competitions. In addition to the fourth prize awarded as above, both first prizes in the steer classes were awarded to this breed; that in the over two and under three years old class also being awarded the reserve champion. This was a steer of Mr. Robert Hughes, just upon the three years old, whose live weight was 13 cwt. 14 lb., and dead weight 119 st.; he had the most suet of anything in the class, and his hide was 114 lb.

The second prize in this aged steer class went to an Angus and Shorthorn cross of Mr. J. G. Young's, of two years and ten months; his live weight was 13 cwt. 2 lb., being 12 lb. lighter than the Welsh steer, whilst his dead weight was three stones lighter, suet 2 lb. lighter, and hide 17 lb. lighter. It is rather a singular coincidence that the third and fourth prizes in this class were awarded to the lightest and heaviest beasts in the class respectively, so that it appears size did not tell at all in the results of the carcase judging, by which it is intended to convey the meaning that the heaviest beast cut up pretty well as satisfactorily as the lightest, and as the difference in these two carcases was 79 st. 3 lb. and 131 st. 7 lb., it leaves rather a wide margin to allow for variation in quality. The live weight of the one was 9 cwt., and of the other 14 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lb., the hides being 65 lb. and 104 lb.

Coming to the junior steers under two years old, as intimated in a previous note, the first prize again went to a Welsh carcase, shown by Mr. R. M. Greaves. The steer was only just under two years old, and weighed, alive, 12 cwt. 2 lb., and carcase 199 st. 1 lb., and the hide 92 lb. The second prize in this class was allotted to a Galloway and Shorthori cross of Sir Oswald Mosley's, the live weight in this instance being 11 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb., carcase 104 st. 3 lb., suet exactly the same as the first-prize one, and hide 2 lb. lighter. Both third and fourth prizes were won by Angus and Shorthorn crosses of Mr. Young's, 10 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. and 10 cwt. 3 qr. alive, and 98 st. 4 lb. and 93 st. 5 lb. dead, respectively. The difference in live and dead weights of these two is very striking, and affords considerable food for conjecture.

There was but 4 lb. difference in the weight of the two animals alive, yet when dressed the lighter beast of the two when alive was 5 stones all but a pound the heaviest when dressed, and there was only two pounds difference in the weight of the hides. Six weeks difference in the age of the animals may account for some of this difference, the lighter weighing steer dead being that much younger than his heavier companion. In breeding, both were sired by a Shorthorn bull, though not the same bull, and the dam of the heavier weighing steer dead was Shorthorn and Angus cross, whilst the dam of the lighter steer was a pure Angus. The extra cross of Shorthorn blood might, too, have its influence over the weight of the heavier one by giving more muscle and solidity to the carcase.

Such differences as the above in the live and dead weight of two animals that have apparently been fed by the same hands and in the same manner leads one to wonder whether the live weight is to be trusted very implicitly; it would be interesting to know if the judges noted any want of finish in the handling of the lighter beast. In their awards alive it was placed behind the heavier one, but no other remarks are set down. As regards districts whence the winning animals in this competition hailed, four were fed in Scotland, including the champion, four were fed in Wales and of pure Welsh blood, and included the usual champion, and four were fed in England. The only four Welsh cattle exhibited in this section thus secured two first and two fourth prizes, as well as the usual for the championship.

It has not been a frequent occurrence of late for us to have to report sales of Aberdeen-Angus cattle for export, so that it is the more gratifying to learn that Mr. W. B. Greenfield, of Haynes Park, Bedford, has sold two promising two-year-old bulls for export to the Argentine. Both are the get of the wellbred and capital sire Just Rover of Morlich, and have been very successful at several shows this or last year. Foreign buyers, it is reported, are much keener upon English-bred Angus cattle than they were at one time, the reason assigned being the English-bred ones from the milder climate enabling them to be kept almost entirely in the open air, and give greater satisfaction when transferred across the water.

Aberdeen-Angus breeders will have many friends to back them up, if they will adhere to the policy laid down by Mr. Ferguson at the annual club dinner this year in London, when, after listening to Mr. Reid's admirable paper on the breeding and feeding of cattle, he said that the great backbone of this country was breeding their own stock; and, as he very truly remarked, where had they ever, in the course of their experience, seen cheaper store cattle than at the present moment. The present price of stores is certainly leaving the breeder nothing for his trouble; then, if the present low price is to be still further lowered by the admission of Canadian stores, surely it will be about like driving the last nail into the coffin of English stock farming.

There is one point, however, in Mr. Reid's paper that requires considering very deeply before being accepted in its entirety. We allude to the paragraph in which he recommends the purchase by the Government of a large number of their best bull calves for use in Ireland each year, as being an excellent plan to adopt, and likely to aid much in furnishing us with a better supply of store cattle. It is needless, perhaps, here to add that there are two kinds of store cattle always needed—one class for making dairy cattle of, and one class for feeding. Latterly a very large portion of the milking cow supply in this country has been obtained by the purchase of Shorthorn heifers and drapes from Ireland, and these pay the producer (as prices go nowadays) far better

Whether it is desired, however, to breed cattle for dairy purposes or for feeding, Mr. Reid's, as well as the remarks made by other speakers, were very true, and ought to be very deeply impressed upon all breeders of cattle in every country—namely, to breed the best, or, rather, to try and do so, by using the best sires upon as good dams as circumstances will admit, and when cross-breeding is the object in view, to see that both parents are pedigree-bred. Attention to this very important point will just make all the difference to profit and loss, as well as to the more certain quality of the offspring, which, in other words, means profit.

Thame Christmas Fat Stock Show and Sale.

The annual Christmas Fat Stock Show and Sale at Thame took place on Tuesday, and fully kept up the old reputation which it has now held for many years, of being the largest and best attended market in the district. Agriculturists from all parts were present, and there was a very large attendance of buyers, many coming from long distances.

The entries for the show were again excellent and slightly larger than last week, and the quality of the animals shown were particularly good; in fact, there has not been such a strong class of crossbred bullocks for many years, the champion beast winning the prize being a grand crossbred Hereford, bred and exhibited by Mr. F. Chowns. The second prize in the class and also reserve champion was a very fine Hereford of great size and quality, exhibited by Mr. Henry Fuller, and was sold for the very high price of £47, which has not been approached for many years. The remaining classes for cattle were: First prize, won by the Earl of Macclesfield's trustees for a Shorthorn ox; Mr. W. Way, with two exceptionally good Shorthorn cows; and Mrs. Jessop, for a very choice Shorthorn heifer.

The sheep were exceptionally good, and received more entries than in previous years, the principal winners being Messrs. Andrews, Henry Reynolds, and Milton Harris.

The pig classes were again well filled, and some very fine animals were shown.

In the market Messrs. Bond and Burrows had 288 beasts, selling all the exhibted and prize animals. The quality of the cattle was excellent; a brisk demand ruled througohut. Best beef realised 4s .4d. to 5s. 2d. per stone. Mr. Burrows commenced selling punctually at 11.30, and it was evident, as the sale advanced, trade improved, the last 150 beasts selling better than any. The auctioneer did not finish until 5.20, having actually sold 250 beasts.

Basingstoke Christmas Fat Stock Sale.

Messrs. Raynbird and Sons held their 33rd annual sale of prime Christmas fat stock on Wednesday, when their sale yard immediately adjoining the stations of the L. and S.W. and G.W. Railways at Basingstoke was filled with a very excellent show of prime quality fat beasts, fat calves, fat sheep and lambs, and fat pigs, which attracted the attendance of a very numerous and influential body of agriculturists and buyers from all parts. The show consisted of 183 fat beasts, 626 fat sheep and lambs, 35 fat calves, 299 fat pigs, and 153 head of poultry consigned by over 120 feeders, chiefly from the locality and the west of England. These were exhibited to the best advantage, the pens and sale rings being well arranged for convenience and for the quick despatch of business, the sale yard and auction mart has the very great advantage of unrivalled railway facilities.

A feature of the sale was the good show of well-bred cattle from some of the best graziers in the country, several of the exhibits being prize-winners at Christmas shows; upwards of one hundred head of choice Devon cattle selected from the best herds and shows of North Devon and Somerset entered the sale ring, and nearly all were sold. Fat beasts of Christmas quality found ready buyers, as usual the choice beasts of moderate weight making from £20 to £25 had the best of the trade. Inferior and rough cattle were saleable, but at prices comparatively lower than the best.

Amongst the noteworthy lots to enter the sale ring may be mentioned Lots 1 to 25, well-bred Devons from W. Thay, the best making £21 to £26; smaller up to £20. A few good Devons were sold by W. Filmore up to £22 10s., the four two-year-old polled steers, grass and cake-fed, from Wolverton Park, made from £18 5s. to £20 10s. Twenty-nine very choice Devon steers from J. B. Dennis sold readily at from £21 to £26 10s.

A prime fat bull from W. Allen was sold at £20. Lot 43, a young Galloway steer from the Rev. Canon Theobald, £18; a shorthorn bull from W. J. Trearson £18 10s.; Lot 46, an excellent shorthorn beast from G. Laing, Esq., £28; Lot 48, a shorthorn heifer from J. Nicoll, Esq., £22 10s.; W. G. Pench sold Devons up to £22 5s., and shorthorns £19; W. Randall's useful shorthorns made up to £20 10s.; Lots 119 to 139 were filled with the superior Devons from W. A. Ashford, which were cleared at from £19 5s. to £26 15s.; W. R. May's young Devons made up to £19; £20 was given for the good shorthorn bull from the Preston House Estate; shorthorn steers from W. G. Oldershaw sold up to £20.

The selection of fat sheep was excellent as regards quality and good as to numbers, consisting mainly of ripe meat-weights of the Hampshire down breed, a good all-round demand was experienced, and with a fair trade, a clearance was quickly made, a few lots being reserved at prices beyond the buyers' ideas of value. Prime South Down lambs from the Dognastield Estate made 49s. 6d. Mr. F. W. Evans selling at 39s., Mr. G. H. King 37s., Mr. C. Harnett 35s. Prime wether tegs were sold by F. H. T. Anvorsi, Esq., at 69s.; Mr. Honey, 62s. 6d; Mr. S. Suten, 59s.; Mr. H. Barton, 58s.; Mr. J. T. Frearson, 55s.; Mr. W. Bowden, 54s.; Sir R. Rycroft, Bart., 54s.; S. Hatton, Esq., 53s.; Mr. J. W. Hooper, 52s. 6d.; H. Harris, Esq., 51s.; Mr. W. Allen, 50s. 6d.; fat ewes by Mr. W. H. Horlock, 47s. to 55s.; Mr. W. N. Butler, 43s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.

There was a fine show of fat pigs, and throughout the sale a very brisk trade may be reported, choice porker pigs selling exceedingly well. Fat hogs had a very good trade. There was a large entry of prime fat sows, which were cleared at high prices. Fat hogs were sold for Mr. C. Harnett at £5 10s.; Mr. W. Street, £5; Mr. A. C. Butler, 99s.; Mr. Earnaker, 98s.; Mr. H. E. Sharp, 97s.; Mr. E. Bayliss, 90s. Fat sows realised £5 5s. to £8 12s. 6d.

Fat calves were a short entry, and for good quality calves a ready sale was made, Mr. R. Webb selling at £6; Mr. W. Allen, £5 5s.; Miss Neate, 97s 6d., etc., etc.

Ruling values :—Prime Devon and Scotch beasts, 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ditto shorthorn ditto, 6½d. to 7d. per lb.; bulls, cows, and inferior beasts, 5d. to 6d. per lb.; best quality fat sheep, 8½d. to 9d.; secondary do., 7½d. to 8d. per lb.; fat hogs, 9s. to 10s. 6d.; porkers, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; fat sows, 8s. to 8s. 6d. per score.

The buyers, upwards of 75, included representatives from Basingstoke, Reading, Guildford, Farnboro', Hartley Row, Odiham, Aldershot, Camberley, Croydon, London, Surbiton, Walton, Woking, Fleet, Mortimer, Overton, Andover, Shenfield, Whitchurch, Salisbury, Winchester, Kingsclere, Preston, Caudover, Micheldever, Gosport, Portsmouth, Southsea, Alloa, Eastleigh, Weybridge, Uxbridge, Kingston, etc., etc.

Gloucester Christmas Sale.

The Great Christmas Market at Gloucester was held on Monday, in bright, frosty weather, and, as usual in the case of this most important fixture, there was a large attendance of buyers of fat stock from various parts of the country. A large entry of excellent stock had been secured for each sale ring, and the attractive prize fund which had been contributed produced keen competition in most departments of the market. Messrs. Bruton, Knowles and Co. had a first-class entry, which comprised over 350 bullocks, heifers and cows, 17 heavy bulls, 800 sheep, 120 calves, and 750 bacon pigs and porkers, the vendors including well-known breeders and feeders of stock. As usual, Messrs. Bruton Knowles and Co. contribute a goodly sum, £52 10s., to the prize fund, the value of which amounted to £84. Mr. James Peter, of the Berkeley Castle Estate Office, was to have judged the sheep and calves, but he was unable to attend in consequence of ill-health, and his son, Mr. J. A. Peter, and Mr. T. Webb, of Ross, officiated in his place. Messrs. Webb and Peter also judged the sheep; and Mr. G. Samworth, Birmingham, the pigs. The awards were as follows :—

CATTLE.—Fat Bull: 1, Mr. Lawford Pullin; 2, Mr. R. Stratton; 3, Messrs. J. and E. S. Vines; r., Mr. Joseph Wherrett. Five fat heifers: 1, Mrs. Vines; 2, Mr. W. H. Butt; r., Mr. George Chandler. Five fat steers: 1, Mr. John Cave; 2, Mr. J. P. Terry; r., Mr. S. Phelps. Pair of fat heifers: 1, Mrs. Vines; 2, Mr. J. G. Rymer; r., Mr. George Vines. Pair of fat steers: 1, Mr. S. Phelps; 2, Mr. J. Cave; r., Mr. J. P. Terry. Fat cow: 1, The Executors of the late Mr. Peter Stubs; 2, Mr. James Horlick; r., Mr. George Vines. Best fat beast in the sale: 1, Mr. S. Phelps; r., Mr. J. Cave.

SPECIAL PRIZES.—Best fat beast in the market (open to any sale ring): 1, Mr. S. Phelps.

SHEEP.—Ten fat sheep, lambed in 1905: 1, Mr. James Horlick; 2, Mr. C. W. Curtis. Ten fat sheep, lambed in 1904: 1, Mr. E. Harvey; 2, Mr. James Pearce. Ten fat ewes: 1, Mr. L. J. Smith.

PIGS.—Five bacon pigs: 1, Mr. C. R. Rickards; 2, Mr. W. F. Jordan; 3, Mr. C. R. Rickards; r., Mr. W. Summers. Five porkers: 1, Mr. C. R. Rickards; 2, Mr. P. A. Colebatch; 3, Mr. G. E. Fowler; r., Messrs. J. and E. S. Vines. Fat sow: 1, Mr. W. Summers; 2, Mr. W. Archer.

CALVES.—Fat calf: 1, Mr. J. Pearce; 2, Mr. W. Littleton; 3, Mr. P. Wheeler.

Mr. H. W. Bruton conducted the sale, which, taken as a whole, was a satisfactory one.

Mr. Lawford Pullin's prize bull was sold for £24 10s., to Mr. Poole, Newport, who gave £22 for Mr. Stratton's second prize bull, and £22 10s. for Messrs. J. and E. S. Vines' third prize winner. The reserve bull went to Mr. Hawkins, Pontypridd, for £24; other bulls sold up to £25. In submitting the two pure-bred steers of the Old Gloucester breed, consigned by the Duke of Beaufort, Mr. Bruton remarked upon the interesting character of the lots, the cattle being of the oldest breed in the kingdom, with the exception of the Chillingworth, which, as is well known, are wild cattle. One of the steers was knocked down to Mr. Walter Warner, Gloucester, for £26; and the other to Messrs. Holliday, Cheltenham, for £24. The bullock of Mr. Samuel Phelps, Churcham, which won the champion prize for the best fat beast in the market, was purchased by Mr. Greenwood, Gloucester, for £30 15s. This price was surpassed by another bullock of Mr. Phelps', which sold at £31 15s., Mr. Clarke, Bredon, being the buyer. These prices were by far the highest realised in the market. Numerous other lots of bullocks, heifers, etc., of various ages were disposed of at good prices.

With regard to the sheep, amongst the prize-winners wethers from Mr. James Horlick made up to 68s. (Mr. Hawker, Dursley), others selling at 67s. (Mr. Trownsell, Chalford) and 65s. (Mr. Windo, Gloucester). Mr. C. W. Curtis' tegs made up to 60s. (Mr. E. Taylor, Gloucester); and Mr. E. Harvey's tegs also up to 60s. (Messrs. Chamberlayne and Co.); a similar price being realised by tegs consigned by Mr. James Pearce, the purchaser in the latter case being Mr. Sidney Davies, Bristol. Mr. Smith also gave 52s. for ewes from Mr. L. J. Smith, The Scarr, Newent. Amongst the sheep not shown for competition Mr. E. Harvey's made up to 66s. (Mr. Young, Bath); and Mr. James Pearce's, 61s. 6d. (Dr. Etlinger, The Cotswold Sanatorium, Cranham).

Some noteworthy prices were realised in the pig market. The first prize pen of five bacons, owned by Mr. C. R. Rickards, Haresfield, was purchased by Mr. Ashcroft, Cheltenham, at 100s. apiece; Mr. W. F. Jordan's, Taynton, second prize pen was secured by the Gloucester Co-operative Society at 108s. apiece; and Mr. Rickards' third prize winners went to Mr. W. Summers, Standish, at 97s. each. Of the prize porkers, Mr. Rickards' winners sold at 58s. apiece, to Mr Wall, Downend, Bristol; Mr. P. A. Colebatch's second prize porks at 50s. each, to Mr. Docker, Cardiff; and Mr. G. E. Fowler's Apperley, third prize winners, at 50s. 6d. apiece (Mr. Docker). The best fat sow, consigned by Mr. W. Summers, Standish, was sold to Mr. Docker for £14 7s. 6d.; the second prize winner (Mr. W. Archer's) was bought by Mr. G. Samworth, Birmingham (the judge) for £12; while the highly commended—the heaviest pig in the market, weighing 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs.—owned by Messrs. J. Grose and Sons, Quedgeley, realised £13, Mr. Docker being the buyer.

Mr. James Pearce's first prize calf was sold for £6 10s. to Mr. Wall; Mr. W. Littleton's second prize winner for £4 19s. to Messrs. Waghorne Bros.; and Mr. P. Wheeler's third prize calf to Mr. F. Windo, Gloucester, for £4 16s.

Difficulties in Importing Stock into France.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries have been informed that difficulties have arisen at some of the French Channel ports owing to the fact that the formalities prescribed by the Decree of the 11th June, 1905, with regard to the importation into France of horses and other animals have not been complied with in Great Britain.

The Board desire, therefore, to bring to the notice of all persons exporting horses, asses, cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs to France that the landing can only take place through certain specified Customs-houses.

The stock must be accompanied by a certificate of origin from the administrative authority of the place from which they come, certifying that no contagious disease affecting animals of the species in question exists or has existed in that place during the preceding six weeks. The certificate must state the number and description of the animals, and should not have been issued more than three days before the dispatch of the animals. Animals not accompanied by such a certificate or which are not presented with as little delay as possible after the expiration of the voyage will be rejected. Cattle presented for importation into France will be submitted to the tuberculin test, and for this purpose are to be kept under observation, at the expense of the importers, for forty-eight hours at the least.

Fuller particulars were published in the "Journal of the Board of Agriculture" for August, 1905.

Horse Notes.

He doth nothing but talk of his horse.
—Merchant of Venice.

"He doth nothing but talk of his horse." as he appears in fiction, and pointed out that his powers of endurance, or if it chanced, for the purposes of the story, that a wild and vicious horse is needed, his vice is, in one word, "impossible." Why this should be I cannot for the life of me make out. One can understand the impossible jumps which lady novelists make their heroes take, if they chance to write of hunting, for lady novelists, as a rule, know nothing whatever of sport or of horses, and, when they write about either, made sad examples of themselves—as, for instance, the steeplechase described by Ouida. But when men who do know, or who should know, something about horses write these impossible stories about them one can only wonder.

The latest instance of gross exaggeration at the expense of "that noble animal, the friend of man," comes from the pen of Sir A. Conan Doyle, and I should have never noticed it had not Sir A. Conan Doyle shown on many previous occasions that he does know something about horses. One never takes any notice of Dumas making a horse or horses cover impossible distances of ground in a short time. Dumas is superior to time and space, and if the exigencies of his story require that a man shall be in London at ten o'clock and at York at eleven, why at London and York he will be when he is wanted, and one does not inquire too closely how he gets there.

Dumas, however, does not enter into minute descriptions about his horses; and, if he did, we should not care much, knowing his ignorance. But from Sir A. Conan Doyle we expect better things. And this is what we get! In his latest novel "The yellow horse of Crooksbury," we are told, was by a Spanish Destrier from an Arab mare of the same breed that had carried Saladin. And then he proceeds to describe him as a light chestnut, 17 hands high!! In the days of which he was writing—the days of Edward III.—England, nay, Europe, could have been searched and searched in vain for a horse 16 hands high, let alone 17. Fourteen hands and a half was the usual size of the light horse for many a year after that, and the heavy, clumsy war-horse that struggled along at a slow pace under the burthen of some 30 stone was not a tall horse, as we know tall horses in these days, and was probably under rather than over 15 hands 3 inches in height.

As for the vagaries of the horse in question—even if he could have done what is described—no man could have ridden him and conquered him without saddle or bridle. Indeed, no man could have beaten him by main force, as Sir A. Conan Doyle makes his hero do. There does not appear to be the least reason for such exaggeration, and it is certainly strange that a man, who would never think of, say, making a train travel at the rate of 200 miles per hour, thinks nothing of making a horse do quite as wonderful a thing, the relative powers of the two being taken into consideration.

The December sales have been the subject of conversation all over the country, and even the most sanguine of the vendors could scarcely have expected to realise such prices as they did. This is surely a curious commentary on the cry of the pessimists that our thoroughbred horses are a decadent race. We hear, day after day, that we are going back as a horse-breeding nation; day after day we are told with painful repetition, of the skill of our foreign neighbours—Germany, France, Italy, America are countries whose example is quoted. The skill and intelligence of foreign breeders is flung with scorn in the teeth of us poor benighted islanders. And what is the result? The foreign breeders come to our markets and outbid us for the best, and take them out of the country. Given the intelligence and skill of the foreigner in matters appertaining to horses and horse breeding, and, if one will, cheerfully acknowledge the skill and judgment of the foreign buyer, it strikes me as not very likely that he would come here and pay thousands for brood mares and stallions if he had as good or better at home.

And one very important factor is not to be overlooked. This scouring of England for high-class stallions and mares has been going on for some hundreds of years, for there were stringent laws against the export of horses long before there was any record of the sales of horses for abroad. But records do exist for upwards of a hundred years, and yet we find that, although the foreign trade has increased by leaps and by bounds, and in spite of the many good horses and mares which we have sold to our foreign friends, we have still managed to do more than hold our own and keep "the top of the market."

This does not imply that we are doing as much as is necessary to hold our position. That we are lax enough in many important matters is but too evident from the very sales which I am discussing. The foreign breeders, knowing what they want, go on bidding, and the English breeders, many of them as wealthy men as their rivals, stop bidding and marvel at the prices made. And the consequence is that we lose horses we can ill afford to lose. In this instance I am not referring to Diamond Jubilee. There is so much of the blood in the country that he will not be badly missed, and, in some respects, his expatriation will be a benefit, for there will be less opportunity of that inbreeding in one line which is so injurious to the breed as a whole. But it was different with Flying Fox, who was a direct descendant of the famous Agnes in the best line; and it was different with many of the mares which were sold at the December sales. They should never have left the country.

The same remarks apply with equal force to other breeds as well as the thoroughbred, but with the latter the prices rule so large that they serve better to point a moral than horses which do not command such a big figure. What the country has lost through the way in which Cleveland Bays have been sent abroad at, in many cases, sadly below their value, it would be impossible to say. I remember once talking to a very wealthy man about a horse of the breed that had been exported, and I told him that he was just the horse that was wanted to help the breed at the time, and this loss was a serious one. His reply was that it would be a good thing to revive the old laws forbidding the export of horses, or else putting on a heavy export duty. I pointed out to him that he had the best means of keeping the horses in the country in his own pocket; but I could not convince him. Yet considerably under £500 would have kept that horse in the country.

The danger is that we take our position too much for granted. People who are not horse-breeders have little or no interest in horses, until some fine day we are beaten at our own game—as why should we not be—and then there is a great outcry that breeders have not done their duty, they have not gone in for this or they have gone in for the other. It is quite on the cards that some day we shall find a horse that has been bred abroad the champion at the Shire Horse Show or the Hackney Horse Show. And would it be wondered at. The foreigners have been buying our best for years; they have been breeding intelligently for years, and if they had their reward in this way one should not grudge them their victory, or join in the outcry which there would arise from ignorant scribes and ignorant critics about the decline of English horse-breeding, the first thing I should recognise would be that our foreign friends had pluckily come to where they could meet the best in the world.

Perhaps I may be permitted to relate a personal experience. Many years ago I was staying with a friend who exported horses largely, and I may say that he was one of the shrewdest judges of a horse it was ever my lot to see. A Yorkshire man, too, and with a keen sense of humour. My friend was expecting a large foreign buyer the next day, and he suggested a walk around the boxes. One useful horse after another was inspected, and at last we came to a remarkably fine colt. He was duly examined and admired, and then his owner said, "Aye—that will do, Jim—you can put him in the barn end." We continued our inspection, and some five or six more were consigned to the barn end. Then we came to one which caused considerable thought, but at last his owner said, "He can stop where he is, Jim."

Next morning the foreign buyer arrived—a shrewd man, and a good judge, and I accompanied my friend and him on the tour of inspection. The buyer said but little, but it was easy to see that he knew his business. When he had gone through all but those in the "barn end," my friend said, "Now you've seen what I have to sell." "Is that the lot?" asked the buyer, a question to which he did not get a direct negative or affirmative. Finally he bought eight very good young horses. And when he went away my friend said, "If he had seen the barn end lot he would have bought nothing else, and they are too good to leave England yet awhile."

Now with the wealth there is in the country, why do not some of those who take an interest in horse-breeding establish a "barn end." My friend recognised the value of blood, and would not part with it till there was more of it coming in in the same line. Yet dealing was his business, and no one could have blamed him for taking the ready profit and minimising his risk. But what shall we say about the wealthy men to whom a few thousands are as nothing, who, time after time, let the foreigners take the best in the market? Can it be that, in the craze for many excitements, we are ceasing to be a nation of horsemen?

THE LOOKER ON.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Manufactured by HENRY TATE AND SONS, LTD., Sugar Refiners, London and Liverpool. Sold by all Grain and Forage Merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.; 125, Hope Street, Glasgow; and 45, Dame Street, Dublin.—[ADVT.]

Notes and Jottings.

The value of the cross-bred sheep for mutton purposes has probably never been better demonstrated than in the recent carcase test classes at Smithfield Show. To the casual observer it is probable that this remark may be open to question, but it is not so, the reason being that the carcase section of Smithfield Show this year had for the first time classes for cross-bred lambs and wethers.

This separation of the cross-bred carcases from those of the different pure breeds is an excellent arrangement. It is now possible for those who care to take the trouble to thoroughly compare the result of the mating of any two pure breeds with that given by any other combination of pure breeds of different breeds. The importance of this comparison lies in the fact not only that it can be made in connection with flesh, but also in regard to the conformation of the carcase. The latter is an all-important point in assessing the value to the butcher. It is true that there is no material digerence made in the retail price of a well-formed carcase in comparison with an ill-formed one. But the former has this in its favour, namely, it is available for the first-class trade, and the latter largely, if not entirely, has to go to supply the wants of those who are not so particular as to the appearance of the joint.

One of the best-formed pens of cross-bred lambs that have come to our notice at the fat stock shows this season was a pen that only took second prize at the Ashford Show. It was the produce of the Southdown ram mated with Kent or Romney Marsh ewes. A neater pen, with better backs, loins, and legs would be difficult to find.

This is one of those crosses that are uncommon, but from the result given by this pen and one of almost similar description of the same cross exhibited some five or six years back by one of the leading Southdown breeders in Kent, it is evident that the cross is one that deserves far more attention than it has hitherto received. An instance has just been brought to our notice that shows the increased care that importers of British sheep in the Argentine are taking in reference to the breeding and pedigree of the sheep they import.

Without mentioning either the breed or the parties concerned, the case before us is as follows:—"A," a buyer of English stud sheep for the Argentine, purchased from "B," the breeder,

the understanding that every endeavour should of their breed here, and received with them individual export certificates. For some reason or other "A" neglected to have, at any rate, one of these export certificates stamped at the Argentine Consulate here previously to shipment. On arrival in the Argentine "A" sold these sheep by auction, and one of them was purchased for stud purposes by "C," who, being a breeder of stud sheep of the breed, applied to have his ram recorded in the Argentine Flock Book, and his application was refused because the export certificate had not been stamped by the Argentine Consul here. The export certificate in question has now been returned here for this purpose. This fact indicates that there is need for all concerned in such transactions to see that all the requirements of the Argentine Government and Flock Book are carried out, for nothing will be found more detrimental to business than for the Argentine purchaser to be put to the unnecessary trouble and expense the breeder indicated by the letter "C" has been in the case referred to above.

Stud sheep breeders will be able to look back upon the recorded results of the export demand for their sheep in November, 1905, with the greatest satisfaction. It is true that the number exported was not a record one, for in November, 1897, it is found that 1,443 head were shipped, but the average declared value of these was only £10 3s. 3d. per head. Last month's results are by far more satisfactory taken as a whole, for, although the number exported was but 1,067 head, the average declared value of them is given in the Trade and Navigation Returns as being £18 5s. 10d. per head.

Looking back at the records for previous years we find that the increased demand during the past month took 72.34 per cent. more than in November, 1904, and that the average of declared value of the larger number exported was £18 5s. 10d., as against £12 15s. 9d.—a notable and very material increase.

It is generally agreed that the prices of live mutton in our markets is very satisfactory. This result has, doubtless, been helped very materially by the notably small supply of imported live sheep received during the same period, namely, 5,129 head, the smallest total imported during the month of November for very many years.

On the other hand, the supplies of imported mutton received during November have never been larger than was the case during the month just concluded. Taking the totals given in the official returns, we find that the aggregate profit of imported mutton received during November last was 318,793 cwt., or 8,047 cwt. more than the highest total imports for this same month previously recorded. The declared value of the live sheep and mutton imported last month amounts to £584,344, or 6.69 per cent. more than in November, 1904.

There were thirteen new members added to the Kent or Romney Marsh Society at its last meeting, owning just over 3,600 sheep, a notable accession of membership, and one that shows that at last the breeders of this breed of sheep are realising the value and worth of this association. In respect to the export demand for the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep it has been officially stated that during the current year 529 sheep have been exported as against 146 during the same period of last year. This is a notable increase, and one that must have been of very considerable importance to those who have participated in this large demand.

More than one vendor of sheep for the Argentine has asked why is it that so few reports of the auction sales of English sheep have been given in this column during the past season. The reply is simply this, that for some reason or other, almost without exception, no reports of these sales have been given in the Argentine papers.

It may be that these papers consider by omitting such reports they are doing good service to their countrymen by not letting the English breeder know the prices realised, etc. If this is so, the sooner it become realised that such practices are not in accord with the true interest of sound business, the better, for the only inference that will be drawn from this omission here is that the prices realised have been so satisfactory to the importer that, were they known, higher prices would be asked for sheep when next they wanted to purchase.

Those, therefore, who are interested in the sale of sheep for the Argentine market can, with every fidence, treat this year's sales as having been thoroughly satisfactory to the importer, and place the value of the sheep now coming on for sale on this assumption.

York.

This year's fat stock show at York was quite up to the standard of previous years as regards quality, though the entries were somewhat fewer than last year, the decrease, however, being chiefly in newer sections. The total was 2,789, as against 3,163 last year, but the cattle market was taxed to its utmost as far as accommodation was concerned, and it is just as well the entries were not more numerous. Cattle numbered 124, sheep 55, pigs 58, roots 321, dressed poultry 57, eggs 16, poultry 1,289, pigeons 690, and products of the dairy and the farmyard made up the rest of the total.

The feature of the Shorthorns was the white ox, just under three years old, sent from the Royal Farms at Windsor. It is one of the progeny of Royal Duke and Maid of Denmark 4th. It made its first appearance in the show yard at Birmingham last week, when it gained a second prize in its class. At York, however, it went one better. Though lacking a little in weight compared with its rivals—it scaled 124 stones—it was a Shorthorn of nice character and handled well. Mr. T. B. Earle, of Alborough Hall, Darlington, took second prize with a shapely red and white ox of good substance. The same owner got the first award in the Shorthorn heifer class with a red and white animal, which was second at Birmingham and reserve for the best Shorthorn in the show. It also took a first at Norwich. A big class of crossbred oxen was headed by Master Peter Dunn's Weaver, a useful black steer of Scottish origin. Crossbred heifers were a smaller but useful class. Mr. E. Gibson Heslop, of Gainford, Darlington, was first, with a black heifer of the Aberdeen Angus type, which had a minor success at Edinburgh last year, and has not been shown since. A nice-looking roan, entered by Mr. Peter Dunn, of Hull, was placed second, which is a step in advance of her Birmingham achievement.

The Irish cattle was one of the best displays ever seen at York, and the judges were a very long time in arriving at their decisions, more especially in a strong class for horned Irish bullocks. Premier honours fell to Mr. George Lax, of Weatherby, in this class. Close competition was seen in the local tenant farmer classes. In the class for oxen not exceeding three years, Mr. Carlton, of Crockey Hill, York, came out first with a polled Angus, which also topped the class for the best ox for butchering purposes, and won the York Challenge Cup for the best beast exhibited by a tenant farmer. The cup, which has been won for the last two years successively by Mr. Peter Dunn, is thus retained by the society for further competition.

The pure Scotch classes included some very interesting stock. One of the most notable successes was that of the Seaton Delaval Coal Company's Blue Blood of Delaval, a nice-looking heifer, symmetrical, weighty, and very well topped. Although never shown before, it carried off chief honours in a strong class of polled heifers, and secured the Faber Challenge Cup for the best fat beast in the show. A heifer, bred by Lord Rosebery at Dalmeny, and shown by Mr. Peter Dunn, of Hull, was second in the class, and was closely followed by the Duke of Portland's Welbeck bred Aberdeen Angus Bacchante. The Earl of Durham obtained both the first awards in the two classes for Highland cattle.

Sheep made a show quite up to the high average which is attained here, both in regard to fleece and flesh. The challence cup for the best pen of sheep in the show was secured by Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Malton, who were also the winners in 1903. Theirs was a remarkably good group, both as regards size and and substance. The most successful exhibitors of mountain sheep were Mr. M. Sherwin, of Carthorpe, Bedale, Captain Behrens, of Malton (who is president of the society for the year), Messrs. Francis Coates and Son, of Malton, and Mr. William Wood, of Helmsley.

Pigs were numerous and of good quality, but were drawn entirely from the district immediately around York. Mr. W. L. Wright's special prize for the best exhibit in the classes for pork pigs was taken by Captain Behrens. Some excellent dressed poultry was shown, and the miscellaneous produce, such as cream, cheese, bread, Christmas cakes, was very creditable.

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Plymouth.

The West of England Fat Stock and Poultry Society, as its title indicates, embraces a wide territorial area within the sphere of its influence, and its thirty-fifth annual exhibition, held in the Plymouth Market on Wednesday and Thursday, was, alike in its magnitude and the quality of the exhibits, worthy of the high position which the society occupies in the Western Counties. For the first time in the history of the society the entries totalled over 1,000, and in a large measure this gratifying circumstance was due to the growth of the poultry section, which reached unrivalled dimensions; but the other departments, although they showed some numerical fluctuations, were of the highest, and, generally speaking, the show was the best of the series.

In the cattle section there were 74 entries, slightly less numerous than last year, but their general excellence was of an even higher standard. Some breeders from the neighbourhood of Barnstaple, who usually compete, were not represented, and owing to the absence of their animals the North Devon breed made a smaller show than usual. With scarcely an exception, however, the animals shown were very choice, and thoroughly typical of the breed. Only one young ox was paraded in this section, but it was a really splendid specimen. The old North Devon oxen formed a very symmetrical quartette. Only a few cows were shown of this breed, but their quality was of the best. South Devons filled three exceptionally strong classes, and were probably the best collection of the breed yet exhibited. Full of promise were the young South Devon oxen, the chief award going to Mr. F. W. Rowe, of Lostwithiel, for a remarkably well developed two-year-old beast, coming from the same stock as the animals which on three occasions have won the same breeder the championship prize. The same animal was also a winner at Smithfield. The old steers of this breed are really a superb collection, and the chief prize-winner in this calass, Jumbo, a massive creature, shown in the pink of condition, owned by Mr. Roberts, of St. Germans, was also awarded the president's cup for the best beast in the exhibition, Sir Massey Lope's cup, for the best ox or steer, the cup given by Mr. F. J. Nicholls for the best beast in the show exhibited by a tenant farmer, and a piece of plate presented by the Plymouth Co-operative Society for the best South Devon beast in the show. Scarcely inferior to the oxen were the South Devon cows, and the chief prize winner in this class. Mr. Helmer's Constance was awarded the special presented by the Plymouth Hotels Company for the best cow or heifer in the show, and it also ran Jumbo close for the championship prize. Among the crossbreds were some fine specimens of other breeds, and Mr. Alexander's Holt Boy, which took the first prize in the class, was adjudged the second best ox in the show. The pairs of steers gave the judges great difficulty in discriminating between the beasts exhibited by Mr. Peake, of Harbertonford, and Mr. Gibbings, of Northtawton. First two and then four judges were unable to agree, and finally Mr. T. Pitts, who was called in as umpire, gave the preference to the pair from South Devon. Among the dairy classes were several very choice milch cows, while the butchers' beasts looked a very profitable lot. Taken altogether, the cattle formed one of the best collections yet shown under the society's auspices.

Although the number of sheep entered did not compare so favourably as in some previous years the quality was exceptional. Messrs. Matthews, of Antony, secured the first in a class for a pen of three long-woolled wethers of any breed, not Dartmoor, under two years old. The three sheep weighed 7 cwt. 3 qrs. and 25 lb. Messrs. Matthews were also deservedly awarded the champion prize of three guineas, presented by Messrs. Thos. Hoyle and Sons, for the best pen of sheep in the show. The Earl of Mount Edgcumbes was awarded second honours with a magnificent pen, which weighed 7 cwt. 2 qrs. and 20lb. The Governers of the Dartmoor Prison got first and third with two capital pens of Dartmoor wethers; Mr. F. Damerell, of Plympton, being placed second with a really grand lot of sheep. He also secured the Polienta Company's special for the best pen of sheep fed on their food. Mr. A. C. Hall, of Marldon, Paignton, repeated the success he gained at the recent Smithfield Show with his splendid pen of three wethers of any long-woolled breed not exceeding twelve months old. The three sheep he exhibited were only nine months old, and turned the scale at 6 cwt. 1 qr. 0 lb. His second pen, of a similar age, weighed 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lb., and that of Messrs. H. Tope and Sons, which were given third prize, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. Messrs. Weaver's special prize of a guinea was awarded to Mr. Hall's exhibit.

The show of roots was, without doubt, the best ever seen here, while the same remark would

apply to the poultry section, in which there were no fewer than 400 head of live birds. Butter and cream also made a good display.

Leeds.

A record number of entries was received for the Forty-Sixth Christmas Fat Stock Show of the Leeds Smithfield Club, held at the Corporation Cattle Market, Leeds, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the total being 2,148, as compared with 1,959 last year. The chief increase was in the Poultry section, which drew 1,069 entries, as compared with 518 in 1904. Cattle numbered 92, as compared with 108 last year; but on that occasion the entries were exceptional, and this year's figures were up to the average of recent years. Sheep numbered 24, as against 28, and pigs 32, as compared with 72 last year, but the number was the same in 1902.

The exhibits in the cattle section formed an excellent lot, and included several which had secured honours at other shows. In the class for Shorthorn oxen under three years of age the King exhibited a bullock just under the age limit from the Royal Farm at Windsor. It was a typical white by "Royal Duke," and was of a good character. It was second at Birmingham and at York. It was placed at the head of the list here, beating an animal shown by Mr. James Hilton, of Kirton Lindsay, which received the second award. The Shorthorn cows of any age, or heifers under three years, included an animal of good quality, belonging to Mr. Alexander Whitelaw, of Edinburgh. In addition to the principal honour in its class, it secured a piece of plate, offered by the Leeds Licensed Victuallers for the best animal among the Shorthorns. A heifer owned by Mr. T. B Earle, of Darlington, was second. In the section for Cross-bred or Irish cattle, the champion of the show was found, and this animal provided what may be described as the feature of the show, for it won outright for Mr Peter Dunn, of Sigglesthorne, Hull, the Walker and Hall 50-guinea challenge trophy. Mr. Dunn took this prize, which represents the championship of the cattle section, in 1902 and 1904, but in 1903 the King won it. Mr. Dunn's final victory has not been without its edge of keenness. At York his two-year-old Cross-bred, Weaver, had to play second fiddle in the supreme contest to the Seaton Delaval Coal Company's Aberdeen-Angus heifer, but now the tables were turned, and the verdict accorded with the opinion of nearly every one of those who watched the judging, cheers being raised for the veteran exhibitor. The champion animal, which was bred by Mr. Finlay Munroe, of Rockfield, N.B., is a cross between a Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus. With a beautiful coat, he is a very deep, square, gay, and stylish steer, and walks well. In a strong class at Birmingham he was second to Mr. R. W. Hudson's Danesfield Midnight, the Norwich male champion, and in good company at York he took the highest class honours. Besides securing at Leeds the challenge trophy, Mr. Dunn gained with the same animal the President's prize, worth £10, and the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate, of the same value. The heifer from Seaton Delaval was a charming and well-balanced specimen of the Aberdeen-Angus, but of less scale and weight than the Sigglesthorne bullock. A heifer belonging to Mr. E. G. Heslop, of Darlington, was first among the cross-bred or Irish cows or heifers; and another heifer shown by the Earl of Durham was second.

The Scottish cattle did not make a very big show, the breeds represented being the Aberdeen-Angus and Highland. In the class for polled Scottish oxen only two were entered, and there was one absentee. Mr. T. B. Earle's bullock, however, had an abundance of merit, and the judges had no difficulty in awarding to it the first prize. The cows numbered five, and the leader was found in a beautifully-moulded animal of good quality owned by the Seaton Delaval Coal Company. A bigger animal, belonging to Mr. Peter Dunn, was placed second. Two classes were provided for the Highland cattle, but there were only five entries. The animals exhibited included prize-winners at Birmingham and London. Bullocks shown by the Earl of Durham and Mr. T. L. Wickham-Boyston, of Boston Spa, were placed first and second respectively. In the cow and heifer classes, an animal shown by Mr. H. M. Worsley Taylor, K.C., M.P., Whalley, was successful, and the Earl of Durham's cow was placed second. The prize for the best pair of Scotch or Welsh cross-bred bullocks or heifers most suitable for the butcher was awarded to a pair shown by Mr. T. B. Earle, who also secured two special honours. A pair exhibited by Messrs. Wentworth, Son and Nephew, Ltd., were second.

As usual, sheep were exhibited by only a few gentlemen, there being 24 entries and eight exhibitors, all of whom, with one exception, were awarded. The specials in the section went to Messrs. R. and J. Davison, of Malton.

The pigs, excepting in a few instances, were only moderate. In the solitary large breed class—two others had been cancelled—Messrs. A. Duchering and Sons, Kirton-Lindsey, brought out the two winners well. The highly-commended animal, shown by Mr. G. W. Cryar, of Wetherby, was more of the large breed sort, and had taken a number of prizes The small and Tamworth breeds were only moderate in quality, while the porkers were just a nice lot. Sows and litters formed a good entry, and some nice animals were exhibited, but the Leeds Industrial Co-operative Society took easily. Mr. Joshua Sheldon's challenge trophy and the Leeds Tradesmen's Plate were taken by Messrs. Duchering.

The entries in the poultry classes were nearly double those of last year; the quality, too, was in advance of that shown in 1904.

Ipswich.

The annual show of fat stock at Ipswich was held on the opening days of last week, and that it is as popular as ever was proved by the large entry of stock; in fact, it was a record one, the total being 1,081, against 1,076 last year and 1,072 in 1903; whilst the attendance of visitors was on a large scale. The wide range of interesting features of previous years was considerably extended on the present occasion by the introduction of what was called a Working Trades Exhibition, comprising about 70 stands, on which was displayed a most comprehensive collection of the trade specialities of the town and district. This constituted a show in itself, and materially added to the attractiveness of the Ipswich Christmas display.

The cattle classes, which, as usual, were one of the features of the show, were better filled, with one exception, than on any previous occasion. The increase in numbers, and the excellent quality of the majority of the beasts, prolonged the duties of the judges, who were kept going until a late hour in the day. The multiplicity of the championship classes, though an excellent thing, added to the work of the judges, who with the stewards had a rather trying time when the various champions had to be selected. One of the smallest classes was that for steers or heifers of any pure or cross breed under three years old. Mr. E. T. Learner, of Burgh, Ayisham, the owner of the winner, a cross-bred heifer scaling 14 cwt., had a close contest with Mr. Spencer Dawson, Stratton Hall, whose cross-bred steer, a finely-developed animal, reached 17 cwt. The third, a good type of Shorthorn, was exhibited by Mr. R. J. Thurman, of the Dairy Farm, Semer. Two of these three animals were in close running for championship awards. Mr. Learner's cross-bred was reserved for the 25-guinea Challenge Cup presented by the Mayor of Ipswich for the best beast in the show, which Mr. Spencer Dawson won last year. The last-named gentleman was reserved for another 25-guinea cup for the best beast in the show that had been grazed in the county, and the property of the exhibitor for not less than six months previous to the show.

A similar class as the foregoing, but closed to Suffolk, attracted as many as 15 entries, amongst which was ultimately found the champion beast of the show, an Aberdeen-Angus heifer owned by Mr. R. J. Thurman, of Semer. The animal, which was bred by Mr. Thomas Moy, of Stanway Hall, has been in the possession of Mr. Thurman some 18 months or more. Its appearance at Ipswich last Christmas led to the owner taking a second and two special awards. The same animal was also seen at the recent Norwich Show, where the heifer was second in its class, but at Smithfield it only gained the reserve number, although probably there was reason to believe it might have had a third prize card. Scaling 15 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb., it was not a too weighty beast; it certainly appeared a small-bone animal for its weight. Besides being the champion beast (steer or heifer) in the yard, it also took the 25-guinea Challenge Cup given by the Mayor of Ipswich, together with the other for the best that was grazed in the county. Sir Frederick Adair was both second and reserve in this class, and it is noteworthy that the reserve animal, a Polled Angus steer, was the heaviest beast in the showyard, being over 19 cwt.

Steers or heifers of the Red Polled breed not exceeding three years old were eight in number. The best of these was shown by Sir Walter Corbet, whose Red Polls have taken prominent places at all the recent Christmas shows. It was remarkable that Sir Walter won the premier prize with a heifer that was reserved both at Norwich and Smithfield. The prize-winning steer at the latter show, owned by A. E. Fellowes, M.P., was only reserved, a position to which many critics argued it should not have been relegated. Since the Islington exhibition Mr. Fellowes's heifer has deteriorated somewhat, and there was, therefore, good reason why the premier prize should be given to another animal. In other ways previous judgments were reversed; the same gentleman's heifer that had already taken a first was now reserved, while Mr. Thurman's h.c. Norwich Show steer crept into second place. This animal was last year first in its class, besides winning a couple of specials. Five pairs of fat steers and heifers produced good competition, the winning pair weighing 15 cwt. 2 qr. and 12 cwt. respectively. These two animals were reserved for the champion prizes for the best steer and best heifer in the show under two years old, grazed in Suffolk. Red Polled steers or heifers under two years old, numbering eleven, included a Norwich Show exhibit in a nice steer belonging to Sir Walter Corbet, which was second, although at the Norfolk Show it was first and reserved for the cup. The premier award went to the Hon. A. E. Fellowes for a rather leggy animal, which was second at Norwich.

There were nineteen steers or heifers, not exceeding two years, the best of which, a Polled Angus heifer, owned by Sir Robert Adair, received the fifteen-guinea challenge cup, offered for the best beast in the show under two years old, grazed in Suffolk. It was a level and well-developed beast, weighing 13 cwt. 2 qr.; it also handled well. The second, a Shorthorn steer, owned by Mr. J. C. Pike, of Stuston, was an extraordinary animal for its age. The first and second prizes in the class for animals not exceeding eighteen months also fell to Mr. Pike. The better of the two, which was on the small side, was grazed to the verge of perfection, but the second was a larger type, and not so well developed. The best of the butchers' beasts, of any breed, came from Mr. Kenneth M. Clarke's Iken Hall Farm; it was a nice quality animal, just suitable to the requirements of the butchers of the present day, and in accordance with the public taste, which is in the direction of small joints. Sir Hugh Adair, who was second with an animal weighing 17 cwts., exactly four above the winner, was probably of too large proportions to be successful in the class. The remaining champion awards—namely that for the best Red Poll, went to Mr. Fellowes, M.P., while the other for the best beast, judged by the Ipswich butchers, was taken also by Mr. Fellowes, with Mr. R. J. Thurman reserve.

The show of sheep was a good one, Suffolks, of course, largely predominating, and in this section the entries from the noted Walton Grange flock again came prominently to the front. In the class of three wethers, of any breed, Mr. Herbert Smith entered the sheep which secured the cup in London, and took first at Norwich, and were reserved for the championship there. They handled very firmly, and the judge had not much difficulty about giving them the first prize on this occasion. They afterwards took the fifteen-guinea challenge cup for the best pen of sheep and lambs in the show, which has to be won three years before becoming the absolute property of any exhibitor. Mr. Herbert Smith was the winner last year. The same pen carried off the five-guinea champion prize, given by Messrs. George Mason, Ipswich, Limited, for the best pen of fat sheep or lambs in the yard, not to exceed twenty-three months old. Another nice pen belonging to the same flock was second in the class. The entry of Suffolk wether lambs was a large one, and here again the Walton Grange flock came to the front, a pen which carried off first honours at Smithfield Show again coming into the front rank, and they were reserved for the challenge cup and the champion prize. A little interest was centred in the awarding of the second prize in the class, an opinion having been expressed at the time that Messrs. S. and F. Traylen were deserving of a higher honour than third place at the Smithfield Show. On this occasion, however, two different gentlemen confirmed the London judgment, by relegating Messrs. Traylen's pen to the third position. The Earl of Cadogan, K.G., was fourth, with a pen which might with advantage have been sent to Smithfield.

The competition in the class for a pen of three pure-bred lambs, other than Suffolk, was not a strong one, but Mr. Charles H. Berners sent a couple of pens of Southdowns which carried off first and second. The competition for the prizes offered for a pen of three lambs, of any breed or cross-bred, uncoloured and untrimmed, and drawn direct from the field unhoused and unyarded, was not a strong one. Mr. Herbert Smith sent three, which were a long way ahead of the others, another pen of the same flock being awarded second. The gentleman made a score entries—with two in the carcase competition—all of his own breeding.

The display of pigs was, perhaps, on the whole, as good as has ever been seen at the Suffolk Fat Cattle Show. The class for fat pigs of any breed, one year old and under, was a big one, and the issue of the judging process was watched with some interest, because there was the semblance of a fight between the Large Whites and the Large Blacks. Mr. Russell Walker, of Marlesford, who is always a keen competitor, showed a Large White of great size and excellent quality, and it took precedence of a couple of Large Blacks belonging to Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, of Sudbourn Hall, this gentleman being awarded first and second. With regard to pen of three pigs, under nine months old, a Berkshire came into com-

petition with the Large Blacks, and this time a pen of the latter, hailing from Sudbourn Hall, were the victors, Mr. C. H. Berners's Berkshire being awarded second, and another Large Black, entered by Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, taking third. Some nice pigs were entered for the class of five pigs suitable for the London market. Here the honours went to a Monewden exhibit, whither they have gone on many a previous occasion, the Executors of Mr. George Gooderham keeping up the old charter, and sending a class of pig which commanded the attention of many admirers; albeit, some thought that they were this time just a little too big for Londoners. Mr. John Goddard, of Tunstall, was second, with a pretty pen of cross-breds; but the third prize went to the Executors of Mr. George Gooderham

The decision in a big class for two pigs for bacon gave rise to a little comment, Mr. Russell Walker having a pen of Large Whites, by a boar belonging to Mr. Sanders Spencer, and moreover, Mr. Russell Walker had taken the first prize in the same class for three years in succession at this show. This pen was awarded the first prize in it class, the second and third prizes going to Mr. John Goddard, and the Executors of Mr. George Gooderham, but the crucial test came in awarding the champion prize for the best "fat" pig in the yard. The judges found themselves in a difficulty, because they were bound to adhere to the lines laid down, and they awarded the championship to an exhibit belonging to Earl Cadogan, as being the fattest pig. Mr. C. F. Marriner offered a special prize for the best two fat pigs, not exceeding twelve months old, of the Large Black breed, and this was taken by Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, two other pens from Sudbourn Hall being reserved.

Ashford Cattle Show.

It is a pity in some respects that this fixture does not take place before Smithfield, because, if this were so, we should then possibly find other entries at the London Show. The reason for this is that amongst the exhibits at this show there were both in the cattle and sheep entries that were quite worthy to be sent to London.

The important work of adiudicating upon the entries were undertaken by Messrs H. Levey and W. Massie for cattle, Arthur Finn and Allan Cooper for sheep, and A. T. Miles for pigs.

The Sussex cattle classes had a somewhat smaller entry than last year, but the addition of the animals that had been specially reserved until the London Show made these classes of good average merit The Earl of Derby won rightly enough in the older steer class, but the correctness of the award that gave Mr. W. W. Berry's steer, bred by Colonel W. W. Hammond, precedence over Mr. W. F. Winch's good-handling was open to question. Mr. W. Levett came in for third honours. The younger steer class had for its winner Mr. W. F. Winch's entry, a well-grown steer of merit.

The older heifer class was an excellent trio, all of good merit, and in the winner, that came from Mr. Gerald Warde's herd at Tutsham, West Farleigh, was found one of grand quality. The younger heifer class had a popular winner in Mr. L. Hardy's entry; Mr. E. Ascherson taking second honours with one bred by Captain S. Webb, leaving the Earl of Derby r.n.

The Cross-bred and any other pure-bred classes had an excellent entry of first-class animals, mostly of the Aberdeen-Angus breed or its crosses.

The older steer class found a fine Aberdeen, bred by Mr. G. Drummond and exhibited by Mr. W. Levett, at its head. The Breed Cup went to this good steer. Mr. W. W. Berry come in for second and third with a very typical pair of steers, deep in the carcase and wealthy in flesh. The trio of winners in the younger steer class were of high merit all through. Mr. T. Wotton was first and r.n. for the Breed Cup, and Mr. G. Drummond second and r.n. The senior heifer class had for its winner Mr. T. Wotton's very fine and level heifer, a choice speciment of its breed. Mr. W. W. Berry came in with a cross-bred for second honours.

Sir H. N. Dering's young Shorthorn heifer went clearly to the fore in the younger heifer class; and in the final competitions the Breed Cup and the r.n. for champion honours went to her. Mr. T. Wotton, with a very promising young Aberdeen-Angus heifer, came in second. The calf class was a good one. The Marquis of Camden won first honours and Sir H. N. Dering came in second. Both of these entries were of considerable promise and well brought out.

The sheep section showed most fully the enormous amount of improvement that has been effected in recent years in respect to the Kent or Romney Marsh breed, particularly in the more early development and maturity of the lamb classes, and thus emphasises the value of the work that has been accomplished by the Kent or Romney Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association.

The wether class of a dozen entries was a most typical one, and it is quite certain that the winning pen, that came from Mr. C. File's, was one that received no more than its just recognition, when first place in this strong class was given it.

The lamb class was one of which it can be written that none of this age in former years have in the aggregate been of better or more typical merit. The increased weight and depth of flesh found upon these lambs only proves how erroneous it is to suppose that the breed will not mature rapidly, and shows all that is requisite to secure its early development and maturity is to give it the same careful and judicious treatment as other breeds have, and the results will be equally satisfactory. Mr. T. Wotton here, as in London, went to the top of the class—a correct award; and here, as at Smithfield, the pen, with equal justice, received the champion award.

The Down classes were not large. Mr. F. E. Speed took leading honours in the class for wethers, followed by a very fine and well-fed pen from Colonel W. W. Hammond's flock, leaving the r.n. to Mr. W. M. Cazalet.

The class for cross-bred lambs was a very good one indeed. Sir H. N. Dering was first and third with two very good pens. But the best pen of the lot was a very choice one of Southdown-Kent cross. A pen of very superior merit from Mr. R. Kinnard's floc. The executors of Mr. Elvy came forward with a level and well-fed pen, to which the r.n. was given.

The Duchess of Devonshire won leading honours in the pig section. The best single pig came from this noted herd, to which champion honours were also given. Captain S. Webb and Sir H. N. Dering were the other leading winners.

Lewes.

The show of Fat Stock held at Lewes last week proved one of the best ever seen here, and fortunately the weather was favourable, so that a large attendance of visitors was recorded. In the classes for beast 79 entries were received, as compared with 74 last year, and the total has only once been exceeded, viz., 96 two years ago; there were 95 sheep (a record), against 80, the previous highest number in 1902; pigs numbered 13, and thereby maintained the average; while in a new class instituted this winter four calves were entered. The judges found their task unusually difficult in the classes for sheep, and were complimentary in their criticism of the specimens, competition in the class for Southdown wethers under two years of age being exceedingly keen. Concerning beasts, too, the quality of the animals proved a subject for favourable comment, a cross-bred steer, shown in splendid condition by Mr. Wildman Cattley, of West Grinstead, claiming premier notice. This animal gained the first prize in its class and the silver cup awarded for the best fat beast in the show.

National Agricultural Examination Board.

The National Agricultural Examination Board held its annual meeting on December 7, at 13, Hanover Square, under the presidency of the Very Rev. Dr. Gillespie, LL.D., Chairman of the Board. There were present:—Lord Moreton, Mr. J. Bowen-Jones, Mr. Martin J. Sutton, and Sir Ernest Clarke (representing the Royal Agricultural Society of England); Dr. Gillespie, Dr. David Wilson, Mr. Alexander Cross, Mr. John Speir, and Mr. James Macdonald (representing the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland); Dr. William Somerville (Board of Agriculture); Mr. John Struthers, C.B. (Scotch Education Department); and Mr. Ernest E. Godfrey (Secretary of the Board).

The report on the results of the examinations held during 1905 showed that ninety-one candidates had entered for the National Diploma in Agriculture, of whom twenty had gained the diploma, and that sixty-one candidates had entered for the National Diploma in Dairying, of whom thirty-one had gained the diploma. The regulations and syllabus for the diploma examinations of 1906 were considered, and, after revision, were approved and ordered to be issued forthwith. The examiners for the several examinations were also appointed.

It was decided to hold the seventh annual examination for the Diploma of Agriculture at the Leeds University during the second week of May, 1906, and the tenth annual examination for the Diploma in Dairying at two centres—one in England and one in Scotland—in the autumn. On the motion of Dr. Gillespie, Lord Moreton was unanimously elected Chairman of the Board for the year 1906; and Lord Moreton, Dr. Gillespie, Sir Ernest Clarke, and Mr. James Macdonald were, on the motion of Mr. Bowen-Jones, reappointed as an Executive Committee to conduct the Board's examinations of next year.

SOCIETIES.

The Polo and Riding Pony Society

Mr. Tresham Gilbey (President Elect) occupied the chair at a meeting of the Council of the Polo and Riding Pony Society, held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on the 8th inst., when two new new members were elected.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey (Chairman of the Finance Committee), presented the financial statement, indicating a balance at the bank of £96 12s. 4d.: receipts since the last meeting, £12 17s.; arrears of subscriptions, £52 11s.; accounts for payment, £50 15s. 9d. This report was adopted.

Editing Committee.

Mr. C. Howard Taylor (Chairman) reported that the Committee had met the previous evening, and had carefully revised the proofs of the 1905 Supplement. Three entries had been submitted for registration in the next volume of the Stud Book, two of which they had accepted, though the inspection report in respect of the third did not permit of their recommending its entry in the next volume of the Stud Book. The 1906 Supplement would contain the illustrations of eight ponies which had been awarded prizes or medals at the London and affiliated shows. This report was adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

Mr. G. Norris Midwood submitted the report of this Committee, and stated that the following gentlemen had kindly consented to officiate as judges:—

Breeding Classes.—Rev. E. A. Milne, M.F.H., Chilfrome, Dorchester; Hon. Alexander E. Parker, The Cottage, Doveridge, Derby. Referee; Capt. G. Phipps Hornby, Sandley, Gillingham, Dorset.

Eastern Sires.—Mr. James Tagg, 94, Wellesley Road, Croydon.

Riding Classes.—Mr. Frank Belville, Papillon Hall, Market Harborough; Capt. G. Phipps Hornby, Sandley, Gillingham, Dorset. Referee: Mr. J. B. Dale, Caribury Hall, Darlington.

Shetland Ponies.—apCt. W. Hope Johnstone, Polebrook, Edenbridge, Kent.

Competitions.—Major F. Egerton-Green, Hurlingham Club, S.W.; Capt. E. D. Miller, Roehampton Club, S.W.; Mr. F. H. Unwin, Sheffield

Mr. Charles Sheather, F.R.C.V.S., had again consented to act as measurer of ponies, while he would also attend by permission of the Hurlingham Club to measure all ponies in the riding classes not holding the Hurlingham certificate.

The Veterinary inspectors appointed by the Hunters' Improvement Society had also consented to act for this Society, viz:—Mr. J. Malcolm, F.R.C.V.S. (Birmingham); Professor James MacQueen (Royal Veterinary College); and Mr. J. J. Ridley, M.R.C.V.S. (Beverley).

The prize list drawn up by the Council at their last meeting had been carefully revised, with the following additional prizes, which had been accepted with thanks:—Eastern sires (and sires by an Eastern sire), the sum of £3 offered by Mr. Everard R. Calthorp as second and third prizes. Produce class: A second prize of £5, and a third prize of £2, offered by members of the Council. Prizes value £21 offered conjointly by Mr. G. Norris Midwood and Mr. S. H. Moorhouse for the best heavy-weight ponies suitable for hacking purposes.

A letter was read from Mr. Mungall, representing the Shetland pony breeders, intimating that the sum of £10 had been subscribed to insure the incorporation in the prize list of two classes for Shetland pony stallions and brood mares.

The Committee had, upon the initiative of Mr. Tresham Gilbey, carefully considered the height of the young stock, and they recommended that both for London and for the affiliated country shows the heights should be amended as follows:—Yearlings not exceeding 13 h. 3 in.; two-year-olds not exceeding 14 h. 1 in.; three-year-olds not exceeding 14 h. 1½ in.

This report having been adopted, Mr. G. Norris Midwood wished to direct particular attention to the arrangements made for the annual dinner of members, which would take place at the Hotel Metropole on the Friday evening of the show week, March 16, and he hoped that members would make a point of attending the dinner.

Height of Young Ponies.

Mr. Tresham Gilbey called attention to the recommendations of the Horse Show Committee in respect to the heights of the young ponies. He thought that it was absolutely necessary for the Society to fall into line with the requirements of the market. The bigger the pony the larger the price that could be obtained from buyers. Sir Richard Green-Price, a member of the Committee, agreed with the recommendations, though the forcing of yearlings was, in his opinion, extremely dangerous. In the original proposition submitted it was proposed that the increased heights should be subject to the young animals being the produce of registered mares, and with this qualification he entirely agreed, as there was little danger when

young ponies were out of a dam not exceeding 14 hands 2 in. He thought that the time was approaching when they must consider whether their prizes for yearlings should be limited to ponies bred from such mares.

Mr. John Hill, while agreeing with the previous speaker and the recommendation of the Committee, thought that it would have been better if no heights had been fixed, provided no pony exceeding 14h. 2in. Colonel Sanders Darley thought that this was putting too much upon the judges. Rev. D. B. Montefiore considered that the proposal would be correct if the breeding qualifications were added. The provision of the heights in each class of young stock was a guide to breeders, as showing the heights at which the Society was aiming.

Mountain and Moorland Ponies.

Letters had been read from several conveners calling attention to the foaling qualifications of the brood mares winning the Society's prizes at the district shows, and urging the omission of the condition that requires such mare to be in foal, or have produced a foal in 1906, "to a sire registered in the respective section of the Polo and Riding Pony Stud Book. It was urged that many of the mares ran free on the moors, and therefore it was impossible to state with certainty by what stallion they were in foal, and at the present time of the year it was too late for exhibitors to make any attempt to comply with the condition.

The Council recognised the justice of this representation, and the Secretary was instructed to inform the secretaries of the societies at which the prizes would be offered that it would be sufficient to entitle the mare to the prize money if it foaled in 1906.

National Shows.

Letters were read from the Royal Agricultural Society of England, accepting the Society's offer of gold medals for polo ponies at the Derby meeting, and from the Highland Agricultural Society, the prizes for Highland ponies at their Peebles Show.

Royal Agricultural Society.

The attention of the Council was called to the three classes which would be offered for polo and riding ponies at the Derby meeting, and urging the desirability of this Society providing two additional classes, viz., three-year-old geldings and fillies, and for two-year-old colts, geldings, or fillies. The suggestion was also accompanied by an offer of prizes amounting to £20 for the first class if the other members of the Council were prepared to provide prizes for the second class. This met with a cordial response, and the Secretary was instructed to convey the offer to the proper quarter, while it should also be suggested to the Royal Agricultural Society of England that the wording of the class for brood mares should correspond with that in the other classes for horses, viz., brood mares with foal at foot.

The Secretary was also instructed to suggest to the Hurlingham, Roehampton, and Ranelagh Clubs that if they provided classes for brood mares at their summer show they should also adopt this wording.

Affiliated Shows.

Mr. C. Howard Taylor, pursuant to notice, desired that members in touch with agricultural societies should be asked to use their influence to have classes for polo and riding ponies included in their schedules, and the Secretary was instructed to place himself in communication with all societies that had offered the Society's medals, and submit the result of his inquiries to the Horse Show Committee at their next meeting.

Selection Committee of Candidates for Council.

The Council constituted the Committee as follows:—The President, Mr. John Barker, Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Campbell-Hyslop, Colonel Sanders Darley, Mr. Tresham Gilbey, Sir Richard Green-Prices, Bart., Mr. G. Norris Midwood, Rev. D. B. Montefiore, and Mr. C. Howard Taylor—to meet on January 16, at 3 p.m.

The Council, having arranged the dates of their meetings in 1906, adjourned till Friday, February 9, 1906.

Shorthorn Society.

Meetings of the Committees and Council of the Shorthorn Society were held at the Society's rooms, 12, Hanover Square, W., on the 5th inst., Lord Moreton (vice-president) in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been approved and signed, eight new members were elected.

Lord Moreton reported that the Editing Committee had examined the list of pedigree exportation certificates issued by the secretary since the last meeting of the Committee, viz.:—For Germany, 4; Russia, 2; South Africa, 16; South America, 69; Sweden, 10; total, 101.

The Committee also reported the issue of Vol. 51 of Coates' Herd Book and considered and passed the forms and regulations for entering pedigrees in Vol. 52, the entries for which close on February 1 next.

The Committee considered several new and other pedigrees, with the evidence in support of their correctness, and which were accepted for entry in Vol. 52.

This report was adopted.

General Purposes Committee.

Mr. E. Potter reported that the accounts for the last month had been examined by Messrs. Welton, Jones and Co. and the Committee, and that the Committee recommended that cheques be drawn for printing the Herd Book, salaries and rent, etc., when due, amounting to £713 0s. 4d.

The Committee recommended the following scheme of prizes for 1096:—

CHAMPION PRIZES.

Royal Agricultural Society of England.—Two Champion Prizes of £50 each, for the best male and best female Shorthorn.

Highland and Agricultural Society.—Two Champion Prizes of £25, for the best male and best female Shorthorn.

Royal Dublin Society.—A Champion Prize of £20, for the best yearling Shorthorn bull bred in Ireland.

Bath and West of England and Southern Counties' Society.—A Champion Prize of £10, for the best Shorthorn bull.

DISTRICT PRIZES.

For the best Shorthorn bull, calved in 1905, located in the undermentioned districts:—

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Twenty-eight District Prizes of £10 each.

District.	To be awarded at the following Agricultural Shows.
Beds., Herts., and Middlesex	Bedfordshire.
Berks., Wilts., and Hants	Royal Counties.
Cambridgeshire and Essex	Essex.
Cheshire	Cheshire.
Cornwall and Devon	Royal Cornwall
Cumberland	Cumberland.
Derbyshire	Derbyshire.
Durham	Durham.
Gloucestershire and Monmouthshire	Gloucestershire.
Herefordshire and Worcestershire	Herefordshire and Worcestershire.
Isle of Man	Isle of Man.
Lancashire	Royal Lancashire.
Leicestershire and Rutland	Leicestershire.
Lincolnshire	Lincolnshire.
Norfolk and Suffolk	Suffolk.
Northamptonshire and Hunts	Northamptonshire.
Northumberland	Northumberland.
Nottinghamshire	Nottinghamshire.
Oxfordshire and Bucks	Oxfordshire.
Shropshire	Shropshire and West Midland.
Somerset and Dorset	Somersetshire.
Staffordshire	Staffordshire.
Surrey, Kent, and Sussex	Tunbridge Wells.
Wales (North)	Denbighshire.
Wales (South)	United Counties.
Warwickshire	Warwickshire.
Westmorland	Westmorland and Kendal
Yorkshire	Yorkshire.

SCOTLAND.

Four District Prizes of £10 each.

District.	To be awarded at the following Agricultural Shows.
Argyle, Perth, Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan, Stirling, Linlithgow, Dumbarton, and Renfrew	Stirlingshire.
Ayr, Wigtown, Lanark, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Edinburgh, Haddington, Peebles, Berwick, Selkirk, and Roxburghshire	Border Union.
Elgin, Banff, Aberdeen, Kincardine, and Forfarshire	Royal Northern.
Inverness, Nairn, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, and Orkney	Northern Counties.

IRELAND.

Four District Prizes of £10 each.

District.	To be awarded at the following Agricultural Shows.
Connaught	Hollymount.
Leinster	Royal Dublin.
Munster	County Cork.
Ulster	Royal Ulster.

PRIZES FOR PEDIGREE SHORTHORN DAIRY COWS IN MILK.

At the shows of the undermentioned societies, for the year 1906, a prize of £10 will be offered as a first prize in a special extra class for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, of four years old and upwards, the societies named to offer in such class a second prize of £5.

England and Wales.—Bath and West of England Agricultural Society; British Dairy Farmers' Association; United Counties Agricultural Society; Herefordshire and Worcestershire Agricultural Society; Gloucestershire Agricultural Society; Royal Counties Agricultural Society; Durham County Agricultural Society; Oxfordshire Agricultural Society; Leicestershire Agricultural Society; Shropshire and West Midland Agricultural Society; Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society; Cheshire Agricultural Society; Somersetshire Agricultural Society; Tunbridge Wells and Southern Counties Agricultural Society; Westmorland and Kendal Agricultural Society; Yorkshire Agricultural Society; Warwickshire Agricultural Society.

Scotland. Border Union Agricultural Society; Royal Northern Agricultural Society; Strathearn Agricultural Society.

Ireland. Royal Dublin Society £15); County Cork Agricultural Society; Hollymount Agricultural Society; Royal Ulster Agricultural Society; North-West of Ireland Agricultural Society.

The above prizes to be offered in a special extra class for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, four years old and upwards on the first day of the show at which the prize is offered, eligible for, and entered in, Coates' Herd Book, or pedigree sent for such entry previous to the show. Such cows to be clean milked at six o'clock on the previous evening, and to be milked in the ring on the first morning of the show in the presence of the judge, who shall see the milk weighed, and any cow that does not yield up to the following standard shall be disqualified: Cows having calved within three calendar months of the first day of the show, 25 lb. of milk; if calved more than three calendar months from the first day of the show, 20 lb. of milk.

No animal having once taken one of these prizes is eligible to compete again.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW, 1906.

The prizes for Shorthorn cattle offered by the Royal Agricultural Society in 1906 will be increased by the addition of the following prizes offered by the Shorthorn Society:—A class for Shorthorn heifers in milk, calved in 1903, with prizes £10, £6, and £4. Also two classes for pedigree Shorthorn dairy cows in milk, viz. Cow in milk, four years old and upwards, etc., £10, £6, and £4, and cow in milk, under four years old, etc., £10, £6, and £4, such cows to be entered, or eligible for entry, in Coates' Herd Book. Also £5 to the breeder of the first prize animal in each of the nine Shorthorn classes. These prizes being in addition to the two champion prizes of £50 each offered by the Shorthorn Society for the best male and best female Shorthorn exhibited.

This report was adopted.

Mr. R. Stratton, in moving the resolution below, of which he had given notice, said that as the Society now gave a very considerable sum of money for prizes for pedigree dairy Shorthorns, it only appeared reasonable that they should expect animals winning these prizes to be thorough dairy cattle, and with this object he and those whom he had consulted thought that the standard which was mentioned in his resolution was not too high for such cows. The dairy Shorthorn (Coates' Herd Book) Association had adopted this standard, and it was very desirable that in the interests of the breed they should work harmoniously and adopt the same standard qualification, and, with the view to prevent overlapping in offering prizes, he would suggest that the Shorthorn Society should give their prizes for fully-developed cows, and that the Dairy Shorthorn Association would offer prizes for heifers. He therefore moved—

That all pedigree dairy cows competing for the Shorthorn Society's prizes must be four years old and upwards on the first day of the show at which the prize is offered, and must be clean milked at six o'clock on the previous evening. That on the first morning of the show all cows shall be milked in the ring in the presence of the judge, who shall see the milk weighed, and any cow that does not yield up to the following standard shall be disqualified:—Cows having calved within three calendar months of the first day of the show, 25 lb. of milk; if calved more than three calendar months from the first day of the show, 20 lb. of milk.

Mr. J. P. Cross seconded the motion.

Mr. J. Harris pointed out that there would be some difficulty in applying these conditions to a few one-day shows at which the Society offered these prizes, these shows having no accommodation for animals sent in overnight.

Mr. Stratton thought these societies might make some arrangement by which they could obtain the prize under the conditions suggested, and, after some further discussion, the motion was put to the meeting, and carried, and the conditions added to the General Purposes Committee's report.

The question of judges for dairy Shorthorns was considered, and it was proposed that the members of the Council should send in names for the consideration of the General Purposes Committee.

The next meeting was fixed for early in February next.

Royal Counties.

The annual meeting of the Royal Counties' Agricultural Society was held at the Town Hall, Basingstoke on Wednesday, the retiring President, the Duke of Wellington, in the chair.

The annual report was as follows: The Council have once more to report a very cordial reception from the County Borough of Bournemouth, which they visited during the past year for the third time. The attendance was most satisfactory, the amount taken in gate-money being considerably larger than at the previous Bournemouth meeting in 1895, and with one exception never having been exceeded, the total sum being £2,522, as against £2,468 in 1904, and £2,234 in 1895.

The entries of live stock, as might naturally be expected, fell short of the show at Guildford, the horse classes especially being badly filled, in spite of increased prize money, but there was an excellent entry in the dairy herds competitions, and the grand total of 1,772 is considerably in excess of the last Bournemouth meeting. The amount of space taken in the machinery and implement department was quite up to the average.

The Council regret to report a reduction in the number of members, the amount received in subscriptions being less than in the two previous years. They trust that in the coming year there will be a marked improvement.

The audited statement of accounts shows a balance in favour of the Society (including the invested funds) of £5,771, which is in excess of any previous year. This satisfactory result is largely due to the warm co-operation of the Bournemouth Local Committee, whilst the military display given by the K Battery Royal Horse Artillery was again a great attraction.

The thanks of the Society are specially due to

his Grace the Duke of Wellington, K.G., who has occupied the position of President and taken the warmest interest in the proceedings of the year; to the Mayor (Alderman Elmes Beale) and Corporation and the members of the Local Committee, who did everything in their power to meet the requirements of the Society and make the show a success; to Mr. Cooper-Dean, for so kindly again placing a site for the show at the disposal of the society; to the Committee of the Bournemouth Horse Show, who readily abandoned their show for the year, and assisted in every way towards the success of the meeting; to the County Council of Hants for their special prizes, and for kindly allowing their staff to assist in the working dairy and the horse-shoeing departments; to the donors of prizes; the judges; the the honorary local secretary; the honorary official reporter; the honorary veterinary surgeons; the Chief Constable of Hants and the Superintendent of Police at Bournemouth; the staff of the Royal Boscombe Hospital and St. John Ambulance Association, and the managers of the railway companies; whilst the Council tender their cordial thanks to the clergy and choir of St Paul's Church, who kindly undertook the special service in the Show Yard on Whit-Sunday, and to the Bishop of Honduras for the most able address he gave on that occasion.

Your Council have to record with the deepest regret the death of Mr. William Newton, Vice-Chairman of the Council, and one of the oldest and most valued members of the Society; of Mr. T. J. Cotterell, who had also for many years been a member of the Council; of Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, who twice occupied the position of President; and of Sir Wyndham S. Portal, Bart., who had for a long period been a Vice-President.

The Council have gladly accepted an invitation from the Council of the County Borough of Portsmouth to hold the 1906 meeting in that town, and they look forward to a repetition of the successful shows which have been held there on several previous occasions.

Mr. W. M. Harris (Chairman of the Council), in moving the adoption of the report and financial statement, said that the report spoke of the Society's connection with Bournemouth last year which had given them the greatest pleasure. They received the support of the Mayor and Corporation and the people of Bournemouth to an extent almost unprecedented. There was only one occasion in the annals of the Society when they had taken more gate money than they did at Bournemouth. (Applause.) The Society had suffered a decrease in membership, but the reason was the depression in agriculture which was experienced throughout the country. He hoped they would work individually in the direction of gaining additional members. The Society was almost unique in holding competitions in regard to dairy herds; the venture had proved most successful and was evidently a move in the right direction. Whereas a few years ago they only had £2,000 in hand, the Society now had a balance of £5,800. While many other societies experienced great difficulty in holding their own he considered that a very satisfactory tate of thing. It howed that the Cousncil were composed of business men, who were backed up by an excellent Secretary in Mr. Franklin Simmons. (Applause.)

Mr. James Stratton seconded, and the report and statement of accounts were unanimously passed.

It was decided to invest a further £800 in Consols as recommended by the Council.

Mr. Harris proposed the election of Sir George Cooper, Bart., as President of the Society for the ensuing year. Sir George was a comparative stranger in Hampshire, but if elected he would do honour to the post and help the Society in every way he could. Sir George was very largely interested in agriculture and was admirably qualified for the post.

Mr. Stratton seconded.

The Duke of Wellington supported the proposition, saying he was quite sure that if they elected Sir George he would do all in his power to further the interests of the Society.

The selection was endorsed by acclamation, and the Duke vacated the chair.

Sir George Cooper thanked them very much for the honour they had conferred upon him, and assured them that he would do all he could to further the interests of the Society. (Applause.)

Mr. A. F. Jeffreys, M.P., proposed a vote of thanks to the Duke of Wellington for his valuable assistance to the Society during the past year. That year had been one of the most successful that the Society had ever had, and the Duke had been one of the best of Presidents. His Grace had attended every meeting, and every member of the Society greatly appreciated having a nobleman like the Duke of Wellington, who not only attended their business meeting, but who conducted them in the admirable way he had done. (Applause.)

Mr. W. M. Harris seconded, and the vote was heartily passed.

The Duke of Wellington replied, and referred to the pleasant way in which they had worked together. That was because they all had the same object in view, which was to benefit agriculture. (Applause.) It had been said that the success of the past year was very much owing to the part he had taken as their President; that might be so to a small extent, but it was in a very much larger degree owing to the whole hearted way in which they had all worked together. They had also received most valuable assistance from their Secretary, Mr. Franklin Simmons. (Hear, hear.) His Grace also alluded to the very hearty welcome they received at Bournemouth. It was a matter of unalloyed pleasure to him to be there and to receive the hearty welcome and hospitality of the local committee; he hoped that before long they would visit Bournemouth again. (Applause.)

Numerous other votes of thanks were passed, and members of Council elected.

English Jersey Cattle.

A special Council meeting of the English Jersey Cattle Society was held at 7, Princes Street, Hanover Square, London, on the 4th inst., the president, Mr. William Arkwright, in the chair. Nine new members were elected, but the business of the meeting was to consider Mr. Richardson Carr's proposition, which had been postponed from the last meeting:—

"To call attention to the prizes given for Jersey cattle generally, with the view to further expenditure of the society's funds in the award of prizes, or in carrying out any suggestion for the furtherance of the breed."

After considerable discussion it was agreed to offer to the Devon County and the Sussex County Societies, both of which had applied for prizes, the sum of £15 each, in three prizes of £7, £5, and £3, for a butter test open to all breeds, provided those societies would give similar amounts for a milk test.

Further business was adjourned until the next meeting, which was left to be arranged early in the new year.

Shire Horse.

Mr. J. P. Cross, president-elect, occupied the chair at the last meeting of the Council of the Shire Horse Society, when seventeen new members were elected.

Mr. R. W. Hudson presented the report of the Finance Committee, showing an available balance at the bankers of £551 15s. 7d.; arrears of subscription, £162 15s.; accounts for payment, £724 5s. 2d. The report was adopted.

For the Editing Committee Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, vice-chairman, reported that applications had been received for the following seven prefixes:—

Prefix.	Applicant.
Astbury	Charles Baker.
Bescar	James Seddon.
Birkholme	J. E. Thurman.
Castalldu	Thomas Williams.
Darlaston	Joseph Harvey.
Lymington	H. Graham Harris.
Toddington	Frank Bishop.

which the Committee granted. The proposal that "all mares having produce registered or eligible for registration in the Stud Book should, in consequence, be eligible for registration and a number," had, after a short discussion by the Committee, been withdrawn by Mr. Edward Green.

This report having been presented and adopted, the secretary stated that, acting upon his instructions from the Council at their last meeting, he had made inquiries and was able to inform them that the statuette of the Shire Horse required by the Natural History Department of the British Museum should be about eighteen inches high, and in plaster coloured to nature. The Council thought it desirable to give publicity to this informaton in the event of any member desiring to take advantage of the suggestion, though the Council felt that the statuette should be limited to stallions that had received the Society's championship at the London Show.

Horse Show Committee

The chairman reported that the following gentlemen had accepted office as judges, viz., Mr. J. T. C. Eadie, Mr. Thomas Green, and Mr. John Rowell. Professor Penberthy had accepted the post of Chief Veterinary Inspector, while from the list submitted by him the Committee had selected the following gentlemen to act as his colleagues, viz., Mr. R. S. Reynolds, M.R.C.V.S., Liverpool; Mr. Frank Aulton, M.R.C.V.S., Tutbury; Mr. J. R. Carless, M.R.C.V.S., Shrewsbury; Mr. Harry G. Lepper, M.R.C.V.S., Aylesbury; with first reserve Mr. George Howe, F.R.C.V.S., Buxton; and second reserve Mr. Sydney Vincent, M.R.C.V.S., Brentwood.

A letter had been read from the Royal Agricultural Hall Company, intimating that, in accordance with the arrangements made with the secretary, the proposal for exhibitors to provide their own sawdust would be agreeable, but on the understanding that every endeavour should be made by the Society to arrange that the sacks, etc., should not be placed in the gangways, but in the horse boxes or stalls. The Committee confirmed their previous decision forbidding the entrance of hay (which was provided by the Society), and they recommended that a supply sufficient for one day's consumption be placed in each box before the exhibits arrived.

In the event of the number of horses exceeding the limit fixed by the London County Council, viz., 700 animals, the second entry of any exhibitor in the same class would be charged at the double fee rate. Various suggestions in respect of the above arrangements had been received by the Committee, but they did not deem it desirable to recommend any alteration in their proposals, viz., that in the event of the total entry exceeding the accommodation at their disposal they would have to cancel the classes for geldings. A proposal from Mr. Forshaw to facilitate the movement of the horses to and from the veterinary yard was favourably considered, and its adoption recommended. This report was adopted.

The Council adjourned till their first meeting in the new year, viz., February 6, after having arranged the dates of their other meetings during 1906.

Hunters' Improvement Society.

Colonel Victor Van de Weyer (President) occupied the chair at the last meeting of the Council of the Hunters' Improvement Society. Five new members having been elected, Colonel G. C. Ricardo (Chairman of the Finance Committee) reported that the balance at the bank on the current account was £148 12s. 2d., receipts since the last meeting £48 14s. 5d., arrears of subscription £28 7s., accounts for payment £200 0s. 3d. The Chairman, in presenting the report, desired to urge upon all members of the society the desirability of using their best efforts to bring the work of the society before their friends with a view to increasing the membership. The report was then adopted.

Editing Committee.

Mr. Romer Williams (Chairman) said that, as the result of the inspections arranged by the Committee at their last meeting, they had been enabled to register two further stallions and their dams in the coming volume of the Hunters Stud Book, and two mares in the supplement. He was pleased to state that the whole of the Hunter Stud Book was now in type, and more than half of it in pages, with the general index practically ready, so that there was every hope of the volume being sent to press by the end of the month. It was hoped to issue it to members early in the New Year.

Owing to representations from several members of the society, the Committee wished to strongly urge upon the Council that notice should be given in the Press and to the members of the society, and to the secretaries of the affiliated societies, that the Imperial Hunter Stud Book and the Irish Hunter Register, published at the Stud Book offices, Boscombe, Hants, and at 10, Gunnersbury Lane, Acton, W., had no conection with the Stud Book issued by this society. Members and others desirous of registering their hunter stallions and mares should send their entries to the Secretary, A. B. Charlton, 12, Hanover Square, London, W., only. The report of the Committee was adopted.

Horse Show Committee.

Mr. J. B. Kingscote (Chairman) reported that a letter had been received from the Royal Commission on Horse Breeding, accepting the society's invitation to hold their 1906 show at the Royal Agricultural Hall.

Letters had also been read from the Royal Agricultural Society, the Royal Dublin and Highland and Agricultural Societies, accepting the offer of the gold medals for award at their 1906 shows.

Replies had been received from the following gentlemen intimating their willingness to officiate as judges:—

Riding Classes.—Mr. R. A. Barkley, Diss, Norfolk; Mr. Alfred West, Bray, Ireland.

Young Stock.—Mr. Thomas Anderson, Mageney, Kildare; Mr. W. H. J. Jenkins, Frenchay Park, Bristol.

Jumping.—Mr. Romer Williams, Newnham Hall, Daventry; Mr. R. G. Carden, Borrisoleigh, Tipperary.

Mr. J. Malcolm, F.R.C.V.S. (Brmingham), had accepted the post of Veterinary Inspector, and from the list of names submitted by him the Committee had selected as his colleagues Professor James McQueen, F.R.C.V.S. (Royal Veterinary College) and Mr. J. J. Ridley, M.R.C.V.S. (Beverley).

The revised edition of the prize list had been submitted by the Secretary and duly approved by them, who confirmed the addition to Rule 18—that as hay was provided free, and accommodation limited, exhibitors would not be permitted to bring hay into the Hall.

An improvement in the prize rosettes suggested

by the Secretary was recommended for adoption, while the reference from the October Council as to the desirability of drawing up a list of judges for the country shows was referred to the Judges' Selection Committee, with a request that they should report fully to the Council in due course. The report was adopted.

Selection Committee of Candidates for Council.

This Committee was constituted as follows:—The President, Mr. J. P. Cross, Mr. C. E. De Trafford, Mr. W. H. Dunn, Colonel Sir Nigel Kingscote, K.C.B., Mr. J. L. Nickisson, and Mr. Romer Williams, to meet on Wednesday, January 10, 1906.

been duly arranged, the Council adjourned till

National Potato.

The general annual meeting of the National Potato Society was held on December 7, in the Prince's Saloon at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., Mr. G. Gordon, V.M.H., in the chair, and was largely attended.

The Secretary (Mr. W. P. Wright) read the minutes of the previous meeting and the annual report for 1905. The balance sheet showed that the society had a balance on the year's working o £81 11s. Mr. A. D. Hall moved and Mr. Straw son seconded the adoption of the report. Mr. Davie inquired about the die and medals which were charged for on the balance sheet. The secretary explained that certain medals had been awarded to amateurs' or cottagers' societies. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Secretary brought up the question of unpaid subscriptions, asking the meeting to decide when the defaulters should cease to become members After some discussion Mr. Hall moved that such members be allowed a year's grace; this was seconded by Mr. Fred Pickering and carried unanimously.

Mr. W. Cuthbertson proposed that the officers, committee, and board of arbitration as given in the Schedule be re-elected *en bloc*. This was seconded by Mr. F. G. Crampton and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Davie, Mr. J. Gray, of Osborne Street, Glasgow, was elected to the Board of Arbitration, the members of which were given votes on the General Committee.

Messrs. W. Cuthbertson and W. J. Malden were unanimously elected as joint honorary auditors.

Mr. A. D. Hall opened a discussion respecting the society's trials during 1906. He suggested that the society should enter into an agreement with the Cambridge University agricultural department. The secretary stated that he had seen Professor Middleton on the subject, and this gentleman had given an encouraging reply. Mr. G. Massey, Mr. T. J. Blaydes, C.C., Mr. R. W. Green, and Mr. T. A. Scarlett supported the scheme. Several members spoke very highly of the Cambridge trials of 1905.

Mr. T. J. Blaydes suggested that the various county councils might take the matter up. Mr. Scarlett moved that the department be approached formally; this was seconded by Mr. George Massey, who stated that his county council were doing nothing whatever in the way of experiments. Carried unanimously.

The Secretary moved that the maximum charge for testing any one variety be 10s.; this was seconded by Mr. Cuthbertson and carried unanimously.

The Secretary suggested the appointment of Mr. G. M. Taylor, of Pinkie Hill, Inveresk, as honorary assistant secretary for Scotland. Mr. Scarlett made a formal motion to this effect which Mr. Davie seconded. It was carried unanimously.

Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution.

Founded in 1874 to provide relief for the poor, aged, and afflicted but deserving members of the dairy trade, as well as the orphans and widows of deceased dairymen, the Metropolitan Dairymen's Benevolent Institution has at the present moment thirty-six pensioners on the register, and during the past year gratuities of from £10 to £18 have been granted to several persons whose urgent necessitous circumstances were brought before the committee. Special emphasis is laid on the fact that no lavish expenditure in almshouses or other costly accessories is incurred.

Mr. Frank Denning, managing director of Welford's Surrey dairies, who occupied the chair at the recent annual meeting, observed that recently a learned divine gave utterance to the sentence, "Let us do good to all, but mainly to those of our own faith." Would they allow him to remind them that while they should do good to all, they should especially do good to those who had been engaged in the same trade as themselves. This appeal was most liberally responded to, the subscriptions, etc., amounting to £1,682 9s. 6d. Mr. Denning gave £105.

National Sheep Breeders.

The annual meeting of the National Sheep Breeders' Association, under the chairmanship of Mr. J. T. Hobbs, took place at the Agricultural Hall during the Smithfield Show.

It was reported that the Council had passed a resolution expressing the opinion that the time had arrived when it should be a condition of entry at the Royal Agricultural Show that all sheep entered for competition in the pure-bred classes should be either entered or eligible for entry in their respective flock books, and that the Council of the Royal be asked to make a rule to this effect.

Mr. Mansell said it had been pointed out to him that the resolution might work wrongly, for all flock books were not closed. He proposed that the four words "or eligible for entry" be omitted.

Mr. A. Amos seconded.

During a discussion it was explained that the resolution could not be amended without notice, and, consequently, the resolution passed as submitted. The opinion was also expressed that the Royal Society had already taken action in the matter.

A resolution had also been adopted by the Council that the judges appointed to award prizes in all pure-bred classes should be selected by the Councils of the agricultural societies from gentlemen nominated by the respective sheep societies.

It was further reported that a strong representation had been made to the Board of Agriculture pointing out the great inconvenience arising through the disease of sheep scab being allowed to continue in this country, and urging them to take the most drastic measures for its entire eradication.

Mr. J. Flower, of Chilmark, Salisbury, was chosen president-elect for 1906 and president for 1907.

Highland.

The Directors of the Highland and Agricultural Society met at Edinburgh on Wednesday week. Mr. Wilson, of Carbeth, presided, and, before the business of the meeting was commenced, referred to the death of Mr. Cameron, of Lochiel, in whose death, he said, they had lost an old and valued member, who had been connected with the society for forty-six years, and had been in turn a director, a vice-president, and president. They mourned the loss of one who had done his duty abroad and at home right loyally and well. He moved that they record in their minutes an expression of deep regret at Mr. Cameron's death, and their sense of the loss which the society had sustained. The motion was unanimously agreed to.

The report of the Shows Committee on the premium list for Peebles Show next year was submitted. It showed that the prize money offered from the society's own funds amounted to £2,546, as compared with £2,479 at Kelso in 1898 and £2,804 at Glasgow last year. The following special prizes were intimated:—By the Polo and Riding Pony Society, £15, to be applied in increasing the first prize in each of the three classes for Highland ponies to £10; by Mr. M. G. Thorburn, of Glenormiston, £50, divided as follows:—£40 towards the prizes for Cheviot sheep, £10 for prizes of £5, £3, and £2 for pens of cross-bred lambs in class 113, got by blackfaced tups and out of Border Leicester ewes; by Peebles Co-operative Society, Limited, piece of plate, value £10, for best pen of half-bred sheep; Mr. Charles Howatson, of Glenbuck, offered £10 as a champion prize for the best blackfaced ram in the show, any age.

The Secretary (Mr. James Macdonald) intimated that the secretary of the Royal Commission on Motor Cars had written inviting the society to appoint a witness to give evidence by November 28. He had written that they would not have a meeting before that date. Thereupon the secretary wrote stating that the Commission would be glad to receive a short note of the evidence their witness would be prepared to give, and that they would then communicate further with the society if they desired to do so. That he (Mr. Macdonald) took to mean that it would depend on the evidence to be given whether they would receive the witness or not. The Glasgow Agricultural Society and the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture were, he understood, sending witnesses.

Mr. Mair, Upper Mill, Aberdeen, said he was afraid their was a danger of the views of agriculturists not being sufficiently prominently brought before the Commission, and that the views of those who were more insistent on having their way might have undue prominence. He thought they should take some steps to defend their birthright—the free and unrestricted use of the roads—otherwise their liberties would be encroached upon. He thought they should have somebody to present the view of the Highland Society. There ought to be stringent restrictions put on those motor cars, both as to speed and as to passing over narrow roads.

On the motion of Mr. Anderson, Kinross, Mr Mair was appointed to give evidence, but, on the suggestion of the chairman, it was agreed not to act on the letter of the secretary of the Commission, but to say that they had appointed a witness, and that when they learned that his evidence was to be taken they would send his precognition.

Grants to local shows amounting to £665 were approved. This is an increase of £25 over last year, about double the grants in 1901, and £440 more than they gave twelve years ago.

Large Black Pig.

The annual general meeting of the Large Black Pig Society was held in the Princes Saloon of the Agricultural Hall on Wednesday of Smithfield week, when, in the unavoidable absence of the President, the Earl of Onslow, the Vice-President, Mr. C. F. Marriner, was voted to the chair.

The seventh annual report and statement of accounts for the year ending June 30, 1995, showed that during the year twenty-four new members had been elected, and the total number of members was now as follows:—Life members, 1; annual subscribers, 213. The statement of accounts showed credit balances amounting to £141 16s. 5d., and a surplus of £122 10s. 11d., after payment of all liabilities. The sixth volume of the Society's Herd Book, containing entries of boars, Nos. 1,085 to 1,325, and of sows, Nos. 4,198 to 4,870, had been issued, and a considerable number of entries had already been received for the seventh volume. The export trade had increased and considerable shipments had been made to Australia, New Zealand, Denmark, Germany, Russia, South Africa, and the United States of America. Several purchases had been made for Ireland, and extensive business might be done with that portion of the United Kingdom if it were not for the almost prohibitive restrictions enforced in respect to the importation of pedigree swine. Appended to the report were the names of officers of the Society and members of the Council retiring by rotation.

The President, in his letter of apology for his inability to be present, said he was very glad to hear that the Society was doing so well.

The Chairman said he was desired to express regret that Mr. H. G. Regnart could not attend the meeting that day. The Secretary had requested him (Mr. Marriner) to express regret that there were not more exhibitors at Smithfield Show this year. As he (the Chairman) was one of the defaulters, he felt that he was in rather an awkward position. He personally wished he could have sent more, but he really had not the opportunity, owing to the demand there was for Large Blacks. It was very satisfactory that there was such a good trade; they had not only been sent to more home countries, but to more countries abroad than previously. This growing popularity of the Large Blacks was very encouraging, showing, as it did,, that the demand for that special class of pig was becoming greater year by year. (Hear, hear.)

The Secretary remarked that there was a good representation of the Large Blacks at the summer shows, but he thought they had not done justice to the breed at the Smithfield Show. He confessed, for his own part, that he should have been glad to have seen more entries. He might call attention to the remarkable success of the Suffolk sheep in the carcase competitions there; out of the twelve money awards, as many as eleven going to Suffolks and Suffolk crosses. He felt convinced that if there had been more exhibits of Large Blacks in the pig section they would take a like prominent place.

New members to the number of about a score were elected.

Some time was occupied in considering the grants of premiums, etc., to the Royal and other societies for 1906, and a list of judges of Large Blacks for recommendation to agricultural societies in 1906 was approved.

Presentation to a Secretary.

An interesting gathering took place at Reading on the 9th inst., when about 40 members of the Berks and Adjoining Counties Dairy Farmers' Association entertained to dinner Mr. Thomas Chettle, the Farm Steward to the Reading Corporation, who is their hon. secretary, and at the same time made to him handsome and suitable gifts in recognition of his services in the promotion of the Association and the union among dairy farmers in the promotion of their common interest which it has brought about. The presentation took the form of a gold watch and chain, and a framed illuminated address. The address read:—"Presented by the Members of the Berks and Adjoining Counties Dairy Farmers' Association to Mr. T. Chettle, with the accompanying Watch and Chain, in recognition of the valuable services he has rendered the Association as Honorary Secretary since its inauguration, November, 1901." Then followed the names of the subscribers, over 65 in number.

The

Mark Lane Express

Agricultural Journal.

and

Live Stock Record.

ESTABLISHED 1832.

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SOCIETIES & NOTICES

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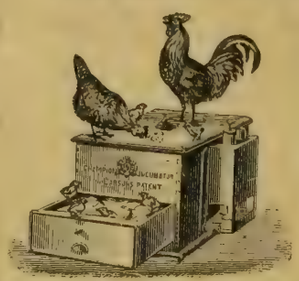

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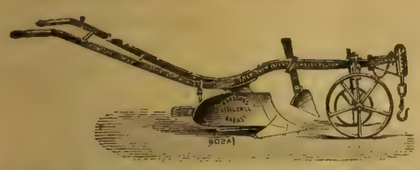

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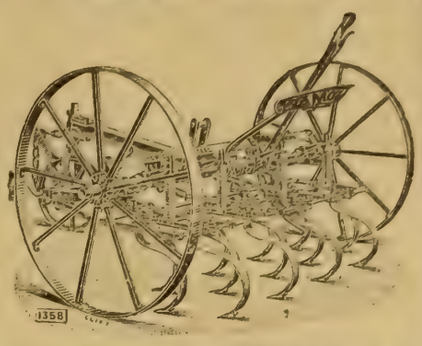

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PILFERED CORN.

An evil with which farmers have to cope, especially in the wold districts of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, is the mistaken ambition of waggoners and other farm servants to improve the appearance of their teams by the injudicious administration of drugs or feeding stuffs to the horses under their charge.

The law has attempted to guard against the danger by two enactments—viz.:—

(a) That any person wilfully and unlawfully administering to or causing to be administered to or taken by any horse, cattle, or domestic animal, any poisonous or injurious drug or substance (unless reasonable cause or excuse is shown on his behalf) shall be liable to a penalty of £5, or imprisonment with hard labour for not exceeding one month for a first offence, or three months for any subsequent offence.

(b) That if any servant shall, contrary to the orders of his master, take from his possession any corn, pulse, roots, or other food for the purpose of giving the same, or of having the same given, to any horse or other animal belonging to or in possession of his master, he shall be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for not exceeding three months, or to a fine not exceeding £5.

Thus the law regards the misappropriation of the master's corn as a more serious offence than the wilful and deliberate administration of injurious drugs, the maximum imprisonment for a first offence in the latter case being one month, whilst in the former three months' imprisonment may be imposed.

But, notwithstanding these provisions, we constantly hear of cases of very serious injury being done to stock by misguided farm hands "doctoring" them by surreptitiously dosing them with arsenical compounds or by administering food of an unsuitable nature, or in excessive amount. When the mischief is done the servant realises his folly, and is unfeignedly penitent, the actual result of his operations being the very reverse of what he had intended. So far from being actuated by any spite or ill-will against his master or by any felonious intent the man's conduct is nearly always prompted by a laudable pride in the appearance of his horses, and he deeply regrets that any harm should happen to the animals, of which he is genuinely fond. Recognising that the servant's offence proceeds rather from an error of judgment than from an evil mind, the farmer often forgives the injury done to him, and so it happens that although these cases are of too frequent occurrence, they do not often come into court.

But sometimes the damage done is so appalling that it is felt to be due to the public that a prosecution should ensue, in order that farmers and others may be protected against these unauthorised practices on the part of their servants, and that the dangers lurking therein may be emphasised for the enlightenment of those who are tempted to indulge in them. Of such a nature was a case which recently occurred in the East Riding of Yorkshire, resulting in the death of five valuable mares, worth not less than £300. A waggoner who had the absolute charge of these mares one day last October found some wheat in the barn, some of which he took (without authority) and gave to his "beauties" for a treat. Now, as luck would have it, that wheat was the remains of some seed wheat, which had been subjected to an arsenical process with a view of being sown. This was quite unknown to the waggoner, who, of course, would not have used it had he suspected for a moment that it had been treated. At the same time, he had no business to have taken it, and he was properly convicted of misappropriating his master's corn. The punishment inflicted—a fine of £3 and costs—would doubtless have been heavier but for the carelessness of leaving the poisoned corn unprotected in a place where it was liable to be used for an improper purpose. The Bench commented upon this carelessness, and remarked that the poisoned wheat should have been protected, and so placed that it would have been impossible for a servant to get at it.

This case has attracted a good deal of attention on account of its disastrous results, and the prosecution was taken up as a matter of public importance by the Bridlington Agricultural Club, of which the farmer was a member. The Club have also adopted a resolution urging that the law should be strengthened by making it an offence for servants to give, contrary to their master's orders, any foods or other substances to horses or other stock, whether such foods be the property of their masters or not. At present the Act only deals with misappropriation of the master's feeding stuffs, and not to the administration of foods which the servant may get elsewhere.

New House Farm, near Felton, was the scene of a very destructive fire on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning. It was first discovered by a farm hand about nine o'clock in a straw barn, and owing to the scarcity of water and want of implements wherewith to combat the flames the fire had practically to burn itself out. The flames spread from the barn to the granary and then to the threshing room. In the former place a large quantity of oats, oilcake, and barley was destroyed. In the threshing room there was great havoc, the engine and machinery being absolutely destroyed. A good many of the cattle which were in a field contiguous to the burning building were got into safety, and about thirty bags of potatoes were also saved from destruction. The farm is tenanted by Mr. Thomas Heath. The damage is estimated at something over £1,000, but is covered by insurance.

Seasonable Topics.

Christmas.

A merry Christmas! As these lines are being written the old wish is being passed from lips to lips, and we hope also from heart to heart, just in the old sweet way, and preparations are being made for the Yule-tide feast. Times, manners, habits, customs, and fashions all change as the years roll on, but the true spirit of Christmas is a thing of itself, and remains unchanged and unchangeable. And the man who is never infected at all by the spirit must be a veritable Scrooge indeed, for even the individuals who boast that they are devoid of sentiment, seem to creep out of their shells a little at Christmas time, become a trifle generous, and slightly sympathetic, while the man who loves his Christmas and believes in it, rejoices in making those about him glad and happy. It is good to be with such a character as this at all times, and particularly just now, for when he wishes you a merry Christmas you may depend that it is no figure of speech, but he really means it, and if it is in his power to make your Christmas a little more bright and happy he will find pleasure in doing it. Indeed, the world is made a much better place through the presence of the good men who live in it, and they shine at Christmas time.

Christmas Then and Now.

Look at the old picture hanging on the wall, or plates in the Christmas numbers of the illustrated magazines (which usually come out six weeks before the time and are stale by Christmas) and you are reminded of what is known as an old-fashioned Christmas—a season of frost and snow, when coaches had to be dug out, and all sorts of more or less exciting things happened; in fact, a real Dickens's Christmas describes it as well as anything. Now look out of the window and you survey not frost and snow, but muddy roads, green fields, and a more or less damp and murky atmosphere. Did they have these green Christmases, which according to some dead and gone authority, make fat churchyards, in the old days, we wonder, and is the ideal snowy and frosty Yuletide one of imagination's own making? So far back as our recollection goes, we remember more mild and muddy Christmases than those of the real old-fashioned story-book character, and perhaps after all the modern Christmas is the most convenient, for, with all the thousands of people who travel to visit friends and relatives at this season, to say nothing of the parcels and post traffic, it would be very awkward, indeed, if trains had to be dug out to enable passengers to reach their destinations, and postmen bringing the greeting cards had to be extricated from snowdrifts. On the whole, we think that the old-fashioned snowy Christmas is better on the pictures and coloured plates than in reality, bearing in mind the requirements of the people of this modern age, because Christmas is not only a season of pleasure, but one when an enormous amount of business is done.

The Farmer's Christmas

Farmers have always done their share towards upholding the spirit of Christmas, and the convivial tendency which belongs to the fraternity betrays itself at this season. Through all the ages farmers have been a hospitable people, and this characteristic is as marked now as ever it was. Christmas, of course, is a time specially set aside for hospitality, and the farmer, as Mark Tapley would put it, has a chance of coming out strong. For years we have been, as it were, one of the fraternity, and recollection wanders to a dear old portly farmer's wife of the old school, with an apple face and cheerful smile, who always made a special brand of pork pies for Christmas presents, and never failed to rear half a dozen turkeys and the same number of geese for the same express purpose. Woe be to the member of the household who dared have put a peg or tap into the special keg of Elderberry wine before the Eve of Christmas, and it would have been counted as an insult by the homely dame if any visitor had refused a glass of the wine and a Christmas mince pie. Don't think this spirit is dead; not a bit of it, for farmers still live in a world peculiarly their own; they give and take in the same open handed manner, and the old-fashioned custom of entertaining each other at evening parties is still carried on during the Christmas season. Particularly is this so in districts far removed from towns, where the population is sparse and chiefly made up of members of the farming fraternity.

Christmas Customs.

Naturally a good many of the old rural customs associated with Christmas have died out or nearly so, for railways and other means have brought the country more into contact with the world of the town, and the rising generation does not show the same interest in the amusements which delighted the youth of a past decade. We have in mind an old farmhouse in a Midland shire which was liberty hall at Christmas time. The carol singers on Christmas Eve which came from the Methodist chapel were just as welcome as those associated with the Established Church, and it was said of the band of local musicians that their gait was invariably less steady after a visit to the establishment in question. Recollections still live in the district of the famous brew of "posset" which was boarded on Christmas Eve, and which every labourer on the farm shared, while the old kitchen re-echoed with laughter and song. It was customary then for "Morris dancers" to go round, and it was their privilege to step into the kitchen, tapping with their sticks and keeping time to the tune of Yankee doodle, played on a tin whistle or a squeaky concertina. After them would come a company of play actors in the form of village lads, who, dressed up in grotesque attire, used to go through some unintelligible jargon, in which Earl Guy and various other notabilities figured more or less conspicuously. No one knew the origin of the play, but probably it was a distorted bit from Shakespeare, and one generation of schoolboys learned it from another; the rural people dropped coppers into the tin ladle carried for the purpose as a matter of custom, and perhaps they do still for aught we know.

Changing Farm Servants at Christmas.

In the well-known dairy farming district of North Staffordshire and Derbyshire the farm servants' year ends on Christmas morning, and even if the youths and maids are "stoppin' agen," as it is locally put, they leave their places on the morning of Christmas Day and return on New Year's Day. Perhaps this time for terminating engagements was selected originally because the cows were mostly dry, and cheese making for the time being was at a standstill. Alas! in many cases cheese making now appears to be at a standstill for ever, because the milk trade has superseded it, but still the dairymaids (what few there are left) and the farm lads who live on the premises, shoulder their bundles on Christmas morning and trudge off, in some cases for a week, and in others for ever, but with the intention during the next few days of getting as much pleasure out of life as they can. During the week dividing Christmas and the New Year hiring fairs, known locally as "Gauby's markets," are held in the market towns, though these meetings of late years seem to have become pleasure fairs more than anything else, as not nearly so much hiring is done as used to be the case. Farm lads in the Midlands work hard during the greater part of the year, and for the most part they get but little excitement; therefore at Christmas it is not surprising that they make the most of their opportunities. Evidently they do not stand alone in this respect, for it may be observed at the Christmas hiring fairs that cheapjacks and purse trick experts do a roaring business, and invariably succeed in appropriating a goodly share of the farm lads' hard-earned money.

The Mystic Mistletoe.

Though mistletoe growing in an apple tree is not indicative of high class fruit culture, yet many of the farmers in the West of England look to the parasite which flourishes in so many of the orchards as a means of returning them a little profit. Very closely is the mystic mistletoe connected with the festival of Christmas, even more so, in fact, than the time-honoured holly, and it seems to lose none of its popularity, judging by the tons of it that are sold every year. Though poplars, limes, and hawthorns are favourite hosts of the mistletoe, it seems to have a particular liking for the apple, and on this tree it grows abundantly. Mistletoe rarely grows on the oak, and the Druids of old held a specimen on an oak as sacred. The cutting of it was done with a golden knife, amid great ceremony, a white bull being secured to the stem of the tree during the operation ready for the sacrifice. After the sacrifice was made feasting followed, and it is with Yuletide merrymakings that the mistletoe has continued to associate itself. Birds are the chief propagators of mistletoe, as they eat the berries, and in wiping their bills on the branches of trees the bruised berries with the seeds become affixed by means of the sticky gummy matter they contain, and in due time the seeds germinate and take root. Though an up-to-date commercial fruit grower would not tolerate mistletoe on his apple trees, there is something old worldly and peculiarly sentimental about the big bunches of the parasite which flourish on the gnarled orchard trees in the west country.

The Crossing of Grains.

An interesting lecture on the above was delivered on Wednesday by Dr. John H. Wilson (Lecturer on Agriculture at St. Andrew's University), under the auspices of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural Discussion Society, at Glasgow. Dr. Wilson, in the course of his lecture, said it was necessary to get a clear idea of what was meant the successful application of pollen of one kind of a plant to another, resembling in the blending of the character of both kinds. In cross-fertilisation the action version took place, and for every three plants was confined to one plant, or to two plants of the same kind. Much discussion had taken place regarding the possibility of cereals crossing naturally. This was very unlikely to happen, but instances of it had been recorded. The individual flowers of cereals fertilised themselves in ordinary circumstances.

In crossing it was necessary to take means of preventing self-fertilisation. The lecturer had crossed oats, wheats, and barleys, one variety with another. A black oat crossed with a white one resulted in the first generation in a brown-grained variety, but in the second generation reversion took place, and for every three plants bearing black or brown grains, one bore white grains. He found that the white ones bred true to colour, but the others did not, some white ones appearing amongst them.

The result was in conformity with Mendel's law of inheritance of individual characters. By giving attention to this law the breeder was able to see which varieties were fixed or constant. Amongst the wheats, a cross between a bearded and a beardless variety gave a blending of the two at first, but the progeny of the hybrid could be separated distinctly into two groups, one beardless and the other bearded, the former being three times as many as the latter. Those representing the smaller term of the ration bred true, all being bearded.

The length of the ear was another character following Mendel's law, the long-eared type breeding true to that type. A cross between barley and bere was interesting on account of certain of the derivatives resembling the barley parent in form, but possessing the early character of the bere.

Sugar Beet Cultivation.—At a meeting of the Council of the East Suffolk Chamber of Agriculture, held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday, it was decided to hold a meeting to consider the growth of sugar beet in Suffolk, on January 2. Mr. E. J. Cheney promised to introduce the subject for discussion, and an influential company of persons interested in the subject either as growers or manufacturers, is expected. It was decided to postpone the annual meeting and luncheon until February.

York Horse Fair.—The York Christmas Horse Fair nominally started on Monday, but, so far as the best stock is concerned, was in full swing on Saturday. There was a good demand for hunters, and the best trade was for Irish hunters and coach horses. A good many well-known Irish breeders were represented. Compared with former fairs, the supply is moderate and buyers are fewer, though several well-known Continental agents are present, and were extensive purchasers on Saturday. Prices for both hunters and harness horses ranged from 150 guineas downwards; for carriage work some well-matched pairs changed hands at 150 gs. and 160 gs. On Monday the best of the hunters and harness horses left over from the preceding days of the fair made as much as 125 gs., but the greater part sold at prices ranging from 50 to 90 gs. One of the features in the trade for harness horses was the decline in the demand for the stronger and more wearing type, the demand being chiefly for stylish lighter type suitable for town and short distance work. Agricultural horses ranged from 45 gs. downwards, though anything good in Shires up to heavy railway lurry work would command as much as 70 gs. Hackneys sold up to 50 gs., but there were very few which reached this figure.

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Agricultural Politics.

BY A LOBBYIST.

Of course, we have now reason to be gratified over at least two of the minor appointments to the Ministry—that of Mr. George Lambert to the Civil Lordship of the Admiralty and that of Sir. E. Strachey to the Treasurership of the Royal Household and the representation of the Board of Agriculture in the Commons. Of course, I have more than once suggested that Mr. George Lambert was too prone—too prone for his own advantage—to roam at large in the political sphere from Dan to Beersheba. At the same time, I had never imagined him likely to be a Minister in administrative charge—for that is what he will become in a larger degree—of the naval establishments and the naval factories. I had perceived in him, in his stern interrogatories of the Minister for War, a chivalrous readiness to, in the hour of stress, take charge, if deemed necessary, of the British Army. This was particularly evident after his return from garrison-service during the war with his Militia regiment. I had never, however, perceived that he had so far devoted his attention to the Navy as to know the difference between a marling-spike and a boarding-net. I see that some Devonshire Conservative commentators have made great fun over the appointment. "So like C.-B.," say they, "to send a man who knows all about agriculture to the Navy." He was afraid of what Mr. Lambert would propose at the Board of Agriculture." This is simply grotesque silliness. There can be only one Minister for Agriculture, and C.-B. gave that to the Peer who has devoted a scientific sympathy to the interest, and whose inclusion in the Cabinet was absolutely necessary. There could be only one spokesman for the Ministry in the House of Commons; and C.-B. have given that dignity—to which in itself no remuneration attaches—to a Somersetshire squire and politician whose claims are undeniable.

• • •

Of course, none of us can command our partisan sentiments; and this criticism of Mr. Lambert's appointmnet was simply a partisan ebullition. When I heard of it I could not but reflect upon Mr. Hanbury's first appointment to the portfolio of Agriculture, when the Tory party had actually at its command Mr. Henry Chaplin, Mr. Walter Long, and twenty other able men connected with agriculture. If a man is only to receive the appointment for which his predispositions and past suggest him—and, of course, we must all confess that this would be the ideal plan—then how was it that that dainty Greek versifier, Mr. Gerald Balfour, was placed by his brother in control of the dreary drudgery of the Board of Trade? No doubt, too, the present Marquis of Salisbury is a man of competent ability; but what had there been in his past to justify his succeeding Mr. Gerald Balfour in his dull and drab unromantic significance? I would opine that no trading-house in the British-speaking world wosld for a moment have thought of consulting either gentleman on a matter of trade polity, or for less than a moment pursuing their advice before their appointment to the position. Hence it is that this criticism of Mr. Lambert's appointment is only an evidence of the desire of the instinct within us — it is as inevitable to us as is the double dose of original sin—to flagellate our political rival whether we be justified or not. There can be only two agricultural appointments in the Ministry — the Minister himself and his spokesman in the other House; and two agriculturists have been associated with it. The appointment of a third distinctive agriculturist to a Ministerial position may not be the result of a designed anxiety to distinguish agriculture; but, at least, under the circumstances, it is a considerate act which is deserving of courteous recognition. If Mr. Lambert had been the selected spokesman of agriculture in the Commons, Somersetshire would have wanted to know what Sir E. Strachey had done.

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It will be interesting to see what attitude Sir E. Strachey adopts towards the question of railway rates, and whether he will be still in favour of coercing companies into abandoning excessive demands. You will remember that the policy he once suggested was a bit draconic. This was that the House of Commons should refuse to assent to the private Bills of railway companies — Bills, for instance, providing for the extension of a line, the building of light railways, and the like—until a formal and definite revision of the railway charges had either been promised or undertaken. In my view, this policy was justifiable. Every railway in the country owes its existence to the State. Had the State withheld its approval, the line could no more have been built than a narrow-gauge connection could be established with Mars. Hence the State was in a measure responsible for the policy of the company. Or, at all events, if that the company unduly penalised a section of the community, if by that policy it gave an advantage to its rivals, the State should, on the first possible opportunity, exact redress and possibly retribution. "Drastic, drastic," quoths the commentator. Nothing of the kind. The proposal of Sir E. Strachey seemed to be the common-sense assertion of the undeniable right of the State; and, though the State was not, as a result of his action, called upon to exert its powers, the mere suggestion that it could invoke them had its influence. Will Sir E. Strachey maintain his bold, punitive attitude?

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Probably there is not so much necessity for this attitude now as there was when he first adopted it. Still there is very much yet to be obtained from the railway companies. Perhaps, too, it may be the easier to obtain these concessions when the companies believe they will be acting in harmony with a friendlier State. By "friendlier" I mean "subventing." Will Lord Carrington seek to unloosen the nation's purse-strings in the interest of the British farmers—in the interest of improved means of distribution?

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Will Earl Carrington have the strength to resist the demand which is already being revived to remove the restrictions upon the admission of Canadian cattle? The attitude—the pawky attitude—which Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman adopted in his speech to the Scottish fleshers is now being interpreted to be an encouragement to at once proceed with the organisation of all forces interested in the policy of removal. It would assuredly be a strange, almost weird, contrast if restrictions devised to prevent the spread of disease among British flocks and herds were removed at the instigation of interested personages, at the very moment when, in the interest only of her own trade, Canada was putting in force restrictions against the introduction of American agricultural produce into the Dominion. Of course, one of the assertions which it is hoped will influence Lord Carrington is that his exclusion of Canadian cattle must tend to the heightening of the price of the food of the people. Of course, the cheapened food of the people is now the Ark of the Radical Covenant. Well, Lord Carrington is, temperamentally, an unemotional man. He does not act upon impulse; neither does he think that because a fellow has leather-lined lungs he voices the requirements of divine Providence. I should opine that he would not for a moment think of hastily reversing the policy of his predecessor until he had consulted the expert advice at the command of the Minister of Agriculture. If he does this, we may assume that reversal will not take place just yet. Agricultural opinion in England, at this moment, is entirely with the policy of exclusion. "Oh, yes," retorts the restriction-removalist, "because this restriction is simply another form of Protection." Well, as a fact, it is not in harmony with the new policy of Protection based on Colonial preference. But the farmer is moved by a very different sentiment. He has a morbid fear of a ravaging disease—and his fear is justified. Lord Carrington's first problem is not without its personal difficulties, as a great body of his political associates undeniably favour the removal of the restrictions.

• • •

Well, the latest thing in farm-colony philanthropy — I pray I be not accused of irreverence in this phrase, but farm-colony philanthropy is now an inevitable part of the romance of the rural economy—has, at least, a common-sense element in it. We are not going to establish with Mr. George Herring's £100,000—even if General Booth manages to get that sum largely supplemented by other men of the same generous type—a network of peasant proprietors throughout the land. I doubt that General Booth, even in his most roseate hour of extreme optimism, believes this. At all events, it is gratifying to perceive that the scheme betrays no evidence of the continued existence of the mischievous phantasy that you have only to draft a city corner-boy on to an allotment to at once have at your command, ready-fashioned by the supreme human sculptor, a complete farmer. General Booth tells us that the object of the plan is to prevent the exodus from the villages, and to attract from the cities those brought up in the villages. This is excellent. We are returning from feather-headism to sanity. And if experiments are to be made in peasant proprietorship it is as well, perhaps, that this should be done by private philanthropy rather than out of the purse of the State. The voice of the croaker is ever heard in the land — when money is being spent. And if national money spent in this way were not immediately reproductive there would be an inevitable growl against waste and the inevitable prophecy that an empire run thus must end in bankruptcy. When the scheme has to be really nationalised, when the fabric has to be completed, the State will be able to take full advantage of the lessons, the probably expensive lessons, culled for its behoof by well-meaning philanthropy. At all events, we have, I repeat, become enfranchised from the conviction of the very amateur social reformer—of course, the Socialist still holds it—that every out-o'-work is a born agriculturist.

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The exigencies of the Yuletide week compel me to write on Thursday morning. Hence, it is that I am unable to verify the report that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has resolved to throw Sir Horace Plunkett to the wolves. Alas! Sir Horace has written a book which has arraigned against him a vehement Irish priesthood, and this priesthood has pulled the strings which set its Nationalist puppets in motion. So — thus runs the story — Sir Horace, one of the best public servants Ireland has ever known, goes, in spite of Lord Aberdeen's desire to keep him. Well, if the story be true, it redounds little to the credit of Nationalism. Sir Horace has created in the Irish Board of Agriculture a really national organisation, whose every anxiety has been practical, whose method has been wise, and whose results have been numberless benefits — including bettered markets, improved railway rates, and instruction in scientific culture—to the Irish tenant-farmers. If Sir Horace be another victim to Celtic rivalries and priestly sensibilities, he has left behind him an excellent and enduring movement.

£100,000 for Small Holdings for Unemployed.

General Booth, the famous leader of the Salvation Army, has received from the well-known philanthropist, Mr. George Herring, the sum of £100,000, in order to carry out a scheme of home colonisation. By an ingenious arrangement, the benefits intended will operate in a two-fold direction, for the Salvation Army undertakes to pay over the whole sum, by 25 annual instalments, to the King's Hospital Fund. General Booth explained the scheme to a meeting of pressmen on Tuesday, and in the course of his speech said:—

The community is, as we all know too well, confronted at the moment with a great difficulty. We have a large number of unemployed people in this and other of great cities, who are not only a distress to themselves,, but a trouble to those about them. To furnish these people with work is admited on all hands o be the most effective remedy for the existing evil.

Emigration to other countries has seemed to me to be one important method of doing this, and no doubt a great amount of distress has been and still will be relieved thereby. But there is no doubt that, for a certain section of the city population, settlement on the land here in England would be the best and wisest solution of the problem; it would certainly be preferred by many who are greatly interested in the question. And for a particular class of the sufferers, notwithstanding the serious difficulties that appear to prevent its accomplishment, I believe it to be possible. I pointed this out when I launched my "Darkest England" scheme, sixteen years ago, and both I and my son Bramwell, who is my principal adviser, and who has considerable acquaintance with these questions, have been conjointly studying the problem ever since.

About that time I met Mr. George Herring—a gentleman whose name will be known to you and to the public because of his sympathies with the poor and suffering. He expressed his views as running in the same direction, and we had some conference at the time, but no distinct scheme was before us. During the years that have elapsed, his views have remained unchanged, and the recent distress has not only strengthened these opinions, but revived his determination to translate them, if possible, into actual practice; and the result is the formation of the following scheme:—

1. Mr. Herring is placing at the service of the Salvation Army the sum of £100,000 to finance the effort, a portion of which is to be at once expended in an initiatory experiment, the remainder to be furnished as required.

2. The entire amount is to be paid again by us, in twenty-five instalments, to the King's Hospital Fund, for which it will constitute a magnificent gift.

3. The Salvation Army is to conduct, control, and supervise the effort.

This involves the provision, for each settler, of five acres, or thereabouts, of suitable land; a cottage when required; the finding of stock, seed, implements, and other means necessary to the cultivation of the land; as well as adequate provision for their families until the land is sufficiently productive for their support.

All this, with interest, will be charged to the settler, and be paid by him in annual instalments, spread over a term of years.

This payment will be made up somewhat as follows:—

a. 3 per cent. on the entire amount.
b. 1¼ per cent. for an extinction fund.
c. ¾ per cent. for expenses of management.

When the holders have paid the entire sum required from them, the land will be conveyed to them,, subject to a covenant preventing the sale of intoxicating drinks upon any part of the holding. The profit, if any, from the scheme will go to form the nucleus of a permanent fud for the further extension of the effort.

Suitable land in localities possessed of the necessary means of transit will be required, and we shall be very glad, through the publicity of the press, to receive from friends information respecting land available and adapted to our object.

The plan, it will thus be seen, contemplates benefiting the community in several different ways:

First, it will supply an object-lesson, which, if successful, will lead to:—

a. The prevention of the exodus of agricultural people from the villages to the cities; and also attract back again to the land from the cities many of those who have been brought up in the country, and have an instinctive liking for it.

b. It will form an objective to place before the young people, which will help to overcome the existing restlessness, and, with the prospect of having land of their own, lead them to regard the country as their permanent home.

c. The method, if successful, has the advantage of giving the promise of covering the land with peasant proprietors, who must be, not only, as the poet sings, "a country's pride," but a very considerable element in a country's power and a country's wealth.

We are perfectly aware that this experiment will have to encounter many very serious difficulties. Thse difficulties have, I trust, been duly considered. We have gained in the past a great deal of experience, but perhaps few have had more disappointments with respect to those we have sought to benefit, our farm colonies at home and abroad, than ourselves. Still, there are peculiar advantages in the working out of this method which make us tolerably confident that with men who have had large experience in dealing with the classes we propose to help, as well as experience in the cultivation of the land, we shall, with the blessing of God, make it the success we desire.

With respect to the generositv, hopefulness, and faith of Mr. Herring, there will be no two opinions. By this gift he makes his deep interest in the welfare of the Fatherland evident to all men. He wishes to assist the struggling poor, but prefers to do it by helping them at home. Speaking for the Salvation Army, I can only say how heartily—and I hope intelligently—we shall labour to work out the scheme to the great success on which he had set his heart, and which, if realised, cannot but be welcomed and rejoiced over by every true lover of the nation.

A Description of Farming Life.

In the course of a lecture given before the members of the Aberdeen University Agriculture Discussion Society, Mr. W. S. Ferguson, Pictonshill, said that farming at its best, even although one might have a speciality, was not the most profitable calling on earth, but to the man who was able to pay his way, it was a free, charming, healthful, and independent life. He would not say that the farmers in this country were an indolent lot, but he would say that after extensive observation in Canada and the United States, our young men were not so keen nor so hard working as our cousins on the other side of the Atlantic. He had come across men out there with horny hands and in shirt sleeves whom he had known at home in swell clothes and kid gloves, and he ventured to say that had they stripped off their gloves at home and attended better to their men and their beasts, and given a practical hand when occasion required, they had not needed to go abroad.

True it was that unless one had a paying speciality at the top, farming was not amongst the most lucrative occupations, but when all was said and done, and notwithstanding unfair competition from abroad, and the other vicissitudes that the farmer had to suffer, was it not the case that, considering the capital the ordinary farmer possessed, he was, as a rule, quite as well off as other men in business, possessing an equal amount of capital? Moreover, he had more freedom and a healthier and more pleasant life than other men whose work was daily conducted in cities. That was the compensation.

They might not be "ay growin' richer," and few of them might ever make fortunes; but in that they escaped the danger of too much wealth—a disease which consumed many men and made them less human than when they were poor. They, as farmers, need not be frightened for this disease. Neither need they be frightened at the disease of poverty if they made up their minds to live within their incomes.

Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The winter term of this college closed on Wednesday, when the principal, the Rev. J. B. McClellan, M.A., conferred the diplomas and other honours on the successful students. The diploma class was the largest and most distinguished in the annals of the college, numbering ten candidates, all of whom were successful, and the external examiners, viz., Mr. H. W. Adams (practical agriculture), Dr. J. A. Voelcker (agricultural chemistry), Professor H. Robinson, M. Inst.C.E. (land surveying and engineering), and Professor Sir G. Brown, C.B. (veterinary and bacteriology), spoke in the highest terms of the excellence of their work. One of the diploma candidates, Mr. Knubley, received the Council prize of £5 for herbarium of woody plants, mounted and named. The other chief awards follow:—

Honour Diploma of Membership.—(Maximum marks, 2,100; qualifying marks, 1,400.)—Albert Sasson, Alexandria, Egypt, 1,901; Miles Ponsonby Knubley, Steeple Ashton Vicarage, Trowbridge, 1,778; Harry Howard Beardsley, Hamilton Road, Sherwood Rise, Nottingham, 1,760; Lawrence Brown Akers, Hillside, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, 1,675; Kenneth McDiarmid, Devonshire Road, Liverpool, 1,656; Alan Roderick Whittington, Sandhills, Betchworth, 1,630; Harold de Byrlay Archer, Claremont Place, Sheffield, 1,619; Henry Trelss Watson, Croxteth Road, Liverpool, 1,586; John Poore, St. Helen's Parade, Southsea, 1,568; Lambert Wilfred Alexander de Sousa, Colombo, Ceylon, 1,533.

Gold Medal.—Albert Sasson.

Silver Medals.—M. P. Knubley, H. H. Beardsley.

Scholarships (open to the whole college).—(Maximum marks, 3,900; qualifying marks, 3,250.)—First scholarship, £25, Wathen Arthur Waller, Leek Wootton, Warwick, 3,739; second scholarship, £10, Robert Henry Price, Cloudesdale Road, Balham, 3,471; Proxime Accessit, Augustus Major Henniker; honourable mention on the term's work (in alphabetical order), Addison, A. Casey, Craven, Joynson, Landau, Oswald, Soubhy, Trier.

The Potato from an Experimental Point of View.

Some interesting remarks on the above subject were made at the last meeting of the East of Fife Farmers' Club by Dr. J. W. Wilson, Lecturer on Agriculture, St. Andrew's University. He said the potato had been grown in this country for three hundred years, and it differed from such crops as the cereals in refusing to produce varieties that lasted for an indefinite period under cultivation. It was seldom long out of the region of experiment. Hundreds of pounds were spent annually by County Councils, colleges, and clubs in testing the cropping and other qualities of the varieties at present grown, and many experimenters were busy at the task of producing new varieties to replace the old when these became worn out.

The tuber was a modified underground branch, in which starch was stored in large quantity. The whole plant died away annually, except the tubers, and by these the plant was easily propagated. The time might come when the chemist would succeed in finding a cheaper method of manufacturing starch than the plant did, but to all appearances the potato would retain its place on our tables as a staple and nutritious article of food for many a day.—

The Moon and Vegetation.

The widespread belief that the growth of plants is in some mysterious manner related to the phases of the moon has, it is stated, been put to the test by M. Flammarion, the eminent French astronomer. At dates selected to correspond with the age of the moon he planted a number of common vegetables, such as potatoes, peas, cabbages, etc., and carefully noted the variation in their growth. The results were rather damaging to the theory of the moon's influence, it being quite impossible to connect in any way the development of the plants with the varying phases of our satellite.

M. Flammarion, however, has decided to continue his experiments over a longer period and on a more extensive scale. Convinced that the growth of vegetation depended largely on sunspot activity, M. Flammarion many years ago began systematic observations on a number of trees in the vicinity of his residence, and after thirty years he claims to have proved that the annual development of certain trees, particularly the chestnut, varies with the solar disturbances. Of more general interest are his experiments at the Juvisy Observatory, Paris, where by intercepting the sun's rays with different-coloured glass he has found that while blue glass keeps vegetation back, red glass hastens it in a most remarkable manner. Some plants, indeed, attain under red glass tenfold the height reached under blue, and by the use of certain colours the colour and shape of the leaves can be modified at will.

Four animals belonging to the valuable Polled Angus herd of cattle on the Cloverley estate of Captain Heywood Lonsdale, near Market Drayton, have died from eating a quantity of poisonous yew and laurel leaves.

Pig-Pork. *Punch* has a very humorous paragraph, in connection with the motor question, in its current issue. It is as follows: Passer-by: "Is that your pork down there on the road, guv'nor?" Farmer: "Pork! What d've mean? There's a pig o' mine out there. Passer-by; "Ah, but there's a motor-car just been by."

NORTHERN NOTES.

Thus far the month of December has been very mild and pleasant, and it almost seems as though the Clerk of the Weather Office was attempting to atone for previous delinquencies. The later-sown wheats have made wonderful progress, despite the heavy handicapping by retarded germination in the end of October and in November. Swedes are still in active growth, and the pessimistic forecasts made in July and August are fortunately falsified, although well warranted when made. The Northern root crop is anything but a good one, but it is not by any means the utter failure it once seemed certain to prove. The open weather has permitted horned stock to run out later than usual and has encouraged the flock-owners to allow their ewes to remain in the pastures right up to Christmas.

At this moment there seems every prospect of a green Christmas, and one wonders if there is any truth in the old saw about the connection between a Green Christmas and a full churchyard. Some assert it to be unhealthy, but the assertion does not seem to have yet been proved. There is some foundation of truth in most of these old saws, and it seems undeniable that some amount of frost is necessary to sweeten the atmosphere and destroy he germs of fever and disease which lurk amongst us, especially in our towns and cities; but this does not mean that the frosts must come by December 25th. Most of us have preserved sufficient sentiment to prefer the aspect presented by a white world on Christmas Day, and it is undeniable that when the country lanes and the fields and the hedges are covered by newly-fallen snow, they have a beauty and a charm that is all their own. But snow in the town is another matter, especially after it has lain a day and a night, and has become besmutted and grimy from the smoke and dirt ever deposited in such places. When the streets are partially cleared after a heavy fall, especially if there be a partial thaw, and slush and dirt reign supreme, the remaining snow is no longer a thing of beauty or a sign of purity. And even in the country, those of us who have ceased to delight in snowballing, and who no longer partake of the enjoyments of foot-ball, and who have put away our skates for all time, can find some compensating advantages in a green Christmastide.

The younger branches, however, look anxiously for snow and for some amount of frost, as the outward and visible signs of the halo of romance attaching to the season. Some of the sports formerly common to all have died out amongst us, but the holiday and the family gatherings and general reunions remain, and are heartily cherished and preserved by Britain's sons who now sojourn in the land of the Cornstalks and on the other side of the Herring-Pond; but to us in the old country it seems difficult to realise a Christmas under a blazing sun, with the thermometer over a hundred in the shade.

There is no gainsaying that a certain degree of frost is beneficial to the farmer—at any rate to the arable farmer—as it tempers and sweetens his land, and to some extent its activities have similar results to those obtained from the application of lime. If he could have his way he would prefer that before the frosts set in there should be a fall of snow sufficiently deep to preserve his turnips and his new seeds from harm, and perhaps also his wheat; but he would desire that the snow should not fall upon his fallows and unsown lands, for there he would like the prevalence of the keenest and blackest frost. However, even as the rain falls alike upon the just and the unjust, so does the snow, while the frost is equally ubiquitous. Nature is no respecter of persons.

Outsiders sometimes ask how do stock fare in severe cold weather, and they seem astonished to learn that mere cold but slightly affects aught but pigs and calves and young lambs. The truth is, however, that horned stock can bear any amount of cold and frost if they are kept well littered, and if they can gain cover for their backs when rain or snow is falling. A bullock will rest with the greatest content amongst snow in a cattle-yard, while sheep never thrive so well as they do during frosts and snow, so long as their food remains unfrozen. The long-woolled races of sheep are often severely handicapped by mud and dirt when folded on roots on sticky land in wet weather, but when the ground is hardened by frost, and there is no puddle nor soil of the consistence of bindlime to attach to their fleeces, they will put on flesh with greater rapidity than under any other circumstances. Later on, in the Spring, on fine days, when the sun has some considerable power, sheep, especially sheep with heavy fleeces, lie about and eat nothing; but in the cold weather, when the frost is on the ground, they eat most heartily, if only the roots which form their staple article of diet are not frozen hard, and when filled to repletion, they repose on the frozen ground or hardened snow quite as comfortably and, indeed, more so—than they do in the late spring.

Hard winter weather is not a time for idleness on the farm, particularly on those arable farms where all the roots and the straw are consumed on the holding. Here large stocks of sheep and cattle are necessary, and when the thermometer falls halfway between the freezing-point and the zero of the Fahrenheit thermometer, and remains there for a day or two, and while it persists snow falls heavily, the whole manual labour of the farm must be utilised for the purposes of the livestock, and sometimes it puts a heavy strain upon the staff to keep the stock adequately fed. When the snow lies a foot deep on the level, covering turnips frozen by the preceding frosts until they seem as hard as stones, and have become so fast in the ground that they seem to have been encased in cement, the work of getting up the roots is a very difficul one.

Sometimes the sheep have to be dug out of the snow, as well as the turnips, and the writer well remembers a morning some 22 years ago when he had to dig some 50 of his sheep out of a drift some five feet deep, which had been formed during the night, and which covered about an acre of a hillside in a turnip-field where some 600 sheep were folded. The sheep had to be counted, and through some mis-counting it was not noticed that one was wanting. The sheep had nearly finished the turnips in that field, and were removed from it a week later, and were afterwards re-counted, when one was definitely ascertained to be missing. A search was made in the original drift, and a shepherd's dog found the missing animal; it had been covered with snow in a slight depression close to the hedge, and when released was no worse for its confinement of fourteen days, although it did not seem to have moved more than its own length under the snow during the whole period. It had grazed the turnips close to it, but it must have suffered from want of food, as it could have eaten in a couple of days all the food it had consumed. All the same, it did not prove to be any the worse for its privation, except that it was very hungry. M. Y.

December 21, 1905.

Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture.

At a meeting of the Governors of the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture on Wednesday, Dr. J. J. Dobbie, convener of the Central Studies Committee, reported a gratifying increase in the enrolment of students at both the day and evening classes. At the former the numbers this session were 67 as against 58 last year, and at the night classes 181 as against 171. It must be gratifying, he thought, that the fine accommodation they provided in the college was already being fully taken advantage of. The committee recommended that in view of the success of the teacher's class in nature knowledge a second class should be started in the spring. No part of the expense of these classes, Dr. Dobbie said, fell on the college, the Town Council of Edinburgh contributing £50 and the Education Department the remainder.

A letter was submitted from the Irish Board of Agriculture suggesting, in view of inquiries that they had had from people in Great Britain regarding the advantage or otherwise of changing the seed potatoes from Ireland, that experiments might be conducted. The Board offered to assist the college by sending free 56lb. of each of four varieties of potato to be grown under like conditions with Scotch and English varieties.

The chairman (Colonel Wardlaw Ramsay) said the feeling of the County Work Committee was that not only should the Irish Board pay the cost of the Irish seed, but of the English and Scotch seed to be brought against it.

Mr. James Macdonald said he did not think one experiment in Scotland was of value, and thought they might suggest to the Irish Board to conduct it on a broader basis by having it at half a dozen centres and continuing it probably for two or three years. At the same time he thought it an excellent idea that there should be co-operation between the Department and the colleges; and he further suggested that the Irish Board should pay half the expenses.

Mr. J. M'Hutchen Dobbie said he regarded the quantity offered for experiment as ridiculous, good enough for an experimental farm, but not large enough for a practical farm experiment.

Mr. Thomas Elder, Stevenston Mains, Haddington, agreeing with Mr. Dobbie, thought the proposal was on too small a scale, and that the Irish Board should bear the expense of the experiment minus the services of the college officials.

Mr. Joseph Budge, Wemyss, suggested that powers be given to the County Work Committee to consult with the other Scotish colleges, with a view to carrying on the experiment, and to report if necessary.

The Finance Committee (Colonel W. W. Gray, convener) reported that the estimated income for the year was £4,444 5s. 5d., the chief contributing items being £2,020 in grants from Town and County Councils, and £2,027 5s. 5d. from Government grants. The estimated deficit was £8 5s. 5d.

Midland Notes.

These are dull days in the agricultural world—dull in every sense of the word. In our latitudes work must now be started by the ineffectual glimmer of the lantern in the morning, and nowadays the sun is below the horizon again by ten minutes to four. Lately, indeed, it has generally sunk behind impenetrable banks of cloud long before that time, and so the delight of these shortest days of all the year is rendered shorter than ever.

The day of St. Thomas, the Blessed Divine,
Is good for brewing, baking, or killing fat swine.

It is not good, assuredly for field work, nor is it until Plough Monday comes in due course that the arrears are likely really to begin to be wiped off. That is assuming that the land is then in fair condition, as it should be with ordinary good fortune. The actual amount of rain resulting from all this cloud that hangs persistently overhead is inconsiderable, and though the land is still generally very wet, one hears from the North—from Derbyshire and North Notts, for instance—of springs and ponds even now at a low level.

It is beyond any doubt that the recent series of dry years has brought our underground water supplies down to an unusually, and, perhaps, an unprecedentally low ebb, and when they once become really depleted it takes more than one season to restore them. They are hard to exhaust, but harder still to replenish, especially in these days of good surface drainage, when we hasten to conduct every possible drop of rain-water first into ditch and drain and then successively to stream and river.

The scarcity of water which now seriously, and almost permanently, menaces some districts, suggests another plank which may have to be added before long to the agricultural platform. One need not travel very far in England, whether in the Midlands or in other districts, to discover some unforseen effects of the enormous consumption of water in the great cities. Springs and wells dried up or much decreased in volume, pools gradually contracting, and the upper reaches of small streams shrinking and shortening—all these are warnings not without significance, though no thought of their gravity ever seems to occur to urban officials who draw their millions of gallons of water from the country and apply it to dust-laying and street-cleaning. The truth is, the demand is becoming steadily more than the rural districts can bear.

The Christmas sales are about over, and the lesson they teach is the familiar one that quality pays. While the top prices have not been bad as a rule it is only good-looking, symmetrical beasts, generally with a respectable pedigree on one side at least, that have paid their way. The merely moderate lots cannot have yielded much or any profit, and the vendor of such has been fortunate who has also had sheep to dispose of.

When the year's accounts come to be reckoned up, sheep will be found contributing not a little to the profits, and it must be hoped that the lambing season will leave us with augmented flocks. The scarcity of sheep has passed the stage when it was merely an interesting matter of figures. It is actually visible, and so are its results. Farmers in the West Midlands agree that there are noticeably fewer sheep on the roots than in past years, and as one goes towards the East one hears the same remark. Flocks are fewer, and mutton dearer everywhere—to say nothing of wool, whose dearness is due to other causes.

Much room as there still is for improvement, agriculture ends the year with brighter prospects. The Board of Agriculture tables speak for themselves. Out of ten Midland counties Warwick, Worcester, Derby, Leicester, Rutland, and Salop all show an expanded area of tenant-farmed land, and a corresponding shrinkage in land "in hand," and the agricultural auctioneers and land agents help on the whole to confirm the conclusion that lettings have been easier.

There is unquestionably a better feeling in regard to agricultural properties," writes a leading Stafford firm; and well-known Nottingham agents tell me that "farms and agricultural land have let and sold freely;" while one hears from a London firm doing a good deal of business in

the Midlands of £60,000 worth of agricultural property being sold through their agency within three months. There is a discordant note sounded in Derbyshire in a report of farms "letting on reduced rentals," but even here there "are few empty." It would be easy to overrate the significance of all this, but the attraction of new and increased capital to any business is generally a healthy sign, and it seems in this case as though both landowners and tenants were beginning to regard the rural outlook a little more hopefully.

December 21, 1905.

EAST ANGLIAN NOTES.

"A green Christmas makes a fat churchyard," is an old saying, and the writer during the past week, in journeying through East Anglia, missed many an old familiar face from the market table. The crops themselves look remarkably well, and one pleasing feature noted by the writer, not only in Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, but in Lincolnshire, was the increased area devoted to cereals.

The Eastern Counties Dairy Farmers' Society are issuing a calendar for 1906, with rules for milkers prominently printed, marked "With the authority of Dr. J. C. Thresh."

In the recent fight between Essex and Herts for the ten parishes forming the Stansted Rural Council a great grievance was made of the fact that the orders regulating the movement of swine prevented the farmers in those parishes sending their stock to Bishop Stortford market. It is pleasant therefore to record that steps are being taken to obliterate this grievance. The idea is to form Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk into one district for swine fevr purposes, and Herts and Bedfordshire into another district, while for the convenience of the Stansted parishes and for this single purpose of swine fever regulations only it is proposed to consider the Stansted Rural District as part of Herts. The Board of Agriculture are willing to consent to this arrangement, and the matter is to come before the Essex County Council at their next meeting.

Mr. J. W. Smith, of North Green, Pulham Market, is probably the largest buyer of the Norfolk turkey in the United Kingdom, and during the past fortnight wagon loads of birds have reached him from various parts of Norfolk and Suffolk, to be killed and dressed for the market. Mr. Smith has purchased this season about 5,000 birds, and during the past week large consignments have been despatched from Pulham St. Mary Station, principally to the metropolis. The birds are loaded on special trucks, and every care is taken to ensure the birds reaching the consumer in good condition.

The potato harvest supper and concert took place at Bicker on Friday, when about 250 persons wer entertained in Mr. Sharpe's barn, the Rev. W. H. Judd acting as chairman, and it is gratifying to learn that as a result of the concert a good sum of money is in hand to be distributed among the poor of the parish.

The late Mr. Richard Chatterton, of Stenigot, Louth, who was a member of the Louth Board of Guardians, and a farmer and stock breeder, and of the well-known firm of Messrs. R. and R. Chatterton, exporters of live stock, mainly associated with the Lincolnshire and red Shorthorn cattle, who died on the 29th of June last, aged 50 years, left estate of the gross value of £18,398 8s., of which the net personalty has been sworn at £4,783 15s. 11d.

December 22, 1905.

Forty-five Cattle Destroyed by Fire.—By a fire which broke out on Brickhampton Farm, Churchtown, near Cheltenham, some forty-five cattle were destroyed. The farm is occupied by Mr. W. H. Smith, and the discovery of the outbreak was made from her bedroom window by his wife, about one o'clock in the morning. She at once raised an alarm, and Mr. Smith and all available hands went to the rescue, while the Gloucester Fire Brigade was also sent for. By the time Mr. Smith reached the cowsheds, however, it was, owing to the fierceness of the flames, found to be impossible to get inside to release the cattle housed therein, and he had perforce to stand by and watch the destruction of the whole lot, which comprised one bull, thirty-five milking cows, and nine calves. Upon the arrival of the fire brigade, their efforts were successfully directed towards preventing a spread of the flames to the other out-buildings adjacent to the cowsheds, and when the flames had been eventually extinguished the roasted carcases of the beasts which had perished were found huddled together beside the wall they had been unable to break through. There appears to be no explanation forthcoming as to how the fire originated.

An Improved Method of Pasteurising Milk.

An interesting address on the above subject was delivered by Mr. J. Stirling, of the Glasgow Dairy Co., Limited, at a recent meeting of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Agricultural Discussion Society. Mr. Stirling said his attention was drawn to the probability of a defect in the prevailing method of pasteurising milk by the candid criticism of a friend, who was looking at the process as it was then being carried out on the premises of the company mentioned above. That process, while differing in detail, was essentially the same in regard to heating and cooling as that commonly adopted for commercial pasteurising. The milk was filtered by the Laval separator, heated by a pasteuriser of the Swedish type to a temperature of 160 degrees Fahrenheit, retained near that temperature in an intermediate tank for twenty minutes, and then cooled rapidly over a Lawrence refrigerator. The filtering and the heating processes met with the visitor's entire approval, but he strenuously objected to the cooling process, because, in his opinion, and to use his own words, it was "simply undoing a good work."

It was somewhat staggering, continued Mr. Stirling, to hear this objection raised, especially as the system had been considered generally to be beyond the experimental stage, and to urge in defence that it was in line with the best teaching of the dairy schools here and in Denmark proved of no avail, for the longer my friend looked at the thin sheet of milk flowing down the ribbed sides of the refrigerator, the more he seemed to be convinced that there could not be a better or more effective exposure for attracting a fresh invasion of bacterial life. His contention seemed to me to be perfectly sound and reasonable, and prompted inquiry as to its value when applied to practical work.

Experiments were begun in May, 1904, and were carried out weekly till the month of October in the manner of a practical dairyman, whose tests were simply the smell, taste, and keeping qualities of the samples. The samples were taken in the following manner—viz., three two-gallon portions of the same supply of milk were taken from the arm of the Laval pasteuriser at the indicated heat of 160 degrees Fahrenheit, and sample No. 1, described as "No cooler," was put in a two-gallon tin flask, which had a good fitting lid, and immediately the flask was filled the lid was put on and tied down, and the sample left in a corner of the dairy for forty-eight hours, with no cooling agency but the surrounding atmosphere. No. 2, described as "Cooled in bulk," was treated in the same manner as No. 1, but, instead of being left to cool by the surrounding atmosphere, it was placed in a bath of cold running water, and kept there for forty-eight hours. No. 3, described as "Refrigerated." The milk in this instance was, immediately on coming from the pasteuriser, passed over a Lawrence refrigerator, then a two-gallon flask was filled, securely covered with a lid, and placed in bath of running water for forty-eight hours.

The flasks were opened after standing forty-eight hours and judged, and for further observation a sample of each was bottled and tested on the third and fourth days. The result was in every instance in favour of No. 2, or "Cooling in bulk," for smell, flavour, and keeping quality, and on only two occasions between Many and October did No. 1 fail to be better than No. 3.

The indication given by these simple experiments was so very clear and satisfactory that the Glasgow Dairy Co., Limited, resolved in September of last year to introduce the bulk system of cooling in quantities of 10 gallons. The first instalment of this plant was sufficient to pasteurise 180 gallons, and consisted of a steel tank measuring 6ft. 6in. by 5ft. by 26in. deep, and twenty 10-gallon churns of the reform type, with good-fitting lids. The churns, when filled with pasteurised milk, contain 9 gallons of solid milk and 1 gallon of froth, and this froth serves the good purposes of preventing a skin from forming on the top of the milk, and allowing the level of the cold water to be well above the level of the cooling milk.

The result of this new practical departure was in every respect satisfactory, and while it proved to be superior to the work of the Lawrence refrigerator, it would have been unfair to condemn an old helpmate without further inquiry. Consequently Mr. D. K. Robb, of the West of Scotland Agricultural College, was consulted on the matter, and he kindly consented to verify our findings by having the experiments carried out under his supervision. It was arranged that the samples be taken in the same manner and under the same conditions as the samples already founded upon—that is, they were to be pasteurised to 160 degrees Fahrenheit, cooled over the refrigerator, and kept under seal for forty-eight hours before examination.

On October 27 last three samples of milk treated as described above, were taken in his presence, and each flask tied and sealed, each seal bearing Mr. Robb's signature. The flasks were opened by Mr. Robb on October 29, and the judgment given was that, while all the samples were perfectly sweet, the difference in the flavour of each was quite distinct. No. 1 had the tendency to a cooked flavour, Nos. 2 and 3 being natural in flavour, No. 2 being decidedly the finest. A sample of each was put into a pint bottle of the clear Calypso type to watch further development. On the 31st the bottles were opened, and while they still all remained sweet, the flavours found on Saturday were more pronounced, and maintained the order of merit given. These bottles were kept till Wednesday, November 2, when they were sent to Dr. Clark, city analyst, Glasgow, for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of lactic acid in each sample. Following Dr. Clark's report, we interested Dr. Buchanan, the city bacteriologist, in the matter, and he kindly undertook to help in the inquiry. The results were in perfect harmony with the findings of the earier experiments.

In the second series of experiments, commenced in July of this year, the quantities treated were much larger, being samples taken from the 10-gallon churn system of bulk cooling adopted by the company. The bacterial work was conducted by Robert M. Clark, B.Sc., of the City Analyst's Laboratory, Glasgow. On July 6 three churns of milk were treated in the following manner:—No. 1.—The milk was pasteurised to 160 degrees Fahrenheit, and cooled at once over a Lawrence refrigerator to 64 degrees Fahrenheit, then filled into a 10-gallon churn and covered with a good fitting lid. The churn was then placed in a bath of cold running water till 5 a.m. on the 7th, when a sample of it was taken and bottled for Mr. Clark, in whose hands it was delivered at 10 a.m., that being twenty-two hours after the act of pasteurising. The temperature of the milk at 5 a.m. was 60 degrees Fahrenheit. No. 2.—Pasteurised as above, but instead of being pased over the refrigerator, the milk ran directly into a 10-gallon churn at 160 degrees Fahrenheit. The churn, when full, was covered at once with a good-fitting lid, and allowed to stand on the dairy floor for thirty minutes, after which time it was placed in a bath of cold running water for the same length of time as No. 1. No. 3.—The same in every way as No. 2, excepting the period of standing before being put into the bath, which in this case was sixty minutes.

Experiment No. 2, July 7, 1905.—Samples Nos. 1, 2, and 3 treated in every way like the milk of the previou day, esxcept the pasteurising temperature, which was 150 degrees Fahrenheit.

Experiment No. 3, July 11, 1905.—Samples Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were treated in the same manner, and to the same temperature as experiment No. 1, with this difference, that the samples were in Mr. Clark's hands five hours after pasteurising, instead of twenty-two hours as in No. 1. The object of experiments No. 4 and 5 was to find out, first, the relative value of a sustained heat at a moderate temperature as against a momentary exposure to a high temperature; and second, to test the refrigerator with milk which had been subjected to a sustained heat.

Experiment No. 4, sample No. 1.—The milk was pasteurised to 185 degrees Fahrenheit, and cooled at once over a Lawrence refrigerator. Sample No. 2.—Pasteurised to 150 degrees Fahrenheit, the milk ran directly from the pasteuriser into a 10-gallon churn, which, when full, was covered at once with a good-fitting lid, and allowed to stand without any cooling agency but the atmosphere of the dairy for thirty minutes, and then passed over the Lawrence refrigerator. Sample No. 3.—Treated as described in No 2, but, instead of being passed over the refrigerator at the half-hour, the closed churn was placed in the bath of cold running water. No. 4.—Treated like No. 3, but was allowed to stand for sixty minutes before being put into the bath. The milk of Nos. 1 and 2 was, immediately on being refrigerated, put into closed churns, and these churns were put in a bath of cold water till all the samples were taken on the following morning. The samples of this lot were handed to Mr. Clark twenty-two hours after the time of pasteurising.

Experiment No. 5.—The samples of this experiment were treated in the same manner as the same numbers in experiment No. 4, but were handed to Mr. Clark five hours after pasteurising.

From these figures we gather that, compared with the last table, the virtue of cooling milk in bulk has materially increased, and this is due to the larger quantity treated, and to the adoption of the sustained heat. Dealing with experiments Nos. 1, 2, and 3, it will be found that No. 3 is forty-three times, and No. 2, 13½ times better in bacterial contents, and 6 and 7 times respectively in spore contents than No. 1, which was cooled over the Lawrence refrigerator. From experiments No. 4 and No. 5 we learn, first, that a sustained heat of 150 degrees Fahrenheit for not less than half an hour is of greater pasteurising value than a momentary exposure to 185 degrees Fahrenheit; and, second, that milk submitted to a sustained heat of 150 degrees Fahrenheit for not less than half an hour, and then cooled by a Lawrence refrigerator, has fourteen times less pasteurising value than if it had been cooled in bulk.

At this stage I thought the case for the open refrigerator had been pretty well exhausted, but in consultation with a friend of riper experience in dairy matters it was suggested that one more experiment might be made to ascertain the result of the refrigerator when applied to milk cooled in bulk to 110 degrees Fahrenheit. Consequently, on November 7, two churns of the same supply of milk were pasteurised to 150 degrees Fahrenheit, retained hot for half an hour, then put into the cooling tank. Churn No. 1 was taken out of the water when the milk indicated 110 degrees Fahrenheit, and cooled over the open refrigerator; No. 2 was not disturbed till the sample was taken. The result reported by Mr. Clark was:—

No. 1.—Organisms per C.C., 6200; spores, 400.
No. 2.—Organisms per C.C., 160; spores, 110.

These figures are of great interest, not merely because they determine finally that the use of the open refrigerator in milk pasteurising is "undoing a good work," but because they clearly indicate that its use with warm milk in its raw state is not above suspicion.

The success of the new method of pasteurising is almost entirely due to the non-exposure of the milk from the moment of pasteurising till the time of despatch to the consumer. In this particular it is in conformity with the best hygienic principles, and apart from the scientific aspect of the point, it forms rather a pleasant feature in the diary in comparison with the old system of milk in open vessels, exposed to every particle of dust. The value of the method is very much enhanced by the milk being filled into bottles at the pasteurising temperature, and sealed till opened at the consumer's table. The pasteurising power of this method permits of a comparatively low temperature being used, and the Glasgow Dairy Co., Limited, have chosen 150 degrees Fahrenheit, with a sustained heat of not less than half an hour. At this temperature the sugar and the albuminoid constituents of the milk are not injured, nor the natural flavour spoiled, and, further, it remains quite as sensitive to the action of rennet as raw milk.

When this improvement can be attained with some degree of safety regarding the destruction of milk-borne disease germs, there is no good reason for destroying the flavour and the assimilating properties of the milk by submitting it to a higher temperature. In adopting the temperature of 150 degrees Fahrenheit, due regard has been given to authorities on the subject, like Mr. Theobald Smith, Messrs. Russell and Hastings, and Professor Bang of Denmark.

The first two experts named have gone extensively into the question of skin formation on the top of the milk while in the process of being pasteurised, and, to quote Messrs. Russell and Hastings, they found, first, "an exposure of tuberculous milk to 140 degrees Fahrenheit in a tightly closed commercial pasteuriser for a period of ten minutes destroyed in every case the tubercle bacillus as determined by the inoculation of such heated milk into susceptible animals like guinea pigs; second, where milk was exposed under conditions that would enable a pellicle or membrane to form on the surface, the tubercle organism is able to resist the action of heat at 140 degrees Fahrenheit for considerably longer periods of time; third, efficient pasteurisation can be more readily accomplished in a closed receptacle, such as is most frequently used in the commercial treatment of milk, than when milk is treated in open bottles or open vats.

The new method brought before you is free of any pellicle or skin formation. Professor Bang found that milk heated for an instant to 185 degrees Fahrenheit killed the tubercle bacilli, and on this finding is based the Danish Law of 1893, and re-enacted in 1904, which provides that for the prevention of milk-borne tuberculosis in cattle and pigs, all milk sold, or used for their food, must be pasteurised to 185 degrees Fahrenheit." We have already demonstrated that 150 degrees Fahrenheit, with a sustained heat for half an hour, and cooled by the new method, is more powerful as a pasteurising agent than a momentary exposure to 185 degrees Fahrenheit, and, therefore, in selecting the lower temperature, we are well within the limits of reasonable immunity from milk-borne disease. The protection afforded the cattle and the pigs of Denmark is a wise and prudent one, but it has always occurred to me as worthy of a nobler mission by its extension to the members of the human family.

When advocating universal pasteurising, seven years ago, I remember well its chilling reception. It was called a salve to the dairyman's conscience, and likened to the city of Glasgow procuring a pure water supply by boiling the Clyde instead of going to the mountain-side for the pellucid spring. It was also asserted that the conditions necessary for producing a milk supply free of disease germs were a healthy stock, kept under proper sanitary conditions, and cleanliness in the handling of the milk. These high-sounding sentiments, expressed in such a forcible manner, are very nice, and exactly what one would desire to see, but what do they mean when reduced to practice? It falls to be recorded with sorrow that some who at that time were so very confident of their ability to select and produce the ideal article have, when placed in the positions respectively of purveyor and producer, been confronted with an epidemic carried by a supply of milk over which they had the selection and control.

Then, again, if we read about the means taken by companies, like the Walker Gordon Laboratory Company, to secure the ideal milk, we are much surprised at the prominence given to the use of strainers and filters. Those useful implements imply the presence of solid impurities, and while these may be successfully taken out, they leave behind them a colony of undesirable aliens of a power which, without examination, no man can tell. The ideal lacteal stream is, therefore, still in the land that is afar off, and until it comes within the region of practical dairying we must grapple the realities of to-day, and use every reasonable safeguard for the prevention of milk-borne disease.

Disease Germs in Milk.

Some startling figures about milk, coupled with a serious warning as to possible foreign competition, were given in an address to Essex farmers and dairymen at a recent market-day meeting at Chelmsford by Dr. Thresh, who said it was a mistake to think that the interest of the dairy farmers and of the public were antagonistic. The farmers wanted an increased price for their milk, and he believed the public would pay if the increase was reasonable and necessary. Having referred to the fact that in recent years many epidemics had been traced to milk, he said that microbes were especially prone to occur in dirty, unventilated, and badly-lighted premises—conditions too frequently found when cows where kept and milked. Carefully drawn milk might contain 50,000 bacteria per cubic centimetre (15 drops), but these organisms increased so rapidly that by the time the milk reached the consumer it might contain millions per cubic centremetre.

In samples he had tested bacteria had rarely been under one million per cubic centimetre, or 50,000 microbes in each drop of milk! Therefore a child who took half a pint of milk per day swallowed 300 to 500 million living organisms! Scarlet fever outbreaks had been recorded in which as many as 500 or 600 persons, supplied with milk from a single farm, had been attacked by the disease in a few days. Generally it was found that the milk had been infected by a person recovering from the disease, but in a few cases it had been attributed to the cow which had been suffering from ulcerated udders. Typhoid and skin diseases were also communicated by milk, and from 20,000 to 30,000 infants perished annually in the United Kingdom from diarrhœa, a large proportion of them being infected through the milk.

This was enough to show how vitally important it was to this country that children should be supplied with clean, pure milk; and it was important that dairymen should know that under a recent Act persons who suffered from the use of impure milk could obtain damages from the person who sold it. Personally, he should like to see a person who sold milk from a diseased cow rendered liable to imprisonment with hard labour without the option of a fine, and if death could be traced to the use of such milk the person proved culpable should be committed for manslaughter, and be liable to penal servitude for life.

The methods which he suggested should be adopted in the production of clean milk were that, in addition to having healthy cows, they should keep them under sanitary conditions, and that every attention should be paid to the cleanliness of the milkers and the utensils which they used. The cooling of milk was another important matter, and if the milk could be kept at a temperature of 40 Fahrenheit there would be no difficulty in preserving it good for forty-eight hours.

He objected to the use of preservatives, and said that if they encouraged the sterilising of milk they would open the door to the importation of foreign milk, as sterilised milk from Denmark could be imported and be every whit as good as English sterilised milk, and certainly cheaper. He also recommended that retailers should be more careful in their methods of storing milk.

Concluding, he said: We are on the verge of a revolution in the milk trade. It remains for the milk producers of this country to decide whether they will initiate the change and benefit by it or whether they will remain apathetic and allow it to be effected by the foreigner by the introduction of cheap sterilised milk. In the latter case, I see ruin staring the English dairy farmer in the face and a national calamity imminent. A little energy and a little enterprise, and we retain this national industry.

THE TENS OF THOUSANDS of users of MOLASSINE MEAL should see that their stock have a portion in every feed all the year round, not simply as a condiment when an animal is out of condition, or occasionally as a fillip. MOLASSINE MEAL is the most valuable and economical food, displacing all condiments, and should be given in place of the same weight of oats, beans, grain, cake, or other feeding stuffs. Manufactured by HENRY TATE AND SONS, LTD., Sugar Refiners, London and Liverpool. Sold by all Grain and Forage Merchants and the MOLASSINE CO., LTD., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C.; 125, Hope Street, Glasgow; and 43, Dame Street, Dublin.—[ADVT.]

Co-operative Dairy Farming in Teesdale.

Nearly one hundred of the leading agriculturists of the neighbourhood attended a Conference of Teesdale farmers, held at Lartington, on the 16th inst., with the object of taking definite steps to establish a central dairy and creameries in Teesdale. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. R. Claude Hutchinson, of Startforth aHll, who said that it was time that some definite action was taken in regard to a scheme which had for its object the application of co-operative principles to dairy farming. Lord Zetland, Lord Barnard, Lord Ronaldshay, Mr. Silvertop, the owner of the Minster Acres (Northumberland), and the Lartington (Yorkshire) estates, and Mr. Adam Dugdale, of Gilmonby Hall, had all expressed approval of the scheme.

Mr. Fitzherbert Brockholes, chairman of the Lancashire Farmers' Association, said that the object of farming as an industry was to increase production of the greatest extent, and at a cost which would admit of the greatest profit to the producers. Science, applied in a proper manner, increased production, and improved the selling value of produce. Co-operation, if carried out on lines which were not only sound, but suitable to local conditions, came as a most powerful helpmate. To avoid misunderstanding he was anxious to make it clear at the outset that the Agricultural Organisation Society was not a trading body, and had no commercial interest in co-operation. The movement was absolutely non-political, and there were no class distinctions, for the combination of landowners and tenants was not only advisable but essential. He held very strong views on this point. Sometimes they had heard it asserted that the interests of landlord and tenant were not identical, but he firmly maintained that these interests were so intermingled as to be inseparable. The next point to consider was how best to apply co-operative principles to local conditions, and this he should leave to the farmers assembled to solve. If local conditions were favourable for a dairy society, then they must determine what form it should take, for they must remember that no uniform model was possible.

Mr. T. Atkinson, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the agent for the Lartington estates, said that Mr. Silvertop, the owner, would grant a site for a dairy at a nominal rental of sixpence or a shilling per annum, and would also take shares in the concern.

Mr. Mason, organising secretary for Yorkshire, suggested the registration of the society as the Teesdale Associated Farmers. He said that fadmers would save £1 per cow by co-operation.

Mr. A. D. Acland said thot he saw no reason why the Farmers' Protection Society, which was then being formed in Teesdale, should not run alongside the contemplated branch of the Agricultural Organisation Society, which they were seeking that day to inaugurate. The difficulty he had experienced in the latter movement in Wensleydale was the fear of one farmer being "Yorkshired" by another, when the real aim was to "Yorkshire" the general public outside.

The meeting then agreed unanimously to appoint a committee. Ten gentlemen were constituted a provisional committee, with power to add

to their number. The North-Eastern Railway Company will be approached, and the whole question considered in detail.

An Important Milk Case.

An important judgment affecting farmers sending milk by rail, and indeed milk dealers generally, was recently delivered at the Leeds Police Court by the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. C. M. Atkinson). There were two cases, the defendants being Simon Foster, farmer, of Stainforth, near Settle; and Eleanor Newbould, farmer, of Grassington, both summoned under the Food and Drugs Act, by the Leeds Sanitary Authority, for selling milk with added water.

His Worship, in his judgment, said if the milk, of which a sample was taken in this was, was in reality adulterated by the addition of 9 per cent. of water, the facts were on all fours with those in Parker v. Alder (1899), L. Q.B. 20, and he was bound by the authority of that decision to hold that an offence had been committed. Now milk always contained a large quantity of water, and this quantity varied according to the richness of the milk. If, then, the percentage of non-fatty solids fell somewhat below the arbitrary standard fixed by the Board of Agriculture, it did not necessarily follow that the milk had been adulterated. It might be a genuine sample of a lower quality. But under the Act of 1899 the Board of Agriculture had decreed that if the sample fell below the standard percentage, the Court must presume that the article was not genuine until the contrary was proved.

Now, as the milk in this case was not under the defendant's supervision or control for some hours before the sample was taken, it was impossible for him to prove that it was not tampered with in transit. As, however, he (the learned magistrate) was satisfied that no water was added by the defendant, or by his servants, or by any person with their approval or cognisance, he gatherd from the judgments in Parker v. Alder that the proper course was to hold the offence proved, but to dismiss the information under Sec. 16 (I.) of the Summary Jurisdiction Act, on payment of costs.

He (the learned magistrate) was glad to find that the railway companies now permitted milk-cans to be locked or sealed, otherwise he did not see how a farmer could protect himself. I adhere (concluded his Worship) to the view I expressed at the hearing as to the construction of Sec. 14 of the Act of 1899, i.e., that it does not preclude the taking of a sample of milk without the consent of the consignee. This judgment applied also in the case of Newbould.

The Milk Standard: Applications for Summons Refused,

At the North London Police Court, on Wednesday, one of the sanitary inspectors of Hackney asked Mr. d'Eyncourt, the stipendiary magistrate, for a summons against a milk dealer for selling milk alleged to have been adulterated with 3 per cent. of added water. The request was refused. Later in the day Mr. A. W. Williams, the town clerk of Hackney, renewed the application. He explained that the Board of Agriculture had put pressure on the borough council to prosecute in all cases of adulteration, and wanted to know why proceedings were not taken.

Mr. d' Eyncourt said that his reason for refusing the summons was that analyses were all a question of inference, and a margin of 3 per cent. was not sufficient. He was bound to say that if such a case were proved before him he should inflict no penalty, as samples of admittedly genuine milk had been known to contain 10 to 15 per cent. more water than the standard allowed. Therefore it would be simply wasting time to grant a summons.

Mr. Williams observed that he was in sympathy with the magistrate's views. For a long time the borough council had allowed a margin of 5 per cent., but after the communication from the Board of Agriculture he felt bound to renew the application. The summons was not granted.

Butter Weights in Yorkshire.

At a largely attended meeting of the Bedale Farmers' Protection Association, held on Tuesday, the hon. sec. (Mr. R. N. Richardson) read a letter from the Northallerton Agricultural Club, asking the Bedale Farmers' Protection Society to support a movement in favour of a uniform weight of butter, viz., 16 ounces to 1 lb., in lieu of the present standard of 24 ounces. Mr. Richardson stated that there was a great future for the Ripon, Bedale, Northallerton, Thirsk, Masham, Leyburn, and Hawes markets if they adopted the change. At present buyers from the North and South would not purchase in the North Riding, because butter was not sold of the standard weight of 16 ounces.

A motion in favour of the proposed change was carried by 24 votes to two. It was also resolved to communicate with the official bodies at Ripon, Northallerton, Thirsk, Masham, Leyburn, and Hawes, requestingtheirsupport for a uniform standard.

At the same meeting a member gave notice of motion to cancel the existing practice of conceding ¼ lb. to the purchaser of sheep wool, which was now allowed per stone, in the North Riding.

An Agricultural Society's New Departure.

The Newchurch and District Agricultural Society has started a correspondence bureau for farmers. They have made arrangements whereby any farmer in the Rossendale division may write to Miss Wyre, of the Lancashire County Council farm, Preston, for information and advice on anything relating to dairying, or may send her samples of milk, cream, and butter to be tested. Advice will be given to them free of charge, and sixpence will cover the cost of testing the milk and butter. Miss Wyre's fee will be paid by the Agricultural Society.

MILLING.

A Review of the Past Year.

At the close of the year it is always both interesting and instructive to review the events of the past twelve months, so far as milling methods and machinery are concerned. There is no finality in the process of reducing wheat into flour; some changes in the mode of working, and some different applications of principles are continually going on. The two great steps in flour milling, or rather wheat milling, are reduction and separation. These steps are continually following each other, just as day follows night. The wheat is gradually broken down in order that it may be gradually purified, or in other words, that its impurities may be gradually extracted, by sieves, centrifugals, reels, inter-elevators, etc. The bread-eating public nowadays will have pure flours, and all the arts of the miller are expended in arriving at that result. If there were no impurities inside the wheat berry, the removal of which is absolutely necessary in order to ensure pure flours, there would have been no need for gradual reduction, and no need for the purifier and other separating machines, only so far as sizing for smooth rolls is concerned. In the absence of such internal impurities, the miller would make an effort to reduce the wheat at one, or at most two, operations. There would be no need for making careful separations on sieving and centrifugal machines, since there would be no deleterious matter to extract. The miller would not succeed in reducing wheat all at once, although he might try. He would always find that there would be a tail-over for further reduction, even in the absence of all impurities. But the fact that broken wheat does contain the latter makes it more than ever necessary to-day that sufficient machinery should be employed to secure pure middlings, from which only pure flour can be made.

Increasing Popularity of the Plansifter.

There have not been any very great changes in this class of separating machinery. Perhaps the chief one is the inauguration of systems involving a kind of purification between the breaks, but this was done many years ago, and subsequently discarded. In fact, old methods are revived after many years, just as fashions in dress recur again. The plansifter has been making headway of late, and some millers are now using it for making all the separations in the mill, including flour dressing, except on the rough stock at the tail, upon which one or two centrifugals are usually at work. As its name implies, the plansifter works in a perfectly horizontal manner—that is to say, there is no slope of the sieves to assist the stock in getting out of the machine, as in the case of ordinary rotary sieves. Mechanical devices are employed to propel it, such as a spiral wire, slats, or anything which prevents it travelling in circles and so causing a choke. All that is required is some device which shall break the circular travel of the stock, and by this means tend to propel it onwards along the channels. The machine has certainly made great headway during the past year, and it seems that there is a useful future before it. At the same time, millers are very divided as to which is the best, all the way round, the centrifugal mill or the plansifter mill. Good work, however, can be done in either case, provided the machine is in capable hands.

Improvements in Roller Mills.

Another development of the past year has been the growing tendency to set the rolls diagonally in the frame of the roller-mill. Until late years there were two types only—the horizontal roller mill and the vertical roller mill. Most—in fact nearly all of the so called vertical mills, however, had their rolls set at a slight angle from the perpendicular. Improvements have been effected in the mechanism for the adjustment of the rolls, and the reducing machine in the best flour mills was never so perfect as it is to-day. The frames are massive and solid, the feeds, whether by roll or tray, have been perfected, and altogether the roller mill made by the prominent British engineers cannot be excelled anywhere. Another change may be mentioned, and this is the tendency to lengthen the roller surface, so that where, a few years ago, flour mills were content with 70 inches of roller contact, now 100 inches, per sack, per hour, is by no means uncommon. This necessitates a thinner feed, which again means less likelihood of heating and less fire risk. And yet the Tariff Insurance Offices do not seem inclined to reduce the premium on mills with extended surfaces. It must not be forgotten, too, that an extended roller surface also means a larger silk area in the mill, especially when flour is dressed through such fine numbers as is the case to-day. It is not so long ago that Nos. 10, 11, and 12 silk were the usual flour numbers; now millers dress through Nos. 15, 16, and even 17. The reason for these fine numbers is to secure whiter flours, but the colour of a flour largely depends on the shadows cast by the granules of which it consists.

Washing and Conditioning.

More attention than ever is now being paid to washing and conditioning, and millers are beginning to realize that wheat is not put into water for cleaning purposes only, but to toughen the bran, so as to prevent the making of that tiresome product which is so hard to eliminate, bran powder. It is well known that it is most difficult to mellow such wheats as Indians, Taganrog, Hard Yellow Plates, and Goose Wheat. Such wheats resist the water in a marvellous way; in other words, it is most difficult to get them to absorb enough moisture. Indians may be washed twice and then dried at a very high temperature. Besides washing them twice, some millers steam them as well, so as to mellow them for the grinding. The process of conditioning is better understood than ever it was before, and it is certainly a great factor in profit-making. Another machine which is making headway is the emery scourer, a mahine in which about five-sixths of the inner case is covered with emery and the other sixth with perforated wire, through which the scoured dust is exhausted. The principal point about this machine is that the wheat is not scoured in the ordinary way by being struck with the moving beaters to the casing, but is swished round and round on the emery until it is propelled out of the case. It will be seen, therefore, that during the past year neither millers nor milling engineers have been standing still. The march of progress has been still onward, and there is no doubt the same will have to be recorded in another twelve months, and, perhaps, something more startling than can be named for the year 1905.

MILLER-FARMER.

Agricultural Imports.

The following is an account showing the quantities of certain kinds of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Dec. 16, 1905, together with the quantities, imported in the corresponding week of the previous year:—

	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
	No.	No.		Cwt.	Cwt.
Cattle ...	10,909	8,972	Wheat ...	1,551,400	2,078,300
Sheep.....	17,568	1,928	Flour.....	262,200	238,600
Swine.....	—	—	Barley ...	508,800	415,700
Horses ...	173	273	Oats	104,000	145,000
			Peas	40,303	31,360
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Beans ...	19,600	20,150
Beef	71,417	162,172	Maize ...	469,600	1,193,800
Mutton...	49,587	80,113	Apples ...	101,246	106,947
Pork	15,864	18,207	Apricots	—	—
Bacon ...	102,1 8	101,591	&Peaches		
Beef, salt	1,924	1,786		Bunches	Bunches
Hams.....	18,890	21,933	Bananas	77,210	109,021
Pork, salt	5,648	4,135		Cwt.	Cwt.
Meat, salt & Fresh	13,166	16,066	Cherries	—	—
Do. pres.	18,975	13,700	Currants	—	—
Butter ...	76,566	78,252	Goosebr's	—	—
M'rg'rine	26,754	29,656	Grapes ..	329	1,747
Cheese ...	28,295	28,651	Lemons...	8,9.6	26,828
Milk, Fresh, in cans or			Oranges	214,808	227,939
			Pears	1,632	797
			Plums ...	—	4
			Oth'r Fr't	4,231	1,505
drums.	—	27		Tons	Tons.
			Hay	587	1,865
Milk, Cream	171	138	Straw ...	895	1,435
			MossLitt'r	—	1,467
				Cwt.	Cwt.
Con. Milk	17,591	21,881	Hops	11,996	7,503
Milk pr's'v'd, other kinds ...	9	293	Locust Beans	49,810 bush.	8,260 Bush.
			Onions ...	117,871	119,122
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Gt. Hund.	Gt.Hund.	Potatoes	28,673	15,070
Eggs	439,932	396,289	Tomatoes	9,296	8 236
			Other	Value	Value.
Poultry& Game	Value. £131,800	Value. £71,181	Veg'bles	£9,494	£5,862
				Cwt.	Cwt.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Dried ...	3,807	17,175
			Pres'v'd		
Rabbits...	8,482	3,568	by can-		
Lard	41,021	52,238	ning ..	4,730	6840

Live and Dead Weight of Pigs.

SIR,—Your correspondent, G. G. C., asks, "What is a fair percentage to write off fat hogs of 18 stone live weight?" This will depend on the breed of the pigs and also on the food with which they have been fattened. The large and middle white Yorkshires will give the largest proportion of dead to live weight, but a fair reduction on an average would be about 20 per cent. The fat pigs at the Smithfield Show of about 280lb. lost about 50lb., or about 18 per cent.—PURVEYOR.

December 21, 1905.

Midland Notes.

SIR,—If proof were needed of the difficulty in writing farming reports applicable to large districts, your correspondent afforded it in your last issue, where he writes that "Farm work is more in arrear than any one thought likely at the beginning of winter." I am an old hand, but I do not remember a season when farm work was more generally up to time. Personally, I have seldom had my ploughing and other work so forward the week before Christmas. The next paragraph in his notes may afford the reason for the disparity pointed out; we have been carting water until within the last fortnight for our stock in the yards, and are still doing so at one farm. The under drains have not run for many months, and the land ploughs like unto February, if not March. Another point of difference; your correspondent writes, "On the west, Hereford is only just forming a Chamber of Agriculture, and on the other side little Rutland and Huntingdon are chamberless." As to the last small county, the statement is declared by a friend to be without foundation, as there is a chamber of agriculture boasting over two hundred very much alive members. The first annual meeting was celebrated in the month of November last, by a splendid dinner at Huntingdon, given to the members by the first and most popular president, Mr. Fydell-Rowley, of the Priory, St. Neots, who will blush on finding his good and generous deed recorded.—ANOTHER MIDLANDER.

December 19, 1905.

Season in South Wiltshire.

SIR,—This year, 1905, will soon come to a close, leaving behind it all its ups and downs in the farming line. I might say in this district the prospects have been slightly better than in past years. Sheep trade has been good throughout, which is a great help to farmers here. Wool also has fetched more money, and we hope it will still keep up. Beef appears a very poor business; a few fat cows are sent to market which fetch a very low price per score. Pig trade has sprung up again, and are now selling well. The hay crop made excellent and a fair average crop. Roots a very poor crop; seed was so long in coming up. The rain came too late to save the plants from being choked with weeds, and the fly very troublesome, hoeing being out of the question; you may see a few exceptional prices. Harvest started with us the later part of July, weather very favourable. Wheat crop a good one, with plenty of straw. Barley about average. Oats much below the average. Most of the winter cereals are now in.

December 20, 1905. T.

Season and Prices in Yorkshire.

SIR,—It has been a favourable harvest, and corn has yielded well, especially on the stronger soils, as the summer was rather too dry for the lighter soils. Prices for grain have been low, wheat ranging from 28s. to 30s., barley 25s. to 28s., and oats from 17s. to 20s. per quarter; barley yielded nothing like so well after potatoes as after turnips.

The potato crop varied a good deal, several of the much talked of new kinds being failures. Up-to-dates, grown from Scotch seed, have done as well as anything. Evergoods have done well, too, on land which is suitable for them. Prices have been very low. 45s. being about the top price reached, and it takes good samples all their time to make 45s. to-day.

The dry summer has been against the root crop, which is a good deal below the average, several farmers sowing their turnips two or three times over, and then not getting a crop. There were a few exceptional cases, where farmers got their seed in, in a showery time. Being such a dry summer, the hay crop was light, consequently hay and clover are making more money. Store cattle were not bad to buy in, but in a good many cases, did not get finished on the grass, and had to be taken into the folds to finish. Fat cattle have been a poor trade, but are rather on the improve; beef now making up to 7s. 6d. per stone

Sheep have been the mainstay of the farmer this year, making fair prices, mutton making up to 10½d. per lb. Wool has been making more money; Wensleydale wool in some cases making up to 17s. per stone. There has been the best trade yet known for Wensleydale rams, there being nothing like the quantity to supply the demand; there being a good trade for them in Scotland, and they were more sought after in Yorkshire than ever before; a good deal on account of wool making more money. Farmers who can breed a good heavy cart horse, suitable for town work, can always find a ready market; a good hunter can get sold, too, but animals of moderate class are a drug on the market. Store pigs have been fairly cheap; bacon and pork being fairly good to sell at prices varying from 6s. to 7s. per stone. Owing to the open backend, farmers are not often more forward with their work than they are at present. It has brought the wages of farm men down, many farmers doing with less hands, and a good many farm servants are still out of employment.

Owing to the favourable back end, there has been a fair quantity of wheat sown, which is looking well. If prices would only improve a little all round, there is a rather better prospect for the farmer.

December 20, 1905.

Rainfall and Temperature for 1906.

Mr. Clement's Forecast.

SIR,—It has recently been suggested in one of the great Metropolitan morning newspapers that it would be a great boon to cricketers, footballers, and others if the arrangement of their fixtures for the year could be made with a foreknowledge of the weather. With this object in view I herewith give the days in each month when unsettled, changeable, and showery weather may be expected from the beginning to the end of the year 1906.

In another table the colder days are given when the temperature will be under the average, and the milder ones when the heat will be over the mean for the time of the year.

The predictions are for London, but will apply to a great sweep of the country. If, however, it is particularly desirable to know with regard to any important event the kind of weather, I shall be glad to predict precisely what the weather will be for any given hour on any particular day for any part of the United Kingdom.

Number of days on which there will be more or less rain:—January 18, February 13, March 14, April 17 (a wet month), May 12, June 16 (wet), July 17 (very wet), August 10, September 15, October 27 (very wet), November 11, December 12.,

Temperature.—January: Mild to 7th, cold 8th to 15th, mild 16th to end. February: mild to 12th, cold 13th to 15th, mild 16th to end. March: mild 1st and 2nd, cold 3rd to 8th, mild 19th to 29th, cold 30th and 31st. April; cold 10th to 25th, mild before and after (a cold month). May: mild 1st to 3rd, 17th to 20th, 23rd to 29th; cold 21st and 22nd, and from 4th to 17th (a cold month). June: cold to 22nd, warmer after (a cold month, only nine days over 70 deg.). July: mild 6th to 8th, 12th to 14th, 19th, 22nd, and 31st, other twenty-three days cold (cold month, only eighteen days over 70 deg.). August: Mild 5th, 24th, 25th, and 28th to 30th, other days cold (cold month, only seventeen days over 70 deg.) September: 1st to 6th mild, 6th to 15th cold, 16th to 30th mild, fifteen days over and twelve below average (mild month). October: cold 6th to 9th, 13th to 16th, 19th to 21st; eight days under and twenty-three days over average (a mild month). November: Ten mild twenty cold days (a cold month). December: An average month, sixteen mild and fifteen cold days.

HUGH CLEMENTS.
Newton House, Barry Road, Dulwich, S.E.
December 21, 1905.

A Question of Trespass.

SIR,—Will you kindly let me know the following in the next issue of your valuable paper:—

1. Can a tenant farmer object to a public coursing meeting being held on his land, or impose restrictions if his landlord has given permission for such meeting to be held on his estate?

2. Can a man go on his neighbour's land to recover a bird flushed and shot on his own?

SUBSCRIBER.

[Unless by the terms of the lease or agreement the landlord has reserved the power to permit a public coursing meeting on the tenant's land. The tenant has the right to object or to impose restrictions as long as the tenant hires the land the land is his, and if he complies with the conditions of his letting the landlord has no right to interfere. With reference to your second question, a man has no right to trespass on a neighbour's land to recover a bird flushed on his own. If he does do so he commits a trespass; but I don't suppose any good sportsman would take notice of such a technical trespass as this. —BARRISTER-AT-LAW.]

"The Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac for 1906" is now ready. It contains specially written articles on all subjects of interest to a farmer. Send at once for a copy. Price 1s.; post free, 1s. 4d. "Mark Lane Express" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—[ADVT.]

Position in Wiltshire.

SIR,—I think I can fairly say, taking all things into consideration, quite an average season. Wheat, as was prophesied, the crop of the year, while oats are under average. Roots and the hay crop are good. Mutton sells well, and beef bad, and all prices are low, and I cannot help thinking it is only the keen business men who keep the wheels upright, leaving a profit out of the question, and many agriculturalists must be in a very shaky position, while there are others who apparently make headway.

The demand for farms to let is keen, and the land still is putting down to grass, and with Scotch sheep and young cattle, the cattle to fill up the numerous dairy breeds now kept. When I came here 20 years ago there were not six cows in the parish, this present day close on 250, milk from which goes to London market. Pedigree breeds and shire studs are on the increase, and agriculturalists generally are awaking to the fact that the best stock pays best.

This, I think, gives us a bright lining to the heavy cloud that has hung over us so long, and we hope, with an alteration of our fiscal policy, which undoubtedly will be for the benefit of the working classes of this country, by giving them good employment and good wages, and thereby create a demand for the produce of the land, and benefit agriculture. J. B. S.

December 21, 1905.

Stock and Crops in Aberdeenshire.

SIR,—The London Christmas markets (live cattle and dead meat) which have been lately held unfortunately have not been favourable to either the farmers or the dealers who make consignments to them. Dealers were purchasing very good well-finished cattle at moderate prices at the public sales, and also privately from the feeders, but still as a rule it is reported that their purchases will scarcely come out clear.

This is a matter of regret, as it discourages middlemen for some time to come, and while these men live on the farmers, still they scarcely can be cast altogether aside. With the farmers it was a foregone conclusion that they could not be paid by their fat cattle, inasmuch as in the spring, when they were bought in, prices for the best stores in forward condition were very high, and as has unfortunately happened in the interval prices of beef have fallen away considerably.

Judging from present appearances, prices of beef are to remain low for some time. Fortunately those farmers who purchase stores at this period of the year are laying them in at more moderate rates than has been current for a considerable time, and it will be strange if they do not pay for the fattening.

The value of oats has been advancing of late, and the tendency is for a further rise at present. The supplies on offer are in moderate compass, and so long as this position is maintained there need be little fear of worse trade. Barley has been a trifle stiffer just of late. It is reported that the distillers have their hands full of grain, so they need not be expected to be on the market for any considerable quantity till their lofts carry a lighter load than they do at present.

Since the Martinmas term there have been many men going idle in the market places, and there is a general scarcity of employment. In the meantime everything betokens a hard winter on the working man who cannot find employment. J. B.

December 21, 1905.

Canadian Cattle Question.

SIR.—When the new Parliament comes into power strong efforts will be made to induce them to open the ports to the free importation of Canadian store cattle. Now is the time, therefore, for all really interested in this question to consider the subject impartially, as it materially affects the interest of three parties. First, those who breed cattle and sell them as stores. Second, those who purchase stores for feeding purposes.

Third, those who breed pedigree cattle for exportation.

If free importation of Canadians was again restored, it stands to reason that the interest of the first would suffer, and consequently many would require to give up breeding. This would retaliate against the second party, by raising the price on them. Consider also, that although at present no disease may exist in Canada it might break out at any time there, or more likely be generated in transit over sea, through confinement between decks in vitiated air, and develop itself sometime after landing, as frequently has happened in a much shorter passage from Ireland. This would immediately affect the interest of the third party, by stopping the exportation of their stock. It would also endanger all parties from the spread of infection in the country. The real safety, therefore, for every one concerned is that all stock imported for consumption should be landed in carcase only.

The present system of allowing live cattle to be transported over the ocean for slaughtering purposes is cruelty to animals. It is also against the interest of feeders of stock, as the immense quantity of offals thrown on the market at one time on the arrival of steamers retaliates against the price of home-fed bullocks to the extent of the value of their offals. If carcase importation was resorted to it would more than compensate feeders for the loss of free importation of stores, and at the same time grant security from infection at all. Such being the case, it would be better for the three parties to co-operate, and petition the Minister of Agriculture to settle the question, by introducing a Bill into the House of Commons confining importations to carcase only.—Yours, etc.,

CHAS. RINTOUL.

Buxted, Sussex, December 22, 1905.

The Burdens upon Land.

At a well-attended meeting of members of the East Sussex Farmers' Club, held last week, Mr. E. B. Barnard, M.A., J.P., of Sawbridgeworth, Herts, read an interesting paper on "Rating and Taxation and how they affect local authorities." Mr. Barnard, who is vice-chairman of the Hertfordshire County Council, remarked that the object of his paper was to call attention to the enormous increase which had taken place in the burdens upon land. The relative position of agricultural land and other kinds of property to-day, he said, was vastly different from the state of things which existed when "The Statute of Elizabeth" set in motion the order of procedure of rating, and there could be little doubt that if the questions of taxation of rating were now under consideration, without reference to or knowledge of what had hitherto obtained, agricultural land would be greatly relieved of burdens which were not only oppressive and fatal to the vitality of the important industry of agriculture, but absolutely unfair towards those who owned or occupied land in this country.

He attributed these "injustices" to the general policy of the country, and, in regard to the question of rates, he argued that national expenditure should include all services which were apparently for the interests of the country as a whole, while local expenditure should only include money expended in a locality for the direct convenience and benefit of those who lived within the area. Under the heading of national services he included police and police superannuation, criminal prosecutions, the Poor Law generally, vaccination, the registration of births and deaths, maintenance of pauper lunatics, expenses in connection with main roads and bridges, and education. For these services, he contended, the Exchequer should provide a great proportion of the funds required, but not by giving a specific grant for each service, which practice often led to indiscriminate and reckless expenditure.

He suggested that the safest course would be to hand a bulk sum to the local authority, such sum being a fixity for a terminal period, and this to be a proportion of the whole amount required. As to local services, they should comprise benefits distinctly rendered to the ratepayers. He believed that both urban and rural ratepayers were unfairly treated, to the advantage of the general taxpayer.

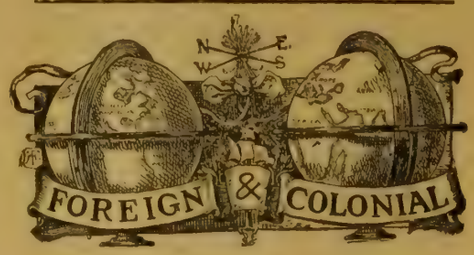
The Great Eastern Railway Company announce some important improvements in their train service to and from Felixstowe, one of the East Coast watering-places, which, owing to its Southern aspect, record sunshine, and mild temperature, is specially recommended by the medical faculty as a winter resort. It has been arranged that every Saturday during the winter months a connection with Felixstowe, with through carriages from London, will be run off the express train leaving Liverpool Street at 1.30 p.m., arriving at Felixstowe at 3.48 p.m.; also, every Sunday a new train will leave Felixstowe Beach at 6.25 p.m., and Felixstowe Town at 7.33, arriving at Liverpool Street at 10.5 p.m.

British Possessions beyond the Seas AND THEIR London Representatives.

NOVA SCOTIA APPLES.

An Exhibition of NOVA SCOTIA APPLES, selected and forwarded by the Nova Scotia Government is now on view in the Canadian Court at the Crystal Palace.

Specimens may be loaned for exhibition at local Shows upon application to MR. JOHN HOWARD, Agent General for Nova Scotia, 57a, Pall Mall, London, S.W.



The First Agricultural College in Western Canada.

The first agricultural college to be established in Western Canada is now nearing completion, within five miles of the City Hall, in Winipeg. The main building is beautifully located, about a hundred yards from the banks of the Assiniboine river, and at a convenient distance from it stands the science and dairy building, powerhouse, stock judging pavilion, principal's residence, and horse and cattle barns. These buildings are constructed of the best available material, and the style of architecture is calculated to do credit to the future of Manitoba's greatest industry agriculture.

In its teaching, this institution will aim to meet the needs of the young men of the West who desire to become familiar with the fundamental principles of scientific agriculture. The studies will, nevertheless, be directed as practically as possible, and while no attempt will be made to teach the elementary movements of such common farm operations as harnessing horses, driving waggon, or cleaning stables, all teaching will be calculated to admit of easy and practical application by the student upon his return to his farm. The principal subjects to be taught are animal husbandry, agriculture, dairying, horticulture, forestry, veterinary science, poultry-keeping, farm mechanics, English and mathematics, economies of agriculture, and Parliamentary practice.

The study of animal husbandry will include the breeding, judging, feeding, and management of the various breeds of stock, special emphasis being placed upon those most suitable to Western Canada. Agriculture likewise will include such topics as soils, soil cultivation, crops, crop rotation, plant breeding and improvement, weeds and their eradication, and farm management.

In the dairy department, the dairy cow, her selection and productiveness, ripening and care of cream, cream separators, churning, care and marketing of butter, will be among the subjects dealt with by a student of the regular agricultural course.

Farm mechanics will include blacksmithing and carpentering, and an opportunity will be afforded students of becoming familiar with the use of the commoner tools used in both these lines of work. Instruction also will be given in the principles underlying the construction and operation of farm machinery.

In order to qualify for admission to the two-year course, it will be necessary for each candidate to satisfy the authorities of the college, first, that he has spent at least two summers on a farm, and, second, that he possesses such an English education as will enable him to profit by attendance on lectures. It is not the intention, however, to debar from the benefits of the college any farm boy whose early education has been neglected. This college is for the farmers' sons of Manitoba and the West, and every effort will be made to meet their needs for a higher education, no matter upon what grade they may wish to enter.

The above interesting facts appeared in the Montreal "Family Herald and Weekly Star," of November 22, and were written by Professor W. J. Black, B.S.A., Principal of the Manitoba Agricultural College.

The Buckinghamshire County Police report an outbreak of anthrax at Manor Farm, Wooburn, near High Wycombe, where a farmer named Reeves has already lost a horse through the disease. Three more will have to be slaughtered. Rigid precautions have been taken.

CORN MARKETS.

LONDON.

Mark Lane, Wednesday.—The market was of a holiday character and prices generally tend in buyers' favour. Foreign wheats were dull and easier, and for No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship 34s was paid. Maize quiet, with an easier tendency. Mixed American, ex ship, to arrive, sold at 22s to 22s 6d. For La Plata landed 24s 3d is bid, and 23s 6d to 23s 9d is asked, ex ship. Flour steadily held. Iron Duke nominally 23s. Barley quiet at last quotations. Odessa Nikolaieff offers at 20s 6d. Oats attract but little attention. Russians, 38lb, are obtainable at 1s 7 to 17s 9d, and 38lb American at 17s 6d.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—The market was of a holiday character, very little business being done. Wheat was quoted at 28s to 30s; malting barley, 28s to 31s; Mazagan beans, 28s; tick beans, 31s to 32s; oats, 18s to 22s; maize, 27s to 28s; peas, 29s to 30s; foreign grinding barley, 23s to 24s per quarter; flour unchanged.

Banbury, Thursday. Wheat, red (new), 27s to 28s 6d per quarter; barley, 24s to 30s; beans (new), 30s to 32s; (old), 34s to 36s; oats, 17s to 23s; peas, 29s to 31s.

Barnsley, Wednesday. Though the market was fairly attended, business was only slow, but generally prices ruled very firm. Wheat was quoted 11s 3d to 12s per load, and oats (white) to 20s, ditto black 16s to 18s per quarter.

Birmingham, Thursday.—The attendance was not so large as usual, and business was quiet in all department. Quotations remained steady, English wheat realising 11s to 11s 6d per bag. Grinding barley was 6d dearer, and made 21s per quarter Sharpness. Maize was unaltered; flat maize (old), 4s 10½d; new, 4s 8d per cental Liverpool; Plate maize, 4s 10d per cental Liverpool. Oats were firmer. English white, 20s to 21s; black, 19s 6d to 20s 6d per quarter; English beans, 12s 6d to 13s per bag.

Boston, Wednesday.—Wheat, 29s 6d; malting barley, 24s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 25s; beans, 31s to 32s; maize, 26s per quarter.

Brighton, Thursday.—Barley 28s to 33s; grinding ditto, 22s to 23s; oats, English, 18s to 21s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 32s to 35s. Not much wheat on offer. Holiday market and prices as last week. Small attendance.

Bristol, Thursday.—Small supply of English wheat at last week's prices, 28s to 29s 6d; foreign wheat, moderate business, and values unchanged, 33s 6d to 36s 6d; grinding barley, 3d dearer, 21s to 21s 3d; maize fair request, slightly in buyers' favour, 24s 3d to 25s 6d. Oats steady; black, 17s 3d to 18s; white, 16s 3d to 21s.

Bury St. Edmunds, Wednesday.—Wheat in short supply; trade quiet at last week's prices; reds or whites, 28s to 30s; rivets, 29s per quarter. Barley supply moderate; trade steady at last week's prices. Feeding corns and stuffs all firm on the week.

Chichester, Wednesday.—New white wheat, 30s to 31s; new red ditto, 30s to 30s 6d; barley, 28s to 32s; grinding ditto, 20s to 21s 3d; oats, English, 17s 6d to 22s; peas, 30s to 31s; beans, 32s to 33s; maize, 25s 6d to 26s; flour, 25s to 27s. Fair attendance and a good trade, considering the near approach of Christmas, but small quantities on offer.

Driffield, Thursday.—A fair supply of grain. Wheat prices were rather easier at 29s to 29s 6d, the latter price for delivered. Barley, 22s to 27s; oats, 18s to 19s per quarter.

Dublin, Thursday.—Numbers in market: Beasts, 1,540; decrease, 2,485. Sheep, 2,272; decrease, 4,795. Calves, 14; decrease, 26. A limited supply of cattle and sheep on offer, but quite sufficient to meet the demand. The proportion of choicely finished cattle was small, and these sold early at last week's full rates. Middling and rough sorts met a tedious trade. Choice suitable sheep for home and export use in fair request at last week's prices, rough and inferior lots neglected, several lots remaining unsold. Cattle, live weight (best), 28s to 33s per cwt.; secondary and inferior sorts, 24s to 28s per cwt. Mutton, dead weight, 6½d to 7¾d per lb.—GANLY, SONS AND CO.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Wheat and flour met a rather better demand at unchanged prices. Maize, being more plentiful on quay, declined in price about 1s. per 280lbs. for flat, but was unchanged for round. Barley is about 3d higher. Oats rather firmer. Beans and pease steady. Oatmeal quiet.—GIBSON AND CLARK.

Ipswich, Tuesday.—Short supply of wheat; trade steady at last week's rates. Reds, 29s to 31s; whites, to 31s 6d per 504lb. Very small supply of barley; trade for all descriptions firm, at fully late rates. Best, 30s to 32s; runs, 28s to 29s. Oats steady. Maize unaltered. Beans and peas firm.

Leeds, Tuesday.—Wheat has experienced an improved demand during the past week, Russian parcels on passage meeting a good sale at very full rates, and with smaller shipments, decreasing home supplies, and continued drought in India. Confidence has further increased, last week's prices being generally exceeded to-day. Barley slow and values irregular. Maize 3d lower. Beans firm. Oats steady.—DUNNS AND CO.

Louth, Wednesday.—The market is of a holiday character. Small show of wheat, and quiet trade at 28s 6d to 29s, though growers are asking 30s; oats, 18s to 20s; beans, 30s to 31s; barley made late prices.

Manchester, Wednesday.—Clover, 52d to 6d; straw, wheat, 3½d to 3¾d; oat, 3¾d.

Manchester, Thursday. — English wheat in small supply, but firm at late rates. Foreign unchanged. Flour quiet. Indian corn, 1d to 1½d lower. Oats, English and foreign, firm, and the turn dearer. Foreign barley in sellers' favour. Beans unchanged. Peas rather lower. Feeding stuffs steady and unchanged.

Plymouth, Thursday.—General holiday tone. Prices steady at late rates.—ORLANDO DAVIS AND CO.

Ripon, Thursday. The market presents a holiday appearance, little business being done. Malting barley firm. Last week's prices are maintained. New wheat, 28s to 29s 6d; foreign wheat, 33s to 33s 6d; grinding barley, 23s to 24s; malting barley, 25s to 28s; new oats, 18s to 20s; round maize, 25s 6d to 26s; flat maize 25s 6d to 26s 6d per quarter.

Stockton, Wednesday.—English wheat made 30s to 30s 6d per quarter. Foreign wheat in limited demand at last week's prices. Oats 6d dearer. Maize lower.

Worksop, Wednesday. — Moderate attendance, with very small show of grain. Barley rather sluggish, except for best samples, for which there was a good inquiry, and late top prices were easily realised. Oat scarce and firm. White wheat, 29s to 30s; red wheat, 28s to 29s; best malting barley, 29s to 31s, an advance of 1s per quarter; secondary qualities, 27s to 29s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; white oats, 19s to 20s; black oats, 18s to 19s; round maize, 25s to 26s; flat maize, 23s 6d to 25s, an increase of about

1s 6d per quarter; new beans, 34s 6d to 35s 6d; old beans, 36s to 37s per quarter.

CORN STATISTICS.

SEVEN YEARS' TITHE RENT CHARGES.

For 1905	£69	12	0
,, 1904	69	19	6
,, 1903	69	7	6
,, 1902	67	3	9
,, 1901	66	10	9
,, 1900	66	15	10
,, 1899	68	2	4

FIVE YEARS' COMPARATIVE AVERAGES. (OFFICIAL.)

Comparative statement for the corresponding week to December 16, in each of the years from 1900 to 1904.

	WHEAT. Qrs.	s.	d.	BARLEY. Qrs.	s.	d.	OATS. Qrs.	s.	d.
1900	50,872½	26	7	145,585½	25	7	19,853½	17	2
1901	60,562¼	27	7	119,398¾	26	8	26,260¼	19	8
1902	58,982¼	24	10	151,908¾	24	2	37,744½	16	10
1903	53,397½	26	9	151,873½	23	0	30,707½	15	7
1904	44,745¾	30	4	130,563½	24	4	35,960¾	16	2

FIVE YEARS COMPARATIVE IMPORTS.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORN.

Statement of the quantities of Foreign and Colonial Corn imported into the United Kingdom in the week ended Saturday, December 16, 1905:—

Wheat	2,078,300 cwts.
Wheat-flour	218,000 ,,
Barley	415,700 ,,
Oats	145,000 ,,
Maize	1,198,800 ,,

And in the corresponding weeks of previous years, viz.:—

	1904. Cwts.	1903. Cwts.	1902. Cwts.	1901. Cwts.
Wheat	1,551,400	1,730,900	1,507,931	1,323,400
Wheat-flour	262,200	297,500	530,595	332,400
Barley	508,800	736,800	691,692	560,400
Oats	101,000	293,700	158,665	560,600
Maize	469,600	540,700	559,756	1,168,200

CEREAL YEARS PRICES.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1904-5	30 7	24 6	16 11
1903-4	27 2	21 11	16 4
1902-3	26 5	23 0	17 8
1901-2	28 4	26 0	20 4
1900-1	27 1	25 0	18 4
1899-1900	26 5	25 0	17 5
1898-9	26 1	26 1	17 4
1897-8	26 4	27 9	18 4
1896-7	28 8	23 2	16 9

YEARLY AVERAGES (OFFICIAL).

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats. s. d.
1890	31 9 per qr.	28 8 per qr.	18 7 per qr.
1891	37 1 ,,	28 2 ,,	20 0 ,,
1892	30 4 ,,	26 2 ,,	19 11 ,,
1893	26 4 ,,	25 6 ,,	18 9 ,,
1894	22 10 ,,	24 6 ,,	17 1 ,,
1895	23 1 ,,	21 11 ,,	14 6 ,,
1896	26 2 ,,	22 11 ,,	14 9 ,,
1897	30 2 ,,	23 6 ,,	16 11 ,,
1898	34 0 ,,	27 2 ,,	18 5 ,,
1899	25 8 ,,	25 7 ,,	17 0 ,,
1900	26 11 ,,	25 9 ,,	17 9 ,,
1901	26 9 ,,	25 3 ,,	18 5 ,,
1902	28 0 ,,	25 8 ,,	20 2 ,,
1903	26 9 ,,	22 11 ,,	17 2 ,,
1904	28 4 ,,	22 4 ,,	16 4 ,,

ENGLISH WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS IN 1904.

	Wheat. s. d.	Barley. s. d.	Oats s. d.
Highest of Year	30 6	25 10	17 5
Lowest of Year	26 3	18 2	15 5
Gradient	4 3	7 8	2 10
Mean of Year	28 4	22 4	16

QUARTERLY STOCKS UNITED KINGDOM.

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	2,315,000	1,886,000	1,537,000
Barley	,,	478,000	863,000	626,000
Oats	,,	715,000	505,000	615,000
Maize	,,	611,000	586,000	800,000
Flour	sacks	654,000	680,000	460,000

QUARTERLY STOCKS (LONDON).

October 1.		1905.	1904.	1903.
Wheat	qrs.	159,000	171,000	109,000
Barley	,,	89,000	129,000	96,000
Oats	,,	437,000	350,000	356,000
Maize	,,	72,000	63,000	110,000
Flour	sacks	254,000	264,000	164,000

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF LONDON TOWN HOUSEHOLDS FLOUR.

(Sacks of 280 lb. ex-mill for cash.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	26 3	24 9	24 0	21 9	24 6	21 9	23 9	29 0
Feb.	26 9	25 6	24 3	22 0	24 0	22 0	23 6	30 0
March	26 6	25 9	23 9	21 9	23 9	21 6	22 3	30 0
April	26 0	25 3	23 9	23 9	24 0	21 6	22 0	31 3
May	25 9	24 9	24 0	23 6	23 6	21 3	22 3	39 7
June	25 6	24 3	24 3	23 0	23 0	23 6	23 1½	36 0
July	25 0	25 0	24 3	23 0	22 3	24 6	21 9	29 6
August	25 9	26 6	24 9	22 9	22 3	24 0	21 9	27 6
Sept.	24 6	27 0	25 6	23 3	22 0	25 3	22 0	26 5
Oct.	25 0	27 0	24 9	22 9	21 6	24 9	23 3	26 1
Nov.	25 0	26 9	24 3	22 9	21 6	24 3	22 3	25 0
Dec.		26 9	24 3	23 3	21 9	24 0	21 9	24 0
Yrly. Avrg.		25 9	24 3	22 8	23 10	23 2	22 4	29 6

MONTHLY AVERAGES.

(190 Market Towns.)

	1904. Wheat	Barley	Oats	1905. Wheat	Barley	Oats
January	26 9	22 3	15 8	30 5	24 9	16 5
February	27 1	22 5	16 0	30 7	25 1	16 9
March	28 7	22 7	16 7	30 10	25 1	16 11
April	27 9	22 2	16 4	30 9	24 8	17 3
May	26 11	20 1	16 7	30 10	24 8	18 5
June	26 7	18 7	16 9	31 0	24 4	19 2
July	27 1	19 2	17 5	32 0	22 8	18 4
August	28 8	21 3	17 1	29 6	22 10	16 10
September	29 11	25 2	16 0	26 10	23 9	16 0
October	30 4	25 3	15 10	27 1	24 11	16 6
November	30 4	24 7	16 0	28 3	24 8	17 6
December	30 4	24 6	16 2			

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF FINE HOUSEHOLD FLOUR IN PARIS.

(Converted into English money for sacks of 280 lb.)

	1905. s. d.	1904. s. d.	1903. s. d.	1902. s. d.	1901. s. d.	1900. s. d.	1899. s. d.	1898. s. d.
Jan.	31 0	29 6	30 9	27 9	24 9	25 2	29 0	38 7
Feb.	31 6	30 0	31 6	26 3	25 9	26 3	28 3	39 4
March	30 3	31 0	31 6	27 0	24 0	27 3	27 6	40 1
April	30 9	29 0	34 0	27 3	24 6	26 9	27 6	42 3
May	31 9	28 0	33 3	27 6	25 6	26 8	28 0	40 0
June	30 1	28 3	34 6	30 9	26 3	28 6	27 6	35 6
July	30 0	29 1	31 9	29 0	28 0	26 9	27 3	32 0
August	29 3	30 0	30 0	27 6	27 6	26 4	27 0	31 6
Sept.	31 0	31 0	30 0	29 0	27 6	26 8	25 9	31 0
Oct.	31 0	31 6	30 0	30 0	27 6	26 0	24 9	30 6
Nov.	31 0	32 0	28 0	28 9	27 9	26 4	24 3	30 3
Dec.		31 3	28 6	29 6	28 3	26 0	24 0	29 0
Yrly. Avrg.		30 1	31 1	28 5	27 3	26 6	26 9	35 0

LONDON FLOUR MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

CREDIT AND DELIVERY.

OFFICIAL PRICES.

Cereal year commencing September 1st, 1905.

	London Whites. s. d.		Town Households. s. d.	
September 1	(per sack) 30 0	(per sack)	27 0	
,, 13	,, 29 0	,,	26 0	
October 11	,, 23 0	,,	25 0	
November 3	,, 30 0	,,	27 0	
,, 29	,, 29 9	,,	26 9	
December 11	,, 30 0	,,	27 0	

(No change since last date given.)

WEEKLY LONDON AVERAGES.

An account of the Quantities and Prices of British Corn bought on the London Market and in the area within five miles from the Royal Exchange during the week ending Tuesday, December 12, 1905.

	Total Quantity. Imperial Measure. Quarters.	Bus.	Total Amount. £	s.	d.	Average Price per qr. Imperial Measure £	s.	d.
Wheat	3,197	3	4,782	0	5	1	9	11
Barley	471	3	531	1	0	1	2	6
Oats	2,350	4	2,236	0	4	0	19	0

IMPERIAL WEEKLY AVERAGES.

1904.	Wheat. Qrs.	s.	d.	Barley. Qrs.	s.	d.	Oats. Qrs.	s.	d.
Dec. 17	44,745⅞	30	4	130,563¼	24	4	35,960⅜	16	2
,, 24	33,336⅜	30	3	99,997½	24	7	28,916⅜	16	1
,, 31	21,163⅜	30	4	60,817½	24	8	18,106½	16	2
1905.									
Jan. 7	23,757⅜	30	4	45,191	24	4	18,230⅜	16	3
,, 14	39,647¼	30	4	78,934	24	6	34,754⅜	16	3
,, 21	45,646⅜	30	5	90,409½	25	0	32,957⅜	16	5
,, 28	48,869½	30	6	89,495⅜	25	1	41,662⅜	16	7
Feb. 4	49,442⅜	30	6	75,347⅜	25	0	41,486½	16	7
,, 11	50,585⅜	30	7	67,923	25	2	38,080⅜	16	8
,, 18	44,495½	30	5	51,753½	25	2	36,643¼	16	9
,, 25	42,165⅞	30	10	39,509½	25	0	30,627½	16	10
Mar. 4	36,188⅜	30	8	40,477½	25	2	30,957½	16	10
,, 11	33,118⅜	30	9	23,448½	25	2	24,396½	16	10
,, 18	31,869	30	10	18,442⅜	24	11	20,279½	16	10
,, 25	32,371¼	30	9	17,428½	25	2	18,910⅜	17	0
April 1	26,933	30	9	11,235⅜	25	1	17,703½	16	11
,, 8	25,600	30	9	8,104½	25	6	15,660⅜	17	0
,, 15	27,791	30	8	4,691	24	3	14,659	17	6
,, 22	29,984½	30	8	2,875½	24	4	14,871⅜	17	5
,, 29	24,276	30	9	3,135½	24	4	7,597	17	9
May 6	22,183⅜	30	8	3,014½	25	3	11,578½	18	0
,, 13	25,600	30	8	2,963	24	10	12,937	18	3
,, 20	26,514	30	10	1,003½	24	8	8,803⅜	18	5
,, 27	21,508⅜	30	11	761½	24	4	9,017⅜	18	8
June 3	20,984	31	3	724	23	6	5,942⅜	19	1
,, 10	16,685½	31	4	247½	24	0	6,115½	18	11
,, 17	12,819½	31	7	1,171½	26	0	3,992¼	19	1
,, 24	11,574⅜	31	7	145¼	23	9	3,031⅜	18	10
July 1	9,579½	31	0	289¼	23	2	3,483¼	19	7
,, 8	7,854½	32	1	375½	22	11	2,532½	19	6
,, 15	4,884¾	32	3	34½	23	10	1,962½	19	7
,, 22	6,558½	32	2	52¼	23	7	2,434	18	11
,, 29	7,691¾	32	3	24½	23	11	3,065¼	19	3
Aug. 5	5,062½	31	11	371¼	22	0	4,344⅜	18	4
,, 12	8,184½	30	5	548½	22	5	8,974⅜	16	11
,, 19	32,715½	28	5	1,758¼	23	4	13,056⅜	16	4
,, 26	88,696⅜	27	1	6,461¼	23	6	20,855	15	9
Sept. 2	92,630⅜	26	11	14,747	23	5	24,090¼	15	9
,, 9	78,589	27	1	17,888½	23	4	20,622⅜	15	11
,, 16	83,185½	26	11	36,956⅜	23	7	23,705	16	0
,, 23	95,743	26	8	70,475½	23	10	30,715½	15	11
,, 30	104,984⅝	26	9	123,125¼	24	3	42,067⅜	16	1
Oct. 7	89,579⅜	26	9	147,570⅜	24	9	31,190¼	16	3
,, 14	85,449⅞	26	11	192,044	24	10	28,354¼	16	6
,, 21	90,548⅛	27	1	224,530	25	0	24,635⅜	16	7
,, 28	86,116⅜	27	4	237,307½	24	11	23,860	16	8
Nov. 4	80,360½	27	10	231,869¼	24	9	28,424½	17	1
,, 11	78,276⅛	28	3	209,509	24	10	28,316⅜	17	4
,, 18	87,001¼	28	7	209,520½	24	6	32,382	17	8
,, 25	77,163½	28	5	197,662¾	24	6	25,433⅜	17	6
Dec. 2	93,509½	28	8	177,368½	24	6	29,859¼	17	1½
,, 9	82,752	28	6	165,885¼	24	7	32,371	17	1½
,, 16	80,507⅜	28	6	135,925	24	5	34,878⅜	17	1½

WEEKLY AVERAGES.

Statement showing the Quantities sold and Average Price of British Corn, Imperial Measure, as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended December 16, 1905, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

Wheat	80,507¼ qrs.	28s.	5d.
Barley	135,925 qrs.	24s.	5d.
Oats	34,878¾ qrs.	17s.	12d

WEEKLY ARRIVALS INTO LONDON.

Dec 13 to 20, 1905, inclusive.

	British.	Foreign.	Total
Wheat qrs.	5,991	57,148	63,139
Barley	3,200	17,000	20,200
Malt	21,000	...	21,000
Oats	7,000	59,000	66,000
Beans	923	972	1,895
Peas	275	2,881	3,156
Lentils	...	7,000	7,000
Maize	...	55,737	55,737
Millet	...	361	361
Dari	...	5,000	5,000
Buckwheat	...	5,000	5,000
Dholl	...	375	375
Cottonseed	...	9,400	9,400
Hempseed	...	700	700
Linseed	...	9,475	9,475
Flour sacks	24,710	36,747	61,457
Riceflour	...	2,490	2,490
Ricemeal	...	7,000	7,000
Oatmeal	...	1,200	1,200

PROVISIONS.

London, Monday.—Bacon: In consequence of the approaching holidays, the bacon market was very quiet this week, especially for all Danish and Canadian, for which sellers were taking several shillings less than last week. Butter: The butter market was firm, and all selections in good request, especially for finest goods, which cleared quickly on arrival. Lard: The lard market was quiet, and Irish quoted at less money.

HAY AND STRAW.

Whitechapel, Thursday.—Good supplies on offer this morning met with a fair demand. Best clover, 72s to 80s; inferior ditto, 60s to 70s; specially picked hay, 72s 6d; good, 60s to 70s; inferior ditto, 45s to 57s 6d; mixture and sainfoin, 67s to 72s 6d; straw 25s to 33s per load.

WET GRAINS.

London, Friday.—Wet grains: Prices are somewhat easier on the week, owing to continuous of cold weather and extra brewings to make up for closing on Monday and Tuesday. Ale, 19s to 20s; and porter, 15s 6d to 16s 6d per ton. Wet Distillers' Grains remain at 36s per ton. Pressed white distillery meal, 35s per ton. Dried grains are without change, from ale 102s 6d, mixed 97s 6d, and distillers 115s per ton. Dried distillery meal, containig 45.80 per cent. oil and albuminoids, without change, 117s 6d per ton. Molasses feed, 90s per ton. Pure cane molasses (treacle) for cattle feeding, 92s 6d to 93s 9d per ton, according to rails. All the above are free on rail London.—HAMLYN AND CO., 37 and 39, Mark Lane, E.C.

WOOL.

London, Friday.—English—per pk. of 240 lb.—Fleeces S. Dn. Hogs, £14 to £14 10s.; halfbred hogs, £12 10s to £13 10s; wethers, £12 5s to £12 15s; Kent fleeces, £12 to £12 10s; South Down ewes and wethers, £13 10s to £14 10s; Leicester ditto, £11 15s to £12 5s. Colonial—per lb.: Vic.—Fleece super, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; scoured good, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; scoured average, 1s 11d to 2s; greasy average to fair, 1s 1½d to 1s 2½d; N.S.W. Scond. average, 1s 8½d to 1s 9d; greasy average, 11½d to 1s; S. Aus. greasy average, 9d to 9½d; N.Z.—Scoured average, 1s 9½d to 1s 10d; greasy average, 1s½d to 11½d; Cape, scoured super, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; fleece average, 10d to 10½d; greasy average, 7½d to 8¼d; Natal—scoured, 1s 5d to 1s 6d; greasy average, 8½d to 9½d. Crossbreds—Grs.: Vic. good to super, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; New eZaland fine, 1s 2d to 1s 3d; medium, 1s 0½d to 1s 3½d; coarse, 10½d to 11½d.

OIL SEEDS.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY,

December 22.

The demand for Linseed is not so good as it was a week ago, but an improvement is anticipated after Christmas. Rapeseed is firm and Poppyseed is appreciating in value. Sunflower seed is rising in price as the Russian crop this summer proves to have been much below the average.

LINSEED. per 416 lb.	s. s.
Indian	42/6to 44
Argentine	40,9to 42
Russian	40 to 42
Morocco	47 to 48
Turkish	43 to 44
Persian	41 to 42
Dutch	42 to 46
American	41 to 42
RAPESEED. per 416 lb.	
English	48 to 54
Dutch	44 to 48
Gazerat	43 to 44
Ferozepore	39 to 44
POPPYSEED. per 377 lb.	s. s.
Indian	44 to 45
HEMPSEED. per 336 lb.	
Russian	40 to 46
SUNFLOWERSEED. per 112lb.	
White	17 to 18
Black	12 to 14
CANARYSEED. per. 464 lb.	
Spanish	80 to 100
Turkish	61 to 63
COTTONSEED. per 2,240 lb.	
Egyptian	115 to 117
Indian	98 to 100

Prices for linseed admit of the following comparison:

Per Quarter.	Indian.	Argentine.
Dec. 22, 1905	42s 3d	40s 9d
Dec. 23, 1904	33s 9d	32s 0d
Dec. 24, 1903	34s 6d	31s 3d

In 1902, however, linseed fetched 40s. to 50s., and was a decidedly strong market. Poppyseed grows a little in favour; the farmer begins to find that it is rich in oil, and the sort sold at Mark Lane, of course, has no soporific effect. The new Indian crop is offered for April shipment at 42s. per 377 lb., and there are quite a reasonable number of buyers.

Review of the British Corn Trade

DURING THE PAST WEEK

Written exclusively for the Mark Lane Express.

The wheat fields, which were sown in October, show a regular growth, and the colour of the pushing blades is healthy. There are scarcely any bad patches, so that germination seems to have been above the average for sureness and levelness of start. November sown wheat does not yet make an appearance, but winter oats are often up, and where visible are looking well. Septmber sown rye is robust, and if a feed for sheep is needed in February it will be fully ready by then. The threshing of wheat has not been quite so brisk as at the beginning of the month, but barley threshings have proceeded with rapidity, especially in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, and Lincolnshire. The sales of oats continue small, not because demand is poor, but because farmers part grudgingly with their stock. Charity, as the saying is, begins at home, and the farmer has to consider his own horses.

The Continental reports indicate that there has been a favourable autumn for wheat and rye sowings from France to Russia, and that on the whole advantage has been taken of the occasion. The newly-sown corn is stated to have come up well.

The Argentine and Australian wheat harvests are now in progress. The weather is reported by cables at satisfactory. Argentine expects to have an exportable surplus of three million tons of wheat, a prodigious quantity, and one likely to influence trade in 1906 very seriously. The report surplus of linseed is likely to exceed 600,000 tons, and of maize to equal two million tons; but the last-named crop will not be ripe before March, and the two million ton export estimate is simply based on an average yield per acre on the extended acreage.

The markets for wheat since the 18th have been rather weak, and a slight reduction has been occasionally allowed on Manitoba, America, and Argentine descriptions. Trere is such a scarcity of Indian that prices are fully maintained, and Californian is also quite as dear as a week ago. Australian, New Zealand, Russian, and Roumanian kinds may be called steady, but there has not been much demand. Flour has suffered from the poor sale of bread, and is not likely to become a good trade unitl the baker is doing well. Malting barley fully keeps the prices of the 18th, and now and again Californian is 6d. dearer. The tendency in feeding barley is quite the other way; the holders who have waited for a Russian crisis have found it only on the newspaper placards, and with ample supply of grain from Black Sea and Danubian ports the buyer simply laughs at the repeated cries of "Wolf! Wolf!" The decline on Russian and Roumanian barley is nearer 6d. than 3d. per quarter; on the other hand, supplies of Persian appear to be drying up, and value accordingly tends to advance. For oats the prices asked are comparatively high, and 17s. for Russian stuff of poor weight and character is resisted by buyers. American oats at 18s. per 320lb. have the preference, and at 17s. would sell well. The large shipments from America since October have not depressed the trade, as was anticipated, for the small supply of British oats, combined with Russian disturbances, has made it possible to keep up value. Should Russia be a fairly good shipper in January and America a free shipper, prices for 304lb. to 320lb. oats would go lower. For 336lb. oats value is fully maintainable.

Maize is a trade upon which comment is a matter of days—that is to say, the first question which the holder asks the buyer is, not "What will you pay!" but "When do you need it delivered?" The American new crop is, in motion and prices, in January are likely to be 2s. lower than they are to-day. Beans and peas tend to appreciate in value, owing to the extremely small supplies on passage. But linseed is weaker from the 18th, and tends to drag with it both rapeseed and cottonseed.

The supply of foreign flour since harvest shows that the receipts from the United States, as compared with 1904, have nearly doubled. It is strange that purchasers of Canadian flour have fallen off. France meets with great difficulty in keeping a footing on English exchanges. This is a great tribute to modern mills in this country, for there was a time when the Taylors and Ranks of London hardly took the position of the Corbeils and Darblays of Paris. Nowadays, as the phrase runs, the case is altered. We have increased by 21,000 sacks our purchases of Hungarian flour; but this is, if anything, an index to increased prosperity in the confectionery trade. Argentine goes on shipping flour, but the London market gets but very little of it. Australia is developing it nicely, but an extension of milling in the Antipodes is to a large extent dependent on the possibility of finding buyers for bran, pollard, and middlings.

The increase in American maize shipments is continuous, and is bound to exert a great influence on trade as soon as the New Year is with us. The following are the figures since November 23:—

	Quarters.
Nov. 16-23	96,000 shipped.
Nov. 23-30	127,000 ,,
Dec. 1-8	232,000 ,,
Dec. 8-15	281,000 ,,
Dec. 15-22	390,000 ,,

Other American shipments for the seven days ended 22nd inst. were wheat 253,000 qr., barley 36,000 qr., oats 105,000 qr., and flour 108,000 sacks.

Sales of English wheat show a remarkable steadiness, as will be seen from weekly figures, since November came in:—

	Quarters.
Nov. 1-8	200,000 sold.
Nov. 8-15	195,000 ,,
Nov. 15-22	219,000 ,,
Nov. 22-29	193,000 ,,
Nov. 29-Dec. 6	233,000
Dec. 6-13	205,000 ,,
Dec. 13-20	200,000 ,,

Thus the first and the last week on the record each show 200,000 qr., while the range between has been from 193,000 to 233,000 qr.

Imports of wheat have been fairly heavy, the returns for the last seven weeks being as follows:—

	Quarters.
Nov. 6	380,000
Nov. 13	364,000
Nov. 20	392,000
Nov. 27	362,000
Dec. 4	423,000
Dec. 11	354,000
Dec. 18	484,000

The imports of flour in detail have already been commented on. The totals since harvest have been:—

	Sacks.
Sept. 1-Dec. 22, 1905	1,931,000
Sept. 1-Dec. 23, 1904	1,566,000
Sept. 1-Dec. 24, 1903	2,870,000

Imports of barley last week were 117,000 qr., of oats were 53,000 qr., and of maize were 280,000 qr. It was only in the case of maize that any excess was shown.

The supply of maize on passage on 22nd inst. was:—

	Quarters.
1905	755,000
1904	775,000
1903	860,000

No excess of supply, therefore, has yet occurred, and, as stocks are very low, holders may still hope to unload without a loss being sustained.

The visible supply in America is mounting, and is already 30 per cent. higher than at this time last year. Returns for the 22nd inst. are as follows:—

	Quarters.
1905	899,000
1904	633,000
1903	652,000

The supply of barley on passage on the 22nd was thus made up:—

	Quarters.
Russian	150,000
American	55,000
Californian	180,000
Asiatic	100,000
Total	485,000

These figures, however, do not include Roumania or Persia, to which countries perhaps 50,000 and 25,000 qr. respectively may be attributed. In this case the real total on passage would be 560,000 qr.

Sales of English barley since harvest have been:—

This season, 2,393,000 quarters at 24s 5d per quarter.
Last season, 2,292,000 quarters at 24s 11d per quarter.

The slight increase in the pressure of barley on sale almost exactly corresponds with the slight decline in the price realised.

Sales of oats at the statute markets since September 1 have included 461,000 qr. of English, against 569,000 qr. last year. This reticence on the part of growers has sent the price up from 16s. to 16s. 10d. per qr.

Indian linseed is not quite so dear as a week ago, but the figures of shipments seem to argue that holders can afford to wait for a revival of demand. Since January 1 1,804,000 qr. have been shipped, against 2,818,000 qr. last season. Indian rapeseed shipments also show a great decline, the figures being 620,000 qr. this year (January 1-December 22), and 1,400,000 qr. in the same period of 1904. Egypt remains the dominant factor in the cottonseed trade, but India is gaining ground. In 1904 total shipments were 90,000 tons, while 1905, in fifty completed weeks, has already shipped 118,000 tons.

LATEST MARKETS.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY, December 22.

[FIRST REPORT.]

The market to-day was fairly well attended, and considering that no deliveries could be expected this side of Christmas business was rather good. The purchases were mainly non-speculative and for delivery before the end of the year, but in maize a rather free trade was done for near futures—i.e., January delivery at 20s. 9d., and February delivery at 20s. 6d. per quarter flat corn. For yellow the price was about 2s., and for round about 5s. higher than for flat of like date of delivery.

English wheat was in bettered condition, and made fully previous prices without difficulty, but foreign receded 6d. for all sorts, except Russian, of which supplies in January threaten to become small.

Barley was quiet for all sorts, but holders of malting quality were confident. Oats are a steady trade, with English, Scotch, and New Zealand types in request.

QUOTATIONS OFF STANDS

BRITISH GRAIN.

		s.	s.
WHEAT, White	(per 504 lb.)	30	— 33
Red	,,	29	— 31
Chicken	(per 448 lb.)	26	— 27
BARLEY, Malting	,,	32	— 36
Brewing	,,	26	— 30
Feeding	(per 416 lb.)	23	— 25
,,	(per 400 lb.)	21	— 22
MALT, Pale English	(per 336 lb.)	36	— 38
Scotch	,,	35	— 37
Brown	,,	26	— 30
Black	,,	29	— 31
Crystallized	,,	32	— 36
OATS, Best Scots	,,	22	— [illegible]
Ordinary Scots	,,	20	— 21
New Black Winter	,,	19	— 20
,, Grey Winter	,,	20	— 21
,, Black Tartary	,,	20	— 21
,, White Gartons	,,	19	— 20
,, ,, ,, Clipped	,,	23	— 25
Pioneer	,,	20	— 21
New (Light)	(per 304 lb.)	17	— 18
RYE, New	(per 480 lb.)	23	— 24
BEANS, Pigeon	(per 532 lb.)	[illegible]	— 41
Kick	,,	38	— 37
Winter (Old)	,,	[illegible]	— 36
,, (New)	,,	33	— 34
Spring	,,	34	— [illegible]
PEAS, New Picked Marrowfat	(per 504 lb.)	64	— 72
New Unpicked ,,	,,	48	— 56
Partridge	,,	42	— 45
Dun	,,	32	— 33
Maple (Old)	,,	35	— 37
,, (New)	,,	34	— 35
TARES (Scotch Gores)	,,	72	— 82
(English ,,)	,,	56	— 64
(Winter)	,,	48	— 56
(Spring)	,,	52	— 64
BUCKWHEAT, English	(per 416 lb.)	28	— 32
RAPESEED, Black	(per 424 lb.)	52	— 55
Brown	,,	48	— 50

FOREIGN GRAIN.

(Ex-Granary.)

	s.	s.
WHEAT, per 496lb.		
Manitoba No. 1	34	— 34/3
,, 2	33	— 33/3
,, 3	32	— 32/3
Am'can Red Winter	33	— 34
,, Hard Winter	32	— 33
Argentine	33	— 34
Australian	34	— 35
New Zealand	30	— 32
Saxonka	34	— 35
Azima	33	— 34
Ghirka	32	— 33
Taganrog	31	— 32
Bombay	none	
Calcutta	33	— 33/3
Kurrachee	32	— 32/9
Turkish	31	— 32
BARLEY:		
Califor'n (448 lb.)	29	— 30
Ouchak (448 lb.)	30	— 32
,, (400 lb.)	24	— 26
Smyrna (448 lb.)	27	— 30
,, (400 lb.)	20	— 22
Russian (400 lb.)	20	—20/3
Salonica (400 lb.)	21	— 22
Kustendje (416 lb.)	22	— 23
American (400 lb.)	19	— 20
Persian (400 lb.)	19	—19 3
Crushed (304 lb.)	17	— 18
Torrified (336 lb.)	20	— 21
MALT, per 336 lb.:		
Californian	33	— 36
Smyrna	33	— 36
Ouchak	33	— 36
RYE, per 480 lb.:		
Russian	23	— 24
OATS:		
N'w Zeal'd (384 lb.)	22	— 24
Australian (320 lb.)	17	— 18
Konigsberg (320 lb.)	20	— 21
Libau (320 lb.)	19	— 20
,, (304 lb.)	17	—17/3
Argentine (304 lb.)	17	—17/3
Dutch (320 lb.)	18	— 19
Canadian (320 lb.)	18	—18/3
American (320 lb)	18	—18 3

	s.	s.
MAIZE, per 480 lb.:		
American, Old	25	— 27
,, New	22	— 24
Argentine	23	— 25
BEANS, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	34	— 36
Konigsberg	33	— 35
Syrian	35	— 37
New Zealand	35	— 36
HARICOTS, per 504 lb.:		
Italian	60	— 74
Burmese	34	— 44
Chilian	60	— 64
LOCUST BEANS, per cwt.:		
Cyprian	5/2	—5/3
Portuguese	5/0	—5/1
PEAS, per 504 lb.:		
Wisconsin	42	— 44
Canadian	41	— 43
Konigsberg	43	— 45
Indian White	31	— 32
,, Dun	28	— 29
,, Green	24	— 25
New Zealand Maple	38	— 39
Victoria Dun	31	— 32
MILLET, per 416 lb.:		
White	41	— 43
Red	23	— 27
Yellow	20	— 23
Sorghum	19	— 21
RICE, per cwt.:		
Japanese	13	— 15
Java	13	— 22
Indian	14	— 16
Burmese	8	— 10
"Feeding"	7	— 8
DARI, per 480 lb.:		
Smyrna	28	— 29
Indian	26	— 27
Persian	22	— 24
BUCKWHEAT, per 416 lb.:		
French	29	— 30
Russian	27	— 28
TARES, per 504 lb.:		
Konigsberg	59	— 41

CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

THE MARKET CLOSED WITH A FEELING OF QUIET CONFIDENCE IN VALUES, BEING ON A HEALTHY BUSINESS BASIS. TRADE IS REASONABLY PROSPEROUS, AND BUYERS EXCHANGED WITH SELLERS HEARTY WISHES FOR A HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

THE FLOUR TRADE.

MARK LANE, FRIDAY, December 22.

London flour was dull but steady, with Seth Taylor's Households at 25s. per sack ex mill, London terms.

Country flour receded 6d. per sack for ordinary, but was fairly steady for special patents.

American was quoted 25s. 6d. for Ohio, 26s. 9d. for Duluth, 27s. 6d. for finest Spring Patents on passage, and 28s. 6d. arrived.

Some fine flour from Germany made 27s. 6d. to 30s. per sack. Prices for French, Australian, and Hungarian were without change.

Rye flour met with some inquiry, especially from German bakers. The best realised 24s. per sack, and good secondary made 22s. 6d. per sack.

Farina met with a fair demand at ten guineas per ton for "best," while "prime" (a deceptive name for second grade) realised £10 per ton.

Christmastide brings a good inquiry for oatmeal, a good many English families using it for children at breakfast during the Christmas holidays, while ordinary uses also show an extension. To-day £14 per ton was paid for the best Midlothian, £11 7s. 6d. for the Grampian and Deeside brands. Oat flour made £16 10s. per ton for best Midlothian, and £14 12s. 6d. for Grampian, while Brose meal realised 28s. per sack cash, and £12 5s. per ton was paid for Canadian "rolled" oats.

LONDON FLOUR.

Top Price	(per sack of 280 lb.)	30/0 net.
Town Whites	,,	27/9 ,,
,, Households	,,	24/9 ,,
No. 2	,,	21/9 ,,
Whole Meal No. 1	,,	24/9 ,,
,, No. 2	,,	22/9 ,,
Paste Flour	,,	21/3 ,,

COUNTRY FLOUR.

		s. s.
Best Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	25—25/6
Fine Roller whites	,,	24—24/3
Ord'y Roller ,, ,,	,,	22—22/3
Best Stone made	,,	21—21/3

FOREIGN FLOUR.

Minnesota First Patents	(per sack of 280 lb.)	28 — 29
,, Second Patents	,,	27 — 28
,, First Bakers'	,,	21 — 22
,, Second Bakers'	,,	19 — 20
Milwaukee Patents	,,	26 — 27
,, Bakers'	,,	20 — 21
Cascadia	,,	27 — 28
Granardia	,,	26 — 28
Canadian	,,	26 — 27
Hungarian, 0	,,	32 — 37
,, 1	,,	31 — 33
,, 2	,,	30 — 31
,, 3	,,	29 — 30
French, Corbeil	,,	25 — 26
,, Renaux	,,	24 — 25
,, P.S.D.	,,	22 — 23
Australian	,,	24 — 25

MEAL, &c.

		s. s.
Bran, London Broad	(per sack of 280 lb.)	12 — 13
,, Country Flake Choice	,,	13 — 14
,, ,, Broad	,,	11 — 12
Pollard	,,	11 — 12
Biscuit Middlings	,,	15 — 16
Fine Middlings	,,	14 — 15
Coarse Middlings	,,	13 — 14
Wheat Germ Meal	,,	16 — 17
Farina Firsts	,,	27 — 28
,, Seconds	,,	25 — 26
Barley Meal	,,	19 — 20
Canadian Oatmeal	,,	25 — 26
Scotch Oatmeal	,,	32 — 34
Groats	,,	33 — 34
Oat Flour	,,	34 — 35
American Feeding Wheat Flour	,,	16 — 17
Red Dog Flour	,,	14 — 15
Maize Flour, "Cornflour"	,,	19 — 20
,, Germ Meal	,,	15 — 16
,, Cones	,,	19 — 20
,, Gluten Meal	,,	13 — 14
Rye Flour (Libau)	,,	20 — 21
,, (Konigsberg)	,,	18 — 19
Rye Meal	,,	17 — 18
Pea Meal	,,	19 — 20
Bean Meal	,,	18 — 20
Locust Bean Meal	,,	17 — 18
Rice Meal	,,	14 — 16
Rice Flour	,,	20 — 21
Rice Cones	,,	19 — 20

LONDON TERM MARKET.

This market is open to elected members only, and is held at the Baltic Club, St. Mary Axe. No business except for future delivery is done, and the smallest quantity that can be purchased is 1,000 quarters, or 4,800 cental.

Prices quoted on Friday at the close of the day's trade were :—

WHEAT (per cental).

No. 2 American Red	6s. 11d.	Dec. delivery.
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Jan. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 11d.	Mar. ,,
,, ,,	6s. 10d.	May ,,

MAIZE (per cental).

American	4s. 3d.	February delivery.
,,	4s. 4d.	May ,,

There were no buyers of maize for January delivery.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

Manchester, Thursday.—Yorkshire Warps, 7s to 9s; Sands, 6s to 7s; Cheshire, 4s 6d to 5s 6d per load; Irish, 2s 9d to 3s per cwt; turnips, washed, 30s to 35s; carrots, washed, 40s per ton.

GRAIN AND FLOUR FACTORS REPORT.

Offals.—Bran in active demand, with increasing firmness in prices.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Trade continues dull; no new feature to report.—GREENHILL BROS. (Belfast).

Flour.—Trade to-day has been very quiet, owing to the approaching holidays. Prices are nominally unchanged, but there is not sufficient business to test values.—T. S. MEDILL AND SONS, LTD.

Milling Offals are firm at last Monday's prices. Mills keep quite clear.—JOHN BAWCOMB AND CO.

FEEDING STUFFS.

Hull, Tuesday.—Linseed: The arrivals are 10 quarters from Harlingen, 750 Libau, 1,000 Riga, 4,559 St. Petersburg; total, 6,319 quarters. Linseed has been somewhat excited, and during the week prices rose rapidly. At the close re-sellers securing profits has brought a quieter feeling and values of forward positions are 6d. to 9d under the best. River Plate: Spot 41s paid, same the value afloat and November-December; Jan.-Feb. sold up to 40s 9d, now offering at 40s. Cottonseed: The market remained quiet, unchanged for Egyptian to close of last week, but yesteday there was a firmer tone, and £5 15s paid spot, £5 16s 3d January; to-day, however, there is a quieter feeling, with sellers at these prices, and no sales reported; £5 17s 6d nearest Feb.-March. Bombay has been more inquired for, and business done at up to £4 19s December, £4 18s 6d January; but the tendency for this description also is easier to-day. Oilseed cakes.—Linseed cake: A quiet demand, with prices 2s 6d per ton dearer. Russians about exhausted, and future supplies unpromising. Cotton cakes: A steady demand, best unchanged. Bombay, 2s 6d per ton dearer and deliveries backward.

	Per ton. £ s. d.		£ s. d.
LINSEED CAKES.			
London made ..... ex mill	8 2 6	to	8 5 9
Russian, in bags	7 15 0	to	7 17 6
in mats	7 12 6	to	7 13 9
American ..... ex quay	7 10 0		
Calcuta to arrive	7 15 0	to	7 17 6
COTTONSEED CAKES.			
Egyptian	4 15 0	to	4 17 6
English	4 16 3	to	4 17 6
Bombay	4 10 0		
Decorticated—			
Cottonseed Co.'s make of Cake	6 17 6		
,, ,, ,, Meal	7 0 0		
,, Digestive Meal	5 5 0		
RAPE CAKE.			
Calcutta	5 5 0		
Ravison			
MAIZE.			
English germ meal	5 18 9	to	6 0 0
American, Dec /Jan. ..... on rail	5 17 6		
American			
Maize Gluten Meal	6 0 0		
RICE MEAL.			
Rangoon to arrive Rice ..... ex ship			
Saigon	4 12 6		
White Garden Siam	4 17 6		
Broken Rangoon Rice ..... ex docks	4 17 6	to	5 0 0
MANURES.			
Nitrate of soda, Spot ..... ex quay	10 10 0		
LOCUST BEANS.			
Whole	5 10 0		
Kit bled	5 15 0		

—PINNOCK BROS., 30, Mark Lane, E.C.

MOLASSINE FEEDING MEAL, packed in bags of 1 cwt each. Price per ton, £6 15s., in ton lots and upwards. £7 10s. per ton in less than ton lots. Free on rail, Liverpool or London. Uniform delivered price for small quantities, 10s. per bag of 1 cwt.

English Linseed Cake .. .. ex mill	8	5	0	to 8	7 6
American Calcutta Linseed Cake ex quay					
,, Western ,, to arrive	8	5	0		
Round Trieste Linseed Cake .. ex quay					
Russian Oil Cake ,, ...ex quay	7	15	0	to 7	17 6
Decorticated Cotton Cake .....ex quay	7	0	0		
,, ,, Meal .....ex quay	7	1	3		
London-made ,, Cake (best) ex mill	4	17	6		
Egyptian ,, ,, ,, (in bags) ex quay	4	16	3	to 4	17 6
Burton Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, Burton	5	7	6		
Dutch Linseed (in bags) per 416 lbs. ex warehouse					
Calcutta Linseed (in bags) per 410 lbs. ex warehouse	2	7	0		
La Plata do. (Screened) per 416 lbs. sacks included ex warehouse	2	2	6		
Russian do. Screened per 416 lbs. ex warehouse					
Dulath do. per 416 lbs.	2	3	0		
Larmica Linseed (in bags) per 16 lbs.					
London Desiccated Ale Grains on rail, London					
Guinness Porter Grains (bags included)					
Bombay ,, ,, ...					
Tukish Linseed, in bags, per 416 lbs.					

ROBERT AND JOHN HEWETSON.

HAY AND STRAW.

London, December 22.—Clover 78s. to 80s. Meadow hay 66s. to 78s. Sainfoin 66s. to 78s. Wheat straw 43s. to 51s. Oat straw 45s. to 53s. All per ton, on spot. Trade quiet.—(Special to M.L.E.).

GRAIN.

Liverpool, December 22.—Wheat 6s. 11d. per cental. Red American new crop maize 5s. per cental. American new crop, on spot, wheat 6s. 10d., maize 4s. 3d. January delivery. Market weak for both wheat and maize.—(Special to M.L.E.).

BUTTER

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Boston: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Goole: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Holsworthy: 1s 4d. Keighley: 1s 3d to 1s 4d. Kirbymoorside: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Knaresborough: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz. roll. Louth: 1s to 1s 1d. Market Drayton: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Market Weighton: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Newton Abbot: 1s 5d to 1s 8d. Northallerton: 2s to 2s 2d per 24 oz. roll. Stockton: 1s 3d to 1s 5d. Truro: 1s 2d to 1s 4d. Uttoxeter: 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Worksop: 1s 3d.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s to 1s 2d. Birmingham: 1s 5d to 1s 4d. Brigg: 1s 1d to 1s 2d. Honiton: 1s 5d. Driffield: 1s to 1s 1d. Evesham: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Kidderminster: 1s 1d. Penistone: 1s 2d. Ripon: 1s 10d to 2s per 24 oz. roll. Scarborough: 1s 4d. Wellington (Salop): 1s 2d to 1s 3d. Plymouth: 1s 4d to 1s 5d. Wetherby: 1s 3d to 1s 4d.

EGGS

Wednesday.—Barnsley: 5 and 6. Boston: 7. Goole: 7. Holsworthy: 8. Keighley: 7 and 8. Kirbymoorside: 8 and 9. Knaresborough: 8. Louth: 10. Market Drayton: 7 to 9. Market Weighton: 9 and 10. Newton Abbot: 1s 4d to 1s 6d per dozen. Northallerton: 7 and 8. Stockton: 5 and 6. Truro: 1s 3d to 1s 4d per dozen. Uttoxeter: 2s 7d to 2s 9d per score. Worksop: 2s 8d per score.

Thursday.—Axminster: 1s 7d to 1s 8d per dozen. Birmingham: 7 and 8. Brigg: 9. Driffield: 9 and 10. Evesham: 1s to 1s 2d per dozen. Honiton: 1s 9d per dozen. Kidderminster: 7. Penistone: 8. Plymouth: 6. Ripon: 8 and 9. Scarborough: 7. Wellington (Salop): 9 and 10. Wetherby: 7 and 8.

CHEESE.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Arrivals of cheese were moderate, but the prices asked by holders materially checked sales. Only a limited business was done. Values are firm owing to the high prices sought for Canadians. Home Cheddars, 60s to 64s per cwt., Dunlops, 58s to 62s per cwt. HOPS

London, Monday.—W. H. and H. Le May, 67, Borough, London, reports:—There is nothing fresh to report, the market is quiet, and it is expected that it will remain so until after the Christmas holidays are over. Stocks to be carried over to the New Year are the smallest for many years.

GAME AND POULTRY.

Smithfield, Thursday.—Supplies were on a heavy scale, and experienced fair support. Quotations:—Yorkshire fowl, 3s to 3s 6d, Boston 2s 6d to 3s 6d, Essex 3s 3d to 3s 9d, Surrey, 3s 3d to 3s 9d, Sussex, 2s 9d to 3s 6d, Welsh, 2s to 2s 6d, Irish, 1s 9d to 2s 3d; turkeys (cock), 9s to 12s, ditto (hen), 4s 9d to 6s, geese, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; country ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 3d; Bordeaux pigeons, 10d to 1s, feathered, 7d to 9d; wild rabbits, 8 to 11d, tame, 1s 3d to 1s 8d each; Australian rabbits, 6s 6d to 8s 6d per dozen; pheasants, 4s to 4s 9d; partridges (young), 3s to 3s 3d; old, 1s 6d per brace; English hares, 2s 6d to 3s, leverets, 1s 6d to 1s 9d, Scotch hares, 1s 6d; wild ducks, 1s 6d to 1s 9d, pintail, 1s to 1s 2d, widgeon, 8d to 10d, teal 6d to 9d, woodcock, 2s, snipe 6d to 1s, golden plover, 1s 2d, black, 7d each. Venison: haunches, 6s to 9s, forequarters, 2d per lb.

THE BALTIC.

The Baltic, Friday, 3 p.m.

STATE OF TRADE.

No change in the prices asked for wheat cargoes has occurred since Monday, but maize is held more steadily; and, on the other hand, cargoes of barley, oats, linseed, and cottonseed are the turn in buyers' favour.

BUSINESS DONE.

WHEAT.—Blue Stem, 32s 9d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Walla Walla, 32s 3d per 500 lb, prompt shipment; Red Walla, 31s 6d per 500lb., prompt shipment; Bahia Blanca, 33s per 504lb., February shopment; Rosario, 31s 3d per 480lb., January shipment; No. 1, Northern Manitoba, 32s 6d per 480 lb., on passage; graded Red Winter, 33s 6d per 480 lb., January shipment; graded Red Winter, 33s 9d per 480lb., April shipment.

MAIZE.—American, 21s per 480lb., January shipment; American, 20s 9d per 480lb., February shipment; Argentine, 23s 6d., on pasage; Argentine, 21s 3d per 480lb., May shipment.

BARLEY.—Odessa, 20s per 400lb, on passage; Crimean, 19s 6d per 400lb., prompt shipment.

OATS.—American, 16s per 320lb., prompt shipment.

LINSEED.—Calcutta, 42s 3d per 410lb., arrived; Argentine, 41s per 416 lb., January shipment.

COTTONSEED.—Egyptian, £5 13s 9d per 2240lb., January shipment; Bombay, £5 18s 9d per 2240lb., January shipment.

AMERICAN GRAIN CROPS.

The official report of the American Board of Agriculture for 1905 was issued on the 20th inst. This is an annual return, and is quite distinct from the monthly Bureau Reports with which it is so often confounded. According to telegraphic summaries, which reached London on the 21st, the wheat yield is 692,900,000 bushels, that of maize is 2,707,904,000 bushels, that of oats 953,216,000 bushels, and that of barley 136,651,000 bushels. These figures are in close agreement with the estimates given in this journal, but the trade will be surprised to learn that the average weight of the new wheat in America is only 456 lb. to the quarter. This is a material discount off the favourable Bureau Reports.

RICE.

London, December 22.—Rangoon 7s. to 7s. 3d. per cwt. Siam 6s. 9d. to 7s. per cwt. Market dull, but expected to improve after Christmas, as there are only 4,000 tons on passage.—(Special to M.L.E.).

LIVE STOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR THE "MARK LANE EXPRESS.")

Trade in the West.

The activity which has been such a prominent characteristic of the fat stock markets during the last three weeks has now given place to unusual quietude, purveyors having provided for the special demands now being made on their resources some days ago, with the result that there is very little wanted in the fat stock line anywhere.. In mutton there has been a ready sale for choice wethers and tegs at from 7½d. to 8¼d. per lb. (or up to 66s. apiece); but ewes, except young animals of light weights, have been by no means so good a trade, from 7d. to 7½d. being the best price, coarse heavy sheep selling badly at 6d. to 6½d.; choice suck lambs have been in request for show purposes up to 7d. per lb.; but anything lacking finish or of a poor stamp has been much neglected at 8½d. to 9½d. Pigs just now are beating the record for all the neater weights, either in porkers or baconers, the ruling price for dainty little porkers being 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d., and 10s. to 11s. for medium weights in hogs. Heavy pigs are not so much wanted. Altogether the trade in Christmas stock has been far more encouraging than for some years past, and sellers have every reason to be satisfied with the returns their stock have brought.

In stores business confined almost entirely to milch beasts and barreners. Deep-milking heifers and cows are both much wanted at from £17 up to £23 apiece; but poorer grades are a much slower sale. In barreners attention is principally confined to animals in the freshest condition, some of the most promising of which are making £26 to £34; though a more average range for the general run of grazing cattle is from £18 to £25 per pair. As a rule, bullocks sell better singly than in pairs. The season so far promises a very satisfactory finale.

Trade in Scotland.

The number of fat cattle on offer this week has been large, and the general quality satisfactory. For everything of a good class a fair trade has been experienced at prices very similar to the preceding week. A very large supply of fat cows met a decidedly worse market at low prices. Fat bulls also more numerous, and they were also cheaper. Fat sheep have been shown in very large numbers, while those of good quality and adapted for shop purposes met nearly last week's prices; heavy-weighted sheep for the London market met a worse trade at an average fall of 1s. 6d. per head. Ewes, not being very plentiful, met a fairly satisfactory market. Fat calves in moderate supply, and those of good quality sold dear. A much larger supply of fat pigs, and they met a much slower trade at prices slightly favouring buyers. A very small supply of store cattle, and a clearance effected at fully recent prices. Rathr more store sheep on offer, generally of a very secondary description. While the best class nearly maintained previous rates, the trade for secondary kinds was worse, and a considerable number of this description left unsold. There was a fair show of milch cows, and they met a very dull market. Quotations:—Top price of best cattle per live cwt., 38s. 4d.; current, 35s. to 37s.; mutton, 7d. to 9d. per lb.—JOHN SWAN AND SONS, LTD.

Trade in Ireland.

Last Thursday in Dublin Market being just the one immediately before Christmas, is generally considered an "off" one, and the number of cattle and sheep offered for sale fully bore this out, as there were only 1,540 (a decrease of 2,485) of the former, and 2,272 (a decrease of 4,795) of the latter. The attendance of cross-Channel buyers was limited, but local men were in good force, and a scarcity of good beef gave a better tone to purchases of better classes, but rough cattle were not wanted; many remained over unsold. Best heifer and ox beef sold at from 50s. to 54s., and extra-finished lots up to 60s. per cwt; good second-quality beef, 45s. to 46s., and inferior from 42s. per cwt. upwards. Prices showed little variation on the previous market, salesmen sticking closely to late rates.

The scarcity of prime home mutton gave the sheep department a healthy tone, but the demand was restricted to good sheep, which cleared well, though not at any higher rates. Coarse sheep were in excess of requirement, and met with no improvement. Prime wether mutton was worth from 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; ewe, 6d. to 6½d.; and coarse sheep from 5d. per lb upwards. Hoggets sold at from 32s to 44s. each, for small to middling, and from 45s. to 55s. for large heavy sorts.

Veal was quiet, and did not generally make late rates. The best veal calves sold at from 7d. to 8d. per lb.; inferior, from 5d. to 5½d. per lb.

A small supply of dairy cows of good quality, which were in request at from £17 up to £20 each. Second-rate and inferior cows in poor request at from £9 upwards. Dublin pig market was a regular holiday one. Buyers of pork pigs had to pay 2s. per cwt. more, and shipping grades were also somewhat firmer, but coarse pigs were tedious of clearing. Best light-weight made from 52s. to 54s. per cwt; coarse heavy, from 37s. 6d. upwards.

LONDON.

Islington, Thursday.—Beast supply consisted entirely of fat but shelling cows and bulls, for which trade was practically at a standstill, too few buyers to enable us to give any quotations; this is chiefly attributable to the near approach of Christmas and to the fact that retail buyers have already bought their Christmas meat. Shortest supply of sheep this year, for which there was absolutely no inquiry. Trade and prices therefore cannot be recorded. Calf trade nominal.

London (Central), Thursday. — Fair supplies, and trade very slow, there being scarcely any demand, the Christmas trade being nearly over. Quotations: English beef, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; Scotch sides, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; shorts, 4s to 4s 4d; Deptford and Liverpool killed, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; refrigerated hindquarters, best, 3s 4d to 3s 8d; ditto, seconds, 2s 4d to 2s 10d; ditto, forequarters, 1s 10d to 2s 2d; inferior beef, 2s to 2s 6d; mutton, Scotch wethers, 4s 2d to 4s 8d; ditto tegs, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; English wethers, 4s to 4s 6d; ditto ewes, 3s to 3s 4d; foreign sheep, 3s 8d to 4s; English lamb, 5s 4d to 5s 8d; veal, 3s 4d to 4s 8d; English pork, 4s to 4s 6d; foreign ditto, 3s 10d to 4s 2d per 8lb.

Boston, Wednesday. — The market was exceedingly small. Milch cows were quoted at £18 to £20; heifers, £14 10s and £15 10s; calves, 55s to 60s.

COUNTRY.

Ashford, Tuesday.—Christmas needs having been supplied, very litle fat stock was shown, and prices receded to those prevailing a fortnight ago; beef made up to 4s 8d. Down mutton up to 6s, Kent mutton up to 5s 10d, veal to 5s 6d, and small pork up to 4s 4d per stone of 8lb. Both corn and cattle markets will be closed next week.

Basingstoke, Wednesday.—At Raynbird and Sons' sale-yard there was a small attendance of buyers of fat stock, but a numerous one for dairy and store cattle. Fat beasts on short supply, and not much inquiry, buyers having filled their requiremens at the Christmas markets last Wednesday. A few good Shorthorn and Polled beasts made close on an average of 18s each. 56 fat sheep and beasts penned, which met a good inquiry; the short numbers on offer were mostly cleared at fully last week's figures. 102 head of dairy and store cattle, prices ranging from £10 to £21. There was a very good trade for the best milch cows, but for inferior descriptions prices ruled lower. Store cattle met with a better demand, and all lots on offer were cleared at satisfactory prices. 123 fat and store pigs on offer, and met a brisk trade; the short entr yeasily sold at late rates. Store pigs were deaver. 24 calves, making from 15s to 90s, were all cleared at satisfactory prices.

Bath, Wednesday.—At the fortnightly market there was a slow demand, and the following were the prices realised:—Cows and calves, £15 15s to £17; barreners, 9s to 12s; fat tegs, 43s to 50s; fat ewes, 40s to 47s; calves, 45s to 97s.

Birmingham, Thursday. — Small supply of beasts, sheep, and pigs. Fair trade for pigs, but slow for beasts and sheep. Quotations: Beef, 5d to 6d per lb.; Herefords, 6¼d per lb.; mutton, 6½d to 8¾d per lb.; bacon pigs, 9s 10d to 10s per score; porkets, 11s 6d per score; cutting pigs, 10s to 10s 6d per score; sows, 8s 3d to 8 4d per score.

Bristol, Thursday.—The Christmas market of Bristol having been held last week, to-day's fixture was quite of a holiday character, both as regards supply of stock and attendance of buyers. Small supply of beef, which proved more than sufficient for the limited demand, and values ruled about 56s to 58s per cwt. best qualities, and 52s for secondary sorts. There were very few sheep or pigs, and trade was dull at about later rates, best qualities of mutton showing a slight decline compared with the Christmas market.

Calne, Friday.—Present prices for prime pigs, in lots of not less than ten, on rail within 100 miles of Calne.

Prime Stores.	Thickness of fat in any part of Back.	Price per Sc. s.	d.
6sc. 10 lb. to 9 sc. 10 lb...	2½ in. and under ...	9	6
Under 10 sc. ...	Not exceeding 2¼ in. ..	9	6
Under 11 sc. 10 lb. ...	2¾ in. ...	9	0
Under 12 sc.	3 in. ...	8	6

C. AND T. HARRIS AND CO., LTD.

Chester, Thursday.—As usual before Christmas, the supplies of stock were smaller than for the previous week, and trade was slow, except for milking stock, which sold at fairly high prices. The show of store cattle was poor, and low rates prevailed. Milch cows, £17 to £21; calvers, £16 to £18; barrens, £10 to £12; heifers, £9 to £14; stirks, £5 to £7.

Chichester, Wednesday.—There was a very fair company of farmers and buyers present, considering the proximity of Christmas, and, with few exceptions, everything, both in the way of sheep and cattle was sold, late prices prevailing. Quotations: Devon steers, 4s 6d to 4s 10d; Southdown sheep, 6s 4d to 6s 8d; West Country sheep, 5s 8d to 6s; fat ewes, 4s 4d to 4s 8d; veal, 4s 8d to 5s 4d; pork, 4s 4d to 4s 8d. Stock at the market: Cattle, 251; sheep, 601; pigs 325; calves, 127; horses, 10. Total stock, 1,314; tolls £9 18s

Dorchester, Wednesday.—Moderately heavy supplies to day, and the tone of the market was brisk, at outside prices. Beef, 11s to 11s 6d per score for the best. Best wethers made 8d to 8½d per lb; ewes, 6½d to 7½d; lambs, 32s to 38s 6d; bacon pigs, 11s 3 to 12s per score; large stores, 25s to 38s; slips, 14 to 23.

Driffield, Wednesday.—The supply consisted principally of store stock. Fat cattle made 7s 3d to 7s 6d per stone; shearlings, 8d to 8½d per lb.; store sheep, 40s to 45s each.

Edinburgh, Wednesday.—There was a small show, but a good trade. Polled bullocks, £11 11s to £15, stirks to £11, halfbred hoggs 35s to 40s; Down hoggs at 37s, grey faced hoggs to 30s, best Shorthorn cows to £24, Ayrshires, to £18, and Irish £15 to £17 10s per head.

Glasgow, Wednesday.—Large supplies. Sheep, 1d to ½d per lb. cheaper; cattle steady. Top Scotch cattle, 64s extreme, and 58s to 60s per cwt. current; top hoggs, 9d.; heavy weights, 8½d to 8¾d; top wethers, 8d to 8¼d; secondary, 7¾d per lb. Dead meat slow, but prices steady; top hogs, 7¼d to 7½d; best Scotch cattle, 6d; best States, 5d to 5¼d per lb.

Leicester, Wednesday.—There was a poor show of meat all round, and very little was wanted. Prices were fairly well maintained. Best beef made 6d to 6½d; larger weights about 6d, and cows 5½d per lb. There was a very slow trade for mutton; best light weights, 9d; heavier animals, 8d to 8½d; and ewes, 6½d to 7d per lb. Veal made about 7d to 7½d. Pork was unchanged.

Lynn, Wednesday.—Holiday market, scarcely anything shown, and very litle trade. Fat sheep, 9s to 10s; fat beasts, about 7s per stone. Store beasts, £6 to £10 each.

Newport, Wednesday.—Quotations:—Caerphillies, 54s to 62s per cwt; fancy dairies, 63s to 65s; Derbys, 69s to 70s; and Cheddars, 60s to 63s. A good supply and a fair demand.

Nottingham, Wednesday.—After the Christmas market a very poor show of cattle and a short supply of sheep. Best beef made up to 8s per stone; secondary, 7s to 7s 6d; and cows and bulls, 6s 6d to 7s; best mutton, to 9½d; large weights, 8s to 8½d; and ewes and tups, 6½d to 7d; calves, 9d per lb.

Preston, Wednesday.—There was a fair attendance, but only a moderate business was transacted. There was a short supply of cattle of fairly good quality, and a large number of sheep. Cows and bulls made 5½d to 5¾d, heifers 6d to 6½d, bullocks 6d, hoggs 8½d to 9½d, lambs, tups, and ewes 6d to 7½d per lb.

Romford, Wednesday.—Quite a holiday market. Very few fat beasts on offer, and hardly any demand. Fair demand for sheep. Beet, 5s 8d to 5s 10½; mutton, 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. Calves scarce, fair demand at 5s 2d to 5s 4d per stone. No store beasts offered. Pig trade slow; small porkers, 4s 2d to 4s 4d; large hogs, 3s 10d to 4s per stone.

Stockton, Wednesday. —There were on offer 84 cattle, 90 sheep, and 365 pigs. A small show of the best cattle, which met with a slow trade at 7s 6d to 8s per stone; rougher kinds, 6s 6d to 7s; young sheep, 9d; ewes, 7d; and tups, 6d per lb.

Wakefield, Wednesday.—After last week the market presented a quiet appearance. The supplies were comparatively small and trade was dull. Choice heifers and bullocks made 6¼d to 6½d; beasts of secondary quality, 5½d to 6d; inferior, 5d to 5½d; young sheep, 8½d to 9d; heavy sheep, 7d to 8¼d; ewes and tups, 5½d to 6¾d; calves, 6d to 8d per lb.; milch beasts, £16 to £23; stores, £9 to £13; laying-off cows, £12 to £16; store pigs, 20s to 50s each; porkers, 6s 6d to 7s per stone.

York, Thursday.—The effect of Christmas was felt in the market, when, though the sales were slow, there was a large show of Irish cattle, English being an average show. Three-year-olds made up to £15; two-year-olds, £9 to £11. A smaller show of calving and milch cows, and practically no demand. There was a large show of hogg sheep, but trade was moderate, probably owing to the fact that buyers were standing out for better prices. Best twice-crossed hoggs made up to 44s, and secondary sorts 36s to 40s. A few North Country lambs were on offer, which made 32s to 38s; Mashams, 24s to 32s; shearling sheep, 44s to 50s.

FOREIGN.

Yorkhill, Monday.—Large supplies of American and Canarian cattle were on offer at the usual weekly sales held to-day, 782 head being penned in the lairages. There was agood attendence of buyers, whilstcattle all round were top or average quality. Bullocks of handy sizes and weights met a good demand, while secondary, middling, and inferior grades were slow to change hands. Prime bulls were scarce, but no great demand was experienced, and for those of heavy description trade was very slow. Prices were slightly lower than those ruling last week, but the tone of the whole was firm, and the tendency was upwards. Canadian bullocks of first-class quality sold up to 56s per cwt. dead weight, and lower grades realised from 52s to 54s per cwt. Bulls of prime quality made about 46s per cwt. dead weight, but rough and heavy descriptions were easy at 44s per cwt.

MANURES.

Liverpool, Thursday.—As usual, owing to the approach of the holidays, trade all round is slow. The following are the quotations:—Nitrate of soda, best quality, i.e., guaranteed 96 per cent. pure, in bags, £10 15s to £11 per ton; bone meal, River Plate, prime, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; kainit, prime 23 per cent., sulphate of potash, in bags, £2 to £2 2s 6d per ton; palm nut cake, prime, in bags, £5 15s per ton; Linseed cake, American thin oblong, prime but hard, in bags, £8 5s to £8 7s 6d per ton; Linseed cake, English, prime, in bulk, £8 10s to £8 17s 6d per ton; Linseed meal (pure crushed linseed), prime, in bags, £14 to £15 per ton; cottonseed cake, N.A. decorticated, good ordinary, in bags, £7 5s to £7 7s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English decorticated, in bags, £7 15s to £7 17s 6d per ton; cottonseed cake, English, undecorticated, prime, in bulk, £4 13s 9d to £5 per ton; fattening cake (Langar's, in bags, £6 17s 6d to £7 per ton; feeding and dairy cake, in bags, £6 10s to £6 12s 6d per ton; crushed cottonseed, 20-25 per cent. oil guaranteed, in bags, £7 to £7 2s 6d per ton; maize germ meal, guaranteed, in bags, £6 per ton; corn oil cake, guaranteed, in bags, £6 2s 6d per ton; rice meal, Rangoon, as imported, in bags, £5 5s to £5 7s 6d per ton; linseed, fine bold feeding, in bags, £2 8s per qr., 416 lb.; cod liver oil, cattle feeding, prime, in casks, 4s 6d per gallon; treacle, feeding prime, in barrels, 4s 6d per cwt. At depots inland:—D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 25 to 27 sol., in bags, £2 to £2 2s per ton; D.N.S. brand superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 30 to 31 sol., in bags, £2 5s to £2 7s per ton; superphosphate of lime, guaranteed, 35 to 36 sol., in bags, £2 15s to £2 17s per ton; basig slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 30 to 35 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 11s to £1 13s per ton; basic slag, prime quality, guaranteed, 38 to 45 per cent. phos., in bags, £1 19s to £2 per ton; basic slag, finest quality, guaranteed, 42 to 50 per cent. phos., in bags, £2 1s to £2 3s per ton.—H. JONES LANGAR AND

POTATOES.

Borough, Thursday.—Good supplies on offer met with slow inquiry. Quotations: Blacklands, 50s to 55s; best Silts, 55s to 65s, Scotch, 55s to 65s per ton.

Goole, Wednesday.—Poor attendance, the market being of a holiday character, and very little business doing in potatoes. Large quantities are still being shipped to America. Prices in the retail market remain unchanged

Spitalfields, Thursday.—Heavy supplies met with a slow demand. Royal Kidney, 55s to 60s, British Queens, 55s to 60s, Blacklands, 50s to 55s, Up-to-dates, 60s to 65s, Queens, 60s to 65s per ton.

By Lupulin.

LOCAL NOTES.

Concerning Official Estimates.

I am pleased to observe that the Canterbury Farmers' Club, at a recent meeting, discussed the unsatisfactory nature of the returns furnished by the Board of Agriculture of our hop crops. Some years ago the matter was brought under the notice of the Secretary of the Board by a deputation from the N.A.E.H.G., when it was promised that the estimators should be increased in number, and arrangements should be made to secure more reliable information than had hitherto been available. But I regret to state that we are still more or less in the dark, as it is admitted that not only are the figures issued too late to be of any practical service either to growers or brewers, but they are also merely approximate, and have not that necessary element of correctness which is naturally expected in an official declaration.

There is not any obligation for growers to give exact figures; the returns are therefore the results of the opinions of the estimators, and, from what I can ascertain, the figures are arrived at in a perfunctory and somewhat uncertain manner, which deprives them of any real value. When we read the returns of the German hop fields, we know that we can rely upon them, as the Government takes good care that they are carefully ascertained.

Guess work has no place in their system, and it would certainly be advantageous if a similar regulation were adopted in England. Mr. Lister-Kay introduced the question at Canterbury, and, after reading some correspondence he had had with the Board, moved the following resolution:—"That, in the opinion of this Chamber, it is highly desirable that full and accurate returns, not only of the acreage of hops under cultivation (specifying separately the proportion in full bearing), but also the number of bushels harvested, should be available not later than October 15 in each year, for the information of both hop-growers and brewers."

I trust this action will have the desired effect, and that planters will cordially co-operate with the Government officials in completing the results. The Club Committee are following up the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Hop Growers' Losses.

It is with much regret that I make reference to recent examinations in the Bankruptcy Court which prove how hard are the trials through which some of our planters have passed, culminating in disaster, the record of which is painful. Mr. Lionel Fletcher has been growing hops on an extensive scale for more than 30 years. He commenced business with ample capital, but, after working intelligently and industriously for so long a period, is compelled to close his accounts with liabilities of over £61,000, showing deficiency to the amount of about £25,000. Mr. Fletcher attributes his failure to general agricultural depression, and especially to the low average prices of hops, and the consequent depreciation of his real estate.

Another equally unfortunate case is that of Mr. Jesse Norris, who, after growing hops at Staplehurst for 12 years, and commencing with a fair capital and full experience, has been brought to a winding up of his affairs with liabilities exceeding £8,000, and a deficiency of over £2,500.

In neither of these instances is there any suggestion of want of capacity or attention, nor is the honour of either of the debtors questioned. They have both worked hard, but the pressure of the times has overwhelmed them, and I fear that their unhappy experience is shared by many others, who are still struggling to overcome their difficulties.

Hop growing under present conditions is very trying to all engaged in it, and it will be seen eventually that unless foreign competition is checked the industry in our country must be seriously crippled, if not altogether destroyed.

How America's Wheat and Maize are Exported.

From the preliminary estimates of the Department of Agriculture it is now clear that there will be a surplus available for export of all the leading American cereals sufficiently large to place this country once more at the head of the exporters of foodstuffs, while the present outlook as to the cotton crop indicates a harvest of sufficient proportions to at least insure manufacturers the world over against speculative manipulation. These conditions give a special timeliness and importance to a monograph just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture on "Crop Export Movement," by Frank Andrews. This instructive document includes a sketch of the regions of production of cotton, wheat, and corn; of the trade centres in the interior to which these products are shipped in large quantities; the general movment of these articles from the trade centres to the seaboard, and the export movements from leading ports.

At the outset, several interesting changes in the general direction of the export movement of the three great staples under consideration may be noted. During the twenty-two years ending with 1905 the Atlantic and Gulf ports together handled from 94 to 99 per cent. of the exports of cotton, and from 87 to 91 per cent. of the corn exported; but in the wheat and flour trade a considerable amount was exported from the Pacific coast. In 1905 only 6 per cent. of the wheat exported went from Atlantic and Gulf seaports, while the Pacific coast cities handled 92 per cent. Of the wheat flour exported in 1905 the Atlantic and Gulf ports shipped 60 per cent., the Pacific ports 35 per cent., and 5 per cent. was exported across the borders into Canada and Mexico. The following table shows the percentages of cotton, wheat, wheat flour and corn exported from Atlantic and Gulf ports from 1884 to 1905:—

AMERICA'S WHEAT CROP.

Year ending, June, 30.	Wheat.		Wheat Flour.		Corn.	
	Atl.	Gulf.	Atl.	Gulf.	Atl.	Gulf.
1884-1888	59	2	81	1	74	15
1889-1893	53	9	81	1	74	13
1894-1898	53	10	79	3	71	19
1899-1903	47	22	74	6	75	16
1904	20	55	63	12	74	16
1905*	5	1	53	7	59	29

* Preliminary returns.

Wheat.

Domestic wheat exported from the Atlantic and Gulf ports comes chiefly, if not entirely, from the States east of the Rocky Mountains. The States producing the most wheat in 1904 were Minnesota, Kansas, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska. The next States in order of production were Missouri, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Ohio. Of these States the production of the last three hardly sufficed to meet the local consumption, estimating the capital consumptio nat 6.23 bushels. In Missouri, however, there was an duction far exceeded the estimated requirements while in the first five States in the list the production far xceeded the estimated requirements for home use. It is, then, in the country lying west of the Mississippi River, north of Oklahoma, and east of the Rocky Mountains, that most of the surplus wheat of the United States is produced. From the fields of this region, as well as from others where the production is relatively smaller, wheat is gathered in large quantities into certain trade entres. Owing to the great quantity of flour manufactured in that city the receipts of wheat at Minneapolis are larger than those of any other city in the United States, amounting in 1904 to 87,000,000 bushels, or 19,000,000 bushels more than were produced that year in Minnesota. At Kansas City, the second wheat centre of the United States, the receipts in 1904 were 39,000,000 bushels. At four other cities, Duluth, Buffalo, Chicago, and St. Louis, the receipts were from 23,000,000 bushels to 27,000,000 bushels each, while in recent years the tendency has been toward increasing the receipts at south-western centres like Kansas City and St. Louis, while receipts at Minneapolis have remained stationary and Chicago have declined. Receipts of wheat flour are much heavier at Minneapolis and Chicago than at many other points, Buffalo ranking third in this respect, followed by Duluth, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Cincinnati, in the order named.

There are two general directions which wheat from the regions of surplus production may take to the seaboard, and these two directions are marked by two lines of waterways—the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River. Wheat from Duluth may be shipped down the lakes to Buffalo or to Montreal. At Buffalo it may be shipped to New York by rail or transferred to a canal boat and towed down the Erie Canal to the Hudson River, and down the Hudson to New York Harbour. Wheat may also be shipped by this route from Chicago and grain centres on the lower Great Lakes.

Running in the same general direction as this water route are many railroads, all of which carry more or less grain. One route from Duluth follows the Duluth, South Shore, and Atlantic Railway to Sault Ste. Marie, and there takes the Canadian Pacific Railway to Montreal, then crosses the border into the United States again, and finds its way to the coast at Portland, Boston, or New York.

The distance from the points of concentration to the seaoard vary widely, that from Duluth to Portland by way of Canada being 1,330 miles, to Boston 1,400, and to Baltimore via Chicago 1,280 miles. From Chicago the nearest port of shipment is Baltimore, 802 miles distant, while New Orleans is 914 miles away. For St. Louis the nearest port is Mobile on the Gulf, distant 644 miles, while the nearest Atlantic port is Baltimore, 930 miles distant. For Kansas City the nearest seaport is Port Arthur, Texas, which is due South, and the nearest large port is Galveston, distant 873 miles.

Not only does distance affect the coast to the railroads of carrying grain, but the grades of the railroads also enter into the cost of operation. The roads that follow the shores of the Great Lakes have easier grades—that is, their tracks are much more level—than those that cross the Allegheny Mountains, while the railroads that extend from the wheat country west of the Mississippi River down to the Gulf ports are also generally more level than those which cross the Allegheny Mountains.

Another item affecting the movement of grain is the competition, either actual or potential, of water routes. The water route of the Great Lakes is used to a large extent in transferring grain from the wheat-fields down to the Atlantic coast. The Mississippi River is also a route used for carrying grain from the wheat country down to the Gulf of Mexico, but during 1904 very little grain was actually shipped this way—practically none from St. Louis to New Orleans.

While distance does not determine the direction of the shipment of grain from interior cities to the different seaports, it is interesting to know how far a given centre of the wheat trade is from the seaboard outlet of that trade; for, whether the rates charged depend upon the distance or not, it is evident that the actual cost to the carrier is affected, at least to some exent, by the distance travelled. The rates charged by the carriers to the shippers are important, if not all important, factors in determining the direction of the trade.

There have been several noteworthy changes in the export movement of American wheat in recent years. The average annual shipment of wheat from the Atlantic ports from 1884 to 1888 was 45,000,000 bushels, and during 1889-1893, 60,000,000 bushels. For the Gulf ports the average annual exports for 1884-1888 were 2,000,000 bushels, and for 1889-1893 29,000,000 bushels. In 1904 the Atlantic ports exported 9,000,000 bushels, while the Gulf ports exported 24,000,000 bushels, 17,000,000 of which were shipped from Galveston.

The exports of wheat from New York during the four periods mentioned showed but little variation, the average being about 27,000,000 bushels per year for the twenty years. In 1904 the wheat exports from New York declined to 3,000,0000 bushels. Baltimore also showed but a small change during the twenty years ending with 1903. The average for the first five-year period was 11,000,000 bushels, and for the last five the same, and for the other two five-year periods 10,000,000 bushels. In 1904 the exports from Baltimore were about 3,000,000 bushels.

Of the Gulf ports New Orleans was the principal wheat exporter during 1884-1905, except in 1899, 1900, and 1904, when Galveston took the lead. The percentage for New Orloans for the five years 1899-1903 was 11.26, and that of Galveston almost as much—10.59.

During the years from 1884 to 1899 the exports from the Pacific coast were about one-third of the total exports from the United States; in 1899-1903 they were somewhat less than one-fourth, and in 1904 less than one-sixth of the total. During 1905, however, more than nine-tenths of the wheat exported from the United States was shipped from the Pacific coast.

Corn.

The greater part of the corn crop of the United States is produced in the Mississippi Valley, south of the lower limits of the Great Lakes and the southern boundaries of Minnesota and South Dakota and north of the Ohio River and the northern boundaries of Arkansas and Oklahoma. The production of this region, together with the crop of Texas, amounted in 1904 to 1,574,000,000 bushels. In 1902, 1903, and 1904 Illinois was the leading State in the production of corn, and Iowa was second. The crop of Iowa in 1904 was about twice the crop of Missouri, and Nebraska produced nearly twice as much corn as Kansas. In view of the great production of wheat in Kansas, the corn crops of that State during the three years 1902-1904 were large. The region occupied by the States of Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and

Nebraska may be regarded as the centre of the corn belt—that is, of the principal corn producing region of the United States. These four States in 1904 produced more than 1,000,000,000 bushels of corn.

Corn appears in the export trade of the United States in the form of grain, and also as an element of value in live stock and animal products. The practice of farmers in sending their corn to market "on the hoof" explains the great difference between the quantity of corn harvested and the quantity received in the form of grain at the various trade centres.

The principal primary market for corn is Chicago. During the six years ending with 1904 an average of 101,000,000 bushels of corn per annum was received at Chicago, or more than the combined annual receipts at Buffalo, St. Louis, Peoria, Kansas City, and Cincinnati. The total receipts of all of these cities, however, only equalled about 8 per cent. of the crop. Corn moves from the trade centres of the interior to the seaboard by practically the same routes as wheat, but fluctuations in the railroad charges late in 1904 and early in 1905 resulted in diverting much of the traffic to Gulf ports. During seventeen of the last twenty-two years New York has been the leading corn port of the United States, but during the last decade has been outranked by Baltimore five times. The third city in importance in this trade is Philadelphia, although that port has been occasionally surpassed by New Orleans. Formerly Newport News and Norfolk were important shipping points, but of late their share of the trade has delined.

The export movement in corn has been subject to very wide fluctuations. The exports of corn from Baltimore during the fiscal year 1901 were 41,000,000 bushels; in 1902, 4,000,000 bushels, and in 1903, 17,000,000 bushels. Similar fluctuations took place in the trade of other ports. The crops of these three years help to account for these changes in the exports. The crop harvested in 1900 and exported during the fiscal year 1901 amounted to 2,105,000,000 bushels; the following year the crop was only 1,523,000,000 bushels, and the exports fell off. The next crop was larger than that of either of the two preceding years—2,524,000,000 bushels—and the quantity exported increased over the previous year. A similar series of changes occurred during the fiscal year 1890-1892.

Exeter Show.

The twenty-second annual show of the Exeter Fat Stock and Poultry Society was held at Exeter on the 15th inst., and it was without doubt one of the best of the series. The entry was a record one, the total being 715, as compared with 598 last year, and the number is considerably in excess of most of the shows in the society's history. The record was established principally by the very large increase in the entries in the classes for live poultry, there being nearly one hundred more than those of last year. So popular has this section become that the society were justified in adding five more classes. Last year was a record one for bullocks, but this year's entry only fell short of the total by three. The society, after a lapse of some years, again introduced a couple of classes for South Devons, and they were well filled. A local class for sheep was also added to the catalogue for the first time, and attracted eight pens from the tenant farmers of the district. There was a big entry in the open barley class, and some very fine samples were shown.

In the sheep classes nothing could compete againstagainst the pen of long-woolled wether lambs sent in by Mr. A. C. Hall, of Marldon, Paignton. The pen won the breed cup at Smithfield, and has also been very successful at other shows. At Plymouth they did not get the champion prize, it is stated, because they were penned badly, a fault which was remedied at Exeter, with the result that they secured the silver cup awarded as the champion prize for the best pen of sheep in the exhibition, and another similar special, the reserve card in each instance being given to a pen of cross-bred wethers belonging to Mr. G. Shore, of Broadclist.

The champion beast was adjudged to be an Aberdeen Angus, belonging to Mr. E. P. Alexander, of Holt, Wilts, which also secured the champion prize for the best ox or steer. It was a wonderfully fed and symmetrical animal, carrying its meat in its best parts, and it had the best of top and under lines. In the championship for its sex it found a competitor in a North Devon steer, belonging to Mr. W. D. Sanders, of Bridgwater, which was deep in front and well let down through the ribs, but not quite so symmetrical in the top line. For the championship of the show Mr. Alexander's beast was pressed by an heifer, sent in by Mr. H. Helmer, of Kingsbridge, which had secured the championship of its sex. The latter award gave the judges much trouble. Ultimately they carried out the Plymouth award. It was a grandly made South Ham cow, marvellously well shown, with unusual thickness of sirloin and ribs; a trifle wanting in thickness through the heart, but withal a well-made animal of its breed.

In the class championship it was run pretty close by another of Mr. Alexander's animals, a shorthorn and polled Angus, built on the very best of lines and well fed, and it was a matter of opinion whether the places might not have been reversed. The North Devons came out strongly, and were considerably better numerically than those shown at Plymouth. The South Hams were not quite so numerous, and there was nothing amongst them to equal the superb animals of Mr. Roberts, which won premier honours at the West of England Show.

NOTES AND NEWS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Canterbury Farmers' Club.

A discussion on the question of local taxation and the burdens on the land took place at the meeting of this club on the 16th inst., and a resolution was passed as follows:—"That the Canterbury Farmers' Club and Chamber of Agriculture views with alarm the long-continued depression in agriculture, and the progressive fall in land values, these being largely due to the grave increase in the burden of local taxation; that the Club, being of the unanimous opinion that many of the charges now locally borne, notably the cost of education, of main roads, and of lunatics, should more fitly be imposed on the community at large, requests its representatives at the Central Chamber of Agriculture to lose no opportunity of pressing this opinion on that body with a view to its ultimate embodiment in Parliamentary legislation.

At the same meeting Mr. Lister Kay read correspondence which he had had with the Board of Agriculture with reference to the great advantage which hop growers would derive if the hop estimate could be made more correctly, and moved "That, in the opinion of this Chamber, it is highly desirable that full and accurate returns, not only of the acreage of hops under cultivation (specifying separately the proportion in full bearing), but also the number of bushels harvested, should be available not later than October 15th in each year, for the information of both hop growers and brewers.—This resolution was also carried.

Ludlow.

The Earl of Plymouth was elected president for the year at the annual meeting of the Ludlow Agricultural Society, and a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring president (Mr. T. H. Atherden) for the able manner in which he had conducted the society during the past twelve months, whilst Mr. E. H. Wood was re-elected secretary. Mr. H. Lloyd referred to a speech of Sir William Curtis on the last show day as to the alteration of the date of the show, and moved that a committee be appointed to consider the question, and this was agreed to. Mr. Tyrrell moved that the Committee should not expend more than £250, instead of £280, and this was also agreed to.

Milborne St. Andrew Farmers' Club.

At the jubilee dinner of the Milborne St. Andrew Farmers' Club, in Dorchester, on the 16th inst., the keynote of several of the speeches was the need for more legislation on behalf of the agricultural interest. The speakers pointed out that this could only be obtained by pressure being brought to bear upon Parliament from farmers themselves, and this in turn would be rendered futile unless the farmers combined their forces The Dorset Joint Agricultural Committee was considered a step in the right direction, not only to bring farmers into association, but in order to get those associations into touch one with another, that so by combination of forces greater influence may be exerted.

Bakewell Farmers' Club.

The report presented at the annual meeting of this club, held at the Town Hall, Bakewell, on Monday, showed that the receipts for the year amounted to £763 3s. 6d., and the expenditure to £659 19s. 5d., leaving a balance in hand of £103 4s. Of this balance the committee had placed £75 towards a reserve fund, and carried forward £28 4s. to next year's account. The accounts in connection with the Shire horse fund showed a loss of £5 4s. 10d. A new rule that the society would not be responsible for any damage to, or expense in connection with, any exhibit at the annual show was adopted. Mr. T. C. Waterhouse, of Lovebirdale Hall, was elected president, and Mr. Wiliam Clarke, of Castle Street, vice-president for the year. It was decided that the subscription of 10s. per year by members should be continued. Votes of thanks were passed to the Duke of Rutland (the retiring president) and others.

Warrington.

Sir Gilbert Greenall presided over the annual meeting of the Warrington and District Agricultural Society, held on Tuesday. The report showed that increased interest was being taken in the show, but notwithstanding the large number of entries and high character of the last show there was a loss on the year's working. The deficit, however, had been made up by a special donation by the President. A number of new members had joined the Society, but still they required more to make it self-supporting. The question of the extension of the Society's district, the report continued, would have to be seriously considered. The twelve miles radius round Warrington did not extend sufficiently into the cheese, butter, and hunter districts of Cheshire, and it was therefore proposed to increase the size to 16 miles in Cheshire, except that part lying east of the railway from Broadheath to Manchester and north of the railway from Broadheath to Stockport.

The report was adopted. Sir Gilbert Greenall was re-elected president, and it was pointed out that if this were decided it would enable certain champion breeders to come in and sweep the decks. It was also contended that the part of Cheshire it was intended to include was already covered by the Altrincham, Middlewich, Mid-Cheshire, Wirral and Birkenhead, and Shropshire shows. Eventually the meeting decided against extending the boundary by a large majority.

Worcestershire Chamber.

various subjects were discussed and resolutions passed at the last Council meeting of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture. First, a unanimous resolution was passed urging the necessity for an amendment in the law relating to trespass, making it a punishable offence for unauthorised persons to go upon land or remove natural produce. Then attention was called to the necessity for enforcing the Sale of Food and Drugs Act and other Acts to prevent adulteration, and this was endorsed by the Chamber, the chairman (Mr. T. W. Parkes) expressing regret that no provision was made to secure the brewing of beer from malt and hops. Barley growers would like to see stringent measures taken in this direction. Mr. Parkes subsequently called attention to the heavy wear on the roads caused by the use of traction engines, and proposed that the County Council be urged to increase the fees charged for heavy locomotives to an amount more than nearly equal to the benefits owners enjoyed, and that the use of locomotives be prohibited upon roads under repair or during the break up of a frost. After discussion the proposal was carried, as was one urging the President of the Board of Agriculture to re-introduce the Butter Bill and push it forward.

Worcestershire Farmers and the General Election.

The members of the Worcestershire Farmers' Association met at Worcester on the 16th inst., under the presidency of Mr. C. E. Boddington, to consider what steps should be taken in view of the approaching election. It was decided, without entering upon politics, to submit to the various candidates in the county the following questions:—

(1) Are you prepared to vote for a measure placing the cost of education on the National Exchequer? (2) Will you support an Agricultural Holdings Bill for the purpose of giving a tenant security in his holding and compensation for vexatious disturbance? (3) In view of the national traffic on the main roads of the country caused by motors, will you support a Bill to place the cost on the National Exchequer? (4) Are you prepared to support a measure providing a system of rating in rural and urban districts whereby the burden may be more equitably distributed? (5) Will you support a Pure Butter Bill, a measure to ensure the better working of the Feeding and Fertilisers Act, and a Pure Beer Bill?

It was decided to make endeavours to establish a Midland federation of agricultural associations, and the Farmers' Associations of Staffordshire and Warwickshire are to be approached with this end in view.

Those who are interested in the many breeds of live stock in the United Kingdom, whether from the standpoint of lovers of our domesticated animals, or from a business point of view, will find a wealth of information in the "Live Stock Journal Almanac" for 1906. As usual, it contains, in addition to the special breeders' tables, monthly diary and calendar, lists of societies connected with agriculture and stock breeding, statistics, etc., about fifty articles from prominent authorities on the subject dealt with. There are reviews of all the breeds during the year, sales, shows and exports being treated at length, while numerous illustrations of prize-winning animals are given.

Live Stock Record.

WINTERING DRY DAIRY COWS.

In times anterior to steam-thrashing machines, when the thump of the flail was heard at every farm homestead throughout the kingdom, at least three-fourths of the dairy cows of the country were in strawyards at the present period of the year. Before railways enabled rivers of milk to be poured into London from the country the customary calving time for cows was from about the middle of January to the end of April, and they were deemed out of season coming into profit at other periods. At Martinmas a considerable proportion was always dry, and unless rough grass remained in quantity to be "beaten out," as it was termed, the strawyard was their abode until calving time. Nor did they get much to subsist on except pickings from the proffered big supplies of straw fodder and cavings from the thrashing-floor, in the southern half of England. But the Scottish system was a little more liberal. When roots were at all abundant, a few daily were given to all cattle feeding on straw.

No stock have been subjected to more revolutionary changes in the past century than dairy cows. Instead of having to calve at Candlemas, or within two months of that ancient festival, they do so by training all the year round. And their owners, having to occupy contracts, find it necessary that they should do so.

Strawyards have been very much revolutionised likewise. At about the middle of last century it became a measure of reform to spout the roofs of the farm-buildings that previously discharged so much water into them that they were often "puxies" and sent little rivulets of liquid manure down the roads. Nor did reform stop here. The best managers found it to be unwise to allow cows to lose condition when out of profit; they therefore commenced giving them while on straw diet 2 lb. per head of linseed cake per day. They were confirmed in the utility of doing this by assurances from chemists that if they did not find a return for the cake in the cows they would be sure to get it in the higher quality of the manure. But as the nineteenth century waxed old, the conversion of arable land to pasture grew so general until straw itself became an article of scarcity. Even before the Royal Prize Farm system was abolished some of the best farmers of Cumberland could not afford straw bedding for dairy cows. The report states that some very valuable ones were found lying on the bare stones of the yards.

The twentieth century system of feeding dairy cows out of profit most approved is that of fermented straw-chaff, with a little root-pulp intermixed therewith, or, in the event of roots being too scarce for any to be spared, an addition of a little of some auxiliary feeding stuff instead. By damping the chaff, and afterwards placing it in heaps to ferment, it becomes not only more digestible, but a nice grateful aroma is emitted attractive to bovine sense, and the chaff is rendered more acceptable also to the palate. The transference of arable to pasture has extended to such a limit, that some owners of herds have absolutely insufficient straw to resort even to this system, and are compelled to give inferior hay to their out-of-profit cows instead. Even when this is the case, it would be absolutely economical to deal with the inferior hay as recommended for the straw—namely, to chaff and ferment it. Both by scent and taste it thereby becomes attractive, even if musty before.

STOCK AND SHOW NOTES.

By Herdsman.

The Lincolnshire Agricultural Society, in reply to an invitation to hold the show of 1907 at Horncastle, have replied that they cannot at present entertain the invitation.

The Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland have just issued Volume LI. (new series) of Coates's Herd Book. This gets more bulky every year, and the latest volume extends to considerably over 1,100 pages. The details include bulls, Nos. 87759 to 90585, and cows up to December 31, 1904.

At a recent meeting of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That this meeting of the Monmouthshire Chamber of Agriculture urges upon its members the desirability of using every endeavour to make the visit of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society to Newport in 1907 an entire success in every way."

I hear that the very large herd, flock, and stud owned by the late Mr. Philo L. Mills, of Ruddington Hall, Notts, will be brought under the hammer in the course of the coming year, and the sale will naturally be one of the features of the year in the live-stock world. The deceased gentleman, it will be remembered, was an enthusiastic patron of Scotch Shorthorns, or animals of the red, white-and-roan, which were largely of Cruickshank descent. In draught horses, however, he kept to the massive Shires of his adopted country. Mr. Mills was so long in England that many forgot he was an American by birth and early training.

The Driffield and East Riding Agricultural Society's next show (the fiftieth) will be held on Friday, June 15, 1906. The entries for stock will close on May 31; for poultry, etc., on June 7, 1906. Mr. Thos. Holtby, 23, Exchange Street, Driffield, is the secretary.

Although the Warwickshire Agricultural Society has been invited to hold its next year's show at Nuneaton, it cannot be said that the people of that town are giving the society a cordial welcome, for at Wednesday's meeting of the Nuneaton and Chilvers Coton District Council, the clerk reported that since the town's meeting decided to invite the County Agricultural Show to Nuneaton, the president of the Ansley Agricultural Society (Mr. Henry Stubbs) had informed him that some time ago it was resolved to hold the 1906 exhibition of that association on a date a few days before the one on which the Warwickshire Show would be held at Nuneaton, and the members of the local society could not, therefore, support the county fixture. Mr. T. Horton said they must not forget the Ansley Show was becoming an annual institution. The county exhibition was only held at Nuneaton, perhaps, once in twenty years, and the Council ought to do everything to encourage the local society. After some further discussion, the Council decided they could not do anything, as the matter was now out of their hands.

A high-class boar from Mr. J. Warne's famous Treveglos herd of pedigree Large Black pigs was shipped on Friday last from Hull to Stettin to the order of Messrs. Schutt and Ahrens. Also two Large Black boars from the same herd (to the order of Mr. Miller) have been shipped from Barry Docks, Cardiff, to Chili. Treveglos Darky Jim 1199 has, I am told, been sold at a big price to the Earl of Stradbroke, Halesworth, Suffolk. It will be remembered that Treveglos Darky Jim won the first prize at the Bath and West at Nottingham, and first prize at the Royal Counties, Bournemouth, where he has also won other prizes, so that the noble earl is to be congratulated on his purchase.

The experience of the Royal Agricultural Society in making losses at most of their annual shows is not exceptional, as the National Agricultural Society of Germany suffers from similar financial deficits at their annual exhibitions. A comparison of the results is interesting:—

Royal Agricultural Society.			German National Society.		
Year.	Place.	£	Year.	Place.	£
1893.	Chester ...profit	951	1893.	Munchen ...loss	949
1894.	Cambridge ,,	1,118	1894.	Berlin ... ,,	2,665
1895.	Darlington ,,	665	1895.	Cologne ... ,,	3,493
1896.	Leicester... ,,	3,673	1896.	Stuttgart ... ,,	4,645
1897.	Manchester ,,	4,155	1897.	Hamburg profit	1,709
1898.	Birmingham loss	1,799	1898.	Dresden ... loss	5,825
1899.	Maidstone... ,,	6,569	1899.	Frankfort... ,,	2,8 6
1900.	York ... ,,	2,819	1900.	Posen ... ,,	4,282
1901.	Cardiff ...profit	2,038	1901.	Halle ... ,,	939
1902.	Carlisle ... loss	2,956	1902.	Mannheim... ,,	4,569

It will be seen from this statement, taken from an article in the journal of the German Society, that the losses on the German shows are regularly incurred, but the Society regards their exhibitions of great educational benefit to agriculturists, and have arranged their finances so that the losses, although disagreeable, are not of a serious import. The Society has a membership of about 14,000 members, with annual subscriptions of £1 each, and we believe there are no life members, so that they can calculate on the full subscriptions every year.

Sheep-breeding in Denmark has shared in the relapse which has fallen generally throughout Europe on this branch of agricultural industry, as may be seen from the following figures. There were in—

	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep
1866	1,194 000	382,000	1,875 000
1876	1,318,050	504,000	1,719,000
1888	1,460,000	771,000	1,229,000
1898	1,745,000	1,168,000	1,074,000
1903	1,840,000	1,457,000	877,000

So that within the last forty years the number of cattle has increased by 60 per cent., the pigs are three times as many, while the number of sheep is less than one-half of what is was.

The reason for this decrease arises chiefly from the great fall in the price of wool, in consequence of competition with Australia and other over-sea countries, but as wool has advanced in value during the last few years, it is thought that sheep-breeding may emerge from the depression which has so long encircled it, and become once more a fairly profitable industry.

Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, has appointed Mr. F. L. C. Floud to be his private secretary, and Mr. R. Winfrey to be his assistant private

Poultry-breeders will hear with regret of the sad death of Mr. Lewis Wright, whose works on poultry matters have made him famous. Mr. Wright lived at the Tunnel House, Saltford, near Bristol, and on Saturday was crossing the line as an incoming train was approaching, under the impression that it was the usual train which stopped at Saltford, and by which he usually travelled to Bristol. It proved, however, to be an excursion train to Cardiff for the Wales v. New Zealand match, and before he could be warned of his mistake he was knocked down and killed. Mr. Wright's most popular work was "The Book of the Poultry," which is generally recognised as a classic on the subject. Mr. Wright, who, by the way, was a successful breeder and exhibitor, also wrote "The Practical Poultry Keeper" and "The Brahma Fowl," and he edited "The Book of Pigeons" and lately "The Poultry Club's Standard," just issued by that body.

Notes and Jottings.

By the time these notes are in print and circulated the last week of the year 1905 will be with us, and the making up of accounts of the year's doings will be a very important part of the farmer's work as the year finally closes—that is, where such accounts are kept. The first note, therefore, in this week's column will be rather one of advice to those who keep records, and everyone ought to do so, even if they are only kept in the most brief and simple manner. The point to be advised most strongly is to make a brief memoranda of any event, transactions, or trials in the cattle-breeding or feeding section that may have turned out very disappointing and have caused considerable loss, as well as those that have given the opposite results, greates success and profit than had been anticipated. There will on all huge farms have been numbers of such cases.

On the face of this note it would appear to be almost or quite superfluous, as most people will readily tell you, "no need to make such memorandums as those I recollect too well the things that disappointed one and lost money or the reverse, as the case may be"; but this is not always so. Many a time and oft has a man been known to treat a certain class of cattle in a certain way that has caused considerable trouble and loss, and yet in a few months even, or at any rate in another year's time, the very same cause will be repeated in an unguarded moment. The fact of making a note of a thing impresses it more effectively upon the mind, and also in years to come reference to such notes may be of the greatest benefit, if not to those who made them, at least to those who follow them, perhaps.

Included in such memoranda should be such items as the changing of food to milking cows, fattening stock or young calves, and the effects of such change. Also any other circumstances that may have happened in the way of successful treatment of various cases of sickness, abortion, and the like, as well as the effect of different kinds of cake or meal upon certain animals, likewise the effects of change of pasture, which are often very serious, and if not noted down will probably be forgotten very quick'y. We have known a beautiful lot of yearlings completely ruined by starting them off sinking just before going on to a rich pasture, such treatment having been brought about by scarcity of hay or roots in April before the grass is quite ready.

The year, when its results come to be balanced, it is to be feared, will not have a very rosy look-out, so far as the generality of cattle are concerned. High-class pedigree stock, especially of the Shorthorn and Hereford breeds, will have left agreeable recollections in most herds, but where reliance has had to be placed upon milk, butter, cheese, or beef production at market prices, but little new money can have been made. The best class of cheese has been making remunerative figures, and so for Christmas the best furnished cattle have also in most places realised fully up to expectations, and, beyond these two sections, the cost of production owing to scarcity of keep a great deal of the summer, and the high price at which feed is, and good milkers have been bought at home, swallowed up most of the profit.

The "Breeders' Gazette" (Chicago), in referring to the state of the cattle trade, makes some remarks that are well worthy of notice as affecting the producer and the butcher. The remarks are to the effect that whilst the butchers are looking out for and paying higher prices for long-fed steers, as the best finished ones are termed, the producers are complaining that at the higher price paid for such their feeding becomes a loss, experts remarking that these have consumed as much corn as they are worth, whilst though the short fed ones leave but a little profit there is no loss to be deducted, and so the outcome is that they are the more profitable. When extra ripeness has to be produced at excessive cost it is doubtful if it ever pays.

There are circumstances, however, if carefully managed in average good seasons that will see the feeder of the best animals quite safe from loss. If the stores are turned out to the pasture in fair condition, and are of a suitable kind for such pastures (it is no use expecting Shorthorns to get ripe upon pastures that are only stout enough to fatten Kerries), they will usually get thoroughly ripe without more corn than is necessary to prevent shrinkage after the grass has lost its nutritive properties in the late autumn. The experience in such cases is nine times out of ten due to the animals either being turned out to grass in too lean condition or otherwise to their being of a class unsuitable (too big) for the pastures they are fed upon.

In Chicago Market the numbers of cattle penned have suffered quite an amazing reduction since October and the first week or so of November. Upon several occasions at that period as many as 97,000 head were marketed in the six days of the week, while more recnly the market books show a reduction of 67,064 head in six days, thus giving a reduction of 30,000 head a week. Such enormous reductions must affect prices and demand very considerably. With the shorter supplies prices have risen considerably, notwithstanding the rise, however, prices of the best cattle in that market are at a substantially lower level than they were a year ago. Prime Illinois-fed Herefords appear to have been given the highest quotation, and steers of 15 cwt. appeared to be quoted at near the top.

A very successful sale of Ayrshire cattle took place near Ottawa, Ontario, where forty-four animals averaged the sensible figure of 273 dollars per head. Seventeen cows sold for an average of nearly 400 dollars, and one four-year-old bull, Lessnessock King of Beauty, brought 700 dollars, the highest-priced cow was a six-year-old, Garelough Queen, realising 675 dollars. It is not often that such spirited competition and high-level prices have to be recorded of this very useful milking breed. On this side the Atlantic very few sales of Ayrshires are noted for some reason or other. The prices quoted compare more than favourably with most other milking breeds either on this or the other side the sea.

An important National Dairy Show will take place in Chicago in February next. Classes are provided for three-year-old and two-year-old bulls, with a championship for cows, two-year-old heifers and yearling heifers, also a herd championship for bull, two cows, and a two-year-old and yearling heifer. Classes will be open for Ayrshires, Jerseys, Guernseys, and Holstein Trusians. Dairying in various ways is attracting much more attention in all parts of America than was the case a few years ago. Doubtless, as population increases, the demand for milk will likewise increase in greater proportion perhaps than the demand for meat. In England at least, as time goes on, there appears to be a much stronger inquiry for milk than there used to be.

Visitors to the recent Smithfield Show must have been struck with the great improvement that has taken place in the Sussex breed of cattle, and the high state of perfection to which it has attained. The shape and quality of these cattle, as far as filling the eye is concerned, is quite wonderful, and it is to be hoped that they will give an equally good account of themselves to their butcher purchasers. The breed thrives and prospers exceedingly in the South-Eastern Counties, and though I have not yet gone through the averages of the weights of the various breeds at that show, I fancy one of the Sussex steers is not far from being at the head of the show, as regards daily gain from birth. It is very satisfactory to find that the society supporting the breed are offering prizes at several of the leading shows.

An agitation seems likely to be set up against the present regulations prohibiting the importation of live stock for breeding purposes into the United Kingdom, and suggestions that quarantine sheds might be arranged, so that any breeder desirous of importing blood from America, Europe, or elsewhere, might be able to do so by having the animals kept in quarantine on this side the water for a sufficient length of time to insure their safety on being introduced into our own herds. There is no doubt some breeders would be glad to avail themselves of new blood, and perhaps not infrequently of the repurchase of animals that have had their constitutions strengthened by their sojourn over the seas for a year or two. At one time of day a great business was done in the importation of milking cows. The expenses of quarantine, however, would effectually strangle that trade.

Whatever may be done in the way of allowing animals for breeding purposes to be admitted upon quarantine regulations, it is strongly to be hoped that our new Government will be as firm as the late members were in their adherence to the exclusion of foreign or Canadian stores. There is absolutely no necessity to open our gates for such a purpose, and the result of doing so would be a deterioration in the quality of home produced beef, as well as very shortly also in the deterioration of our store cattle, for heifers and young cows for dairy purposes are now, and have been for years, a better trade than feeders, and the offspring of such are frequently reared for feeding purposes, therefore the admitting of grade Canadian females would be quite a dangerous experiment.

The Breeding and Feeding of Cattle.

An interesting paper on the above subject was read at the annual meeting of the Aberdeen Angus Club by Mr. W. Reid, a London meat salesman, who, in the course of his address, said:—In giving evidence before the Royal Commission on the Supply of Food in Time of War, several of the witnesses said that Great Britain could produce 50 per cent. more than it does. Now, although I do not agree with many of the statements made before the Commission, I fully agree with that one, and I maintain that the only reason for that increase not being attained is the lack of capital and practical knowledge. Please note that these two must be combined in order to secure success. In the olden days, when land and labour were cheap, and beef was not considered good until it was four years old, farming was of a much more simple nature; but times and things have changed, and in order to secure the early maturity that is now demanded, the breeding and feeding of cattle has become a science. Aberdeen-Angus cattle are undoubtedly the finest beef producers in the world, but they do not appear to do so well as the Shorthorn or Hereford in the tropical climates. And this may be one of the reasons why they do not make the highest prices; but there are other reasons.

The great demand in the United States for the best cattle thirty years ago, and the importation of cheap Canadian stores, greatly depleted the stock of Aberdeen-Angus cattle. In getting that stock back to, or beyond, the old standard, care enough has not been taken in the selection of the sires. For years nearly every male calf was allowed to become a bull, with the result that a large portion of the stock is inferior in quality and size. I would therefore advise a much more rigid selection of the sires, and a severe weeding out of the weak and inferior cows and heifers.

Next in order comes

The Treatment of the Stock,

and this, as you will readily admit, is very important. Feeding must commence at the earliest stages and be continuous If the cows and young stock must be grazed on the poorest land, they ought to have artificial food to keep them going, the use of which would, besides, materially improve the lands. The old idea that young stock were doing all right so long as they grew bone and hair has been exploded, and, although it costs labour and money to feed from the very first, I believe nothing pays so well. I am strongly of opinion that a genial heat is an essential factor in the successful feeding of cattle. In the cold, wet climate of Scotland, care should be taken that, where natural shelter does not exist, artificial protection should be provided. How can any one expect cattle to do well if they are standing on a cold wet night in a field, with no better shelter than that provided by a wire fence? Again, if they lie down on the sodden ground, they can only grow hair and contract rheumatism.

House-feeding is almost a necessity for Scotland, except in the two months, June and July, and a good supply of old straw should always be kept for the early housing of the cattle. While I was North this year in the month of August, I was very grieved to hear many farmers tell me that they had plenty of green food for their feeding cattle, but could not take them in because they had not got a particle of straw. Others said to me, "We cannot spare men to look after the cattle till the harvest is over." In my opinion, this is the most short-sighted policy imaginable. What is the extra men's wages compared with the loss on the cattle?

To provide for the early housing of stock, a larger proportion of land should be devoted to growing green food, probably the best being a mixture of peas, beans, and oats. Food of this description should be sown at three or four intervals, so that it may be used when mature without being too ripe; and if a little old hay be added, all kinds of stock will do well on it. Time will not permit me to go further into the question of food except to say that too many turnips are generally used, and too little dry food. I do not believe in cake from which the oils have been extracted; use rather the whole seeds and also maize, which has proved such a splendid feeder in America. This would necessitate the use of a large copper, or steamer, to prepare the

food, but I am satisfied that the result would more than justify the extra expense.

The breeding and feeding of cattle is becoming more and more

A National Question.

Ireland is our natural beering country, and if the Government, through the Board of Agriculture, would only grant, say, £5,000 a year for ten years, to purchase one hundred of our best bull calves at an average of £50 each, and present them to the poorer districts in Ireland, we would soon be independent of Canadian or any other foreign stores. Thus, at much less cost than the price of one small torpedo boat, more could be done for the supply of food in time of war than could be done by half the fleet which would be required to escort supplies from abroad. This is not a political question, it is an imperial one; and if seriously dealt with on these lines, would also be a substantial help to the great industry which has been, and always will be, the backbone of our nation.

Ireland sends us about 500,000 (mostly store) cattle every year, and their value by improved breeding might easily be raised 10s., or even £1, per head. This scheme may at first sight be considered an impossible one; I am certain, however, that it is not only possible, but is also practical, and if the agricultural societies throughout the kingdom would petition the Board of Agriculture to adopt it, surely no Government would refuse to provide the very small sum required, and which would have such a far-reaching and beneficial effect, not only to the farming interest, but to the community at large.

Scheduled Contagious Diseases: What are they?

The Board of Agriculture has issued a useful little pamphlet describing the diseases of certain animals with a view of assisting inspectors and stock-owners to detect them. Cattle plague is described as a contagious and eruptive fever due to an undiscovered infective agent. Happily, it is many years since this fatal malady was experienced in this country.

We have also for some years got rid of pleuro-pneumonia. It is described as a contagious disease affecting the lungs and pleura, and due in an infective agent. The first signs of disease often escape notice. The temperature rises. A dry, husky cough is present, especially when the animal first gets on its feet or when made to run. In marked cases the breathing is rapid, and the movement of the flanks is increased. If punched in the ribs, the animal may grunt or show signs of pain. Some of the infected animals may become greatly emaciated, but others, especially those that have passed the acute stages, may appear to be in excellent condition. It does not follow, however, that the latter are cured; they continue to infect others for a very long time.

Foot-and-mouth disease is a contagious and eruptive fever, due to an undiscovered infective agent. All animals and human beings may suffer from this disease. Cattle, sheep, and pigs are especially liable. In cattle, sheep, and pigs the disease begins very suddenly and spreads with alarming rapidity. It is not a very fatal disease, but stock loses condition when attacked. The temperature rises. The animal smacks his lips and saliva drops from the mouth. Sometimes sickness is the first symptom noticed. In cattle, vesicles (blebs) are found inside the upper lip and on the tongue. The surface under the vesicle is red. The vesicles also appear between the toes and on the teats of the cow. They seldom appear on the body except in the pig. The milk from affected cows conveys the disease to other animals and to human beings. It should be destroyed or be thoroughly boiled before being used. The flesh of slaughtered animals is harmless and usually fit for food.

Sheep pox is a contagious eruptive fever caused by an agent which is as yet undiscovered. Only sheep are liable to contract this disease. The possibility of its being re-introduced is remote, because—although an inoculable disease—it has never appeared in this country otherwise than by the importation of diseased living animals, and the orders of the Board prohibit the landing in Great Britain of sheep from those countries in which sheep-pox exists.

Anthrax is a contagious disease caused by a microbe-bacillus Anthracis. Human beings and all animals are liable to anthrax. The disease is seen chiefly in cattle, sheep, and pigs, but not uncommonly in horses. The disease shows itself suddenly. It is very fatal, usually within forty-eight hours. It does not often in the United Kingdom spread with rapidity from animal to animal, but it may affect a number of swine at the same time if they had been fed on anthrax flesh or organs. A beast which a short time before appeared to be well, is found in a dead or dying condition. Frequently blood oozes from the nostrils and the anus. In cattle there are no typical symptoms, but in horses and pigs the region of the throat is often found to be swollen. The carcase is swollen. Blood is found around the nostrils and anus. The muscles are often infiltrated with blood at certain points. The lungs and glands are congested. The spleen is very much enlarged; it is softer and darker than normal, and its substance usually resembles tar.

In most parts of this country the enlargement of the spleen is of great diagnostic importance; but in those districts where Redwater exists, enlargement of the spleen may also be expected. In this case, however, the spleen substance has not the same fluid tarry appearance. The flesh is dangerous to animals and human beings. It is the height of folly on the part of a farmer to open an animal suspected to have died of anthrax, as he may thereby cause further infection of his premises. In cases of sudden death he should await a skilled opinion before disposing of the carcase.

Lord Durham's Fat Stock.

The annual sale of Lord Durham's fat stock took place at Bowes House Farm, near Fencehouses, on Monday, and, as usual, attracted a large company, the high-class quality of the stock being well-known and appreciated. Mr. E. A. Crow, of Sunderland, was the auctioneer, and he brought under the hammer 104 cattle and 445 sheep, which sold at good prices.

CATTLE.

	Average. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
18 Shorthorn steers	22 16 11½	411 5 0
9 Shorthorn heifers	20 17 2⅔	187 15 0
17 Blue-grey steers	23 2 11½	393 10 0
32 Blue grey heifers	22 6 11½	715 2 6
1 Blue-grey heifer	—	32 0 0
1 Blue grey steer	—	33 10 0
1 Kyloe steer	—	40 10 0
10 Kyloe steers	18 11 6	185 15 0
8 Kyloe heifers	19 16 3	158 10 0
7 Fat cows	15 12 10½	109 10 0
104	21 16 0½	2,267 7 6

SHEEP.

	Average. s. d.	Total. £ s. d.
45 Half-bred Cheviot sheer hoggs	64 0½	144 2 6
80 Half-bred Cheviot hoggs	53 3¾	213 5 0
20 Suffolk hoggs	81 1½	81 2 6
180 Mule Sheep	55 4½	498 10 0
120 Half bred Cheviot ewes	46 1½	278 15 0
445	54 6½	1,213 15 0

TOTALS.

Cattle	£2,267 7 6
Sheep	£1,213 15 0
Grand total	£3,481 2 6

Aberdeen County Council and the Canadian Cattle Question.

At a meeting of the Aberdeen County Council last week Mr. John Marr, Uppermill, proposed that the resolution passed by the council on Oct. 18, 1901, with regard to the importation of Candian cattle be rescinded. By that resolution the council requested the President of the Board of Agriculture to int oduce a bill into Parliament for the amendment of the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 and 1896, to the extent of empowering the Board of Agriculture to authorise the landing in this country of cattle from Canada without their being subjected to slaughter or quarantine at the port of landing.

Mr. Marr urged that while it might not be true that pleuro-pneumonia had been imported with Canadian cattle into this country, there were other very dangerous diseases among Canadian stock which, if once brought into this country, would cause immense loss to stock owners. He instanced cattle mange, the dealing with which was costing the Canadian Government a large amount of money. Mr. Marr also urged that it was only right—looking at the period that had elapsed since the feeling of the council had been taken on this question—that a vote should now be taken in order that they might see where they stood upon it. Mr. Lovie seconded.

Mr. Hutcheon moved an amendment that the resolution be not rescinded, holding that an effort should be made to restore to the farmer the right, under proper restriction, of buying and selling in the best market. Mr. Runciman seconded. On a division the amendment was carried by 21 to 15.

The 1905-6 edition of "The Guide to South Africa," for the use of tourists, sportsmen, invalids, and settlers, has made its appearance, and it contains an abundance of information which should prove of the greatest service to those enumerated. It is published at 2s. 6d. by Messrs. Sampson, Low, Marston, and Co., Ltd., 15A, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.

Horse Notes.

He doth nothing but talk of his horse.
—Merchant of Venice.

"What does it cost to plough an acre of land?" That is a question which is more easily asked than answered. There are so many things to take into consideration—the ploughman's wages, the cost of horse keep, interest and depreciation, and the cost of attendance when the horses are not at work; and several of these items are not very easily calculated. Then there are a few others that are not so simple of adjustment as they seem to be, such as, for instance, blacksmith, saddler, veterinary surgeon, etc.

Professor Wrightson has lately been endeavouring to answer the question with which I open my article, and in these short days it seems a subject which deserves consideration. Certainly it is one which does not get much minute consideration from farmers as a rule, and nine out of ten farmers one asks it would answer at random—"Oh, from 10s. to 11s." And it may be hinted, incidentally, that this difficulty of getting at the exact cost of farming operations is one of the farmer's many troubles, and not infrequently causes him considerable loss.

Some time ago I referred to the comparative cost of keeping an ox team and a horse team, a question which used to concern our ancestors very closely a hundred years ago. On that occasion I quoted the figures given by J. Bailey and G. Culley, who wrote an Agricultural Survey of Northumberland, which was published in 1797, and it is interesting to compare the estimate of the cost of horse keep and that made by Professor Wrightson in the present year of grace. Beginning with the summering of the horse, Messrs. Bailey and Culley estimate that he will eat two acres of grass, which they value at £2. Professor Wrightson estimates 22 weeks' grazing at 1s. 6d. per week, and 1s. 6d. per week for cut clover, etc., making a total of £3 6s. for the summer. I am inclined to think Professor Wrightson's estimate a little below the mark, though, taking the average rent and value of money into consideration, it does not come out much below that of Messrs. Bailey and Culley. But surely 1s. 6d. per week is very little for grazing—and there is a certain percentage of labour, a small one, I admit, but still a percentage—on the green food that is soiled. I think the green meat which a horse consumes in the way of grass and clover, etc., cannot be very well estimated at less than £4 in these days; at any rate, on a good farm, the grass of which, including rates and taxes, will stand to about £2 per acre or even more.

When we come to the winter food we find Professor Wrightson differing considerably from his Northumberland predecessors. He is much more liberal in his allowance of oats, giving 104 bushels per horse against 70 bushels. Curiously enough, the price of oats is put at the same figure, and I must say I think Professor Wrightson values his oats rather low at 2s. per bushel. I should think 18s. per quarter the lowest price at which they should be averaged, and this will make an increase of £2 14s. in the cost of oats, bringing the amount from £10 8s. to £13 2s. Professor Wrightson says that his allowance is a liberal one, and that many farm horses do not get so many oats, which is true enough. But they aught to get that allowance, and in making the estimate of the cost of ploughing an acre of land we should take the liberal treatment which means good work, and not the starvation policy of seeing how little a horse can work on.

Of hay Messrs. Bayley and Culley think that a horse will eat 1½ tons, which is exactly double the quantity which Professor Wrightson allows them. The price of hay is quoted at £2 in 1797, and at 50s. in the present year, so that the total in the former year is £3 for hay, and in the latter £1 17s. 6d. But Professor Wrightson allows £1 for chaff and £1 for roots, which may be regarded as a liberal allowance. These two items are, of course, not noticed by Messrs. Bailey and Culley,

but there is 15s. for straw, which will probably be meant for straw consumed and not used for litter. The litter, Professor Wrightson very justly says, is paid for by the manure. Altogether Messrs. Bailey and Culley estimate the cost of food for a carthorse for a year at £12 10s., and Professor Wrightson estimates it at £17 11s. 6d.; which, taking into consideration the difference in the value of money, is not so very far off the same mark.

We now come to a rather more difficult part of the question, for interest and depreciation have to be considered. Messrs. Bailey and Culley go very briefly into this part of the cost. Saddler and blacksmith £1, and an annuity of £2 5s. per annum to pay off the sum of £25, the estimated value of a four-year-old horse in sixteen years, including compound interest. Professor Wrightson's estimate is, I think, a much fairer way of coming to a conclusion. He puts the value of a six-year-old horse at £45, places depreciation at £2 10s per annum and risk at 10 per cent., on an average value of £30—two-thirds the value of his average priced six-year-old. This works out at a bigger sum than Messrs. Bailey and Culley's annuity scheme would do, and it will, I think, be admitted that it is more like meeting the case than this. Then comes veterinary expenses 10s., and stable utensils and repairs 10s., two items which do not appear in the older book.

Altogether it works out at a total of £15 15s. for the keep of a horse in 1797, and £27 11s. 6d. in 1905. The former estimate, as has been pointed out, left several things out of consideration. The latter is a very full one, though in some respects, perhaps, Professor Wrightson values too lightly, as has already been pointed out. He thinks, however, that his estimate admits of a liberal discount, and that £25 would represent the cost of an ordinary draught horse on the farm. Perhaps 10s. per week would be a fair thing—certainly it does not err on the liberal side if horses are fairly done.

The estimate of 290 working days in a year is a fair one, and £26 as the cost of the keep of a cart-horse, including insurance, depreciation, etc., works out at a fraction over 1s. 9½d. per day. Then comes the cost of ploughing. A pair of horses will cost 3s. 7d—Wrightson says 3s. 5½d. He places the wages of the ploughman at 2s. 6d. per day. Speaking from my own experience, I should think 3s. per day more likely, for there is no tendency for wages to decrease. Then comes the wear and tear of the plough, and 5 per cent. interest on the prime cost. This Professor Wrightson puts down at 6d. per day, and perhaps he is not very far wide of the mark. If he errs it is on the side of under, rather than over, estimating. So that he estimates the cost of a day's work with a pair of horses and plough at 6s. 5½d. This, I think, rather too small an estimate, and that a man who based his calculations upon it would find at the end of the year that his prime outlay had not been returned. I should be inclined, taking one year with another, to put the average cost of a pair of horses, man, and plough at 7s. 1d. per day. This would make, supposing the quantity ploughed per day to be three-quarters of an acre, the cost of ploughing work out at 9s. 5d. per acre. Professor Wrightson's figures work out at 8s. 4d. Perhaps somewhere between the two the mean lies. I know I always used to consider that a first ploughing if well done cost over 9s. per acre.

Professor Wrightson is quite correct in pointing out that if a farmer charges against his crops a haulier's profit it is impossible to make his crops show a prifit, and that it is a farmer's business to make his crops show a profit. Of course the principal thing is to make a tangible profit, and not a profit which merely exists on paper, and it may be urged that if the crops lose and the horses gain, what does it matter? It matters this much, that the farmer may—mind, I don't say he will, but he may—endeavour to make the crops pay by curtailing the horse labour, and so miss the profit altogether.

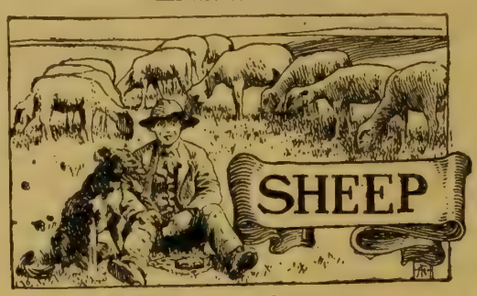
There is another point, however, which Professor Wrightson does not touch upon, and which he could not very well touch upon, when he was considering a question which was merely that of prime cost. I mean the question of the profit arising from the sale of draught horses. The farmer who keeps a horse or two more than he wants—who either buys them as yearlings or two year olds, or breeds them and sells them out at five or six years old, has a ready source of income with anything like average luck, and his profits from his horses will be considerably enhanced, or the cost of his horse labour considerably decreased, whichever way he likes to put it. But if he adopts this plan, which he will do if he is an enterprising man with plenty of capital, he will have to deal with horses worth considerably more than £45 at six years old, and consequently the amount of depreciation and risk would be larger. Depreciation, however, except from accident, there should never be, though, of course, accidents will happen, in spite of all the care that can be taken.

THE LOOKER-ON.

Sales at York.

Messrs. Walker and Sons' annual Christmas fair horse sales at their repository, York, took place last week, commencing on Tuesday. Full catalogues were presented each day, and there was a good attendance of buyers, but trade was rather quiet. The following were the chief prices:—

Huntsman, br g, 6 years, 15.3½ hh, 70 gs; Safety, ch g, 6 years, 16 hh, 55 gs; Hop Scotch, ch g, 6 years, 16.2 hh, 65 gs; bay gelding, 6 years, 16.1 hh, 50 gs; Beauty Bright, bl m, 6 years 16 hh, 56 gs; Quick, br m, 6 years, 16 hh, 90 gs; Lady Molly, bay m, 5 years, 16 hh, 52 gs; ch. gelding, rising 6 years, 16.2 hh, 50 gs; bay mare, rising 5 years, 16.1 hh, 70 gs; The Druid, ch g, 7 years, 16 hh, 64 gs; chestnut mare, 7 years, 15.2½ hh, 80 gs; grey mare, 6 years, 16 hh, 74 gs; Clipper, br g, 5 years, 17 hh, 100 gs; Rocket, br g, 4 years, 16.1 hh, 86 gs; The Nipper bay g, 4 years, 16 hh, 60 gs; Sportsman, bay g, 7 years, 16.1 hh, 50 gs; brown mare, 6 years, 16 hh, 60 gs; Rushlight, chestnut mare, 6 years, 16 hh, 70 gs; bay gelding, 6 years, 15.3 hh, 50 gs; chestnut gelding, 5 years, 15.3 hh, 55 gs; Victor brown gelding, 6 years, 16.1 hh, 62 gs; Tip Top, bay gelding, 6 years, 15.3, 50 gs; Warrior, chestnut gelding, 6 years, 15.3½ hh, 90 gs; chestnut gelding, rising 5 years, about 15.3 hh, 70 gs; Baldface, bay gelding, 6 years, 16.2, 72 gs; Fanny, brown mare, 7 years off, 15.2, and Bessy, brown mare, rising 5 years, 15.2, 95 gs; Phyllis, chestnut mare, rising 6 years 16.1, and Phil May, chestnut gelding, rising 5 years, 16.1, 80 gs.



Notes and Jottings.

Twelve months have elapsed since the first of these notes were penned for 1905. The sheepman's year has been, like all others, one with its successes and otherwise, but, fortunately for those whose interests are represented here, success has been much in the ascendant all during the period under review.

All through the year, with but hardly an exception, the mutton market has been most favourable to the seller. Despite the large supplies of mutton imported, probably larger than ever before, the price of home-grown and fed mutton has ruled at a satisfactory range of price. There has been profit in mutton production all through the season, and what is equally satisfactory, the probabilities are in favour of these prices continuing. The stud stock of sheep shows but little, if any, signs of increase, and on all hands it is admitted that the demand for mutton continues to show decided increase. Therefore, flockmasters can, we think, so far as regards this part of their business, rest satisfied with their prospects. Then, in respect to wool, its rise in value has been a general one, and all breeds have participated therein. It would be difficult to estimate how much additional income has accrued to the flockmaster from this rise in the price of wool, but be it what it may, the rise has been of great advantage to the flockmaster. Here again we are pleased to note there is no sign of any immediate reduction in price. An article by one of the leading North American authorities on wool has recently been before us, and it is therein stated, supported by a considerable array of statistical facts, that at any rate no decline of any moment in the price need be anticipated for another twelve months at least.

There is yet another section of the flockmaster's business to which reference should be made, namely that very profitable one of ram-breeding. So far as regards the export demand for the past year, all that can be said definitely at the present time is that there have been more sheep exported than in the previous year at prices considerably in excess of those recorded for that period.

As regards the future prospects of this demand, there is every indication of its continuance for some time to come, at its present limit. There will be ebbs and flows in the demand, no doubt, but, taking a review of the whole circumstances that most directly affect this trade there appears no real reason why the same should not be a continuous one.

It may be, and probably will, that greater care in selection will be taken by the purchaser in the near future. Should this be so, it will be of great benefit to the home breeder, because nothing does so much injury to the export trade than for the purchaser abroad to be dissatisfied with the result of his purchase. This point is one far too often overlooked by both the export agent and the vendor here. The former takes a few animals of the lower grade, and hopes thereby to secure larger profit, the latter readily sells such because he receives a price considerably in excess of the actual worth.

This result is, doubtless, tempting to the flockmaster at home, but instead of being to his advantage the contrary is the case, for such sheep imported at great expense as stud rams, gain for their breeder a reputation such as no man desires, namely, as a breeder of stud rams which, when tested by the quality of the resultant produce are found unsatisfactory, and to such breeders few, if any, repeat orders are given.

A grievance, common alike to flockmasters and cattlemen, is that all sheep and cattle imported alive are sold to the consumers for something they are not. One cannot say they are sold as English because the vendor will reply, we only sell home-killed meat, and do not limit our supplies to home-grown, fed and killed.

It is probably a difficult matter to deal with, but some steps should be taken alike in the interest of the breeder, feeder, and consumer, to prevent the purveyor of meat being able to add to his already ample profit additional profit by means of selling to customers imported mutton, or the produce of imported sheep, no matter under what disguise, as English.

Such practice is unfair in every sense of the word, and seeing it is principally on account of the large quantity now required by our population that few imports are allowed, the same authority that wisely determines this shall be so, ought to step in see that the consumers for whose benefit these cheaper meats are imported shall not be done out of that benefit by the middlemen through whose hands it passes on the way from the producer to consumer.

The export demand still continues. Several important shipments of Lincoln sheep from the well-known flocks owned by Messrs. Henry Dudding and W. B. Swallow have recently been dispatched to the Argentine, including a very typical lot of ewes.

The Border Leicester breed has been exported to the Argentine during the past year in much larger number than has been the case in former years. We understand from one of its exporters that the result of the trial importations made some time back has been satisfactory, and that its more than probable the future demand for this breed will be of some considerable extent. During the past week three first-class selections of the Kent or Romney Marsh sheep have been exported to the Argentine, Mr. A. Amos, of Spring Grove, Wye, Ashford, Kent, has sent off fifteen rams through the agency of Mr. Goodchild, the Earl of Verulam has dispatched, through Mr. H. T. Harding, a capital selection of the yearling rams, and the last-named exporter has also taken a selection of three very first-class ram lambs from Mr. C. File's well-known flock.

It will be remembered that the National Sheep Breeders' Association, supported by the influence of the Board of Agriculture, were enabled, after a conference with the representatives of the railway companies, as represented by the Railway Clearing House, to obtain certain valuable concessions in respect to the carriage of rams by passenger train. From information before us, it appears that the Scotch Railways desire to repudiate this arrangement. Surely this is not right, and it is a matter that requires prompt attention. Railways are always trying to show how much they desire to help the producer, and yet here is a case in which the Scotch railways refuse to recognise an arrangement that was offered to and accepted by the representatives of the sheep-breeding industry by that great central body of the railways of Great Britain.

"The Agricultural Annual and Mark Lane Express Almanac for 1906" is now ready. It contains specially written articles on all subjects of interest to a farmer. Send at once for a copy. Price 1s.; post free, 1s. 4d. "Mark Lane Express" Office, 3, Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.—[ADVT.]

From Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, of Cathedral Street, Manchester, has come to hand a new and enlarged catalogue of vegetable and flower seeds, potatoes, mushroom spawn, manures, garden implements and sundries, etc. It is nicely illustrated and tastefully covered, while the contents should prove useful to gardeners and others.

SOCIETIES.

National Pig Breeders.

A meeting of the Council of the National Pig Breeders' Association was held by permission in the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., when Mr. A. S. Gibson was elected to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The secretary referred to the loss the Council had sustained by the death of their President, Mr. P. L. Mills, and stated that it would be necessary to elect someone to fill the office for the remainder of the year.

Mr. Ibbotson proposed that Mr. Howard Taylor be asked to accept the office for the remainder of the year. This was seconded by Mr. Hall and carried unanimously.

Mr. Ibbotson moved that a vote of condolence be sent to Mrs. Mills from the Council, expressing their deep regret at the loss of their president. They all knew him so well, and the interest he had taken in their work, that it did not require many words from him in moving the resolution. They saw him as recently as the Royal Show, and would miss him very much. The resolution was carried unanimously, and the secretary was instructed to forward a copy of it to Mrs. Mills.

Mr. Ibbotson presented the report of the Finance Committee. The balance at the bank was £189 5s. 3d., and a sum of £100 had been invested during the year. Twenty members were in arrear with their subscriptions. Six members had sent in their resignations. This was seconded by Mr. Philip and adopted. The secretary was instructed to take steps for collecting the outstanding subscriptions after January 1.

In presenting the report of the Editing Committee, the Chairman stated that the number of entries in the last volume of the Herd Book numbered 917, and, though less than the previous year, was well above the average. Two tenders had been received for the printing of Vol. 22, one from a Nottingham firm and the other from the Wilts County Mirror Co., Salisbury. The prices quoted were practically the same, but in consequence of the satisfactory way in which the Wilts firm had turned out the work in former years it was decided again to place the work in their hands. It was resolved to hold the next meeting of the Committee for the purpose of revising the entries for Vol. 22 at Derby, on Monday, February 12, 1906.

The Secretary read a list of the winners of the gold and silver medals in 1905, and after some discussion it was decided to offer gold and silver medals on the same conditions as in previous years, for 1906. Mr. Ibbotson thought they might do a little more for the R.A.S.E. now that they were starting off again in the provinces, possibly towards the augmentation of the prize fund. After some discussion Mr. Philip proposed that a class for sows under eighteen months for the Large, Middle, and Tamworth breeds should be added, with prizes in each of value £7, £3, and £2. This was agreed upon, and the secretary was instructed to forward the offer to the Council of the R.A.S.E.

Mr. Apperly was elected on the Council in place of the late Mr. Mills, and the following new members were elected:—Sir Henry Jackson, Messrs. Archer, Aries, Morris, Reeves, Sinclair, Smith, and Waddington.

The next meeting was arranged for March 7, 1906, at Birmingham. A vote of thanks to the Council of the Smithfield Club for the use of the room, and to the Chairman for presiding was passed.

Pig Breeders Societies' Joint Board.

A meeting of the Joint Board of the Pig Breeders' Society was held in the Prince's Saloon, Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Tuesday, the 5th inst., when, on the motion of Mr. Prentice, seconded by Mr. Marriner, Mr. Pittman King was elected chairman for the ensuing year.

The Chairman remarked that the only business arising out of the minutes was the movement of pigs from show to show. The secretary was instructed to write to the county authorities asking for their co-operation in the matter, also to give all the facilities they could for moving pigs from one show to another.

On the question of receiving communications, Mr. Prentice called attention to the difficulty experienced in sending pigs to Ireland and the delay that occurred in the communications. Mr. Carter, an inspector from the Board of Agriculture, explained that the English Board of Agriculture had no jurisdiction over the regulations of the Irish Board, and the best thing they could do would be to approach the Irish Board themselves.

Mr. Prentice then moved the following resolution: "That the attention of the Department of Agriculture (Ireland) be drawn to the almost complete cessation of trade in pedigree swine between this country and Ireland, in consequence of the prohibitory character of the conditions imposed by that Department in respect to the importation of swine, that the Department be urged to make reasonable modifications in the existing conditions, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the Board of Agriculture."

Mr. Berry Torr seconded. It was decided to do this, and at the same time write to the English Board to use their best endeavours with the Irish Board and get things altered.

Mr. Carter's attention was then called to the delay in the transit of a boar from Nottingham into Lancashire in November last. He pointed out that this was entirely the fault of the local authorities, and they had better complain to them, when Mr. Bery Torr moved that the Board of Agriculture be requested to inquire into the case. This was seconded by Mr. Hiscock and agreed to.

Mr. Carter then said that since he last saw them at the Royal Show the Board of Agriculture had made some progress with regard to the combination of counties for the purpose of getting some uniformity in the regulations governing the movement of pigs, and produced a map showing the newly added districts. Considerable satisfaction was expressed at the progress made, and the hope was expressed that the Board would soon have the work complete. On the motion of Mr. Marriner, seconded by Mr. Torr, Mr. Carter was heartily thanked for his attendance that day.

Mr. Marriner said before they broke up that day he should like to propose that the best thanks of the Joint Board be given to Mr. John Barron for his past services as the chairman of this Board, their deep sympathy with him in his illness, and their earnest hope for his better health, and that the secretary be asked to convey the same. Mr. Hiscock seconded, and Mr. Carter expressed a desire to be associated with the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Friday, June 1, 1906, at the Bath and West Show.

British Dairy Farmers.

A meeting of the Council of the British Dairy Farmers' Association was held at 12, Hanover Square, London, W., on the 6th inst, Mr. Geo F. Roumieu, J.P. (vice-president) in the chair.

Five new members were first elected, then on behalf of the Finance and General Purposes Committee it was reported that the balance at bank on current account on December 1 was £1,261 7s. 4d., against which the Committee recommended payments amounting to £683 7s. 4d. The Committee presented a return showing that in the five weeks ended December 2 the imports of fresh milk into the United Kingdom were 75 cwt., being precisely the same quantity as in the corresponding weeks of last year. In the same period the imports of milk and cream amounted to 542 compared with 476 cwt.; of preserved milk 550 against 259 cwt.; and of condensed milk 94,977 against 84,910 cwt.

The Show Committee submitted a brief report relative to several matters arising out of the recent Dairy Show.

Mr. T. Carrick, as chairman of the Conference Committee, reported that at the invitation of several members residing in Shropshire, the secretary had visited that county in order to consult as to the probabilities of a successful Dairy Conference being organised there next year. The proposal had been received with so much favour, and the promises of active co-operation were so encouraging, that the Committee had no hesitation in recommending that the Dairy Conference and Excursions of 1906 take place in Shropshire, with Shrewsbury as headquarters. This recommendation was unanimously adopted by the Council, the secretary being instructed to again visit the district, and to draft a programme for the Committee's consideration.

The Sub-Committee re the Sale of Milk Regulations presented a report embodying their recommendations as to the facilities which the Board of Agriculture should be asked to give to vendors under new regulations. A lengthy discussion ensued, and eventually the report was referred back to the Sub-Committee for reconsideration.

Various Standing Committees for 1906 were appointed, as well as representatives on the Joint Committee of the British Dairy Institute, and delegaes to the Central Chamber of Agriculture.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Lord Northbourne for his services as president during the year, and the next meeting of the Council was fixed for February 7.

Agricultural Co-operation in the West.

The report presented at the twenty sixth annual meeting of the Western Counties Agricultural Co-operative Association, held at Taunton, on the 16th inst., showed that the Society continues to grow in popularity and usefulness.

The sales in 1905, it stated, amounted to £482,878, and it was proposed to distribute £8,645 in bonuses to purchasing shareholders and members, making a total in seventeen years of £97,012. New shareholders and members enrolled during the year numbered 625, and sales had increased by £10,851. The continued inflow of members and the steady increase of sales, the report continued, were evidence of the business being conducted to the advantage and satisfaction of all who had been loyal in their support. The directors proposed that the net profit for the year of £11,597 1s. 7d. should be divided as follows:—Dividend of 5 per cent. on share capital, £1,324 9s. 2d.; reserve fund (making with premiums on shares, £1,000), £945; bonus to shareholders and members on net purchases at 4½d. per pound, equal to over 30 per cent. on the share capital, or from 1s. 9d. to 3s. 6d. per ton allowance on feeding stuffs and manures, £8,645 13s. 3d.; bonus to employees, £300; balance to general revenue account, £381 19s. 2d.

Mr. Digby Collins, D.L., J.P., C.A., of Newton Ferrers, Callington, Cornwall, chairman of the Council of Management, in proposing the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said he did so with the greatest possible pleasure, because after studying most carefully everything that the report and balance-sheet contained, he had come to the conclusion, without hesitation, that there was nothing whatsoever in them to diminish in any way the satisfaction of the shareholders and members with the present position of the Association or to shake their confidence in its future (hear, hear). The association had emerged from the difficulties which he had explained to them with credit to itself, to the managing director, to the able and zealous secretary, and to the managers of the Bristol and local depôts; in fact, all the staff, from the managing director down to those engaged in the humblest sphere of work, had done their very utmost to serve the Association.

Mr. W. Westlake seconded the motion, which was carried.

On the motion of Mr. G. Martyn, seconded by Mr. Langdon, the sum of £600 was voted as the directors' remuneration for the year.

Mr. Vosper proposed, and Mr. R. D. Hancock seconded, the re-election of the three retiring directors, Messrs. Digby Collins, S. Browne, and J. B. Stevens, and this was carried.

The shareholders and a number of local agriculturists were subsequently entertained to dinner, Mr. Digby Collins again presiding.

Suffolk Horse.

A Council meeting of the Suffolk Horse Society was held at the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday.

Mr. R. Eaton White presided, and at the outset said he thought they could not begin the business on the agenda without first alluding to the great loss the Society had sustained through the death of their good friend, Mr. F. G. Cook. It was a matter of deep regret that att wo consecutive meetings they had to report the death of valuable members of the Society. The late Mr. F. G. Cook took the greatest possible interest in the Society, and he was a most successful breeder of choice examples of the breed. These losses reminded those who survived that their duty was, on their part, to do the best they could to keep up the old breed, and hand it on better for generations to come. It would be the wish of all present that a vote of condolence should be sent on behalf of the Society to the family of the late Mr. Cook.

The proposition was agreed to amidst silence.

The Secretary read letters of apology for inability to be present from Sir Cuthbert Quilter, Bart., M.P. (President), Mr. C. S. Wentworth Reeve, Mr. W. R. Hustler, Mr. Alfred J. Smith, Mr. J. M. Longe, Mr. E. A Cook, and the Hon. Louis Johnstone. The last-named gentleman in his letter added:—"My feeling on the subject of judges is that it is advisable to get judges from outside the county as far as possible, and that it would be a good thing if we could persuade some of our Colonial buyers to act as judges, or any large dealer or buyer of cart horses. I am also of opinion that the veterinary surgeon who tests the animals should also be a man from outside the county, and preferably from London or any big town."

The Council having selected the animals whose portraits were to appear in the next volume, Mr. Herman Biddell observed that he had an interesting picture of five mares and foals—four of them portraits taken twenty-five years ago—and he should be happy to supply a copy of it as an illustration for the next volume, and to add a little history in respect to the animals.

The Council were occupied some time in the selection of names to be forwarded to the Royal

Society for their consideration when selecting judges for the next show, at Derby. Having regard to the wish expressed in the letter mentioned above, the Council selected six gentlemen, three from Suffolk, and three from outside the county.

Th Chairman raised the question as to the propriety of the prefixes being assigned only to breeders of the animals. A gentleman might buy a nice animal, which he thought would do him credit, and he gave it a certain name or prefix, and he appeared afterwards to the outside world as the breeder of the animal, so that the real breeder lost the credit.

The Council agreed that this was a point that should be looked into.

Norfolk.

A most encouraging report was presented at the annual meeting of the Norfolk Agricultural Association held at Norwich on the 16th instant., Sir W. Ffolks presiding. It was stated that the membership was 659, whilst the receipts for the year were the largest on record, being £206 more than in 1904, and £155 more than the next highest record. The average annual receipts for the past ten years were £2,705, and this year they were £644 above the average. The prize money awarded had averaged £1,449 during the previous five years, but this year it was £208 above the average, and was now £567 more than it was ten years ago. It was distributed as follows:—To exhibitors in Norfolk, £850; to exhibitors outside the county, £570; so that 60 per cent. of the members' money was won by county exhibitors. The balance sheet showed subscriptions and donations amounting to £344 11s.; special prizes, including the amount subscribed by King's Lynn and district, £126 10s.; entrance fees at summer show, £408 18s. 8d.; admission to show ground, £1,295 2s. 1d.; right of selling refreshments, etc., £102; receipts at spring show, £83 2s. 6d.; bringing up the total receipts to £3,150 13s. 3d. The payments included:—Prizes awarded, £1,449 9s., or 59½ per cent. of the receipts; other expenses, £987 19s. 4d., or 40½ per cent. of ditto, making the total expenses £2,437 8s. 4d., and showing a gain on the year's working carried to capital account of £713 4s. 11d. Out of this sum they had applied £550 in the purchase of further Norwich Corporation Bonds, so that the capital of the association now amounted to £3,453 19s. 7d.

Mr. Harvey Mason, who moved the adoption of the report and accounts, said it was a matter for congratulation that during the year fifty-eight new members had joined, of whom no less than thirty-one were secured through the influence of Sir William Hoikes. Mr. Mason paid a tribute to the work of the secretary, Mr. Barker, and his assistant, Mr. Kerridge.

Mr. W. Mitchell seconded the adoption of the report, and said that the amount of the prize-money this year was £367 more than it was ten years ago. The average net working expenses for the last ten years had been £944, whereas the average for the previous ten years was £1,115, or a difference of £117 per annum, which meant a total gain to the society of £1,710 in the last ten years.

The report was adopted; but the question of the election of a president and the town for next year's show was allowed to stand over, as negotiations were in progress with one or two towns in East Norfolk.

The members of the council were re-elected, Mr. Clement Gaze being elected to fill the vacancy caused by his father's death.

The motion of Mr. Mitchell that the secretary and his assistant be re-elected, with an increase of £25 in their salaries, was carried.

Yorkshire.

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society was held at York on Tuesday, Lord Middleton presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. John Maughan) presented his report on the Hull Show, in the course of which he stated that the Hull Local Committee raised a fund of £1,841 1s. 1d., and the financial result is an estimated profit, on capital account, of £37 18s. 4d. The meeting was a great success, and the profit, exclusive of extraordinary expenditure, is estimated at £561. The profit on revenue account is estimated at £352 16s. 9d., as compared with £406 8s. 11d. in 1904, and although the receipts at the gates and grand stand were £314 11s. less, the income is £206 2s. more. The attendance did not reach expectations, 49,951 persons passing through the turnstiles, a decrease of 9,608 as compared with 1899, and 9,45½ on last year's attendance at Huddersfield. The report went on to state:

"It is an indisputable fact that the public do not attend the large shows in the same multitudes as formerly partly, no doubt, due to lack of interest, but principally owing to the present facilities for more extended travel in search of health or amusement. No agricultural society can exist without gate money, and it is not to be expected that the artisan, though he is interested in machinery and other exhibits which he understands, pays his shilling out of regard to the agriculturist, to wander through miles of shedding, housing animals of whose merits he is in ignorance. Since it is the agriculturist who benefits, amusements within reasonable limits are perfectly justifiable, especially when it is taken into consideration that approximately 50 per cent. of the total income is dependent on the attendance, and nearly 90 per cent. of those who visit the show pay 1s. admittance."

There are now 605 life members of the society, which is a record, and 884 annual subscribers, and one honorary, a total of 1,490, which is also a record. Next year it is hoped that a forestry department will be added to the show. No department has proved more useful than the horse-shoeing competitions, and if the prizes offered for cottages did not bring many entries, the exhibition was interesting.

Votes of thanks were passed to the retiring President (Lord Herries), to the Mayor and Corporation of Hull, and the Hull Local Committee and officials for their services.

The chairman proposed the election of the Marquess of Zetland as president for the ensuing year. He remarked that in the district in which the show was to be held in 1906 (Middlesbrough) they could find no one more suitable for the position. The Marquess had consented to accept the post.

Mr. W. H. A. Wharton seconded the motion, which was carried with applause.

The vice-presidents were re-elected, and Lord Herries was elected in the place of the late Sir Robert Gunter, Bart.

Alteration of Rules.

A meeting of the Council was held prior to the annual meeting, when it was resolved to divide the catalogue in future, and issue the live stock and implement entries in two separate volumes. The two-shearling rams class in the Leicester section was struck out, and the prizes were increased in the other classes in the section. The prizes in the three-shearling rams and three-shearling gimmers (Wensleydale) classes were increased, and brought up to the same amount as given for other breeds. Certain alterations were also made in the dentition rules of the class for pigs of twelve months old, and it was decided to confine the jumping competitions to the second day, so that the horses will only require to be in the showyard on that day, and to have a military display on the third day.

With regard to harness horses, cross entries are to be allowed from several of the Hackney classes, and those horses entered in the harness classes only will not be required to be stabled on the ground. It is also proposed to have prizes for polo ponies, both for make and shape and for handiness. In the Shire horse section, classes for two and three year old agricultural geldings were introduced, while there will also be a class in the honey section restricted to cottagers. Further developments are intended next year with reference to the working dairy, which has proved a great success.

British Berkshire.

A Council Meeting of the British Berkshire Pig Society was held on the 6th inst., in the Stewards' Room (by kind permission) at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. In the temporary absence of the president, H. R. H. Prince Christian was invited to take the chair, to which he kindly consented.

After the minutes were read and approved the adoption of the report from the Finance and other committees was moved by J. P. King, Esq., and seconded by A. Ashworth, Esq., and carried. The following five members were re-appointed on the Finance and General Purposes Committees, etc., viz., Messrs. J. P. King, T. E. Hayter, W. T. Hall, W. A. Barnes, and J. W. Kimber

Two members of the Deputation Committees on the Joint Branch of Breed Societies, viz., Messrs. J. P. King and W. T. Hall were re-appointed with T. E. Hayter in place of Mr. A. Hiscock, jun., retired.

A letter was considered from the Royal Agricultural Society, re prizes for their show, and it was resolved to offer in addition to the prize of last year, further prizes of £7, £3, £2, for the best breeding sow farrowed in 1905, this year being eliminated from the similar class already existing. With reference to champion prizes given by this Society a resolution was made: "That any animal in the first prize classes shall be competent to compete for the Society's champion prize."

Seven new members were elected

A suggestion was made by Mr. W. A. Ashworth that something should be done to prevent drifting away by breeders from the old type of "Berkshires" as some of this year's exhibits have shown. That prizes had been awarded to some animals with leggy light hams, instead of the short legged deep hams of old, also many of the animals now exhibited had faces too long and straight. After a discussion it was decided to have a copy of the Berkshire standard of excellence inserted in the next volume, and for the present trust that judges of Berkshires will award prizes to animals of the trust type.

The General Meeting of members took place immediately afterwards, the president (Sir Alexander Henderson, Bart., M.P.,) in the chair. After the minutes were read Arthur S. Gibson, Esq., was unanimously elected president for the year 1906.

Arthur E. Preston, Esq., was reappointed auditor.

The report of the scrutineers showed that the five retiring members were re-elected, viz., H.R.H. Prince Christian, and Messrs. Alfred Ashworth, W. A. Barnes, Arthur Hiscock, and Russell Swanwick.

After the report from the Council was read the president commented on the very satisfactory financial position of the Society, it also showed an increase of members, and a growing interest in the objects of the Society, and concluded by remarking that he personally took a great interest in "Berkshires," and any assistance he might be able to render would be willingly given.

The adoption of the report was then proposed by H.R.H. Prince Christian and seconded by J. P. King, Esq., and carried unanimously.

A most hearty vote of thanks was then accorded to the president for taking the chair and carried with acclamation

Cumberland and Westmorland Chamber.

At the last meeting of the Cumberland and Westmorland Chamber of Agriculture Mr. James Watt, of Knowefield, proposed that Lord Lonsdale take the chair, and explained that this was his Lordship's first visit to the Chamber, but he could assure him of a hearty welcome from all amongst them.

Motors and the Roads.

Mr. Heskett, of Plumpton Hall, opened an interesting discussion on "Motor Traffic on Highways," with a view to sending a resolution from the Chamber to the Royal Commission on Motor Cars. Referring to the dust nuisance, he said that most of the houses in the North were built alongside the highways, and people who lived in houses within twenty yards of the road found it impossible to keep their windows open owing to the nuisance caused by the dust. But if the damage was great to these people, it was infinitely greater to farmers who had land and crops. The greater the speed of motors, he thought, the greater the dust nuisance and the greater the damage to highways. The cost of the highways was rising at an alarming rate, and he attributed it greatly to the increase of motor traffic. There was another important matter—that was with regard to head lights. Only the previous night a car passed him on the main road, and for fully 100 yards in front of the car he could see nothing but the glare of the lamp. "I think," said Mr. Heskett, "that the whole sum paid for motor car licences in England ought to be pooled, and from it local authorities ought to be reimbursed for damage done to roads according to their respective mileage." The cost of the licences ought also to be greatly increased.

Lord Morpeth thought motorist offenders ought to be more severely punished.

One speaker said that people had now to wash the dust from their vegetables before they cooked them.

Lord Lonsdale: They generally do wash them, don't they? (Laughter.)

Mr. Watt suggested that if the unemployed were engaged to widen the roads, the centre reserved for motors, it might be a good thing. He thought higher fixed machines with solid tyres would lessen the dust nuisance.

Lord Lonsdale said, although he did a great deal of motoring, he was also considerably interested in agriculture. His own idea was that motorists should be punished to the extreme if they drove to the common danger. He would not limit the speed of cars, except near houses, and signals should be put up before all cross roads. As regarded the dazzling lamps, he suggested that hoods should be placed on the top of lamps, which would throw the light on the ground. He also thought that no man ought to be licensed as a motorist who could not speak the English language. There was great difficulty with foreign chauffeurs. Some could not

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speak the language, and there were those who did not want to. (Laughter.) He considered that the taxation on cars should be higher, and that it should be graduated according to horse-power. A motor was the rich man's amusement. If used for business purposes it was usually as an advertisement, which should be paid for.

Eventually a resolution was carried to the effect that the tax on motors be materially increased, and paid into the Imperial Exchequer, and distributed to county authorities, according to the mileage of their roads. As to the speed limit no amendment was suggested, except in places where the county authorities considered that a very slow pace should be adopted, but it was resolved that something ought to be done to prevent motor lamps showing on the roads excessive light during the night time.

Sussex Herd Book.

Eleven new members were elected at the Council Meeting of the Sussex Herd Book Society, held at the Royal Agricultural Hall during the Smithfield Club Show.

The Editing and General Purposes Committee were appointed to consist of Lord Northbourne, the Hon. R. Nevill, Earl Winterton, Messrs. T. Bannister, E. E. Braby, J. E. Budd, A. Stanford, and Gerald Warde. The same were also deputed to act as a Committee of Inspection of non-pedigree animals in a number of herds, sent for registration in Volume 21 of the Herd Book.

The question of offering prizes for Sussex cattle in 1906 was considered, and the Council resolved to offer prize money and medals at the Royal Show to be held at Derby in June, and medals at shows of the Bath and West of England Society, Royal Counties Agricultural Society, Sussex County Agricultural Society, and Tunbridge Wells Agricultural Soiety.

A communication was read from the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society, suggesting the desirability of a conference of representatives of the various Breed Societies, for the purpose of considering, and, if possible, securing a revision of the methods governing the tuberculin test of animals exported to the Argentine and other foreign countries. It was resolved that, in the event of such a meeting being convened, Messrs. H. E. Braby and J. E. Budd should represent the Sussex Herd Book Society.

The Fiscal Question.

Mr. William Graham submitted a long paper on "Topics that affect agriculture, and its interests at the present day." Alluding to organisation, he said that no industry could be so thoroughly organised as that of agriculture, "but," he added, "we allow side issues and sentimental politics to divide our ranks." With regard to the fiscal question, he said they were told by the sponsors of the "unauthorised programme" that it should be discussed without reference to prejudice or party. "Without fear or hesitation," he proceeded, "I say that the agricultural and rural interests have more to lose by the adoption of protective duties on the general importations of the country than we have to gain.

Mr. Graham, continuing, said with regard to the suggestion that a 2s. duty should be placed on wheat from foreign countries, the interests of agriculture were only being exploited for the benefit of the manufacturing industry. All economists agreed that any country was justified in imposing taxation or duties on imported produce for revenue purposes, but in order to gain revenues from import duties that duty should only be of such an amount that the importation of the specific article was in no way impeded. The prosperity of agriculture depended on the spending power of the general public, and if these classes had the prices of their everyday requirements artificially raised to an average of 10 per cent., therefore their spending power would be appreciably decreased.

Mr. Watt rose to a point of order, and said that they had not come to have a real political speech rammed down their throats.

Lord Lonsdale: I rather feel myself that Mr. Graham has carefully prepared an elaborate political speech to address us here to-day.

Mr. Savage (Lingeyclosehead): I move Mr. Graham goes on.

Mr. Moffatt seconded.

Mr. Savage: We have no political views.

Lord Lonsdale: It is a political discussion.

Mr. Graham proceeded to read his paper again, and after a time Lord Lonsdale, looking at his watch, observed that instead of occupying twenty minutes, Mr. Graham was taking forty minutes. "I must call you to time, sir," said his Lordship. "I beg to propose that this question be postponed."

Mr. Briggs (Carlisle): I second that.

Mr. Graham said that he would "skip over" some of his matter, and in conclusion made an appeal for better organisation. (Hear, hear.)

Some discussion took place as to who should continue the discussion on the paper at the next meeting, and Lord Morpeth said that he would open it.

Allotments and Small Holdings Association.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Allotments and Small Holdings Association was held at Birmingham on Tuesday. Mr. E. Impey, who presided, reported that Lord Carrington, in response to his communication, had written suggesting that the proposed conference respecting land law legislation should be put off till after the General Election, when he thought much good might be done.

Copies of the association's leaflets were reported to have been forwarded to the secretaries of all Liberal Associations in England and Scotland; it was also agreed to send the association's "Address to Labourers" to all the daily papers and the weekly country papers in England.

The committee considered and approved a circular prepared by the Co-operative Small Holdings Association for forwarding to Parliamentary candidates on behalf of the associations engaged in the promotion of reform in land legislation.

The Chairman pointed out the great importance of calling the attention of all those interested in reform to the obstructive course taken by the Local Government Board officials respecting the action of County Councils in the promotion of allotments.

Devon.

At the last meeting of the council of the Devon County Agricultural Association the committee on the registration of stallions reported that the examination of stallions was conducted by Professor Penberthy, of the Royal Veterinary College, from March 23 to March 29. He examined fifty-six entries, of which fifty-four passed the examination. Of these two were subsequently excluded as being unable to fulfil the necessary conditions. Nine stallions, which were exempt from veterinary examination, were also registered, making a total of sixty-one, comprising thirty-nine shires, fifteen thoroughbreds, five hackneys, and two ponies. The committee considered that the enforcement of the rule as to purity of breed prevented some eight or ten horses, which would otherwise have come forward, from being entered for examination. They were of opinion that the alteration had greatly added to the value of the scheme. In 1904 the guarantors were called upon to pay 12s. 6d. each to cover a deficit of £36, but this year the deficit was only £12, and the guarantors were asked for 4s. each. With regard to next year, the committee suggested holding examinations of stallions at fewer centres.

The report was submitted by Mr. A. Scott Browne, who said that the aim in supporting the registration of stallions was to try and get people to breed from the best possible animals.

The Chairman remarked that the County Association was immensely indebted to Mr. Scott Browne for formulating this scheme. He had not spared trouble or expense. As an acknowledgment of his services, Mr. Scott Browne was elected an honorary vice-president, as was Major Tucker, and Mr. Eve, M.P., was appointed to the vacancy on the council caused by the death of Mr. Coaker. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bowden for his services to the council.

Devon Cattle Breeders.

The annual meeting of the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society was held at Exeter on the 15th inst., when Mr. A. Caple, of Wiveliscombe, was unanimously elected president.

The secretary (Mr. J. Risdon, jun.) reported a balance on the year of £65, the largest since the Society was started.

The secretary reported the receipt of several replies to his circular to the various breed societies in respect of the tuberculine test as applied to animals exported to foreign countries, in which it was mainly suggested that there should be a conference of cattle breeders to consider the question, the Shorthorn Society alone disagreeing with the suggestion.

The chairman (Mr. Kidner) said that the meeting of the Shorthorn Society at which the matter was discussed was a very small one, and the suggestion was only thrown out by a small majority. The minority were very strongly in favour of such a movement, and he was asked to persuade the Devon Society to go on with the matter and get a meeting called. He proposed that it was desirable that the various cattle breed societies of the country be organised and affiliated in a central authority, and also that each breed society be asked to send delegates, not exceeding three in number, to a meeting in London in the Shire horse week. He thought they should be in a position of being able to get cattle breed societies together at a moment's notice on a question of emergency, and that they would then be able to resist any outside action.

Mr. C. Hull seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The secretary was requested to put himself into communication with the Shire Horse Society with regard to the holding of the meeting, and it was resolved that notices be sent to the various breed societies asking them to send delegates to the meeting.

It was decided to offer similar championship prizes for Devons at the Royal Show next year as formerly.

The South Devon Herd Book secretary wrote asking the Council to support them in approaching the railway companies with the view to their providing cheap tickets (a fare and a quarter for the return journey) to and from agricultural shows. It was agreed that this was one of the matters which the proposed association should consider if appointed.

The Imperial Industries Club and Agriculture.

Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., presided at the December dinner of the Imperial Industries Club, when the subject for discussion was "Agriculture and the Nation's Wealth."

The Chairman, in opening the debate, said the subject was a most important one. Agriculture used to be considered our greatest natural industry, but we were now more a manufacturing and industrial community. We ought to bring ourselves more before the attention of the public. There was one point which they should never leave out of their minds, and is was that, no matter how valuable to the welfare of the country and to its strength the various industries apart from agriculture might be, yet the real ultimate source of the wealth and power of the nation and of our expansion as a great Imperial race rested upon a hardy and vigorous people, and that must depend upon a flourishing agriculture. (Cheers). In his opinion education and combination amongst the farmers themselves were the means to which they must look for help. On the Continent combination had enabled the farmer to obtain prosperity. It was to that and education and not to protective duties to which they must look for success. (Cheers).

Sir Walter Peace agreed that farmers would never improve their position in this country until they combined together. From a colonial point of view the United Kingdom would never be prosperous while itdepended to the extent it did to-day for food from abroad. Now, in his opinion, we had it in our power in this country to produce far more food than we did to-day. (Cheers). This country took from the soil in the cultivation of wheat alone more than five millions less per an-even if a two shilling duty were placed on imported wheat it would really be paid by the foreigner

Sir J. Gilmour hoped that the movement for combination would extend to the small farmers, and he trusted that there was a great future before agriculturists if only they stuck together.

Sir Thomas Pink spoke of the necessity for careful selection in regard to the packing and transit of fruit.

Sir Charles Owen, general manager of the London and South-Western Railway, said it was foolish to suggest that railway companies were opposed to the claims of agriculture. Why, on the contrary, the success of British railways was bound up in the success of the agriculturists of the counties through which they ran. British agriculture, if it died at all, would die of its own inertia. He had himself made endeavours to get farmers to combine, but had found it impossible to get them to do so and to send their products in bulk. Last year there had been a splendid harvest of apples, but it had been entirely lost for want of action on the part of the farmers, and the result was that American apples were being sold at sixpence a lb., while home grown apples were practically thrown away. He appealed to British farmers to organise and to educate

Sir Thomas Elliott, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, maintained that the British farmer was the best farmer in the world, both as a farmer and a stockbreder. He was, however, an isolated individual, and he had been passing through a transitional period as to the level of profits. Parliament had not recognised the altered condition of agriculture as to taxation. The margin of profit was small, and a farmer must look to every small source of remuneration.

The Right Hon. the Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, has resigned his membership of the Departmental Committee on Small Holdings, and has appointed Mr. R. C. Munro-Ferguson, M.P., to be a member of the Committee in his place.

Clydesdale Horse.

A meeting of the Council of the Clydesdale Horse Society was held in the registered office, 95, Hope Street, Glasgow, on Wednesday (Mr. Robert Brydon presiding), when the Duke of Richmond and Gordon and Colonel Smith Grant of Minmore were elected life governors of the society, whilst eight gentlemen were elected annual members. It was agreed not to frame any hard and fast rule regarding requests for amendments of descriptions after animals have been exported, but to deal with each case on its merits; and also that it was not advisable to number fillies before they had begun to breed.

The salary of the secretary for 1905 was fixed at the figure which had been promised to the secretary in 1892, but which had not been operative since 1895. Further, it was unanimously agreed that his salary from 1906 should be £175. The investment of £600 in North British Three per Cent. Consolidated Lien stock was approved of.

A committee was appointed to consider the relation of non-members to the society, and the conditions upon which animals bred by non-members should be accepted for registration. Two champion prizes of £10 each were voted to the Royal Agricultural Society for its Derby show, and two large silver medals to the Royal Ulster Society for the best stallion and the best mare owned in Ireland.

Arrangements were made for the election of councilmen, and the roll was adjusted at date as showing an increase of the membership of 28.

Glasgow.

The annual meeting of the Glasgow Agricultural Society was held at Glasgow on Wednesday, Mr. W. E. Gilmour, of Woodbank, Alexandria, presiding.

In their report the council state that they again deeply regret that the financial position of the society does not enable them to resume payment of Debenture interest. An effort has been made to induce some of the largest holders to cancel a part of their Debentures, but the appeal has met with little response. It is therefore plainly evident that if the finances of the society are to be put upon a satisfactory basis it must be done by the members themselves, who are now very strongly solicited to render the necessary monetary assistance. The council will, on an early date, convene a meeting of Debenture-holders for the purpose of discussing an arrangement whereby the payment of interest may be resumed, and in the meantime they are heartily thanked for their kind consideration towards the society.

With reference to the stallion show, the council said that the continued loyalty of the principal owners to the old annual event is most praiseworthy and encouraging, and breeders, along with the general members of the society, are earnestly desired to join with owners in upholding the influence and usefulness of the National Stallion Show. Referring to the show ground, the council state that, with the assistance of the Highland and Agricultural Society, a large wooden shed, covered with corrugated iron and all painted, has been erected. This will be available for the society next year, and will be useful either converted into eight loose-boxes or as a receptacle for implements and other property belonging to the society. The ground could not be let during the summer months to the usual tenants owing to the Highland and Agricultural Society's requirements, but every available space is let for winter months. The stabling is still vacant, but every effort is being made to secure tenants. A considerable number of stalls have been converted into loose-boxes, which will be very advantageous to the stallion show.

The society has this year placed £350 19s. 1d. to the credit of the reserve fund. This is a step in the right direction, but the accumulated funds are still far short of what they ought to be, and the society cannot be said to be in a sound financial position with such a regrettable debt due to Debenture-holders. The council are much averse to be always asking for cash assistance, but every member of the society must realise that a loyal and spontaneous offering is absolutely necessary if the society is to be saved from a humiliating position.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said the society was not in so satisfactory a condition as it ought to be; still, they ought to be thankful that it was not worse. The sum of £350 had been placed to the reserve fund, and when he considered that the rates, feu-duties, and the wages of the caretaker at Scotstoun amounted to £450, he thought they had done fairly well. Their thanks were due to the Debenture-holders for doing without their interest. The position of the society was not one that could not be overcome. As chairman of the directors, it was his wish to make the shows a success. Unless the directors and members worked together this would never be done, as if there was not such co-operation they could not expect outsiders to take an interest in their affairs. A special effort ought to be made to popularise the Scotstoun ground. No doubt the show of the Highland and Agricultural Society would have brought the ground into public notice, but much more was required to be done in the same direction. This he thought could best be accomplished by judicious advertising—by booming, for instance, such special attractions as the leaping competition. People would come out to see an exhibition of that kind when they would not come to see cattle and sheep.

Mr. John Speirs seconded, and the motion was adopted.

Mr. Strang moved that the Marquis of Bute be appointed president and the Duke of Montrose and the Marquis of Linlithgow, vice-presidents, and the motion was adopted.

Mr. John Watson was re-appointed secretary and treasurer, and Messrs. M'Lay, M'Alister, and M'Gibbon were reappointed auditors.

Royal Lancashire.

A meeting of the council of the Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was held at Preston, on Thursday afternoon. Mr. John White was re-elected chairman for the year, and took the chair amid loud applause. Mr. Windham E. Hale was appointed vice-chairman and Mr. Philip Park deputy vice-chairman.

Mr. Webster stated that he had visited the site for the next show at Scale Hall, between Lancaster and Morecambe, and found it a magnificent one. No matter how hard it rained, he did not think the field would be wet.

MOLASSINE MEAL FOR CATTLE.

Infringement of Patent.

The case of the Molassine Meal Co., Ltd., 36, Mark Lane, London, E.C., v. R. Townsend and Co., Ltd., Stroud, Glos., was recently heard in the Court of Justice, Chancery Division, before Mr. Justice Warrington.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton, K.C., M.P., Mr. G. Cave, K.C., and Mr. H. A. Colefax represented the plaintiffs; Mr. A. J. Walter and Mr J. Hunter Gray appeared for the defendants.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton stated what the Patent consisted of, pointing out its great commercial utility, which he "thought would be proved beyond controversy. It is utility on a great scale. It is for a new cattle food, composed of molasses and peat. Molasses, as practical witnesses would prove, cannot be used for food, except, at all events, in very small quantities. Molasses and peat together form an admirable food."

Mr. Fletcher Moulton further explained the process of sugar manufacture, and why the combination of molasses and peat had such inherent properties as to form a scientific discovery, and as such, was entitled to be protected by Letters Patent.

The first witness called was Mr. Frederick Livingstone, the Managing Director of the Plaintiff Company, who gave evidence as to the remarkable progress of the Molassine Meal Company, Limited's, business, showing its rapid development from its inception in 1900 to a large commercial undertaking in 1905.

Mr. Otto Hehner, the next witness, said that he was past president of the Society of Public Analysts, late Chairman of the London Section of the Society of Chemical Industry, and Public Analyst and District Agricultural Analyst of various counties.

The witness, in reply to questions, said he had had considerable experience of the various feeding stuffs in use for horses, cows, and so forth.

He stated that he had analysed sample of the Molass Feed manufactured by the defendants, and there was no doubt that it contained peat moss and molasses.

Mr. Colefax.—Is it true that molasses contain a considerable quantity of potash salts?

Witness.—Yes, a very large proportion.

The witness was subjected to a long cross-examination, and proved that the humic acid in the moss had a neutralising action on the potash salts in the molasses, so that they formed a compound which had no detrimental action on the animal organism.

Mr. Otto Hehner said that he had approached the matter with a considerable amount of doubt on first reading the patent, but from the large number of experiments he had made he was perfectly certain that the humic acids had a direct and preventive action on the potash salts that are contained in the molasses.

Q. In the actual manufacture of this Molassine, there is a liberation of acetic acid?

A. I have not seen it manufactured, but I should think there must be.

Q.—I mean from your experiments.

A.—I recovered the molasses which I had mixed with the peat, and I compared it with the original molasses. They had a decentish taste, not particularly pleasant, but a good deal better than the original. The odour was far better, and the colour was right.

Mr. Justice Warrington.—This is molasses after being mixed with peat moss, is it?

A.—Yes, after being mixed with the peat moss and extracted. There was an undoubted improvement in the molasses.

Q.—The whole of this goes to show that lines 10 and 12 in the Specification are true?

A.—Yes, they are true.

Mr. Colefax.—I will not go further than that, but, as a matter of fact, I think you have other experiments tending in the same direction to show the truth of that?

A.—Yes.

Q.—What I want to say now is this: We have been speaking of the action which ensues apparently, between the humic acid in peat and the potash salts and the organic acids in the molasses. Would you, in your own words, say what you think the action is that is taking place between the peat and the molasses?

A.—I think there is a three fold action. Peat moss neutralises any alkalinity that may be, and mostly is, present in molasses in the sense that improves it; secondly, it decomposes organic salts, and when the acids of these organic salts are volatile, part of them is removed from the molasses; and thirdly, the peat moss does render insoluble in some way or other, whether it be chemical or entirely mechanical, a portion of otherwise chemical salts.

Mr. Justice Warrington.—Those salts, rendered insoluble, do not get into the animal's system?

A.—I am not sure. They taste no more. Whether they afterwards become liberated in the digestive tracts I do not know.

Mr. Colefax.—We propose to call evidence on this question of how it works physiologically.

Mr. Edward Tate was next called. In answer to Mr. Colefax, he said he was vice-chairman of Henry Tate and Sons, Limited, the well-known sugar refiners, of London and Liverpool. He explained that before 1900 a very small proportion of the molasses was used as a food for cattle, but at the present time they sold over three-fourths of their entire output to be used in the manufacture of Molassine Meal.

In reply to questions as to the kind of peat moss that was used, Mr. Tate remarked that he did not know anything of peat moss generally, but he could only speak of the fine sort which was delivered to them and which was called Sprugnum.

Dr. Ad. Liebmann, M.A., Ph.D., was then called by Mr. Colefax.

Q.—I do not think I need go over your qualifications, as you are such a well-known chemist. You have read this specification that the plaintiffs rely on in this case?

A.—I have.

Q.—And I believe you have made extensive experiments in relation to questions of fact that may arise in connection with the plaintiffs' invention?

A.—I have.

Q.—Fore the purpose of this case?

A.—Yes.

He said he also had analysed the Molass Feed manufactured by the defendants, and his evidence confirmed that given by Mr. Otto Hehner.

Witness said that the organic acids contained in peat, in particular humic acids, had a neutralising action on the potash salts of molasses, converting them into a compound that had no detrimental action on the animal organism. He said he had made many and repeated experiments.

This witness was cross-examined at length on the methods he employed for analysing the peat moss and molasses.

Mr. Trevor Farmer Spencer, M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Inspector to the Board of Agriculture, and to the Northampton County Council, gave evidence that he had fed animals with Molassine Meal since 1902.

He had specially used it beneficially on an animal that had suffered pedriodically from a bad attack of indigestion with colic and bowel obstruction, which illness left the animal in a very weak and emaciated condition and rendered him useless for work for weeks together.

Q.—Did you first try some other kind of treatment?

A.—Yes, I tried every treatment I knew on him before I gave him the Meal.

Q.—Without success, so far?

A.—It took a long time. It took weeks, even months.

Mr. Justice Warrington.—Do you mean with the Molassine, or with the other treatment?

A. With the other treatment.

Mr. Cave.—Did you ultimately try the Molassine Meal?

A.—I gave him Molassine Meal.

Q.—What was the effect?

A.—He rapidly regained his flesh, and since the time of his illness, three years ago, he has not again suffered from colic or bowel obstruc-

tion, and he has remained in a most satisfactory state, and has been able to do his work ever since.

Q. -Before this time had you used sugar or molasses to give to animals?

A. —I had used molasses.

Q.—Was there any drawback to molasses as a food?

A.—Yes. The great drawback is that you cannot give a sufficient quantity of the molasses to get the fattening benefit of it as a food. You cannot give a sufficiently large quantity without causing a laxative condition of the bowels.

Q.—Can you say about how much was the limit you could give of your molasses?

A.—Of course, it would rather depend on whether the animal was resting or working, but say ½lb. to a maximum of 1lb. A pound would be too much to give an animal in work.

Re-examined by Mr. Cave.—Witness said he did not only give it to one horse, but to many, and that he had used it largely and always with good effect for years.

Mr. A. H. Jacobs, M.R.C.V.S., next gave evidence. He said he had had considerable experience in the treatmnt of horses, more especially in connection with large firms in London, and that he had used Molassine Meal in his practice for about four years. He found that by its use digestion was assisted, and that in one yard, where he had a good many colicky horses, he had very few cases of colic since using it.

He also remarked that when using Molassine Meal for horses with worms it expelled any they might have.

In reply to a question as to whether he had used molasses, he said he had done so before the introduction of Molassine Meal, but he could only give it in very small quantities, not more than two to four ounces at a feed, whereas he was now giving 4lb. of Molassine Meal daily.

Mr. John McLauchlan Young was next sworn and examined by Mr. Fletcher Moulton.

Q.—You are a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and of the Royal Physical Society, and a variety of other societies, and you are a Lecturer on Physical Science in the Aberdeen University?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Have you during the last year been conducting experiments with Molassine Meal?

A.—I have.

Q.—You have been feeding cattle, pigs, horses, and dairy cows?

A.—Yes.

Q.—Have the results been satisfactory?

A.—Highly satisfactory.

Q.—Now just let me take pigs. What do you say with regard to the weight of pigs?

A.—We had pigs fed on the ordinary food and another lot fed on the ordinary food plus Molassine, and although the weights did not differ very much alive or dead, the percentage of bulk was much higher in the pigs fed with Molassine Meal than in the others.

Q.—That referred chiefly to their weight. Now, what do you say as to cows?

A.—I selected some cows and had them fed without the Meal, and I had the milk analysed on various occasions, every third day, and the cow receiving the Molassine Meal gave milk with a larger percentage of fat in it; the percentage of fat in the milk rose to an unusual height.

Q.—With regard to the quantities that you can administer, how far would you go?

A.—I have given 6lb. to two bullocks, but not continuously. In the experimental animals eight of them received, commencing at 1lb., up to 4lb., and for a considerable period towards the end of the experiments they were receiving 4lb. each per day.

Q.—Would it be possible with treacle in its ordinary form, otherwise than in Molassine Meal?

A.—Impossible.

Q.—What is the result of giving molasses in such quantities directly, and not in the form of Molassine Meal?

A.—I never used such quantities except medicinally, and in giving such quantities you induce purgation.

Q.—Do you find that the animals get tired of this?

A. Not of the Meal.

Q. Those are the results of experiments actually made by you for the purpose of ascertaining the effect of this Molassine Meal?

A.—Yes.

Q. Was that for the purpose of this trial at all?

A.—Not at all.

Witness was cross-examined at length by Mr. Walter.

At this stage defendant's counsel said he had been considering this question with his clients, and it was perfectly clear that they could not any longer contest the validity of this patent.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton, on behalf of the plaintiffs, said that as they did not want to be arbitrary, they would forego the question of damages, as the learned counsel for the defendants had stated that they had not sold much.

The Court adjourned at 1.30, and at 2 o'clock Mr. Justice Warrington gave judgment.

He said that before the date of this patent it was well known that molasses, in consequence of the presence of potash salts, could not be used as a food for animals in sufficient quantities without evil effects, and that the patent had partially succeeded in getting rid of or converting the potash salts into some other non-deleterious substance.

In his opinion, having heard the chemical evidence of the plaintiffs and the cross-examination on it, he was satisfied that the statement was in substance true that the peat had a chemical effect upon the molasses which prevented it from being detrimental to the animal organism as it was before.

The learned Judge found that the combination of molasses and peat moss was subject matter for a patent, and that the invention had not been anticipated.

His Lordship continued: Then the last defence which I need deal with is the objection that the patent is not useful. That has been, I think, abundantly disproved by the veterinary evidence I have heard this morning. The result of that evidence is, that previous to 1900, when this patent came into extensive use, experience had shown that not more than 1lb. a day at the outside of molasses could be given to a horse —I am taking a horse as the example that is given to me—but that since this patent it is possible and advantageous to give a horse as much Molassine Meal as would cause him to eat 3lb. of molasses, and that therefore the nutritious properties of the molasses may be made use of to the extent of three times as much as that in which they could be used before.

Then, I have the further evidence of Mr. Young, who has made experiments, not for the purposes of this trial, with various animals in Scotland during the last year, and the result of those experiments is, that the food so compounded of molasses and peat is very valuable as a nutritious food.

This being so, I cannot hesitate to find that the patent is useful, and the result is, that there must be the injunction asked for, and as the statement of what appears to have been sold appears to have been very small, the plaintiffs do not think it worth while to ask for any damages, and there will be an injunction and costs of the action.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton.—And a certificate that we have proved our breaches?

Mr. Justice Warrington.—Yes, that you have proved your breaches, and that the validity came in question.

Mr. Fletcher Moulton.—If your Lordship pleases.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

Summary of Returns issued by the Board of Agriculture for the week ending Dec. 16, 1905:—

Swine Fever.	Swine Slaughtered as Diseased or Exposed to Infection.	No.	165	55	142	116	3,634	5,477
				8	23	27	787	1,761
	Outbreaks.	No.	22	8	23	27	787	1,433
				42	76	66	869	1,265
Sheep-Scab.	Outbreaks Reported.	No.	32	42	76	66	869	1,021
								1,471
Rabies	Cases Confirmed. Oth'r Anim'ls.	No.	...	...	...	1	...	...
								12
	Dogs.	No.	...	...	...	1	...	...
								13
Glanders (including Farcy).	Animals Attacked.	No.	39	36	33	27	1,983	2,562
								2,107
	Outbreaks.	No.	27	23	17	17	1,165	1,463
								1,403
Foot-and-Mouth Disease	Animals Attacked.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								190
	Outbreaks.	No.	...	...	...	...	...	...
								1
Anthrax.	Animals Attacked.	No.	34	39	27	16	1,581	1,470
								1,095
	Outbreaks.	No.	25	25	16	15	931	975
								732
Period.				1.04	1903	1.02		1904
	Week ended Dec. 16, 1905			Corresponding week in			Total for 50 weeks in 1905	Corresponding period in 1904

NOTE.—The figures for the current year are approximate only.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

"Who's Who for 1906" has come to hand, and the first thing that occurred to us was how large will it be in a few years' time? The new edition is larger than any that has preceded it, despite the fact that several tables and other matter which at one time appeared in it have been transferred to "Who's Who Year Book." On the other hand, new and interesting additions have been made to the parent book, hence the increase. Among the new features is the addition to many of the biographies, of details as to the size of the man's family, his telephone or motor number, telegraphic address, etc. Thus each year sees an increase in the value of what has come to be rightly recognised as the guide as to who's who, and indispensable handbook. It is published by Messrs. A. and C. Black, Soho Square; price, 7s. 6d. net.

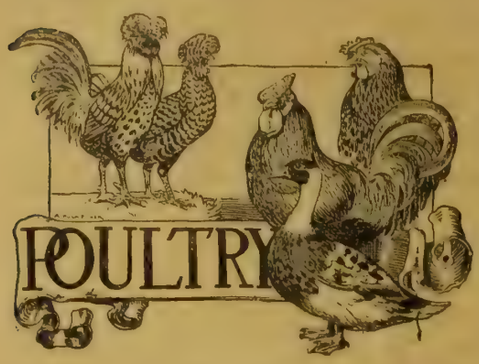
"Who's Who Year Book for 1906" is made up of the tables which were formerly such a popular feature in "Who's Who" itself, and has been issued in response to numerous suggestions and requests. It is devoted widely to tabular matter, and from it can be found at a glance details of any particular minister, ambassador, church, club, society, theatre, race meeting, or newspaper, besides other items of interest. It is published at 1s. net, by Messrs. Black, as above.

A second edition has recently been issued of "Surgical Diseases of the Dog and Cat," by Professor F. Hobday. This is a text book containing directions with regard to surgical operations upon canine and feline patients, which has proved of the greatest value to students engaged in the daily work of the clinique for small animals, and is also appreciated by the busy practitioner, for it supplies the details in as concise a manner as possible. The second edition has long been called for, and only the illness of the author has prevented its publication. The new edition has been enlarged to include symptoms and general details of treatment other than that which may be described as purely surgical, but the original idea of the author to keep the book as a handy manual for the final year student has been adhered to. The work, which is profusely illustrated, is published at 10s. 6d. net by Messrs. Baillière, Tindall and Cox, 8, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

"Elementary Forestry," by Charles E. Curtis, will be welcomed by all students of forestry—and their numbers are increasing every year. The book deals with the subject, as its title indicates, in an elementary manner, and is yet a complete work, so that the student will be able to follow the writer from beginning to end, and after careful perusal of the work should have considerably augmented his knowledge of forestry. Mr. Curtis deals interestingly with his subject, and the work is one that can be recommended. It is published at 6s. by the "Estates Gazette," 6, St. Bride Street, London, E.C.

"The Agricultural Handbook and Diary" for 1906 is, like that of other years, chiefly taken up with the diary arrangements, monthly account rulings, etc., but there is some interesting reading, the articles including a review of the agricultural year, by W. E. Bear; "Twenty Years of British Farming," by Rowland E. Prothero; "The Village Community at Winterslow," by Lady Wilson; "The Burden of Rates on Agricultural Land," by Sir E. Strachey; "Progress of Co-operation Among Agriculturists," by Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., etc. There are also several statistics of service to those for whom the book is intended. It is published at 1s. by "The County Gentleman," 4 and 5, Dean Street, London, W.C.

"The Farmer and Stockbreeder Year Book" for 1906, is very much like its predecessors. While pedigree is undoubtedly the key-note of the volume, the interests of agriculture and stockbreeding generally have been kept well to the front. With regard to the general contributions, the volume opens with an interview and a full-page portrait of the popular owner of Rolleston, Sir Oswald Mosley, who explains his views on Shorthorn and Shire Horse breeding. One of the most important articles in the volume is that by Lord Arthur Cecil, who deals with "Pony Type in the Mountain and Moorland Breeds." It is an able exposition of a very difficult subject, and as Lord Arthur Cecil is the recognised authority on hill and moorland ponies, his views on the matter may be regarded as final. The article is well illustrated with a series of photographs from paintings and from life. There are numerous other articles, covering a goodly range of subjects, in addition to the usual sale records, whilst tables and numerous illustrations make up a bulky volume. The price is 1s., and it is published by the "Farmer and Stockbreeder," 6, Essex Street, Strand.



Experiments in Poultry Feeding.

An extremely interesting report on poultry experiments conducted in Cornwall, August, 1903-4, under the auspices of the Cornwall County Council, has been issued, price sixpence, and to the poultry breeder it gives some most useful information on a variety of subjects affecting poultry. To enumerate a few would take a goodly bit of our valuable space, and many are worthy of wider publicity, notably that dealing with experiments with foods, from which we take the following:—

It frequently happens that experiments conducted, possibly with scrupulous care, are misleading rather than otherwise, seeing that all the varying conditions are not taken into consideration; consequently, in view of the importance of feeding to every poultry keeper, the more interesting of our experiments of 1902 have been continued in 1903 and 1904.

The experiments of 1903 were conducted with Silver Wyandotte hens one year old, the same fowls being kept for the 1904 experiments. In other pens pullets were, as will be shown later, fed on two of the principal foods. It will be seen, therefore, that these experiments with wheat, oats, and maize have been continued for four years with fowls of different ages, different breeds, and under entirely different conditions. If under such varied tests one uniform result has been obtained, it needs little introspective power to see that a fact of permanent value to the industry has been established.

Both barley alone and white oats alone have given most unsatisfactory results in these experiments, but wheat and maize have been close competitors with each other, a mixture of half oats and half maize being far superior to either. To settle once for all the relative merits of these foods a somewhat extended series of experiments was designed.

In the experiments of 1902 the pullets were confined, and so were the one-year-old hens. The following table gives the results obtained with hens, it showing the number of eggs laid monthly by each pen of four one year old Silver Wyandotte hens from January 1 to December 31, 1903:

Food.		January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total number laid in 1903.	Total number laid in 1904.	Total number laid in 1903 and 1904.
½ Maize ½ Oats	1903	19	00	97	64	78	38	34	35	10				441		717
	1904		17	38	55	32	41	30	16	29	18				276	
Wheat	1903	22	35	62	69	61	43	32	44	14				382		579
	1904			37	24	3	39	31	22	6					197	
Maize	1903	19	17	74	63	59	37	40	08	17				391		603
	1904			37	76	34	29	33							209	

½ Maize ½ White Oats	62·5
Maize	53·0
Wheat ...	58·5

experiments extending over two seasons, it is not too much to state that, coupled with facts already referred to, it furnishes us with some of the most important and reliable data contained in this report. Not only does it confirm the results of previous experiments regarding the superiority of half maize and half white oats as a food for laying hens, but it drives home the lesson that has throughout these experiments been impressing itself upon us, namely, that maize is a good egg producer.

Effect of Foods on Decrease of Fecundity.

A rather interesting question in an experiment of this character is the relative decrease of fecundity of the fowls fed on the different foods. If, for example, a food is not only giving better results in a given season, but is establishing a reserve for the future superior to that laid up by competing foods, it has special claims on our attention. An examination of the figures shows that half maize and half oats has done this; the information already referred to is, therefore, buttressed by this further fact, as is shown by the following figures:—

Percentage of total of eggs laid in 1903 laid by the same fowls in 1904: Half maize and half white oats, 62.5; maize, 53.0; wheat, 51.5.

It will be seen, therefore, that while there was a falling off of only about 37 per cent. in the number of eggs laid by the pen fed on the mixture in 1904 as compared with 1903, the maize pen dropped 47 per cent. and wheat 48 per cent. Obviously, then, it is tolerably clear that this mixture of equal weights of maize and oats has much to recommend it.

Wheat versus Maize Fed to Pullets with free Range.

There is yet another point relating to the relative value of wheat and maize as poultry foods, upon which expert poultry-keepers hold strong and varied opinions. It has been urged by the advocates of maize that fed to young fowls under confinement, as in our experiments, justice is in no way done to its merits. Maize, it is contended, with a nutritive ratio of about 8.3, cannot possibly show to the best advantage except when fed to fowls having free range, as the dual benefits of abundant exercise and access to worms and insect life generally, are just the elements needed to leave maize in unquestioned superiority to wheat with its nutritive ratio of 5.6.

There is probably something in the theory, and the Committee, acting on the principle that it is essential to collect information on all clearly defined issues, decided to feed two pens of pullets of different breeds on wheat and maize respectively, and give each free-range on pastures. The following table gives the results. It shows the number of eggs laid monthly by two pens of four pullets each, between January 1 and December 31, 1903:

	No. of Eggs. Devon Wheat.	No. of Eggs. Devon Maize.
January	22	24
February	78	74
March	73	84
April	77	66
May	73	85
June	59	61
July	75	65
August	51	41
September ...	26	24
October	2	3
November... ...	—	9
December... ...	—	15
Total	539	544

The uniformity of these results is truly remarkable. Year after year these foods have been tested against each other with fowls of different ages, different breeds, and under totally different conditions, and in every instance the difference in the number of eggs laid has been of a most trifling character.

Profit and Loss affected by Foods.

To leave this question here would be to do but scant justice to the claims of either maize alone or a mixture of half maize and half oats. These experiments have now been in progress for nearly five years. Numberless points of interest have impressed themselves upon us during that time, but nothing has done so more uniformly than this point as to the value of maize in a poultry ration. If this were an accepted fact and theoretical teaching harmonised with it, the matter might well rest here, but so much is said in condemnation of this particular food that every available fact regarding both its strength and weakness should be brought out.

So far as we have gone the effect of maize as an egg producer only has been treated, but profit or loss is of far more practical moment. This aspect of the question has been given particular attention to in our experiments, and to insure accuracy appliances have been produced for weighing the food of each separate pen of fowls. Consequently, with reasonable care, mistakes are next to impossible.

The food has been weighed monthly, but the variations are trifling, and it will be sufficient to give the total weight consumed. As greater accuracy of result respecting the weight of foods will inevitably be obtained with fowls in runs, rather than with free range, the figures of 1903 only are dealt with below.

The following table shows the number of eggs laid by each pen of four Silver Wyandotte hens, with market value, weight of grain, cost of grain, and profit or loss:—

Food.	Number of eggs laid.	Value of eggs. £ s. d.	Weight of food. lbs.	Cost of food. £ s. d.	s. d.	Profit. £ s. d.
Maize, White Oats	441	1 12 2	402	1 2 0½	10 1½	
Maize	391	1 8 8½	360	0 18 6½	10 3	
Wheat	382	1 7 10½	401	1 3 7	4 3½	

It will be noted that the profit in this particular experiment is small, the folly of keeping old hens being thereby brought out, but the lesson respecting the value of the different foods is unmistakable. If instead of the figures of Table XIX., relating to hens, those of XVIII., relating to pullets, could be substituted, the profit would be very much greater. But, as has already been explained, the results from fowls in pens (regarding weight of grain consumed) are more reliable than with fowls given free range, and it will be well to adhere to them. If, however, for the purpose of comparison, we assume that the pullets with free range consumed the same weight of grain per pen as the hens, which is doubtless approximately correct, the profit on the maize pen rises from 10s. 3d. to £1 0s. 9½d., and on the wheat pen from 4s. 3½d. to 15s. 8d.

It will be seen, then, that these experiments, which have been carried out under the most varied conditions, with pullets, hens, fowls confined and fowls with free range, convey the same lesson in every case. Irregularities in tables there always will be, where work of this kind is carried on, but the broad facts conveyed is that much of the prejudice against maize has no legitimate foundation, and the sooner the current teaching on this point gives place to something more in harmony with facts the better it will be for the poultry industry. That maize should be used with judgment, and as a mixed food, is clear, but to condemn it altogether as a poultry food is neither wise nor in the interest of the poultry keeper.

Curiously, while the experiments with maize in our poultry pens have been in progress, others have been conducting concurrently on our experimental pastures and arable land with the same feeding stuff fed to sheep. The gulf dividing poultry from sheep is a wide one, but it is a curious fact that in both cases the results with maize are contrary to accepted opinion.

White oats are indispensable in compounding a profitable food, as is shown by our first table, as well as by tables of previous reports. With a nutritive ratio of 6.0 it is an exceedingly healthy, flesh-forming food. For breeding stock it has much to recommend it, and in this respect it will always compare favourably with such foods as maize, the latter having the wide ratio of 8.3. But from the standpoint of profit, which we are now considering, oats must be mixed with maize to be used profitably for laying poultry. In 1902, fed alone, it left a profit less than one-third of the profit obtained when used as a mixed food, and there is nothing in our more recent experiments to show that this was other than an average result.

Wheat has left a substantial profit year after year, whether fed alone or as a mixed food. Farmers using it as "afters" or damaged grain, may generally do so profitably, but those who have to purchase their poultry food may purchase plump white oats and small round maize to greater advantage.

Barley, as an egg producer, is the least profitable of our cereals. With a nutritive ratio of 7.7, it is surprising that even when no reduction is made for labour the profit with this grain is extremely slender.

Utility Poultry Club's Plymouth Exhibition.

During the concluding portion of this show the working incubators were judged. On the day preceding the opening of the exhibition the judge was present when the incubators were started. Every egg was branded, and the room engaged by the exhibition authorities has been kept under lock and key, nobody being allowed to enter without the commissionaire being present.

Messrs. E. Tripe and Co., Limited, of Harmondsworth, carried off both gold medals and a silver one, the fifty-egg incubator hatching 26 out of 30 fertile eggs, viz., 86 per cent; the two 100-egg size machines hatching 37 out of 40, viz., 92 per cent., and 50 out of 58, viz., 86 per cent. Considering the time of year the performances are very creditable, and the winners can be congratulated on the success of their great enterprise. The other competitor was unfortunate with his eggs, only five proving fertile, and these failed to hatch.

The total number of visitors to the exhibition during the week of the utility poultry show was over 20,000, and great interest was manifested in the exhibits. In the words of the *Western Daily Mercury*, "The introduction of the poultry section is likely to have far-reaching and beneficial results. It was hoped it would prove of educational value, and the hope seems likely to be fulfilled."

Sheep-Worrying at Gravesend. — During the past fortnight no fewer than twenty-six sheep have been found mutilated on the farms within a radius of two miles round Gravesend. In nearly every case the ears have been torn off and the muzzles badly mangled. The damage is believed to be the work of a collie, though some attribute it to a fox, and bands of volunteers, armed with guns, have been co-operating with the police in keeping watch in the neighbourhood of the folds. In view of the near approach of the lambing season it is to be hoped that the marauder will soon be captured.

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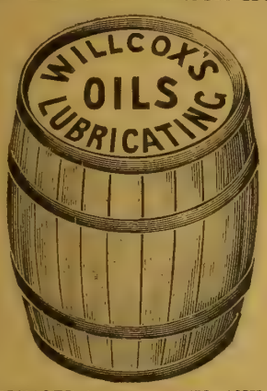

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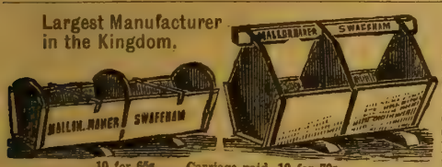

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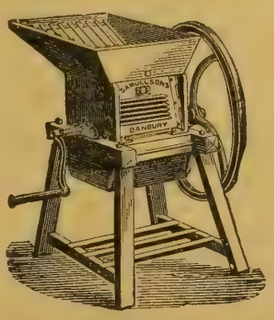

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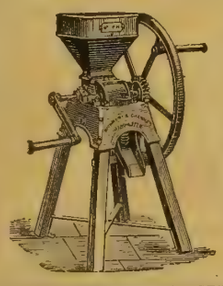

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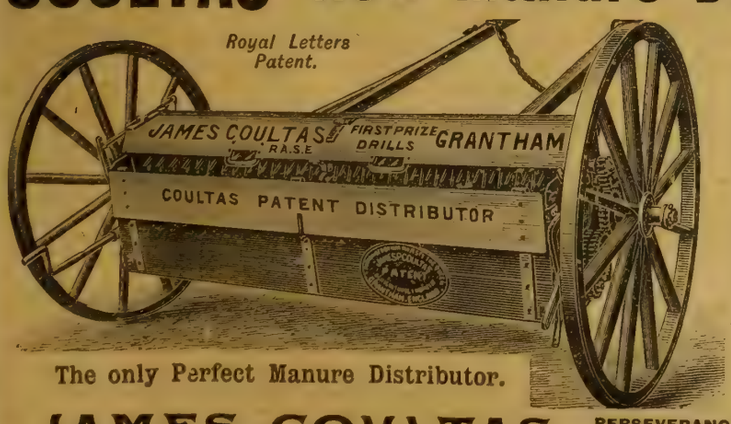

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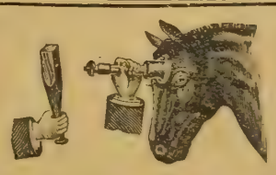

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Can be killed painlessly, instantly, and easily with **GREENERS'**
HUMANE CATTLE KILLER
Send for Pamphlet on Animal Slaughtering, free
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A LESSON FROM AUSTRALIA—THE STRIPPER-HARVESTER.

It is natural, in a country like the Commonwealth, in which such a large proportion of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture, that the manufacture of agricultural implements should become an important local industry, despite the difficulties occasioned by labour restrictions and keen outside competition. The development of Australian agricultural resources, especially wheat cultivation, was considerably hindered in the early days by the unsuitability of most of the implements and machinery imported. It was extremely difficult to make British manufacturers, for instance, understand that the conditions of cultivation in Australia and the United Kingdom were not nearly the same. This led to endeavours on the part of more than one Australian agricultural implement manufacturer to devise something specially adapted to the requirements of Australian farmers, with the result of the invention of the stripper-harvester, which is the most complete and efficient appliance of its kind yet devised.

According to Mr. H. V. McKay, who possesses extensive works at Ballarat, Victoria, and also near Melbourne, in his evidence before a Federal Royal Commission, the first stripper-harvester was invented by a South Australian farmer about 1843. It then consisted of a box on a pair of travelling wheels, a comb in front, and a set of beaters driven by gear; a separate machine, called a winnower, being used to clean the grain. During subsequent years various improvements were effected, and in 1879 the South Australian Government offered a premium of £4,000 for the invention of a machine which would complete the whole work of harvesting in one operation—this is, a machine that would do the work now performed by the present Australian stripper-harvester. There were a large number of competitors, but, as none were successful, only a small portion of the prize money was awarded, and it was not until 1884 that the first successful efforts were made to bring out an efficient apparatus. But serious prejudices had to be contended with at the outset. Many machinery makers were extremely sceptical as to the possibility of making a machine on the stripper principle that would begin and finish the work of harvesting in one operation. This made it difficult to find a manufacturer willing to take up the matter.

However, after thirteen years of arduous and rather disappointing work, the stripper-harvester became a practical success, and at the time the Commonwealth was established its efficiency and merits were everywhere recognised. Mr. McKay states that it is now an accepted proposition in Australia that wherever there is a farm that cultivates wheat or other cereals, in any considerable area, a stripper-harvester should be used thereon. Its adoption has literally revolutionised the old methods of harvesting, not only saving millions of pounds sterling to Australian farmers, but likely to save many millions more, as the benefits resulting from its introduction will be perpetual. During the recent harvest alone the Australian farmers saved about £500,000 in the cost of garnering their crops, as shown by available figures.

The stripper-harvester is now manufactured in Victoria, South Australia, and New South Wales, about twenty-seven firms being engaged in the business, the pride of place being occupied by Mr. McKay, who, as mentioned above, possesses extensive works at Ballarat, and at Braybrook, near Melbourne, from whence stripper-harvesters are also exported to the Argentine, Algiers, Tunis, Cape Colony, Orange River Colony, Natal, the Transvaal, and Chili, showing that the enjoyment of the fruits of Australian ingenuity and enterprise are not confined to the lands of the Commonwealth. The machine has also found its way to Southern Europe, and when its advantages become known it will doubtless come into general vogue there.

THE DUST NUISANCE.

The Automobile Club has already done a great deal to try and solve the intolerable dust nuisance associated with motor-cars, and they now propose to make a further grant of £100 towards experimental work in dust abatement. It will be remembered that the trials carried out by the club at the Crystal Palace two years ago entirely disproved many of the theories regarding the dust nuisance, but few new principles were established, though much useful information was deduced. The investigations have since been continued, and it has been demonstrated that a car fairly high from the ground, with rather more clearance at the back than the front, and with the under surface fairly smooth and crown-shaped, and devoid of obtrusive angles, furnishes the best conditions. A few modern cars do comply with these conditions with quite remarkable results in regard to the small amount of dust raised, and doubtless the matter will receive increasing attention from manufacturers. But however efficacious an improved design may be towards eliminating the nuisance it can apply only to cars yet to be built.

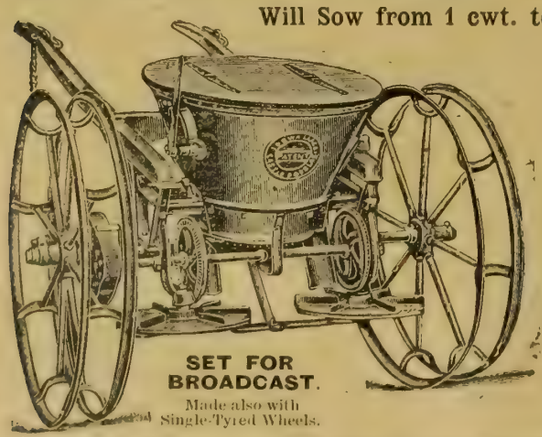
What is needed is a remedy for transgressors already running. One of the devices from which much is hoped consists of a horizontal slotted plate about six inches off the ground, so fixed that the tyre runs in the slot, the dust feather being intercepted by the unslotted portion of the plate behind the wheel, thus keeping the dust from rising high enough to be disturbed by the eddies which the car body forms in the air. On this point, however, the experiments are not completed. One fact demonstrated by the experiments is that side slipping devices attached to tyres, instead of accentuating the dust nuisance, as was expected, have quite a contrary effect.

It was not until the middle of the seventeeth century that the rude plough of antiquity was improved in any important particular. The first to make an iron plough in England was a Suffolk blacksmith named Brand. In 1785 Ransome first tempered, and in 1803 first chilled the ploughshare, and about the same period Simpson, of Cretingham, invented the slade. Following Simpson's lead, Ransome, in 1808, patented a plough-body which could be taken to pieces and its parts replaced by the ploughman in the field. Since that time no radical changes have been made in the principles governing the construction of ploughs.

The first seed-sowing machine of which any record exists was invented by Joseph Locatecli, of Carinthia, and not only appears to have been successfully tried in 1662, but made in some numbers, and even exported to England, where an agent for its sale was appointed. Cooke's drill, patented in 1873, was, however, the foundation of all the drills now in use, and the immediate predecessor of Salmon's "Bedfordshire" and Smyth's "Suffolk" drill, introduced about 1800.

Every operation in the routine of farm work is made more difficult and more inefficient by tools and implements that are not kept in the best of condition for the purposes they are to serve. It is not an uncommon sight to see a man working himself and his horses into a lather of perspiration in even such a simple operation as scarifying weeds, and after all his toil leaving the land in but little better condition than when he started, all because it has not occurred to him to be worth while sharpening the tines of the implement, or perhaps replacing them by a set more suitable for the particular class of work in hand. Or you may see a man tearing the hearts out of his horses in the effort to turn under a tangle of weeds with a low-breasted plough that gets choked every few minutes, when he would save pounds' worth of time and a great deal of trouble by using an inexpensive high-beamed plough that has been specially made to work freely in dirty land.

PATENT UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTOR.



Will Sow from 1 cwt. to over a Ton per Acre without changing Wheels.

EASILY OPERATED.
THE FEED IS FAULTLESSLY REGULAR.
The Distribution is Perfect. Easily Drawn.

SET FOR BROADCAST.
Made also with Single-Tyred Wheels.

This Machine will distribute Grain, Ground Lime, Basic Slag, Superphosphate, Ground Bones, Guano, Soot, Nitrate of Soda, Sulphate of Ammonia, Kainit, &c., without any possibility of clogging or choking, from 10 feet to 15 feet wide according to material.

IMPORTANT.—The distinguishing features of this Machine are:—Patented combination of revolving bottom and overhanging Star Wheel; Patented Discs, with Delivery Blades at varying angles without which an even distribution cannot be made.

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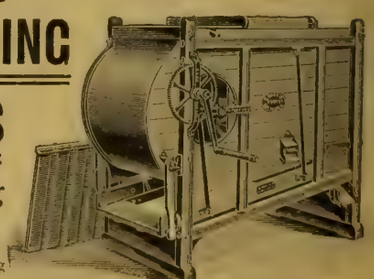

Illustration shows the Self-Cleaning Screen removed for exchange.

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Machinery for cleaning all kinds of Barley, Malt, Seeds, Oats, Rice, &c.

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